



2021 Annual Report

Why islands?

Seacology is dedicated to protecting island environments around the world.

S eacology focuses only on islands because in the last 500 years, more than half of all animal extinctions have occurred on islands. They are crucial to preserving the Earth's biodiversity.

From coral reefs to mangrove forests, the world's islands house a multitude of unique habitats.

But island communities are under increasing pressure to boost economic development, even at the cost of environmental damage.

Our approach tackles both environmental threats and humanitarian challenges. Our projects create marine and terrestrial reserves on islands while improving the quality of life for local people.

We start by asking islanders what land or sea area they want to protect. Then they identify a communal need Seacology can provide, such as a school or a freshwater delivery system. It's a win for the environment and for the people who depend on it.



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From the Chair

Simone Sbaraglia via Wildscreen Exchange

We were saddened at Seacology by news of the passing of Harvard Professor Edward O. Wilson, who served as a member of Seacology's Scientific Advisory Board. I had the great pleasure of serving as his Teaching Fellow for four years. I was deeply influenced by his love of diversity of life (a sentiment which he referred to as "biophilia"), his extraordinary intellect, which led to the creation of the theory of island biogeography, and his deep compassion for students and indeed all of those he came in contact with.

I remember his delight when I returned from Samoa with specimens of an unusually large *Paraponera*-like biting ant species that I found too close for comfort when I was collecting the fruit of a rare species of *Pandanus* hanging over Lake Lauoto'o. Diving into the water below in an attempt to remove the ants from my body, I had the presence of mind to save a few for Professor Wilson.

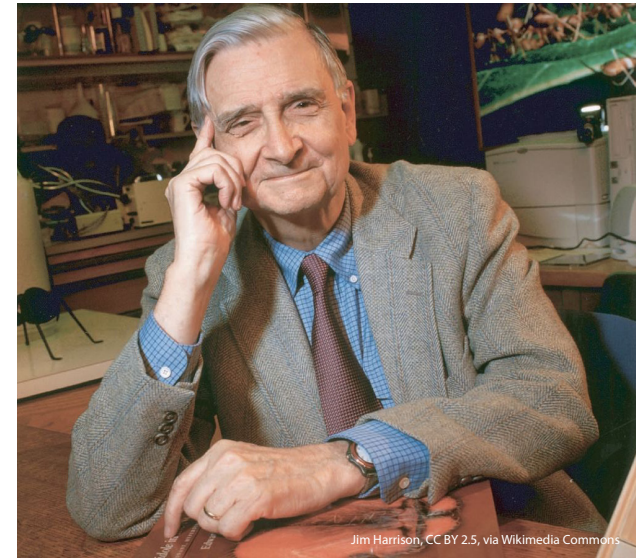
In his writings and his interactions with me, Professor Wilson was very proud of what he called "Little Seacology," which he regarded as one of the most efficient and effective conservation organizations in the world. Seacology is pleased to dedicate our new project in Madagascar, connecting forest fragments with

wildlife corridors, in his memory. Professor Wilson was one of the early proponents of the importance of giving wildlife a sufficient range to ensure their survival.

As you will read in this report, Seacology has announced its second nationwide island conservation project. Having previously worked in Sri Lanka to protect all coastal mangroves, we are now making a similar effort in the Caribbean island nation of the Dominican Republic. Early signs are that this will be another success.

Just as Seacology pioneered the conservation of mangroves, which sequester more carbon dioxide per unit weight than any other form of terrestrial vegetation, Seacology has helped in the preservation of seagrasses throughout the world. These marine plants have even a higher rate of carbon fixation than mangroves, and yet are desperately imperiled around islands and on coastlines around the world. Our hope is that other organizations and governments will see our efforts in protecting these beautiful underwater marine flowering plants, which provide major nurseries for reef fish, shellfish, and a variety of marine mammals including dugongs and manatees. The state of Florida this year was forced to feed manatees lettuce and other market vegetables because of the tremendous loss of seagrass populations around its barrier islands and coastlines.

