



Members of Seacology Japan join children from Fiji's Nabubu Village to celebrate the reopening of the community's school.

## Pacific partnership

**Seacology's Japanese affiliate celebrates tenth anniversary, helps retrofit Fijian school**

**S**eacology Japan is one of our valued international affiliates—groups that fundraise in their countries to support Seacology projects—and has been a vital partner in our work since 2008. With its most recent contribution, a Fijian village now has a vastly improved school and has made a commitment to protect hundreds of acres of nearby forest and marine territory.

The village, Nabubu, sits on the northern coast of Vanua Levu, Fiji's second largest island. It's two hours, via unpaved road, from the closest town. Just offshore from the picturesque community lies the Cakaulevu reef, the

world's third-longest continuous coral reef, thriving with diverse marine life. A deep desire to protect this natural resource led the community to strike a deal with Seacology earlier this year.

In exchange for a commitment to protect 560 acres of marine habitat and 132 of rainforest, Seacology and our Japanese affiliate, along with the Nu Skin Force For Good and Millstone Humanitarian Initiative, funded the retrofit and expansion of a dilapidated, leaky school building. Our grant helped the community to repair the building, add two new classrooms, and fix up the teachers' quarters. The classrooms now have new desks, bookcases and blackboards. The once-crowded school can now comfortably accommodate the more than 80 students from Nabubu and two neighboring

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### Thank you, parrotfish crowdfunding donors

We're happy to report that Seacology's first-ever crowdfunding campaign was a success! The campaign raised funds for our efforts to protect parrotfish at Providencia Island, Colombia. Thank you to the many donors who made this possible! They are listed on page 7.



### Donate with confidence

At Seacology we pride ourselves on being careful stewards of the environment, but also of the generous gifts that make our work possible. Seacology recently earned GuideStar's "Platinum Seal of Transparency" for publicly sharing financials, progress, and results, year over year.

This endorsement complements another top rating from Charity Navigator. Seacology earned four stars from that service, meaning our work "Exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its cause."

## From the Chair

# Dear friends,

In September, Barbara and I traveled to Nabubu Village in a remote part of Fiji, in the South Pacific. Together with our friends from Seacology Japan and the Millstone Foundation, we dedicated the Namuka i Cake Primary School. Together we had provided funds for the school building, teachers' quarters, and water tanks.



Barbara Cox with children from Nabubu Village, Fiji

One of the little girls, dressed in her school uniform, shyly asked Barbara if she could have her photograph taken with her. We were later told that some of the children walk barefoot 15 kilometers over a mountain to get to the school.

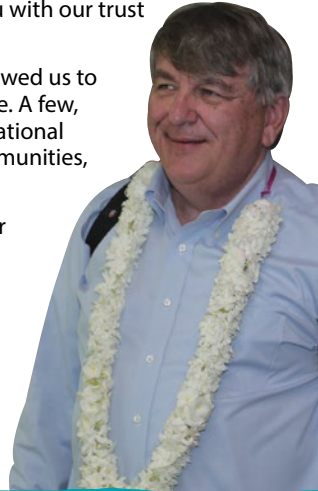
At the dedication, in my remarks in the Fijian language, I said, "I serve as chairman of the Seacology Foundation, which seeks to protect island nature and island cultures throughout the world. We have built this school in return for your promise to protect your coastal forest. You will need courage to stop the logging companies from destroying the forest. We leave you with our trust and love."

Your generous gifts to Seacology have allowed us to launch more than 300 projects like this one. A few, like our mangrove conservation project in Sri Lanka, have garnered international recognition and awards. All of them have had a deep impact on local communities, empowering conservation on the world's islands.

Thank you for joining with us to help save precious forests, reefs, and other habitats throughout the world.

Cordially,

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



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## Seacology welcomes...



### Farwiza Farhan *Indonesia Field Representative*

Farwiza is a passionate forest and marine conservationist. Born and raised in Aceh, Farwiza graduated as a marine biologist from University Sains Malaysia in Penang, followed by a master's in Environmental Management from University of Queensland. In 2012, she co-founded Yayasan HAKA, a local nonprofit working to conserve, protect, and restore the Leuser Ecosystem in Sumatra. She has received the Whitley Award for her work and in 2017 was selected as a Future for Nature Award winner. She was also featured as one of the experts in Leonardo DiCaprio's documentary about climate change, "Before the Flood."



