

266 projects in 55 countries • More than 1.3 million acres protected 21 Field Representatives, four international affiliates, seven full-time staff

# Seacology is dedicated to protecting island environments around the world. Why islands?

The extinction crisis facing ecosystems around the world is most threatening on islands, where over half of all animal extinctions in the past 500 years have occurred. From coral reefs to mangrove forests, the world's islands house a multitude of unique habitats and wildlife.

At the same time, island communities are under increased pressure to boost economic development even at the cost of environmental damage. As many of the world's most vulnerable islands are also among the smallest, these ecological gems are often overlooked. Our win-win approach tackles both environmental threats and humanitarian challenges, creating marine and terrestrial reserves on islands while improving the quality of life for the surrounding community.

We find solutions by asking islanders to identify a communal need Seacology can provide, such as a school or a freshwater-delivery system. In exchange, the village agrees to protect a nearby marine or terrestrial area.



From left, Board Chair Paul Alan Cox, Prince Albert II of Monaco, Executive Director Duane Silverstein



Seacology representatives meet with women benefitting from our project in Sri Lanka



Healthy mangrove habitats protected by our historic agreement in Sri Lanka

his has been an exciting year for Seacology, beginning with the receipt of the Prince's Prize for Innovative Philanthropy, presented by Prince Albert of Monaco, and ending with stunning progress on our most ambitious project ever, working with Sri Lanka as it becomes the first country in the world to protect all of its mangrove forests.

Prince Albert of Monaco annually selects a not-for-profit organization from anywhere in the world whose practices and achievements it considers innovative and extraordinary. An organization cannot apply for this recognition; it is based on recommendations from an anonymous group of nominators and granted only after careful review. Last January, Seacology Executive Director Duane Silverstein and I were stunned to receive an invitation from Prince Albert to travel to Monaco to receive this important recognition. We found Prince Albert to be highly engaging and fascinated with Seacology's model of partnering with indigenous people to protect precious coral reefs and rainforests throughout the world.

Seacology now has established over 260 schools, medical clinics, water supplies, and other community projects on islands in 55 countries around the world. In return, communities have covenanted to protect their rainforests, coral reefs, and other precious resources; approaching 1.4 million acres in total. This innovative model, based on a win-win strategy, has been wildly successful throughout the world.

Last May, Seacology entered a new phase by making a major agreement with the government of the island nation of Sri Lanka to provide micro-loans for 15,000 impoverished women—small amounts of money to assist them in establishing their own businesses and becoming economically self-sufficient—in return for Sri Lanka protecting all of its coastal mangrove forests. Through this historic agreement, Sri Lanka became the first country in the world to commit to protect all of its mangrove forests. Mangroves play a critical role as nurseries for reef fish and other marine invertebrates, for sequestration of atmospheric carbon, and for protecting coastal residents from destruction wrought by cyclonic storms and tsunamis.

All this has been accomplished with a small, highly competent staff, and a group of donors, fellows, and Directors who passionately believe that we can make a difference in the world.

I believe that as individuals and as communities, we are more limited by our dreams than by our resources. As a small not-for-profit charity, Seacology has limited resources but has achieved very large conservation outcomes. I invite you, whether you represent a corporation, a foundation, or simply a new friend, to join us in this collective dream of helping to protecting the world's most precious islands.

Cordially,

Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D. Chair, Seacology Board of Directors



#### Seacology PERSONNEL

#### **Board of Directors**

Donald M. Arntz Michael Burbank, President Paul Alan Cox, Chair Scott S. Halsted Douglas Herst, Vice President Suzanna Jamieson, Treasurer Masayuki Kishimoto Barbara Meyer Ken Murdock, Vice Chair Kimberly Myers Hewlett Shari Sant Plummer, Vice President Peter Read Kristin M. Reed Joseph Scalzo Michael Staffieri Nadine Tang Sandie N. Tillotson, Vice President Jake Walker Marsha Garces Williams

