



# 2024 Annual Report





# Why islands?

## Seacology is dedicated to protecting island environments and cultures around the world.

Seacology focuses solely on island conservation because more than half of all animal extinctions in the last 500 years have occurred on islands. These special ecosystems 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.

Islanders tell us which land or sea area they want to protect. Then they identify a communal need Seacology can provide, such as a school or clean drinking water. It's a win for the environment and for the people who depend on it.



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# From the Chair

Like many good ideas, Seacology was born under desperate conditions. In remote Falealupo Village on the island of Savaii, Samoa, loggers had shown up with bulldozers and chainsaws to destroy one of the last remaining lowland rainforests in the archipelago. The villagers were distraught. When I asked them why they allowed the logging company access, they explained that the government required them to build a proper school; otherwise, all teachers would be withdrawn from the village. The only source of funds they had available was an offer from the logging company. With the help of many good people including Ken Murdock (now Seacology's Vice Chair), my wife Barbara and I were able to raise the \$85,000 necessary to construct the school. In return, the villagers promised to protect the rainforest.

As word spread, other villages that were forced to choose between the well-being of their children and the preservation of their rainforests or coral reefs began to approach us. With the assistance of Bill Marré, we created a nonprofit island conservation organization called Seacology. In the beginning, as an entirely volunteer organization, we were able to execute two or three projects each year. But since the arrival of our Executive Director Duane Silverstein, we are now able to launch many more, including the 28 new projects we initiated in 2024 on islands throughout the world. By the end of last year, Seacology had funded 429 conservation projects on islands in 70 different countries, setting aside over 1.5 million acres of island rainforests, coral reefs, and other precious habitats.

One of the reasons Seacology has been welcomed by so many countries is that we have only one purpose—preservation of island habitats and cultures—and no political or cultural agenda. Strong support from Nu Skin's Force for Good Foundation has increased our focus on projects that benefit children, such as construction of schools or sources of clean water. I urge you to look at the details at the end of this report of the 28 projects launched in 2024, listing the conservation benefit and community benefit of each project.

By partnering with local communities throughout the world, we have been able to have a major impact on conservation worldwide that far

*One of the reasons Seacology has been welcomed by so many countries is that we have only one purpose—preservation of island habitats and cultures*

exceeds our financial resources. If the function of a nonprofit charity is to turn a donor dollar into a mission outcome, you would be hard-pressed to find a more efficient organization than Seacology, where 79% of our expenses go directly to conservation programs, with only 14% spent on fundraising and 7% spent on administration. With this commitment to efficiency, even small gifts have a major impact on conservation outcomes.

You can look at the fascinating array of 2024 projects in this annual report. We have been pioneers in the preservation of mangrove forests and seagrass ecosystems, which are among the most endangered vegetation types in the world. I also invite you to consider Seacology's travel program, where you can gain firsthand knowledge of our innovative conservation programs.

Please know how grateful we are for your support of Seacology. I invite you to continue with us as we continue to move forward as conservation pioneers.

Cordially,



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





# Who we are



From left, Individual Giving Manager Max Rojas-Domke, Field Representative Leida Buglass, and Senior Manager of Special Initiatives Karen Peterson visit our project at La Playita, Dominican Republic.



From left, Program Manager Mary Randolph, Board Chair Paul Cox, Seacology Prize winner Mohammed Kolugege, and Field Representative Vineeta Hoon.

## Board of Directors

Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D.	Chair
Rachel Dibner	President
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Kimberly Myers Hewlett	Vice Chair
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Michael Staffieri	Vice President
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Jake Walker	
Michael Ward	
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## Staff

Duane Silverstein	Executive Director
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Joseph Clerici	Communications Director
Erin Coyne	Institutional Giving Officer
Katharine Gripp	Communications Associate
Amanda Kirkhart	Program Associate
Karen Peterson	Senior Manager of Special Initiatives
Mary Randolph	Program Manager
Max Rojas-Domke	Individual Giving Manager

## Scientific Advisory Board

Paul Alan Cox, Ph.D.  
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 Robert Jansen, Ph.D.  
 John McCosker, Ph.D.  
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 Elizabeth Pierson, Ph.D.  
 William E. Rainey, Ph.D.  
 Peter H. Raven, Ph.D.

## Affiliates

Seacology Japan  
 Seacology Germany

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

### Europe and the Mediterranean

Marilen Enseñat	Spain
Zafer Kizilkaya	Turkey
Marija Purgar Filjak	Croatia

### Indian Ocean

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

### Pacific Ocean

Simon Ellis	Micronesia
Sione Faka'osi	Tonga
Arnaz Mehta	New Zealand
Pettine Simpson	Fiji
Tuaine Tuara	Cook Islands