### Amanda Kirkhart *Program and Administrative Assistant*

Amanda comes to Seacology with a longstanding passion for the natural world and environmental preservation. A native of southern Florida, she grew up with a deep love for beaches, mangroves, and marine life. She graduated with a degree in Environmental Earth Sciences from The Johns Hopkins University in 2009 and has since worked in a variety of fields, including public health, sustainable food systems, and private education. She is thrilled to now be a part of a team who shares her passions for preservation and helping local communities.



### Michael Scott *Individual Gifts Officer*

Michael's lifelong dedication to environmental conservation began in his native city of Rio de Janeiro doing field work to safeguard Brazil's endangered coastal Atlantic rainforest, then continued in the U.S. through successive development positions raising funds for environmental organizations including The Nature Conservancy, The Sierra Club and The Center for Biological Diversity. He earned a Master of Nonprofit Administration degree from the University of San Francisco, and a B. of Architecture from Universidade Santa Úrsula, Brazil.



## SEACOLOGY PRIZE

Patricia Lamelas of the Dominican Republic has led an effective campaign to protect biodiversity hotspots

As she addressed the attentive crowd at the Seacology Prize Ceremony in October, Patricia Lamelas went out of her way to thank her colleagues from the Dominican Republic.

"This award is not only for me," she said. "I must pay tribute to the enormous contributions made by the incredible persons who have worked with me during these 25 years towards the conservation and sustainable development of the natural and cultural resources of Samaná Bay and its environs."

This emphasis on cooperation and partnership has been critical to this year's Seacology Prize recipient's nearly three decades of success as an environmental leader. As

director of the Center for the Conservation and Eco-Development of Samaná Bay and its Surroundings (CEBSE), she has worked with diverse stakeholders to overcome legal and economic hurdles to conservation in the Samaná Bay region. Under Lamelas' leadership, CEBSE has helped build the area's nascent ecotourism sector and helped connect unemployed youth to jobs in the growing industry. The organization has established underwater nurseries, propagating coral to replenish damaged nearby reefs. It has built ecotourism infrastructure like platforms to observe the bay's humpback whales and birds. And in partnership with Seacology, it has helped to protect some of the last healthy mangroves in the area from encroaching



Seacology Board of Directors co-chair Ken Murdock presents Patricia Lamelas with the 2018 Seacology Prize.

urban development.

Seacology has only been active in the Dominican Republic for a short time, but the presence of committed conservation partners like Lamelas has convinced us that there is great potential for sustainable

development there. We look forward to supporting more efforts in the country.

You can read more about Lamelas' accomplishments and watch her acceptance speech at the prize ceremony at [seacology.org/prize](http://seacology.org/prize).

## SRI LANKA'S MANGROVES

A Seacology-funded training and conservation center in the island's formerly war-torn north will serve both disadvantaged communities and the local environment

A new facility in northern Sri Lanka will play a key role in Seacology's nationwide project to protect the country's mangrove forests and support economic development.

The center, located just outside the town of Mannar, is run by Sudeesa, our Sri Lankan partner organization. Sudeesa will use it to offer job training to thousands of local women from communities hard hit by Sri Lanka's three-decade civil war. The women will also learn about mangroves—and pledge to actively protect the trees in their communities. The facility also hosts a large nursery to grow native mangrove seedlings for ongoing replanting efforts.

Built with funding Seacology received as a winner of the Global Resilience Partnership's Water Window Challenge, the



Sri Lankan women at the opening ceremony of the northern training center in July.

center was officially opened in July. You can see a video exploring the impressive facility and featuring highlights of the opening at [seacology.org/srilankamangroves](http://seacology.org/srilankamangroves).

This expansion of the Sri Lanka Mangrove Conservation Project follows more

recognition of Sri Lanka's environmental leadership in preserving mangrove ecosystems. Earlier this year, the 53-country Commonwealth of Nations appointed Sri Lanka to lead a new committee to advise on best practices for mangrove conservation. And in September, the project won a Momentum for Change climate action award, given by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. This recognition was given to 15 projects around the world that employ particularly innovative strategies to address the disruption of the Earth's climate.

It's exciting to see the importance of mangroves and Sri Lanka's unprecedented commitment to saving them recognized and rewarded by the international community.

# PROJECT UPDATES

With dozens of active projects around the world, things are happening all the time. Here are just a few highlights of the past several months.