#### Scientific Advisory Board Paul Cox, Ph.D.

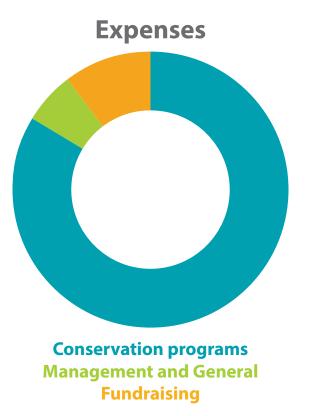
Paul Cox, Ph.D. Jared Diamond, Ph.D. Sylvia Earle, Ph.D. Thomas Elmqvist, Ph.D. Robert Jansen, Ph.D. John McCosker, Ph.D. John Ogden, Ph.D. Elizabeth Pierson, Ph.D. William E. Rainey, Ph.D. Peter H. Raven, Ph.D. E.O. Wilson, Ph.D.

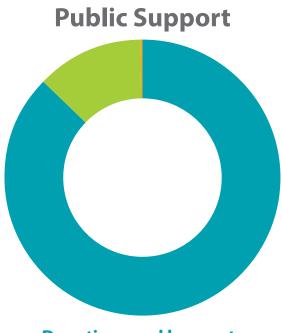
#### Staff

Duane Silverstein Executive Director Kevin Claassen Accounting Manager Joseph Clerici Design and Communications Associate/Webmaster Liz Gregg Development Associate Christina Oraftik Administrative Assistant Karen Peterson Sri Lanka Program Manager Mary Randolph Program Manager Aaron Rashba Development Director

#### Affiliates

Seacology Japan Seacology U.K. Seacology Scandanavia Seacology Germany 2015 was not only a groundbreaking year for Seacology's conservation programs, with the launch of both our largest single project to date in Sri Lanka and 15 others (see pg. 17). It was also enormously successful in terms of the organization's finances. Thanks to an incredibly generous anonymous donor, Seacology was able to commit a million dollars toward finishing our nationwide project in Sri Lanka and also expand an endowment fund that will ensure our long-term financial health. Combined with the ongoing support of many Seacology Fellows (see pg. 21), we entered 2016 ready to take on many new challenges and expand our work to new islands and even new countries.





Donations and bequests Foundation grants In-kind contributions

#### Seacology Statement of Financial Activity

January 1 through December 31, 2015<sup>1</sup>

Support and Revenue	
Public Support	
Foundation Grants	696,662
Donations and Bequests	4,858,074
In-kind Contributions	2,428
Total Public Support	5,557,164
Revenue	
Expedition Income, net of expenses	(17,352)
Event Income, net of expenses	(1,998)
Interest/Investment Income	(58,179)
Miscellaneous	332
Total Revenue	(77,197)
Total Support and Revenue	5,479,967
Expenses	
Program Services	1,760,800
Management and General	124,008
Fundraising	215,177
Total Expenses	2,099,985
Change in net assets	3,379,982

<sup>1</sup>These figures are unaudited. To request copies of previous years' audited financial statements prepared by Doran & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, please contact the Seacology office. The 2015 audited financial statements will be available in June 2016.



### **SAVING SRI LANKA'S MANGROVES**

In May, Seacology announced our largest and most ambitious project yet. Working with Sri Lanka-based NGO Sudeesa (also known as the Small Fishers Federation of Lanka), we're helping Sri Lanka become the first country in the world to comprehensively protect all of its mangrove forests and restore degraded ones.

> Our approach to achieving this goal is multifaceted. We're funding three large mangrove nurseries to grow seedlings that will be planted in deforested areas. The Sri Lankan government will for the first time demarcate all of the country's mangroves. And most importantly, we're enlisting the help of thousands of women in enforcing the new protections. In exchange, we're funding a huge expansion of Sudeesa's successful job-training and microloan program, helping offer Sri Lanka's most vulnerable a path to prosperity and an alternative to mangrove harvesting. At the end of 2015, we had raised 78% of the funding needed to complete the fiveyear, \$3.4 million project.



Sri Lanka's environmental secretary Nihal Rupasinghe and Duane Silverstein after signing the historic agreement to protect all of Sri Lanka's mangrove forests.





LEFT: Sri Lanka Program Manager Karen Peterson and Sudeesa Chairman Anuradha Wickramasinghe meet with Sri Lankan women who have obtained microloans from Sudeesa.

