



The Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL) | 2008 Annual Report

**Building Healthy**  
**CORAL REEF**  
**Communities**



**“SCIENCE HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT REEF  
COMMUNITIES CAN RECOVER WHEN THEY ARE  
PROTECTED AND STRESSORS ARE REMOVED.”**

– U.S. Coral Reef Task Force

# From the Executive Director

Last week I overheard a group of children in a playground arguing about a game. When they couldn't reach an immediate resolution, a few kids cried, "Do over!" and the game continued. Looking back at the events of the last year, I wondered how many of us were wishing we could declare the same thing.

In 2008 we witnessed the collapse of our financial institutions, a dramatic decline in the value of our homes, and the loss of 2.6 million jobs—the most since World War II ended in 1945. These very serious issues sometimes make it difficult to worry about the environmental degradation that's happening in our oceans. Yet we know that coral reefs remain critically endangered—rising ocean temperatures, increasing acidity, growing instances of disease, and collapsing fisheries are all putting tremendous pressure on reef health worldwide.

In the wake of a difficult year, how can I be optimistic about the future? Because science has confirmed what CORAL's programs have illustrated: when well managed marine protected areas are supported by active local communities and defended against local threats, they not only recover, but also become resistant to large-scale stressors like climate change.

With so many Americans focused on the economy, there is a very real chance that conservation concerns could be set aside until our collective fiscal unease subsides. The timing couldn't be worse for coral reefs. While society has begun to understand the importance of reefs—evidenced by the designation of four massive marine national monuments in U.S. Pacific waters in the last two years—we can't afford to wait.

CORAL is a small organization tackling a global problem. Yet because we focus on what we know, we get big results with relatively modest resources. As you read our 2008 annual report, you'll see that CORAL protects reefs in lasting ways, and this is what really gives me hope. By strategically selecting the reef areas we protect and by directly engaging local community members in conservation, CORAL achieves long-term, sustainable results.

We have to make bold changes today, and CORAL is up for the task. Looking ahead to 2009—CORAL's 15th anniversary—we are leveraging our reputation for being flexible, efficient, and resourceful to wring as much conservation success as we can from each donated dollar. In addition, we remain committed to expanding our reach globally to spread the success of our programs in Mesoamerica, Fiji, Hawaii, and the Coral Triangle throughout the world's coral reef nations.

There are no do-overs when it comes to our planet's coral reefs. Economies rise and fall, but the damage we've already caused to coral reefs means they won't survive without our help. The time to act is now. Thank you so much for being part of the solution.



Brian Huse  
Executive Director



# Why Save Coral Reefs?

Josaia “Joe” Ramanatobue lives in the fishing village of Navatu in Fiji’s remote Kubulau District. Made up of eleven villages, Kubulau is a verdant region where lush hills give way to abundant mangroves and spectacular coral reefs. In the 1980s and 90s, this fertile region attracted an increase in commercial fishing, posing a serious threat to the reefs. The chiefs of Kubulau responded in 1997 by placing a total ban on fishing through the creation of the Namena Marine Reserve and other no-take zones established as Locally Managed Marine Areas within their *qoliqoli* (traditional fishing grounds).

When Joe’s forefathers fished these same waters, the fish were plentiful. “In those days, my ancestors only caught as much as they could eat,” says Joe. That delicate balance was upset when foreign companies began fishing the area in earnest. Joe was among those who made the connection between commercial fishing and reduced fish catch for the locals.

An early proponent of the marine reserve, Joe admits that at first it was difficult to convince the people of his community—who have been fishing these waters for generations—that a targeted fishing ban would help rather than hurt their livelihoods. “In the beginning it was very difficult; people didn’t understand what we were trying to do. But now they are getting the picture. By protecting our reefs, we keep our reefs, and the money comes in. Today the reef is our main source of

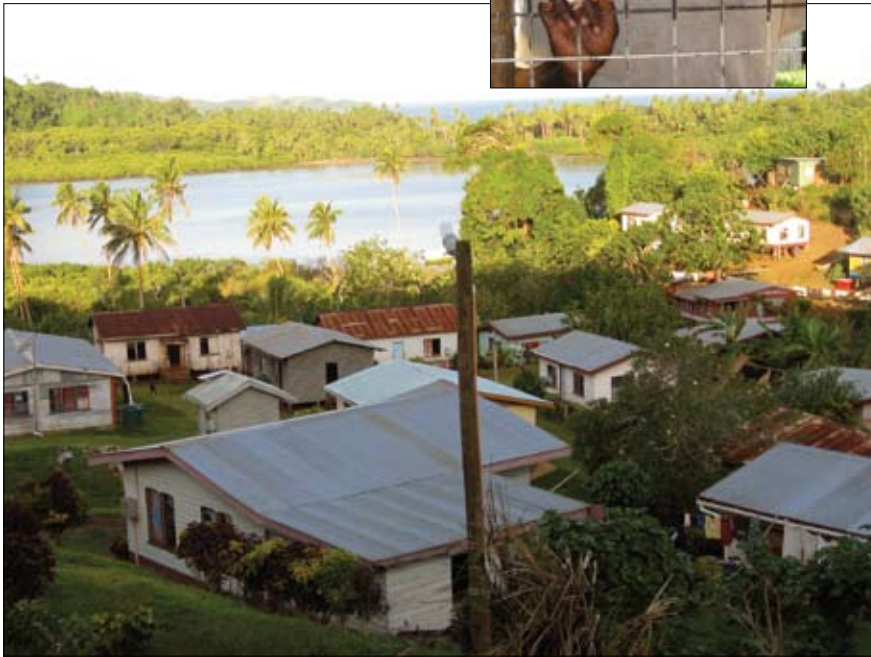
income. We fish for our own meals, but we also sell our catch at market. We use the reef every day to make a living.” Not only do coral reefs feed and provide livelihoods to millions of people around the world, but they also create homes for millions of fish and other marine species—many of which we have yet to discover. Like rain forests, coral reefs are invaluable resources for scientific research, with the potential to provide raw materials for lifesaving medical treatments.



Reefs and their associated mangrove and sea grass ecosystems buffer coastlines from the destruction of devastating storms, and they provide rich economic opportunities through tourism and fishing. In traditional communities like Joe’s home village of Navatu, which is located in one of the least developed regions of Fiji, these economic opportunities provide the means for daily meals, school fees for children, and household repairs, as well as give traditional resource owners the power to effectively manage and protect their reefs for future generations.

The financial value of coral reefs has been estimated at more than \$400 billion per year, but the true cost of losing coral reefs is incalculable. They are the dynamic life-support systems of the most concentrated biodiversity on our

planet. Although coral reefs cover less than 1 percent of the world’s oceans, their destruction would mean the loss of one of nature’s most precious gifts.



**“Today the reef is our main source of income. We fish for our own meals, but we also sell our catch at market. We use the reef every day to make a living.”**



# How CORAL Builds Healthy Coral Reef Communities

At the 11th International Coral Reef Symposium (ICRS) held this past July in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the leaders of the worldwide scientific and conservation communities gathered to discuss the future of our planet’s coral reefs and related ecosystems. Although reports of coral reef conditions worldwide were generally not encouraging, attendees and participants still exhibited strong signs of hope.

In a published overview of outcomes from the meeting, ICRS president, Richard Aronson, and his committee chairs proclaimed that “reef ecosystems respond vigorously to protective measures and alleviation of stress. We can and must buy time for coral reefs through increased protection....We need effective management rooted in solid interdisciplinary science and coupled with stakeholder buy-in, working at local, regional, and international scales alongside global efforts to give reefs a chance. The time to act is now.”

Simply put, CORAL’s goal as an organization is to help make marine protected areas more effective so that both coral reefs and the communities that depend on them benefit. We do this by bringing together local community members, resource managers, tourism businesses, divers, and other stakeholders to work toward shared conservation goals that, as Aronson noted, “give reefs a chance.”

Our framework for creating healthy coral reef communities—the Coral Reef Sustainable Destination (CRSD) approach—is a holistic model that strengthens a community’s ability to manage and protect its own coral reef resources. In each of the nine project sites in which we work, we focus on six areas—1) sustainable business practices, 2) conservation partnerships, 3) financing opportunities, 4) local threat reduction, 5) effective management, and 6) community benefits—to create benefits for reefs and the people who depend on them.