### Southeast Asia

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

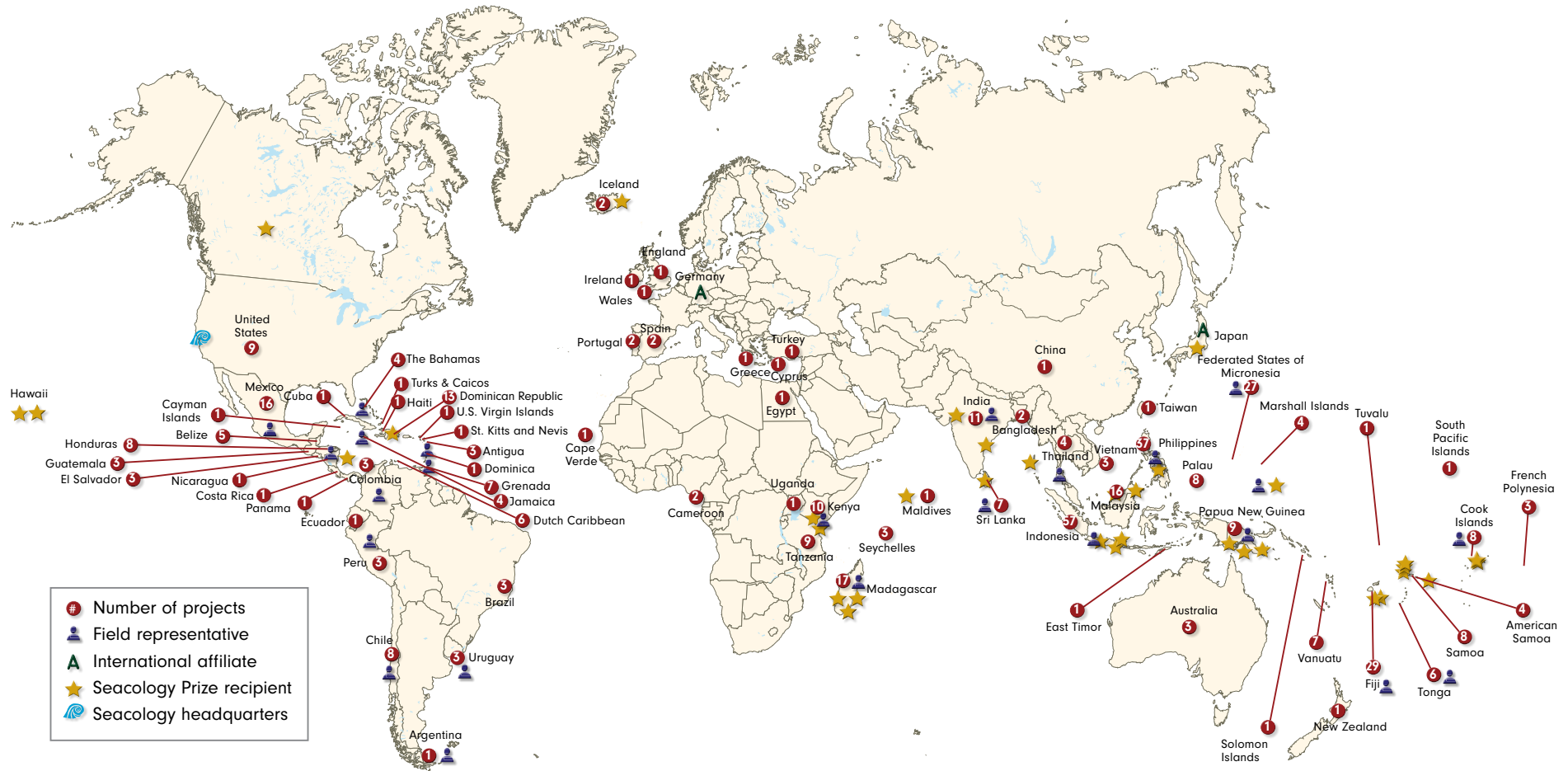
## Play for the Mangroves coordinators

Ricel Almadovar	Philippines
Ismael Díaz-Tolentino	Dominican Republic





# Our global reach in 2024



429 projects • 70 countries • 1.5 million acres protected  
9 full-time staff • 28 field representatives • 2 international affiliates



# Our supporters

## CHIEF ULU FELLOWS

(\$25,000 or more)

Anonymous  
Robert Epstein and Amy Roth  
Lisa and Scott Halsted  
Doug and Leni Herst  
Ken Murdock  
Mary O'Malley and Robert Dion  
Peter Read  
Bradford Whitman  
Karen and Burt Yarkin

## ISLAND FELLOWS

\$10,000-\$24,999

Anonymous  
John Andresen  
Jeff Chanin and Mary Ann McNamara  
Terri Hearsh  
Freya Hermanson and  
Kenneth Mahaffey  
Bob and Rosie Heil  
Tamako Kishimoto  
Michael Hofman and Janet Moyer  
Rabbi Brian and Caroline Fromm Lurie  
Mary Love May and Paul Gabrielson  
Mr. Takao Moriuchi/Axe Taka Inc.  
Stephen Silberstein  
Elizabeth and Noah Silverman  
Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart  
Judah Slavkovsky  
Christine A. Symchych and  
James P. McNulty  
Sandie Tillotson  
Paul and Leigh Tischler  
James Walker  
Jake Warner and Toni Ihara  
Greg and Pat White  
Scott Wilson

## SEACOLOGY FELLOWS

\$2,500-\$9,999

Anonymous  
Howard Adams  
Yvonne Adams and Jeremy Alan Green  
Larry Barels  
Renee Boicourt & James Hemmerly  
Albert Boyce  
Pete Boyce  
Miriam Brafman  
Michael Burbank and Cindy Roberts  
Chrisanda Button and Rickie Sterne  
Dr. Paul Alan Cox and Mrs. Barbara Cox  
David and Suzy Cumming  
Ann Danforth  
Cheryl Disque  
Michelle Friend  
Ed Herbert and May Fung

John and Marcia Goldman  
David Hammond  
Mr. and Mrs. Melissa Herst  
Kimberly Leilani Myers Hewlett  
Cynthia Hubach  
Dr. Kimberly Johnson  
Paula Kasler  
Reed and Yuliya Kathrein  
Murray and Jeanie Kilgour  
John and Janet Kister  
Neil and Jane Levy  
Valerie London  
Barbara Meyer  
Jorge and Jeannette Moré  
Roger and Audre Newman  
Buffy Redsecker and Alan Chung

Kristin Reed  
Michael Ring  
Joe Ruck and Donna Ito  
Joseph and Cathy Scalzo  
Rand and Carol Selig  
Bill and Judy Shepherd  
Wes and Rachel Silverstein  
Howard and Ann Sohn  
Greg and Liz Sparks  
Barbara Sweet  
Anne Symchych  
Cherri and Randy Tom  
Sally and Ron Wackowski  
Jacqueline and Paul Wender

*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  
The Argus Fund  
Arntz Family Foundation  
CIBC FirstCaribbean International Bank  
Cisco Foundation  
Cornell Douglas Foundation

The Coypu Foundation  
The Rose & David Dortort Foundation  
The Eucalyptus Foundation  
Every.org  
Flora Family Foundation  
Holdfast Collective  
The Mennen Environmental Foundation

Moleac  
Network for Good  
New Earth Foundation  
New York Community Trust  
Nu Skin Force for Good Foundation  
Nu Skin International Inc./  
Pharmanex LLC  
Reed Jules Oppenheimer Foundation

Overbrook Foundation  
The Plant Initiative  
Sea Grape Foundation  
Sony Music Entertainment  
Newman and Zeneth  
Ward Family Foundation  
The White Pine Fund

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In 2024, 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

### ANNUAL EARTH DAY FUNDRAISER

Fewer than 1,000 adult Sri Lankan leopards remain in the wild. As tea plantations have expanded throughout Sri Lanka's Central Highlands, these big cats have come under threat from habitat loss and poaching, and snare traps that local growers set to protect their fields from grazing animals.