# PROJECT UPDATES

**FIJI** Vanua Levu Nanuca Village On the southeastern tip of Vanua Levu, Fiji's second-largest island, lies the village of Nanuca. Recognizing the importance of their marine resources, the villagers there established two *tabu*, traditional protected areas, for 10 years. To reinforce this commitment, Seacology funded a community hall in exchange for extending the protections for an additional 15 years. The facility was completed recently and withstood the devastation of Cyclone Winston, which ravaged parts of Fiji.

ARTER

# **PROJECT UPDATES**

GRENADA Telescope This Seacology-funded nursery raised more than 2,000 red mangrove seedlings that were planted along the shores of Grenville Bay by a team of volunteers.

**INDIA** Berhampur Island Chilika Lake India's largest brackish water lagoon is one of the subcontinent's great centers of biodiversity. Chilika Lake is home to threatened species such as Irrawaddy dolphins (pictured) and fishing cats, and serves as an important wintering ground for migratory birds. As part of a wider effort to combat overfishing and promote stewardship, Seacology funded a solar-powered community center on Berhampur Island to conduct environmental and alternative-livelihood training. In exchange, the local residents have agreed to actively protect an important 20-acre section of Chilika Lake for 10 years and plant 10,000 mangroves and other trees along its shoreline.

#### MADAGASCAR Ranobe

The Ranobe protected area is a new reserve in Madagascar's spiny forest, an area home to eight lemur species and other endemic wildlife. Overseeing the southern end is a nearly complete ecotourism center and guardian hut that Seacology funded in exchange for a 20-year agreement to cease all habitat disturbance in a 4,448-acre expanse of the park.

#### PHILIPPINES Sibuyan Island

0

Kapeko

Mangyan Community

Seacology funded the installation of more than 100 solar lighting units, enough to provide a reliable nighttime light source for each household in this isolated village. In exchange, the community will protect 1,000 acres of forested watershed. Additionally, the solar units will help reduce the demand on an already-strained nearby microhydro power station.

# **PROJECT UPDATES**



Kwale Island has no natural freshwater sources, which presents serious public health challenges for its people, particularly in the dry season. In exchange for stewardship of a nearby 741-acre mangrove forest, which also supports local fisheries, Seacology funded the construction of a large cistern, which will store more than 150,000 gallons of rainwater for use by the villagers. The facility officially opened at a ceremony in June.



Photo by Guy Stevens/Manta Trust

COUNTRY, Island	COMMUNITY BENEFIT	ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT
ANTIGUA	"Bottle Bead" women's livelihood initiative	Support of sea turtle conservation
BAHAMAS San Salvador Island	Signage and touch tanks	Ongoing conservation of the 17,000-acre San Salvador Island Protected Areas
BELIZE Big Falls	Construction of housing for paying volunteers	Continued protection of three protected areas totaling 162,000 acres
CHILE Alejandro Selkirk Island	Environmental education and volunteer center	Support of a long-term environmental education program and elimination of invasive plants from a 12.4-acre area
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA Kosrae	Meeting house and recreational huts	1,468-acre no-take marine and mangrove reserve
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA Pohnpei	Solar power system for ranger station	Four no-take marine protected areas, totaling 8,388 acres
Funding for certain projects provided by		

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Seacology Germany

Seacology

*New Save An Acre project Acres of ter	OUNTRY, land	COMMUNITY BENEFIT	ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT	
Berhampur Island center trees, protecting 20 acres of lagoon, environmental education program   INDONESIA* Borneo Nut oil processing and communications equipment, construction of a small building Conservation of 247 acres of lowland forest   INDONESIA Borneo Ecotourism and community center Ban on hunting oceanic manta rays off Solor Island   KENYA Wasini Island* Rehabilitation of office, construction of alternative livelihood workshop, tools and training Protection of the 741-acre Mkwiro Marine Co-Management Area   "New Save An Acre project *New Save An Acre project 6099, Acres of terminal			training and mangrove reforestation/	
Borneo equipment, construction of a small building forest   INDONESIA Solor Island Ecotourism and community center Ban on hunting oceanic manta rays off Solor Island   KENYA Wasini Island* Rehabilitation of office, construction of alternative livelihood workshop, tools and training Protection of the 741-acre Mkwiro Marine Co-Management Area 6099, Acres of ter	erhampur Island		trees, protecting 20 acres of lagoon,	
Solor Island Solor Island   KENYA Wasini Island* Rehabilitation of office, construction of alternative livelihood workshop, tools and training Protection of the 741-acre Mkwiro Marine Co-Management Area   *New Save An Acre project 609, Acres of ter				
Wasini Island* alternative livelihood workshop, tools and training Co-Management Area 609,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,		Ecotourism and community center		
*New Save An Acre project Acres of ter		alternative livelihood workshop, tools and		609,08
Nu Skin Force For Good Foundation Seacology Japan Seacology Germany	0 <sup>0</sup> 9-		ded by	Acres of terrestr habitat protecte by Seacology