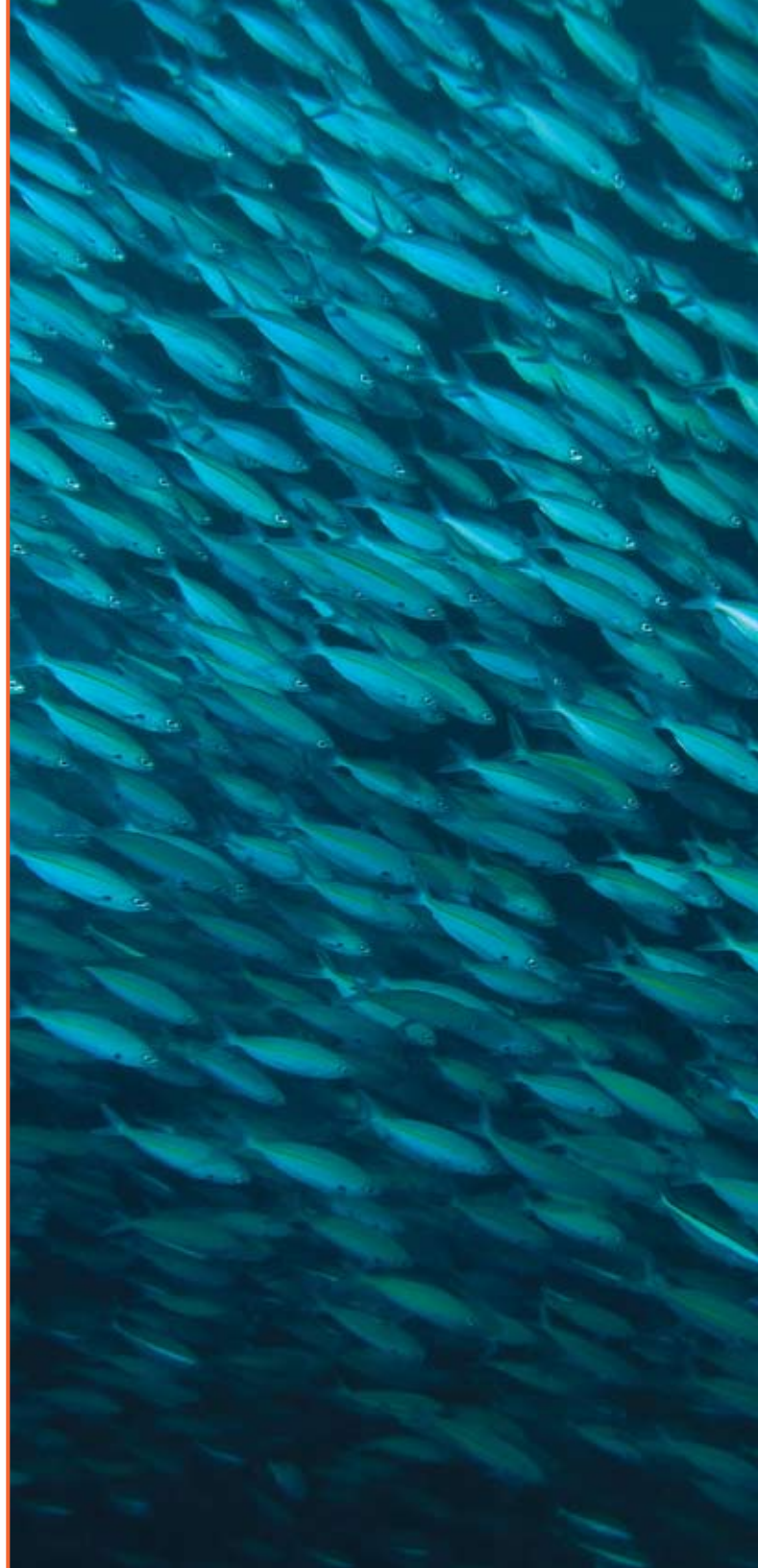
## CORAL REEF SUSTAINABLE DESTINATION (CRSD)

| SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS             | CAPACITY LEVELS  |   |   |   |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|---|--|
|                                       | 1  | 2   | 3                                       | 4   | 5  |
| <b>SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES</b> | Tourism businesses <b>provide basic awareness</b> to clients     | Tourism businesses <b>trained</b>                 | <b>50%</b> Adoption                     | <b>80%</b> Adoption   | <b>Full participation and self-regulation</b>          |
| <b>CONSERVATION ALLIANCES</b>         | <b>Initial contact</b> and interest cultivated                   | <b>Community buy-in</b> , collaborative projects  | Collaborative <b>projects initiated</b> | Collaboration <b>increased 50%</b>                            | Collaboration <b>sustained 5 years</b>                 |
| <b>SUSTAINABLE FINANCING</b>          | Financial <b>needs assessed</b> , funding sources <b>defined</b> | Stakeholder <b>process initiated</b>              | <b>Adoption</b> of new finance systems  | <b>Additional funding</b> sources defined and adopted         | Diversified funding in place, <b>sustained 5 years</b> |
| <b>THREAT-REDUCTION</b>               | <b>Threats defined</b> and ranked                                | Threat-reduction <b>plan endorsed</b>             | <b>Projects implemented</b>             | <b>Monitor and evaluate</b> projects                          | <b>Reassess</b> , redefine if necessary                |
| <b>EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT</b>           | Management <b>needs and assessment</b> surveys                   | Stakeholder process, <b>draft management plan</b> | Management <b>plan adopted</b>          | <b>Monitor, evaluate, and implement</b> management tools      | Management <b>plan updated</b> , revised               |
| <b>BENEFIT-SHARING</b>                | <b>Awareness-building</b>  | Tourism sector <b>hiring locals</b>               | Alternative- <b>livelihood training</b> | <b>Micro-enterprises</b> initiated, support by tourism sector | <b>Tangible benefits</b> realized for the community    |

Because each project site in which we work has its own set of challenges—local, cultural, geographic, or otherwise—our conservation approach has been designed for flexibility and maximum impact within a variety of situations. For example:

- Through our CORAL Reef Leadership Network training program in Cozumel, Mexico, we trained local marine recreation providers in environmental best practices and teaching skills. These leaders are now training other local tour guides in responsible marine recreation, ensuring that **sustainable business practices** get disseminated throughout the region.
- In Papua New Guinea we brought together more than 250 community members in a new **conservation alliance** called the Madang Lagoon Association (MLA). Providing representation and decision-making for the community at large, the MLA ensures that all stakeholders have a voice.
- With CORAL's installation of three near-shore mooring buoys in the Kubulau District of Fiji, local residents can create conservation-driven **sustainable financing** opportunities. By hosting traditional village visits and providing tours and refreshments for land-based and live-aboard dive operators who visit the region, local communities are leveraging marine tourism to generate ongoing economic benefits.
- In Belize the CORAL-funded Placencia Mooring Masters are **reducing local threats** through a comprehensive mooring-buoy installation and maintenance program that effectively ends recreational anchor damage to Belize's reefs.
- CORAL is building **effective management** of the Roatán Marine Park in Honduras by bringing together a diverse group of stakeholders and facilitating management-planning for the Roatán Marine Park Association (RMPA). According to RMPA executive director James Foley, a recent CORAL-directed meeting was "one of the most successful moves toward true collaboration ever seen on this island."
- The Raja Ampat user fee system, which CORAL helped launch in 2007, brings direct **benefits to the local community** by providing traditional resource owners with the means to fund much-needed community projects and ongoing reef protection. The user fee generated more than \$100,000 in its first year and is expected to nearly double that amount in FY 2009.

When CORAL starts working in a new project site, we first evaluate the community's existing activities using the six indicators described above. We then work with community members over time to build increased capacity and opportunity in each area. At the end of the process, we measure our success by each community's ability to effectively manage its own resources, protect coral reefs, and support a healthy local economy at the same time.





## 2008 Accomplishments

- Sales of dive tags generated \$12,500 toward scholarships for twenty-five Kubulau students.
- CORAL's mooring-buoy project established a completely anchor-free zone within the Namena Marine Reserve.
- CORAL and the KMRC completed the world's first business plan written specifically for a marine protected area.



**M**ade up of 330 islands and many tiny islets between Hawaii and New Zealand in the South Pacific Ocean, the Republic of the Fiji Islands ended almost a century of British rule in 1970. More than 10 percent of the country's inhabitants live a mostly subsistence lifestyle on tribally owned native land, which makes up almost 90 percent of all land in Fiji.

CORAL's work in Fiji began in 2001, when the organization funded an educational trip to the Bonaire Marine Park for future CORAL field representative Sirilo "Didi"

Dulunaqio. By 2003 CORAL was scoping work around the country and had set its sights on a spectacular coral reef surrounding a little island off the south coast of Vanua Levu. Although the Namena Marine Reserve had been established in 1997, there was little to no oversight for the protected area. A rudimentary user fee system had been established. However, the yearly fee was only \$2 Fijian dollars (around U.S. \$1) and the resource owners—residents of Kubulau—were in disagreement about how the funds were collected, reported, and spent. Poaching was occurring both within and directly outside of the reserve, the region's tourism was unmanaged, negative impacts to the reef were on the rise, and there was little involvement in the reserve's management by the local dive operators and resorts.

Applying the principles of our CRSD model (see pages 4–5) in Fiji, CORAL first created a strong foundation for conservation by building alliances between the resource owners and other stakeholders. We facilitated the creation of the Kubulau Management Resource Committee (KMRC), comprising representatives from all eleven villages in the Kubulau District, to manage the Namena Marine Reserve and encourage cooperative discussion among the villagers. With CORAL's assistance, the KMRC began holding regular stakeholder meetings to engage representatives from local hotels, resorts, dive operators, and live-aboards in the business of the reserve.

Based on surveys and research conducted by CORAL and after discussion and agreement among all stakeholders, the KMRC decided to increase its user fee to FJ\$25 per year. CORAL has worked with the KMRC to establish a successful and transparent user fee system that brings benefits to the community on a daily basis. In addition to building covered bus stops to shelter local children on their way to school, roughly half of all funds generated from the marine park provides scholarships for Kubulau students (see sidebar). The other half funds continued protection of the reserve, fuel for patrol boats monitoring illegal fishing and poaching, community improvement projects, and KMRC operations.

CORAL microgrants funded a mooring-buoy program that has established the Namena Marine Reserve as a completely anchor-free zone. And the installation of near-shore buoys will allow land-based and live-aboard dive operators to visit Kubulau communities, which creates the potential for tourism-based micro-enterprises such as village visits, lake tours, and refreshment sales as a means of increasing long-term economic benefits.