Working with the Wilderness and Wildlife Conservation Trust, Seacology's project supported forest restoration and public outreach to local plantation communities, helping the area's residents live in harmony with the leopards and other native wildlife. Crucially, the project established classrooms where WWCT is training young people through its Forest Guardians program. These kids and teens are learning valuable skills to protect and advocate for the Central Highlands' forests and all the creatures that inhabit them.

Launched on Earth Day, our fundraising campaign quickly raised the project's \$24,000 budget, thanks to the generous support of these individuals and organizations:

Anonymous  
Tiny Angel  
N Barbeau  
Kevin Claassen  
Christy Collier  
Dr. Paul Alan and Mrs. Barbara Cox  
Erin Coyne  
Bill Fintel  
Eliot Girsang  
Jan Goldthwait  
Sybille Greiner  
Lillian Guidry  
Nan Guslander  
Lisa and Scott Halsted  
Brian Hathaway  
Doug and Leni Herst  
Kimberly Leilani Myers Hewlett  
Sharon Hotham  
Stephen Humphries  
Kimberly Johnson

Paula S Kasler  
Amanda Kirkhart  
Kanan Krishnan  
Stuart Locklear  
Rhianna Lynch  
Mary  
Teresa J McCanlies  
James Meyers  
Nu Skin Force For Good Foundation  
Noreen Parks  
Karen Peterson  
Susan Racanelli  
Kristin Reed  
Max Rojas-Domke  
Maria Shalita  
Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart  
Michael Ward  
Scott Wilson  
Coral Zolczynski



Above, fewer than 1,000 Sri Lankan leopards remain in the Central Highlands.



Left, young members of the Forest Guardians program explore the outdoors.

Below, Seacology's Karen Peterson joins our local partners for a tree planting.





## 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 (4)

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\*

Paul and Barbara Cox

Cheryl G. Disque and Michael J. Disque

Rosalind Douglas Trust

Graham Farrar Living Trust

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

The Ives Family

Michael N. Hofman and Janet M. Moyer

Nick Hohn

The Hotham Family Trust

Cynthia Hubach, in memory of Richard A. Hubach

Carlton A. Hubbell\*

Shanna Jamieson

Dr. Kimberly Johnson

Sara Katz

Mr. Raleigh Klein\*

Masayuki Kishimoto\*

Cathy Klema

Estate of Neil and Jane Levy\*

Mark Murzin\* and Krista Knoernschild

Ken Murdock

Dana Nojima and Elaine Lyford-Nojima

Matsuno K. Patrick

Mickey Petersen Charitable Fund

Karen Peterson

Peter Pistor

Robert D. Plotnick and Gay L. Jensen

Shari Sant Plummer

John C. and Susan C. Racanelli

Gordon Radley

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James and Gretchen Sandler

Guy and Jeanine Saperstein

Joseph and Catherine Scalzo

Michael A. Scott

Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Selig

Nicholas Kendall Song Memorial Fund\*

Duane Silverstein and Marcia Stewart

Lindley S. Sloan

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.

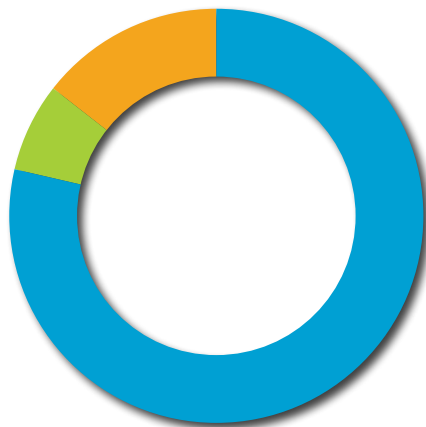


# Finances

Seacology continued our commitment to careful stewardship of our donors' contributions in 2024, with our conservation programs representing nearly 80% of expenses.

Find more details and tax documents, and annual reports from previous years at [seacology.org/about/annual-reports](https://seacology.org/about/annual-reports).

## Expenses



- Conservation programs (79%)
- Fundraising (14%)
- Management and General (7%)

## Public support



- Foundation grants (40%)
- Donations and bequests (55%)
- In-kind contributions (5%)

## Statement of financial activity

January 1 through December 31, 2024<sup>1</sup>

### Support and Revenue

Foundation grants	\$ 893,272
Donations and bequests	\$ 1,219,280
In-kind contributions	\$ 109,596
<b>Total public support</b>	<b>\$ 2,222,148</b>

Expedition Income, net of expenses	\$ 1,510
Interest/investment income	\$ 803,835
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,454
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$ 807,799</b>
<b>Total support and revenue</b>	<b>\$ 3,029,947</b>

### Expenses

Program services	\$ 2,495,294
Management and general	\$ 219,910
Fundraising	\$ 449,853
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 3,165,057</b>

<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>\$ (135,110)</b>
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<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 2024 audited financial statements will be available in July 2025.



# Awards and recognition

In April, we were excited to announce that Seacology had been chosen as the grand prize winner of the **2024 Lipman Family Prize**. Awarded to nonprofit organizations from around the world for leadership, impact, innovation, and transferability of ideas, the prize is a testament to Seacology's success and the scalability of our win-win approach to conservation. Administered by the Wharton School on behalf of the University of Pennsylvania, the Prize is committed to resourcing and connecting change-makers to bring their leading solutions to new places and problems around the world.

This award is not only a high-profile affirmation of Seacology's impact, it materially helped us increase it. The \$250,000 grant from the prize helped us launch more projects in 2024 and expand our digital outreach, introducing more people to our work and the urgency of our mission. It also connected us to graduate students in nonprofit management and marketing, who have provided valuable consultation throughout the past year.

In recognition of our ongoing commitment to efficiency and transparency, we continued to earn top scores from charity rating services **Charity Navigator** and **Candid** (formerly GuideStar).



Executive Director Duane Silverstein accepts the 2024 Lipman Family Prize from Barry and Marie Lipman



Above, Duane Silverstein with representatives of the other winning organizations, Simprints and Food For Education.

Left, guests watch a presentation about Seacology at UPenn.