	Cia		
COUNTRY, Island	COMMUNITY BENEFIT	ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT	Since our founding in 1991, we have launched projects in
MADAGASCAR	Ecotourism center and latrines, eco-camp, improvements to mangrove walk	Protection of 988 acres of mangrove forest	more than 260
MOZAMBIQUE Bazaruto Archipelago ●	Development of alternative livelihood opportunities	Protection of marine habitat and biodiversity, including endangered dugongs	communities
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Multipurpose community center	Protection of a 1,400-acre wildlife management area and six small islands	on islands in 55
PHILIPPINES Luzon Island	Repair and improvement of the Taal Lake Conservation Center	Support of a 2,471-acre fish sanctuary	countries
SRI LANKA	Funding for Sudeesa's job-training and microloans programs; mangrove museum	Conservation of all of country's mangrove habitats, nurseries for reforestation	
	Funding for certain projects prov	ided by	
19	I Skin Force For Good Foundation Seacology Japan	Seacology Germany	and the second



### 2015 SEACOLOGY PRIZE WINNER LAKSHMI MOORTHY

Our 2015 prize recipient struck an innovative deal to protect both a critical natural resource and her community's livelihood, exemplifying Seacology's win-win approach to conservation.

Seacology PRIZE

#### авоит Lakshmi Moorthy

Since childhood, Lakshmi has worked in India's Gulf of Mannar as a seaweed harvester, a subsistence living for many of the women of her community. In 2002, that livelihood came under threat as the government, in a well-meaning but poorly designed action, began enforcing a marine reserve in their traditional harvesting grounds. The women's boats and even food and water were confiscated, sometimes by corrupt officials who demanded bribes to return them.

Lakshmi helped organize the displaced workers into a federation, of which she became president. After negotiations with government representatives, NGOs, and conservation scientists, the group struck an agreement that protects both the environment and women's livelihood, by sharply limiting when the seaweed is harvested each month and making sure only sustainable methods are used. In 2014, the government recognized the Gulf of Mannar seaweed collectors as a unique group of women fishers. They are now free—within the restrictions they themselves have imposed—to safeguard the resource and to pursue their livelihood.

#### ABOUT THE SEACOLOGY PRIZE

Many foundations recognize exemplary achievements by scientists, educators, business leaders and other individuals who work toward conservation. Seacology has chosen to recognize heroic achievement by people who seldom receive any publicity: indigenous leaders who risk their own lives and well-being to protect their island's ecosystems and culture.

The Seacology Prize is underwritten by Ken Murdock, Vice Chair of Seacology, in memory of his mother, Lalovi Fish Murdock.

#### Seacology SUPPORTERS

#### **CHIEF ULU FELLOWS**

(\$25,000 or more)

Anonymous Argus Fund Lancy Foundation William and Eva Price Suriyakumar Family Trust Newman and Zeneth Ward Family Foundation

#### ISLAND FELLOWS

\$10,000-\$24,999

Anonymous Albert Chao Robert Dion and Mary O'Malley Robert Epstein and Amy Roth Mariposa Fund Esmond Harmsworth Charitable Foundation Arthur Kern Jane Napier Stephen Silberstein Anne Symchych Paul and Leigh Tischler