Seacology's partnerships with indigenous villagers and now entire island nations have given us tremendous leverage in using



Jim Harrison, CC BY 2.5, via Wikimedia Commons

E.O. Wilson's groundbreaking research shaped the world's understanding of island biodiversity and the necessity of protecting it.

donated gifts to create or support conservation areas. A prime example is Marae Moana, the massive new conservation area in the Cook Islands, which Seacology is assisting. "Little Seacology" has repeatedly demonstrated that we are more limited by the extent of our financial resources than by the vastness of our dreams. Thank you so much for your generous gifts, which allow us to dream big.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul Cox".

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

Who we are



Field Representative Leida Buglass speaks at the launch of our nationwide mangrove protection program in the Dominican Republic.



Field Representative Dishon Murage, left, meets with representatives of Matondoni Village, Kenya.

Our team

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Field Representatives

Africa

J-Hude Moudingo	West Africa
Dishon Lionel Murage	East Africa

The Americas

Tyrone Buckmire	Grenada
Leida Buglass	Dominican Republic
Lynn Costenaro	Dutch Caribbean
Claudio Delgado	Chile
Krishna Desai	Jamaica
Antony Escorcia	Colombia
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Cecilia Suárez	Uruguay
Marcos Terete	Guatemala
Crystal Vance Guerra	Honduras

Europe

Marilen Enseñat	Spain
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Indian Ocean

Vineeta Hoon	India and Bangladesh
Erik Patel	Madagascar
Leela Padmini Batuwitige	Sri Lanka

Pacific Ocean

Tuaine Tuara	Cook Islands
Pettine Simpson	Fiji
Simon Ellis	Micronesia
Sione Faka'osi	Tonga

