



## Yaf Keru - A Reef Restoration Project in Raja Ampat

### Sawandarek Village, 2018

After completing the pilot study, we expanded our efforts to a local village nearby. The purpose of this project was twofold;

- a) to restore degraded reef areas and prevent coral rubble from further damaging healthy and older primary reefs found down the slopes.
- b) to use the project as a platform for tourist education, and a medium through which local community members could establish guidelines for sustainable tourism practice on their home reef.

The village in question boasts a stunning reef, and was increasingly receiving higher numbers of tourists each year, and subsequently it was essential that guidelines were implemented before significant and irreversible damage occurred.

As recipients of an innovation grant in 2018, we were able to complete this project in close collaboration with local community members.

**AREA RESTORED:** 500m<sup>2</sup> with an additional 750m<sup>2</sup> of healthy reef protected

**NUMBER OF STRUCTURES:** 18

**NUMBER OF CORALS TRANSPLANTED:** 5000+

**SURVIVAL RATE:** 88% (mortality largely due to drupella in the initial 3 month settling period)

**GROWTH RATE:** Growth rates are faster than the first project and at up to 2cm per month for *Acropora* sp. and *Montipora* sp. Likely due to the excellent water circulation within the Bay where the restoration site is located.

