

# Protecting and Progressing Planetary Health.



Never before has our Planet been in such a state of concern. Yet never before have there been so many and such effective initiatives to protect it. This paradoxical situation could lead to a form of discouragement. Instead, I believe that it should prompt us to gain greater lucidity and determination. We cannot address all the issues that affect the environment in one fell swoop. We do not have a magic wand. However, we do have tools... increasingly numerous and increasingly effective.

Some of these tools are presented over the following pages. They concern key initiatives we have implemented on major issues, such as plastic pollution in the Mediterranean, protection of the Poles and the support given to a new generation of environmental leaders. They take the form of significant innovations in terms of developing economic and financial models commensurate with our goals of protecting the Planet. They involve various partners, NGOs, players in the field, scientific

institutions, political entities and local communities. And they are deployed around a wide range of projects, from the Brazilian forests to the Cambodian wetlands, from Madagascar to the Mediterranean.

Thanks to their diversity and complementarity, these undertakings are a valuable toolbox which has enabled us for close to twenty years now to help move things forward on many issues and in various places around the world.

While such progress sometimes fades into the background given the immensity of the task ahead, it is important to highlight the achievements it has brought about and to welcome the concrete opportunities it offers. And it is important to point out how action is still possible and necessary despite everything.

I would therefore like to thank our loyal supporters, our generous benefactors, our valued partners, as well as all the teams at the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco





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Protection is at the heart of the work done by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, international an nonprofit organisation established in 2006: protecting the living world, biodiversity, the ocean and water resources to improve the health of the planet and ensure a more sustainable world for current and future generations. By bringing together committed partners and working directly with Indigenous communities, the Foundation supports local and global field projects in every continent. It also develops its own initiatives, with lasting results, and achieves encouraging successes in the areas of saving endangered species and developing more ethical and more sustainable solutions.



#### TAKING ACTION TOGETHER

- Limiting the effects of climate change and promoting renewable energies.
- Safeguarding biodiversity.
- Managing water resources and combatting desertification.

#### THROUGH SPECIFIC WORK

- Building partnerships so that projects can be completed successfully and concrete initiatives can be undertaken in its priority spheres of action.
- Raising awareness among communities and authorities about the impact of human activities on the natural environment and encouraging more sustainable behaviour.
- Promoting and inspiring outstanding initiatives and innovative solutions by awarding prizes and grants.

#### IN TARGETED AREAS

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation focuses its efforts in three main geographical areas: the Mediterranean Basin, the Polar Regions and the Least Developed Countries (as classified by the United Nations), which are severely impacted by the effects of climate change, biodiversity loss and threats to water resources.



Through its work, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation helps to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) set by the United Nations in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to build a world in which peace, justice and equality prevail for people and the planet.



FINANCIAL INVESTMENT

IN 2023

## NUMBER OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED SINCE 2006 BY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL

225	SDG 14   Life below water	€1,381,392
211	SDG 15   Life on land	€2,536,750
110	SDG 13   Climate action	€222,466
87	SDG 6   Clean water and sanitation	€217,157
58	SDG 4   Quality education	€613,645
47	SDG 7   Affordable and clean energy	€185,393
24	SDG 12   Responsible consumption and production	€403,248
13	SDG 11   Sustainable cities and communities	€151,147
10	SDG 17   Partnerships for the goals	€1,600,202
TOTAL		TOTAL FOR 2023
785		€7,311,400

#### **PROJECT SUBMISSIONS**

#### Project selection process:

- Stage 1: Online application
- Stage 2: Detailed application form
- Stage 3: Assessment by the Scientific and Technical Committee
- Stage 4: Decision by the Board of Directors

## Consistency with the Foundation's spheres of action:

- Climate change and renewable energies
- Biodiversity knowledge and protection
- Water resource management and combatting desertification

#### Priority geographical areas:

- Mediterranean Basin countries
- Polar Regions
- Least Developed Countries (as classified by the United Nations)

#### Nature of the project:

- Research
- Technological innovation
- Field projects involving the affected communities

#### Impact and added value of the project:

- Exemplary nature and replicability of the project
- Tangible, measurable aspect of the project's anticipated results

- Integration of social and economic aspects into the project's activities (focus on sustainable development)
- Cooperation and involvement of the affected local communities

#### Competence and expertise of the project leader:

- Quality and stability of partnerships
- Technical and financial feasibility
- Competence of project leaders
- Quality of project management
- Existence of a project assessment procedure

#### Activities not supported by the Foundation:

- The day-to-day running of organisations
- Projects run by a single person
- Projects of a solely commercial nature
- Projects with no other funding sources

## In 2023, 252 projects were submitted after the call for applications.

- -> 28 were shortlisted and presented to the Scientific and Technical Committee, then the Board of Directors.
- -> 24 projects were accepted.

Reducing the effects of climate change and protecting biodiversity and water resources are tasks that know no borders. Bound by that belief, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco works tirelessly to facilitate the implementation of concrete actions aimed at building a world that is fairer, more inclusive and more respectful of all life on Earth. Through his Government and his Foundation, the Sovereign Prince, whose determined commitment has been recognised for years, works with numerous figures – heads of state, business leaders, scientists, philanthropists, members of civil society - for the recognition and respect of environmental rights.



# HSH PRINCE ALBERT II OF MONACO AT THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM IN DAVOS

On Tuesday 17 January, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco participated in several events organised during the week-long World Economic Forum, which was held under the banner 'Cooperation in a Fragmented World'. In his opening speech to the 'Unpacking the Polar Crisis' session, the Sovereign Prince highlighted the critical role of the polar regions, "where the key challenges and key solutions in regard to our planet's health are concentrated". He invited states, businesses,

scientists and NGOs to become more mobilised, in particular by involving Indigenous Peoples. The Sovereign Prince also addressed the issue of ocean conservation during the 'Finance and Pension Funds for Ocean Health' session, when he emphasised that the ocean is a victim of climate change, but also harbours solutions to mitigate its negative impacts, calling for "a new rationale for a blue economy".



## MEETING OF UARCTIC RECTORS IN MONACO

On 12 and 13 January, senior leadership from University of the Arctic (UArctic) higher education members met at the Oceanographic Museum of Monaco with the aim of strengthening university cooperation as a solution for protecting that region of the planet.

Hosted by the UArctic, the Oceanographic Institute of Monaco, Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation and the University of Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines (UVSQ, an associate member of the University of Paris-Saclay), in collaboration with the Prince Albert II of Monaco

Foundation, the meeting provided a platform for productive discussions between participants from over 60 organisations, 29 of them UArctic member institutions, opening new avenues of collaboration to achieve sustainable objectives. In his welcome speech, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco highlighted the role of universities in tackling the region's environmental challenges: "To protect the Arctic, as with everything related to the environment, nothing would be possible without science or the work of scientists."

## ANNOUNCING THE LAUNCH OF A GLOBAL PHILANTHROPY ALLIANCE FOR CLIMATE AND NATURE

A high-level event to announce the launch of a Global Philanthropy Alliance for Climate and Nature was jointly organised by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and Badr Jafar, CEO of Crescent Enterprises, on Wednesday 18 January at the World Economic Forum in the presence of the Sovereign Prince. His Excellency Majid al-Suwaidi, Director-General of COP28, a speaker at the session, emphasised the importance of harnessing the potential of philanthropic capital to address the major environmental challenges. In his speech,

HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco pointed out the "strange situation, in which only a tiny fraction of philanthropic resources is allocated to an issue that undoubtedly has the most consequences on the future of humanity: protecting the environment". He urged participants to take action to increase and redirect contributions with a view to finding long-term solutions for the climate, biodiversity and the ocean based on a collective, multi-stakeholder and multi-sector approach.

#### 14TH EDITION OF THE MONACO BLUE INITIATIVE



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Monaco Ocean Week opened on Monday 20 March with the 14th edition of the Monaco Blue Initiative, the leading ocean governance and conservation event, which was attended by around 180 stakeholders. Celebrating recent international progress, not least the newly agreed UN High Seas Treaty, this edition explored concrete existing and future solutions to the global challenges of protecting the ocean and developing a sustainable blue economy.

In his opening speech, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco said, "Significant progress has been made over the last few months. I am of course referring to the adoption of the High Seas Treaty by the United Nations on 4 March [...] Thanks to this agreement, we will at last have the legal tools to enable us to better protect international waters by establishing Marine Protected Areas in the High Seas, which I have long been calling for, while at the same time allowing for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of marine genetic resources.

In the wake of what we have already accomplished on an ad hoc basis, for example in the Ross Sea in Antarctica, this is a defining moment for the most endangered ecosystems, for all the seas and for the entire natural balance of the planet."

The high-level speakers at the event included HE Rodrigo Chaves-Robles, President of Costa Rica, Huang Runqiu, Chinese Minister of Ecology and Environment, HE Jean-François Ferrari, Minister of Fisheries and Blue Economy, Seychelles, Teresa Ribera Rodríguez, Third Vice-President of the Government of Spain and Minister for Ecological Transition and Demographic Challenge, the Rt Hon Patricia Scotland KC, Commonwealth Secretary-General, HE Razan al-Mubarak, President of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Kate Guy, Senior Advisor at the US Department of State, Renaud Muselier, President of the Regional Council of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, and Nasser Kamel, Secretary General of the Union for the Mediterranean.

#### The meeting took place in four sessions:

#### Sustainable fisheries

In this field, ecological issues merge and clash with socio-economic, nutritional, geopolitical and cultural considerations. How can conservation and exploitation be reconciled? During this first session, representatives from fisheries governance, community conservation, the economy and philanthropy shared their points of view.

#### Highly protected MPAs

The second session considered the challenges of and ambitions for these areas between now and 2030. Scientists, experts in the fields of conservation and blue finance and government representatives discussed the measures to be taken, in particular increasing the involvement of local communities and raising awareness that protection also brings economic benefits.

#### Marine ecosystem restoration

What place does marine ecosystem restoration have in the sustainable development goals? The third session brought together stakeholders from governance, conservation and science to address the challenges associated with the rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems and explore nature-based solutions to improve carbon sequestration, reverse biodiversity loss and protect coasts from the damaging effects of climate change.

## Future solutions for protecting the Mediterranean Sea

During the fourth session, representatives from governments, blue finance and the private sector examined existing measures and future solutions for protecting the Mediterranean Sea, looking at the sustainability challenges for this almost landlocked sea of great environmental, socio-economic and cultural diversity.

The panellists stressed that the global governance of the ocean will be a vital tool for tackling its environmental challenges: the future of marine ecosystems and the communities linked to them depends on collective action.

The Monaco Blue Initiative is a unique platform for oceanfocused discussions and meetings. Launched in 2010 by HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, this initiative brings key ocean stakeholders together on an annual basis and is now a leader in its field. Representatives from governments and large international organisations, businesses, scientists and members of civil society are invited to share their expertise and experiences – with the emphasis on removing barriers and exploring possibilities – to create future solutions. The event, hosted by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and the Oceanographic Institute, Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation, aims to reconcile protecting the marine environment and developing a sustainable blue economy.



#### FORMULA E AND SMART CITIES TALK

On Thursday 4 May, coinciding with the Monaco E-Prix, the fifth edition of the 'Formula E Change. Accelerated. Live' platform brought together experts from motor racing and Formula E, sustainability, education and the private sector. Hosted in partnership with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, the event examined how motor racing can stimulate innovation and, ultimately, contribute to building a more sustainable future.

In a video message, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco

highlighted the role of innovation in the digital, political and environmental transformation of global cities, in particular of Monaco, calling for "new intelligent and sustainable development models [...] using the potential of new technologies for the benefit of people and the environment. Because a faster, more comfortable, more intelligent society that uses its resources efficiently is [...] the prerequisite for a broader reinvention."

# HSH PRINCE ALBERT II OF MONACO VISITS THE UNIVERSITY OF LAPLAND IN ROVANIEMI

The UArctic network, under its President, Lars Kullerud, aims to strengthen academic scientific collaboration in the Arctic. Within that context, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco met the Rector of the University of Lapland, Antti Syväjärvi, and the Rector of the University of Helsinki, Sari Lindblom, on Tuesday 6 June at the Arktikum museum and science centre in Rovaniemi, Finland. The Sovereign Prince, who was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Lapland in 2019, highlighted the unique nature of the Arctic and

the importance of involving local communities: "We need your expertise, your analyses and your research, without which nothing could be done to save our planet [...] Here, more than anywhere else, we need these analyses and this research to be based on local studies and informed by the knowledge and practices of the people who live in these lands and know their unique characteristics." The meeting continued at the University of Helsinki's Värriö Subarctic Research Station.

#### THIRD FOUNDATIONS DIALOGUE IN MONACO

The Principality hosted the third edition of the Foundations Dialogue, a three-day forum (14 to 16 June) enabling leaders of international philanthropic organisations to work together towards achieving the ambitions of the United Nations Ocean Decade.

Organised jointly by UNESCO and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, the event opened on Wednesday 14 June at the Monte-Carlo Bay Hotel & Resort in the presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, HRH Princess Lalla Hasnaa of Morocco, HRH Princess Hala bint Khaled bin Sultan al-Saud and Olivier Wenden, Vice-President and CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

In his speech, the Sovereign Prince highlighted the wide scope for environmental action that foundations enjoy: "Shouldn't our power [...] encourage us to invest more in this area, where there is an urgent need for adept players, on both a local and global scale, with new resources, both financial and human?"

The next two days (15 and 16 June) were structured around working group sessions on how philanthropy can support the plight of the ocean and, more broadly, the planet. In the wake of the event, a joint declaration known as the Monaco Statement, highlighting the role of the philanthropic community in global ocean action, was launched on 19 September on the sidelines of the Sustainable Development Goals Summit in New York City, already signed by 24 foundations.





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# A FIRST, HISTORIC TREATY ADOPTED TO PROTECT THE HIGH SEAS

On Monday 19 June, the United Nations Member States, including Monaco, unanimously adopted the International Treaty for the Protection of the High Seas and Marine Biodiversity (known as "BBNJ" - biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction). The historic agreement on a legal framework to protect international waters had been reached by the States on 4 March, after more than 15 years of negotiations. It marks a major step towards protecting the high seas in accordance with the Global Biodiversity Framework's "30x30" target, adopted in 2022, to protect a third of the sea and land by 2030. In his address, Prince Albert II of Monaco welcomed the agreement, through which "we undertake to fight more effectively against the threats affecting the seas and oceans, especially the massive loss of marine biodiversity, the destruction of habitats and marine ecosystems, pollution, overfishing and the harmful effects of climate change", while calling for its rapid implementation. The BBNJ agreement was opened for signature on 20 September for a period of two years and has already been signed by 82 countries.



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# AFRICAN CONSERVATION AWARDS 2023

The African Conservation Awards, organised by the Game Rangers Association of Africa (GRAA) and sponsored by HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, took place on Saturday 16 September at the Southern African Wildlife College in Greater Kruger, South Africa. In a video message, the Sovereign Prince paid tribute to the rangers: "The thousands of men who every day [...] take huge risks to protect biodiversity, nature, the planet". By championing the cause of the rhinos, they are leading a fight for the living world, celebrated by the Sovereign Prince: "This fight concerns us all, well beyond the lands of Africa that are so dear to me. It is the same fight that drives us within international bodies, particularly the UN, when we take action to protect biodiversity, which faces threats from all sides."

# 78TH UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco visited New York from 18 to 20 September for the 78th United Nations General Assembly, where he participated in a host of meetings with diplomats, political figures and business leaders. On Wednesday 20 September, he was one of the first heads of state to sign the High Seas Treaty. Speaking from the podium, the Sovereign Prince welcomed the collective "wins" that bring hope, like this historic treaty, at the same time as urging states to go further: "We can only win the climate battle if we all keep pushing to achieve all the sustainable development goals [...].

We must not waste another minute." In that context, he announced that the Monegasque Government would contribute to the replenishment of the Green Climate Fund with the sum of 3.3 million euros for the 2024 to 2027 period, an increase in 10% compared to the previous period. The Sovereign Prince also spoke about issues surrounding artificial intelligence.

## FIRST EU ALGAE AWARENESS SUMMIT

From 5 to 7 October, the Maison de l'Océan in Paris hosted the first EU Algae Awareness Summit jointly organised by the Global Seaweed Coalition, the European Commission and the French Government, with the support of the Oceanographic Institute, Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation. The event was held to raise awareness among institutional policymakers and the general public of the benefits and opportunities associated with seaweed and its cultivation. both for the economy and for ocean protection. In a video message, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco highlighted that "algae are fundamental for the balance of our seas, thanks to their biodiversity, food chain and capacity for resilience in the face of climate change". They lie at the intersection between the environment, health, food and industry, and boast, the Sovereign Prince said, a "remarkable ability [...] they are paving a new way for reconciling people and nature, through positive and successful concrete projects."



