



ANNUAL REPORT **2019**

MANGROVE ACTION PROJECT

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Letter from Executive Director

2019 has been a year of rapid change at Mangrove Action Project (MAP); from overhauling our program outlook, to our new website, to working with new partners and reconnecting with old ones, we are quickly shifting gears into a new era of mangrove conservation.

As both mangroves and MAP find themselves increasingly on the front lines of the international conservation effort, we are looking to bring our long-learned best practices to the forefront. As part of this effort, we have sought out and worked with new partners from all across the spectrum of mangrove stakeholders; this year saw MAP working with local mangrove communities, international NGOs, and governments across three continents, bringing both its 'Community-Based Ecological Mangrove Restoration' (CBEMR) methodology as well as its 'Marvellous Mangroves' (MM) environmental education program to multiple countries and groups around the world.

Part of MAP's trademark remains its outsized influence; we are able to connect and work with a variety of mangrove actors from around the world, as well as advocating for mangrove issues small and large globally – all while MAP itself

remains a small, nimble organization. That is what has made it such a pleasure to work with its dedicated and talented staff of experts, all of whom are passionate about helping our world's mangrove forests, bringing about benefits for their communities, the larger global population, and the planet as a whole.

The worldwide focus on mangrove forests is increasing, along with the pace of new conservation and restoration projects; and we will need experts at the helm to effectively channel this energy. As such, in the coming year I will be stepping into a managerial position within MAP, so that we can bring on Dr. Dominic Wodehouse – one of MAP's longtime lead CBEMR trainers – into the position of Executive Director. It has been such a pleasure to see MAP's influence begin to take a true hold in the global scene, and to see the important lessons we've learned over the years being implemented around the globe. I know that Dominic will bring an important, expertise-driven set of eyes to the frontlines, which is needed now more than ever. I think I can speak for all of MAP when I say that I am excited to see what the future holds, and to see what we can achieve together to help our mangrove forests – and through them our planet, and all of those who call it home.



