



MORE, HEALTHY MANGROVES FOR EVERYONE



MANGROVE ACTION PROJECT

2020-2021

ANNUAL REPORT



www.mangroveactionproject.org

MAP is a registered 501c(3) non-profit charity organisation
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Letter from Executive Director

Sometimes changes in trajectory are only apparent in hindsight. Not in 2021. Our change was absolutely clear. Remaining in lockdown, we continued to do great work online, training NGOs and other groups how to restore mangroves successfully, and build on the achievements of 2020 and before. However, November saw the first significant operations grant, from the Becht Family Charitable Trust.

Why so significant? It meant that we could give a full-time CBEMR trainer role to our excellent part-time communications manager and mangrove expert. It also allowed us to hire our volunteer to run our donor management and interaction activity – something we have never been able to dedicate enough time to in the past. In addition, the grant provided concrete evidence to staff and board that MAP had stepped up a gear, energising and encouraging both groups.

What's the grant's impact? As a public vote of confidence, it encourages other potential funders to support MAP. It allows us to develop the donor side of MAP's sustainable funding strategy, and to greatly expand our training capacity, allowing MAP to run more mangrove restoration workshops per year.

This grant didn't mean that we could rest on our laurels – Becht gave us a challenge. We

were obliged to match and beat this funding within the first year with other contributions, but it was an important first step and we are delighted to be partnering with BFCT, who have been hugely supportive.

Beyond this grant win, the team excelled during 2021. Our sister NGO MEP was awarded €280,000 from the EU to help run and expand the 'Marvellous Mangroves' schools' education program and the Mangrove Rangers' activity in the Cayman Islands. MAP's social media presence and footprint grew and grew, as did our outreach in the form of the annual photography competition and children's art competition calendar. We spoke at conferences, networked groups together and did all manner of interviews and podcasts, while at the same time joining and supporting various mangrove-related international organisations and assisting other NGOs. Amazing work and output for an NGO of our size. My thanks go to the team and the board for their continued dedication, passion, good humour and professionalism. Without them, none of this happens.

Dominic Wodehouse

Dominic Wodehouse, PhD
Executive Director



Our Mission

Greatly improve mangrove conservation, restoration and education by building capacity and raising awareness

Our Values

EXCELLENCE

We are experts in our field with techniques and programs that work, for lasting benefits.

PASSION

Our mission is urgent, and we are determined to do the best to improve your mangrove project.

RESPONSIVE & AGILE

Every project is unique and we make sure we listen to you, before responding with tailored solutions.

INTEGRITY

We put you and the needs of the mangroves first. We are honest with our opinions and transparent with our activities.

RESPECTFUL & APPROACHABLE

We pride ourselves on working with diverse coastal communities from different religions, listening to their wisdom.

OPENNESS

We work in a transparent and collaborative way to share what we learn.

2021 Highlights

Furthering the **CBEMR methodology** through online training for various organizations and individuals through workshops with WWF and US Forestry Service

Development of the 'Marvellous Mangroves' curriculum in the Cayman Islands to **include seagrass and coral reefs**

