

What are the threats?

Dredging

Dredging scoops up sand, plants and animals from the seabed to make space for coastal infrastructure, like harbours and water villas. This can physically damage seagrass and cause it to become choked with mud.



Sewage

Sewage brings high levels of nutrients to seagrass meadows, causing harmful algae to grow quickly and block out the light that seagrass needs to grow.



Plastic waste

Large amounts of trash and plastic can block out sunlight and get tangled in the seagrass.



Climate change

Higher sea temperatures can change distribution patterns of seagrass and affect their growth and reproduction



Tourism

Almost half of Maldives resorts remove seagrass to give guests "clear turquoise waters" for swimming.



How can we help?

- Advocate to include more seagrass habitats in Marine Protected Areas.



- Demand better sewage management.

- Encourage tourism operators to act responsibly.

- Promote guest experiences in seagrass for megafauna sightings

- Implement lower impact coastal development.