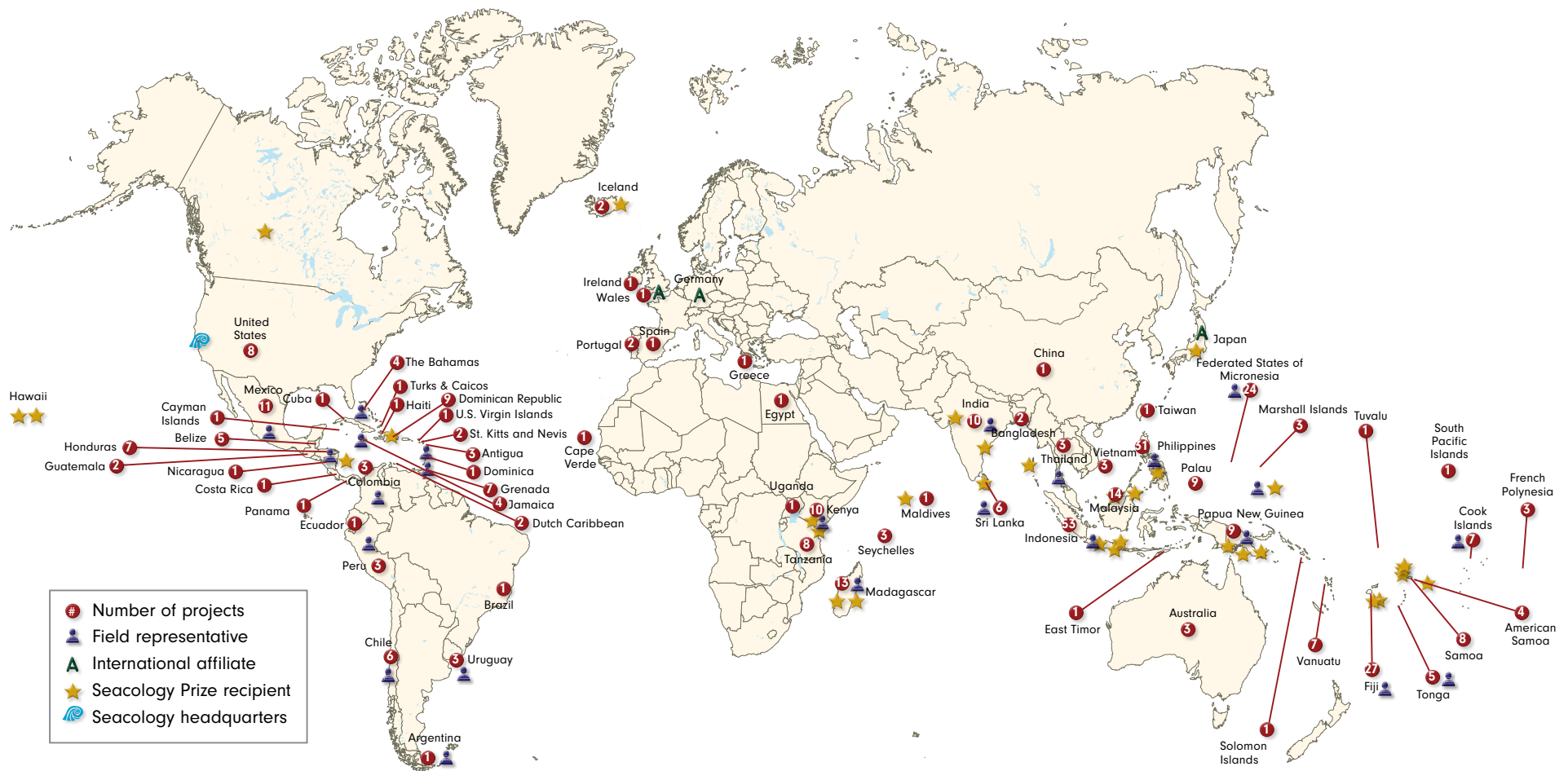
Southeast Asia

Pisit Charnsnoh	Thailand
Ferdinand Marcelo	Philippines
Irman Meilandi	Indonesia
Kirstey Selva	Malaysia
Christopher Wright	Malaysia

Affiliates

Seacology Japan
 Seacology Germany
 Seacology UK

Our global reach



375 projects • 64 countries • 1.4 million acres protected
8 full-time staff • 27 field representatives • 3 international affiliates

Our supporters



Seacology Fellow Judah Slavkovsky and Team Gratitude compete in the WA360 sailing race in Puget Sound to raise funds for Seacology. Photo by Gary Eduardo Perless.

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(\$25,000 or more)

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Lisa and Scott Halsted
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Maja Kristin
Mary O'Malley and Robert Dion
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Karen and Burt Yarkin

ISLAND FELLOWS

\$10,000-\$24,999

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Julissa and Wayne Westerman
Mary and Harold Zlot

** in memoriam*

Seacology is fortunate to receive many gifts under \$2,500 and we deeply appreciate every contribution. Each gift we receive is important to our efforts to protect the world's islands.

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Conservation Foundation

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In 2021, 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.



CROWDFUNDING DONORS

These individuals and several anonymous donors contributed to our 2021 crowdfunding campaign, helping us to far exceed our goal. The money raised supports our Play for the Mangroves program in the Dominican Republic, providing equipment for thousands of young baseball and volleyball players and supporting hands-on environmental education.

Anonymous
Jacob Berman
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** in memoriam*

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:

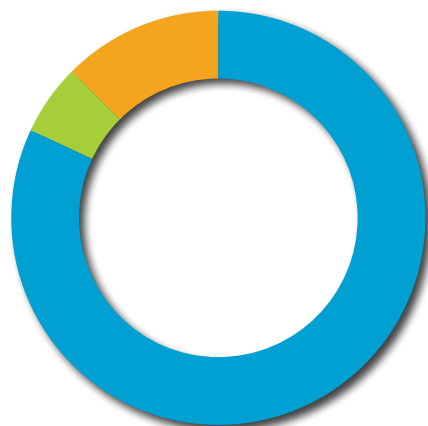
- Make a gift to Seacology in your estate plan through your financial advisor.
- Contact Seacology's Development Department at (510) 559-3505 or islands@seacology.org, and we will send you a Letter of Intent to complete and return to us.