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#### COP28: MAKING THE OCEAN A GLOBAL PRIORITY

At the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, led by HSH the Sovereign Prince, co-organised and participated in various events, strengthening Monaco's commitment to placing the ocean at the forefront of international discussions.

During the 5th Ocean Innovators Platform (OIP), HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco emphasised the need to support innovative projects for a regenerative blue economy. To that end, a partnership was formed between his Foundation, OceanX and the 1000 Ocean Startups Coalition, an initiative of the World Economic Forum. HSH the Sovereign Prince also participated in a panel discussion entitled 'Sea of Change: Sustainable solutions to combat plastic pollution in the Mediterranean Sea' in the Ocean Pavilion.

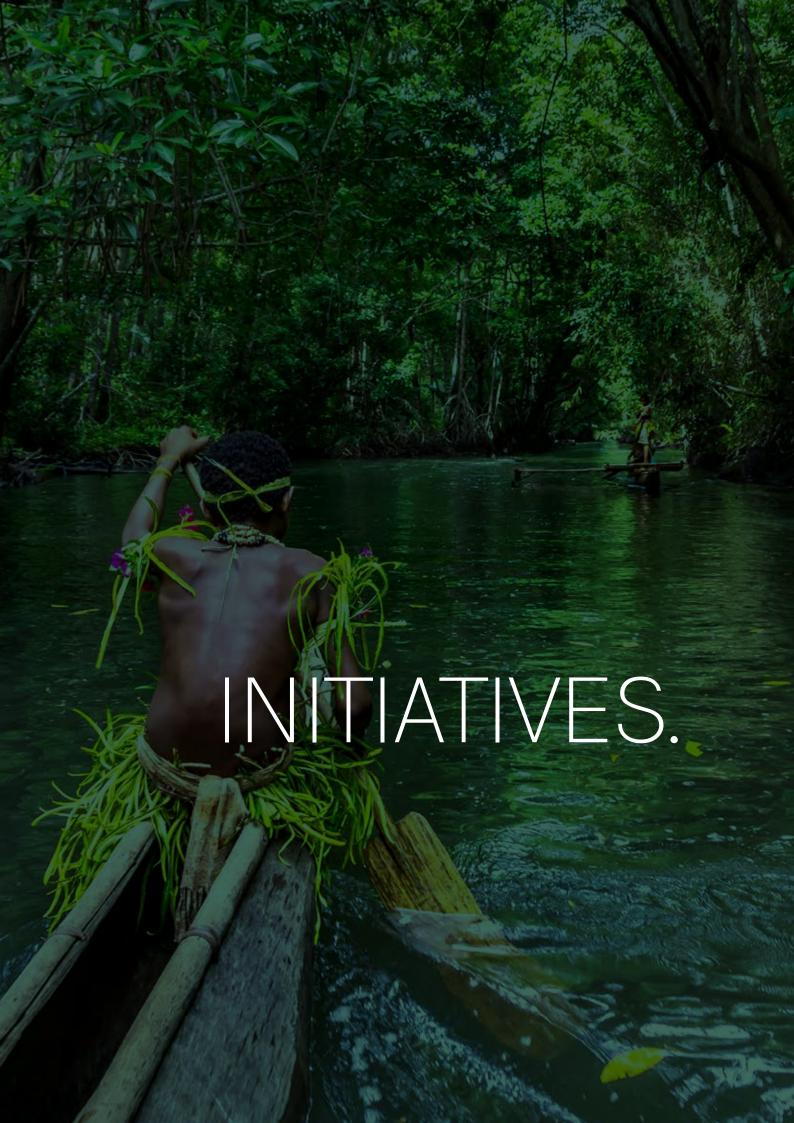
Other events attended during COP28 included a high-level meeting on the topic of finance for coral reefs, a discussion on improving ocean alkalinity, an exchange on the role of environmental philanthropy in UN processes, a preparatory event ahead of the United Nations Ocean Conference due to take place in Nice in 2025, an Ocean Decade Foundations Dialogue focused on efficient philanthropic cooperation, a session on ocean acidification in the Persian Gulf, the Red Sea and the Mediterranean, and a meeting for the implementation of the Ocean Decade in Africa.

During his time at COP28, the Sovereign Prince highlighted the importance of making ocean and biodiversity protection a global priority for the climate.



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The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation develops and coordinates its own specific initiatives, working hand in hand with internationally renowned partners surrounding itself with a strong network of experts. With 12 initiatives currently running, the Foundation focuses its efforts on some of the major environmental challenges of our time and strengthens its impactinits priority action areas: managing Marine Protected Areas, combatting ocean plastic pollution, protecting threatened species and ecosystems, reducing the impact of climate change on the ocean, and protecting forests through the action of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.



#### FORESTS AND COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE



© Philippe Fitte/FPA2

Forests are the green heart and lungs of our planet. As well as being home to the majority of plant and animal species in the biosphere, they fertilise our soils, moderate our climate and provide an infinite number of other ecosystem services.

Yet humans continue to destroy this priceless natural heritage, with forest destruction increasing in recent decades. The world's largest tropical forest areas – the Amazon, Central Africa and South-East Asia – are subject to enormous pressure, which threatens the ecological balance of the entire planet.

In 2022, given the urgency of the situation, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, alongside

the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law, the International Ranger Federation, the Global Forest Coalition and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, launched the Forests and Communities Initiative (FCI).

The Initiative's first international conference – Inclusive Conservation: Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities at the Forefront of Forest Protection – took place from 21 to 23 November 2023. More than 100 experts, scientists and stakeholders, including representatives of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, gathered in Monaco in the presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, to tackle the challenges of inclusive forest conservation.

Speakers at this initial conference included the five Indigenous leaders featured in the docuseries *Our Forests*, produced by ARTE and Lato Sensu Productions: Tumursukh Jal, Mundiya Kepanga, Twyla Edgi Masuzumi, Hilarion Kassa Moussavou, aka Mambongo, and Benki Piyãko, along with photographer Sebastião Salgado, activists Nemonte Nenquimo and Txai Surui, academics Carlos A. Nobre and Tasso Azevedo, and the Director of the UN Forum on Forests, Juliette Biao Koudénoukpo.

Through three panel discussions, fireside chats and workshops, the conference emphasised the need for a holistic approach, recognising Indigenous knowledge, promoting a rights-based and gender-just framework, aligning national environmental laws and rethinking funding and governance to support indigenous forestry projects. The conference was livestreamed on the FCI website and remains available to view online, along with the results of the workshops, to spread the message as widely as possible.

The event concluded with a call for action, highlighting the key challenges arising from those issues, as well as 19 recommendations for tackling them. In spring 2023, in the run-up to the conference, FCI organised three webinars attended by more than 200 people.

In 2023, FCI supported an initial field project in Borneo (Indonesia), which is home to a number of threatened species, including orangutans, sun bears, clouded leopards and helmeted hornbills.

Much of the recent agricultural expansion in the area has been at the expense of biodiversity and essential ecosystems, which are considered High Conservation Values (HCVs). The project aims to make agriculture more sustainable, protect the forests and improve livelihoods in the region, to ensure that HCV territories are better protected.

#### www.forestsandcommunitiesinitiative.org

#### **OBJECTIVES**

FCI's mission is to support the conservation of forest ecosystems through the action of Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPs & LCs) and the development of a network. The Initiative is prioritising training and capacity building to develop the tools, knowledge and skills of local experts in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, South and South-East Asia and the Pacific Islands.



#### RE.GENERATION FUTURE LEADERS PROGRAM



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Conscious of the dangers our planet faces and determined to take action, the younger generation has a particularly important role to play in tackling the current climate and biodiversity crisis. Among them are tomorrow's leaders – those with the potential to drive positive change.

In 2023, the Foundation launched the Re.Generation Future Leaders program with the support of the Cuomo Foundation, Boustany Foundation, Moët Hennessy group and Moross family.

The Initiative aims to promote and support talented young people who are destined to step into decision-making roles. These promising individuals from various parts of the world, all under the age of 35, are drawn from a wide range of sectors, including activism, conservation, science, media, finance, politics, art, entrepreneurship and innovation. In addition, they must all display a strong commitment to the environment, borne out by concrete action.

Every year, 10 to 12 talented individuals will be selected by the Foundation in liaison with a network of high-level partners (National Geographic, Jackson Wild, IUCN, One Young World, EuroNatur, Teri, Edinburgh Ocean Leaders and International University of Monaco).

An initial cohort of 10 talented young people was welcomed to Monaco in July for a two-week residential campus designed to strengthen their leadership and communication skills. Several leading figures from the environmental field gave masterclasses, including Paul Polman (CEO, Imagine), Marco Lambertini (former Director General, WWF), Alejandro Agag (CEO, Formula E), Tim Flannery (Professor, University of Melbourne), Abdallah Mokssit (Secretary, IPCC), Julia Marton-Lefèvre (former Director General, IUCN, and Chair of the Villars Institute), Sunita Narain (Director General, CSE), Philippe Schaus (CEO, Moët Hennessy) and Julia Pallé (Vice President, Sustainability, Formula E).

In addition, the cohort was given the opportunity to meet HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, at the Palace of Monaco for a privileged moment of dialogue. The group also benefited from increased visibility thanks to the public relations support they received. Their views were featured in various media outlets (*Les Échos, Planète, Al-Jazeera, EFE*, etc) and they were invited to speak at several events, including One Young World Summit, Jackson Wild Summit, National Geographic Milano Festival, Africa Tech Festival, TedX Cannes and COP28.

www.regeneration-leaders.org

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Strengthen the leadership and communication skills of the talented young people selected.
- Increase their visibility to put their commitment and projects more in the spotlight.
- Grow their network to boost the impact of their actions.

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#### **GLOBAL FUND FOR CORAL REEFS**



Coral reefs are home to a quarter of all marine life and support the livelihoods of at least a billion people around the world. Their worth is estimated at 10 trillion US dollars per year. Almost half the planet's coral reefs have already disappeared due to climate change, pollution, overfishing and other anthropogenic stress factors. Without immediate action and rapid mobilisation of resources, 90% of the world's coral reefs could deteriorate or disappear in the next 20 years.

The Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR), launched in 2020, is a blended finance instrument that raises public and private sector funding to support initiatives and businesses working to mitigate local drivers of coral reef degradation and increase the ability of reef-dependent communities to adapt.

The Fund's action is focused on the reefs most resistant to climate change, which have the best chance of surviving global warming, assuming other local drivers of degradation such as pollution can be eliminated or mitigated.

The GFCR is composed of two main funding mechanisms – a Grant Fund and an Investment Fund – and takes a four-pronged approach:

- Protecting priority coral reef sites, including climate change-affected 'refugia'
- Transforming the livelihoods of coral reefdependent communities and sectors.
- Restoring coral reefs using new technologies and adaptive approaches.
- **Promoting** the recovery and resilience of coral reef-dependent communities in the face of major shocks and environmental insecurity.

In 2023, the GFCR expanded its funding portfolio from 12 to 19 coral reef countries, raised over 35 million US dollars in public and private sector finance and increased global awareness of the urgent need to protect coral reefs. The new programmes launched include national initiatives in Jordan, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Seychelles and Maldives, as well as a regional programme for Micronesia.

In Mexico, a new GFCR investment was announced, supporting the development of Carbonwave, an innovative company harnessing the power of seaweed to combat climate change. Since it was set up, the GFCR Grant Fund has raised a total of just over 90 million US dollars in catalytic finance, including securing multiyear commitments from governments and philanthropic donors. In late 2023, at the UN Climate Change Conference in Dubai (COP28), where the Coral Reef Breakthrough was launched by the GFCR and its partners, ICONIQ Co-Lab joined GFCR as a donor. The Coral Reef Breakthrough is a movement that aims to secure the future of at least 125,000 square kilometres of tropical coral reefs thanks to investment totalling a minimum of 12 billion US dollars, to support the resilience of more than half a billion people globally by 2030. The GFCR Investment Fund has raised finance totalling 135 million US dollars since its activation in 2022, including from new investor Minderoo Foundation, which also joined the fund in 2023. A total of 36 million US dollars has been invested in catalytic grant programmes for coral reef countries since the GFCR became operational in 2021. For 2023 alone, the GFCR Board of Directors made decisions worth more than 19 million US dollars for programmes and global operations.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR) is a 10-year 625 million US dollar blended finance vehicle that aims to mobilise action and resources to protect and restore the world's most resilient coral reef ecosystems.

The creation of the Fund was initiated by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation, with the concept being developed at a workshop in Monaco in 2018. Launched in September 2020, the Fund is now a global partnership of member countries, philanthropic organisations, UN agencies, financial institutions and associated international organisations.

#### **KEY FIGURES**

- 90 million US dollars raised for grants
- 135 million US dollars raised for the Investment Fund
- 13 programmes in 19 countries
- 50+ partners



## DONORS' INITIATIVE FOR MEDITERRANEAN FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS

DIMFF



© Xh. Xherri/PPNEA

Protecting freshwater ecosystems and managing water resources sustainably are key challenges of the 21st century. For this reason the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, the MAVA Foundation and the Aage V. Jensen Charity Foundation joined forces to take action to address freshwater ecosystem conservation and restoration in the Mediterranean. The Donors' Initiative for Mediterranean Freshwater Ecosystems (DIMFE) was launched in September 2021 at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, in the presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco. The Initiative has since been joined by the Hans Wilsdorf Foundation and the Sigrid Rausing Trust.

Water covers more than 70% of the Earth's surface, but only 2.5% of it is freshwater. Yet despite their scarcity, wetlands are home to 12% of all known species. However, they have an extinction rate four to six times higher than in marine and terrestrial environments. In the Mediterranean, populations

of freshwater vertebrates have declined by an average of 28% since 1993 (Tour du Valat, 2021) and more than half of the Mediterranean wetlands have disappeared since 1970.

Protecting freshwater ecosystems is vital, not least because they are key to the development and well-being of human populations since they provide a wealth of ecosystem services (drinking water, crop irrigation, etc) and nature-based solutions for tackling climate change.

At the beginning of 2023, DIMFE supported five new projects in five Mediterranean countries (Greece, Jordan, Portugal, Tunisia and Türkiye). A third call for projects was launched in 2023 to support new organisations from 2024.

DIMFE also entered into a partnership with the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) to launch a call for small projects, with support ranging from 10,000 to 50,000 euros, with total

funds of 500,000 euros. Each party contributed 250,000 euros and the projects monitored by the CEPF. A total of 23 projects were selected.

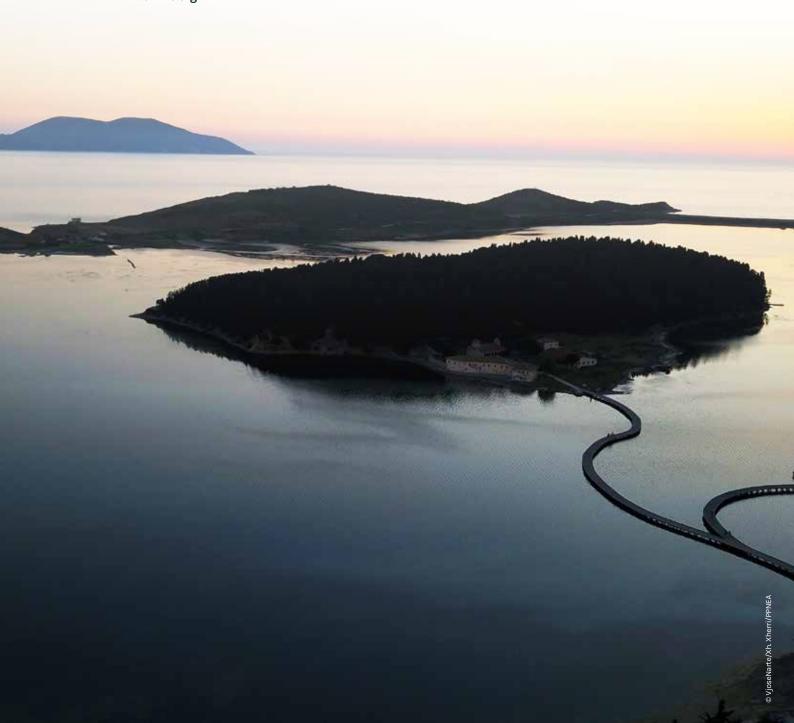
DIMFE also participated in the RiverRun festival at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC in April 2023. During a conference, the initiative highlighted the importance of freshwater ecosystems and the need to protect them.