# Seacology Prize



## Mohammed Kolugege

Our 2024 Seacology Prize recipient has dedicated his life to preserving the fragile environment and unique traditions of India's remote Minicoy Island.

**M**ohammed Kolugege, known on his home island as K.G. Mohammed, served in his local government's fisheries department for 32 years as a field assistant, teacher, and information officer. During his tenure, he passionately spread environmental awareness to people of all generations with creativity and compassion and helped to implement eco-friendly fishing methods throughout the Lakshadweeps. He also advocated—against stiff resistance—to save shipwrecks off the coast of Minicoy, which had been colonized by thriving corals and other sea creatures. Preserving them protects both the island's maritime heritage and its valuable marine ecosystems. The community designated these shipwreck sites as no-take areas as part of a Seacology project in 2009. Today they are some of the best scuba diving sites in Minicoy.

Since retiring from government service, Mohammed Kolugege has continued to serve his community as a social worker, conservationist, and musician. He collects and preserves many irreplaceable artifacts and relics from Minicoy Island that could have otherwise been lost. These artifacts are now safely housed in the Maliku Museum, which was built with financial support from Seacology, and are appreciated by both visitors and community members.

Learn more about Mohammed Kolugege and watch the 2024 Seacology Prize Ceremony 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.



# Major initiatives

In its penultimate year, our **five-year initiative protecting mangroves across the Dominican Republic** continued to achieve conservation victories. The nationwide partnership with Dominican NGO Grupo Jaragua and other local partners expanded in 2024 with the launch of two new projects. These deepened the connections between local communities and their coastal wetlands.

We also expanded **Play for the Mangroves**, our innovative program that combines support for youth sports with environmental education and stewardship. Begun as a component of the DR mangrove initiative, Play for the Mangroves held its first events in the Philippines in 2024, with hundreds of kids participating. “Roots”, a short documentary about the original Play for the Mangroves program in the DR, was produced with the support of 11th Hour Racing, one of the program’s funders. It has since screened at prestigious film festivals.

Finally, Seacology continues to support the world’s first mangrove museum, built as part of our nationwide program in Sri Lanka that ran from 2015-2020. In 2023, Seacology donors raised tens of thousands of dollars to reopen and repair the **Lanka Mangrove Museum**. This unique educational facility struggled to keep its doors open following the pandemic and a severe economic crisis. Thanks to ongoing support from Seacology, it was able to fulfill its mission of educating the Sri Lankan public and visitors from around the world about the importance of healthy mangroves to the island nation.



Corinna Halloran/11th Hour Racing







## Dominican Republic

# National Mangrove Initiative

The primary goal of the initiative is to change public perception of mangroves and build local support for their protection. Historically mangroves have often been perceived as unsightly swamps with little benefit to local

people. Our partnership with Grupo Jaragua has helped many people see these miraculous forests in a new light through field trips for students and summer camps, birdwatching events, and more.





## Dominican Republic

# National Mangrove Initiative

In 2024, Grupo Jaragua organized three mangrove cleanups in Nigua Wetlands Ecological Park on the DR's southern coast. These events brought out nearly 200 volunteers to remove tons of garbage from the mangroves and beautify the coastline.

Together with local partner RECONPAZ, they also took the lead on ecosystem restoration in the park, planting hundreds of new mangrove propagules and sea grape plants in degraded areas.





Dominican Republic

## National Mangrove Initiative

Our initiative has partnered with talented artists across the DR to showcase the beauty of mangrove forests through colorful murals. Once-drab walls in coastal towns have been transformed with eye-catching depictions of wildlife and the

connection between local communities and their coastal wetlands. This mural was painted by renowned local artist Gabz near **Oviedo Lagoon**. The lizard shown to the right is a species discovered by our local partners in 2023.





Denis González

## Dominican Republic

# National Mangrove Initiative

A major component of the initiative is the promotion of mangrove ecotourism, which incentivizes local communities to keep their coastal wetlands healthy and provides sustainable jobs. In **San Lorenzo Bay**, part of Los Haitises

National Park, a local fishing cooperative rents kayaks and runs paddling tours of the beautiful area. Seacology helped the cooperative get back in business by funding repairs of its office after a fire.





## Dominican Republic

# National Mangrove Initiative

The campaign continued its educational outreach, developing and distributing classroom materials to about 160 schools in 2024. Grupo Jaragua held in-person presentations in 33 schools that reached thousands of students, and hosted workshops to

help science teachers integrate mangrove ecology and conservation into their classes. The program also organized fun mangrove-themed art projects for younger students.





Corinna Halloran/11th Hour Racing

## Dominican Republic

# Play for the Mangroves

Play for the Mangroves has now provided equipment and uniforms for more than 5,000 young baseball and volleyball players throughout the Dominican Republic, benefiting many disadvantaged youths. By late 2024, the program

had held more than 70 events and field trips to local mangrove forests, where participants have planted thousands of trees, observed wildlife, and picked up trash.





Corinna Halloran/11th Hour Racing

## Dominican Republic

# Play for the Mangroves

A short documentary, *Operation Restoration: Roots* was produced by Play for the Mangroves funder 11th Hour Racing in 2024. The film profiles Program Coordinator Ismael Díaz-Tolentino and showcases his work supporting young

baseball players and promoting mangrove protection across the DR. It has since screened at international film festivals to very positive reception.





## Philippines

# Play for the Mangroves

Play for the Mangroves expanded beyond the DR in 2024, with two locations in the Philippines. There, we partnered with the ABS-CBN Foundation and local schools. Each partner school chose which sport we would support to enable the highest engagement among the students. The

first event took place at a high school in **Gubat, Sorsogon**, renowned for its success in table tennis. After acquiring new equipment through the partnership with Seacology, the school's enrollment is projected to rise.





## Philippines

# Play for the Mangroves

In **Lobo Municipality**, our partner school chose basketball, overall the most popular sport in the country. At an event attended by local leaders and representatives of the national education ministry, more than 100 students at Lagadlarin-Olo-Olo

Elementary School enthusiastically toured the local mangrove forest. Each planted a mangrove tree before returning to their school's newly upgraded court for a lecture on mangroves and a spirited tournament.