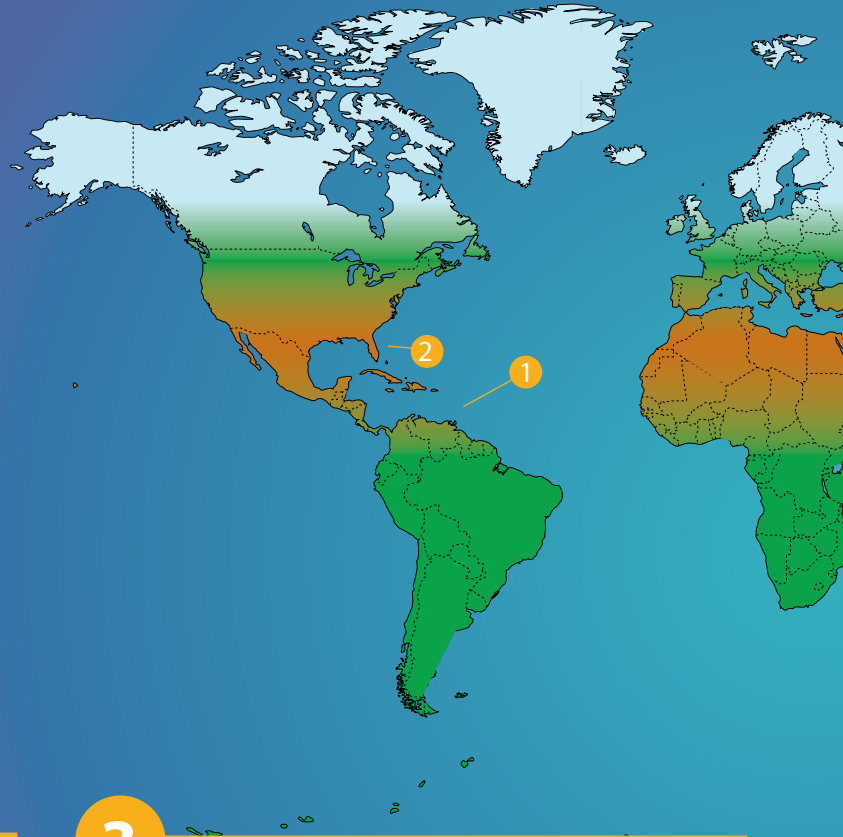
1



## CARRIACO ISLAND, GRENADA

*Mangrove replanting in seven-acre area, conservation of mangroves and sea turtle nesting habitat for 10 years; materials and training for women's cooperative*

Every year, hundreds of sea turtles, including the magnificent leatherbacks, nest on Carriacou's beaches, and our project partners protect them every night during nesting season. Seacology made a grant for sewing machines, and now the "Creative Women of Carriacou" have opened a small shop and are selling the bags they make from old sails and other used fabric.



2



## CARYSFORT REEF, KEY LARGO, FLORIDA

*Replanting and restoration of coral reef over five years*

Seacology's role in this ongoing five-year reef restoration project is now complete. Since 2016, our partner, the Ocean Reef Conservation Foundation, has grown and outplanted more than 3,100 staghorn and elkhorn corals (two critical reef-building corals) at Carysfort Reef.

3

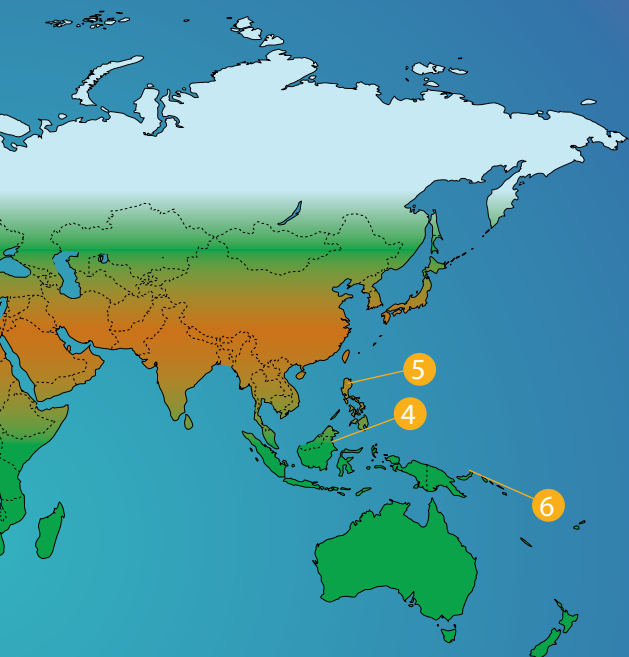


## AILINGLAPLAP, MARSHALL ISLANDS

*Protection of 121-acre marine area for 10 years, in exchange for basketball/volleyball court with six solar-powered lights*

The marine no-take area, home to dolphins, turtles, and endangered fish species, is being protected. An official opening of the court was held with government officials, traditional leaders, and members of local communities in attendance. The ceremony began around sunset and was followed by games. The timing highlights the importance of the lights: It is so hot in the daytime that people tend to rest during the day and be up after dark.





