

# Seacology

Saving the World, One Island at a Time

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## Iboih, Indonesia Coral Reef Cleanup and Mangrove Planting



Iboih Village is located on Weh Island, on the most westerly point of Indonesia in the province of Aceh. Though other areas of Aceh were devastated by the December 26, 2004 tsunami, Weh Island was spared from serious damage. However, debris from the island was deposited on nearby coral reefs, and a large swath of mangroves was destroyed.

In July 2005, with the support of Nu Skin's Force for Good Foundation, Seacology provided funding to Iboih Village to replant 14,400 mangrove seedlings, and to clean up the tsunami-deposited debris that was suffocating the reefs and remaining mangrove forest. The community founded a nonprofit organization, Aceh Coral Conservation, to manage the project. The coral reef cleanup and mangrove planting took place in October 2005. In exchange for Seacology's support, the people of Iboih Village have created a permanent 35-acre no-take mangrove forest reserve.

*Left: Iboih Villagers during a mangrove planting workday. Below: A diver surfaces with debris that was smothering coral reef below. (Photos: Aceh Coral Conservation.)*

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As I write these words, I am looking out a window at the tamarind trees and houses in Jakarta, preparing for a press conference on Seacology. Indonesia is a beautiful country, composed of over 13,000 islands and many different cultures and languages.

Earlier in my career as an ethnobotanist, I gained a great respect for the people of Sumatra, Java, Ambon and the Banda Islands. My return to Indonesia today is particularly pleasing as Seacology has now funded 23 schools, clinics, solar electrification schemes and other projects in Indonesia, more than in any other country. Thirteen of these projects were funded by Nu Skin's Force for Good Foundation.

Indonesia is culturally diverse. The local motto "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika" ("Many are One"), though, can also apply to the remarkable biological diversity of Indonesia. Biologists throughout the world agree that Indonesia is one of the world's

most important "hot spot." On Java, where I am presently, endangered rhinos stalk the forest, and in Sumatra to the north, there are still a few tigers remaining.

"Many are One" also applies to Seacology - you, together with all of the other Seacology supporters, have become a singular force for conservation. Fire, logging, uncontrolled mining and reef destruction present serious threats to Indonesia, but Seacology brings new hope. Because we work at the village level, the villagers themselves become the strongest advocates for protecting their precious habitats. Thank you for joining with Seacology in improving the lives of islanders throughout the world. Together we have completed over 120 projects on 80 different islands in 40 different nations. Thank you for helping Seacology save the world, one island at a time.

Paul Alan Cox  
Chairman

## Project Update: Medical Clinics for Forest Preserve, Seram, Indonesia

Seram is the largest of the "Spice Islands" in the remote eastern region of Indonesia. Two villages on the northern coast of Seram, Sawai (Muslim) and Masihulan (Christian), live side by side in harmony with a combined population of 1,500 people. The health conditions in these villages are extremely poor, even by Indonesian standards. The villages have agreed to sign a covenant to set aside 370 acres of pristine forest as a strict no-take zone for a minimum of 50 years. In exchange for this sacrifice, in cooperation with Project Bird Watch, Seacology has funded basic but critically needed health facilities, formal medical training for village-based health practitioners and community health education. As of January 2006, the two clinics have been completed and are operational. Both nurse practitioners have completed training in Bali. Small refrigerators to store medicine, to be powered by portable solar generators, have been purchased, as have solar-powered water purifiers. Work on a children's coloring book/hygiene manual will begin shortly. Project coordinator Dr. Stewart Metz of Project Bird Watch reports that the rainforest preserve is being honored by local communities and remains pristine.



Left: One of the completed medical clinics. (Photo: Project Bird Watch.)



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## Seacology Expedition Visits Projects in Solomons, Vanuatu



In October 2005, a Seacology delegation visited projects in the South Pacific nations of Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. In Mbili Village, Solomon Islands, the group checked on the progress of a school that Seacology is funding in exchange for the protection of the entirety of a 12-acre uninhabited island and the establishment of two marine reserves. Mbili Village is located on Mijanga Island on Marovo Lagoon, the world's largest lagoon with a double barrier reef and a celebrated dive destination. The primary school serves around 50 students from 8 to 14 years. Members of the Seacology expedition were very well-received. The villagers, who told the group that Seacology's support is a "dream come true," explained that all the construction is taking place without a single machine. The supplies must be shipped from the capital, Honiara, in a small open boat in rough seas, a voyage that typically takes 11 hours. Then all the water, gravel and cement must be carried by hand from the beach 100 meters away. Despite these difficult conditions the foundation has been laid and work has been completed up to the window level of the first story. It is anticipated that the school will be completed in 2006.