Sri Lanka

## Lanka Mangrove Museum

After Seacology supporters raised more than \$60,000 to reopen the world's first mangrove museum in 2023, we have continued to support its operations. The museum regularly hosts local student groups, tourists, renowned scientists,

and other visitors from Sri Lanka and beyond. Seacology's Karen Peterson visited the museum on July 26, World Mangrove Day, to check in on its progress during the year since it officially reopened.





Sri Lanka

## Lanka Mangrove Museum

Many local kids are now participating in the museum's Together With Mangroves Children and Youth Societies program. Through it, they're learning about mangroves, tending the museum's nursery, and gaining valuable skills to be the

next generation of environmental leaders. These young people have also helped with mangrove-restoration efforts beyond the museum's grounds, planting hundreds of mangroves in nearby Dutch Canal.



# Project highlights

Local win-win partnerships with individual island communities continue to be the foundation of Seacology's unique model of conservation.

These local projects helped island communities in nearly every region of the world safeguard threatened habitats and species, while improving the quality of life for local people. Our projects helped our partner communities obtain renewable energy, improve access to clean water, develop lucrative and sustainable ecotourism businesses, provide better education for their children, and much more.

In 2024, we launched 28 new projects, including our first ever in New Zealand and Turkey (see pages 32-36).

Despite rising global prices, Seacology projects remained remarkably cost-effective in 2024, with an average budget of less than \$35,000. Thanks to our dedicated field representatives' deep understanding of local needs and capacities, our projects are carefully planned and vetted, and have an excellent rate of success.

The following pages feature just a few of our favorite examples of this approach in action in 2024, showcasing the diversity of communities served and habitats protected.

To explore any of our projects going back to our first in 1991, check out [Secology.org/projects](https://seacology.org/projects).







Honduras

## Exposición, Inglesera, and Pacar Islands

This project protects a 100-meter-wide band along the coastlines of three islands in the Gulf of Fonseca. Two of the islands, Exposición and Inglesera, are inhabited; the third, Pacar, houses a research and environmental education center. Every family on Exposición and Inglesera now has solar panels that can power five light bulbs and

two outlets. Community members have also built and placed 45 lobster sheds to provide shelter and protection for young lobsters in a no-take zone, which they regularly monitor. Island residents have participated in several beach clean up days, collecting over two tons of trash and sending it to a municipal facility for proper disposal.





India

## Chorão Island

In an effort to protect vulnerable and threatened creatures, our project partner in Chorão, India, is working to change local attitudes and hunting practices around otters and other fish-eating animals. In June, they inaugurated a new community library and interpretive center, which has books and exhibits for all ages on nature,

wildlife, and science. Volunteers teach classes on how to work with clay, tell traditional stories, make pollinator-friendly gardens, and identify birds. The project partner is also providing gear, advertising assistance, and trash-cleanup equipment to local fishermen.





Madagascar

## Ampondrahazo and Ambolobozokely Villages

In Ampondrahazo Village, community members have set up mangrove nurseries and planted a total of about 5,000 saplings in deforested areas, covering twice the area that had been originally targeted in this project. In Ambolobozokely, patrollers trained and monitored mangroves,

seagrass, reefs, and sea turtle nesting sites. Parents in these communities have worked together to build one badly needed new school and to repair another, and a new well consistently delivers good-quality potable water to the community.





Mexico

## Isabel Island

The coral reefs and mangroves of Isabel Island National Park provide the foundations of amazing ecosystems, and support the fisheries that the local community relies on. Warming seas, however, have damaged the coral, endangering the entire

ecosystem. For this project, divers are replanting coral over 2.6 acres of reef near the island. So far, nearly 950 individual pieces of coral have been replanted, with an excellent 95% survival rate.





Malaysia

## Puneng Trusan Village

Puneng Trusan is a small village tucked into the mountain rainforests in the heart of Borneo. The people of Puneng Trusan have committed to preserving 1,165 acres of crucial nearby forest watershed, establishing detailed rules to protect and manage the area. In return, Seacology has

helped build a micro-hydro electricity system, which is now providing clean, round-the-clock energy for the village. Community members have been trained to operate and maintain the system by our partner organization TONIBUNG.





Philippines

## Barangay Bulanon

After advocating for a new conservation area, a community association in the rural village of Bulanon is now managing a floating cottage rental business and conducting daily kayak patrols of the 900-acre protected marine area, which includes

mangroves, seagrass, and coral. Despite a typhoon (Kristine, in October) and a nearby volcanic eruption (Mt. Kanlaon, in December), construction of a watchtower to assist the patrols is on schedule for an on-time completion in May.





Tanzania

## Tumbatu Island

The Tumbatu Channel off the coast of Zanzibar is officially safeguarded by law, but in practice, enforcement depends on the community. Committees of islanders have consulted with a fishermen's association and government officials to make the local fisheries sustainable and engage

more community members in conservation. The new Tumbatu Island Information Centre, which benefits 18 villages, is now used for meetings and training sessions, and an protected area has been established to prevent overfishing of octopus.



# New projects

## Location

## Conservation benefit

## Community benefit

**Brazil**  
Cotijuba Island  
🌐

Replanting and protection of 7.5-acre eroded riparian area

Refurbishing of community hall; agroecology help

**Cameroon**  
Manoka Island  
🌐

Protection of 2,471 acres of mangroves for 25 years

Drinking water supply system, solar electrification kits, and training in soap-making

**Chile**  
Grand Tierra del Fuego Island

Protection of 64 acres of habitat of rare Magellanic plover and other wildlife

**Cook Islands**  
Voice of the Sacred Ocean

Advocacy for Marae Moana, the world's largest marine park

Youth ambassador program to advocate for Cook Islands marine conservation

**Dominican Republic**  
Bajo Yuna Mangroves National Park

Protection of 49 acres of restored mangroves

Ranger station and office for surveillance and patrol of the park

**Dominican Republic**  
Las Calderas Bay

Protection of 586 acres of seagrass ecosystems for 10 years

Strengthening of mangrove beekeepers cooperative and wildlife-based tourism, community awareness



Seacology began

28

new projects  
in 2024

🌐 Funding provided by Nu Skin Force For Good Foundation



## Location

## Conservation benefit

## Community benefit

**Dutch Caribbean**  
Curaçao Sea Turtles

Public outreach campaign to stop tourism practices that harm endangered marine turtles

**Dutch Caribbean**  
Curaçao Coral Restoration

Preservation of critical reef builders

Protection of ecosystem services, enhancing best practices among restoration practitioners