Finances

Seacology's ongoing commitment to financial efficiency resulted in another year of top marks from charity-rating services. In 2021, the overwhelming

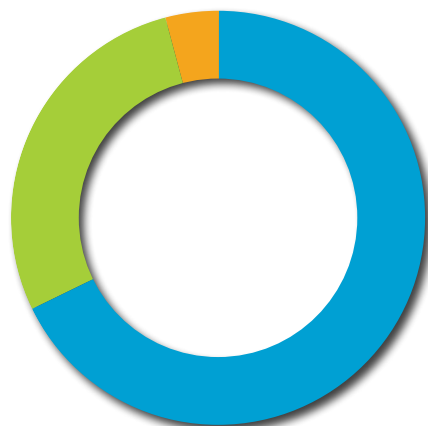
majority of our spending went directly to our projects. More details and documents are available at seacology.org/about/annual-reports.

Expenses



- Conservation programs (81%)
- Management and General (6%)
- Fundraising (13%)

Public support



- Donations and bequests (68%)
- Foundation grants (28%)
- In-kind contributions (4%)

Statement of financial activity

January 1 through December 31, 2021¹

Support and Revenue

Foundation grants	\$ 794,001
Donations and bequests	\$ 1,938,498
In-kind contributions	\$ 116,739
Total public support	\$ 2,849,238

Expedition Income, net of expenses	\$ (153)
Interest/investment income	\$ 832,181
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,725
Total revenue	\$ 834,753
Total support and revenue	\$ 3,683,991

Expenses

Program services	\$ 2,094,096
Management and general	\$ 144,048
Fundraising	\$ 338,095
Total expenses	\$ 2,576,239

Change in net assets **\$ 1,107,752**

¹These 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 2021 audited financial statements will be available in June 2022.



Major initiatives

On July 26, 2021—World Mangrove Day—Seacology officially launched our second nationwide mangrove-conservation initiative.

Working primarily with Grupo Jaragua, an experienced conservation NGO, Seacology's Dominican Republic National Mangrove Initiative, known locally as *Campaña ManglarES*, takes a multifaceted approach to protect threatened coastal wetlands across the Caribbean nation:

- The partnership seeks to establish pride and awareness of these vitally important ecosystems in Dominican communities. It utilizes traditional and social media, public events, and growing relationships with public figures and officials to spread the word about the movement to protect mangroves.
- It supports sustainable businesses along the country's coast that provide alternatives to environmental degradation. Among these, ecotourism and apiculture help relieve pressures to exploit the country's mangroves.
- Through the Play for the Mangroves program, the initiative is enlisting the help of young Dominican baseball and volleyball players, providing them with needed sports equipment in exchange for help with mangrove cleanups and other hands-on environmental and educational activities.



Half a world away, Seacology continues to support Marae Moana, a sprawling new marine reserve established by the Cook Islands. The largest protected area of its kind on Earth, Marae Moana is roughly the size of Mexico, despite the country's total land area being smaller than that of many of the world's cities. Seacology recognizes that effective protection of such a vast expanse of water requires not only smart management but local support from the people of the country's scattered communities. Working with the Cook Islands Voyaging society, the local government, traditional leaders, and other partners, we are helping get the word out about the regulations and benefits of this ambitious national project.

Left, working with the local sailing community and other partners, Seacology is supporting Marae Moana, the world's largest multi-use marine reserve.

Below, Grupo Jaragua field assistant Gerson Feliz collects mangrove propagules in the Dominican Republic.





Dominican Republic

National Mangrove Initiative

The Dominican Republic's mangroves provide enormous benefits to the country and its biodiversity, but are under unprecedented threat. In the past 50 years, the country has lost a third of its mangroves, despite legal protections. Our

project, by mobilizing local communities to protect their mangroves, aims to close the gap between the unenforced legal protections and the reality on the ground for these vitally important coastal wetlands.



Dominican Republic

National Mangrove Initiative

Not far from the Dominican Republic's capital, Seacology and local NGO Fundación Verde Profundo are working in the community in Boca Chica to protect a sensitive marine habitat. These 13 acres are home not only to mangroves, but

a coral reef and seagrass meadows. Our project funds equipment and training to support a growing ecotourism sector, led by members of Boca Chica's fishing community.



