Client
Saudi Aramco and DOW Chemical Company

Project
The proposed project consisted of a 13km shipping channel and harbour to be constructed for a US$28B refinery project. The channel would pass through an area of caprock ridges supporting important coral communities and associated reef biota including commercially important fish species. Saudi Aramco and DOW commissioned site surveys and a mitigation plan to reduce and compensate for impacts resulting from the dredge works. Mitigation strategies included relocation of high priority coral species, construction of compensatory artificial reefs, innovative dredging options, and enhancement of rock seawalls and design of silt curtain configurations to reduce sediment loading on key habitats.

Services Provided
- Data review and construction of model
- Site surveys to confirm coral species, size, abundance, suitability for relocation, ecological value, imperiled and threatened boundaries, suitable relocation site
- Mobilisation of equipment and international team
- All in-country logistics
- Comprehensive mitigation plan (including Habitat Equivalency Analysis) with options ranked with regard to cost, benefits, likely success, timescale, availability of resources and practicality
- Artificial reef designs to compensate for ecological services lost
- Silt curtain design (including costings) to reduce extent of dredge plume and impact on coral

Benefits to the Client
✓ Independent advice as to practicality of EIA recommendations
✓ 6 mitigation options clearly defined and ranked
✓ Estimated budgets to factor into Stage 2 financials
✓ The whole project was successfully conducted with minimal input required from the client except for visa applications.

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