The group then traveled to uninhabited Tetepare Island, one of the largest unlogged islands in the Solomons. Its 72 square miles of primary lowland rainforest support several rare and endemic species, and its beaches are a nesting area for the critically endangered Leatherback turtle. Tetepare's original inhabitants fled the island approximately 150 years ago due to a combination of intense headhunting pressure and disease outbreaks. In 2002 the descendants of the original inhabitants formed the Tetepare Descendants Association (TDA) to sustainably manage the island's terrestrial and marine resources. Seacology is providing funds to the TDA for the construction of a dormitory to house rangers to protect the island's natural resources.

Some members of the group then continued on to Vanuatu to participate in the ceremonial opening of a community center for the villages of Matantas and Sara. In exchange for this center, these communities on Espiritu Santo have agreed to continue to protect the largest remaining forest on the plains of Vanuatu. Finally, the delegation traveled to the Nguna-Pele Marine Reserve in Vanuatu where there was a ceremonial opening of the Marine Protected Area headquarters funded by Seacology.



*Top left: Girls from Mbili Village, Solomon Islands greet the members of the Seacology expedition. (Photo: Graham Farrar.) Inset: The Mbili Village school under construction. (Photo: Alan S. Agassi.) Above: Schoolchildren from Sara and Matantas Villages singing the Vanuatu national anthem outside the new Seacology-funded community center. (Photo: Duane Silverstein.) Left: Members of the Seacology expedition and representatives from the Tetepare Descendants Association visit Tetepare Island, the largest uninhabited island in the South Pacific. (Photo: Graham Farrar.)*

## Papua New Guinea Community Organizer Awarded 2005 Seacology Prize, Andamans Conservationist Receives Special Lifetime Achievement Award



At an October 25 ceremony in San Francisco, California, Patrick Pate was awarded the 2005 Seacology Prize for his outstanding efforts to organize local indigenous communities in the highlands of his native Papua New Guinea. The indigenous residents of the Mt. Bosavi region are intimately dependent upon their environment, which encompasses about 2,000,000 acres of virgin rainforest. The ecological and social integrity of the region and surrounding areas has been threatened in recent years by proposals to log over 2.5 million acres of forest. Pate has created awareness in the Bosavi area about the importance of and threats to the natural environment, and has worked to empower people to take more control over the fate of their land and livelihoods.

The Seacology Prize is awarded annually to an indigenous islander for exceptional achievement in preserving the environment and culture of any of the world's 100,000-plus islands. The recipient receives a \$7,500 award and trophy. The Seacology Prize is underwritten by Ken Murdock, president of Seacology, in honor of his mother, Lalovi Fish Murdock.

At the 2005 Seacology Prize ceremony, a special Seacology Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Dr. Felix Sugirtharaj of India for his dedication in protecting the mangrove forests and livelihoods of fisherpeople in the Andaman Islands, and particularly for his tireless work coordinating relief efforts in the wake of the devastating December 26, 2004 tsunami. Dr. Sugirtharaj received a check for \$7,500 as well as a trophy.

Seacology salutes both these courageous gentlemen for their selfless dedication in protecting the environments and cultures of their home islands.

*Above: Seacology President and Seacology Prize sponsor Ken Murdock, left, with Patrick Pate of Papua New Guinea. "It is a great honor for me to be the recipient of the 2005 Seacology Prize," said Mr. Pate. "It is a recognition for the hard work we all put to conserve the natural environment of Mt. Bosavi, Papua New Guinea. This prize that I am receiving is not just for my work but the efforts of many others that have contributed their ideas and tremendous support toward conserving the environment against the existing threat from intensive logging. I feel that this prize has encouraged and shaped me to continue to work harder with my people the 'Bosavians' in our struggle and effort to protect our rich environment for future generations."*

*Right: Seacology Founder and Chairman Dr. Paul Cox with Dr. Felix Sugirtharaj of the Andaman Islands, India. "I am greatly honoured for being chosen to receive a special Lifetime Achievement Award," said Dr. Felix. "When the west was discovering the outer space, the Islands in Andaman were making the inner journey into the evergreen forests and deep blue sea to discover the riches of God given nature. These people, having suffered at the beginning of this year by Tsunami and a series of earthquakes, have the ability and capacity to laugh at themselves and sublimate personal grief to a concern for humanity at large by saving the culture of rich biodiversity as precious as their lives. I once again rededicate my mission to the poor people who live around mangrove swamps to ensure food security with legal entitlement to land, water and forests."* (Photos: Lisa Rosenthal, Seacology.)