Dominican Republic

National Mangrove Initiative

As part of our national initiative, the **Play For the Mangroves** program works with youth baseball and volleyball teams across the Dominican Republic to involve young people in the movement to protect the country's mangroves.

The program has provided balls, nets, uniforms, and more to thousands of young athletes and organized tournaments, educational field trips, and coastal cleanups across the country.



© Ocean Image Bank

Cook Islands

Marae Moana

Marae Moana comprises the entirety of the Cook Islands' exclusive economic zone, nearly a million square miles of ocean. The reserve establishes new regulations for this vast territory, with total bans

on commercial fishing and seabed mining within 50 miles of each of the country's major islands. This protects the thriving coral reefs that surround them and all of the biodiversity that they support.



Cook Islands

Marae Moana

Marae Moana ambassador and retired rugby star Kevin Iro, second from left, meets with local students who competed in a contest to design the official uniforms to be worn by the reserve's outreach officers. The designs featured species that can be found in the Cook Islands' oceans and

took inspiration from the country's unique artistic tradition. Te Iri Iri Henderson (left, front row) was named the winner after a public vote, and her school received a grant that will help fund a summer camp on the nearby island of Mitiaro.



Cook Islands

Marae Moana

Several of the *Ariki*, traditional chiefs of the Cook Islands, have voiced their support for the Marae Moana plan. Since its launch in 2020, Seacology's project has built relationships and conducted meetings and public events with several of the

Ariki. Here, project coordinators for the Southern Group of the archipelago meet with leaders on Aitutaki, the country's second-most populated island.

Project highlights

Despite ongoing challenges related to the pandemic, Seacology's projects continued to move forward. In fact, we launched nearly 30 new projects in 2021, more than in any prior year in our history (see new projects section, page 23).

From the Caribbean to the Coral Triangle, Seacology worked with dozens of island communities and organizations throughout the past year to protect tens of thousands of acres of fragile island ecosystems. We began our first projects in Greece and Brazil, and hired our first field representative in West Africa, who will oversee our future expansion into that region. We incorporated new technologies into our work, and increased our focus on underappreciated but vitally important ecosystems like seagrass meadows.

The following are just a few highlights of an enormously successful year that showcase the impact of Seacology's work with island communities around the world.



Our project partners on Guanaja Island, Honduras, prepare to plant mangrove seedlings.



Above, students from Resye and Womom Villages in Indonesia receive computer training as part of a Seacology project in their communities. The villages have pledged to protect sea turtle nests on Jamursba-Medi Beach, one of the world's most important turtle nesting sites.

Left, on Bonaire Island in the Dutch Caribbean, Seacology funded a fence to protect the Bonaire palm, a critically endangered tree species.

BIENVENIDOS HUMEDAL VILLA QUINCHAO

RUTA AVES Y HUMEDALES

Villa Quinchao es una pequeña localidad costera ubicada en la isla de Quinchao, en el archipiélago de Chiloé. La villa se emplaza a orillas de un humedal marino de alto valor para la conservación de la biodiversidad y cultura tradicional chilota, que han hecho que la iglesia sea reconocida como Patrimonio de la Humanidad por la Unesco. El humedal también es parte de la Red Hemisférica de Reservas para Aves Playeras (RHRAP) y en el año 2020 fue declarado Santuario de la Naturaleza.

La Villa Quinchao cuenta con los valores históricos, arquitectónicos y sociales propios de la cultura chilota, que se ven reflejados en la ubicación del poblado, emplazado en torno a la bahía y rodeado por cerros. Presenta una arquitectura vernácula, en la que predomina claramente la iglesia construida en 1880.



Chile

Villa Quinchao

Newly constructed blinds along the shore of Chiloé Island offer a perfect vantage point for ecotourists and local students to learn about the area's myriad bird species. Our project works with

the indigenous Mapuche community to support a new 252-acre reserve that will legally protect these wetlands.