In November 2023, members of DIMFE's governing bodies gathered in Monaco for a board meeting, where they held strategic discussions about the future of DIMFE.

www.dimfe.org

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Conservation and restoration of freshwater biodiversity and ecosystems.
- Sustainable use and management of water resources.
- Development and implementation of sustainable funding mechanisms for the conservation of freshwater ecosystems and sustainable water resource use.



#### **HUMAN-WILDLIFE INITIATIVE**



© Rémy Masséglia

The natural landscape is home to a large number of businesses and leisure activities, potentially bringing people into contact with wildlife. For them to coexist successfully, so that biodiversity flourishes alongside the smooth running of human activities, the land and resources need to be shared harmoniously.

In 2020, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation launched the Human–Wildlife Initiative (IHF) in partnership with the French National Council for the Protection of Nature, the Alpes-Maritimes Chamber of Agriculture, the Alpes-Maritimes Hunting Federation and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur League for the Protection of Birds (LPO PACA).

The Initiative brings together stakeholders from nature conservation, agriculture and hunting, representing differing viewpoints on wildlife management, with the shared goal of improving human-wildlife coexistence.

Focusing for the time being on the Sud-Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region in France, and also extending the scope of its action to Spain, the IHF seeks to identify and mobilise local insiders – stakeholders who are willing to get involved in developing concrete projects to improve social acceptability of the measures to be implemented and manage the interrelationship between wildlife and human activities (such as arable and pastoral farming, tourism, nature-based sports, hunting and environmental management) more effectively. The most committed stakeholders are given support and encouraged to communicate with each other via workshops to create new partnerships and joint projects on a larger scale.

The Initiative operates through an annual call for projects, the first of which was issued in September 2020. The third call for projects in France, launched in 2022, saw eight projects selected, starting in 2023.

During the year, the IHF organised a day of

talks followed by panel discussions, as well as educational workshops, as part of the 9th Images et Montagnes Festival in Saint-Martin-Vésubie. The event gave project leaders the opportunity to present their activities on the ground. The IHF also took part in the Prince Albert II of Monaco Environmental Photography Award exhibition Cohabiter at the GoodPlanet Foundation by holding talks and workshops on human-wildlife coexistence.

In addition, the Initiative was officially launched in Spain, with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, its Spanish branch and the think tank Observatorio Grupo Campo Grande. The first call for projects in Spain was launched in September 2023 and garnered more than 30 proposals.

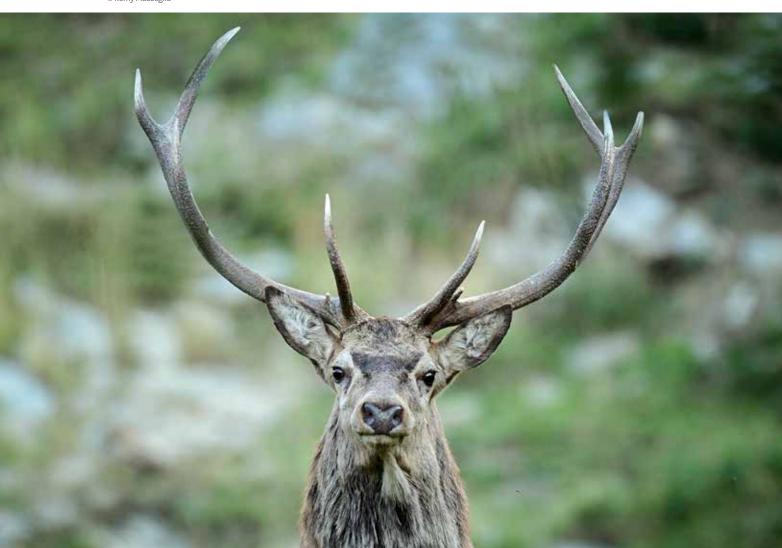
Discussions are underway around replicating IHF activities in neighbouring countries, including Italy and Switzerland.

www.initiativehommefaunesauvage.org

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The aim of the Initiative is to develop innovative proposals and practical recommendations on how to take better account of large wildlife in land management (wolves, deer, wild boar, mouflons, ibex, chamois, foxes, mustelids, rodents, bats, birds).

© Rémy Masséglia



#### MR. GOODFISH

### Towards More Sustainable Fishing Practices



© DR

Launched in 2010 under the aegis of three aquaria, Nausicaa in France, Acquario di Genova in Italy and Aquarium Finisterrae in Spain, the Mr.Goodfish programme came about as a result of the simple observation that too many fish species are overfished, while many lesser-known ones are in plentiful supply and... delicious!

The objective of Mr.Goodfish is to raise awareness of sustainable seafood consumption by providing advice to the entire fishing sector, from the fisher to the consumer. The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has been coordinating the Mr.Goodfish initiative throughout the south-east of France and Monaco since 2013 in the context of its commitment to protecting endangered marine species. Mr.Goodfish aims to reduce fishing pressure on fragile marine species by changing the practices of all those involved in the sector, as well as our consumption habits.

Each season, and for each coastline, Mr.Goodfish publishes a list of species recommended by its committee of experts based on the size of the fish, its reproduction period and its stock status. It takes a positive approach: rather than forbidding certain species, Mr.Goodfish promotes each season's sustainable alternatives.

In France, more than 2 200 professionals have already joined the programme. In Monaco in 2023, the restaurants Twiga, Maya Bay and Maya Jah came on board with Mr.Goodfish to promote responsible seafood consumption. The initiative was also involved in a number of trade and consumer events, including Escale in Sète and Monte-Carlo Gastronomie in Monaco.

www.mrgoodfish.com

## OCEAN ACIDIFICATION AND OTHER OCEAN CHANGES - IMPACTS AND SOLUTIONS

#### OACIS

The OACIS Initiative (Ocean Acidification and other ocean Changes – Impacts and Solutions), launched in 2013, works to advance both the science relating to the impacts of acidification and climate change on the ocean and ocean-based solutions to mitigate them.

OACIS brings together various stakeholders, including the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, Government of Monaco, IAEA Environment Laboratories, Monaco Scientific Centre, Oceanographic Institute–Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation, Oceanographic Laboratory in Villefranche-sur-Mer, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI).

As one of the Foundation's more technical initiatives, OACIS brings together scientists working on these topics via expert meetings, synthesis activities and technical training. The results are tailored to a lay audience to raise awareness as widely as possible and inform political decision-makers.

In 2023, OACIS organised a two-week training course on measuring carbon sequestration in

blue carbon ecosystems, bringing together 11 early-career researchers from Argentina, Brazil, El Salvador, USA, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Panama, Senegal, Tanzania and Thailand. The course was held at the IAEA Marine Environment Laboratories in Monaco and the Institut de la Mer de Villefranche (IMEV). The Initiative also set up an expert workshop to study potential solutions to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change with a focus on atolls, which are especially impacted by rising sea levels.

The first research project supported by the Initiative, centred on the technique of ocean alkalinity enhancement and its potential impact on marine life, started in February 2023. OACIS then launched its second call for projects, focused on the same topic, to accelerate the gathering of scientific data on the feasibility and impact of this still little-known technique.

In collaboration with German research institute Geomar, OACIS also coordinated the production of a research best practice guide on ocean alkalinity enhancement, with contributions from some 50 researchers, to encourage data sharing and global transparency with regard to this technique. The Guide was launched at COP28 in Dubai in December 2023.



## **MONK SEAL ALLIANCE**



Participants at the Monk Seal Alliance Forum, Athens, January 2023

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has been supporting monk seal conservation projects in the Mediterranean since 2011. Recognising that there had been a lack of collaboration between stakeholders, the Foundation organised several expert meetings, starting in 2017, and in 2019 they spearheaded the creation of a funding coalition dedicated to protecting the monk seal and its habitat: the Monk Seal Alliance (MSA).

The MSA currently includes five donor organisations: the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, MAVA Foundation, Segré Foundation, Thalassa Foundation and Hans Wilsdorf Foundation. Its objective is to mobilise resources to strengthen efforts to protect the monk seal.

In January 2023, the Monk Seal Alliance brought together the entire community of monk seal experts in Athens for a three-day forum, during which they discussed the conservation action priorities for its third call for projects. The participants also signed a declaration of intent, pledging to share their data so as to better understand conservation needs in the Mediterranean Basin and joigned a working group to create a collaborative platform at transnational level.

During the event, the MSA also signed a partnership agreement with NECCA, the agency responsible for protected areas in Greece, to increase the impact of our actions and coordinate an initiative specific to Greece in 2024.

In March 2023, the third Monk Seal Alliance call for projects was launched, taking into account the conclusions that came out of the workshops held in January. Eight new projects covering the species' entire area of distribution were selected, with total funding of 1.8 million euros granted for 2024 to 2026. In addition to this new project portfolio, 2023 saw the completion of some of the initial projects supported by the MSA. These included a project coordinated by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), in which eleven organisations from five Mediterranean countries (Greece, Cyprus, Türkiye, Israel and Lebanon) worked together on monk seal protection. As a result of this project, two protected areas specifically for monk seals were created off the coast of northern Cyprus, research protocols were standardised, species knowledge was improved and anthropogenic pressure mitigated.

www.monksealalliance.org



#### **PELAGOS INITIATIVE**



© Frédéric Larrey

The Pelagos Sanctuary is the first cross-border area of the Mediterranean dedicated to the protection of marine mammals. Stretching over an area of 87,500 square kilometres between France, Monaco and Italy, it harbours remarkable biodiversity, being particularly rich in plankton and home to various species of whales and dolphins, several of which are on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

Nonetheless, due to a lack of resources and commitment from the member states, the Pelagos Sanctuary is still not fulfilling its original aims. Civil society therefore decided to take action: in 2021, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF),

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and Mediterranean Marine Protected Area Managers Network (MedPAN) came together to create the Pelagos Initiative.

The purpose of the Pelagos Initiative is to act as a lever to boost the protection of the Sanctuary already implemented by the member states. The Pelagos Sanctuary's territory extends well beyond the coastal zone and its increased protection could set an example for the management of Marine Protected Areas in open waters.

On Tuesday 21 March 2023, during Monaco Ocean Week, the Pelagos Initiative hosted its first forum.

More than 80 local stakeholders, Marine Protected Area management bodies, municipalities, civil society, scientific organisations, private sector and representatives of international agreements, met to discuss and develop joint projects to be implemented within the Sanctuary.

A call for projects focusing on the challenges related to climate change within the Pelagos Sanctuary was launched at the event, thanks to the partnership between the UBS Optimus Foundation, UBS Monaco and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation. Five projects were selected and will be implemented in early 2024.

In 2023, the Didier and Martine Primat Foundation also joined the Pelagos Initiative as a financial partner. The Vilebrequin Foundation supported the production of two videos featuring top-level freedivers, ambassadors for the Initiative, to promote the Pelagos Sanctuary.

www.initiativepelagos.org

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- Support and promote research and collaborative activities in the Pelagos Sanctuary to protect marine mammals and their habitats.
- Raise awareness of the Sanctuary and the initiatives undertaken within it.
- Promote interaction and organise joint activities between the managers of Marine Protected Areas within the Sanctuary.
- Raise funds and issue calls for projects annually to implement the above actions and contribute to the Sanctuary's protection and conservation objectives.



© Frédéric Larrey

## THE MEDFUND



© Renaud Dupuis de la Grandrive

Eight percent of the Mediterranean enjoys protected status in the form of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and other spatial conservation measures. Science has demonstrated that properly managed MPAs protect marine biodiversity, restore fish stocks and strengthen the resilience of marine ecosystems. However, Mediterranean MPAs are underfunded and/or funded sporadically, which makes it impossible for them to give these ecosystems long-term protection.

The MedFund is an environmental trust fund based in Monaco, whose sole purpose is financing Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the

Mediterranean. Set up in 2015 by France, Tunisia and Monaco, with the support of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and the MedPAN network, the MedFund underpins the commitment of several European countries and international environmental organisations.

The environmental fund is based partly on an innovative financing mechanism designed to raise a substantial amount of capital, the investment income of which provides MPAs with regular, long-term funding. Transparent and secure, it adheres to a responsible investment policy that is in line with a new, more sustainable Mediterranean economy.

In 2023, the MedFund Board of Directors approved maximum funding of around 1.5 million euros for five new MPAs over the next five years, two of which are Highly Protected Marine Areas (HPMAs):

- Ras Rmel on the island of Dierba, Tunisia
- · Stari Ulcinj in Montenegro
- Gouraya National Park, Algeria
- Sporades Alonissos in Greece (HPMA)
- Fethiye Gocêk, Turkey (HPMA)

This funding is being granted to local civil society organisations working alongside the national agencies in charge of protected areas. It helps finance activities that are vital for the management of these natural spaces, protecting marine ecosystems and the populations that depend on them.

To date, The MedFund has supported 20 MPAs in 9 Mediterranean countries: Albania, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Turkey, Montenegro, Lebanon, Croatia and Greece. This equates to over 9,100 square kilometres of protected coastal and marine areas and a total financial investment of more than 6 million euros over the next 5 years.

A call for expressions of interest to support new Highly Protected Marine Areas in the Mediterranean was launched alongside the COP23 of the Barcelona Convention, held in December 2023.

The MedFund will launch another call for expressions of interest open to Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Lebanon, Albania and Montenegro during Monaco Ocean Week 2024, boosting its support

The MedFund receives funding from the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, MAVA Foundation, Pew Bertarelli Ocean Legacy Project, Global Environment Facility (GEF), French Global Environment Facility (FFEM), French Development Agency (AFD), Government of Monaco, Government of Spain and a network of partner aquariums and 700S.

#### www.themedfund.org

#### **OBJECTIVES**

Supporting some 20 Marine Protected Areas - more than 7,000 square kilometres of protected space - by 2025 has already been achieved. While Mediterranean countries have committed to protecting 30% of their coastal and marine areas by 2030, a new 2025/2030 strategy will be drawn up to continue and strengthen the work of the MedFund.

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#### **BEYOND PLASTIC MED**

#### BEMED



© DR

Plastic pollution at sea is one of the most serious environmental problems affecting the ocean today. Once released into the natural environment, plastic can take up to 500 years to disappear. Over 10 million tons of plastic are dumped into the ocean every year. As it drifts in open water (the pelagic zone), plastic strangles and suffocates many animal species. The action of sunlight breaks it down into microplastics that can be ingested by fish and consequently enter the food chain, making it a potential threat to human health. With more than 3,000 billion microplastic particles, the Mediterranean is the most heavily polluted sea in the world.

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, Tara Ocean Foundation, Surfrider Foundation Europe, MAVA Foundation and International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) created Beyond Plastic Med (BeMed) in 2015 to tackle plastic pollution in the Mediterranean. In January 2019, BeMed became an association under Monegasque law.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

Reduce plastic pollution in the Mediterranean by mobilising and supporting committed stakeholders, helping to implement effective long-term solutions and encouraging the sharing of experience and best practice.

To tackle local issues as effectively as possible, every year BeMed supports projects designed to find alternatives, improve waste management systems, raise awareness, gather data and help to introduce new regulations. Since it was formed, BeMed has invested 1.3 million euros in 92 projects in 15 countries.

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#### **BeMed Business Club**

BeMed set up a Business Club in January 2020 with the intention of encouraging companies from different sectors and different stages in the plastics value chain to work together, fostering dialogue between scientists, companies and civil society and implementing initiatives on the ground tailored to the range of local contexts in the Mediterranean.

In 2023, the network had 11 members: Chanel, Monte-Carlo Société des Bains de Mer, Veolia, Carrefour, Nielsen Recycling Solutions, Iberostar, InterContinental Marseille-Hotel Dieu, L'Occitane en Provence, Nestlé France, Cogitel (Altea Packaging Group) and La Badira.

The Business Club's first pilot project, 'Towards a zero single-use plastic hotel', implemented within the InterContinental Marseille–Hotel Dieu in 2022, proved that it was possible to reduce single-use plastic consumption with the involvement of staff without compromising on customer service quality, and at no additional cost to the hotel. Following this success, BeMed unveiled a turnkey method in 2023 to ensure the method's widespread use. The project is being adapted at La Badira in Tunisia.

