



Seacology

2022 Annual Report



# Why islands?

## Seacology is dedicated to protecting island environments and cultures 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.



Cynthia McGuinn Photography: cmcguinn@rftmlaw.com



Message from the Chair.....	3	Finances .....	9	Seacology in the news .....	32
Who we are.....	4	Major initiatives .....	10	Travel .....	33
Where we work.....	5	Project highlights.....	19	Seacology Prize.....	35
Our supporters.....	6	New projects.....	28		

# From the Chair

Seacology is a unique conservation organization for several reasons.

- First, we focus on conserving island habitats. Islands have the greatest number of endemic species anywhere in the world, and unfortunately, the highest rates of extinction.
- Second, we seek to preserve biodiversity through innovative partnerships with indigenous peoples. Although indigenous peoples comprise only 5% of the global population, they control 25% of the world's surface and protect 80% of the world's biodiversity.
- Third, we are extremely careful with donated dollars, keeping an extremely small staff and using our funds to construct community projects such as schools, water supplies, medical clinics, and — as you will read in this annual report — small immersive hydroelectric or distributed solar power systems. In return, the indigenous people promise to protect their rainforests, coral reefs, or other precious island habitats. In this sense, indigenous islanders become force multipliers with Seacology to execute our mission of protecting precious island habitats and cultures.

These partnerships with indigenous villagers emerged from our own experiences living in small island villages. Seacology was born

*Seacology grants are not a handout, but instead a hand-up. We create win-win deals between island villages and our donor-based nonprofit organization.*

when my wife Barbara and I confronted firsthand the anguish of villagers in Falealupo, Savaii Island, Samoa, as they witnessed their lowland rainforest, one of the largest in the island Pacific, being destroyed by loggers. They explained that the government would withdraw all teachers from their village unless they built a new school. As cash-poor but biodiversity-rich villagers, the only option they had to raise the needed \$85,000 was to sell their sacred rainforest.

We offered them an alternative: we would pay for the school if they would protect their rainforest. To raise the needed funds in a short amount of time, Barbara and I decided to sell our home and car, but this gesture proved unnecessary once our family and friends started contributing. Large gifts from Ken Murdock, who is now Seacology's Vice Chair, and Rex Maughan allowed us to return to the island, repay the village loan from the logging company, and pay for a new school.

Soon we were approached by other island villages facing similar dilemmas, forced to choose between a school and their rainforest, a medical clinic and their coral reef, a diesel-powered generator and their dignity. Seacology grants are not a handout, but instead a hand-up. We create win-win deals between island villages and our donor-based

nonprofit organization.

Recently, we have partnered with entire countries in our conservation efforts. In Sri Lanka, we protected mangroves nationwide, built the first mangrove museum in the world and gave microloans to impoverished coastal women. We have now turned our attention to the Caribbean island nation of the Dominican Republic. In an innovative program there, we are funding sports programs for youth in return for protection of mangrove forests. In addition to our focus on mangrove forest preservation, Seacology is a pioneer in the preservation of seagrass ecosystems throughout the world, including the Northern Cyclades Islands of Greece, which you will read about in this report.

As a donor or corporate sponsor of Seacology, I thank you for your support of this visionary organization. If you are yet unaffiliated with Seacology, I invite you to join us in our heartfelt mission to protect the world's islands.

Cordially,



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





# Who we are



Seacology's Mary Randolph and Pettine Simpson attend the official dedication of our project in Wailevu, Fiji, where the local community is protecting more than 3,000 acres of rainforest and ocean.



Seacology Field Representative Pisit Charnsnoh meets with project partners on Haad Sai Dam Island in Thailand.

## Our team

### Board of Directors

Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D.	Chair
Rachel Dibner	
Scott S. Halsted	
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David Holland	
Ken Murdock	Vice Chair
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Sandie N. Tillotson	Vice President
Jake Walker	
Michael Ward	
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### Staff

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Kevin Claassen	Accounting Manager
Joseph Clerici	Communications Director
Erin Coyne	Institutional Giving Officer
Amanda Kirkhart	Administrative and Program Assistant
Karen Peterson	Senior Manager of Special Initiatives
Mary Randolph	Program Manager

### Scientific Advisory Board

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 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.

### 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
Michelle Fernandez	Honduras
Marcio Halla	Brazil
Enrique Michaud	Peru
Marisol Rueda Flores	Mexico
Cecilia Suárez	Uruguay
Marcos Terete	Guatemala

#### Europe

Marilen Enseñat	Spain
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#### Indian Ocean