Kenya

Matondoni Village

This project provided an office for the local Beach Management Unit, the body responsible for protection of coastal resources in Kenya. It also supports environmental education for local children and sustainable livelihoods like

beekeeping. In exchange, the community is helping to safeguard and restore more than 1,100 acres of mangrove forest. Thousands of seedlings have already been planted.



Philippines

Puerto Galera

Seagrass is a foundation of the world-record marine biodiversity found in the Verde Island Passage. In this coastal community along the strait, Seacology funded the development of a GPS-based app to help boaters avoid dropping their

anchors on the fragile seagrass below. The project also supported a public-awareness campaign, helping publicize the app and the importance of seagrass to locals and visitors alike.



Peru

Amantani Island

High in the Andes, this island in Lake Titicaca near the border with Bolivia is home to several endemic species and indigenous traditions reaching back thousands of years. Seacology's project funded an

interpretive center to document the long cultural and environmental history of the island, as well as a waste management system to help reduce the impact of pollution on the lake.



Honduras

Roatan and Guanaja Islands

This project, spanning two of Honduras' Bay Islands, helps protect young parrots from wildlife traffickers. Seacology funded the installation

of nesting boxes high in the trees, keeping the fledgling birds out of the reach of those who would take them from their natural habitat.

New projects

Location	Conservation benefit	Community benefit
Brazil, Enseada da Baleia	Protection of 135 acres of mangroves for 20 years	Cultural and community center
Chile, Villa Quinchao 🇨🇱	Permanent protection of 252 acres of marine wetland bird habitat	Bird blinds, interpretive signs, gear, and education for school environmental club
Colombia, Tierra Bomba 🇨🇴	Environmental education for youth; 2.5-acre outdoor environmental classroom	Soccer equipment and environmental education program
Dominican Republic, El Astillero 🇩🇴	Conservation of a critical one-acre remnant of mangroves within a 77-acre mangrove area	New mangrove park and outdoor coastal classroom, community education, youth activities, media campaign, and mangrove restoration
Federated States of Micronesia, Awak, Pohnpei	Permanent protection of 173 acres of mangroves, fringing reef, and seagrass	Aquaculture facility to reseed reef and mangrove areas

🇺🇸 Funding provided by Nu Skin Force For Good Foundation

🇯🇵 Funding provided by Seacology Japan



Seacology began





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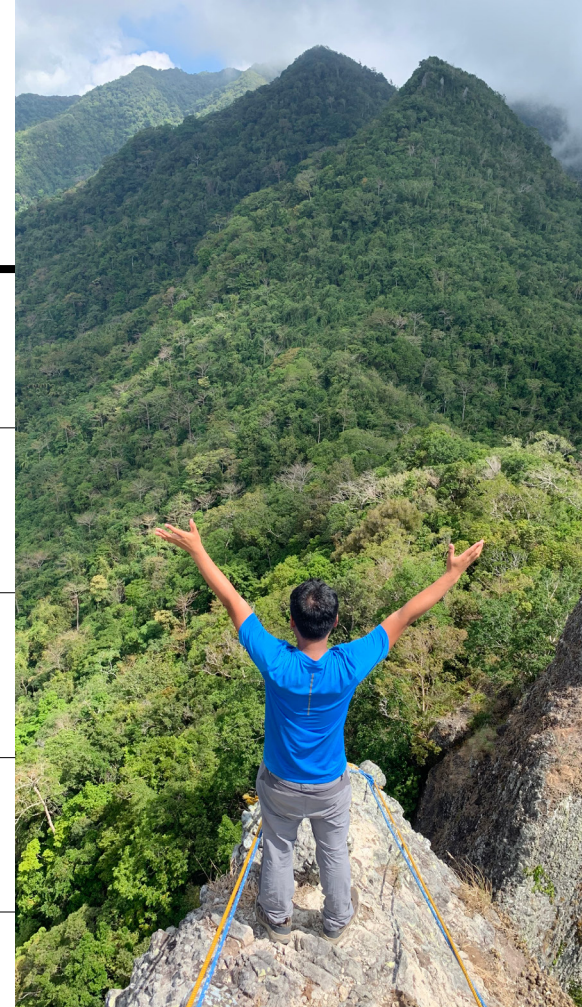
new projects
in 2021