Today CORAL is continuing its work with the KMRC to implement a formal business plan for the marine protected area. CORAL's work in Fiji has created strong community support for conservation as residents see the real benefits of protecting their fragile resources for generations to come.



## Emosi Malo Were

Awarded a partial scholarship from funds earned through the Namena Marine Reserve user fee system, Emosi Malo Were, 21, is the first Kubulau scholarship student to graduate from college. Born in the village of Waisa, Emosi graduated from Corpus Christi Teacher's College in Suva at the end of November. "I can't express how thankful I am for the scholarship funds," says Emosi. "My family was struggling financially.... It was a rough road. The scholarship was very supportive, and I am very thankful." Emosi has returned to Savusavu and Waisa to await word from Fiji's Minister of Education about his future teaching placement, which could take him to any one of Fiji's 300-plus islands. Regardless of where he is posted, as the eldest son and the first college graduate, Emosi will send a good portion of his teacher's salary back home to support his extended family.

# Papua New Guinea



## 2008 Accomplishments

- With CORAL's help, the Madang Lagoon Association became an official community organization with bylaws, elected officers, paid memberships, a logo, and a new Web site.
- The Madang Lagoon Association and CORAL drafted a community-based management plan, and it is being circulated to the villages for feedback.
- CORAL hired Madang-based Jennifer Baing as its first full-time field representative in PNG.



Slightly larger in area than California, Papua New Guinea (PNG) is a collection of islands east of Indonesia that includes the eastern half of the island of New Guinea between the Coral Sea and the South Pacific Ocean. Although Melanesian Pidgin is PNG's official language, 820 indigenous languages are spoken, in addition to English.

CORAL's work in PNG began with an exploratory trip in 2005. At the request of our partner organization Conservation International, CORAL was contracted to salvage efforts to create a user fee system in Milne Bay. Because a strong and cooperative foundation had not been laid, the project collapsed a few months later. Undeterred, CORAL used the connections it had established in PNG for a second exploratory trip, after which it was decided that Madang Lagoon was a good fit for CORAL's CRSD approach to conservation (see pages 4-5).

When CORAL first started working in Madang in 2007, the resource owners comprised a loose collection of clans and villages with minimal cohesion. There were some existing non-governmental organizations in the area, but people weren't working well together. With large-scale threats like coastal development, agriculture, deforestation, mining, sewage, overfishing, destructive fishing, and sedimentation joining local threats from tourism and lack of conservation knowledge, overall threats to Madang's reefs had been increasing.

Like its early work in Fiji, CORAL's CRSD approach in PNG has focused on building a strong foundation among resource owners and stakeholders to facilitate open communication. By funding the transportation of people up and down the lagoon region, CORAL made it possible to hold regular stakeholder meetings for the first time. From these meetings grew the concept of the Madang Lagoon Association (MLA; see sidebar), a collaboration of more than 250 community members who are now working for coral reef protection across the Madang Lagoon. With CORAL's help, the MLA became registered as an official community association, created bylaws, elected officers, set up a bank account, and established a yearly membership system. In addition to designing an organizational logo and letterhead and launching a Web site ([www.madanglagoon.org](http://www.madanglagoon.org)), CORAL and the MLA have recently drafted a community-based management plan for the association.

CORAL's future work in PNG will build on the foundation it has established with residents of the Madang Lagoon Conservation Corridor, an area that runs from the northernmost corners of the lagoon to the town of Madang. True to its CRSD approach, CORAL will work to reduce local threats by installing mooring buoys, reducing plastic-bag waste, educating residents about sustainable marine recreation practices, and supporting other conservation projects identified by the local communities.

Having established a partnership with the Bismarck Ramu Group, a Madang-based community conservation organization, CORAL will bring increased attention to large-scale threats such as mining and unchecked coastal development. CORAL's work in the next year will focus on establishing a user fee system and creating tourism-based micro-enterprises to bring financial sustainability to the region. CORAL, the MLA, and our partners will also begin to lay the groundwork for the unprecedented goal of establishing protection status for the entire lagoon.



## Madang Lagoon Association

Because of the unique ecological and cultural attributes of the Madang Lagoon, the government of PNG has identified the province for tourism development as part of its "Model Province Five-Year Tourism Plan." Tourism activities targeted for development in Madang include diving, cultural and nature-based tours, cruising, and sport fishing. Representing the collective voice of more than 250 resource owners, community members, and conservation organizations working in the region, the newly formed and recognized Madang Lagoon Association (MLA) is now well positioned to communicate the concerns and interests of the local residents on matters affecting the health of its coral reefs and related ecosystems. According to Lesley Schoon, an MLA member and owner of Adventure Dive PNG, "With the ever-increasing threats facing Madang Lagoon, it is important to have a strong united association to represent the area. The Madang Lagoon is composed of many communities that traditionally have not seen the benefit of working together. CORAL's staff is to be commended for the hours they spent visiting each and every community and explaining the benefits of the association. The large membership numbers are a testament to CORAL's work."

# Raja Ampat

Indonesia



## 2008 Accomplishments

- Leveraging its good standing with local stakeholders, CORAL established Misool, Raja Ampat, as a full-scale CRSD project site.
- The user fee system established by CORAL earned more than \$100,000 in its first year of existence and is expected to nearly double that in FY 2009.
- CORAL hired Naneng Setiasih of Reef Check Indonesia as a part-time field representative to assist with our work in Misool and to bring CORAL's CRSD approach to North Bali.



Formerly called the Dutch East Indies, the Republic of Indonesia is located in southeastern Asia between the Indian and Pacific Oceans and is the world's largest archipelagic state, with more than 17,500 islands (6,000 of which are inhabited). Located off the northwestern tip of Indonesia's West Papua province, Raja Ampat (which translates as "four kings") is in the Coral Triangle, the center of the world's coral biodiversity.

CORAL's work in Raja Ampat began in 2006, when Conservation International awarded us a grant

to provide tourism-based conservation programs to the region: trainings in sustainable marine recreation, scoping micro-enterprise potential, and facilitating communication among the dozen or so live-aboard and land-based dive operators. Based on the cooperative environment facilitated by CORAL and its conservation partners, the Indonesian government announced in the midst of CORAL's tourism work that it would be fast-tracking the establishment of ten marine protected areas (MPAs).

Learning of the government's plans to establish the MPAs one year earlier than expected, CORAL refocused and ramped up its efforts to have a user fee system in place when the MPAs became official. Launched in August of 2007, the user fee program earned more than \$100,000 in its first year of operation and is expected to raise nearly double that in FY 2009. With grant money from Conservation International running out, CORAL turned to its membership with an appeal for funds to continue its work in Raja Ampat.

A successful fundraising campaign provided CORAL with enough capital to finish its work with the user fee system and maintain relationships with local stakeholders and conservation partners while we strategized our work going forward. Today CORAL has established a full-fledged CRSD (see pages 4–5) project site in Misool, one of the four largest islands in Raja Ampat, focusing on one of the ten MPAs in the region: the Southeast Misool Marine Protected Area.

CORAL is bringing the full weight of its comprehensive CRSD approach to Misool. Due to the high levels of biodiversity in the area, Raja Ampat's waters have become a popular focus of worldwide conservation efforts. We recently hired Naneng Setiasih, the chairwoman of our partner organization Reef Check Indonesia, as a part-time field representative to assist with our work. CORAL's partnership with Reef Check Indonesia will allow us to seamlessly integrate Reef Check practices into our work on the ground, as well as expand CORAL's CRSD approach to Reef Check sites in North Bali.

We will continue to leverage our alliance-building expertise by engaging partner organizations like The Nature Conservancy to further our common conservation efforts. CORAL is already working with the Misool Eco Resort (see sidebar), our primary marine recreation partner, to support local enforcement of its protected no-take zones. In the future, we will support capacity-building for effective management of the marine protected areas, provide sustainable marine recreation training, and research alternative livelihoods and tourism-based micro-enterprises to reduce local threats, create financial sustainability, and increase community benefits.



## Misool Eco Resort

Located on the private island of Batbitim in the remote southern part of Raja Ampat, Misool Eco Resort (MER) is 150 miles from the nearest resort and half a day's journey from the nearest village. The resort is deeply committed to a policy of environmental and social responsibility. In agreement with the local resource owners, MER has leased nearly 80 square miles of sea surrounding Batbitim to create a no-take zone. Within this area, all fishing, shark finning, and harvesting of turtle eggs and shellfish are strictly prohibited, and all boats must practice reef-safe anchoring. With CORAL's assistance, MER will begin the first official patrols to enforce no-take regulations within the Southeast Misool MPA. "CORAL has a direct, honest, and manageable approach," says MER managing director Andrew Miners. "To achieve real long-term goals, we have to have a clearly defined program that is committed to one specific group of communities until the goals are actualized. I really appreciate that CORAL realizes this. Here at MER we have the same approach. We cannot protect the whole of Raja Ampat, but like CORAL, we have a complimentary, dedicated, and focused approach to the communities and resource area that we are protecting."

# Mexico



## 2008 Accomplishments

- CORAL Reef Leaders trained more than 250 boat captains and tour operators, educating resource users and significantly improving the marine park's image in the community.
- Ten marine recreation operators received critical assessments and performance recommendations through the Environmental Walk-Through program.
- By unanimous vote, CORAL was invited to join the Cozumel Reefs National Park advisory committee to facilitate community involvement in park decision-making and management.