#### Call for micro-initiatives

Every year, BeMed issues a call for micro-initiatives with the support of the Didier and Martine Primat Foundation, Aether Fund of the Foundation for Future Generations, Fondation Vilebrequin and Fondation Sancta Devota. The beneficiaries of the programme are NGOs, local authorities, scientific institutions and small businesses.

In 2023, the addition of 11 new projects in 6 countries strengthened the network's expertise:

- Reviewing the use and import of single-use plastic bags in Cyprus, analysing the enforcement of the law banning those bags and raising awareness – Together Cyprus, Cyprus.
- Mapping the public and private sector stakeholders providing drinking water refill points and promoting alternatives to single-use plastic water bottles Omnia, Cyprus.

- Implementing a participatory science protocol on microplastics with 10 schools **SciCo, Greece**.
- Training local tourism businesses in reducing single-use plastic and raising public awareness Agia Napa Municipality, Cyprus.
- Replicating the setting-up of a waste sorting centre in Bizerte and raising awareness of selective sorting in five schools and the fishing and tourism sectors Tunisie Recyclage, Tunisia.
- Strengthening facilities for the collection and treatment of fishing and mussel farming waste and exploring ways to improve practices in the sector iSea, Greece.
- Working with schools to build tools to raise awareness of plastic pollution and its effects on health and the environment - Bizerte Diving Club, Tunisia.
- Working with supermarkets and local people to eliminate the use of plastic bags on the island by developing a facility to produce bags made from unused hotel linen and fabric remnants
- Elafonisos Ecological and Sustainable Development Association, Greece.
- Creating an 'eco-patrol' in a river canyon and setting up waste collection systems and monitoring protocols for the efficient reduction of plastic pollution Sub-Merus, Croatia.
- Raising public awareness of the environmental impacts of single-use period products - Rezero, Spain.
- Organising awareness sessions and cleaning campaigns within schools, municipalities and local businesses in the Tyr region – Alissar Liban, Lebanon.

#### BeMed+ project

Led by BeMed, Surfrider Foundation Europe and IUCN in collaboration with NGO Notre Grand Bleu and the Institute for Nature Conservation in Albania (INCA), the BeMed+ project, selected by the French Global Environment Facility, aims to implement pilot actions in 2024 in two targeted regions: the tourist area of Monastir in Tunisia and the Shkumbin river basin in Albania.

#### www.beyondplasticmed.org



#### **POLAR INITIATIVE**



© The Arctic Circle Assembly 2023

Despite their remoteness, the polar regions are essential not just to our health and well-being but also to planetary balance. The poles harbour extraordinary biodiversity, new species are constantly being discovered. The polar regions provide food and livelihoods for hundreds of thousands of people, and fulfil a key role in regulating the climate.

But the polar regions are changing at an unprecedented rate. Climate change is altering oceanic circulation and causing ice sheet and permafrost melt, warming and polar ocean acidification. These changes have consequences for humans, wherever they live: rising sea levels, climate disturbance and increasing extreme weather events, flooding, drought and forest fires, and impacts on polar ecosystems and organisms, which populations depend on for their livelihood.

Launched in 2022 by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation in partnership with the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), the International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) and the Oceanographic Institute-Prince Abert I of Monaco Foundation, the Polar Initiative facilitates and supports scientific collaboration between the two poles and focuses on raising awareness, building capacity and implementing conservation action on the ground.

During the Arctic Circle Assembly in Reykjavik in October 2023, the Foundation hosted a session in partnership with IASC (International Arctic Science Committee). The session 'Arctic Stewards: Indigenous Leadership in Integrated Biodiversity Conservation' brought together representatives of Indigenous Peoples and polar scientists to discuss the leadership of these communities in the integrated biodiversity preservation.

At the One Planet – Polar Summit in Paris in November 2023, the Foundation took the opportunity to present its objectives to the polar community as part of a panel discussion on the financing of action to protect the cryosphere.

Also in 2023, the Polar Initiative awarded a new grant to a young researcher as part of the SCAR funding programme. In addition, the IASC funding programme selected three new recipients who will receive grants as part of the Initiative in early 2024. This will bring the number of young early-career researchers supported by the Polar Initiative to seven.

www.thepolarinitiative.org

#### **OBJECTIVES**

The Polar Initiative seeks to intensify international advocacy to improve the long-term protection of Arctic and Antarctic ecosystems, strengthen research programmes and scientific collaboration between the two poles, and support Indigenous populations in managing the impact of the changes on their culture and way of life.

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The projects supported by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation focus primarily on improving biodiversity knowledge, studying the effects of climate change, increasing the use of renewable energy, optimising water resource management, combatting deforestation, protecting endangered species and developing Marine Protected Areas. Involving local stakeholders and working with groups of experts, such as associations, NGOs and universities, each project follows rigorous procedures, meets precise objectives and delivers clear results. The Foundation selects these ambitious, continent-wide environmental programmes through a highly stringent selection process.



# OLHOS D'ÁGUA: REFORESTING THE FOREST AND PROTECTING WATER SOURCES

**Project leader**: Instituto Terra **Location**: Brazil



The Atlantic Forest in Brazil is one of the world's key biodiversity hotspots. But as the country's largest agricultural and industrial region, it is also subject to intensive exploitation. Deforestation and its effects, including reduced water levels, soil erosion and desertification, have led to the impoverishment of the rural community.

The Ohlos d'Água project is employing reforestation to rehabilitate and protect water sources located on land belonging to smallholders. Working hand-in-hand with them, the project aims to improve their life expectancy by providing access to good quality water, while fostering a more equitable circular economy. The project consists of five major phases: mobilising 18 farmers, implementing an environmental plan for their properties, providing tools and supplies (including seedlings), fencing the plots and planting, and installing a mini-septic tank on each plot to treat wastewater through bacterial activity.

By the end of the project, the forest coverage is expected to improve soil quality in ecologically strategic zones through the planting of around 19,800 indigenous seedlings over a total area of 18 hectares.

#### The objectives

- -> Improve water resource management by combatting deforestation in the Atlantic Forest.
- -> Boost the rural economy and improve sanitary conditions for populations in the region.
- -> Reduce conflict related to water scarcity.

# A NEW BLUE DEAL FOR THE BALEARIC SEA AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

**Project leader**: Marilles Foundation **Location**: Spain

The economy of the Balearic Islands in the heart of the Mediterranean depends on tourism, a sector that was hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic. With its recovery now underway, the project aims to lay the foundations of a sustainable economic model for the region.

Firstly, the project proposes to better integrate marine conservation in economic recovery plans, by encouraging the EU's recovery funds to invest. Secondly, given the benefits that the tourism industry derives from the sea, stakeholders are being encouraged to give back by helping to fund the protection of this fragile environment.

The programme's main aims are to create largescale initiatives with budgets allocated to restoring marine and coastal environments, and to raise awareness of the economic benefits of investing in marine protection.



#### The objectives

- -> Increase funding for marine conservation.
- -> Correct the imbalance between the economic benefits derived by tourism from the sea and what it gives back.
- -> Highlight the economic benefits of investing in marine conservation.

# BLUE SPEEDS: REDUCING SHIPPING SPEEDS TO PROTECT MARINE LIFE

**Project leader**: International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) **Location**: France, Spain, Italy, Greece, Monaco, Gibraltar, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium

Large cetaceans - and marine life as a whole - are exposed to three severely harmful environmental pressures: disruptive underwater radiated noise (URN), ship strikes and greenhouse gas emissions. But there is a simple and effective way to significantly reduce their impact: reducing shipping speeds. Slowing down commercial ships to 75% of their maximum speed, i.e. a reduction of approximately 10% of their effective speed, would reduce URN by 40%, the risk of colliding with whales by 50%, and greenhouse gas emissions by 13%. The aim of the Blue Speeds campaign is to encourage governments and all shipping stakeholders commercial

commercial shipping stakeholders to significantly reduce anthropogenic URN and the risk of ships colliding with marine life, alongside taking steps to cut greenhouse gases. European waters are the primary target of this campaign: as well as being home to large whale populations, they host some of the world's busiest maritime routes and international ports. Through its concrete action with the maritime transport industry the Blue Speeds project is also bringing about lasting change at international level.

#### The objectives

-> Significantly reduce anthropogenic URN in the maritime transport sector.

© IFAW

- -> Minimise the risk of commercial ships colliding with whales, thereby helping to protect marine life.
- -> Reduce the maritime industry's greenhouse gas emissions by decreasing commercial shipping speeds.

# TSARA KOBABY: SETTING UP COMMUNITY-BASED GOVERNANCE FOR THE FUTURE MARINE AND LAND PROTECTED AREA

**Project leader**: Research and Technology Exchange Group (GRET) **Location**: Madagascar

With its 800 hectares of coastal rainforest and its coasts forming part of the largest breeding ground for humpback whales in the South-west Indian Ocean, the island of Sainte-Marie (also known as Nosy Boraha) in Madagascar is blessed with exceptional biodiversity. The islanders derive their livelihoods from these marine and coastal ecosystems through fishing and tourism, but anthropogenic pressures and climate change are negatively impacting these activities.

The aim of this project is to support these vulnerable communities, particularly women, by running inclusive eco-tourism projects and

developing income-generating activities. It is also focused on setting up community-based governance of the marine and land protected area currently being created, in particular by implementing the necessary regulatory procedures.

Taking a commons-based approach, it encourages the local population to participate through the Platform of consultation and support for sustainable development of Sainte-Marie Island (PCADDISM), while mobilising outside expertise for the marine aspect of the project.



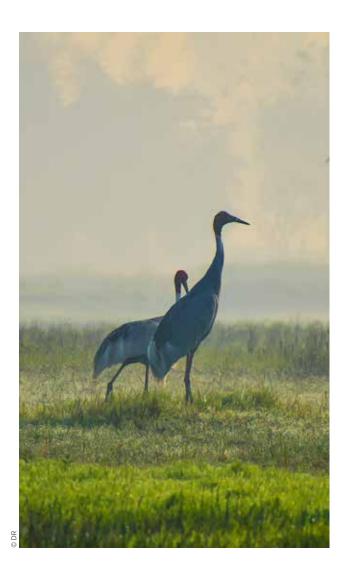
#### The objectives

- -> Improve living conditions for vulnerable communities.
- -> Develop inclusive eco-tourism projects and income-generating activities.
- -> Set up community-based governance of the marine and land protected area.

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# SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE TO SUPPORT WETLAND RESILIENCE IN CAMBODIA

**Project leader**: Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT) **Location**: Cambodia



The wetland-dwelling sarus crane is an iconic species at risk. Populations in Cambodia and Vietnam, which have fallen by 81% since 2014, are threatened with extinction. Climate change, hydroelectric power generation and agricultural irrigation are transforming the birds' breeding and feeding grounds and disrupting their migration patterns.

Improving water resource management and restoring essential habitats through the use of environmentally sensitive practices are two key ways to help protect the sarus crane. Pilot projects to grow alternative crops, such as mung beans and new varieties of long-cycle rice, are being implemented to relieve the pressure exerted on wetlands by intensive agriculture. Scientific research is documenting and gauging the effectiveness and impact of these restoration measures.

By promoting sustainable agricultural practices that enable human activity and wildlife to coexist in harmony, this integrated programme aims to become a model for seasonal wetland management in the Lower Mekong.

#### The objectives

- -> Restore sarus crane habitats in the Lower Mekong.
- -> Promote sustainable agriculture and develop alternative drought-resistant practices.
- -> Continuously monitor the condition of the wetlands and the impact of the measures taken.

# GREEN LIGHT FOR COASTAL WETLANDS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

**Project leader**: Tour du Valat Foundation **Location**: France

The coastal areas of the Mediterranean are home to large populations and extensive business activity, as well as numerous biodiversity hotspots. However, because of rising water levels due to global warming, they are fragile and under threat. Restoring and protecting wetlands is proving to be a sustainable solution to the problem by helping to preserve water, store carbon, prevent flooding, slow down coastal erosion and protect the habitats of vulnerable species.

This project comprises three main strands. Firstly, the Mediterranean Wetlands Observatory is preparing the third edition of its scientific report,

which will provide the basis for advocacy activities to be carried out by the programme partners.

Secondly, through the 'Green Light' mechanism of the Mediterranean Wetlands Alliance, the project leader and civil society organisations (CSOs) are compiling a list of priority sites, based on the mapping of Mediterranean wetlands with high restoration potential, established as part of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration.

Lastly, in partnership with one CSO, a coastal wetland restoration operation will be launched as a pilot project.



#### The objectives

- -> Promote the restoration of Mediterranean coastal wetlands as a nature-based solution to tackle climate change.
- -> Improve the state of Mediterranean coastal wetlands in partnership with civil society.
- -> Develop a pilot project that can be replicated across all coastal wetlands.

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# CORVI PROJECT: PRIORITISING CLIMATE ACTION IN TOAMASINA, MADAGASCAR

**Project leader**: The Henry L. Stimson Center **Location**: Madagascar

The rapid urbanisation of East Africa's coastal and island nations is putting considerable pressure on people and their environment. Housing, transport and waste management are just some of the challenges that remain to be addressed, against a backdrop of accelerated climate risks, to guarantee the future sustainability of coastal cities. CORVI, the Climate and Ocean Risk Vulnerability Index, is a tool designed to help leaders make the necessary climate investment decisions by providing them with detailed maps of their areas' specific climate risks.

Beset by a combination of rapid urban development and severe exposure to extreme climate events (cyclones, rising sea levels and drought), the port city of Toamasina in Madagascar is the focus of this project.

The intention is for CORVI to help ensure economic, food and environmental security for this crucial commercial hub despite those threats. Relying on extensive partnerships in East Africa, The Henry L. Stimson Center is training the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and Madagascar's Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy to use CORVI to enable leaders to invest in climate resilience.



#### The objectives

- -> Develop the climate resilience of coastal cities.
- -> Train local partners to use CORVI.
- -> Provide crucial data to access the funding to build the city's climate resilience.

#### OTHER PROJECTS APPROVED IN 2023

## SCROPHULARIA: CONSERVATION STRATEGY OF THE OPERATIONAL NETWORK FOR PLANTS AND HABITATS

Project leader: Conservatoire botanique national méditerranéen de Porquerolles

Location: France

#### THE EDINBURGH OCEAN LEADERS PROGRAMME - PHASE 2

Project leader: The University of Edinburgh

**Location**: United Kingdom

#### OCEANOSCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION

**Project leader:** OceanoScientific Association **Location:** Scattered Islands in the Indian Ocean

#### BOOSTING THE RESILIENCE OF PAKISTAN'S COASTAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS

Project leader: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Pakistan

Location: Pakistan

#### SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IUCN RED LIST OF THREATENED SPECIES

Project leader: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

**Location**: International

#### POLLUTION AND OCEAN CHANGES: IMPACTS AND SOLUTIONS

Project leader: Monaco Scientific Centre

Location: France

Technological progress is unquestionably a lever of change to generate human activity that is more respectful of the living world. That is why the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation proactively encourages innovation and stands alongside innovators who are implementing long-term solutions that benefit the planet, particularly the ocean. Keen to combine ecology and business to accelerate the transition to tomorrow's world, the Foundation supports creative entrepreneurs, directs investment wisely and protects natural ecosystems, while upholding the fairest and most ethical business models.

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## **ReOCEAN FUND**

Investing to support blue innovation



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For many years, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has been backing innovative businesses that have a real impact on safeguarding and developing the ocean. Considerable funds are needed to support them. But while philanthropy plays a key role, it is not enough in itself. Investment is proving to be a vital lever to protect our seas and develop their resources, to create a more resilient environment.

Against that backdrop, on Tuesday 21 March, in the presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, his Foundation and Monaco Asset Management officially launched a new venture capital fund designed to support the United Nations' SDG 14 (Life Below Water).

The aim is to stimulate innovation and support the transition towards an equitable, regenerative blue economy through the investment of 100 million euros.

The ocean is fragile and in peril due to the overexploitation of resources, pollution, the destruction of ecosystems and climate change. But it is also a well of solutions to improve planetary health. Recent developments in economic, political and consumer dynamics point to an even greater need to focus investment on the ocean by supporting innovation.

#### ReOcean Fund objectives

- -> Reduce the key sources of pollution in the ocean.
- -> Transform the way we produce blue food and travel across the ocean.
- -> Protect marine ecosystems and the critical services they provide.
- -> Inform and equip stakeholders with robust and transparent data.

The fund will invest in five sectors that collectively release the regenerative potential of the oceans:

- Plastic pollution solutions.
- Healthy, regenerative, equitable blue food.
- Green shipping and yachting.
- Restoration and protection.
- · Ocean data.