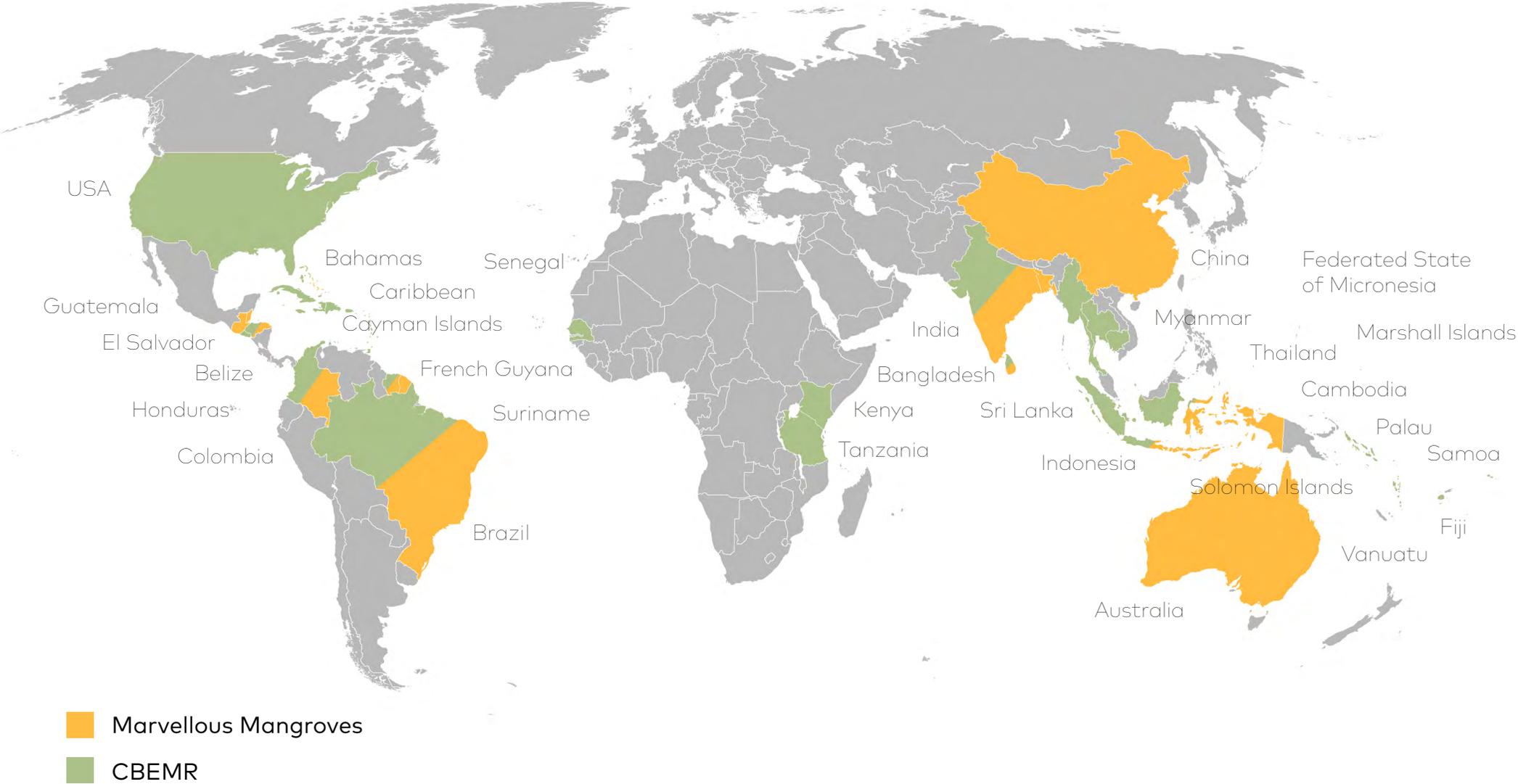
Most thought-provoking Mangrove Photography Awards to date
– with **2,188 submissions from 68 countries**

Celebrated 20 years of the **Children's Mangrove Art project**, receiving 600 submissions from 45 countries