**M**exico, our closest neighbor to the south, is surrounded by glorious water on three sides. Bordering the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean Sea, Mexico's picturesque sandy beaches, warm climate, and close proximity to the United States make it a desirable tourist destination for northern snowbirds seeking sunshine.

CORAL's work in Mexico began in 2004, with the three-year International Coral Reef Action Network Mesoamerican Reef Alliance (ICRAN MAR) project, which was developed to create sustainable marine recreation standards for the four countries bordering the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef: Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras. CORAL took the lead on the project,

and its pioneering, coalition-building efforts resulted in the first voluntary standards for a multi-country region, published in 2007.

In the course of its tourism-based standards work, CORAL began training marine recreation operators in the town of Playa del Carmen. However, in the wake of Hurricane Wilma, which slammed into the Yucatan peninsula in 2005, many of CORAL's key partners closed up shop, and the initial conservation momentum was lost. Undaunted, CORAL looked across the Caribbean Sea to the island of Cozumel, located just east of Playa del Carmen, for its next CRSD (see pages 4–5) project site.

Cozumel was already a popular tourist destination when CORAL and its partners in the Mesoamerican Reef Tourism Initiative (MARTI)—Conservation International and the Mexico-based Amigos de Sian Kaan—began working there in 2006. Although the Cozumel Reefs National Park (see sidebar) had been in existence since 1996, there was widespread distrust of the marine park by tour operators and the general public. Cozumel's very popular reefs were beginning to degrade due to unchecked coastal development, pollution, and growing impacts from a booming cruise industry (the island hosts up to fourteen cruise ships per day during the high season).

By involving local tour operators, marine park managers, and other non-governmental organizations in the standards development process, CORAL earned the trust and respect of the Cozumel community. As a result, we have been able to successfully implement the standards in a variety of ways. CORAL and its MARTI partners launched the Environmental Walk-Through program to provide tour operators with critical assessments and performance recommendations based on the standards. During the first round of assessments—which included nearly every major cruise contracting company—operators expressed a desire for more training. In response, we launched the CORAL Reef Leadership Network, a training program that is jointly managed by marine park staff and marine recreation operators.

In 2008 the manager of the Cozumel Reefs National Park made the CORAL Reef Leadership Network the official training program for the 1,200 tour guides operating in the marine park. In addition, CORAL was invited by unanimous vote to become a member of the marine park's new advisory committee to increase community involvement in decision-making and management of the park.

Going forward, CORAL and its MARTI partners will lead the collaborative effort to incorporate the voluntary marine recreation standards into the official management plan for the marine park.



## Ricardo Gomez Lozano

As the new director of the Cozumel Reefs National Park, Ricardo Gomez Lozano has inherited a difficult job. Due to long-standing grievances among tour operators, marine park staff, and community members, Lozano is facing substantial resistance from the people with whom he needs to work. “No one wants to believe in the park, so this is the best time for us to change,” says Lozano. “We need the corals for tourism and to produce our beautiful white sand beaches. They are dying, and if we don't do anything, we'll lose them forever.” Lozano embraced CORAL's presence in Cozumel by making the CORAL Reef Leadership Network training program a required course for all tour operators working in the marine park. He also invited CORAL to be a member of the marine park's new advisory committee, which is designed to improve the park's relationship with the community. Lozano is optimistic about CORAL's work and about the future of the marine park. He says, “This is the best moment for the marine park to give something back to the community.”

# Belize



## 2008 Accomplishments

- CORAL drafted an agreement with the Belize Tourism Board and the University of Belize to make its SMR workshop an official component of the Belize National Tour Guide Training Program.
- Forty of nearly seventy planned mooring buoys were installed throughout Belize, which will remove more than 25,000 anchors from Belize's reefs every year.
- Nearly 100 percent of Belize's cruise ship contractors completed CORAL's Environmental Walk-Through program.



**B**elize was the site of several ancient Mayan city-states until the decline of that civilization in the first millennium A.D. A hotly disputed region since the seventeenth century, this former British colony earned its independence from the U.K. in 1981. Bordering Mexico and Guatemala to the west and the Caribbean Sea to the east, Belize is the only country in Central America that doesn't adjoin the Pacific Ocean.

CORAL's work in Belize began in 2004—as it did in Mexico and Honduras—with the ICRAN MAR standards project (see page 13). As we began the standards development process, CORAL identified Placencia in southern Belize and San Pedro on the island of Ambergris Caye as new CRSD project sites (see pages 4–5).

Among the requirements for a potential project site is the existence of a marine protected area. Belize was lucky to have not one, but a series of well established marine parks, including Hol Chan Marine Reserve and Bacalar Chico National Park and Marine Reserve on Ambergris Caye, and Gladden Spit and Silk Cayes Marine Reserve and Laughing Bird Caye National Park near Placencia, among others. Despite the existence of the protected areas when CORAL first visited Belize, marine tour operators lacked training in sustainable recreation practices, local communities had very little involvement in conservation programs, and tourism—the mainstay of the Belizean economy—was causing damage to this popular destination's reefs.

In advance of publishing the voluntary marine recreation standards in 2007, CORAL began holding Sustainable Marine Recreation and Conservation in Action workshops in Placencia and San Pedro. With CORAL's assistance, local community members identified pressing conservation needs and applied for microgrant funding to launch a number of new initiatives. This year the Kids in Action program—a teaching collaboration between CORAL field staff and marine park managers—taught nearly 200 schoolchildren about coral reef, mangrove, and sea grass ecology through classroom instruction and eco-field trips. Along with its partners in the Mesoamerican Reef Tourism Initiative (MARTI; see page 13), CORAL funded three mooring-buoy projects (designed to stop recreational anchor damage to local reefs), which have become very active, community-led programs: the Placencia Mooring Masters (see sidebar), the Ambergris Mooring Masters, and the Belize City Mooring Wrasses.

The CORAL Reef Leadership Network training program launched in Belize this past fall. In addition, CORAL has drafted an official memorandum of understanding with the Belize Tourism Board and the University of Belize to make CORAL's Sustainable Marine Recreation workshop an official component of the Belize National Tour Guide Training Program. Official signing of the agreement is expected in early 2009.

CORAL and its MARTI partners will continue monitoring the health of Belize's reefs in partnership with the Healthy Reefs for Healthy People Initiative as a means of measuring the effects of implementing the voluntary marine recreation standards. And at the request of the Belize Ministry of Tourism, CORAL will persist in its efforts to turn the voluntary marine recreation standards into national law.



## Placencia Mooring Masters

Originally funded by a CORAL microgrant as the result of a Conservation in Action workshop, the Placencia Mooring Masters (PMM) are a prime example of community-led conservation. By engaging in a major outreach campaign, the PMM raised in-kind donations—including boats, fuel, volunteer coordinators and crew, food, advertising, and press—worth thousands of dollars to install and maintain thirty mooring buoys in southern Belize. The group held community fundraisers, developed a brochure to describe its work, and launched a wristband program to create a sustainable revenue stream for the organization. According to PMM coordinator, Marion Carr, “The PMM has brought greater awareness to the community about the relationship between anchors and the decline of the reef. Already, in such a short period of time, the mooring-buoy project is helping to protect the reef. This project would never have become a reality without that first CORAL microgrant.”

# Honduras

A sunset over the ocean with a boat in the foreground and palm fronds hanging from the top. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water. The boat is a small motorboat with a metal frame and a canopy, positioned in the lower right. The palm fronds are dark silhouettes hanging from the top edge of the frame.

## 2008 Accomplishments

- CORAL expanded its work to mainland marine recreation providers who operate within the Cayos Cochinos Marine Reserve.
- CORAL launched the Environmental Walk-Through program to provide critical environmental assessments and performance recommendations to marine recreation providers.
- CORAL microgrants were matched by the Roatán Marine Park Association for park infrastructure improvements (moorings, channel markers) and patrols (poaching control, tourist education).



Located in Central America between Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua, Honduras is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere. It was once part of Spain's vast New World empire but became an independent nation in 1821. The islands of Roatán and Cayos Cochinos are part of the *Islas de la Bahía* (or "Bay Islands"), which were ceded to Honduras by the United Kingdom in 1860.

CORAL's work in Honduras began in 2004 with the ICRAN MAR standards project (see page 13), which targeted the four countries located along the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef—the second largest barrier reef in the world.

In 2005 a group of concerned dive and business operators on Roatán came together to protect their local coral reefs by establishing the Sandy Bay-West End Marine Park. When CORAL first started working on the island, the marine park had been declared by the government but was lacking active management, anchor damage and boat groundings were a growing problem, and the reefs were being poached by locals of lobster, conch, and other marine species.

Despite being a newly formed marine park with limited results to report, park association members exhibited the passion and dedication of a veteran organization. As a result, CORAL awarded the first of four microgrants to the marine park in 2005. The first two microgrants—the second of which was matched by the marine park—paid for equipment to control poaching, mooring and fishing buoys to reduce anchor damage, and channel markers to safely navigate boat traffic and minimize propeller damage. With this preliminary park infrastructure in place, relationships between dive operators and fishermen improved, and marine operators were able to begin immediate implementation of the voluntary marine recreation standards, which CORAL published in 2007.

In 2008 CORAL awarded phase two of its microgrant funding to what is now called the Roatán Marine Park (see sidebar) for additional mooring and fishing buoys, channel markers, and poaching-control equipment. With CORAL's support the marine park applied for and received official non-governmental organization status this year, which will improve the park's ability to secure additional funding. With a newly hired field representative in place, CORAL began teaching Sustainable Marine Recreation and Conservation in Action workshops and launched the Environmental Walk-Through (EWT) program for Roatán's numerous marine recreation providers.