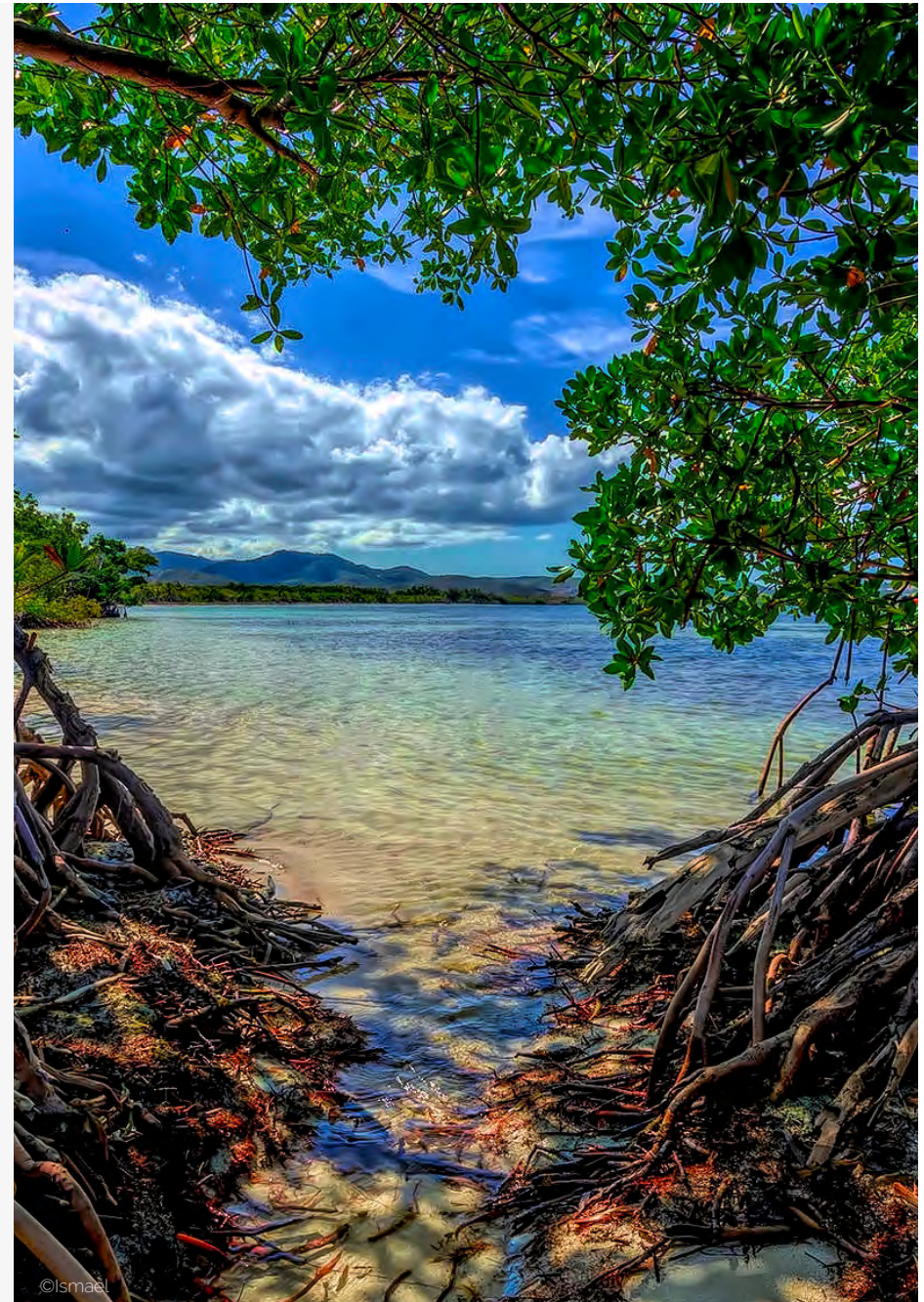
Chairman's Statement

MAP has more than 25 years of experience of working in the field, delivering training workshops in mangrove communities around the world, training trainers and teaching school children and their teachers. The highlights of this year have been well executed community-based ecological mangrove restoration (CBEMR) workshops in Myanmar to train the Myanmar Forest Department, and in Tanzania to partner Wetlands International's 'Mangrove Capital Africa' program in the Rufiji Delta. Our 'Marvellous Mangroves' (MM) schools' education curriculum continues to make progress in the Guianas, running training in Suriname and expanding into French Guyana. Among many outreach campaigns, MAP has been central to the battle to save the mangroves on Kulhudhufushi, in the Maldives, partnering with the IUCN Mangrove Specialist Group.

At the end of 2019, the Executive Director Dylan Skeffington decided that in the coming year he will move to the role of General Manager, and will be handing over the baton to long-time CBEMR trainer, Dr Dominic Wodehouse. In 2020 Mangrove Action Project (MAP) will begin to consult with its staff and partners on a new strategic plan to deliver the vision of the

board. It is expected that the new strategy will focus MAP's work with partners within two major program areas; its CBEMR workshops, and the MM training, educating communities and even entire national education services in the values of their own mangrove ecology. The board's wish is that MAP should become a leading provider of mangrove-related education, training and advice to NGOs, communities and all other mangrove-related groups.

The board is delighted that Dr Wodehouse will be able to work with our small crew of experienced, professional staff members to develop the programs that MAP will be offering to our partners. We expect to see results in the coming year.



Our Mission

The Mangrove Action Project is a non-profit organization
**preserving, conserving, and restoring the world's mangrove
forests through action, advocacy and education**

2019 Highlights

Main programs this year worked in **5 countries** across 3 continents

Furthered the 'Marvellous Mangroves' (MM) environmental education school curriculum trainings in **French Guyana**

Conducted a joint 'Community-Based Ecological Mangrove Restoration' (CBEMR) / MM training in conjunction with WWF in **Suriname**

Conducted a CBEMR Training for the **Myanmar** Forest Department, to help promote best-practice mangrove restoration and conservation practices in the country

Conducted a CBEMR Training for Wetlands International in **Tanzania**, to help further successful mangrove restoration in the Rufiji Delta

Representatives traveled to the **Maldives**, providing consultative services to the government on conserving their remaining mangrove forests

MAP also conducted several general outreach campaigns through the annual Mangrove Photo Awards Competition, Childrens Mangrove Art Calendar, and bi-weekly Newsletters

Social media increase: **Followers +3600**

Marvellous Mangroves

French Guyana

Mangrove Action Project (MAP) has adapted and launched the French version of Marvellous Mangroves (MM) for use in French Guyana. This joint project between MAP and Kote Foret has launched and distributed the education program throughout French Guyana, with an aim to educate children about the values and benefits of mangroves. Marvellous Mangroves consists of curriculum linked, in-depth and hands-on mangrove education, which is taught not only to primary and secondary school children, but also to teachers themselves. The program is carefully adapted for to each geographic and socioeconomic area, allowing it to be implemented all over the world.