5



### AGDANGAN MUNICIPALITY, LUZON, PHILIPPINES

*Protection of two no-take fish sanctuaries (301 acres total) and 124 acres of mangroves for 15 years, in exchange for a new environmental education center and 400-meter mangrove boardwalk*

Construction of both the education center and boardwalk is complete. Community members are patrolling the two marine protected areas to prevent poaching, and they are strictly enforcing all new restrictions. Schoolchildren are also coming to the boardwalk and education center to learn about the mangrove ecosystem.

3

4



### TERIAN, BORNEO, MALAYSIA

*Protection of a 107-acre watershed, in exchange for community micro-hydro system*

It took three tries to get pipes for the micro-hydro system up to this mountain village. But thanks to the hard work from every household in the community, the system is up and running again, providing clean electricity to the whole village. Community members have also finished mapping the entire protected forest area.

6



### TAVOLO, NEW BRITAIN ISLAND, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

*Community health clinic in exchange for the establishment of a 988-acre no-take coastal marine conservation area*

The Seacology-funded health clinic for this remote village was finished several years ago, but the community has had to rely on volunteers and part-time workers until the government agreed to provide a permanent clinician. Hundreds of villagers from Tavolo and nearby communities celebrated their victory. Meanwhile, the coral reef in the protected area is healthy and thriving.

# NEW PROJECTS

In June, Seacology launched nine new projects, bringing our total to more than 300. For details on all of our work, past and present, visit [seacology.org/projects](http://seacology.org/projects).

Country	Location	Environmental benefit	Community benefit
Bangladesh	Sonadia Island	Conservation of 8,000 acres for 10 years, environmental education	Solar-powered community center and boardwalk
Federated States of Micronesia	Kuop Atoll (Chuuk)	Increased protection of 25,089-acre permanent marine protected area	Ranger station for surveillance and enforcement of the area
Honduras	Guanaja Island	Replanting five acres of mangroves	Support for ecotourism and reduced fishing pressure by providing dive training for unemployed youth
India	Berhampur and Mahinsha Islands	Protection of 20 acres of Chilika Lagoon for 10 years and mangrove replanting	Education center, organic garden, and ecotourism job opportunities
Indonesia	Rasau Sebau	Protection of 741 acres of forest for 15 years	Forest guard tower, toilets, bridge, and communication equipment
Malaysia	Langkabong Village	Protection of 840 acres of rainforest watershed for 15 years	Gravity-fed water supply system
Philippines	Lobo Municipality	Protection of 118 acres of forest for 10 years, reduction of fishing pressure, support of three fish reserves (78 acres total)	Solar-powered visitors center, guest huts, and gear for ecotourism initiative
Tanzania	Unguja Island	Conservation of 8,213 acres of forest for 20 years, environmental education	Community training center, signage, environmental education and apiculture
Uruguay	Queguay Islands	Enhanced legal protection for 6,326-acre islands	Technical help necessary to request protected status, a tourist awareness program, and tour guide training

## Fiji continued from page 1

villages. The grant also funded ten large tanks for the community to store water for the dry season.

In September, 11 members of Seacology Japan joined members of our staff and board of directors at Nabubu to officially dedicate the project. In an all-day celebration, the community gave their international guests the warmest of welcomes, with traditional food, song, dance, and other hallmarks of the hospitality Fiji is known for.

Seacology Japan recently celebrated its tenth anniversary and Nabubu is just the

latest of 17 projects that our affiliate has made possible over this decade of steadfast support. In that time, they have raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for our work in Mexico, Indonesia, Grenada, and other countries. We also worked with our Japanese affiliate to provide emergency supplies to the people of Izu Ōshima, a small Japanese island, following the devastating earthquake and tsunami in 2011.

Though thousands of miles of ocean separate Fiji, Japan, and the United States, the success of these projects shows the Seacology model at its best. The values of stewardship, community, and concern for the next generation transcend time, place, and culture.



Seacology Japan formed in 2008 to help raise funds for our projects around the world.

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In 2018, 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.

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*Seacology is fortunate to receive many gifts under \$2,500. 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.*

## Island Legacy Society *Members of the Island Legacy Society have made a commitment to protecting islands by making a planned gift.*

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## Crowdfunding donors *These individuals generously supported our first-ever crowdfunding campaign, to save parrotfish in Colombia*

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Seacology's crowdfunded educational project on Isla Providencia is now known as "Pure Parrotfish."

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With the support of donors like you, Seacology  
launched its 300th project this year. Thank you! [page 6](#)