Thanks to additional funding from the United Nations Environment Programme at the end of 2008, CORAL has expanded its work in Honduras to include the islands of Cayos Cochinos, which are also located within the Bay Islands. Looking ahead to 2009, CORAL's field staff will carry on with implementation of the standards by training marine tour operators in sustainable marine recreation, engaging local residents and cruise contractors in community-led conservation projects, and providing performance recommendations to local businesses through the EWT program. In addition, at the request of marine park managers, CORAL will continue to advance the mission of the Roatán Marine Park by facilitating the creation of a new long-term strategic plan for the park.



## Roatán Marine Park Association (RMPA)

Declared in 2005 and recently awarded official NGO status, the RMPA began as a coalition of dive and other business operators concerned with the health of their local coral reef resources. Recently, the marine park's activities have expanded to include educational programs for local schools, tourist education programs, and waste management/recycling projects, as well as park infrastructure improvements and poaching control (via funding from CORAL microgrants). This fall, CORAL attended the RMPA board meeting and hosted a forum to facilitate communication between the association and members of the Roatán community. According to James Foley, executive director of the park, "The CORAL Forum was truly a monumental event for the RMPA and the community of Roatán. CORAL helped an extremely diverse group of stakeholders move toward true collaboration. The benefits in terms of our relationship with the community will have positive effects for a long time to come."

# Hawaii



## 2008 Accomplishments

- Two hundred volunteers comprising the Kona Task Force have come together to draft a series of voluntary standards for marine recreation.
- CORAL was a key participant and funder of Maui's International Year of the Reef campaign to raise awareness about the planet's coral reefs.
- CORAL and its partners installed nearly thirty Respecting Coral Reefs signs on Maui to educate the public about proper reef etiquette.



Once known as the Sandwich Islands, the Hawaiian Islands consist of 137 islands and atolls in the North Pacific Ocean. In 1959 Hawaii became the 50th U.S. state.

CORAL's work in Hawaii began in 2005. Because the state supported an active conservation community when CORAL arrived in the region, we were able to immediately partner with local and international organizations to enhance ongoing conservation efforts. After hosting a series of Sustainable Marine Recreation workshops on the island of Maui, CORAL chose to focus on Maui as its primary CRSD project site (see pages 4–5); work expanded to Kona on the Big Island of Hawaii the following year.

In some of our earliest work on Maui, CORAL was a partner in an Ocean Awareness Training program. Each year nearly 100 people

complete the twice yearly trainings held in Lahaina and Kihei. Our “Take a Bite out of Fish Feeding” campaign, which focuses on the damaging practice of fish-feeding on reefs, continues to raise awareness. Since its launch in 2006, more than thirty businesses throughout the state of Hawaii have become members of CORAL's Fish Friendly Business Alliance. The world's largest online scuba merchant, Leisure Pro, has agreed to stop selling fish food in its stores and on its Web site, and behemoth retailer Wal-Mart has agreed to pull fish food from its shelves in Maui. In the future CORAL will leverage its success to curtail fish-food sales by retail merchants in Hawaii and beyond.

Following the triumph of our standards work in Mesoamerica (see page 13), we began working with community members and marine recreation operators on Maui to develop a set of voluntary standards for the island. This year CORAL launched the standards process in the community of Kona as well, where drafts of four standards—scuba and snorkel, shoreline activities, wildlife interactions, and general boating—are currently in the comments phase.

CORAL launched its “Respecting Coral Reefs” interpretive sign program in 2007 to educate locals and tourists about the benefits of protecting reefs. Thanks to additional support from the Hawaii Tourism Authority, CORAL and its community sponsors (see sidebar) have installed nearly thirty signs across Maui. The program is expanding statewide, with three signs scheduled for installation in Kona and additional orders forthcoming.

In 2008 CORAL co-sponsored a variety of outreach activities as part of the Maui County International Year of the Reef (IYOR) Campaign, a collaborative task force organized by the mayor's office. The CORAL Reef Leadership Network training program launched on Maui last summer, and will expand to Kona in 2009. The newly graduated Reef Leaders will assist CORAL field staff with workshops and surveys to identify community-based conservation initiatives for the future. Toward the end of 2008, CORAL was awarded a grant from the Hawaii Tourism Authority to create and manage an online database that allows residents and visitors to collect and input monitoring data about local reefs.

Looking ahead, CORAL will continue to partner with local organizations to add new layers of messaging about the importance of protecting our coral reefs throughout the state of Hawaii.



## Kihei Community Association

Kihei is situated on the coast of Maui southwest of Haleakala. The Kihei Community Association (KCA), which was created to enhance the social life and welfare of Kihei residents, has become an active partner with CORAL in educating community members and visitors about proper coral reef etiquette. After funding the installation of one “Respecting Coral Reefs” sign, KCA became a champion of the adopt-a-sign program. According to KCA board member Mike Moran, “The Kihei Community Association believes that part of our obligation is to protect the vital natural resources in the South Maui area. Once we became aware of CORAL's sign program, the board of directors unanimously approved a solicitation of funds from supporters to sponsor reef etiquette signs. Thanks to the generous support of our community, we placed our first sign at the beach access to Kamaole Beach Park III, where it will be highly visible and permit observers to talk with ocean safety officers to obtain more information.” To date, the KCA has raised enough money to commission four additional signs.

# Financials

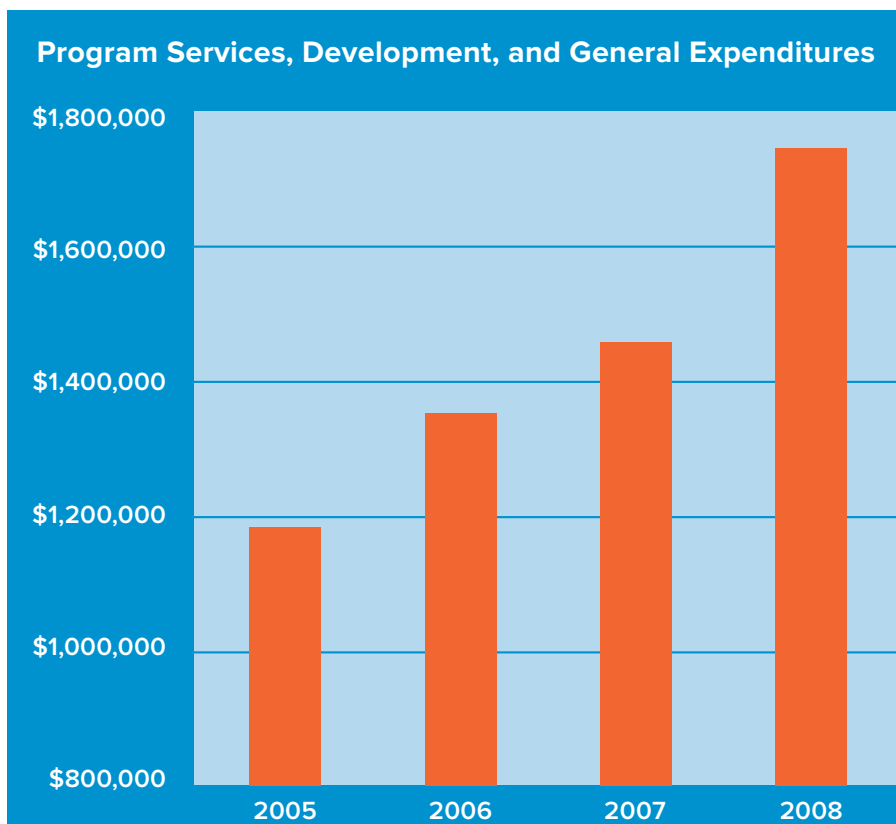
Despite a challenging economic climate, CORAL continued to maintain a strong financial position for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. We recognized more than \$1.6 million in revenue and support, half of which (approximately \$830,000) came from the dedicated commitment of individual donors. Support for our conservation programs from foundations and government grants comprised more than \$600,000.

Generous in-kind services were provided by Robert B. Toth and Bamboo Reef Enterprises, and advertising was donated by *Scuba Diving* and *Living Lightly* magazines and Preston Root.

Notable institutional support was provided by the Tiffany & Co. Foundation, the Summit Foundation, the Dirk and Charlene Kabcenell Foundation, and Mar Viva.

Fundraising support was provided by LeisurePro, the world's largest online scuba merchant, which teamed up with CORAL to raise awareness about the threats endangering our planet's coral reefs.

CORAL devoted nearly \$1.3 million to mission-driven program activities in fiscal 2008, more than in any other year since 2002.