[Click here for more details](#)



MERVEILLEUSES MANGROVES DE GUYANE - TOME 1



Classeur pédagogique
à destination des animateurs et enseignants de Guyane.



"The kids showed great interest and participated enthusiastically in both the activities and the field trip. It's encouraging to see such excitement as it is vital that we teach current and future generations the value of our world's mangrove forests"

- *Martin Keeley*, MAP Education Director

MM & CBEMR Training

Suriname

A 3-day 'Marvellous Mangrove' session run by Martin Keeley for 24 students from four different disciplines – Economics, Environmental Science, Mining and Agriculture – at Anton de Kom University. This is the first time this kind of interdisciplinary ecological training has taken place in Suriname.

WWF Guianas together with NGO 'Stichting SORTS Suriname' and MAP organized a five day Guianas Regional Mangrove Ecosystems training workshop in Coronie, Suriname, immediately after the MM workshop. Over 25 participants from Suriname, Guyana and French Guyana attended the training representing NGOs, government, universities, local communities and entrepreneurs, CSOs and the private sector.

MAP's Education Director, Martin Keeley, visited the remote village of Galibi in Suriname to implement the second phase of the Marvellous Mangroves education program with students from Sint Antonius School. The students learnt about mangroves in the classroom, they got to experience them firsthand on fieldtrips and they discovered the importance of these ecosystems and why it is so vital to protect them. Martin was assisted by colleagues Luciano Doest and Davita Obergh who both helped to implement the first phase of the Marvellous Mangroves program in Suriname in 2018. Additionally, Martin presented two mangrove education posters which had been translated into the local indigenous language, Karina, to illustrate the importance of mangrove forests.

[Click here for more details](#)



".....this kind of exposure is essential for students so they understand the function and structure of ecological systems."

- Ms Joan Telget, Mangrove Forum

CBEMR Training Myanmar

To support DANIDA's 'Climate Adaptation in Coastal Communities of Myanmar' programme, implemented locally by the Myanmar Forest Department, MAP and partner NGO Mangrove Service Network undertook a two-part CBEMR training for 39 participants. These were predominantly Forest Dept. officers, and also NGO staff and academics from two universities. The workshop involved a five day, theory-based session in Yangon followed by three days of practical field training in Myeik, southern Myanmar.

This workshop filled a crucial gap in the Forest Department's training as officers receive little mangrove ecology or restoration-specific instruction. As many of these officers manage several villages, the multiplier effect of this workshop will be significant.

Being foresters much of the training emphasized the difference between terrestrial and mangrove forests. From participants' feedback, the importance of hydrology and drainage was new to them, as was the advantages of facilitating natural regeneration, rather than planting.

[Click here for more details](#)



CBEMR Training Tanzania

On behalf of Wetlands International's 'Mangrove Capital Africa' (MCA) program, Mangrove Action Project (MAP) ran a workshop on Community-Based Ecological Mangrove Restoration (CBEMR) for 28 participants in Kibiti and the Rufiji Delta, Tanzania, Jan-Feb 2019. MCA is sponsored by DOB Ecology.

The workshop involved a five-day, theoretical teaching followed by three days of more practical training, as a follow-up to the classroom workshop. Jim Enright, Dominic Wodehouse and Jaruwan 'Ning' Enright from MAP were the trainers for the participants from the Tanzanian Forest Service, local NGOs and community-based organisations, as well as representatives from Kenya, Mozambique and Madagascar.

The mangrove challenge facing the local WI team was the encroachment into the mangroves for rice production by landless people. The salinity of the water within the Rufiji Delta was very low which permitted rice cultivation. Therefore much of the training considered how to recover areas previously converted to rice growing, and the discussions about the social, holistic solutions to this problem.

[Click here for more details](#)



"My expectations was to learn only about how to teach community to conserve the mangrove. But the experience went beyond that as we have learned many important things which I hadn't understood before, e.g. hydrology, monitoring stressors and to avoid planting in mudflat."