To access the most effective solutions, the fund will have global geographic scope. At the launch of the ReOcean Fund in Monaco in March 2023, the Sovereign Prince expressed the hope that the fund will provide new resources for the future of the seas and regenerate the ocean while minimising the effects of climate change.

#### Three committees

The ReOcean Fund is governed by three committees with specific roles and missions to ensure the impact of the investment throughout its lifecycle, while also guaranteeing integrity and extensive expertise in economics and finance, as well as ocean-related issues.

- The Impact Committee, bringing together experts from the sectors in which the ReOcean Fund invests to evaluate the potential impact of each operation.
- The Advisory Committee, made up of experts, business leaders and investors, who advise the management on the development of its strategy.
- The Investment Committee, the fund's management body, comprising two representatives from each of the two founding entities (i.e. four in total) Monaco Asset Management and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation



## **OCEAN INNOVATORS PLATFORM**

Cutting-edge technologies that benefit humanity and the ocean



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Launched in 2022, the Ocean Innovators Platform (OIP) is a high-level private event exploring innovative solutions to protect marine environments and their resources. It highlights the vital role of entrepreneurship and investment in developing a sustainable blue economy and hosts numerous sessions at major international meetings.

#### The objectives of the Ocean Innovators Platform

- -> Promote the best solutions and existing innovative approaches to boost the positive impact on the global ocean.
- -> Connect decision-makers, investors, business leaders and philanthropists with talented innovators and entrepreneurs.
- -> Create an active community of economic stakeholders interested in the commercial prospects associated with protecting the ocean.

#### 2023 Events

## Monaco Ocean Week

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation hosted the fourth edition of the Ocean Innovators Platform on 21 and 22 March during Monaco Ocean Week 2023. Dialogue at the OIP covered solutions to the threats facing the coastal aquatic environment: concrete projects and significant advances in ocean-based innovation, as well as the possibilities offered by specific financing models. Coastal tourism was a key topic for discussion, focusing on the implementation of more sustainable, regenerative models to protect biodiversity and create virtuous circles in the context of the economy. Discussions also explored a sustainable approach to marine resources, assessing the current production and consumption situation and considering innovative solutions for sustainable fishing, responsible aquaculture and alternatives to traditional products. Sustainable shipping, the future of coastal infrastructures and artificial intelligence were also examined from an innovation perspective.

In closing the fourth edition of this ambitious event, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco said that it should help "build an effective and unique community to promote the ocean". In particular, he underlined the importance of coordinating actions to protect our seas and pool efforts to access concrete solutions: "We must work together in a coordinated manner with businesses, scientists, financial stakeholders and all those who contribute to change. Without this coordinated effort, we will not be able to develop the various initiatives talked about here on the scale they deserve."

#### COP28

The fifth session of the Ocean Innovators Platform (OIP) took place during the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai. On Friday 1 December, in partnership with the World Economic Forum's 1000 Ocean Startups Coalition and Community Jameel, the OIP brought together its community of entrepreneurs, investors and philanthropists for a special day focused on three topics: the large-scale restoration of marine ecosystems, carbon dioxide removal (CDR) and green shipping. Opening the session, Olivier Wenden, Vice-President and CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, mentioned how important it was to be hosting the Platform during COP28, since the ocean plays a crucial role in climate regulation and the blue economy offers a means of financing sustainable ecological solutions. The day concluded with a reception on board OceanXplorer, when a partnership was forged between the Foundation, OceanX and the 1000 Ocean Startups Coalition.

On Saturday 2 December, the OIP organised a high-level meeting hosted by Community Jameel at the Jameel Arts Centre in the presence of HSH the Sovereign Prince. The meeting presented an overview of a regenerative economy, with a particular focus on the role of blue capital investment in fostering ocean innovation.

The Ocean Innovators Platform was co-hosted by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, 1000 Ocean Startups and Community Jameel, with the support of the Sustainable Ocean Alliance, Solar Impulse Foundation, Builders Vision, Una Terra Venture Capital Fund, Systemiq Capital, Climate Impact and Blue Action Lab.



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The profound transformation that will enable us to build a more sustainable future and invent new ways to live in harmony with nature will be the product of a collective approach. For this reason the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation is eager to deliver its message as widely as possible and to be a catalyst for initiatives that implement concrete action. Bound by a firm belief in interdisciplinary collaboration, the Foundation has made it its mission to bring people together citizens, political leaders, policymakers, NGOs and businesses - to spark dialogue, spread ideas and launch change-making projects both locally and globally.



## **MONACO OCEAN WEEK**

## Protect, explore and innovate

From 20 to 26 March, scientists, experts, NGOs and civil society representatives came together for Monaco Ocean Week, hosted by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, the Monegasque Government, the Oceanographic Institute, Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation, Monaco Scientific Centre and Monaco Yacht Club. A total of 47 events addressing key topical issues were held during the week. The Monaco Blue Initiative and Monaco Ocean Week are supported by Rolex and Barclays Private Bank.



#### Ocean governance

After the 14th Monaco Blue Initiative, involving high-level stakeholders in ocean conservation and governance, held on day 1, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation launched the first forum for the Pelagos Initiative (to strengthen action within the Sanctuary), as well as a legal roundtable addressing the law of the sea.

A workshop organised by Together for the Med took place on the theme of Mediterranean crossborder dynamics within the framework of Highly Protected MPAs. Conservation was also the subject of the conference organised by Côte d'Azur University in partnership with BlueSeeds and Coral Guardian, as well as of two events dealing with the management of Marine Protected Areas and the new Global Alliance for Marine Protection.

#### Blue economy and blue finance

The Monaco Scientific Centre brought together blue economy experts to prepare a report on the conditions for using the ocean sustainably. Blue finance was also high on the agenda, with the launch of the ReOcean Fund co-managed by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and Monaco Asset Management, and discussions with coastal community leaders, investors and coral reef specialists. As a key sector of the blue economy, sustainable yachting was in the spotlight with the 12th Environmental Symposium, hosted by Monaco Yacht Club and the 27th Captains' Forum, bringing together 150 superyacht skippers.

#### **Innovation**

Two events promoting cutting-edge solutions included the Ocean Innovators Platform, an event focused on advanced technologies, and the second edition of Seaweed Day, bringing together ambassadors from the algae industry. The first Monaco Smart Yacht Rendez-Vous showcased green innovations in yachting. The Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea (ACCOBAMS) introduced NETCCOBAMS, an innovative digital collaborative management tool to support cetacean conservation in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea. Monaco Ocean Week also hosted a catwalk show presenting a sustainable fashion collection by Runa Ray.

#### Strengthening oceanography

Monaco Explorations presented the initial results and the scientific, educational and diplomatic dimensions of its Indian Ocean 2022 mission. A public event brought together International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and MSC Foundation representatives and scientific experts to discuss ocean science. Two conferences took place: one on the role of citizen science in the preservation of Mediterranean species, organised by the RAMOGE Agreement, and the other to mark the 30th birthday of *Aldebaran*, the German Ocean Foundation's research and media vessel. The Transnational Red Sea Center reported on missions to understand why Red Sea corals are resistant to the effects of global warming.

#### **Curbing plastic pollution**

As part of the second World Plastics Summit, scientists and industry representatives came together to work on innovative solutions. The Minderoo-Monaco commission presented a new analysis of the risks that plastics represent for human and planetary health. A workshop was hosted by the Monaco Scientific Centre and the International Atomic Energy Agency on the impacts of microplastics pollution. Lastly, there was a meeting of the Beyond Plastic Med (BeMed) network, and the 11 BeMed 2023 winners were announced.

#### Raising youth awareness

Youth-focused events included the launch of the 15th edition of Students on Ice by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation. Professionals involved in the Edinburgh Ocean Leaders programme came together to drive positive change for the ocean. A morning of educational cetacean-related games for pupils from St Charles school, which has responsibility for Monaco's Marine Education Area, was co-hosted by the Monegasque Association for the Protection of Nature (AMPN) and the ACCOBAMS and Pelagos secretariats. A public conference placed the spotlight on the mysterious Arctic cetacean, the narwhal.

#### Protecting biodiversity

At its board meeting, The MedFund launched a new cross-border initiative in collaboration with MedPAN, the network of Mediterranean MPA managers, and Conservation International. Two conferences highlighted biodiversity issues, including one hosted by The Animal Fund (TAF) that explored the role of whales in the planet's ecosystem, and another on citizen science, organised by RAMOGE, followed by the award ceremony for the international photography competition 'RAMOGE - Man and the Sea'. An event focusing on sustainable hospitality, 'The Sea Is Green', was organised by the Green Globecertified Société des Bains de Mer. And finally, a sculpture by Paola Buratto Caovilla entitled No More Time, Oceans Are Life, was officially unveiled.



JC Vinai/FPA2

## 10TH EDITION OF THE WORLD OCEAN SUMMIT

The 10th edition of the World Ocean Summit (WOS) took place in Lisbon, Portugal, from 27 February to 1 March. An annual global event hosted by *The Economist*, WOS brings together the ocean community to reflect on a more sustainable economy. Olivier Wenden, Vice-President and CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, participated in two panel discussions focused on understanding the importance of coastal ecosystems in protecting biodiversity and offsetting carbon emissions, and exploring ways in which policymakers could develop skills for the blue economy.

"Blue economy is not just another sector of the economy but a new approach to the economy. It is privileging protection and regeneration of the marine environment together with the sustainable use of resources. As such, private foundations like the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation play a key role in the preparation for a blue economy approach: as a bridge between civil society and public/private actors, between science and businesses, as an advocate and a facilitator that prepares leaders and emerging talents to blue economy skills", he declared.





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# CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF THE BEARDED VULTURE REINTRODUCTION AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMME IN MERCANTOUR NATIONAL PARK

The bearded vulture reintroduction and conservation programme in the Franco-Italian Alpi Marittime-Mercantour National Park has been running for 30 years, supported by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation since 2007. To mark the anniversary, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco visited Saint-Dalmas-le-Selvage on Sunday 2 July in the company of Charles-Ange Ginésy, President of the Alpes-Maritimes departmental council and President of the Mercantour National Park. Also present were Jean-Pierre Issautier, Mayor of Saint-

Dalmas-le-Selvage, Aline Comeau, Director of the Park, Olivier Wenden, Vice-President and CEO of the Foundation, and Philippe Mondielli, Scientific Director of the Foundation. The Sovereign Prince had the opportunity to observe a vulture's nest through a telescope, before heading to see the murals at the Camp des Fourches, a mountain barracks built in the late 19th century. In three decades, twenty-five bearded vultures have hatched in the Mercantour, confirming the success of efforts to protect this iconic raptor.

# MONACO ENERGY BOAT CHALLENGE

The Monaco Energy Boat Challenge, the leading event for alternative propulsion systems in the yachting world, took place from 5 to 8 July. Organised by Monaco Yacht Club, whose President is HSH Price Albert II of Monaco, in partnership with his Foundation, the event is part of the collective 'Monaco, Capital of Advanced Yachting' initiative and is supported by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation. The projects presented largely focused on innovative new propulsion solutions, such as the use of hydrogen, recycled materials, biomaterials and supercapacitors.

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## MONACO HYDROGEN WORKING GROUP ROUND TABLE

The 4th Monaco Hydrogen Working Group Round Table, under the banner 'Balancing challenges and feasibility', was held in parallel on Friday 7 July. Also hosted by Monaco Yacht Club in collaboration with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, as well as the Energy Transition Mission, it brought together key stakeholders – public authorities, certification bodies, engine manufacturers, naval architects etc – with the shared objective of ensuring that hydrogen can be used to help decarbonise the shipping sector.

# MONACO SMART & SUSTAINABLE MARINA

On 24 and 25 September, Monaco Yacht Club hosted the third edition of Monaco Smart & Sustainable Marina, organised by Monaco Marina Management and supported by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

The full day of meetings brought together key stakeholders in the sector – business leaders, investors, manufacturers, architects etc – to promote new models for eco-responsible marinas. In the context of climate change, green solutions will make marinas more competitive, while preserving natural and economic ecosystems. Olivier Wenden, CEO and Vice President of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, gave a speech during the closing session of the event, highlighting the institution's commitment to innovation for sustainable tourism.



© Philippe Fitte/FPA2

## LAUNCH OF THE SUSTAINABLE GASTRONOMY SUMMIT

On Thursday 21 September, the first edition of the Sustainable Gastronomy Summit was held under the High Patronage of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, hosted by Alain Ducasse, in collaboration with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, with the support of Moët Hennessy and the Société des Bains de Mer. The one-day professional forum took place at One Monte-Carlo in Monaco and was centred around five topics.

## Growing and fishing in the climate change era

The first session was devoted to solutions for more sustainable farming and fishing practices, particularly in terms of supply, consumption and government regulations.

#### Cooking sustainably

Innovative methods for minimising our environmental footprint were examined, ranging from seaweed farming and wild plant foraging to exploring new varieties of fish.

#### Committing to sustainable gastronomy

The challenge of adopting more ethically and ecologically sound practices while keeping tradition alive was the focus of this panel discussion, which explored solutions for supporting all sustainable gastronomy stakeholders, including farming communities and restaurateurs, with a particular focus on creating innovative labels.

#### Improving food education

Favouring locally-grown produce and instilling good habits are effective ways of bringing about lasting change. This round table highlighted the importance of education and raising awareness of sustainable eating from a very young age.

#### What is the future of gastronomy?

Given the environmental issues facing the planet, farmers, chefs, students and consumers must be responsible for ensuring gastronomy's transition to sustainability. This final panel considered sustainable gastronomy from a multi-generational perspective.

# PRINCE ALBERT II OF MONACO FOUNDATION AT CLIMATE WEEK NYC

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation partnered with Climate Week, which brings together policymakers from around the world to discuss planet-wide issues before the UN General Assembly. The annual Solve Challenge Finals took place on Monday 18 September. Solve is an initiative of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) that drives innovation in the field of sustainability. On the day, Romain Ciarlet, Executive Director of the Foundation, awarded the Prince Albert II of Monaco Ocean Innovation Prize to Omiflo, an organisation that is reinventing wastewater treatment in Africa.

On 19 September, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, HE Isabelle Picco, Permanent Representative to the United Nations, and Olivier Wenden, Vice-President and CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, participated in The Earthshot Prize Innovation Summit, in the presence of HRH Prince William, founder of the Earthshot Prize, and Mike Bloomberg, founder of Bloomberg Philanthropies. At the Summit, Olivier Wenden spoke during the 'Funding Solutions' panel discussion.

# STELIOS PHILANTHROPIC FOUNDATION ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Since 2013, the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation has been hosting a charity fundraising evening to support the work of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and WWF in the field of biodiversity protection. The 11th edition celebrated the two organisations' joint efforts to protect the Pelagos

Sanctuary, a portion of the Mediterranean situated between the coasts of France, Monaco and Italy, and stretching as far as Sardinia. On Wednesday 27 September, Sir Stelios brought together 60 philanthropists in Monaco for his annual charity evening, in the presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco and Dr Kirsten Schuijt, Director General of WWF International, who gave a presentation about their Pelagos Sanctuary work. The exceptional event raised a total of 393,000 euros thanks to donations made by guests at the dinner and proceeds from a charity auction.

The funds were increased by 10% by the UBS Optimus Foundation then doubled by the Stelios Philanthropic Foundation, bringing the final figure to 864,000 euros, which was shared equally between the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and WWF.



# 4TH EDITION OF THE MONACO OCEAN PROTECTION CHALLENGE

From mid-January to the end of April 2023, around 100 students and young entrepreneurs from all over the world took part in the Monaco Ocean Protection Challenge, pitching innovative business ideas for a more sustainable ocean.

A total of 47 projects were submitted to the jury. On Friday 9 June, the three winners of the fourth edition of this international competition – jointly organised by the International University of Monaco (IUM), the Oceanographic Institute, Prince Albert I of Monaco Foundation, NGO Monaco Impact and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation – received their prizes from HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco.

The ceremony took place in the presence of Hervé Berville, France's Secretary of State for the Sea.

#### The winners were:

- Bloom (Students category), an initiative for cleaning and converting surface algae into biomass pellets.
- Pronoe (Start-up category), a project issuing high-quality carbon removal certificates through alkaline flow production and control.
- Flexisea (Coup de Cœur (Jury's Choice) Award), an underwater robotic arm minimising harm to marine species.