## Statement of Activities for FY 2008

(July 1, 2007–June 30, 2008)

### Sources of Revenue

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Individual Contributions         | 829,863       |
| Foundation and Government Grants | 616,132       |
| In-Kind Contributions            | 138,155       |
| Other Earned Revenue             | <u>25,921</u> |

**Total Support and Revenue** \$1,610,031

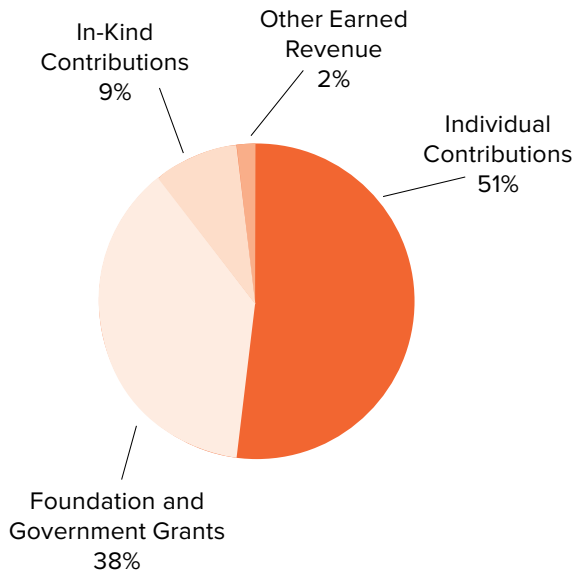
### Expenditures

|                        |                |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Program Services       | 1,277,212      |
| Development            | 207,921        |
| Membership Support     | 93,777         |
| Management and General | <u>158,027</u> |

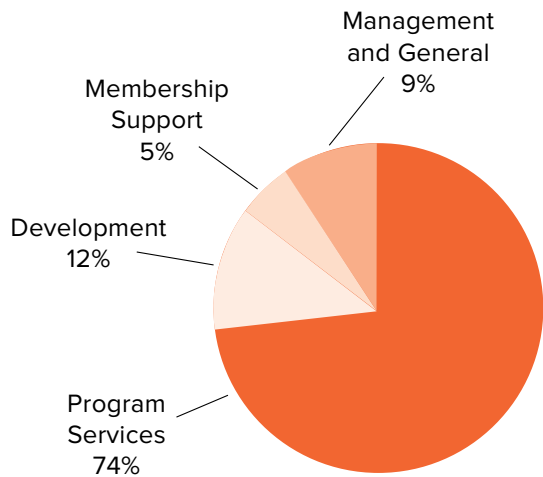
**Total Expenses** \$1,736,937

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Change in net assets | (\$126,906) |
| Beginning net assets | \$1,086,402 |
| Ending net assets    | \$959,496   |

## Revenues



## Expenditures



*This statement represents the consolidated activities of the Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL). Copies of the complete, audited financial statement from which this information is reported are available upon request.*



# 2008 CORAL Gifts and Pledges

CORAL is grateful for continuing pledge support from Bill and Jessica Jesse, Robert Townsend and Pamela Turner, and Williamson Family Foundation.

## **\$100,000+**

The Summit Foundation  
Tiffany & Co. Foundation

## **\$25,000-99,999**

Anonymous (2)  
The Dirk and Charlene Kabcenell Foundation  
Thomas L. Kempner, Jr., Foundation  
Helaine Lerner  
Dennis H. and Tracey N. Liberson  
Listwin Family Foundation  
Marisla Foundation  
MarViva Foundation  
The Estate of Nanette Mellgren  
The Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation  
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)  
Relations Foundation

## **\$10,000-24,999**

Arntz Family Foundation  
Firedoll Foundation  
The Jonathan P. Graham and Elizabeth B. Ulmer Fund  
Esmond Harmsworth and James Richardson  
The Ocean Foundation  
The Swift Foundation  
C. Elizabeth Wagner

## **\$5,000-9,999**

Anonymous  
Colonial Hill Foundation  
Lili and Wilson Ervin  
Glancy Family Trust  
Jeanie and Murray Kilgour

Maryon Davies Lewis  
Janet and Andrew Miller  
The Nason Family Foundation  
Norcross Wildlife Foundation, Inc.  
Edward and Jeanne Nygard  
William J. Quinlan and Rita Chang  
Stan and Karen Watt

## **\$2,500-4,999**

The Beagle Charitable Foundation  
Lyn Ciocca and Robert McCaleb  
Craig and Susan Grube  
Mark Jackson  
William O. and Anita B. Kerr  
Jeff Yonover

## **\$1,000-2,499**

The ABC Charitable Fund  
Ball Corporation  
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Donna Blake  
The Bransten Family Charitable Fund  
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The Chaney Family Foundation  
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Joseph and Susan Coulter  
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Scott Palmer Fuhrman  
Kevin and Claudia Gilbert  
Donna and Mike Griffith  
John Grimwood and Lani Wong  
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Theresa Perenich  
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Mike and Kathryn Schnetzer  
Greg and Mimi Slyngstad  
Paul S. Tischler  
Jon and Nicole Ungar  
Hilary Walecka  
Diana Williams and Robert Wright  
Arie Winograd  
Stuart Wunsh  
Suzanne and Kevin Zarleng  
Jack Zercher

## **\$500-999**

Arcos Cielos Research Center  
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Henry and Judy Aschner  
Haim and Lynda Swan BarNoy  
Paul A. Bartlett and Yumi Nakagawa  
Sydney and Blake Bath  
Suzanne Beahrs and Mike Trumpis  
Franklin Keith Bean  
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Heidi Hatfield and Buddy Karelis  
Deborah Hebblewhite  
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Amy Hubbell  
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Trina Jacobson  
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Paul D. Kersch  
Craig B. Laub  
Living Lightly on Earth, Ltd.  
Charleen and Eric Locke  
Vicki Lohr  
Timothy E. Lowry  
Heather and John Lucas  
Thomas P. McLaughlin  
Lauren and Christopher Mead  
Barbara J. Melby  
Joseph Meyer  
Robert Michaelson  
Brian Miller  
Joe H. Miller  
Roy Molina  
David R. Nank  
Judith Neubauer  
John O'Hern  
Brian Oherron  
Holly and John Robbins  
Morton and Leora Rosen  
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Kevin Schofield  
Richard S. Schwerdtfeger  
Scubadillo Dive Club  
Nancy and Ronald Sefton  
Dan Shore

Tracy E. Smart and David W. Sweet  
Roger and Donna Soape  
Pamela Stratton  
Janel Tarvin  
James Tippmann  
Christopher D. Tower  
Robert N. and Marsha Tracy  
Ann Tretter  
Chris and Teresa Wachholz  
Denise A. Ward  
Robert Watt  
Chris Webster and Ann Cars  
Francis Weinstein and Suzanne  
Barbetta  
Jeff Weiss  
Debi and Wes White  
Greg White  
The Wolfe Foundation  
Angela Wojslaw  
Anne R. Youngstrom  
Paula Zabik

### **\$250-499**

Anonymous (7)  
Lura J. Abbott and Linda B. Rawls  
Linda Adams and John Greenblatt  
Alternative Telecom Networks  
John Anderson  
Thomas F. Anderson  
Jim L. Arata  
Haig Avsharian  
Alice D. Baines  
Karen Baranowski  
Marylin Batt  
Steven Baxter  
Edward Biggins  
Jim and Linda Blinkhorn  
Charles Bloomfield  
Doris E. Bouwensch  
Bob and Jean Brabec  
Jeffrey A. Bruninga  
Henry E. Buschhorn  
Mary K. and Thomas Cameron  
Alvaro Chocano  
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Deborah Comstock  
Sue Considine  
Pamela Cote  
Jonathan Creighton  
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Robert V. Dickinson  
Pieter Dykema  
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George Fairey  
Robert Gauggel  
Alicia Gill  
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Scott Gordon  
James P. and Pamela Graham  
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Arthur Grinath  
James Grossman  
James Hartman  
Diana Hastings  
David L. Hicks  
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Dean E. Howell  
Maria Hrycelak  
Peter Hughes Diving, Inc.  
Vard Stephen Hunt  
Mark and Eva Huston  
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David Jarzen  
Thomas Joseph  
Theresa Joslin  
Rebecca and Keith Keck  
Linda Kinninger  
Charles Kleman  
Cathleen Konyn  
Randy Kramer  
Duane Kromm  
David Landis

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Meleah Larroca  
Lynn Alexander Levine  
Craig Lewis  
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Gina M. Lombardi  
Christopher Loughridge  
Andy Luk  
Catherine Lyden  
Robert Markovic  
Anne B. Massey  
Charles E. Merrill  
Ann Meyer  
Debra Miller  
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Marianne Misof  
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Andy Z. Molnar  
Keith Morton  
Jeffrey Muss  
Thomas Nemetz  
Margaret Neuer  
Gail Noren and Rod Palmer  
Larry K. O'Neal  
Jimmy Odom  
Staci A. Olsen  
Bob Overby  
Mike Peiffer  
Nancy Perkins  
Raymond C. Perkins  
Frances Perlman  
Charles Mark Peterson  
Shane R. and Janet C. Peterson  
Fred Pollack  
Bruce G. Pratt  
Joan Raina  
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Gary and Nancy Rhodes  
John Rieben  
Cathryn Robbins  
Ken and Pamela Roberts  
Larry S. Roberts  
Cliff Schaffer

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A. Collado Schwarz  
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William Shatner  
Sarah Shoaf  
Steve Shwedel  
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Steve Weinstock  
David Weissgerber  
Don S. Wilson  
John T. Winkhaus  
Kathrin Winkler  
Bob Woods  
Ken M. Yates  
Jeff Zell

### **Friends of the Reef**

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Melchor E. Apodaca  
John and Elizabeth Barack  
Elizabeth Barrett  
Luis D. Beltran  
Robert J. and G. Bergeron  
Shelley Levin Billik  
Chester Blaszcak  
Wendy Brody

