

For a Sustainable Human Development
Integrating Environmental Protection

NEWSLETTER N°34

OCTOBER 2014

EVENT

**THE FOUNDATION
HAS BEEN AWARDED THE
2014 ADMICAL 'OSCAR'
FOR INTERNATIONAL
PHILANTHROPY**



Corporate philanthropy network Admical's 'Oscar' award ceremony was held in Paris on 1 July 2014. Seven prizewinners were chosen from around fifty nominees.

The Foundation is particularly honoured to have received the *Oscar for International Philanthropy*, which enhances its reputation and visibility in the world of private foundations.

For more information
www.admical.fr

Dear Readers,

Being named *Ensemble* ['together'] means always going back to the key concepts of 'connecting' and 'bringing together'. In our case, it is expertise and financial resources that we are seeking, to enable us to carry out more projects, in the best possible conditions, so that we can move forward together...

When I met Leonardo Lacerda, Director of the Oak Foundation's Environment Programme, at a conference in Brussels, I had no idea that our immediate affinity and common interests would lead, several years later, to a major project as exciting and important as the one that unites us today. Our aim is to identify the environmental and human issues that affect the marine ecosystems in Ecuador, Peru and Mozambique. With what different dangers is each of them threatened, and, secondly, what possible solutions can be found?

Our two Foundations have come together to work on this ambitious project, and I would like here to express my great admiration and respect for the Oak Foundation, for its Chair, Kristian Parker; I am deeply grateful and honoured by their trust. The interview with Leonardo Lacerda on the following pages will give you a brief overview of our project. I hope you will enjoy reading this issue of our Newsletter.

Jacqueline Délia Brémond
Co-Chair

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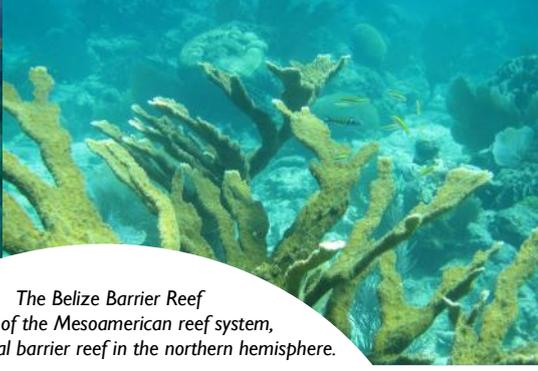
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© Oak Foundation - Tony Rath

The Belize Barrier Reef is part of the Mesoamerican reef system, the largest coral barrier reef in the northern hemisphere.

INTERVIEW

'Cooperation between stakeholders is the key to major long-term change'

The Oak Foundation has just signed a partnership agreement with Fondation Ensemble, focusing on the protection of marine ecosystems in Ecuador, Peru and Mozambique. Leonardo Lacerda, Director of the Environment Programme, tells us more about the strategy of the Oak Foundation, a leading international player.

Why the 'Oak Foundation' ?

Probably because the oak symbolizes strength and longevity. It's a tree that bears much fruit, and that's what the founders are most interested in.

3 000 projects already supported worldwide since 1983?

Yes, if you count all the different areas we're involved in. Grants worth 160 million dollars were awarded last year. But it's important to add all the projects we support via other funding mechanisms. In the case of our Environment Programme, for which I'm responsible, that represents 15 out of the 60 multiyear projects we finance directly. In 2013, for example, this amounted to 11 million dollars, which, through re-granting, reached nearly 800 projects or sub-projects!

How would you consider your achievements in the field of marine ecosystem conservation?

For the last 15 years, we have played an active part in combating overfishing, particularly by focusing on the European Common Fisheries Policy. Fish stocks are gradually building up again now that regulation has become more favourable to sustainable fishing practices and is gradually being extended to non-EU countries. Our Foundation has also supported the setting up of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) throughout the world: one in every three, in fact! Let us not forget that when the Convention on Biological Diversity was launched in 1992, less than 0.5% of sea areas were protected!

In Belize, where you have been more closely involved, 20% of territorial marine areas are now protected. To what do you attribute this success?