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

#### Pacific Ocean

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

#### Southeast Asia

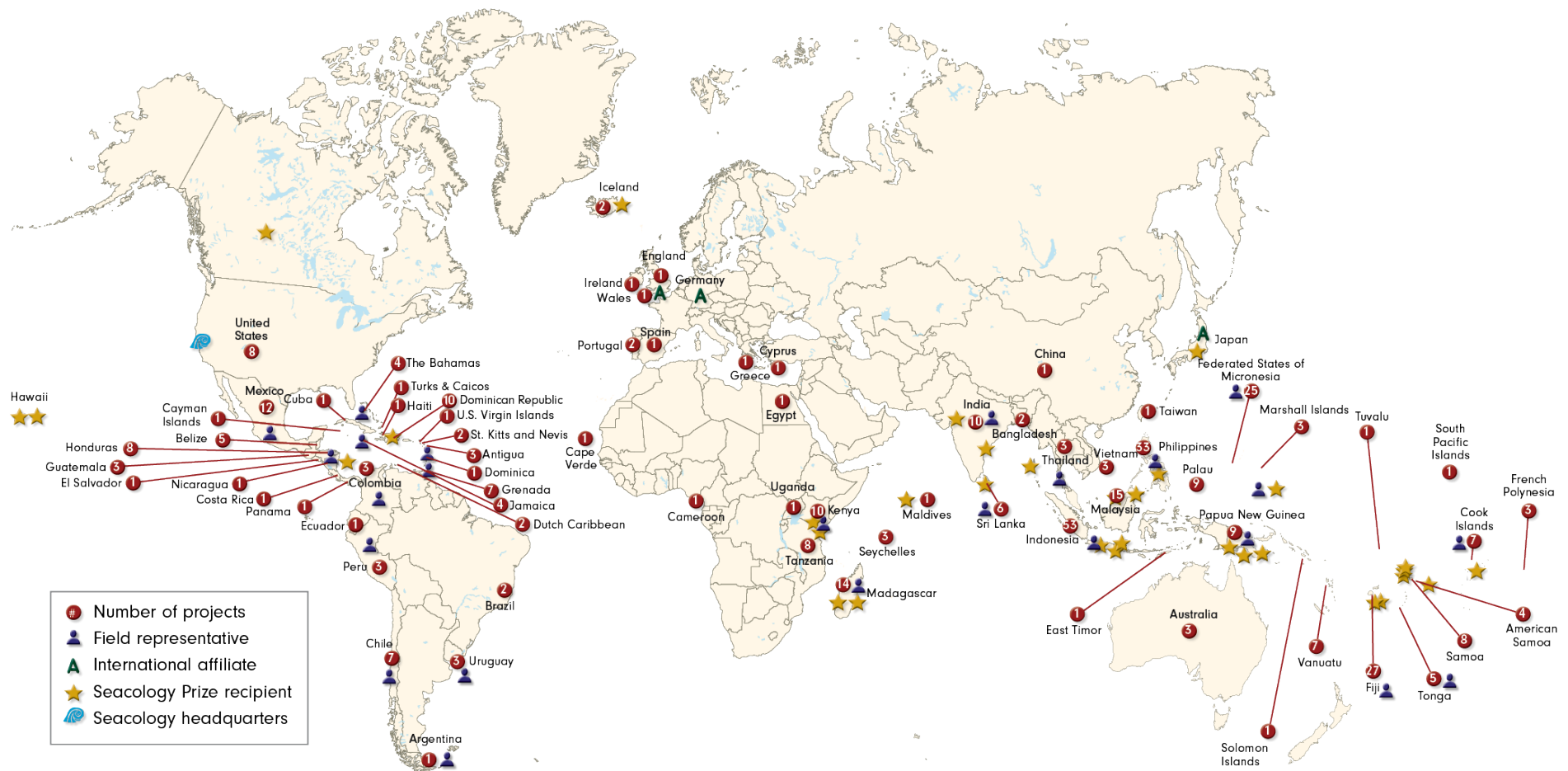
Pisit Charnsnoh	Thailand
Ferdinand Marcelo	Philippines
Irman Meilandi	Indonesia
Christopher Wright	Malaysia

### Affiliates

Seacology Japan  
 Seacology Germany  
 Seacology UK



# Our global reach in 2022



385 projects • 68 countries • 1.4 million acres protected  
8 full-time staff • 27 field representatives • 3 international affiliates



# Our supporters

## CHIEF ULU FELLOWS

(\$25,000 or more)

Anonymous  
Mary O'Malley and Robert Dion  
Robert Epstein and Amy Roth  
Lisa and Scott Halsted  
Doug and Leni Herst  
Maja Kristin  
Ken Murdock  
Peter Read  
Stephen Silberstein  
Gavin and Caitlin Turner  
Bradford Whitman  
Karen and Burt Yarkin

## ISLAND FELLOWS

\$10,000-\$24,999

Anonymous (2)  
Albert Chao  
Thomas Barron  
Holly Bartlett  
Dr. Paul Alan and Mrs. Barbara Cox  
Rachel and Mark Dibner  
Mariposa Fund  
Shanna Faye  
Terri Hearsh  
Bob and Rosie Heil  
Murray and Jeanie Kilgour  
Rabbi Brian and Caroline Fromm Lurie  
Dr. Denis R Lyman & Diane K Robards  
Lyman Foundation  
Takao Moriuchi/Axe Taka, Inc.  
William S. Price III and Eva M. Price  
Gordon Radley  
Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart  
Judah Slavkovsky  
Anne Symchych  
Sandie Tillotson  
Paul and Leigh Tischler  
James Walker  
Greg and Pat White  
Scott Wilson

## SEACOLOGY FELLOWS

\$2,500-\$9,999

Howard Adams  
Carl and Claire Anderson  
Donald and Adrian Arntz  
Foster Bam  
Renee Boicourt and James Hemmerly  
Pete Boyce  
Michael Burbank and Cindy Roberts  
Jeff Chanin and Mary Ann McNamara  
Craig Chiappone  
Yvon and Malinda Chouinard  
Virginia and Chelsea Coogler  
Clara Crace and Cavan Bunkhall  
David and Suzy Cumming  
Cheryl Disque  
Michelle and Robert Friend  
Mary Love May and Paul Gabrielson  
John and Marcia Goldman  
Yvonne Adams and Jeremy Alan Green  
Daniel Grunberg  
Janet Harman  
Kimberly Leilani Myers Hewlett