**Dutch Caribbean**  
Curaçao Sustainable Fishing

Greater adoption of sustainable fishing practices

Livelihood opportunities for youth

**El Salvador**  
San Sebastián Island

Restoration and protection of five acres of mangroves for 10 years; hydrological restoration of over one-half mile of mangrove channel; waste management and conservation training

Environmental and waste management education and training in Ecological Mangrove Rehabilitation, support for women's small business initiatives, fence for school sports field

**Fiji**  
Mali Island  
🌐

Protection of marine areas (42 acres) and mangroves (57 acres) for 20 years; reforestation on 141 acres

New elementary school building

**Honduras**  
San Carlos Island

Protection and enhancement of 136 coastal marine acres; composting; outreach on endangered turtle protection for 15 years

Water collection and storage systems for 30 families



By the end of 2024,  
our projects had  
protected

666,889

acres of terrestrial  
island habitat.



## Location

## Conservation benefit

## Community benefit

**Indonesia**  
Cikidang Village  
🌐

Protection of 288 acres of tropical forest for 15 years

New kindergarten and early childhood education center; monitoring post and equipment; coffee growing materials; native tree seedlings

**Indonesia**  
Gamta and Magei Villages  
🌐

Continued protection of 300,000-acre no-take marine area

New kindergarten for two villages

**Madagascar**  
Ambalaomby Commune  
🌐

Protection of 19,185 acres, including 7,230 acres of primary forest, for 15 years

Secondary school; training and materials for coffee cultivation

**Madagascar**  
Malaintsatroke, Mahazoarivo, and Ala Mahavelo

Protection and reforestation of 2,348 acres of forest, habitat of critically endangered tortoises and lemurs, for 10 years

Gear for patrols; native plant nurseries, environmental education in schools

**Malaysia**  
Pitas Laut

Conservation of 45-acre turtle nesting beach for 10 years and restoration of white clam stocks through temporary closures and low-impact harvesting measures

Solar mini grid system that powers livelihood development initiatives

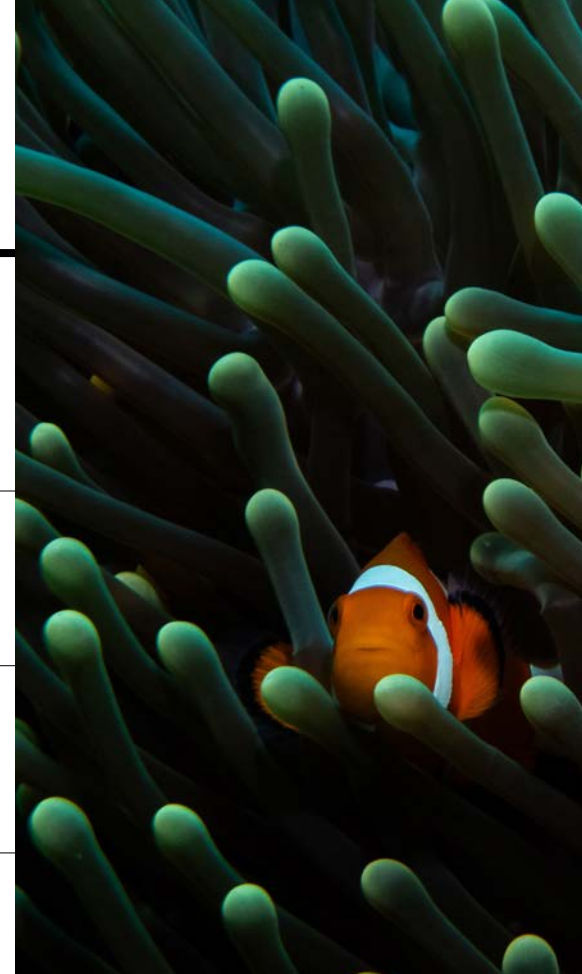
**Marshall Islands**  
Maloelap Atoll

Permanent 2,487-acre marine no-take zone

Small building at airstrip

By the end of 2024,  
our projects had  
protected

925,166  
acres of marine  
island habitat.






Location

Conservation benefit

Community benefit

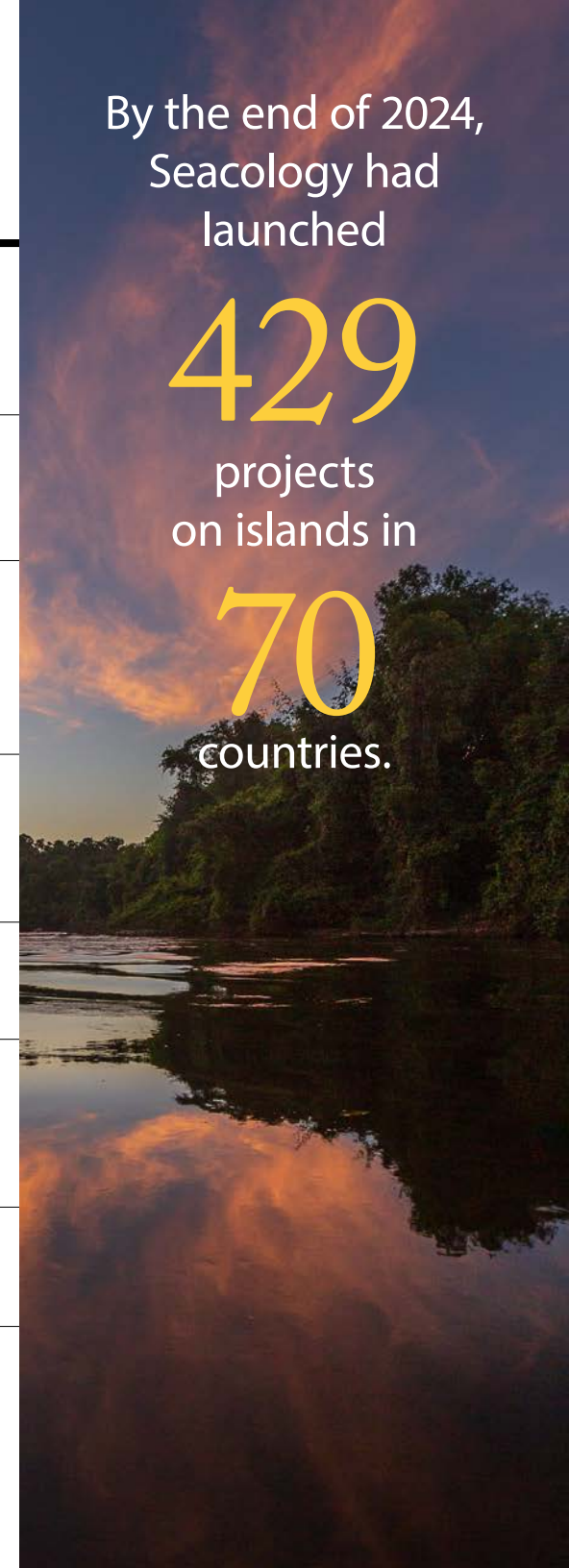
<b>Mexico</b> Isabel Island	Restoration and protection of 2.6 acres of coral reef	Improved livelihoods for fishers beyond protected area
<b>Mexico</b> Xcalak Village	New 118,611-acre no-take zone with mangroves, cays, wetlands, and seagrass	Repairs to floating watchtower/ environmental center; outreach to community
<b>Mexico</b> El Pardito Island and Palma Sola	Reduced contamination and illegal fishing in 1,543 acres of marine protected area, informative signs, and patrols	Repairs to toilets
<b>New Zealand</b> Waiheke Island	Increased protection of coastal 22,240-acre no-take zone created by Māori group	
<b>Philippines</b> Sitio Lapat 	Conservation of 1,236-acre forest watershed for 20 years	Electricity from new micro-hydro facility
<b>Philippines</b> Barangay Bulanon	Improved conservation of 900-acre protection area that includes mangroves, seagrass, and coral	Watchtower and kayak center
<b>Spain</b> Mallorca Island	Seagrass replanting of 20 to 30 square-meter plots in a 5-acre area	
<b>Sri Lanka</b> Central Highlands	Support for 17 miles of wildlife conservation corridors	Creation of 15 conservation resource rooms at local schools, support for Forest Guardians youth education, and awareness training