Location

Conservation benefit

Community benefit

Federated States of Micronesia, Malem Municipality, Kosrae 	Permanent protection of 10.5 acres of mangroves	Improvement of community sports field and addition of restrooms and rainwater tank
Federated States of Micronesia, Riken Village, Yap	New 151-acre no-take marine zone for 15 years	Bathrooms and showers to improve community meeting house
Fiji, Wailevu Village, Vanua Levu 	Protection of 2,258 acres of rainforest and 937 marine acres for 15 years	Village hall to use as kindergarten, community center, and storm shelter
Greece, Northern Cyclades Islands	Seagrass conservation through public outreach and education program	
Grenada, Woburn Clarkes Court Bay	Protection of three miles of mangrove coastline; support of wildlife-based tourism and environmental education	Repair of existing birdwatching platform, new small platform and signs
Guatemala, Rio Dulce National Park	Enforcement of restrictions around islands; environmental education and manatee pride campaign	Renovation of visitors' center, new signs spelling out regulations in protected areas
Honduras, El Berrinche, Roatán 	New 20-acre no-take marine zone	Environmental education hub with computer lab and library
Honduras, Guanaja and Roatán Islands 	Protection of endangered native parrots	Conservation training and gear (binoculars, field guides) for youth bird clubs



By the end of 2021,
our projects had
protected

619,530

acres of terrestrial
island habitat.

Location

Conservation benefit

Community benefit

Indonesia, Kuri Caddi, Sulawesi	Protection of 86 acres of mangroves for 15 years	Community center for mangrove ecotourism, environmental education, and sustainable livelihood training
Indonesia, Lutha Rato Village	Protection of 222 acres of rainforest watershed for 15 years	Forest watchtower and monitoring post, new water storage tanks and toilets
Indonesia, Resye and Womom Villages, Papua	Protection of 2,000 marine turtle nests per year	Computer skills development and environmental education for youth
Indonesia, Tawabi Village, North Maluku	Protection of 500 acres of mangroves for 20 years	Mangrove learning center and environmental education
Kenya, Matondoni Village	Permanent protection of 1,112 acres of mangroves	Office for Mantondoni Beach Management Unit, support for environmental education, and development of beekeeping livelihood
Madagascar, Andranohobaka Village	Protection of 2,686 acres of forest and 4.4-mile firebreak for 20 years	New primary school building and furnishings
Malaysia, Long Tanid	Protection of 1,379 acres of pristine rainforest for 15 years	Micro-hydro installation



©Beth Watson/Ocean Image Bank

By the end of 2021,
our projects had
protected

787,302
acres of marine
island habitat.

Location

Conservation benefit

Community benefit

Mexico, Ensenada
Blanca Beach

Protection of coastal dunes from
sewage contamination

Environmentally sound composting
toilets

Mexico, Espíritu Santo
Archipelago

Improved reef health through
parrotfish protection

Pride and protection campaign
videos and outreach

Mexico, Isla Mujeres
🌐

Environmental education for
youth; cleanup and protection of
mangrove ecosystems

Soccer equipment for youth groups

Peru, Amantani Island
🌐

Protection of endangered bird
nests, promotion of organic
agriculture, environmental
education, trash reduction, native
tree replanting on 2.5 acres

Interpretive center, new trails and
signs, trash and recycling removal
equipment

Philippines,
Liminangcong Village

Enhanced enforcement of fishing
restrictions in 2,933 marine acres
for 15 years

Floating watchtower, signs,
equipment, and training to protect
mangrove and marine area

Philippines, Mactan
and Olango Islands

Seagrass protection through
mapping (741 acres) and public
outreach

Philippines,
Puerto Galera

Seagrass protection through
mapping and public outreach

Thailand,
Haad Sai Dam Island

Protection of 400 acres of forest
and 400 marine acres for 10 years

New environmental education
center and nature trail

United States, Westcott
Bay, San Juan Island

Reseeding six acres with eelgrass

By the end of 2021
Seacology had
launched

365

projects
on islands in

64

countries.