Michael Hofman and Janet Moyer  
David Holland  
Cynthia Hubach  
Jake Warner and Toni Ihara  
Dr. Kimberly Johnson  
Reed and Yuliya Kathrein  
John and Janet Kister  
Kris Knoernschild  
Valerie London  
Freya Hermanson  
and Kenneth Mahaffey  
Barbara Meyer  
James Miley  
Jorge and Jeannette Moré  
Rachel Orman  
Tom and Jamel Perkins  
Gary and Appy Pruitt  
Buffy Redsecker and Alan Chung  
Kristin Reed\*  
Michael Ring  
Robert Epstein and Amy Roth

Joe Ruck and Donna Ito  
Arush Sarwar  
Joseph and Cathy Scalzo  
Markus Fromherz and Heike Schmitz  
Rand and Carol Selig  
Bill and Judy Shepherd  
Elizabeth and Noah Silverman  
Howard and Ann Sohn  
Greg and Liz Sparks  
Gilda and Warren Sprung  
Michael Staffieri  
Barbara Sweet  
Christine A. Symchych  
and James P. McNulty  
Cindy and Richard Troop  
Sally and Ron Wackowski  
Michael Ward  
Jacqueline and Paul Wender  
Julissa and Wayne Westerman  
Mary and Harold Zlot

*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.*

## CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS

Anonymous  
11th Hour Racing  
2032 Trust  
Argus Fund  
Arntz Family Foundation  
The Bruning Foundation  
The Keith Campbell Foundation  
for the Environment, Inc.  
Cisco Foundation  
Clif Bar Family Foundation  
Ray and Dagmar Dolby Fund

Flora Family Foundation  
Frank and Margaret Adelstein Fund  
Giant Steps Foundation  
Global Resilience Partnership  
(GRP)/KPMG East Africa  
Hamill Family Foundation  
Hellman Foundation  
International Foundation  
Arthur L. and  
Elaine V. Johnson Foundation  
Jamieson Foundation

Leiter Family Foundation  
Margot Marsh Biodiversity Fund  
Marisla Foundation  
Matson Foundation  
Mennen Environmental Foundation  
The Monarch Foundation  
Moore Family Foundation  
Network for Good  
New Earth Foundation  
Newman and Zeneth Ward  
Family Foundation

New York Community Trust  
Nu Skin Force for Good Foundation  
Nu Skin International Inc./Pharmanex  
LLC  
Orange County Community Foundation  
Bernard Osher Foundation  
Overbrook Foundation  
Parlez Clothing  
White Pine Fund  
Y & H Soda Foundation  
Yellow Dog Community and  
Conservation Foundation

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In 2022, 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.



## Our supporters

### CROWDFUNDING DONORS

*These individuals contributed to our 2022 crowdfunding campaign, helping us to exceed our goal by nearly \$10,000. Launched on Earth Day, the campaign helped reconnect fragments of the Sainte Luce forest in southern Madagascar. By planting “wildlife corridors” of fast-growing trees, our partners united populations of lemurs and other species that have become separated by habitat loss. Our campaign also funded equipment and training for the local community to prevent and fight the wildfires that have devastated forests across the island.*

Anonymous (9)  
Vallyn Anderson  
Patricia Browne  
Laura Chabries  
Kevin Claassen  
Ann Clark  
Russ Cohen  
Gwen Corrie  
Dr. Paul Alan and Mrs. Barbara Cox  
Ann R Danforth  
Jon Eager  
The Frandsens  
James D Freeh  
Richard Heede  
Bob and Rosie Heil  
Lisa Henry  
Doug and Leni Herst  
Sharon Hotham  
Cynthia Hubach  
John Hunting  
Melissa and Jeff  
Albert G (Pete) Boyce Jr.  
Michael-David Kerns  
Scott Kilvington

Amanda Kirkhart  
Lisa Lefebvre  
Susan Leskiw  
Richard Lutz  
William Marcogliese  
Jason Marks  
Patricia Matejcek  
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Jim Meyers  
William Paskert  
Monika Patel  
Tommie Pepper  
Karen Peterson  
John Pohlman  
Peter Read  
Kristin Reed  
Linda and David Schweidel  
Scotty  
Jean Scott  
Peggy Scott  
Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart  
Claudia Vergara  
Edwina Vogan  
Alexandra N Wright



Our project partners plant native trees to connect two fragments of the Sainte Luce forest.



Adam Marks



Larissa Barker

Multiple species of endangered lemurs reside in the Sainte Luce forest.



## Our supporters

### 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.*

Anonymous (3)  
Frank W. and  
Margaret B. Adelstein Fund  
Marie-Louise Ansak  
Larry and Wendy Barels Charitable Trust  
Susan Walker Bagley Bloom  
Michael Burbank and Cindy Roberts  
Kimo Campbell\*  
Dr. Paul Alan and Mrs. Barbara Cox  
Cheryl G. Disque and Michael J. Disque  
Rosalind Douglas Trust  
Graham Farrar Living Trust  
Shanna Faye Jamieson  
Dr. and Mrs. Lawrence Feigenbaum  
Kathryn Fox-Winokur  
Susan Friedman  
Christy Gavitt  
Eliot Girsang and Richard Wilson  
Kathleen Goetten\*  
Hank and Jane Goichman