### **#SICKOFPLASTIC CAMPAIGN**



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On Tuesday 7 November, the 'On est prêt' movement launched a campaign to mobilise the public against plastic pollution with NGOs Surfrider Foundation and Break Free from Plastic, ahead of two major events in the fight against plastic: INC-3, the third phase of the UN negotiations for a global treaty on plastic pollution, and the revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation (PPWR). As a partner of the campaign, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has been supporting and sharing its

key messages to raise awareness of the dangers of plastic for human and ecosystem health. To mark the launch of the campaign, an artistic short film shot underwater – *Bakelite* by Julie Gautier, produced by Imagine 2050 – was shared on social media. This creative initiative was intended to move and inspire people, but above all to encourage them to take action and demand ambitious measures to reduce the production, consumption and toxicity of plastic in Europe and globally.

# 16TH PLANETARY HEALTH AWARDS CEREMONY IN PHILADELPHIA

Since 2008, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has honoured organisations and individuals for their commitment to protecting the planet. On Friday 27 October, under its President, John B. Kelly III, the American branch of the Foundation hosted the 16th edition of the annual Planetary Health Awards ceremony in the Perelman Theatre on the Kimmel Cultural Campus in Philadelphia.

In His opening address, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco highlighted the urgent need to tackle the threats facing our environment: "I am happy to see us here, united by the same determination

to act against the severe threats and pressures that human activities inflict on the planet: global warming, biodiversity loss, depletion of water resources and plastic pollution. These environmental challenges are issues that none of us can deny, that none of us can escape. This is the reason why we need to act together and come up with effective solutions to enable a sustainable future for humanity on the planet." Before welcoming the winners on stage, the Sovereign Prince congratulated them for "their remarkable achievements in conservation, science and sustainable innovation".



#### **2023 LAUREATES**

The 2023 Planetary Health Awards were presented to Dominique Palmer, climate justice activist, speaker, storyteller, writer and advocate of slow fashion; Professor Dr Hans-Otto Pörtner, cochair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group II and world expert on the impact of climate change on the ocean; and the company Ecovative, leader in the field of mycelium technology, represented by Meghan K. Olson. After the ceremony, a round table discussion gave the winners the opportunity to talk about their environmental vision and action.

#### **Dominique Palmer (United Kingdom)**

Accepting her Award, Dominique Palmer said: "When I first became an activist and took part in organising my first ever climate strike, as a teenager, I did not think I would be standing here today. I just did it because I could not stay silent for the one Earth, one home we have. My activism is a love letter to Earth and my communities. I campaign for climate justice, because we are all in the same storm, but not the same boat. This includes making sure that marginalised and frontline communities at the heart of action are listened to and included. Climate Justice includes social justice, racial justice, gender justice".

#### Prof. Dr. Hans-Otto Pörtner (Germany)

Expressing his gratitude, Professor Dr Pörtner said that he was receiving the award on behalf of the entire team of authors who had contributed to the IPCC Working Group II report and the Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere. The latter "has been a stepping stone on the way to making the ocean more visible in the climate negotiations at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, which now has a formal Ocean Dialogue at each of its meetings. In light of the new findings about the melting Antarctic ice sheet, some of our concerns are now becoming reality unfortunately, and this is making the ocean and its role in climate change and climate solutions even more relevant".

#### **Ecovative** (United States)

For Meghan Olson, "this recognition is a testament to the tireless dedication and unwavering commitment of our entire team at Ecovative, who have devoted their passion and

expertise in mycelium materials to revolutionise industries. From fashion to food and even protective packaging, we grow – not manufacture – products that are the most sustainable for the planet. Together, we're making a difference".

The award ceremony was preceded by a programme of events for HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco and representatives of the Foundation.

First, HE Maguy Maccario Doyle, Ambassador of Monaco to the United States and Canada, hosted a welcome reception at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. On Wednesday 25 October, the Sovereign Prince visited FDR Park, where around 15 hectares of the park is being turned into a wetland to provide a habitat for wildlife, increase the biodiversity and tackle the site's flooding problems.

On Thursday 26 October, the Sovereign Prince was joined by John B. Kelly III, Orlando Rendon, Commissioner of Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, and Vanessa Garrett-Harley, Deputy Mayor for the Office of Children and Families, at the Williams Moore Reed Memorial Park, where they planted the first tree together as part of the Philly Tree Plan, a project being carried out by the City of Philadelphia to develop the urban forest, for which the US branch of the Foundation has provided 130,000 US dollars in funding.

On the same day, a visit was organised to Philadelphia Zoo, which has also received a grant from the Foundation to run initiatives to raise awareness of wildlife conservation.

Everyone's energy counts when it comes to tackling our planet's environmental challenges. And the commitment to individual and collective action is the only solution to eco-anxiety. That is why raising awareness is at the heart of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's work. Pooling ideas, sharing innovative solutions and spreading the words of inspiring figures stimulate the desire to take care of nature, especially among young people. exhibitions, screenings Festivals, awareness-raising initiatives for different audiences generate new narratives about the environment, based on knowledge and wonder, to make change the only choice.



# MAINTAINING ORGANIC VEGETABLE GARDENS IN MONACO'S SCHOOLS

Monaco Telecom once again invested in organic vegetable gardens in the Principality's schools, alongside the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, the Department of National Education, Youth and Sport and the company Terrae, which launched the initiative in 2020. On Monday 16 January, at the École des Révoires, Martin Peronnet, Managing Director of Monaco Telecom, presented a donation to the Foundation, represented by Olivier Wenden, its Vice-President and CEO, in the presence of Jessica Sbaraglia, the founder of Terrae, and Isabelle Biancheri, Head of the school.

With this donation of €10,962, from revenue generated by customers paying for paper bills, Monaco Telecom is helping to maintain vegetable-growing at this school, which joined the initiative thanks to the company's first donation in 2022. Around 100 primary school pupils will now take part in 35 hours of workshops run throughout the year. Since the initiative was set up, seven schools have benefitted from this concrete project to raise awareness of healthy, sustainable eating. More than 2,000 students now grow and harvest their own produce each year.





© Axel Bastello/Palais princier

# PREVIEW OF THE FILM WHALE NATION

On Thursday 9 February, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and Bien Sûr Productions held the premiere of the film Whale Nation (French title: Les Gardiennes de la planète) in the presence of Oscar-winning actor Jean Dujardin, director Jean-Albert Lièvre and producers Julien Seul and Marc Dujardin. HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco watched the screening alongside Pierre and Beatrice Casiraghi, Andrea Casiraghi and Charlotte Casiraghi-Rassam.

The film is narrated as if the mammal itself is talking, which creates a gripping immersive

experience for the audience, and it falls within the Foundation's key commitment of raising awareness about ocean conservation. Screenings were organised for Monegasque school children on Friday 10 February. Jean-Albert Lièvre spoke to CM1 and CM2 pupils (aged 9 to 11), while Philippe Mondielli, Scientific Director at the Foundation, spoke to pupils in their first and second years of high school (aged 11 to 13) after the screening. They learned that the Pelagos Sanctuary off the coast of the Principality is home to numerous marine mammals and is therefore a fragile biodiversity that we must protect.

# **LAUNCH OF THE 2023 EDITION** OF STUDENTS ON ICE

College students were given a presentation about the Students on Ice programme on Tuesday 21 March in the auditorium of the Lycée Rainier-III as part of Monaco Ocean Week, in the presence of Patrice Cellario, Monaco Government Adviser and Interior Minister, and HE Bernard Fautrier, Minister Plenipotentiary and Special Advisor to HSH the Sovereign Prince on environmental issues. Run by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation in partnership with the Department of National Education, Youth and Sport, Students on Ice is an initiative that gives students the opportunity to explore the abundantly biodiverse

yet fragile landscapes of the Arctic, accompanied by teachers and scientists.

Two former laureates addressed the audience: Célia Limandat (22), winner of the 2017 SOI competition, and Justin Sargenti (24), the 2015 winner. Dr Céline Le Bohec, CNRS Research Fellow in Polar Biology at the Monaco Scientific Centre, also gave a talk on the work of Monegasque scientists in the Antarctic and in the Southern Ocean. The event ended with the announcement of the competition open to Premiere classes to select the two laureates for the 2024 expedition.



# MONTE-CARLO FASHION WEEK

The Monaco Chamber of Fashion and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation partnered to present a fashion show by Runa Ray, a fashion designer and environmentalist who champions the "3Rs" – reduce, reuse, recycle – to create more responsible fashion.

On Friday 19 May, as part of Monte-Carlo Fashion Week, Runa Ray presented 11 models from her collection 'The Strait of Couture × Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation', which spotlights eco-friendly production methods, echoing the Foundation's aim to help achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Following a visit to the Monaco Scientific Centre in March, Runa Ray designed a cork dress featuring a print inspired by the sound patterns emitted by a healthy coral reef. The dress demonstrates how fashion can highlight the importance of respecting ecosystems and showcase ancestral techniques as well as scientific data, all the while creating a joyful, colourful playground for our imagination.



MCFW

# **UPAINT MONACO 2023**

From 4 to 7 June, for the seventh consecutive year, the Principality hosted the UPAINT street art festival on the Promenade du Larvotto. Founded by Alberto Colman, the event brought together 12 internationally renowned street artists. At the end of the event, alongside HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco, they celebrated the success of an auction held to raise money for his Foundation. Before the event began, the organisers handed 40,000 euros raised at the previous edition to the Foundation, represented by the Sovereign Prince.

This partnership came about because the arts are an important vehicle for raising awareness of global issues – especially street art, an accessible form of expression found at the heart of public spaces that has its finger on the pulse of environmental and social issues. As further proof of the Principality's interest in innovation, the festival could also be visited on DWorld, Monaco's "virtual twin" or metaverse.

# 2023 ENVIRONMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

On Thursday 1 June, the third Environmental Photography Award exhibition opened on the Promenade du Larvotto. More than 2,300 professional and amateur photographers from all over the world entered the competition, submitting nearly 10,000 images. At the private view, the overall winner's photograph was unveiled by Olivier Wenden, Vice-President and CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, alongside Sergio Pitamitz, president of the jury, and three of its members, Esther Horvath, Britta Jaschinski and Alexa Keefe.

The overall winner of the 2023 Environmental Photography Award was Jasper Doest for his photograph Fight to the Death. The young Dutch photographer won the Humanity versus Nature category, as well as being crowned with the Public Award. Doest was given 6,500 euros in prize money and the opportunity to visit the SEK International University's Scientific Station in the Ecuadorian Amazon. "While it's tempting to assign blame, I believe this photograph also has the power to inspire change." (Jasper Doest)



Photo of Jasper Doest © JC Vinaj/FPA2

#### The winners in the other categories:

- Change makers: Reasons for Hope: Marcus Westberg, Airborne, 2022, Malawi
- Ocean Worlds: Simon Biddie, My Kingdom, 2022, Mexico
- Into the Forest: Kallol Mukherjee, Falling Leaves Are Blue, 2018, Himalayas, India
- Polar Wonders: Franco Banfi, Tiny Umbrella, 2018, Tasiilaq, East Greenland
- Students' Choice 2023: David Feuerhelm, Baby It's Cold Out There!, 2019, Iceland

#### Reaching younger generations

"Photography is a powerful tool for giving a voice to threatened wildlife and biodiversity." (Sergio Pitamitz). The third edition of the Prize boasted a new feature aimed at younger generations: the Students' Choice award. Voted for by highschool students in the Principality and organised in partnership with the Department of National Education, Youth and Sport, the new category complements the five existing categories and the Public Award. The Award now has its own dedicated website (www.fpa2photoaward.org) and Instagram account (@fpa2.photoaward).



units were made of GreenBond, thanks to the support of Peradotto, a company in Nice. GreenBond is an innovative material made of 100% recycled and recyclable aluminium, unlike Dibond, which contains polyethylene (plastic). Foundation's 2023 Environmental Photography Award benefitted from the support of Barclays Private Bank and the SEK International University. On Wednesday 7 June, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco visited the third Environmental Photography Award exhibition, where he viewed the competition's 36 most beautiful photographs in the company of Sergio Pitamitz and Jasper Doest.

This year, the panels of the three-sided display

#### Touring exhibition dates

- 6 April to 17 December 2023: GoodPlanet Foundation Paris
- 19 October to 30 November 2023: Parc del Retiro, Madrid
- 1 December 2023 to 30 january 2024: Instituto de Empresa / IE Business School, Madrid











# **WORLD BEE DAY**

On Friday 19 May, the day before World Bee Day, Olivier Wenden, Vice-President and CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, and Isabelle Bonnal, Commissioner General of the Department of National Education, Youth and Sport, visited the École Saint-Charles to give bags of bee-friendly plant seeds to primary pupils in CP and CM1 (aged 8 to 10). The Foundation has supported the French Observatory of Apidology's 'Flowers for bees' campaign since 2017, the first edition of which saw 100,000 seed packets being sown across France to increase food supplies for

these precious insects. Washable and reusable beeopak food wrap, made of cotton soaked in beeswax, was also gifted to the classes that took part, before being distributed more widely across schools in the Principality. Through these awareness-raising actions, the Foundation's objective is to encourage children and adults alike to minimise their environmental footprint by reducing waste, at the same time as highlighting the important role of pollinating insects for the balance of our ecosystem.

# ECOLOGY DAY DURING PHILOMONACO WEEK



For the second year in a row, Les Rencontres Philosophiques de Monaco put on PhiloMonaco Week, from 12 to 18 June. The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation partnered with the event on Tuesday 13 June, a day devoted to ecology, which kicked off with a morning session at La Condamine market led by Charlotte Casiraghi, President and Founding Member of Les Rencontres Philosophiques de Monaco, in the presence of HSH the Sovereign Prince. Olivier Wenden, Vice-President and CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, took the opportunity to highlight how the power of thinking and the imagination could be used to bring about concrete change for our world. The day featured debates, a live radio broadcast, a philosophy lunch and two panel discussions, one on the theme of the 'New world energy order, the other in the form of a question: 'Sobriety - virtue or necessity?'.

# THE GREEN SHIFT FESTIVAL

Organised in partnership with the Department of Cultural Affairs, Les Rencontres Philosophiques de Monaco, the Fondation Carmignac, Imagine 2050, Time for the Ocean, Agir pour le vivant and the Monegasque Sea Academy, the first edition of the Green Shift Festival took place from 7 to 10 June and welcomed nearly 300 audience members on the Promenade du Larvotto.

Free and open to all, the evenings of the festival brought together committed and inspiring personalities from a variety of backgrounds, working to promote new ecological narratives. Each round table was introduced by an artistic proposal – a concert by Cyril Dion and Sébastien Hoog, a Sea Art documentary, a slam and a lively reading – aimed at encouraging new forms of commitment based on emotion and sensitivity.

#### (Re)thinking tomorrow

With film-maker and activist Cyril Dion, Charles Carmignac, Director of the Fondation Carmignac, Olivier Covo, Founder and Director of Mangroove Music, and Magali Payen, Founder of the 'On est prêt' movement and Managing Director of Imagine 2050.

#### Creativity, art & ecology

With the artist Jérémy Gobé, freediver Pierre Frolla, Olivier Ibañez, Communications and Development Director at the Fondation Carmignac, and Marion Semblat, CEO of Time for the Ocean.

#### Committed generation

With Victor Auburtin, a spokesperson for the 'On est prêt' movement, Féris Barkat, a spoken word climate activist, director Mathieu Ciulla, environmental entrepreneur and writer Flora Ghebali, and actor and video-maker Paolo Luka-Noé.

#### Poetry of the living world

With the writer Wilfried N'Sondé, Jacques Tassin, a researcher in plant ecology, and Ernst Zürcher, a forestry engineer.

Alongside the evening events, a screening of Cyril Dion's documentary *Animal* was organised for the Principality's secondary school students, and the participatory activity Ocean Flag was offered to festival-goers by designer Runa Ray. A design fiction workshop brought together around twenty people from cultural and environmental institutions on the theme of "Culture in Monaco in 2040".



hilinne Fitte/FDA2

# MONTE-CARLO TELEVISION FESTIVAL

At the 62nd Monte-Carlo Television Festival, which ended on Tuesday 20 June, Polish director and documentary-maker Ewa Ewart was awarded the Prince Rainier III Special Prize by HSH Princess Charlene of Monaco for her film Until the Last Drop, a remarkable environmental documentary. The prize, created by the Sovereign Prince in honour of Prince Rainier III, founder of the Festival, is awarded in partnership with the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and is accompanied by prize money of 10,000 euros. Until the Last Drop deals with the current freshwater crisis, exposing the peril faced by this vital element for life. Although the film portrays an alarming situation, it also carries a message of hope that calls for action. It is a beautiful depiction of humanity's connection to rivers, revealing the inspiring struggles of those who work tirelessly to safeguard the Earth's resources.