Seacology in the news

Misguided with Alex Coburn, March 27, 2021
"Island in the Sun" (Interview with Karen Peterson)

Louder than the Storm, April 17, 2021
"How Seacology are Creating Real Change with the World's Island Communities"

Philstar.com, July 1, 2021
"Lesser known and unappreciated seagrass struggles for attention, conservation"

48° North, July 17, 2021
"Grateful for 360 Miles of (Type-Two) Fun"

BBC Mundo, July 26, 2021
"Por qué los manglares son vitales para combatir el cambio climático (y cómo República Dominicana lucha por conservarlos)"

Geographical, July 26, 2021
"Saving mangrove forests in the Dominican Republic"

Multiple publications, July 27, 2021
"Grupo Jaragua y Seacology Presentan Campaña Educativa Oficial Manglares"

Republished at *Santiago Social*, *Santiago a Diario*, *Oriente Informativo*, *Informativo al Día*, *Dominicano Ahora*, *Diario Digital RD*, *NOTIúltimas*, *Primicias*, *La Vega News*, *El Nuovo Diario*

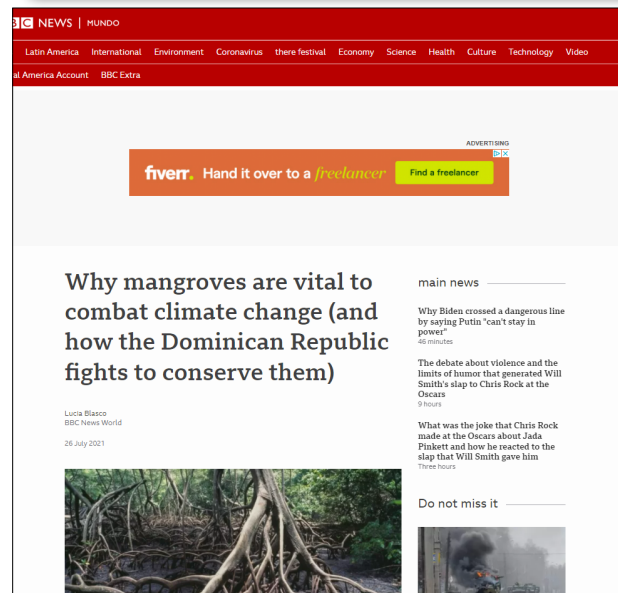
Global Resilience Partnership, September 20, 2021
"Moving the Needle – Coastal Risk to Resilience" (republished at UNDRR PreventionWeb)

Cook Islands News, October 9, 2021
"Partnering with traditional network to educate and raise awareness on Marae Moana"

Cook Islands News, October 28, 2021
"Students get creative with designs"

The Wellness Feed, November 8, 2021
"What It's Like For Women In India Who Dive For 'Eco Miracle' Seaweed"

Montgomery Botanical News, Fall/Winter, 2021
"Sabal Sanctuary: Helping the Rarest of Palms"



Seacology Prize



Saw John Aung Thong

Our 2021 recipient has been a steadfast protector of the Andaman Islands' environment and culture

Surrounded by dense mangroves, sprawling beaches, and thriving coral reefs, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are home to countless species. The remote archipelago's location between India and Southeast Asia has contributed to a diversity of cultures since the first settlers arrived centuries ago. Unfortunately, unsustainable development, economic uncertainty and the islands' growing profile as a tourist destination have jeopardized this environment and the traditional ways of life for the communities that have long called the archipelago home.

Saw John Aung Thong has dedicated decades of his life to preserving this delicate balance. As a director of the Andaman and Nicobar Environment team, he has led projects to restore damaged wetlands and grow sustainable crops. As a member of the minority Karen community and descendant of one of its last traditional healers in the Andamans, he has worked hard to pass along the traditional knowledge of his people. He has offered up part of his family's home as *Koh Hee*, an inviting homestay and a shining example of locally led ecotourism, where guests can enjoy authentic Karen cuisine and learn about this unique culture. Learn more about Saw John's story at seacology.org/prize.

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.



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