# 2008 CORAL Gifts and Pledges

## Friends of the Reef, continued

Mary K. and Thomas Cameron  
Michael Castillo  
Kara Casto  
Sue Considine  
Darline Coon  
Lisa Cvecko  
Stephen de Blois  
Peter Dendle  
Kate Dillon  
Divemaster Joey  
Mike Elniski  
Dennis Evans  
Michael Ferland  
Martha Fewell  
Susan Freedman  
Sandra Glenn  
Scott Gordon  
Nancy Grossman  
John Hess  
Amy Hubbell  
Chris Johnson  
Gerald V. and Rosette Koch  
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Heather Lambe  
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Sarajane McInnes  
J. Arch McNamara  
Jeremy Meady  
David Miner  
Andy Z. Molnar  
Glory and Chuck Moore  
Judith Nejmich  
Thomas O'Neil  
Jimmy Odom  
Janice Ouellette  
Antoinette Peloso  
Gabriel I. Penagaricano  
Lori Peterson

Jim Phillips  
Joe Polzin  
Dan Purnell  
Angela Richards-Dona  
Don Ridgeway  
Heather Runes  
Harry Saddler  
Megan Scanlin  
Jeff Schumann and Stephanie Farior  
Rita Senegal  
Scott E. and Dibby Smith  
Michael Stein  
Janel Tarvin  
Christopher Toy  
Shauna Trieb  
Jim Turner  
Constance Vidor  
Roxanne Warren  
Leesa Watt  
Robert Watt  
Alex and Sherry Weiland  
Michael Winzig  
Tammy Wolfram  
Matthew Wright  
Judie Rhed Yim  
Paula Zabik

## Gifts in Honor

In honor of the 4th Grade Mission Dress Down (Irene Williams)  
In honor of Michael Abrams (David Abrams)  
In honor of Adrienne Akmajian (Karen Reck)  
In honor of Daniel Barrows (Grace Dixon)  
In honor of Suzanne Beahrs and Michael Trumpis's Wedding (Angela Don)  
In honor of Suzanne Beahrs and Michael Trumpis's Wedding (Neal Pardee)  
In honor of Suzanne Beahrs and Michael Trumpis's Wedding (Lisa Sindorf)

In honor of Suzanne Beahrs and Michael Trumpis's Wedding (Barbara Trumpis)  
In honor of Grant Bennett's Birthday (Julie Bennett)  
In honor of Andrew Berry (Christina Lauritsen)  
In honor of Mathieu Bertrand (Marie-Elene Morin)  
In honor of Greg Block and Matt Wreford (Danielle Drew)  
In honor of Melissa Brashears (Jillian Daynor)  
In honor of Nathan Brophy (Ben Brophy)  
In honor of Judy Brunelle (Philip Brunelle)  
In honor of Linda Call-Pat Mefford (John Shulson)  
In honor of Clayton Claiborn (Charles Poteet)  
In honor of Steve Cohen (Stacey P. Teixeira)  
In honor of Hannah Cole (Carla Alani)  
In honor of The Coopers (Sara Bertomen)  
In honor of Carlos B. Corwin (Jennifer Best)  
In honor of Phebe Davol and Larry Rothwell (Alicia Gill)  
In honor of Denise and Melissa (Laura Lockard)  
In honor of Ms. Esther Derschowitz (Benjamin Shyman)  
In honor of Kate Dillon (Susie Fought)  
In honor of Lara Dodge (Patricia and David Dodge)  
In honor of Dave and Cindy Edgerton (Dave and Dorothy Edgerton)  
In honor of Environmental Moorings Int'l., Inc. (Judy and John Halas)  
In honor of Ralph and JoAnne Fager (Glenn Fager)  
In honor of Noah Farrell (Jerry Merriman)

In honor of Ryan Michel Felder (Misao Kusuda)  
In honor of Felix (Kate Dillon)  
In honor of Chris Freeman (Anne Freeman)  
In honor of Sharlene Gee and Rune Dahl's Leap Anniversary (Anonymous)  
In honor of Linda and Larry Graf (Joseph Caruana)  
In honor of My Grandchildren (Chance Harker)  
In honor of Nina Granow's Birthday (Roberta Detata)  
In honor of Debbie Groat (Ted Groat)  
In honor of Cheryl Gudger (Beth Richardson)  
In honor of the Guests of the Gunn/Harvey Wedding (Kelly Gunn)  
In honor of Guthrie Tax Service (Theresa Joslin)  
In honor of Heather (Paul Schmiechen)  
In honor of Diana Herold and Carolyn Cogan (Judy Munsen)  
In honor of Jennifer Hidalgo (Marilyn Wood)  
In honor of Lisa Hook (Laine Shakeridge)  
In honor of Mark Jay Horowitz (Sarah Horowitz)  
In honor of Brian Huse (Janine Kraus and Chris Fryer)  
In honor of James Jeansonne (Joseph Wright)  
In honor of Jeff, Elke, Bridget, and Lex (Richard Ridenour)  
In honor of Andy and Claudia Joseph (Thomas Joseph)  
In honor of Dan and Colleen Kabat (Tim G. Connors)  
In honor of Eva MacKay (Esther Brown)  
In honor of Jeanne, Jeff, and Amalia Martin (Fonda Davis Eyler)  
In honor of Coral McGreevey (Adam Petroski)

In honor of Coral McGreevey's first birthday (Maureen Newman)  
In honor of Calvin McKinley (Cynthia Eckhardt)  
In honor of Modern Reefkeeping (Adam Jenkins)  
In honor of Modern Reefkeeping (Sally Jones)  
In honor of Modern Reefkeeping (Randy Scott Vallembois)  
In honor of John and Gayle Monahan on their 35th Anniversary (Kristen Ames)  
In honor of Mystic Moon (Katharine Youngblood)  
In honor of Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery (Scott Montgomery)  
In honor of Grandma Nashama (Justin Magee)  
In honor of Dale and Suzanne Needles (Don Beckham)  
In honor of David Pomeroy at Christmas (Ellen Keiter)  
In honor of Paul and Sandy Qualls's 35th Wedding Anniversary (Alison Dowdy)  
In honor of Ms. Joany Raina (Harold Palevsky)  
In honor of Reef Innovations, Reef Ball Foundation (Larry Beggs)  
In honor of Willow Rubin-Davis (Rebecca Rubin)  
In honor of Sabrina and Trey (Charles Poteet)  
In honor of Richard and Lisa Salbo (Robyn Salbo)  
In honor of Katie Samuelson and Russel Schoenhard (Dax Bajema)  
In honor of Katie Samuelson and Russel Schoenhard (Judith Cocke)  
In honor of Katie Samuelson and Russel Schoenhard (Kristen Callahan)  
In honor of Katie Samuelson and Russel Schoenhard (Joshua Guerrette)

In honor of Ashley Schalleur's Graduation (Ashley Lafferty)  
In honor of Derek Schonauer (Kiersten Schonauer)  
In honor of Sea Robin Cozumel (Allen Martin)  
In honor of Debbi Shanks (Vanessa Shanks)  
In honor of Shawn Sullivan and Sara Hopper's Wedding (Heidi Steiber)  
In honor of Tim and Joanne's Wedding (Robert Buergisser)  
In honor of Nicholas Tsantes, Jr. (Merry Merrill)  
In honor of The Turner Townsend Family at Christmas (Lynne Gaffikin)  
In honor of Ms. van Nie (Laura Higgins)  
In honor of Dave and Jen Volkman (Randall Zogbaum)  
In honor of Philip and Diane Walker (Riley Shields)  
In honor of Cynthia Walus's Retirement (Nancy Silverman)  
In honor of Stan Waterman (Ridgely Duvall)  
In honor of John Wean (Tyler Wean)  
In honor of the Jonathan White Family (Peggy and John White)  
In honor of Chris Wicke's Birthday (Elizabeth Knudson)  
In honor of Jeanna and Brian Wiederspan (Dave and Dorothy Edgerton)  
In honor of Dr. Clive Wilkinson (Whistler 2020)  
In honor of Rich Wilson (James and Rachael Wilson)  
In honor of Carolyn Windus (Jennifer Windus)  
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In honor of Jeff and Christie Yonover's Wedding (Amy Hibberd)

### Gifts in Memory

In memory of David Dykema (Pieter Dykema)  
In memory of Olaf Gilbert (Kyle Flynn)  
In memory of Olaf Gilbert (Pat Crouzet-Pascal and Jacques Pascal)  
In memory of Austin E. Lamberts, PhD, MD (Marcia Rowland) (2)  
In memory of Michael Paul Manka (Elissa A. Manka)  
In memory of Marian Mendel (Tom Meshishnek)  
In memory of Tim Munns (Michael Munns)  
In memory of Constance Penty (Nanlouise Wolfe and Stephen Zunes)  
In memory of Jacques Ravaux (Christopher Toy)  
In memory of Larry Star (Michael Mark)  
In memory of Starr Wong (John DeBorde)

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# How You Can Help

The relationship between climate change, other human-induced stresses, and the fragile condition of the planet's coral reefs reveals how truly interconnected we are. CORAL supports the organizations that are tackling these large-scale threats, while doing its part on the local level to build the resilience reefs need to stay alive. We couldn't do any of this important work without the generous support of our donors. Our work is about more than simply saving coral reefs: It's about maintaining our oceans' remarkable biodiversity and protecting the millions of people who depend on reefs for survival every day.

