

THE OCEAN FOUNDATION



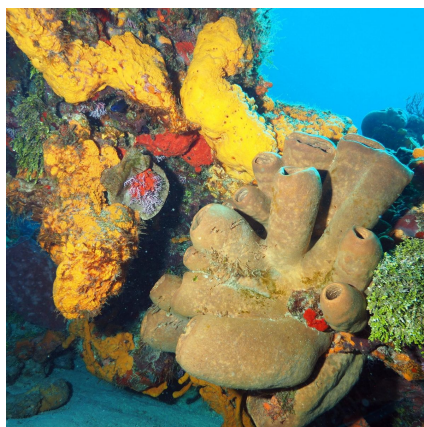
NEWSLETTER FOR FALL 2020



Read Our New Annual Report

Our annual report for our latest fiscal year recounts the strides our initiatives have made. It also includes messages to our community about the coronavirus pandemic and racial justice. Two of our fiscally hosted projects are highlighted: Inland Ocean Coalition and Shark Advocates International, which celebrates 10 years of work this year.

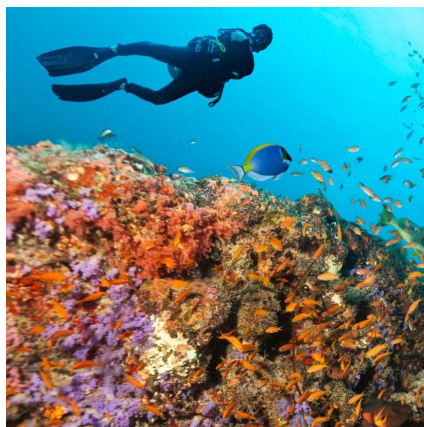
[Open the 2020 Annual Report](#) and [View Our Past Annual Reports](#)



The World's Second-Largest Reef

The Ocean Foundation held four virtual workshops with stakeholders from four countries to discuss methodology in an economic valuation of the Mesoamerican Reef System (MAR). We have been conducting this study to inform decision makers in the region and understand the significance of the MAR's conservation. Feedback and support from participants ensures our success, and we are grateful for their time and contributions.

[Read more in English](#) or [Spanish](#)



PADI Offsets with SeaGrass Grow

In September, PADI and The Ocean Foundation kicked off their new partnership, which allows scuba divers to offset their carbon footprint to The Ocean Foundation's [SeaGrass Grow program](#) when they take dive trips. The partnership allows scuba divers to help conserve and restore the habitats they dive in, and to generate awareness for conservation solutions and the effects of marine debris and environmental degradation.

[Read more.](#)



Holiday Shopping Guide

From artwork and candles to clothing and toothbrushes, view companies who generously donated proceeds of their sales, or provided in-kind gifts, to The Ocean Foundation this year.

[View our Holiday Shopping Guide](#)

In Case You Missed It: [The Ocean Foundation and Nordic Governments Convene Discussion on Global Plastic Pollution](#) • [Shareholder Engagement for Ocean Sustainability](#) • [This Year, We Proved Remote Trainings Can Be Great](#) • [Netflix spotlights Conservación ConCiencia's efforts to remove derelict fishing gear from Puerto Rico](#) • [Unifimoney Announces Its Use of Recovered Ocean Bound Plastic for Credit and Debit Cards](#)

OCEAN HEALTH FUNDS

This year, our partnership with Rockefeller Capital Management has achieved two exciting objectives. In addition to helping launch the Rockefeller Climate Solutions Fund, which seeks to identify profitable investment opportunities that restore and support the health and sustainability of the world's ocean, we also won a joint bid with Rockefeller Asset Management (RAM) to advise a fund within Credit Suisse that focuses on stakeholder engagement.

The Ocean Engagement Fund strives to meet the increasing demand from institutional and private investors to invest in the Blue Economy. This thematic equity fund focuses on company engagement to drive alpha and ocean health on three ocean-related themes: Pollution Prevention, Carbon Transition, and Ocean Conservation. As investment manager, Credit Suisse provides top down advice on the strategic positioning of the fund, while The Ocean Foundation, in its capacity as advisor to the fund, helps to define the investment universe of company targets. Credit Suisse and RAM aim to advise and steer portfolio companies towards improving their ocean harming practices through active dialogue with their management teams. They also intend to engage with companies in order to promote ocean health and publish yearly impact reports for their investors.

Rockefeller Capital Management has collaborated with The Ocean Foundation since 2011, when The Ocean Foundation partnered with Rockefeller Capital Management on its Rockefeller Ocean Strategy to gain specialized insight and research on marine trends, risks, and opportunities, as well as analysis of coastal and ocean conservation initiatives.

We are deeply proud of this partnership with their experienced investment teams, seeking to meet the present and future needs of a healthy human relationship with the ocean.

[Read: Credit Suisse Raises \\$212m for 'world's first' ocean health fund](#)





We Need Your Support

We are so grateful for all that you do for the ocean. This end-of-year, your support will help us [uplift more local leaders](#) and enable more communities to join our mission to reverse the trend of destruction on the ocean - especially as we all work to meet our environmental needs and goals at this difficult time.

[Donate Now](#)

STATE OF THE OCEAN

The year 2020 was supposed to have been a “super year” for the ocean. The ocean and its well-being were going to be focus of attention at multi-national gatherings around the world—gatherings that were intended to accelerate improvements in ocean health. Most of the convenings that made up that “super year” have now been postponed to 2021, and even that MAY be too soon to gather at that kind of scale, given the time it will take to produce and widely distribute a COVID-19 vaccine.

Here at The Ocean Foundation, 2020 did not slow us down. We have accelerated progress towards building a sustainable blue economy, bringing equity to ocean sciences, and helping islands become climate strong. We’ve proved that we can train ocean chemistry scientists virtually and written draft laws on plastic pollution for states and national governments. We’ve gotten in the water and on the ground- getting initial blue carbon restoration done in the Jobos Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve and helping make Loreto (BCS, México) safer and healthier. And, those are just the highlights.

2020 has also been an opportunity to reflect. While many have suffered, we at The Ocean Foundation have been very lucky. We are thankful to have had plenty of work to keep us busy, and enough revenue to avoid layoffs and furloughs despite a global pandemic, related threats to the economy, and rather surreal/unhelpful politics.

I want to thank the entire team that makes all of this possible. TOF staff have worked from home, home-schooled kids, put up with sharing bandwidth, kept safe and healthy, and endured losses of their own, all while getting the job done with enthusiasm and dedication. I remain in awe of what we’ve been able to accomplish.

All of you reading this are also a very important part of the team. Thank you for your support. You have given the most meaningful gift you can give this season, a gift that has the power to truly make the world a better place: the gift of a healthier and more abundant ocean. This is a team effort and a team result.

We all look forward to future gatherings in person. Until then, we wish everyone good health, and safety from the pandemic as we all celebrate our holidays and look forward to a new year, and new beginnings that bring us all hope.

For the ocean,

Mark J. Spalding
President


SUPPORT THE OCEAN FOUNDATION


Move our work forward by supporting the only community foundation for the ocean. Ensure the frontline communities we serve have the resources they need to reduce and respond to the growing effects of climate change.


[Donate & Join Our Work](#)

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