Mr. G. Morgan Griffin  
Craig Grube  
Scott Halsted  
Doug and Leni Herst  
Michael N. Hofman and Janet M. Moyer  
Nick Hohn  
The Hotham Family Trust  
Cynthia Hubach,  
in memory of Richard A. Hubach  
Carlton A. Hubbell\*  
The Ives Family  
Dr. Kimberly Johnson  
Sara Katz  
Masayuki Kishimoto\*  
Raleigh Klein  
Cathy Klema  
Estate of Neil and Jane Levy  
Dana Nojima and Elaine Lyford-Nojima  
Ken Murdock  
Mark Murzin\*

Matsuno Kuhara Patrick  
Karen Peterson  
Mickey Petersen Charitable Fund  
Peter Pistor  
Robert D. Plotnick and Gay L. Jensen  
John C. and Susan C. Racanelli  
Gordon Radley  
Kristin Reed  
Judith Rosenthal  
James and Gretchen Sandler  
Shari Sant Plummer  
Guy and Jeanine Saperstein  
Joseph and Catherine Scalzo  
Michael A. Scott  
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Selig  
Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart  
Mr. Lindley S. Sloan  
Nicholas Kendall Song Memorial Fund\*  
Michael and Marilyn Staffieri Family Trust

Sandie N. Tillotson Foundation  
Cindy and Richard Troop  
Eric and Sharlene Van Boer  
James L. Walker, IV  
Alex Weinstein, MD and Betty Helton, MD  
Erin West  
Greg and Pat White  
Marsha Garces Williams

*\* in memoriam*

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](mailto:islands@seacology.org), and we will send you a Letter of Intent to complete and return to us.



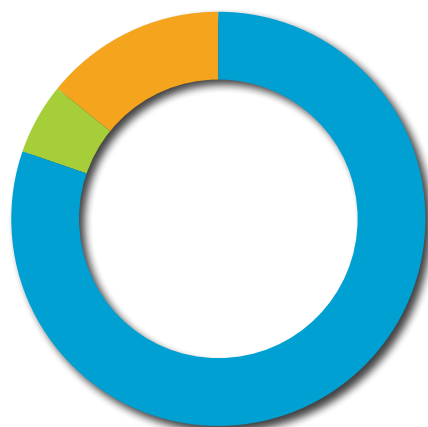
# Finances

Despite a very challenging investment environment, our finances remained strong throughout 2022. We continued to spend the overwhelming majority of our budget on our conservation work, earning

Seacology the highest ratings from top charity-evaluation services.

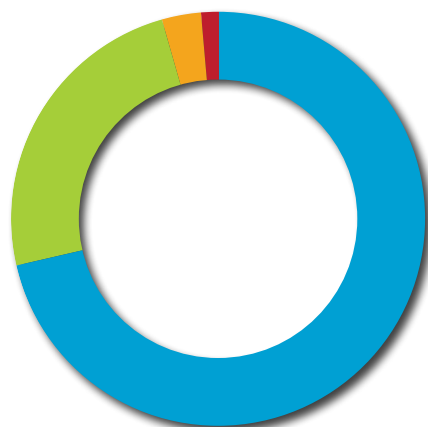
More details and documents are available at [seacology.org/about/annual-reports](https://seacology.org/about/annual-reports).

## Expenses



- Conservation programs (80%)
- Management and General (6%)
- Fundraising (14%)

## Public support



- Donations and bequests (72%)
- Foundation grants (24%)
- In-kind contributions (3%)
- Non-cash donations (1%)

## Statement of financial activity

January 1 through December 31, 2022

### Support and Revenue

Foundation grants	\$ 718,950
Donations and bequests	\$ 2,124,363
Non-cash donations	\$ 35,972
In-kind contributions	\$ 91,832
<b>Total public support</b>	<b>\$ 2,971,117</b>

Expedition Income, net of expenses	\$ (11,422)
Interest/investment income	\$ (1,314,619)
Miscellaneous	\$ 661
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$ (1,325,380)</b>
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>\$ 1,645,737</b>

### Expenses

Program services	\$ 2,212,254
Management and general	\$ 155,998
Fundraising	\$ 384,427
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 2,752,679</b>

<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>\$ (1,106,942)</b>
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To request copies of previous years' audited financial statements prepared by Doran & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, please contact the Seacology office.





# Major initiatives

Most Seacology projects work with individual communities or small regions and are completed within a year or two. However, our work has recently expanded to include large conservation programs that span entire countries. In 2022 we supported two of these wide-ranging efforts.

In its second year, our nationwide initiative to protect mangroves in the Dominican Republic (DR) gathered momentum. With in-person activities and meetings once again possible, the Dominican Republic National Mangrove Initiative, known locally as *Campaña ManglarES*, grew across the Caribbean country. Working with Dominican NGO Grupo Jaragua and several local conservation groups and communities, the five-year program seeks to build awareness of and protection for mangrove forests. It's bringing together stakeholders from across Dominican society—students, fishing communities, tourists, and others—to achieve this urgent protection for the country's threatened coastal wetlands.

Our other ongoing nationwide initiative supports Marae Moana, the record-breaking marine reserve established in 2017 by the government of the Cook Islands. The huge reserve, which encompasses an expanse of ocean the size of Mexico, sets new standards for the country's entire Exclusive Economic Zone. These new restrictions include a ban on commercial fishing and seabed mining within 50 miles of each of the country's islands.