#### SEACOLOGY FELLOWS

\$2,000-\$9,999

Anonymous Yvonne Adams and Jeremy Green Linda Benge Renee Boicourt lain Boltin Pete and Ginny Boyce Peter and Mimi Buckley Katie Budge Craig and Nana Chiappone Yvon and Malinda Chouinard David Davis Virginia and Peter Dimsey Glenn and Bettina Duval Gordon Firestein and Doris Lang Kathryn Fox Phyllis K. Friedman/Friedman Family Fund **Robert and Michelle Friend** Markus Fromherz and Heike Schmitz Theodore and Frances Geballe lan Glascock John and Marcia Goldman Nan Guslander Terri Hearsh Robert and Rosemary Heil Wolcott Henry Michael Hofman and Janet Moyer

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Gilda and Warren Sprung Cyrus and Barbara Sweet Christine Symchych and James McNulty Maria Taft Laura Tietz Joel and Kathy Tranmer Cindy and Richard Troop Jake Warner and Toni Ihara Todd Werby and Nonie Greene Wayne and Julissa Westerman Gregory and Patti White Scott Wilson and Lucy Cummings

#### OTHERS

In 2015, all Seacology Board members made generous personal gifts. Board contributions represent a significant portion of Seacology's total fundraising. We are most grateful for the generosity and leadership of each Seacology Board member.

Seacology is fortunate to receive many gifts under \$2,000. Space limitations prevent us from listing the name of each donor, but we deeply appreciate every contribution to Seacology. Each gift we receive is important to our efforts to protect the world's islands.

#### Seacology Island Legacy Society

If you are a Seacology Fellow, a longtime Seacology supporter, or are new to our cause and feel a great affinity for our mission, please consider joining our Island Legacy Society. Members of the Island Legacy Society have made a commitment to protecting islands for future generations to enjoy by making a planned gift to Seacology. To join the Island Legacy Society:

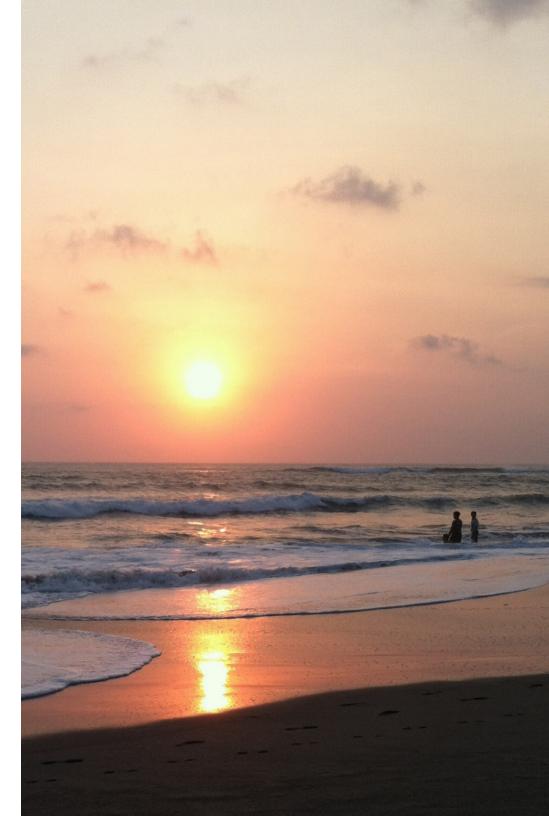
- Make a gift to Seacology in your estate plan through your financial advisor.
- Contact Seacology's Development Department at (510) 559-3505 or islands@seacology.org and we will send you a Letter of Intent to complete and return to us.

On behalf of Seacology's Board, staff, and most especially, the habitats and peoples of the world's islands, we thank the following Island Legacy Society members. Your thoughtfulness and generosity will conserve the unparalleled biodiversity and cultures of islands for many generations to come.