This small nation with a population of 300 000 inhabitants is the first to have exceeded the target set by the Convention (10%)! It's an exemplary project.

strong international support. Belize has a unique environmental heritage as it contains much of the second-largest barrier reef system in the world. We contributed to developing new cooperation mechanisms there between civil society organizations, a real 'ecosystem'. It isn't always easy to set that kind of system up, but it's essential if we want the largest possible number of people to take part in discussions on sustainable development and on the fundamental changes that need to be made, especially in the long term ...



Leonardo Lacerda
Oak Foundation

How do you manage to undertake initiatives that go well beyond your own funding resources?

We do so through a funding mechanism that relies on re-granting, enabling us to raise double our own funds. We devote 30% of our funds to this. This year, from the 36 million dollar budget of the Environment Programme, we raised an additional 11 million dollars.

What are your priorities for the future?

We are working on climate protection, which will remain a high priority. As far

as our marine programme is concerned, we are about to launch a new five-year plan, which will include major environmental issues such as the 'plastic continents' of waste in our oceans. We are still at the setting-up stage. Global overfishing remains another priority concern, as does the protection of marine ecosystems. The results of our work in Belize raise a further new challenge: that of setting up one of the most powerful self-sustaining MPA funding mechanisms run by local populations worldwide. We hope to raise 100 million dollars. That may seem an enormous sum, but it's actually very small compared to the value of this natural heritage!

What do you expect from the partnership with Fondation Ensemble?

This partnership will enable us to operate in Mozambique, Peru and Ecuador and to develop appropriate initiatives there. A recent study underlined the important role that developing countries play in global fishing, both industrial and small-scale. We are expecting much from this first partnership with Fondation Ensemble, from its rigorous project selection process and its monitoring capacities in the field.

The Oak Foundation is known for its role in setting up new cooperation mechanisms. What is the vital ingredient?

First and foremost, there needs to be trust between all the stakeholders! When it comes to our view of the world, our two Foundations have much in common... And that's very important for me – just as important as expertise. It's not enough to dream of changing the world; you have to be able to make your dream come true.

Pour en savoir plus : www.oakfnd.org

7 of the 10 most important species of fish are on the verge of depletion

GHG* EMISSIONS

Over 35 MILLION people fish for a livelihood, and there are 20 MILLION fishing boats in the world. Every kilo of fish transported by air is responsible for the equivalent of 8.5 kg of CO₂ emissions; every kilo transported by sea for 2.4 kg of emissions.

* Greenhouse Gas

OVER-EXPLOITATION

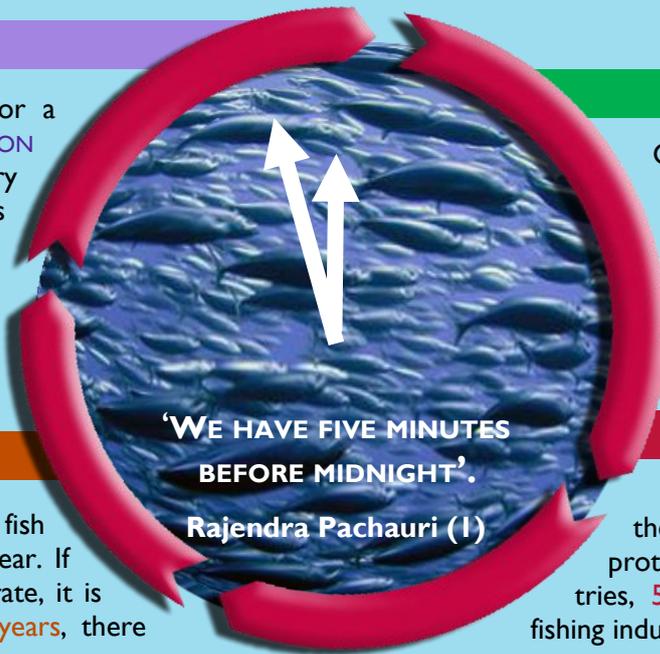
Over 140 MILLION TONNES of fish are caught in the world every year. If fishing continues at its present rate, it is estimated that in less than 30 years, there will be no fish left in the ocean.

LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY

Climate change, pollution, over-exploitation of resources... The sixth great extinction of species is now underway. In 30 years, (between 1970 and 2010) 39% of marine species have disappeared.