If you would like to help CORAL in its mission to keep our planet's coral reefs alive, please consider making a donation by one of the methods described below:

- Make a tax-deductible contribution online at [www.coral.org](http://www.coral.org), by calling our development department at (415) 834-0900 ext. 306, or by mailing a check to: The Coral Reef Alliance, 351 California Street, Suite 650, San Francisco, CA 94104.
- Become a *Friend of the Reef* by making a regular monthly gift. Contributions can be automatically deducted from your credit card.
- Find out if your company has a matching gift program to match your personal donations. Your company will even match gifts you've already made.
- If you're a federal employee, designate CORAL for the Combined Federal Campaign contribution program. Our CFC number is: 10418.
- Add CORAL to your will and make the gift of living reefs your legacy.
- Contribute appreciated securities, real estate, art, or other items of value.
- Volunteer your time and skills to help CORAL with its program, development, and communications efforts.

Anything you can give is deeply appreciated and will be put to immediate use saving coral reefs. Thank you for your continued support!





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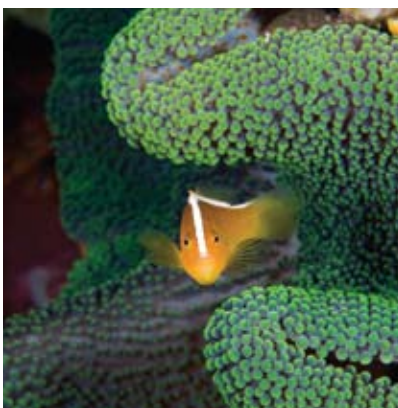


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Photographs on pages 13, 14, and 17 (left) by Rich Wilson

Photographs on pages 15 and 18 by CORAL Staff

Photographs on page 19 by Liz Foote

## Photo Captions

Front cover: Hard corals (*Acropora sp.*) and soft corals (*Dendronephthia sp.*), Raja Ampat, Indonesia

Inside front cover: Anemonefishes (*Amphiprion chrysopterus*, *Amphiprion percula*) and soft corals (*Dendronephthia sp.*), Raja Ampat, Indonesia

Page 2 (top): Josaiia "Joe" Ramanatobue, Namalata, Fiji

Page 2 (bottom): The village of Navatu, Fiji

Page 3: Raja Ampat, Indonesia

Page 5: Triton Bay, Indonesia

Page 6: The village of Natokolau, Fiji

Page 7 (left): CORAL Field Rep Heidi Williams with villagers, Namalata, Fiji

Page 7 (right): Scholarship student, Emosi Malo Were, Savusavu, Fiji

Page 8: Reef scene featuring anthias, crinoids (feather stars), hard corals (*Acropora sp.*), and soft corals (*Dendronephthia sp.*), Papua New Guinea

Page 9: Meeting of the Madang Lagoon Association, Madang, Papua New Guinea

Page 10: Local fishing boat, West Papua Province, Indonesia

Page 11 (left): Investigating a turtle nesting site, Raja Ampat, Indonesia

Page 11 (right): Misool Eco Resort, Raja Ampat, Indonesia

Page 12: Gray Angelfish (*Pomacanthus arcuatus*), Cozumel, Mexico

Page 13 (left): Leadership Network press signing and conference, Cozumel, Mexico

Page 13 (right): Ricardo Gomez Lozano, Director, Cozumel Reefs National Park, Mexico

Page 14: San Pedro, Ambergris Caye, Belize

Page 15 (left): Kids in Action eco-field trip, Bacalar Chico National Park and Marine Reserve, Belize

Page 15 (right): Placencia Mooring Masters mooring installation volunteers, Placencia, Belize

Page 16: Sunset on Half Moon Bay, Roatán, Honduras

Page 17 (left): CORAL Field Rep Jenny Myton performs an Environmental Walk-Through with Ocean Connections staff, Roatán, Honduras

Page 17 (right): Roatán Marine Park office, Roatán, Honduras

Page 18: Scenic West Maui, Hawaii

Page 19 (left): IYOR 2008 Shopping Bay Giveaway, Ah Fook's grocery store, Maui, Hawaii

Page 19 (right): Kihei Community Association with Respecting Coral Reefs sign, Maui, Hawaii

Page 21: Sunset on Half Moon Bay, Roatán, Honduras

Page 26: Kayaker in West Papua Province, Indonesia

Page 27: School of Teira Batfish (*Platax teira*), Raja Ampat, Indonesia

Page 28 (from top): Nudibranch (*Ceratosoma magnificum*), Southern Rinca Island, Indonesia; Warty/Little Egg Cowry (*Calpurnus verrucosus*), Indonesia; Goby on Hard Coral, East New Britain Province, Papua New Guinea; Juvenile Trevally (*Carangoides sp.*) taking cover among the tentacles of a drifting Jelly (*Mastigias sp.*), Tanjung Sai, Indonesia; Orange Skunk Anemonefish (*Amphiprion sandaracinos*) in Merton's Carpet Anemone (*Stichodactyla mertensii*), Indonesia; Porcelain Crab (*Lissoporcellana sp.*), Indonesia; Golden Egg Cowry (*Pseudosimnia sp.*), Wainilo, Indonesia

Inside back cover: Large whip goby (*Bryaninops amplus*) on wire coral, Raja Ampat, Indonesia

Special thanks to the following organizations and individuals, who dedicated their time and professional skills to help CORAL protect our planet's reefs.

Amber Allensworth  
Maren Anderson  
Breana Malia Asuncion  
Patrick Bareiss  
Brion Black  
Michele Bowe  
The Communications Leadership Institute  
Elizabeth Curran  
Kate Dillon  
HBS Community Partners  
Lauren and Riva Kahn  
David Landis

Candace Leong  
Jon Miller  
Anja Mondragon  
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Alexis Sanford  
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Joanna Solins  
Janice Wenning  
Rich Wilson  
WorkLink  
Richard Wright  
Jeff Yonover

Editor: Julie Bennett  
Designer: Amber Allensworth;  
[www.amberallensworthdesign.com](http://www.amberallensworthdesign.com)  
Proofreader: Bonnie Ricca  
Printer: Bacchus Press Inc.  
Printed on Endeavour Velvet (50% Recycled, 25% Post-Consumer Waste, FSC Certified) using soy-based inks.

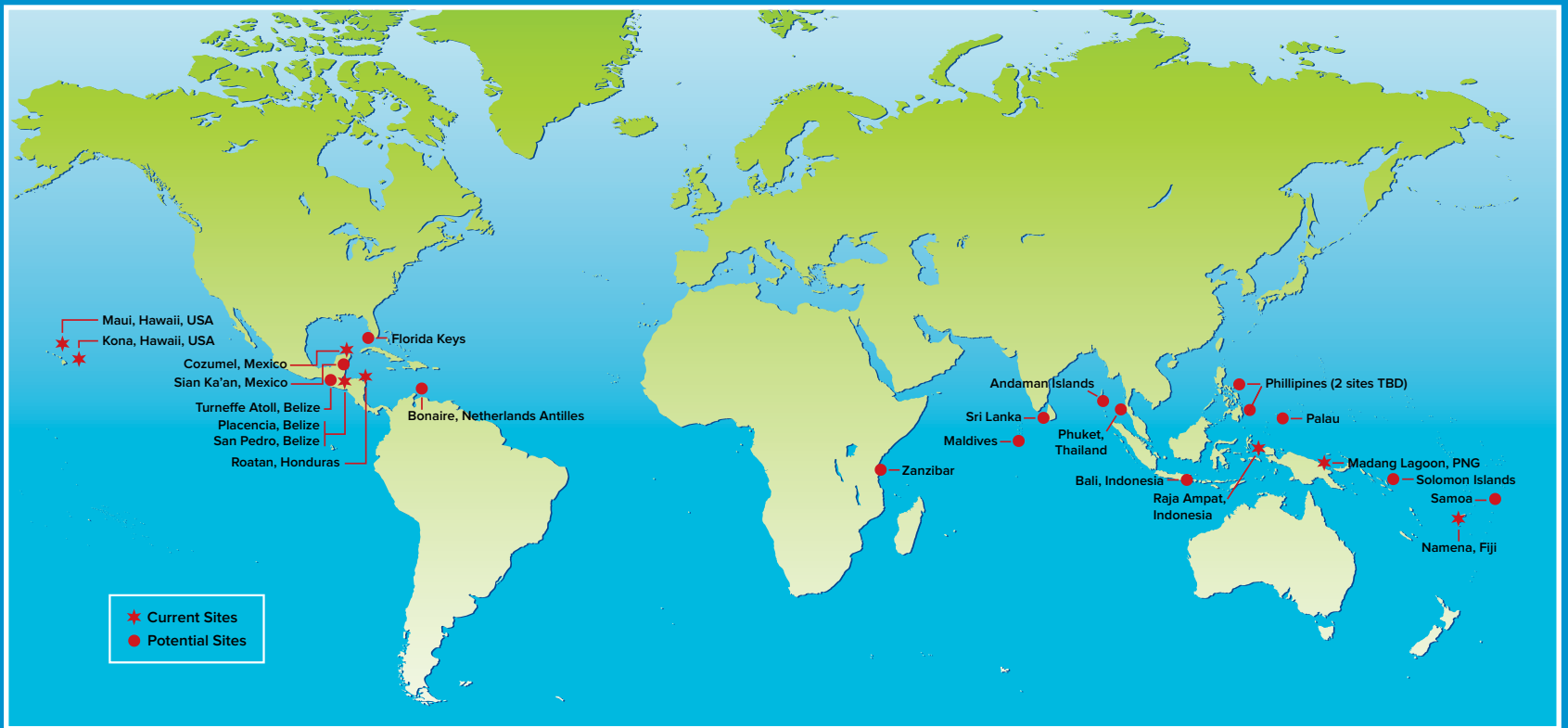


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# Current and Potential Project Sites



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