Enforcement of these rules in such an enormous territory presents a clear challenge in a sparsely populated country like the Cook Islands, and local support is crucial to their success. So Seacology is funding a nationwide campaign to promote the reserve and its benefits to Cook Islanders and the long-term environmental health of the country. Led by a dedicated team of outreach officers including world-renowned rugby star and Seacology Prize recipient Kevin Iro (see pg. 35), the campaign has reached schools, traditional leaders, international visitors and members of the public across the archipelago.



Above: Dominican kids who received sports equipment through our Play for the Mangroves program plant seedlings.



Left: Seacology is funding the painting of the South Pacific's longest mural, which promotes the Cook Islands' nationwide marine reserve and celebrates the unique culture of each of the country's islands.





Dominican Republic

## National Mangrove Initiative

After more than two years of travel restrictions, Seacology staff were finally able to meet face-to-face with our local partners in the Dominican Republic again. At **Boca Chica**, a popular beachside community for vacationers from the

nation's capital, our team checked in on the progress of the "green breakwater," being built by our local partners. This web of new mangrove seedlings and transplanted coral shields the coast from storms and supports fisheries.





Dominican Republic

## National Mangrove Initiative

It's not every day we can say we were involved in the discovery of a new species! In late 2022, a reptile survey organized by project partner Grupo Jaragua identified a lizard previously unknown to science. They found the critter in Oviedo Lagoon,

site of an earlier Seacology project. *Guarocuyus jaraguanus* is not only a new species, but a new genus as well. Researchers believe it is only found in two small areas of Jaragua National Park, making it a priority for conservation.





## Dominican Republic

# National Mangrove Initiative

Outreach to kids and teenagers is key to the success of our campaign, as some of these youths will go on to become future conservation leaders. In 2022, Grupo Jaragua made presentations to dozens of schools around the DR and developed

educational materials that will be distributed to hundreds of others. Through museum visits, art activities, and field trips, these young people are getting an early introduction to mangroves and a deep understanding of their importance.





Dominican Republic

## National Mangrove Initiative

While school presentations and stunning videos on social media are key to our campaign, there's no substitute for seeing a thriving mangrove forest and its wildlife for yourself. In 2022, Grupo Jaragua led more than a dozen group visits to key

mangrove areas across the DR, which included interpretive walks, guided birdwatching, citizen-science activities, and more. Schoolchildren, university students, and ecotourists of all ages were among the participants.





Dominican Republic

## National Mangrove Initiative

Seacology's Kevin Claassen delivers new bats and balls to a group of young baseball players at **El Astillero**. These kids are participants in the **Play For the Mangroves** program, which links youth sports and mangrove conservation,

providing much-needed equipment along with environmental education and group activities like mangrove planting and cleanups. At El Astillero, Play for the Mangroves participants have planted thousands of seedlings.





## Dominican Republic

# National Mangrove Initiative

Seacology is working with members of the local fishing community to protect 11 acres of critical mangrove and seagrass habitat off **La Playita**, a beautiful and popular white sand beach. A new fishing cooperative will lead efforts to install

mooring buoys to protect seagrass underwater, educate local people about the importance of these coastal ecosystems, and promote responsible, sustainable use of them.





Cook Islands

## Marae Moana

Just outside the country's main international airport, the Nikao Seawall has been a functional, if bland, piece of coastal infrastructure, protecting the ring road around the island of Rarotonga from the waves. Now thanks to Seacology funding,

visitors to the island will see the longest mural in the South Pacific, showcasing the country's commitment to ocean stewardship. Each of the Cook Islands has its own section, portraying its unique history, culture, and biodiversity.





## Cook Islands

# Marae Moana

In a Seacology-sponsored art contest, students across the Cook Islands competed to design Marae Moana's official uniform. The colorful polo shirts now worn by the marine park's outreach officers are based on a drawing by teenager Te

Iri Iri Henderson, who incorporated traditional Maori symbols and patterns into her winning design. Prominent figures including the country's prime minister Mark Brown have worn their Marae Moana shirts to public events.



# Project highlights

As pandemic-related restrictions lifted, Seacology and our local partner communities around the world were able to reconnect face-to-face and get back to work at full capacity.

About two dozen new partnerships launched in 2022 included our first ever in Cameroon, Cyprus, and England. We continued to fund proven approaches to conservation like sustainable micro-hydroelectric power in Malaysian Borneo and wildfire prevention in Madagascar. And we've helped island communities from the Caribbean to Southeast Asia take advantage of their incredible surroundings by supporting ecotourism initiatives, which provide income for local people while incentivizing protection of the environment.

As island communities disproportionately face the growing threats of the climate crisis, many of our projects have helped build resilience against rising seas and punishing storms. In many remote villages, a new Seacology-funded community center is often the strongest building in town, offering safety from cyclones and shelter for those whose homes are damaged as they rebuild. Newly planted or protected mangroves shield coastal communities from waves and wind. On low-lying Pacific islands infrastructure is strengthened and elevated to withstand rising tides.

Seacology oversaw dozens of active projects in 2022 and successfully completed several others. The following are just a few of our favorite examples.







Fiji

## Wailevu Village

This remote village is the last stop on a winding road that follows the coast of Vanua Levu Island. Its people have been working diligently to protect the local environment, safeguarding thousands of acres of forest and ocean ecosystems as part

of our project. The village's isolation has made it vulnerable to increasingly severe tropical cyclones, so Seacology provided a durable new community building to be used as a kindergarten, meeting hall, and when necessary, a storm shelter.