- Workshop participant

Advocacy

Maldives

In April 2019, MAP's co-founder and program director, Alfredo Quarto, was invited by the Minister of Environment of The Maldives, Dr Hussain Rasheed Hassan to visit the country. MAP was asked to help advise on whether or not a damaged mangrove area found on Kulhudhuffushi Island could be saved or whether it was best to simply reclaim (fill in) the remaining area of mangroves that had been adversely affected by recent construction of an airport runway. The runway had been built dissecting a once healthy mangrove lagoon, and all environmental safeguards that were devised in a prior EIA were disregarded in the process.. Though most of the mangroves were destroyed by the runway development itself, some remnant areas of mangroves survived but were affected by the loss of normal hydrology because the runway blocked the original access points to the sea and could lead to dangerous flooding conditions during the ensuing monsoons. MAP brought a team of mangrove experts, including MAP's Asia Coordinator and CBEMR lead trainer, Jim Enright, as well as two mangrove scientists from the IUCN sponsored Mangrove Specialist Group, Drs. Joe Lee from Hong Kong and Dan



Friess from Singapore. The government sponsored the visiting scientists, while MAP representatives were sponsored by the local NGO network, Save Maldives. The team headed to Kulhudhuffushi to investigate the state of the remaining mangroves where we conducted two days of intensive study and data gathering aimed at making an initial report to the Minister. Members of the EPA and Ministry of Environment joined us in this assessment and our final recommendations and report to the Ministry was handed over to the Minister. A final decision by the ministry is still pending, but we are now attempting to work directly with the local island council on Kulhudhufushi to implement one of the four recommended actions with their support.

[Click here for more details](#)



Photography Awards

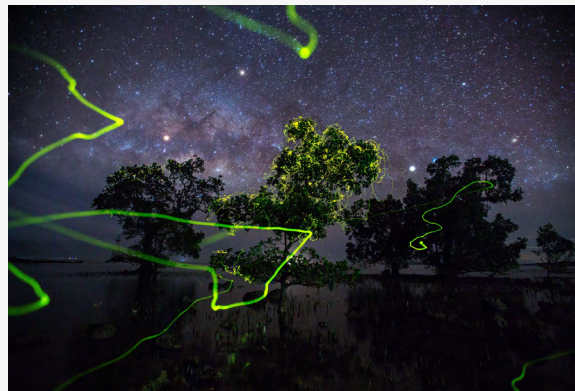
For World Mangrove Day 2019, we launched our fifth annual global photography competition, following our mission to raise awareness of the important connections people have with mangrove forests. Throughout the month of July, we asked for and received 250 stunning photos from 30 countries around the world that highlighted mangrove ecosystems and their important contributions to communities and the environment. The theme for 2019 was #MangrovesMatter.

July 26th 2019 marked the 20th anniversary of World Mangrove Day, now recognized by UNESCO as the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystems. This historic day commemorated Greenpeace activist Hayhow Daniel Nanoto, who died during a massive protest to re-establish the mangrove wetlands in Ecuador. For the last 26 years, the Mangrove Action Project has celebrated this day with a commitment to action in defence of the mangroves and the communities that rely on them. These unique and inspiring images capture the true beauty of mangroves and we are proud to share their work.

[Click here for more details](#)



Winner
©Enrico Marone



Runner Up
©Janos Leo G. Andanar



Highly Commended
©Stephanie Sargis

Children's Calendar 2020

Mangrove Art Contest

This year we reached nearly 2500 students, aged between 6 and 16, in 30 schools across 12 countries. The artworks entered were incredibly stunning and expressive and have resulted in one of our most beautiful calendars to date. This year we've gone that little bit further with the calendar. Using soy-based inks, the calendars were printed on FSC-certified 100% recycled paper to produce an earth-friendly product.

Many thanks to all those who took part in this year's activities! Join us in our mission to educate, enlighten and empower the youth of today across the globe so that mangroves, and our planet, have a sustainable future!