By the end of 2024,  
Seacology had  
launched

429

projects  
on islands in

70  
countries.





Location	Conservation benefit	Community benefit
<b>Tanzania</b> Tumbatu Island	Protection of 2,229 acres of marine habitat for 20 years	New conservation information center and mariculture training
<b>Turkey</b> Gökova Bay	Restoration of high-value marine ecosystem by control of invasive species	Improved livelihoods for marginalized fishing communities

The average cost of a Seacology project in 2024 was less than

\$35,000



Construction begins on the new Seacology-funded school in Ambalaomby Commune, Madagascar.





# Seacology in the news

Radio New Zealand, January 4, 2024  
"Legends and animals from the Cook Islands feature in new mural"

Nature Today, February 16, 2024  
"Queen Conch research shows promising results"

Dive Curaçao, May 20, 2024  
"Preserving Curaçao: The Seacology Island Conservation Mission"

Curaçao Chronicle, July 8, 2024  
"Bank says farewell with USD\$25,000 gift to marine project"

Philippine News Agency, October 2, 2024  
"Biodiversity assessment to safeguard protected area in northern Negros"

Kentfield & Ross Living, November 2024  
"Jake Walker: Seacology"

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## Legends and animals from the Cook Islands feature in new mural

2:41 pm on 4 January 2024

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Caleb Fotheringham, RNZ Pacific Journalist  
[caleb.fotheringham@rnz.co.nz](mailto:caleb.fotheringham@rnz.co.nz)  
Tiana Haxton, Journalist  
[tiana.haxton@rnz.co.nz](mailto:tiana.haxton@rnz.co.nz)



The Vaka Marumaru Atua features on the seawall mural. Photo: RNZ Pacific / Tiana Haxton

A 560-metre plain grey seawall has been transformed into the longest mural in the South Pacific.



## Queen Conch research shows promising results

*World Wide Fund for Nature – Netherlands*

16-FEB-2024 - From April to December 2023, one hundred farmed young Queen Conchs were released into the sea of Curaçao with the aim of strengthening the natural population of those conchs. In the pilot project

Republic of the Philippines  
**PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY**

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## Biodiversity assessment to safeguard protected area in northern Negros

By Nanette Guadalupe  
October 2, 2024, 6:53 pm

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**BAOYONG CITY** – The state of biodiversity of the Lapus-Lapus-Macapagan Local Conservation Area (LCA) in Sagay City in northern Negros Occidental underwent an assessment as part of the efforts to safeguard the 364-hectare protected area.

"Understanding the biodiversity of the area is crucial for effective conservation efforts," Sagay City Environment and Natural Resources Office (SENRIO) head Mayo Antonio Cueva said in a statement on Wednesday.

Personnel of SENRIO were among the 28-man team who conducted the four-day biodiversity assessment on the last week of September, along with volunteers from the Provincial Environment Management Office (PEMO), State University of Northern Negros (SUNN), and Zoological Society of London (ZSL).

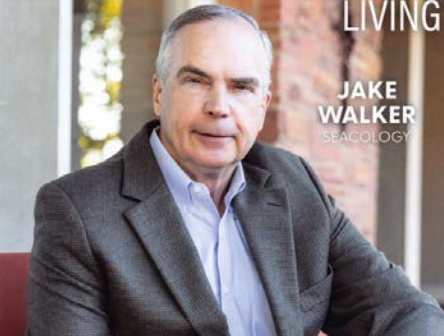
Located in Barangay Bulanon, the Lapus-Lapus-Macapagan LCA has 227 hectares of mangroves, 72 hectares of seagrass, and 65 hectares of coral based on the 2021 assessment.