## What do Billy Crystal and Margaret Atwood have in common?

While you might not immediately pair Billy Crystal and Margaret Atwood together, one thing they have in common is that they were both recently featured in Seacology benefit events. Thanks to the creativity and generosity of Seacology board member Marsha Garces Williams, Seacology was the beneficiary of a December 1 performance of Billy Crystal's highly-acclaimed one-man play, "700 Sundays." This play, which set many Broadway box office records, was followed by a reception at Jardinière, one of San Francisco's finest restaurants. Both Billy Crystal and Robin Williams were nice enough to make appearances at the reception. The night raised approximately \$100,000 to fund Seacology projects.

On February 8, acclaimed author Margaret Atwood was the subject of an on-stage conversation at San Francisco's Herbst Theatre. Atwood, who lives on an island in the Great Lakes, was fascinating, gracious and funny (yet another thing she has in common with Billy Crystal). Both nights not only raised money for Seacology, but were interesting and a lot of fun, two hallmarks of Seacology events.

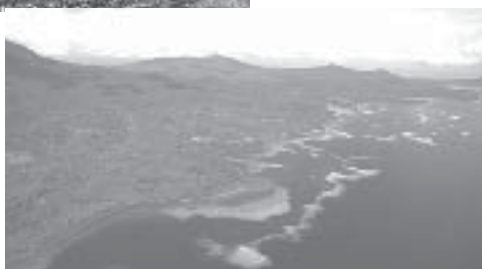
In fact, we feel so strongly about this that we would like to become the first nonprofit to make this guarantee. If you are ever bored at a Seacology event, let us know and we will refund your money.



## Seacology Recognized as Most Innovative Nonprofit in California

In 2005, Seacology was awarded the Achievement in Innovation Award from the California Association of Nonprofits for the organization's unique relief efforts in response to the devastating Dec. 26, 2004 tsunami. Because major charities were dealing with the immediate needs of survivors, Seacology concentrated on longer-term issues, focusing our efforts on four villages. Every single penny of the over \$260,000 raised went directly to the villages, providing vital repairs to infrastructure, and materials and equipment with which to rebuild their livelihoods. We are extremely honored to be recognized as the most innovative nonprofit in California in 2005.

*Below: Seacology Manager of Grants and Finances Lisa Rosenthal, and Administrative Assistant Emily Klokkevold with the award. Both Lisa and Emily were instrumental in Seacology's Tsunami Relief Fund efforts.*



## Project Update: Kimbe Bay, Papua New Guinea

Local organization Mahonia Na Dari has helped communities in the Kimbe Bay region of Papua New Guinea take control of their marine resources by establishing Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs). Seacology initially funded the purchase of a drill rig to install mooring buoys in delicate reef areas throughout Papua New Guinea, and funded demarcation buoys and signs, as well as a community-based monitoring and awareness program, to help educate surrounding villages on the purpose and function of the no-take areas. In January 2005, Seacology funded badly-needed repairs to MND's offices. In exchange, MND has assisted the Bakovi people of Patanga and Garile Villages in setting aside their two reef systems totaling 75 acres adjacent to the existing closed reefs. This addition makes the Kimbe Bay LMMA program the largest of its kind in PNG, with a total of 25 protected areas involving seven communities along a 25-mile stretch of coastline.

*Above left: The Seacology-funded repair of local environmental organization Mahonia Na Dari's offices. Left: The Kimbe reef system. Seacology has assisted Mahonia Na Dari in establishing 1,050 acres of Locally Managed Marine Areas. (Photos: Mahonia Na Dari.)*

# Seacology Board of Directors Approves New Island Projects

The following projects were approved by Seacology's Board of Directors at their January 23, 2006 meeting:

**AMERICAN SAMOA, Fagasa Village, Tutuila Island - Removing exotic trees within the National Park of American Samoa.** Fagasa Village is one of four villages on Tutuila Island that allowed their primary rainforest to be incorporated into the National Park of American Samoa. Seacology is providing funds to completely remove invasive tamarind trees from their land that has been leased to the National Park. \*

**ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS, Havelock Island - Environmental education center and waste collection containers in exchange for the creation of a 2,175-acre no-take marine reserve.** Havelock Island's waters are home to Green, Leatherback and Olive Ridley turtles; coral reefs and sea grass beds; and the occasional dugong. In exchange for the establishment of a 2,175-acre marine reserve and a ban on turtle egg collecting for 10 years, Seacology will fund the construction of an environmental education center, and will also provide plastic waste recycling containers. \*

**FIJI, Marou, Malevu and Somosomo Villages, Waya Island, Yasawa Islands - Construction of a Chiefly House (Vale Ni Vanua) in exchange for the establishment of a 9,884 acre no-take marine reserve.** The three villages are willing to preserve 9,884 acres of their fishing grounds for 20 years. In exchange for this sacrifice, Seacology will fund construction of a much-needed Chiefly House, which will function as a community center where the chief can hold meetings with chiefs from other islands as well as host visitors. \*