# do tálávision de

# AGIR POUR LE VIVANT FESTIVAL

The fourth edition of the Agir pour le vivant ('Action for the living world') festival, which is partnered by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, was held in Arles, France, from 21 to 27 August. With the emphasis on openness and participation to stimulate ideas, the week-long event featured discussions, workshops, screenings and talks to drive new narratives about the future. The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation teamed

up with the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, the French Biodiversity Office and the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region to support the festival's 'University of the Living World' initiative. Giving around 50 young adults a week-long immersion through masterclasses, workshops and group discussions, the University acts as an ideas incubator for concrete actions to protect the living world.

# EXHIBITION AND AWARENESS-RAISING WEEKEND AT THE GOODPLANET FOUNDATION

As part of its 'Discovering the Living World' initiative launched in April 2023, the GoodPlanet Foundation hosted Living Together: an exhibition of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's Environmental Photography Award from 15 April to 17 December.

The show presented 57 photographs from the 2021 and 2022 editions of the prize in the lush green surroundings of the Domaine de Longchamp estate. As well as paying tribute to the beauty of nature, the powerful images appealed for the protection of our ecosystems.

Against the backdrop of the exhibition, the two foundations organised an exceptional

awareness-raising weekend on 1 and 2 July under the title '(Re)discovering the Living World'. The event featured a host of activities for all ages: treasure hunts, escape games, introduction to biodiversity workshops, documentary screenings, panel discussions, a session about Mediterranean biodiversity with speakers including Philippe Mondielli, Scientific Director at the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, as well as fun activities courtesy of the Monegasque Association for the Protection of Nature (AMPN) around sustainable fishing, the life of Mediterranean cetaceans and Monaco's Marine Educational Area (AME).



# 'ÉCOLETOPIE': AN INNOVATIVE TEACHING METHOD TRIALLED IN MONACO

This year, CM1 pupils (aged 9 to 10) from the École Saint-Charles, trialled a brand new teaching method called 'Écoletopie' ('schooltopia'). Created in 2022 by Smarin design studio in Nice, it is an artistic approach aimed at improving attention, collective intelligence, sensitivity, imagination and body awareness, ultimately to bring about a new way of inhabiting the world and living together. Smarin, a pioneer in eco-design, focuses on creating solutions for the long term, designing objects with limited impact on the body and the planet thanks to the use of natural, pure and untreated materials.

This unique programme, launched by the New National Museum of Monaco and the Department of National Education, Youth and Sport with the support of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, was accompanied by conversations and practical workshops with the children, led by Smarin, on subjects such as biomechanics, collective coordination, the environmental footprint of materials and play as the free exploration of sensitivity.

# **EUROPEAN HERITAGE DAYS**



On Sunday 24 September, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation opened its doors to the public as part of the 28th European Heritage Days, under the banner 'Living Heritage'. Villa Girasole welcomed 150 visitors for a friendly event that included a 'Sweet Blossom' food truck and a reading area in the garden. Taking the Human-Wildlife Initiative as inspiration, Philippe Mondielli, the Foundation's Scientific Director, and Hélène Onoforo-Sanaia, Project Coordinator, gave talks explaining the work of the Foundation and its partners to improve the coexistence of people and animals in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region. The association Pollens then gave a performance of Paroles de Loup, a free adaptation of Nés de la nuit, a novel about wolves by Caroline Audibert. While the writer herself read excerpts, actresses Anaïs Ferry and Daba Kelly Diallo played the role of the narrator - a young wolf encountering the human world.

DR



© Philippe Fitte/FPA2

# **GUARDIANS OF THE FOREST EVENT**

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation held its first International Conference of the Forests and Communities Initiative from 21 to 23 November. The opening evening took place at the Grimaldi Forum and treated the public to the premiere of an episode of the Our Forests documentary series, in partnership with Arte and Lato Sensu Productions. The episode, entitled Brazil, Replanting the Amazon, was screened in the presence of the series producer, Muriel Barra, and five representatives from the Indigenous Peoples featured in each different episode of the series: Hilarion Kassa Moussavou "Mambongo" (Gabon), Benki Piyãko (Brazil), Twyla Edgi Masuzumi (Canada), Mundiya Kepanga (Papua New Guinea) and Tumursukh Jal (Mongolia). The evening continued with a panel discussion, during which the "guardians", who had been brought together

for the very first time, presented their stories and explained their fight to protect the planet's great primary forests, in the Amazon, West Africa, Oceania, Central Asia and North America. The event provided inspiring insight into global forest conservation.

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and the Department of National Education, Youth and Sport also organised a meeting for schoolchildren. On Tuesday 21 November, Papuan leader Mundiya Kepanga was welcomed to the École Saint-Charles to interact with its CM1 and CM2 pupils (aged 9 to 11), as well as those from the École des Révoires. It was a special opportunity for conversation that educated the children about the importance of protecting forests – a unique environment that keeps our planet healthy.

Ever since it was established, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation has sourced its strength from bringing together environmentally committed stakeholders who share its values. The Foundation now relies on a close-knit network of international organisations and institutions, scientists, political leaders, business figures and members of civil society who help promote its work and achieve its objectives. In 2023, 14 new Memoranda of Understanding and 8 financial partnerships were formed, helping the Foundation to develop its strategies and increase its impact on the ground.

# PARTNERSHIPS.





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## **PARTNERSHIPS**

#### Mohammed VI Foundation

**Objective**: support joint projects focused on fishing and combatting plastic pollution.

# Khaled bin Sultan Living Oceans Foundation

**Objective:** pool efforts to run projects and initiatives to protect the ocean and its biodiversity.

#### The Saudi Red Sea Authority

**Objective**: develop synergies to protect the marine environment and promote sustainability.

#### Una Terra

Objective: Collaborate on event organisation, facilitate the development of a circular blue economy, support joint projects and promote development-led education through leadership, mentoring and consultancy.

#### Swiss Re

**Objective**: highlight tomorrow's leaders in the field of environmental protection.

#### TV Monaco

**Objective:** participate in the selection of audiovisual programmes related to environmental protection as potential recipients of Foundation funding.

#### Builders Vision

**Objective:** support and develop the Ocean Innovators Platform in Monaco and internationally and collaborate on the ReOcean Fund.

# FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIPS

- Barclays Private Bank
- Coty
- Edmond de Rothschild
- Fabergé
- Moët Hennessy
- Rolex
- The Cuomo Foundation

Taking action for planetary health requires international collaboration. The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, whose executive team is based in the Principality, therefore building is growing network of foreign branches. Led by dedicated Presidents working closely with the Sovereign Prince, they amplify the Foundation's voice by raising public spearheading awareness and and initiatives. Branches were opened in France and the United Kingdom in 2007, then in Switzerland, the United States and Canada in 2008, Germany and Italy in 2009, Singapore in 2011, followed by Spain in 2016 and China in 2019. Continuing this international momentum, 2023 saw the opening of the Latin American branch in Brazil.





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# **MONACO**

Mr OLIVIER WENDEN Vice-President and CEO

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

**Executive Director**Romain Ciarlet

Administrative and Financial Director and Environmental Quality Manager Emmanuel Calça

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE POLE**

Legal Director Romain Ottavj

Accounting & Human Resources Isabelle Denis-Bonnel

Personal Assistant to the Vice-President Alejandra Boyer

#### **INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS**

Scientific Director Philippe Mondielli

**Project Coordinator** Hélène Onoforo Sanaia Initiatives Coordinator and Monaco Blue Initiative Secretary Lina Hansson Simonetti

**Initiative Secretariat** 

Mounya Mazouz

Project Officer & Coordinator of DIMFE and Pelagos Initiatives
Léa Glâtre

Marine Project Officer & Coordinator of the Monk Seal Alliance Initiative Auriane Pertuisot

**Project & Communication Officer** Kilian Bus

Coordinator of the Human-Wildlife Initiative Guilherme Haguenauer

Coordinator of the Forests and Communities Initiative Cyrielle Vaucois

**Coordinator of the Polar Initiative** Salomé Mormentyn

Coordinator of the Re.Generation Future Leaders Program Initiative Théo Panizzi

#### **COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT**

**Communications Director** Nadège Massé

**Digital Communications Officer** Lea Lippisch

Communications Officer -Mediation and Awareness Céline Vacquier-Bekkari

IT and Digital Development Manager Ludovic Arneodo

#### **EVENTS DEPARTMENT**

Events Officers Laurence Van Zeveren Olivier Storelli

Pierre-Édouard Coursault

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# CANADA

The Canadian branch of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, led by its President, Dr Diane Vachon, continued its action to protect the Canadian Arctic alongside local organisations including Ikaarvik in 2023, its biodiversity and the communities who live there. Working closely with the Inuit and other Indigenous communities, the branch has supported more than 15 projects since 2016, with a strong commitment to knowledge transfer.

Through its Instagram account and various media channels, the Canadian branch of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation is also engaged in highlighting HSH the Sovereign Prince's commitment to the environment.

The branch's directors are delighted with the level of recognition and growing impact of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation in Canada, with some 4 million Canadian dollars invested in major scientific, academic and community projects since the branch was set up in 2008.

The Canadian branch would like to thank its generous partners and donors, in particular Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP, Mallette and Chantier Davie Inc.



#### **President** Dr Diane Vachon

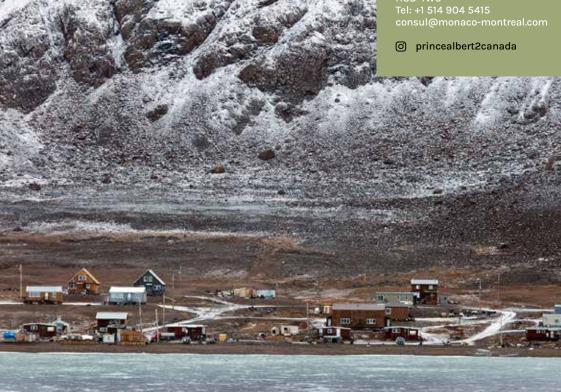
**Vice-President and Treasurer** Mr Andrew X. Clark

## Secretary

Ms Sophie Amyot

Mr Claude L'Heureux Pr. Kalifa Goïta Ms Hélène F. Fortin Pr. Michel Gosselin Ms Eugenia Turculet Pr. Jackie Dawson Ms Melissa Khirdine Mr Romain Ciarlet

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# CHINA

On Wednesday 15 February, the Beijing office of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, under its President, Robert Shi, participated in the annual seminar of overseas NGOs hosted by the international division of the Chinese Ministry of Ecology and the Environment.

On 19 and 20 April, Robert Shi attended a seminar on cyanobacteria. In his opening address, Mr Shi said that the Lake Taihu project, which the Foundation has been supporting for several years, is an example of successful management of cyanobacteria bloom. The scope of the project, now in its second phase, has been extended to include the preservation of the aquatic ecosystem of the Yangzi Jiang River.

To mark the 23rd International Day for Biological Diversity on Monday 22 May, Robert Shi was interviewed by Xinhua News Agency on the role that the Foundation, alongside WWF, has played since 2011 in protecting the Amur tiger.

Lastly, on 1 September, for the second year, Tsinghua University and the Chinese branch of the Foundation renewed a partnership supporting a grant programme for students working in the field of environmental protection. Earlier in the year, within the framework of the partnership, the Chinese branch of the Foundation and the Tsinghua University Education Foundation organised a panel discussion bringing together 15 grant recipients, including two doctorands from the Tsinghua University School of Environment. They shared their experiences with the audience, as well as upcoming projects in their respective areas of research.



**President** Mr Robert Shi

**Secretary** Ms Sophie Sun

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Jennersten WWF

# **FRANCE**

In 2023, the French branch welcomed a new President, Thomas Grenon, following in the footsteps of HE Christophe Steiner. The branch renewed its support for the biodiversity preservation project led by Port Cros National Park (at Hyères in the Var) with a total funding commitment of five years, from 2021 to 2026. The Foundation has committed to fund the scheme over five years, from 2021 to 2026. This ambitious project aims to improve knowledge of the terrestrial biodiversity in both the peripheral partnership zone and the central protection area, so as to determine the conservation priorities.

Another partnership was renewed for five years to continue supporting Beyond Plastic Med (BeMed), which is working to combat plastic pollution in the Mediterranean.

Finally, the French branch also supported two new projects, one focused on the soundscape of the gorgonian forests in the Mediterranean, and the other on preserving and restoring coastal vegetation in Cameroon.



# **President**

Mr Thomas Grenon

Mr Emmanuel Calça

## **Assistant Treasurer**

Mr Alain Leroy

## **General Secretary**

Ms Annabelle Jaeger

#### **Assistant General Secretary**

Mr Pierre Louis Colin

#### **Members**

Ms Marion Semblat Mr Jean Jouzel Ms Hélène Onoforo Sanaia

Comité français pour la Fondation Prince Albert II de



# **GERMANY**

On Monday 23 January, at the boot Düsseldorf boat show, the German branch of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation presented the Ocean Tribute Award, which it partners with. The branch's President, Prof. Dr. Alexander Liegl, handed a cheque for 20,000 euros to French company Innovation Yachts, which is behind the first catamaran made from 100% recyclable materials.

The German branch of the Foundation joined forces with the International German Club of Monaco (CAI) during Monaco Ocean Week to facilitate connections with the Deutsche Meeresstiftung (German Ocean Foundation), which was celebrating 30 years of the research vessel Aldebaran with an event at the Monaco Yacht Club on Thursday 23 March in the presence of the Sovereign Prince.

At the invitation of Prof. Dr. Liegl, a reception was held in Munich for the members of the International German Club of Monaco, to celebrate its 50th anniversary. As part of the festivities, a cheque was presented to the Foundation in Monaco on 17 July.

During 2023, the German branch pursued its fundraising activities, recording two new major donations which have helped in particular to support one of the Foundation's projects focused on Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas. Lastly, on 16 and 17 September, the German branch brought together key donors for a meeting in the presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco.



# **President**Prof. Dr. Alexander Liegl

#### Member:

Mr Andreas Eisenbach Mr Günther Fleig Mr Holger Jung Mr Bernd Kunth Mr Bernhard Stempfle Ms Barbara Zumbaum Mr Romain Ciarlet

Freunde der Stiftung Fürst Albert II. von Monaco (Deutschland e.V.) Brienner Strasse 28 80333 MUNICH Tel: (+49) 89 28628 266



# **ITALY**

The Italian branch - Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco Roma ETS - under its President, Marco Colasanti, was committed to strengthening its results and visibility in Italy. As part of its collaboration with luxury brand Montegrappa, a second limited-edition pen was unveiled in May 2023. This latest model, named Colours of the Ocean, aims to raise public awareness of the importance of monitoring and protecting our seas, with proceeds going to the Foundation. The branch also forged strong links with key institutions to promote joint initiatives: the Bocconi University in Milan, the Roma Sapienza Foundation affiliated to the Roma Sapienza University, and the Filippo Caracciolo Foundation in Rome, the study centre of the Automobile Club Italia. At the same time, synergies have been forged with prestigious organisations such as the Laudato si' Centre for Higher Education, created under the aegis of His Holiness Pope Francis. To consolidate its commitment to education, the branch has awarded a grant for the Masters in Wildlife Management and Administration at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, aimed at training professionals with multidisciplinary skills, from biology to law, including the ethical, economic and socio-cultural specificities relevant to these sectors. A project linked to the relationship between human and wildlife is being studied, and new methods of raising environmental awareness through sport have been successfully tested in collaboration with the PL-Open and the Novak Djokovic Foundation.

Lastly, to enhance the effectiveness of its programme, the branch has created the honorary title of the "Araldi" that will play a key role in promoting the Foundation's initiatives in Italy, increasing its prestige and providing financial support for its actions.



**President** Mr Marco Colasanti

**Vice President** Ms Anne Eastwood

Secretary Ms Elisabeth Lanteri-Minet

**Treasurer** Mr Emmanuel Calça

**Advisers** Mr Robert Fillon Ms Hélène Onoforo Sanaia

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# LATIN AMERICA

To strengthen its presence in Latin America – a region that is particularly exposed to deforestation and biodiversity loss – the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation officially opened its eleventh branch on Thursday 4 May 2023. Since it was set up in 2006, the Foundation has supported 24 projects in 10 Latin American countries.