Greece

## Northern Cyclades Islands

Part of our growing portfolio of work to protect seagrass meadows, our first project in Greece supported a broad campaign across multiple islands. The partnership with the Cyclades Preservation Fund and Hellenic Centre for Marine Research worked with local schools to educate

hundreds of kids about the importance of the seagrass around their islands. In this popular destination for boaters, it also funded outreach to hundreds of sailors, spreading the word about avoiding anchor damage to these important but fragile underwater plants.





## Madagascar

# Andranohobaka Village

This village is located inside Ankarafantsika National Park, a biodiversity hotspot that is home to eight species of lemurs and more than 850 plant species. The village is building a long firebreak to protect this dry forest from the devastating wildfires that

threaten ecosystems across Madagascar, and has committed to keep watch over more than 2,600 acres of land. In exchange, our project funded construction of a new school for local kids, replacing a crowded, dilapidated building.





Mexico

## Isla Mujeres

With the ongoing success of our Play for the Mangroves program in the Dominican Republic, Seacology has begun to invest in other projects that tie youth sports to conservation. On Isla Mujeres, we funded uniforms and other equipment for young

soccer players in exchange for their participation in environmental education and cleanup activities. Some of them attended field trips to nearby Contoy Island, where they saw the area's huge manta rays and other marine life up close.





## Malaysia

# Long Tanid

In this remote Borneo village, Seacology funded the installation of a micro-hydroelectric system to provide reliable, sustainable energy for the community of subsistence farmers. These systems use a turbine driven by gravity and the natural

flow of local streams, which make them a low-impact alternative to the large dams that have destroyed watersheds across Borneo. In exchange, the village has committed to protect nearly 1,400 acres of pristine forest.





Palau

## Choll Village

Rising seas and intensifying storms have battered coastal infrastructure on low-lying islands around the world, including this stone dock that has served the people of Choll for more than a century. A Seacology grant provided the funding

to repair and raise the structure. The community's leaders have pledged to protect 50 acres of the surrounding mangrove forest, which further protects the walkway from the elements.





Philippines

## Lobo Municipality

Seacology funded improvements to this popular hiking trail, which leads to the panoramic forest and ocean views of the Nalayag Monolith. After two years of pandemic-related disruptions, the community has finished installing new safety

equipment, and begun raising native plants to plant along the trail to control erosion. Dozens of local people work as guides and vendors in the visitors center.





United States




## Westcott Bay

An ongoing partnership with the University of Washington's Friday Harbor Labs is helping restore seagrass meadows in the San Juan Islands. These meadows are important spawning grounds for


herring, which are a foundational part of the local food web. The small fish support salmon fisheries and the iconic orcas that drive ecotourism in the region.

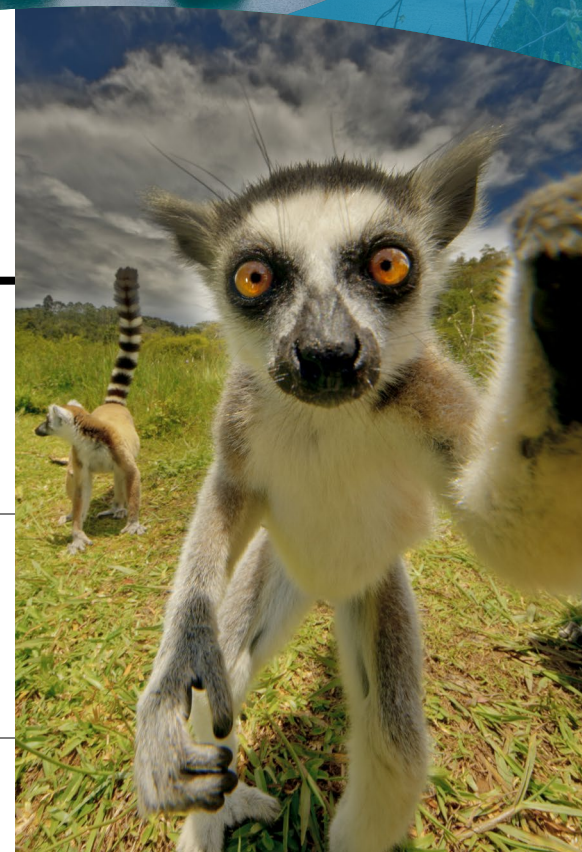


# New projects

Location	Conservation benefit	Community benefit
<b>Brazil</b> Vila Velha 	Conservation of 30-acre mangrove and beach area with clean-ups and reduction in organic pollution for 15 years	Clean water for 30 families; composting equipment; cultural and environmental workshops for children; ecological tours for visitors
<b>Cameroon</b> Tiko-Limbe Islands 	Conservation of 4,942 acres of mangrove and associated ecosystems for 25 years	Solar power for homes, a health center, and fish smokers and storage units; education campaign; ranger training; and support for monitoring and enforcement
<b>Chile</b> Puluqui Island 	Permanent protection of 66 acres of peatland and freshwater lagoons	Environmental education for schoolchildren; peatland management training for families
<b>Cyprus</b> Amathos River	Restoration of critical habitat of the freshwater blenny, a native fish that may be extinct on the island	

 Funding provided by Nu Skin Force For Good Foundation

 Funding provided by Seacology Germany



© Simone Sbaraglia via Wildscreen Exchange

Seacology began

23

new projects  
in 2022



## Location

## Conservation benefit

## Community benefit

### Dominican Republic

La Playita

Conservation of six acres of seagrass and five acres of mangrove forest for 15 years