**FIJI, Sila Village, Nadroga Province, Viti Levu Island - Construction of a community center in exchange for the establishment of a 24,710-acre marine reserve.** Sila Village has a population of about 150 and is located on the western side of Viti Levu Island. The people of Sila Village are willing to preserve their marine life in return for funds for construction of a community center. The 24,710-acre marine reserve will be protected for a duration of 10 years. \*



*Baby Leatherback turtles on the newly-protected Saubeba and Warmandi, Indonesia beach. Villagers have agreed to protect the beach in exchange for scholarships. (Photo: Arnaz Mehta.)*

**improved village sanitation.** Chilika Lake is Asia's largest brackish lagoon. The Kyabart community on the 766-acre island of Mainsh has no electricity and subsists by fishing collectively. With the assistance of the local organization Jeevan Rekhan Parishad, Seacology will provide the village with 170 toilets. As well, Seacology will provide 40,000 mangrove seedlings to be planted in a three-kilometer belt around the island. \*

**INDONESIA, Manado Tua Satu Village, North Sulawesi - School reconstruction in exchange for the village endorsement of 118 acres of rainforest and 160 acres of coral reef as a no-take reserve.** The Manado Tua Satu Village elementary school

is in extreme disrepair to the point that classes must be conducted in the partially-completed church during rains. Seacology is providing funds for school reconstruction in exchange for the village's endorsement of a 118-acre rainforest reserve and a 160-acre no-take marine reserve for a minimum of 10 years.

**INDONESIA, Sarinbuana Village, Bali - School renovations, books and equipment in exchange for village endorsement of an 1,800-acre permanent no-take rainforest reserve.** The people of Sarinbuana are willing to formally endorse their role as guardians of an 1,800-acre rainforest above their village. In exchange, Seacology will provide funds for reconstruction of the dilapidated Sarinbuana Primary School, as well as construction of a small library and music/dance building and purchase of equipment for the school. Seacology will also provide funds for signage and a pathway to an important Balinese temple located within the forest. \*



*A Mainsh Island, Chilika Lake, India fisherman. (Photo: Hoslo Jiwa.)*

**INDONESIA, Saubeba and Warmandi Villages, Papua - Secondary and tertiary scholarships in exchange for the creation of a 440-acre no-take Leatherback turtle nesting beach and fringing forest reserve.** These two villages are in close proximity to a strip of beach that is host to the largest remaining population of the highly endangered Leatherback turtle. Seacology will provide scholarship funding to enable five students to attend junior high school, five students to attend senior high school or technical school, and three students to attend teachers college. In exchange, with the assistance of WWF Indonesia, Sorong, the villages will protect 280 acres of Leatherback turtle nesting beach from feral animal predation and all turtle egg harvesting, and create a 160-acre no-take forest reserve.

**SAMOA, Falealupo Village, Savaii Island - Funds to restore a historic white sand beach ecosystem in exchange for the conservation of a crucial wetland.** Falealupo is home to Seacology's first project, the Falealupo Rainforest School. The village's white sand beach was destroyed in the tsunami waves generated by Hurricanes Ofa and Val. In return for funds to restore the former village area and beach, the village will preserve for 50 years the unique Falealupo wetland which is home to threatened wild fowl species. \*

**SOLOMON ISLANDS, Tetepare Island - Construct ranger dormitory to enforce environmental protection on the largest uninhabited island in the South Pacific.** Uninhabited Tetepare's original inhabitants fled the island approximately 150 years ago due to a combination of intense headhunting pressure and disease outbreaks. In 2002 the descendants of the original inhabitants formed the Tetepare Descendants Association (TDA). Seacology is providing funds to the TDA for the construction of a dormitory to house rangers to protect the island, one of the last unlogged islands in the Solomons. \*

**VANUATU, Marou Community, Emau Island, North Efate, Shefa Province - Completion of a kindergarten building in exchange for a 32-acre no-take marine reserve and a 300-acre terrestrial reserve.** The Marou community is willing to preserve their 32-acre marine reserve, as well as a 300-acre terrestrial area, for a minimum duration of 10 years. The marine reserve is inhabited with a variety of fish species, turtles and corals, and is an ideal place for dugongs. In exchange for this sacrifice, Seacology will fund the completion of a kindergarten and provide equipment to be used to monitor the Marine Protected Area.

\* Support for asterisked projects is generously provided by the Nu Skin Enterprises Force for Good Foundation.

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<b>1,760,388</b> acres of coral reef and other marine	<b>29</b> scholarship programs, vital medical services and supplies,

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