This new branch, based in São Paulo, is led by HE Arnoldo Wald as President and is composed of three governing bodies: a board of directors, which is responsible for the branch's strategic planning and management; a development committee, a consultative body tasked with increasing the impact of its action; and a non-consultative honorary committee, whose main aim is to communicate the branch's aims, activities and projects at national and international level.

The principal objectives of the branch are to mitigate the effects of climate change, promote the use and development of renewable energies, protect biodiversity, encourage a sustainable management of water resources and combat the desertification of terrestrial ecosystems.





**President** HE Mr Arnoldo Wald

Vice-Chairmen HRH Prince Charles-Philippe d'Orléans HE Mr Heraldo Muñoz Ms Luciana de Montigny

**Secretary** Mr Paulo Hime Funari

**Treasurer**Mr Emmanuel Calça

**Coordinator** Pr. José Góis Chilão

Development Committee
Mr Sebastião Salgado
Mr Marcelo Mena
Mr João-Carlos Camargo
Mr David Safra
Pr. Carlos Nobre
Ms Eleonora Halpern
Pr. Manuela Carneiro da Cunha
Ms Yolanda Kakabadse
Pr. Tasso Azevedo
Mr Rafael Improta Vieira
Mr Federico Perez

Fundação Príncipe Albert II de Monaco Av. Presidente Juscelino Kubitschek, 510 - 8o andar Itaim Bibi - São Paulo CEP 04543-906 - BRASIL Tel: +55 11 3074 6000

# **SINGAPORE**

In 2023, the Singapore office of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, led by its President, Jacky Deromedi, continued to support and champion the work of the Foundation's Monaco headquarters. Monthly meetings with the Friends of the Foundation and the First Circle of the Foundation took place to inform their members about the Foundation's actions, and to announce the 2024 gala.

A collaboration was also agreed with two Singaporean organisations: the Temasek Foundation and Science Centre Singapore, both of which work to further knowledge of climate change and its environmental consequences.

Finally, the Singapore branch handed over a donation from the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation to the Young Sustainability Champion Programme, a youth education programme run by Science Centre Singapore and sponsored by the Temasek Foundation, which HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco learned about during a trip to Singapore following his state visit to Malaysia in November.



# **President**Ms Jacky Deromedi

#### **Directors**

Mr Jean-Marc Arnaud Deromedi Mr Emmanuel Calça

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# SPAIN

The Spanish branch and its President, Carol Portabella, strengthened links with the Government and formed collaborations with several organisations during the year, including the General Council of Official Colleges of Industrial Engineers (CGCOII), the CEDEX Centre for Hydrographic Studies, the Princess of Girona Foundation and the collectives of the Donors Foundation and Foundation for Climate. Carol Portabella was regularly involved in events such as a debate at the National Museum of Natural Sciences in Madrid, organised by CBD-Hábitat, and the 29th Barcelona International Environmental Film Festival with the screening of the film Alick and Albert. On Thursday 8 June, the Spanish branch and the Foundation's Monaco office signed a collaboration agreement with the Observatorio Campo Grande, with the support of the Entretantos Foundation, to implement the Human-Wildlife Initiative in Spain. The first call for projects was issued on Monday 25 September.

An agreement was signed to support 'A Blue New Deal for the Balearic Sea and the Mediterranean Sea', a project run by the Marilles Foundation which aims to develop an investment plan to create biodiversity-rich and climate-resistant marine and coastal habitats in the Balearic Sea. The branch also worked with EFE news agency on opinion pieces and interviews reporting on the Foundation's events. The collaboration resulted in around 50 press mentions and articles appearing in 2023. The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's 2023 Environmental Photography Award exhibition took place from 19 October to 30 November in Madrid's El Retiro Park. A total of 36 large-scale photograph panels were installed in the park to raise awareness of environmental issues. The exhibition was then taken over by the Instituto de Empresa, one of Spain's most prestigious universities, with whom an agreement was signed to award two sustainability-oriented study grant aimed at Masters students.



#### **President** Ms Carol Portabella Settimó

**Vice-Secretary** Ms Inés Oraa Gortázar

#### **Members**

Mr Manuel Andrés Ferreiro Fernández Mr Iñigo López de la Osa Escribano Mr Francisco Adolfo Granero Jimenez Mr Philippe Guillaumet HE Ms Catherine Fautrier-Rousseau Ms Francesca Thyssen Ms Xandra Falcó Mr Francisco José García del Pozo Cantarero Mr Pablo Melendo Mr Javier Goyeneche Mr Alejandro Fernández de Araoz Ms Milagros Couchoud Mr Emmanuel Calça

Delegación en España de la Fondation Prince Albert II de Monaco Calle de Villanueva, 12 28001 MADRID Tel: +34 638 762 718 espana@fpa2.org



# **SWITZERLAND**

Under its President, Derek Queisser de Stockalper, the Swiss branch of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation developed close ties with key sustainability stakeholders in the country, particularly those working in entrepreneurship, youth, reinsurance and ocean protection.

To broaden its network and thereby support the Foundation's priority missions, the Swiss branch formalised a Memorandum of Understanding with global reinsurance leader Swiss Re. The Foundation also forged new links with eminent environmental and social impact partners, such as the Earth Prize Foundation and online youth platform Goodwall. The branch also had the pleasure of welcoming the Sovereign Prince to Geneva, for an event bringing together many leading figures around the theme of art and the ocean. The Swiss branch received funding from loyal donors in 2023, enabling the Foundation to enjoy a growing reputation in new stakeholder communities, as well as within its traditional networks, thanks to its committee members' efforts to promote major and innovative environmental issues in Switzerland and beyond.



#### **President** Mr Derek Queisser de Stockalper

#### **Members**

Mr Albert Manzone Mr Eric de Graffenried Mr François Rumpf Mr Romain Ciarlet

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# UNITED KINGDOM

In 2023, the British branch, under its President, HE Evelyne Genta, continued to support a number of field projects and helped boost the influence of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation. On the 7th of March, HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco visited London to take part in a conference on the theme of climate change in the Arctic, organised by Investec and UArctic. In his keynote speech, the Sovereign Prince stressed the need to ensure that problems related to the Arctic remain high on the global agenda despite the difficult geopolitical situation. In June, the Embassy of Monaco in London hosted representatives of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and Monaco Asset Management to introduce ReOcean Fund, a new private fund, to a group of British investors.

HE Evelyne Genta organised a fundraising dinner which took place on the 12th of October in London and which was generously funded by Sir Dennis and Lady Mireille Gillings. The event brought together nearly 80 people. An auction as well as individual donations from guests raised £1.2 million for the Foundation.

The British branch supported two new projects in 2023: the High Conservation Value Network programme, and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust project to improve the resilience of wetlands in Cambodia.



#### **President** HE Ms Evelyne Genta

# Mr Tim Thornton Jones Pr. David Munro

Mr Emmanuel Calça

Tel: +44 207 318 1082



# USA

Under its President, John B. Kelly III, the American branch of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation continued to work both at local level, with the Stroud Water Research Center, for example and at national level, through the Climate Leadership Council's work on a carbon fee and dividend policy in the United States. In line with the Foundation's commitment to young leaders, the American branch pursued its partnership with Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) as part of the MIT Solve Program.

HE Maguy Maccario Doyle, Ambassador of the Principality of Monaco to the United States and Canada, represented HSH the Sovereign Prince, his Government and his Foundation at the 8th International Our Ocean Conference, which took place on 2 and 3 March in Panama.

On 27 October, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation held its 16th annual Planetary Health Awards ceremony at the Perelman Theater on the Kimmel Cultural Campus in Philadelphia, hosted by the American branch.

A number of events were held in honour of the visit of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco to Philadelphia, including a welcome reception hosted by HE Maguy Maccario Doyle at the Philadelphia Museum of Art attended by numerous guests. Then HSH the Sovereign Prince, alongside his cousin John B. Kelly III and representatives of the City of Philadelphia, planted a tree in the Williams Moore Reed Memorial Park as part of the Philly Tree Plan, a strategic plan to create an urban forest in Philadelphia, for which the American branch has provided 130,000 US dollars in funding.

There were two further official visits connected with projects supported by the Foundation: one to Philadelphia Zoo, which conducts initiatives to raise awareness of and educate the public on species protection, and the other to FDR Park, where around 13 hectares are to be transformed into a wetland, helping to restore biodiversity.



President
Mr John B. Kelly III

**Vice President** HE Ms Maguy Maccario Doyle

**Treasurer**Ms Nancy Bugos

**Executive Director** Mr John Coffman

#### **Members**

Mr Gabby Roe Mr John Mcarter Mr Jérôme de Bontin Mr Romain Ciarlet

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The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation itself has always surrounded with exceptional women and men to shape its strategic plan and decide the best ways to achieve its goals. Each member of the Board of Directors brings expertise in the areas of the environment and sustainable development. The Foundation has also created a Scientific and Technical Committee and an Ethics Commission to ensure the projects it supports meet the highest quality standards and its founding values are upheld.



#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation convened its Board of Directors on 12 May and 27 October 2023. The Scientific and Technical Committee met on 10 February and 7 July 2023.

#### **HSH PRINCE ALBERT II OF MONACO**

#### • Mr OLIVIER WENDEN **MONACO**

Vice-President and CFO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation

# • HE Mr BERNARD FAUTRIER

#### **MONACO**

Minister Plenipotentiary, Special Advisor to HSH the Sovereign Prince on environmental issues

#### • Ms BRIGITTE BOCCONE-PAGÈS **MONACO**

President of the National Council of Monaco

#### • Mr ROBERT CALCAGNO MONACO

CEO of the Oceanographic Institute of Monaco, Prince Albert I of Monaco

#### Ms MARIA DAMANAKI

#### **GREECE**

Global Managing Director for Oceans at The Nature Conservancy

#### • Pr. TIM FLANNERY **AUSTRALIA**

Biologist and palaeontologist,

Head of Zoology at the Australian Museum, Sydney, former Chief Commissioner of Australia's first Climate Commission

#### Mr MARCO LAMBERTINI

#### **ITALY**

Member of the China Council for International Cooperation on **Environment and Development** (CCICED), member of the UN Global Compact Board, member of the Global Commons Alliance Steering Committee, former Director General of WWF International

#### Mr ALAIN LE ROY

#### **FRANCE**

Ambassador of France, Honorary Senior Audit Manager at the Cour des Comptes (French Audit Office)

# • HE Mr HERALDO MUÑOZ

#### CHILI

President of the Party for Democracy (PPD), former Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chile

#### • Dr SUNITA NARAIN

Director General of the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), Director of the Society for **Environmental Communications** 

#### Mr PAUL POLMAN

#### **NETHERLANDS**

Business leader, activist and co-author of Net Positive

## • Dr THIERRY VANDEVELDE

#### **FRANCE**

Executive Officer of the Veolia Foundation

#### Ms SALLY YOZELL

#### USA

Director of the Stimson Center's Environmental Safety Program, former Advisor to the US Secretary of State

## SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

The Scientific and Technical Committee acts as a think tank and provides guidance in each of the Foundation's main areas of intervention. The Committee is involved in the project selection process and delivers opinions to the Board of Directors about the Foundation's projects and partnerships. The Committee is composed of key figures known for their expertise in the environment and sustainable development fields.

#### • Pr. DENIS ALLEMAND MONACO

Scientific Director of the Monaco Scientific Centre member of the Scientific Committee of the French Research Institute for the Exploitation of the Sea (IFREMER)

#### Mr LAURENT BOPP

#### FRANCE

CNRS Research Director at the Laboratory of Dynamic Meteorology of the Institut Pierre-Simon Laplace (IPSL), Visiting Professor at the École Normale Supérieure de Paris (IPSL)

#### • Mr LUCIEN CHABASON

#### FRANCE

Former President of Plan Bleu, the environment and sustainable development centre for the Mediterranean, Deputy Director, Institute of Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI)

#### Ms MILAGROS COUCHOUD SPAIN

President of the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME)

## • Mr RAPHAËL CUVELIER

#### **FRANCE**

Vice-President of the Ocean and Climate Platform

#### Ms ISABEL HOFFMANN **UNITED KINGDOM**

Manager at the Capitals Coalition, London

#### • Pr. JEAN JAUBERT

Former Director of the Musée Océanographique in Monaco, specialist in the biology and ecology of reef-constructing corals, former Scientific Director and Head of Expeditions at the Cousteau Society

#### • Pr. CHARLOTTE KARIBUHOYE-SAID

#### SENEGAL

Director, West Africa Programme & Regional Director, MAVA Foundation for Nature

# • Pr. DAVID MUNRO

#### **UNITED KINGDOM**

Honorary Professor at the University of Dundee and Honorary Research Fellow in the School of GeoSciences at the University of Edinburgh, geographical advisor to the publishers of The Times Atlas of the World, former Director of the Royal Scottish Geographical Society (RSGS)

#### Dr OLAV ORHEIM

#### **NORWAY**

Senior Advisor at the Research Council of Norway

# Dr BERTRAND PICCARD

#### **SWITZERLAND**

Pioneer of hang-gliding and microlighting in Europe, UN Goodwill Ambassador (UNFPA), winner of the first transatlantic balloon race (1992), Chairman of the Solar Impulse Foundation

# • Mr GUILLAUME SAINTENY

#### FRANCE

President of Plan Bleu, President GS Conseil, former Lecturer in Sustainable Development at the École Polytechnique, former Deputy Cabinet Director in the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy

#### • Ms SANDRINE SOMMER

#### **FRANCE**

Sustainable Development Director, Moët Hennessy

# • Pr. MICHAEL MEREDITH

#### **UNITED KINGDOM**

Joint Director, UK National Climate Science Partnership, Science Leader at the British Antarctic Survey, Professorial Fellow in Oceanography at Murray Edwards College, University of Cambridge

#### **ETHICS COMMISSION**

The Ethics Commission guarantees that all the Foundation's activities respect its founding values and ethical standards.

# • Mr ARNAUD HAMON MONACO

Director of Legal Affairs, Government of Monaco

#### • Mr SÁLVANO BRICEÑO

#### **VENEZUELA**

Former Science Committee Chair, Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR)

#### • Pr TULLIO SCOVAZZI

#### ITALY

Professor of International Law, University of Milano-Bicocca

# • Mr LEDI BIANKU

#### FRANCE

Associate Professor at the University of Strasbourg

#### Ms ANNE FOUBERT

#### **FRANCE**

Lecturer in Public Law at the University of Orléans

# **DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE**

The Development and Fundraising Committee helps set the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's international development strategy. It also assists in raising the financial resources needed to carry out the Foundation's programme of action.

#### • HE Ms EVELYNE GENTA

#### President

President of the United Kingdom branch of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation

#### • LADY MONIKA DEL CAMPO BACARDI OF BAYFIELD HALL

#### Member

Co-founder of the production company Ambi Pictures

#### Ms JACKY DEROMEDI

#### Member

President of the Singapore branch of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation

#### LADY TINA GREEN

#### Member

Business woman and interior designer

# TRIPLE QUALITY

# **ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY ISO CERTIFICATION**

As part of its commitment to optimising its activities, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation implemented an Integrated Quality and Environmental Management System complying with ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 in 2013, followed by an ISO 50001 Energy Management System in 2016. In December 2021, following an audit carried out by DNV-GL, the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation had all three certifications renewed for a period of three years.

An intermediate audit, as provided for in the certification, took place from 11 to 13 December 2023 to ensure the effectiveness of the Quality and Environmental Management System in place year on year. Complying with these international standards demonstrates that the Foundation operates within current frameworks to ensure its initiatives are properly implemented, its efficiency is continually tested and the quality of its relationships with partners is continuously improved, with the overarching aim of reducing the environmental impact of its activities.

To comply with its energy efficiency plan, the Foundation has installed a smart heating and air conditioning system to control the temperature in its offices in summer and winter. In tandem with sensible resource use, this helped to reduce electricity consumption in 2023 by almost 20% compared to 2022.

# **Our commitments**

- Provide, maintain and develop the human, organisational and technical resources needed to meet our objectives.
- Respond as effectively as possible to all requests.
- Build on our expertise.
- Comply with the legal and regulatory requirements specific to our activities.
- Anticipate, control and reduce our impact on the environment.
- Carry out an energy assessment and take the necessary steps to reduce our energy consumption.
- Ensure that our processes and performance are continuously improved.

# The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation thanks the following entities for their support and collaboration in 2023