[Click here for more details](#)

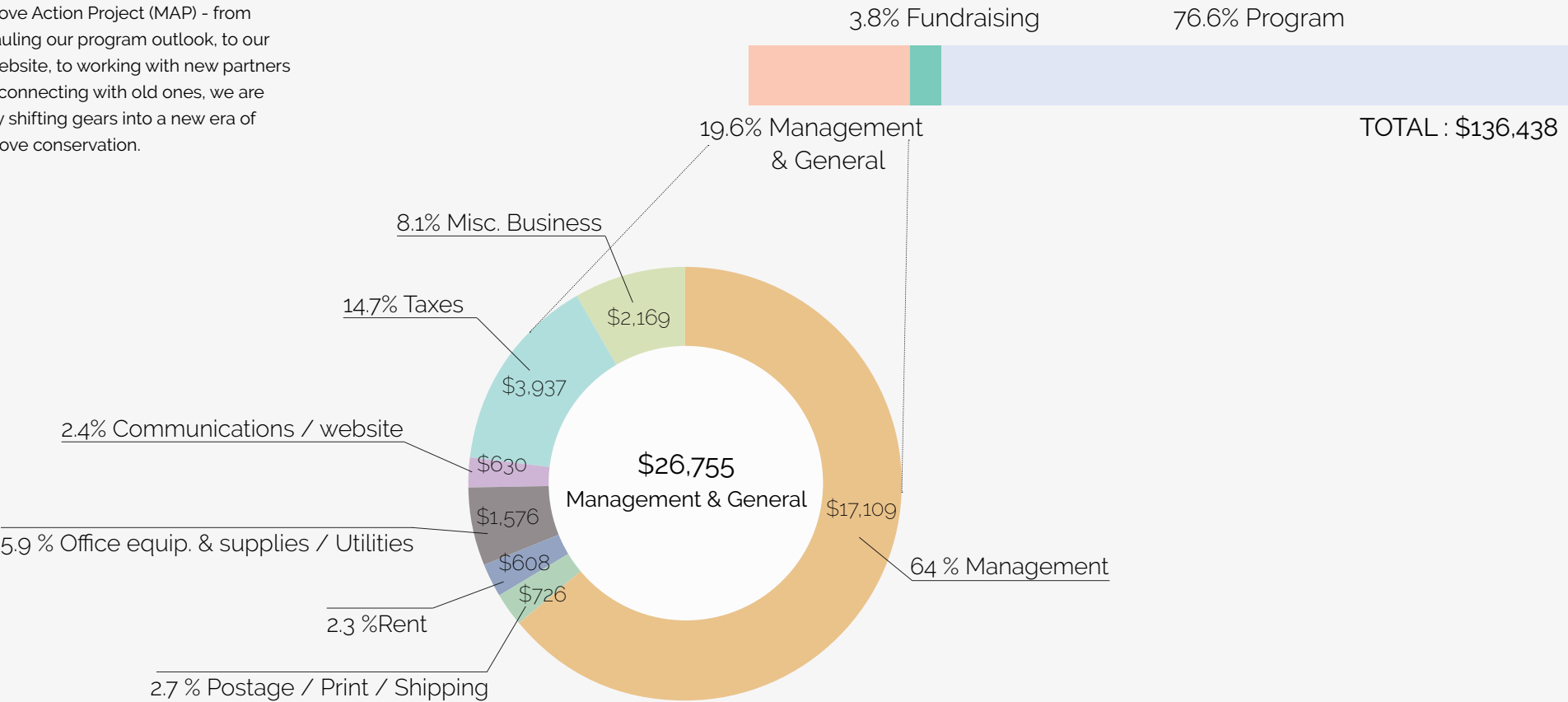


Financial Overview

2019

2019 has been a year of rapid change at Mangrove Action Project (MAP) - from overhauling our program outlook, to our new website, to working with new partners and reconnecting with old ones, we are quickly shifting gears into a new era of mangrove conservation.

