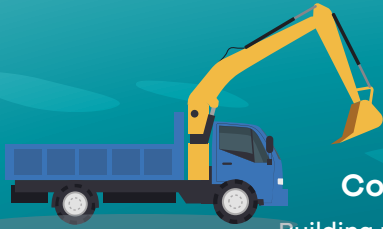


THE HIDDEN COST OF TOURISM



Construction

Building resorts and tourism infrastructure can physically damage habitats like coral reefs and seagrass, release sediment into the ocean and cause noise pollution.



Flights

Almost all tourists fly to the Maldives by air, which emits huge amounts of greenhouse gases and contributes towards climate change.



Pollution and sewage

Chlorine from swimming pools, cleaning products and sewage can all pollute the ocean.



Snorkelling and diving

Tourists sometimes touch, chase and trample marine life.



Recreational fishing

Unsustainable fishing by tourists can cause reef fish populations to become overfished.



Fish feeding

Tour operators sometimes feed marine life which changes their behaviour, impacts their health and affects the marine environment.



Eating fish

Some tourism establishments have threatened or declining species on their menus.

Boating or motorized water sports

Engines can disturb, injure or even kill marine wildlife, especially when speeding.



Single use plastic

Until recently, tourism establishments used a lot of single use plastic, much of which wasn't recycled or ended up in the ocean.

In 2022, single use plastic began being phased out, which is a huge step for the Maldives!



Souvenirs

Some souvenirs use shells or other marine products that have been taken from their natural environment.



Let's reduce our negative impacts and make our tourism industry more nature friendly!