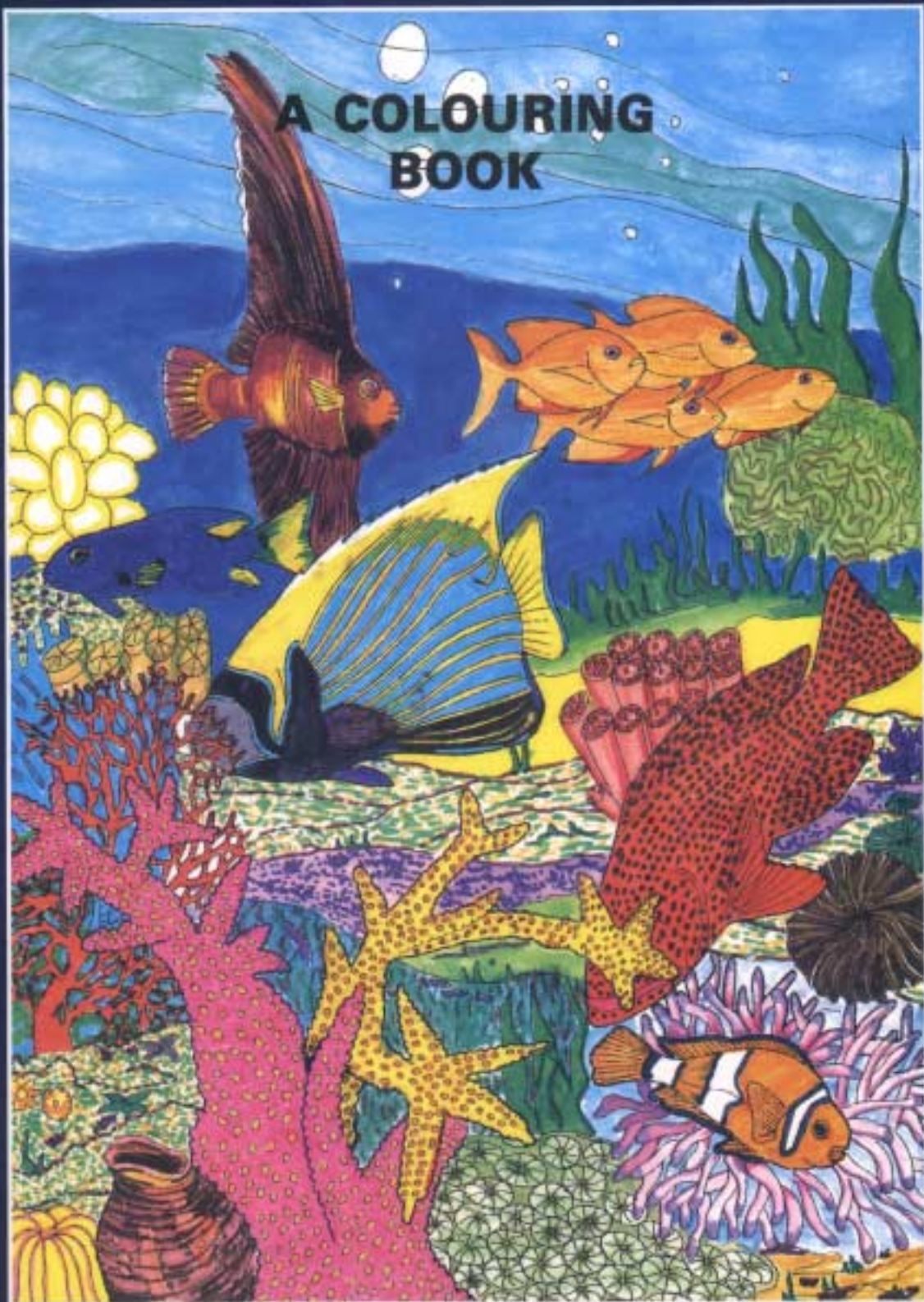


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LIFE ON OUR REEFS



**Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture
Malé, Republic of Maldives**

LIFE ON OUR REEFS

A COLOURING BOOK



Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture
Maté, Republic of Maldives

&

B/BP For Fisheries Development
BAY OF BENGAL PROGRAMME

This colouring-cum-information book on coral reefs for schoolchildren evolved out of the effort of the subproject 'Fisheries Extension Services, Maldives (MDV/FES/MDV)'. The focus of the subproject, guided by the fisherfolk, was on building awareness and beginning the consultative processes that would, in time, lead to participatory management of coral reef resources. In doing so, the subproject also reached out to schoolchildren in the islands, the future fisherfolk of the Maldives, through this book. The text, in both Divehi and English, is aimed at primary schoolchildren (6-14 years).

The book is intended to be used as a colouring book as well as a reader. It is written by Mr. N.T. Hasen Didi, former Director in the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture (MOFA) and an eminent naturalist and artist, and Ms Sana Mohamed, Reef Biologist, Marine Research Section, MOFA. The book was illustrated by Mr. Hussein Zahir, a Biologist on study leave from the Marine Research Section of MOFA, who is also an artist and an enthusiastic diver.

The fisheries extension services project, and this book, have been sponsored by the Bay of Bengal Programme's 'Small-Scale Fisherfolk Communities in the Bay of Bengal' (GCP/RAS/118/MUL), a project jointly funded by SIDA (Swedish International Development Authority) and DANIDA (Danish International Development Agency) and executed by FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations).

The Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) is a multiagency regional fisheries programme which covers seven countries around the Bay of Bengal – Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The Programme plays a catalytic and consultative role: it develops, demonstrates and promotes new technologies, methodologies and ideas to help improve the conditions of small-scale fisherfolk communities in member countries. The BOBP is sponsored by the governments of Denmark, Sweden and the United Kingdom, and also by UNDP (United Nations Development Programme). The main executing agency is the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations).

This is a field document and has not been cleared by the FAO.

November 1993

Covers

English Title, coloured by : Marina A. Abbas, Age 11 yrs

Divehi Title, coloured by : Ayesha Zayo, Age 9 yrs

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NOTES FOR TEACHERS

* This colouring book should be used in the classroom and outside, as it could be a starting point for further learning through enquiry.

* The children should be divided into groups, and excursions organized to enable them to actually see reef flora and fauna.

* The children should be encouraged to carry the colouring books along with them on their excursion, to shade or colour on the beach while what they have studied of the coral reef is still fresh in their minds. Some geography might be worked into these sessions like, "Where did you see _____ ?"

* In a later class, they should be encouraged to discuss the text and to colour the pages, one unit at a time, in order to get an understanding of the life forms of the reef.

* Encourage individual students to talk to the class for two or three minutes on topics that they find interesting, like 'The uses of coral' and 'How to conserve coral reefs'.

* After they finish the whole book, encourage the children to trace the pictures they have coloured and make up, piece by piece, a large chart of the reef community.

* Encourage the class to start a Coral Reef Protection Club and learn more by, perhaps, organizing a reef specimen display.