**PROTECTED AREA.** A marine species photographed during the biodiversity assessment of the Lapus-Lapus-Macapagan Local Conservation Area in Sagay City, Negros Occidental, conducted on the last week of September 2024. The results of the assessment will be presented to the community in the coming months. (Photo courtesy of Bulanon Lapus-Lapus-Macapagan LCA Assessment Team)

## KENTFIELD & ROSS LIVING

**JAKE WALKER**  
SEACOLOGY





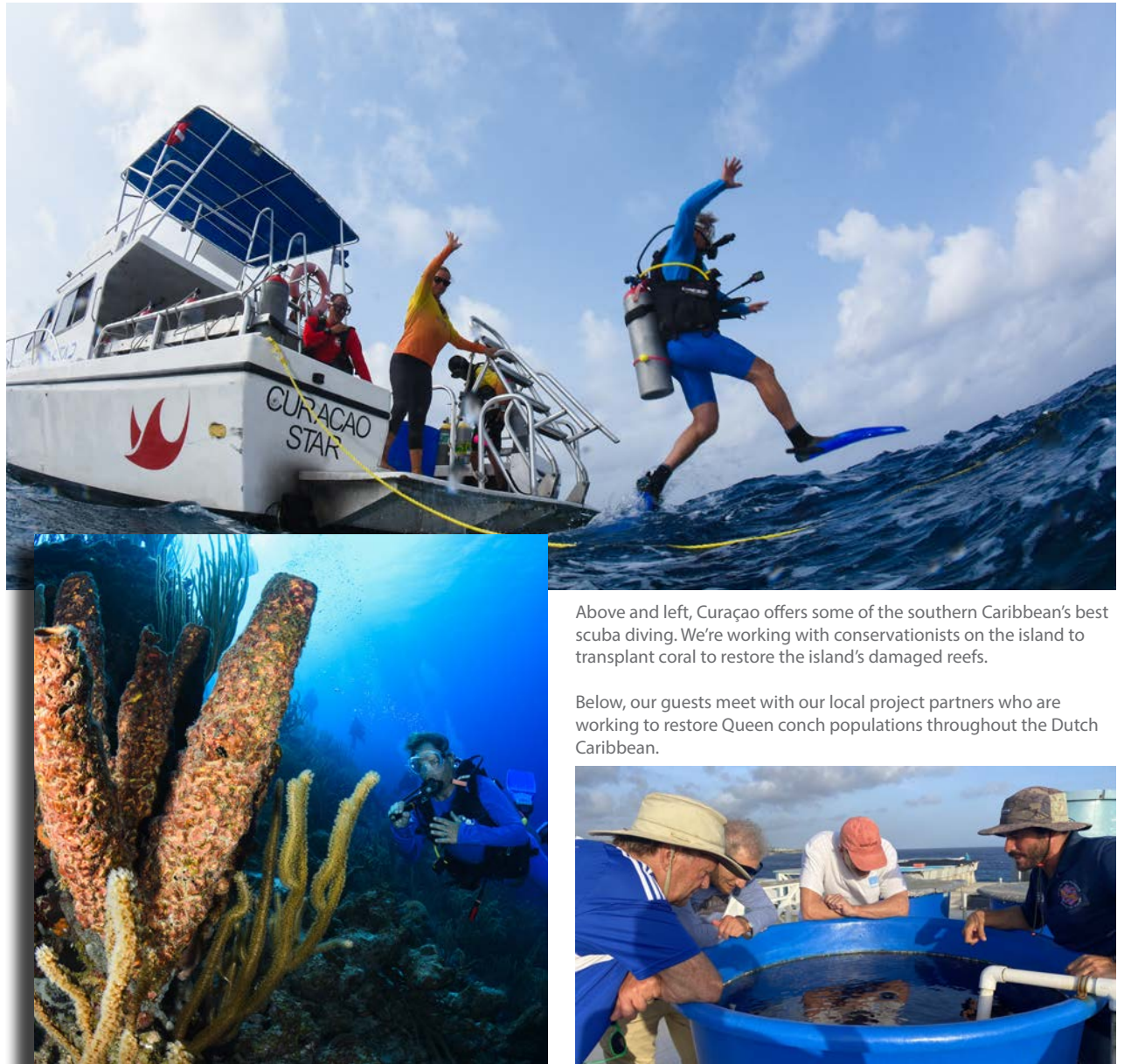
# Travel and events

Seacology's travel program gives our supporters the unique opportunity to see our work up-close, while exploring some of the world's most beautiful and fascinating islands. In 2024 we hosted two international expeditions in the Caribbean and Southeast Asia.

Closer to home, we also began to offer outings for our local supporters in Northern California.

## Curaçao

Our first expedition of the year brought our guests to the Dutch Caribbean territory of Curaçao, where Seacology launched three projects in 2024. Considered one of the region's best dive destinations, our group of divers jumped into the warm, clear ocean to see up close how local conservationists are working to restore damaged coral reefs and depleted fisheries.



Above and left, Curaçao offers some of the southern Caribbean's best scuba diving. We're working with conservationists on the island to transplant coral to restore the island's damaged reefs.

Below, our guests meet with our local project partners who are working to restore Queen conch populations throughout the Dutch Caribbean.



# The Philippines

In December, Seacology co-hosted our third expedition in partnership with the California Academy of Sciences, returning to the Philippines.

Over an exciting week we immersed ourselves in the underwater wonderland of the Verde Island Passage, considered by many experts to be the world epicenter of marine biodiversity (it is also the location of several Seacology projects). Joined by two renowned scientists from the Academy and our local field representative, we learned about the fascinating and fragile ecosystems surrounding us and the local and international efforts to protect them.

Our guests toured our project site in Tingloy Municipality, where beginning in 2019 Seacology helped the local community protect a popular beach. We also met with potential new project partners, explored winding trails through dense rainforest, helped pick up trash from a local beach, and much more.



Above, our guests visit Masasa Beach in Tingloy, a popular tourist destination that a Seacology project is helping protect.



Left, guests arrive for a day of hiking and sightseeing on Medio Island.

The expedition offered divers and snorkelers abundant opportunities to explore the coral reefs of the Verde Island Passage, home to a mind-boggling variety of nudibranchs and other life.





## Local kayaking

In 2024 we began to offer more opportunities for our supporters in Northern California (where Seacology is based) to enjoy nature with us.

Partnering with local ecotourism company Sea Trek, we organized two fun day trips to explore the Bay, in Sausalito and Alameda. Led by knowledgeable guides, our guests learned about local ecosystems and wildlife, and the history of our own coastal communities and the Indigenous peoples who called the area home.

Sign up at [seacology.org/subscribe](https://seacology.org/subscribe) for announcements about upcoming outings, near and far.



Above, our group in front of the San Francisco skyline.



Left, our kayakers get ready to hit the water in Sausalito.



Below, both outings featured encounters with local marine mammals.







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