Mangrove restoration; conservation training for fishers; mooring buoys to protect seagrass; seagrass awareness; Play for the Mangroves and other youth activities

### Dominican Republic

Las Calderas



Protection of 135 acres of mangroves for 20 years

Cultural and community center

### Dutch Caribbean

Saba Island



Improvements to new youth marine education and visitors center

### El Salvador

Montecristo Island

Protection of four endangered species of marine turtles

Turtle egg hatchery construction and management; artisanal fishing equipment; awareness campaign; ecotourism support

### England

Seaview Village

Seagrass regeneration (at least two acres) and protection

Environmentally friendly advanced mooring systems, outreach to community

### Federated States of Micronesia

Seniipehn Community

Permanent protection of 2,718 acres of upland forest, mangrove, seagrass, and coral reef habitats

Water tanks and pipes to provide clean water to every household

### Grenada

Grand Etang Reserve

Continued protection of 2,470-acre forest reserve with enforcement, trail repair, and planting



By the end of 2022,  
our projects had  
protected

652,897  
acres of terrestrial  
island habitat.



## Location

## Conservation benefit

## Community benefit

### Guatemala

El Paredón



Reduction in injuries to endangered marine turtles; help for injured turtles

More frequent patrols; signs; promotion of turtle-based tourism; community outreach; new roof on environmental education building

### Honduras

Utila Island



Conservation of a critically endangered iguana with education and outreach program, nesting area patrols, and replanting of 10 acres of mangrove habitat

### India

Agatti Island



500-acre marine protected area; environmental education for 10 years

Community resource and environmental outreach center

### Indonesia

Runi Village

Protection of 1,750 acres, including three islands and surrounding ocean, for 20 years

Water cisterns and toilets; solar panels; monitoring tower

### Madagascar

Ampondrahazo and Ambolobozokely Villages



Increased protection of two marine and mangrove areas totaling 7,155 acres, including mangrove restoration and sea turtle protection, for 20 years

Repairs and toilets for schools in each village; a well; signs; community training; new ranger station

### Madagascar

Sainte Luce and Ebakika Villages

Reconnecting coastal forest fragments by creating forest corridor and firebreaks

Firefighting training and equipment

By the end of 2021,  
our projects had  
protected

795,950  
acres of marine  
island habitat.





Location

Conservation benefit

Community benefit

**Malaysia**  
Tiong Karanaan Village

Protection of 42 acres of rainforest for 15 years

Aquaponics equipment, support for cultural tourism, and multipurpose hall

**Mexico**  
Quintana Roo Keys

Legal protection for about 1,500 small Mexican Caribbean islands, totaling about 12,352 acres

**Palau**  
Choll Village

Protection of 50 acres of mangroves for 20 years

Repair and improvement of long stone dock, which needs to be raised because of the rising sea level

**Philippines**  
Maite Village

Protection of 26-acre no-take marine sanctuary, with coral reef and seagrass, for 10 years

New guardhouse

**Uruguay**  
Bella Unión Islands

Protection of 1,149 acres of forest habitat of critically endangered bat

Ecotourism training, small visitors center, interpretive trail

By the end of 2022  
Seacology had  
launched

385

projects  
on islands in

68

countries.





# Seacology in the news

*Around the Corner from Nowhere: The Cook Islands Rediscovered*  
A Seacology project on Mangaia is mentioned in this book by former BBC journalist John Roberts.

*Bonaire.nu*, January 18, 2022  
"First Phase Sabal Palm Park Opened"

*Cook Islands News*, February 22, 2022  
"Nikao Seawall gets facelift"

*Cook Islands News*, April 10, 2022  
"Eye-catching mural turns heads"

*Deseret News*, April 10, 2022  
"Paul Alan Cox sees through a beaker, darkly. And he likes his view."

*Island Times*, April 19, 2022  
"Seacology awards grant for marina improvement in Choll"

*Cook Islands News*, May 11, 2022  
"Nikao seawall mural continues to delight"

*Scuba Diving*, July 1, 2022  
"Island Ecosystem Advocate Duane Silverstein Named July Sea Hero"

*Diario Libre*, July 25, 2022  
"Inauguran exposición fotográfica "Manglar es vida"

Expo 2020 Dubai (2021-22)  
Global Best Practice Programme Guide

*New Zealand Herald*, September 18, 2022  
"League legend Kevin Iro behind world's largest marine park in Cook Islands' exclusive zone"