#### We are pleased to honor the following members of the Island Legacy Society:

Anonymous Frank W. and Margaret B. Adelstein Fund\* Marie-Louise Ansak Larry and Wendy Barels Charitable Remainder Trust Michael Burbank & Cindy Roberts Kimo Campbell\* Paul and Barbara Cox Rosalind Douglas Trust\* Graham Farrar Living Trust Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Feigenbaum\* Kathryn Fox-Winokur Susan Friedman Christy Gavitt Eliot Girsang & Richard Wilson Kathleen Goetten\* Hank and Jane Goichman Morgan Griffin Craig Grube Scott Halsted Doug and Leni Herst Michael N. Hofman and Janet Mover Hotham Family Trust Carlton A. Hubbell Trust\* Cynthia Hubach, in memory of Richard A. Hubach Suzanna Jamieson Sara Katz Masayuki Kishimoto

Mr. Raleigh Klein Ken Murdock Mark Murzin and Krista Knoernschild Dana Nojima and Elaine Lyford-Nojima Matsuno Kuhara Patrick Mickey Petersen Charitable Fund\* Peter Pistor Shari Sant Plummer John C. and Susan C. Racanelli Gordon Radley James and Gretchen Sandler Guy and Jeanine Saperstein Joseph and Catherine Scalzo Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Selig Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart Rose & Arthur Silverstein Memorial Fund\* Mr. Lindley S. Sloan Michael and Marilyn Staffieri Family Trust Sandie N. Tillotson Foundation Cindy and Richard Troop James L. Walker, IV Alex Weinstein, MD and Betty Helton, MD Erin West Herbert A. West Greg and Pat White Marsha Garces Williams



\*deceased

#### Seacology IN THE NEWS

Virgin Australia Voyeur, January 2015 "Sea Change"

Ushuaia Noticias, January 1, 2015 "The Laguna de los Patos Have New Trail and Signage"

New York Daily News, January 16, 2015 "Confidential"

Examiner.com, January 21, 2015 "One Night, One Ocean': Making a difference for the ocean's future"

Gotham Magazine, January 28, 2015 "Why Alexandra Richards Cares About Oceanic Conservation"

KSL.com, February 5, 2015 "Monacan prince awards native Utah scientist for rainforest conservation"

Le Monde des Fondations, January-April, 2015 (in French) "Le Prix Du Prince Pour La Philanthropie Innovante a Yuva Unstoppable"

BBC Science in Action, April 16, 2015 Seacology Field Representative Erik Patel and 2010 Seacology Prize winner Rabary Desiré discuss efforts to curb illegal rosewood harvest and lemur poaching on Madagascar



Science & Environment Sri Lanka first nation to protect all mangrove forests lark Kinver

O 12 May 2015 Science & Environ



ome the first nation in the world to comp

Jamaica Observer, April 24, 2015 C-CAM building wildlife centre in Clarendon

#### **BBC Science**, May 12, 2015 Sri Lanka First Nation to Protect All **Mangrove Forests**

New Scientist, May 12, 2015 Sri Lanka First Nation to Promise Full Protection of Mangroves

The Guardian, May 12, 2015 Sri Lanka to Become the First Nation in the World to Protect All Its Mangroves

Geographical Magazine, May 12, 2015 Saviours of Sri Lanka's Mangroves

ColomboPage, May 12, 2015 Sri Lanka becomes world's first nation to comprehensively protect all of its mangrove forest

IFL Science, May 12, 2015 Sri Lanka Becomes First Nation To Protect All Of Its Mangrove Forests

The Hindu, May 13, 2015 Mission Mangroves in Sri Lanka

BBC World Service (audio), May 13, 2015 Sri Lanka Mangroves: Preservation Agreement

SeafoodSource.com, May 13, 2015 Sri Lanka initiative to replenish mangroves, fish populations

Sri Lanka television network, May 13, 2015 [Mangrove project featured on Sri Lanka National News]

KCBS Radio, May 17, 2015

ClimateWire, May 18, 2015 Sri Lanka Becomes First Nation to Place All Mangroves Under Protection

Cambia.pe, May 18, 2015 Sri Lanka: How it Managed To Be the First Nation in the World to Protect All the Mangroves

Georgia College Front Page, May 20, 2015 Students Explore Ecology, Build Community Partnerships on San Salvador Island

Triple Pundit, May 28, 2015 Why Sri Lanka's Historic Mangroves Move Matters

ABS CBN News, May 31, 2015 A Lesson from Sri Lanka on Saving Mangroves

Youngzine, June 1, 2015 Sri Lanka Protects Its Mangroves

NewsBeat Social, June 1, 2015 Sri Lanka Announces New Initiative to Protect Mangroves

Mongabay.com, June 4, 2015 Sri Lanka Becomes First Country to Completely Protect Mangroves