Breakdown of MAP Expenses

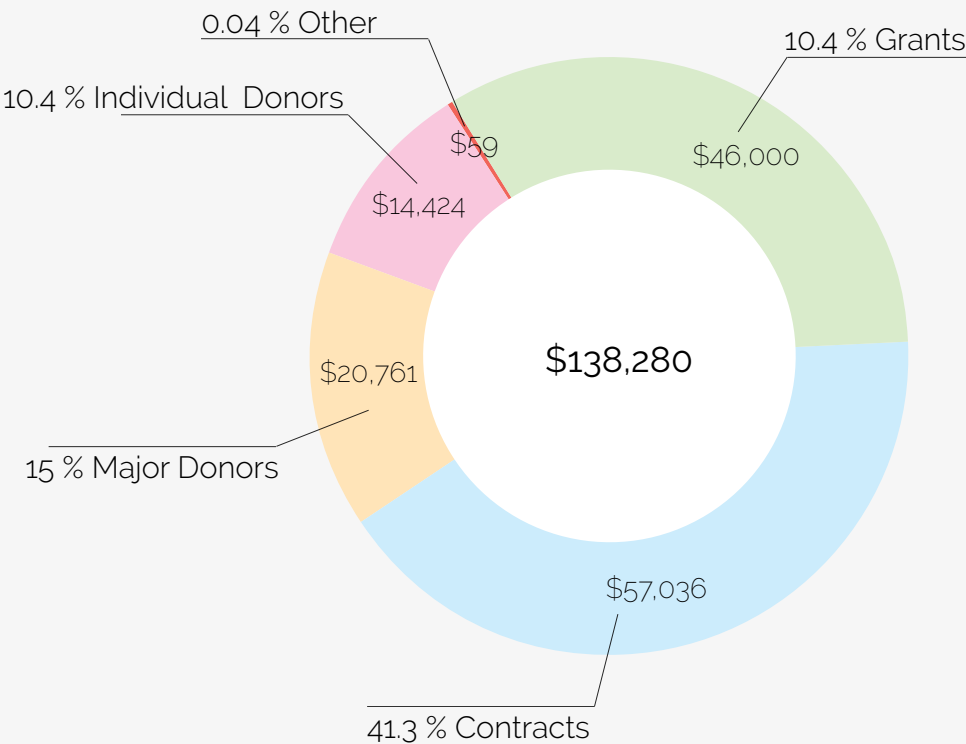


Financial Overview

2019

As part of the new model, we have begun diversifying our income to include contracting services, in addition to project grants and the always-appreciated donations from our generous supporters.

Breakdown of MAP Income



MAP Assets - Jan 1 2019 - \$18,068

Dec 31 2019 - \$19,864

Team

Saving the world's mangrove forests and raising awareness of their importance is a passion for all our dedicated team



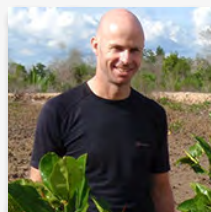
Dylan Skeffington
Executive Director

Dylan has worked with MAP for two years as its Executive Director, as well as previous work with other international NGOs. He also enjoys traveling and exploring outdoors, and pretending to be an adventure photographer.



Alfredo Quarto
International Program Director

Alfredo is the co-founder of Mangrove Action Project (1992), its former ED and currently serves as MAP's International Program Director. His experiences of organizing and writing on environmental and human rights issues, range over many countries and organizations.



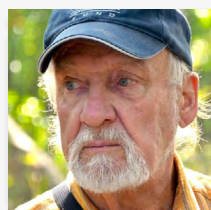
Dominic Wodehouse
CBEMR trainer

Dominic teaches CBEMR in various countries while completing a PhD at Bangor University, looking at community mangrove management and restoration. He will become the new Executive Director.



Jim Enright
CBEMR trainer

Jim is based in Trang, overseeing every stage of MAP's projects in Thailand. Though semi-retire, he continues to assist MAP with CBEMR training workshops around the globe.



Martin Keeley
Education Director

Martin teaches wetlands ecology to students, teachers and communities. His MM program is adapted and translated for use in 16 countries. His latest venture is monitoring illegal mangrove destruction.



Leo Thom
Creative Director

Leo is a filmmaker and digital content creator based in the UK, with a passion for visual storytelling. Currently finishing off another postgraduate Masters, in Wildlife Filmmaking, in partnership with the BBC Natural History Unit, in Bristol.



Jaruan Kaewmahanin
Field Project Manager

Ning is a specialist in project management and coordination of action research related to mangrove and community-based natural resource management and networking among communities.



Monica Gutierrez-Quarto
Calendar Coordinator

Monica is a Chilean artist and printmaker who has helped coordinate the MAP International Children's Art Calendar contest for the last 19 years.



Sam Nugent
News Editor

Sam is a graphic designer and editor of the MAP News. He also manages the graphic arts department for several small newspapers in the region around Port Angeles, WA where he is based.

Thank You

Thank you to the following individual
Major Donors:

Celeste Botha

Sharon Caulfield

Roger de Freitas

Jáchym Hercher

Melissa Hicks

Sue Hilton

Maiya Holliday

Sherry Manning

Tom Quarto

Stephanie Ross

Margy Stewart



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