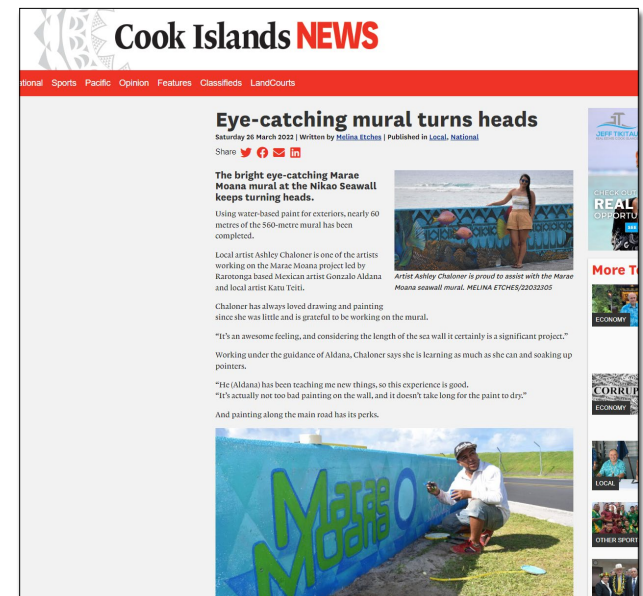
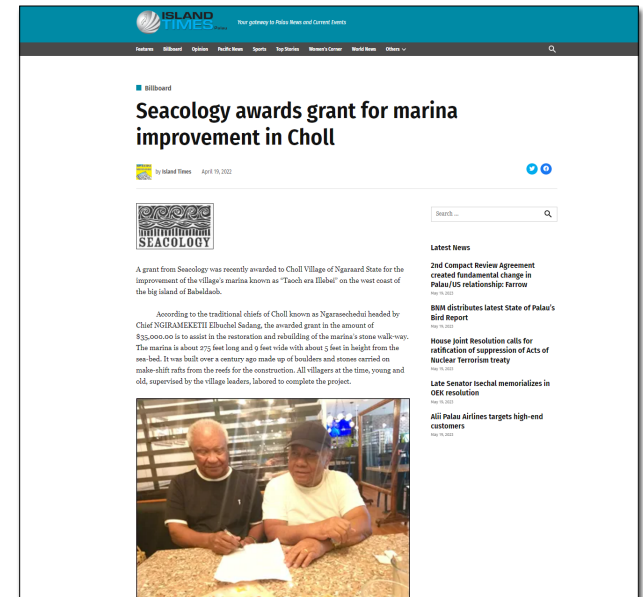
*Radio New Zealand*, September 20, 2022  
"Former Cooks rugby star gets environmental award"

*Pacific Media Network*, September 23, 2022  
"Big sea park lands big green prize"

*Cook Islands News*, October 8, 2022  
"Iro accepts 2022 Seacology Prize"

*The Guardian*, October 22, 2022  
"My focus has shifted': Kevin Iro on evolving from rugby league star to ocean advocate"

*Cook Islands News*, December 14, 2022  
"Marae Moana Community Outreach Team visits Aitutaki's Aaraura College"





# Travel

## The Philippines

After more than two years of pandemic-related delays and cancellations, Seacology's popular travel program restarted in late 2022.

Our first-ever travel partnership with the California Academy of Sciences brought together supporters of both organizations in the Verde Island Passage, considered by many experts to be the world epicenter of marine biodiversity.

Together on this diving-focused expedition, we explored the area's vibrant coral reefs and learned about both organizations' efforts to protect them. We met with dedicated local partners and visited a new Seacology-funded ecotourism center that was built to support a new marine reserve off of Maricaban Island.



Above, the group meets on Tingloy Municipality's main dock, which had just reopened to visitors.



Left, divers explore a wreck colonized by dense coral in the Verde Island Passage.

Below, a representative of the local government welcomes our guests to the Seacology-funded visitors center on Maricaban Island.





# Fiji

Our longtime partner communities in Fiji welcomed Seacology guests back with a hospitality that has long made the South Pacific country a favorite destination for participants in our travel program.

In September, our expedition visited two of our partner communities. Together, these two villages are protecting nearly 30,000 acres of land and sea.

At Korolevu Village, our guests attended the festive opening ceremony for a new Seacology-funded community center that will facilitate the production of handicrafts, offer local kids a place to study, and protect residents from storms.

They also visited our longtime partners at Nukubalavu Village, where we funded a school building more than 15 years ago. Our ongoing partnership with this community protects a large offshore area.



Cynthia McGuinn Photography: cmcguinn@ftmlaw.com

Above: Our travel group meets with the people of Nukubalavu, Seacology partners since 2007.



Left: Nukubalavu residents host a traditional kava ceremony for their guests.

Below: At Korolevu Village, a festive celebration marked the opening of the new Seacology-funded community center.







# Seacology Prize



## Kevin Iro

After an exemplary career as a professional athlete, our 2022 Seacology Prize recipient became one of the Cook Islands' highest-profile ocean defenders

**H**istorically, most winners of the Seacology Prize have come from obscure backgrounds. As a famous athlete, our 2022 recipient is an exception, though prior to receiving the Seacology Prize, his role in protecting the Cook Islands' ocean was an underappreciated part of his impressive biography.

Iro's exceptional career as a professional rugby player spanned decades and countries. Following his retirement, he returned to the Cook Islands to find his country's marine environment in crisis. Its once-vibrant coral reefs and fisheries were in decline, threatening the livelihoods of local communities.

He quickly took action, leveraging his reputation and forming an alliance with then Prime Minister Henry Puna to advocate for the creation of Marae Moana ("Sacred Ocean" in the local Māori language), the world's largest marine reserve of its kind. In 2017, the ambitious plan unanimously passed the country's parliament. Today, it protects all of the Cook Islands' territorial waters, an expanse of ocean the size of Mexico. Iro now serves as an official ambassador for the reserve, meeting with community leaders, students, and others across the country and beyond to advocate for its success.

We were moved to learn that Iro decided to re-gift his award stipend back to the effort to protect Marae Moana.

Learn more about Iro's story at [seacology.org/prize](https://seacology.org/prize).

## About the Seacology Prize

The Seacology Prize recognizes heroic achievement by indigenous leaders and other islanders who work tirelessly and often at great personal risk to protect their island's ecosystems and culture. It is underwritten by Ken Murdock, Vice Chair of Seacology, in memory of his mother, Lalovi Fish Murdock.





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