Reuters, June 8, 2015 Women to Power Sri Lanka's Mangrove Conservation Plan

Huffington Post, June 9, 2015 Save the Mangroves

The Alternative (India), June 13,2015 Mother Of All Plans to Save Sri Lanka's Mangroves

Dhaka Tribune, June 16, 2015 We Need Our Mangroves



FloodList, June 16, 2015 Sri Lanka's Comprehensive Mangrove Protection Project

Inter Press Service, June 17, 2015

From Residents to Rangers: Local Communities Take Lead on Mangrove Conservation in Sri Lanka

Mother Nature Network, June 23, 2015 Women Lead Fight in the Poaching War

SciDev.net, June 26, 2015 Mangroves Against Monsoons

Christian Science Monitor. July 15, 2015 Women Lead Effort to Protect Sri Lanka's Mangroves

Rise and Shine (video), July povernment and U.S.-based en 17,2015 Seacology and Sudeesa Representatives on Sri Lanka's "Rise and Shine" Morning Show

The Hindu, Sept 4, 2015 Seaweed Collector Wins Environment Award

Webindia123, Oct 6, 2015 Lakshmi Bags Seacology Award

The Hindu, Oct 15, 2015 Honoured Seaweed Collector Given Rousing Reception

Webindia123, Oct 12, 2015 Seacology prize Winner to be Felicitated by National Fish Workers

> News Today, Oct 7, 2015 TN Woman Gets US Prize for Protecting Sea Life

India-West, Oct 20, 2015 Seacology Names Lakshmi Moorthy'Island Conservationist of the Year'

Rise and Shine (video), Oct 28, 2015 Seacology's Leela Padmini Batuwitage and Karen Peterson on Saving Sri Lanka's Mangroves



MONITOR

come aware," Priyadarshani said.

oystems, has given vomen living near mang listance - mainly loans of 850 to 82,000 each

Sudeesa, together with the Sri Lankan





In 2015, Seacology led our first-ever trips to both Australia and Cuba.

In one of the first U.S.-approved civilian visits to Cuba since diplomatic relations began to to improve, Seacology's guests explored pristine coral reefs at Gardens of the Queen. They met with some of Cuba's leading conservationists and marine scientists and toured both Havana's historic neighborhoods and Cuba's countryside.

The Australia trip began in the city of Cooktown, where guests boarded the Elizabeth II. Travelers spent the week coming face-to-face with charismatic dwarf Minke whales and exploring the Great Barrier Reef.

Keep an eye on our e-Newsletter and seacology.org/travel to be the first to know about future Seacology expeditions.

RIGHT: A guest on our Australia expedition swims through a school of fish while diving the Great Barrier Reef.

Photo by Thomas Baechtold



#### **'PROFESSOR'ALI SHAIBU SHEKUE** 1956-2015

With great sadness, we learned in December of the unexpected passing of Ali Shaibu Shekue, our 2014 Seacology Prize winner. Shekue, known to those close to him as "The Professor," was instrumental in the development of Kenya's marine reserves and the promotion of sustainable practices among that nation's artisanal fishing community. He was a beloved and respected community leader, colleague, grandfather, and friend. We on the staff are honored to have met him and proud to have shared in his work.

"Professor Shaibu will be greatly missed not only by his friends, but also communities that he tirelessly worked to empower, colleagues that greatly benefited from his vast knowledge and wisdom on conservation and working with communities," said Dishon Murage, Seacology's field representative for Kenya, a friend and associate of the Professor for more than 15 years.

Shekue was awarded the Seacology Prize in 2014 in recognition of more than a decade of work with countless fishermen along Kenya's coasts. His efforts led to the creation of the country's first community-managed marine reserve and many others following that. He was also active in the successful implementation of several Seacology projects, most recently on Pate and Wasini islands.

Those of us who had the privilege of meeting and working with the Professor will miss him greatly and will always remember his dedication, kindness, and humility. Our condolences to all of those whose lives he touched in Kenya and beyond.



1623 Solano Avenue Berkeley, CA 94707 USA Phone: 510.559.3505 | Fax: 510.559.3506 www.Seacology.org | islands@seacology.org facebook.com/Seacology | twitter.com/Seacology