FEWER RESOURCES

Fishing and aquaculture represent the second-largest source of animal protein worldwide. In developing countries, 500 MILLION people depend on the fishing industry and aquaculture.



'WE HAVE FIVE MINUTES BEFORE MIDNIGHT'.

Rajendra Pachauri (1)

(1) Head of the United Nations - IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)

Collaboration with the Oak Foundation aims to be used as leverage for broader mobilization

The financial partnership agreed between the Oak Foundation and Fondation Ensemble runs until 2017. A preliminary study phase is underway in the three countries of operation: Peru, Ecuador and Mozambique.

Three contractors were selected last July: Ecobiotec del Ecuador, for Ecuador, Biodinâmica for Mozambique, and Advanced Conservation Strategies for Peru. The aim is to carry out a full diagnostic assessment of marine ecosystems: from an environmental, social, political and economic viewpoint. In this way, we can gain a more comprehensive picture of the nature of these ecosystems, their resources, and the threats faced by both the local populations and the most vulnerable plant or animal species.

This review will also enable us to identify the various stakeholders involved (private, public), the initiatives underway (Marine Protected Areas, national



programmes, etc.), and the legislation in force. The study will also focus on the local populations' standard of living, health and education and on their traditional practices.

Late December: Launch of a call for proposals

After collection and analysis of all the data, the two Foundations will be able to decide on priority areas for action and to establish essential indicators for management of the projects.

By the end of the year, a call for proposals will be launched. It has been agreed that Fondation Ensemble will be in charge of the overall selection process and of project monitoring. This will include field visits, evaluations, review and summary reports, a wide range of tools which the Fondation Ensemble team will make available to the Oak Foundation.

Mobilizing multiple stakeholders

The preliminary studies have drawn on a wide range of experts on marine environments from various bodies (NGOs, universities, government bodies, etc.) Our two foundations thus aim to encourage a multi-stakeholder approach. We also share the hope that, as with the Healthy Reef Initiative project conducted on the Mesoamerican reef system (cf. page 2), other donors will in turn come forward.



ON THE HORIZON ...

A NEW WEBSITE IS COMING SOON



A more user-friendly structure, improved search functions, more direct access, a more dynamic news section about the Foundation and its projects... The Foundation's new website will go online in December.

You will find all the essential information on our mission, our intervention sectors and countries of operation, key dates for the next project selection committee, etc.

You will also be able to access information on all the funded projects, both ongoing and completed, with project fact sheets or experience notes, links to partners and downloadable technical information sheets.

TRIBUTE TO...

Michel Affholder passed away on 25 June this year. A member of the Foundation's Board of Experts from the very beginning, he was someone to whom we owe a great deal. We shall not forget his dedication, his professionalism and generosity... Our thoughts are with his family and friends.



Nine new small projects of the Threatened Animal Species Special Fund



AWELY - ZAMBIA

Protection of elephants and rhinoceroses

www.Awely.org



OBSERVATOIRE FRANÇAIS APIDOLOGIE - FRANCE

Protection of bees

POH KAO - CAMBODIA

Protection of the Veun Sai – Siem Pang forest

www.pohkao.org



HUTAN - MALAYSIA

Protection of orang-utans and elephant populations

www.hutan.org

SNOW LEOPARD CONSERVATION FOUNDATION - MONGOLIA

Protection of the snow leopard

www.snowleopard.org



TAKH MONGOLIA

Protection of the Przewalski horse

www.takh.org



SOUFFLEURS D'ECUME SPAIN, FRANCE, ITALY

Protection of large cetaceans

www.souffleursdecume.com

MAIO BIODIVERSITY FOUNDATION CABO VERDE

Protection of turtles and manta rays

www.maiococonservation.org



WWF GREECE

Protection of the Mediterranean Monk Seal

wwf.gr



To support small projects for the conservation of threatened animal species, the Foundation has set up a special Fund, for all countries, with a simplified selection and follow-up process.

Editor-in-chief: O. Braunsteffer
Graphic design and text: B. Galliot

The Foundation wishes to thank its partners for the photographic material included in this issue.

To subscribe

www.fondationensemble.org

Fondation Ensemble
1 rue de Fleurus. 75006 PARIS.

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