An average **growth rate of 44.95%** across our social media platforms

MAP's Impact

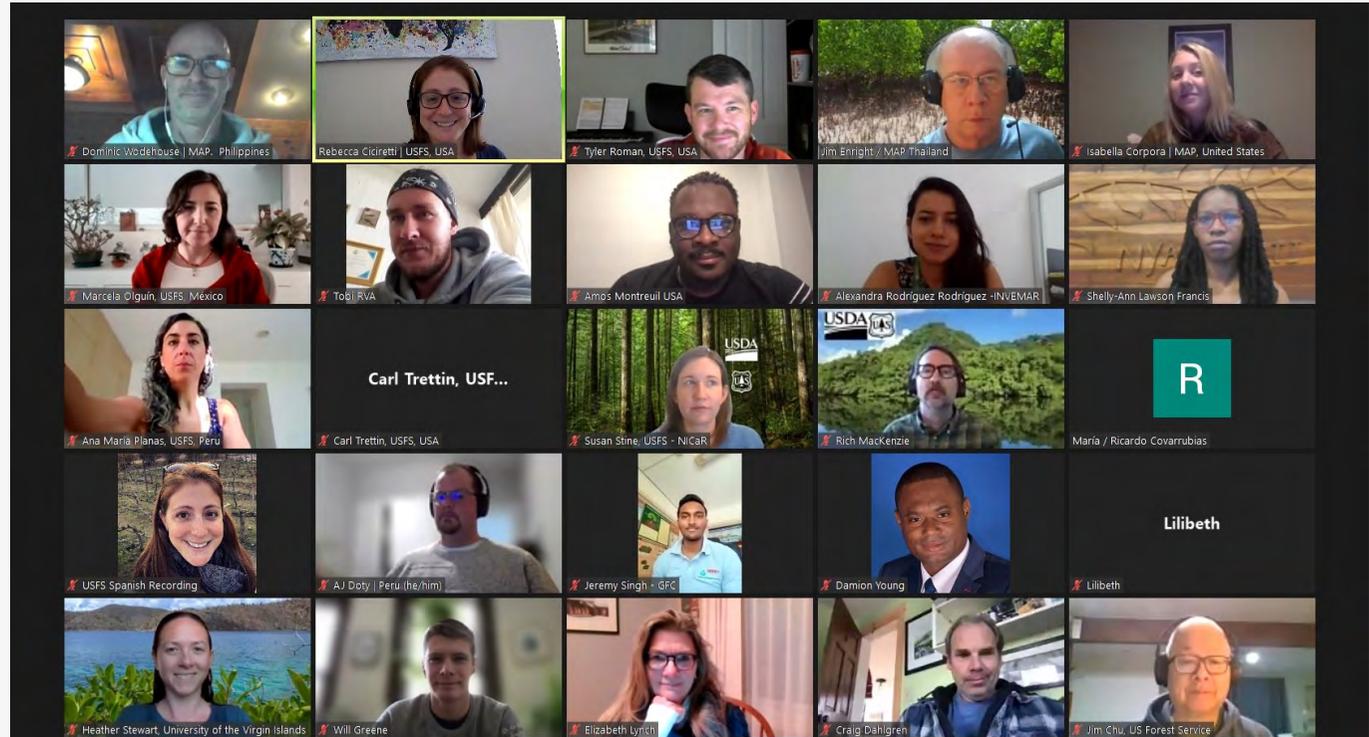
by Location



CBEMR Online Training with USFS

In 2020 Mangrove Action Project learned how to run a full 'Community-Based Ecological Mangrove Restoration' (CBEMR) workshop online. As Covid-19 continued to prohibit all face-to-face teaching in 2021, we embarked on a number of online workshops, including for the US Forest Service's 'International Programs', (see photo below). Online training has allowed for more people to attend from various countries. This training has 47 participants from around the Pacific including Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Marshall Islands, Fiji and Samoa. The workshop started in January and ran over six weeks, designed to help the implementation of the USFS's 'Pacific Islands Forest Restoration Initiative' (PIFRI). The project is focused not just on mangroves, but also island terrestrial forests, to ensure these ecosystems continue to provide their valuable goods and services to the local communities and wider population

[Read about the online training here.](#)



IMPACT
47 participants across 8 countries
in Fiji and Pacific Island States

Marvellous Mangroves

Curriculum Development

The continued impact of Covid-19 on the development and implementation of Marvellous Mangroves has limited its expansion to the Cayman Islands with projections once the pandemic is over for further international expansion.

Thanks to funding from the UK-based Darwin Plus initiative as well as local support from Caribbean Utilities Corp (CUC) and the Singing Field Foundation, the program has continued its expansion into the Coastal Lagoon ecosystem to incorporate the integrated seagrass and reefs of the Caribbean in the Coastal Education Guide. Access to schools was limited to the first half of the year, but shutdown led to the continued shift to online resources.

Partnerships continued with the Cayman-based Mangrove Education Project several of whose Mangrove Rangers participated in both teaching and research projects. Grand Cayman's Central Mangrove Wetlands (CMWQ) remained a focal point for school and public education explorations as well as a new research project in the National Trust lands deep in the CMW in conjunction with the Trust and Cayman International School.

[Read about the curriculum expansion here.](#)



“It’s been exciting to expand Marvellous Mangroves into the entire coastal lagoon ecosystem to include seagrass and coral reefs”

- *Martin Keeley*, MAP Education Director

Sustainable Livelihoods

Beekeeping

Nai Nang village on the Andaman Coast in southern Thailand have started to give apiculture training to villages nearby. The 2 villages that received training were Na Thung Klang and Klong Prasong. There are many groups and villages that want to learn about Nai Nang's Apiculture Model, but to be invited Nai Nang Apiculture Group wants to see a commitment to linking the practice with mangrove conservation. They stress that raising bees requires a good food source, which means a healthy environment, including mangroves for the coastal villages. Nai Nang then encourages the villages to stop using harmful pesticides, something they learned over time and have since seen increases in bee activity and yields. And last, to find out and work with local species of bees.

On 21st January, 10 villagers from Na Thung Klang interested in forming an apiculture group arrived at the Community Learning Center after a successful application to receive training by Nai Nang group. The group was then broken up into bee box making workshops, honey extraction, and discussions on the structure and management of running an apiculture group.

[Read about the links between mangrove conservation and stingless bees here.](#)



Mangrove Photography Awards

Outreach

The Mangrove Photography Awards 2021 reminded us about the importance of mangroves on the variety of life on our planet. World of mangroves from all corners of the earth. From a forest goddess protecting honey gatherers to a tiger leaping through trees to mangroves choking on plastic pollution; these are the intriguing winners from this year's Mangrove Photography Awards.

The 7th year of the competition has been the most compelling to date, with new categories and more high profile judges; Christian Ziegler, Daisy Gilardini, Mac Stone, Robert Irwin, Charlie Hamilton James and Emily Garthwaite. Both amateur and professional photographers captured unique relationships and moments in our coastal ecosystems from both above, and below, the water line. The competition received 1,327 submissions, and was picked up by various media outlets including [BBC News](#).

“Today, less than half the world's original mangrove forest cover remains. It has never been more important to promote the conservation of these fragile ecosystems through inspiring photography”, says Robert Irwin.

[Click here to see the full list of winners.](#)



Overall Winner
A Brave Livelihood
©MUSFIQUR RAHMAN



Winner - Mangroves & Wildlife
Adaptation of Bengal Tiger
©ARIJIT DAS



Winner - Mangroves & People
Mangrove Popagators
©MARK KEVIN BADAYOS

Children's Calendar

Mangrove Art Contest

MAP's annual Children's Mangrove Art Contest connects children from around the world to mangrove forests, through an educational and creative competition. It is an opportunity for the younger generation to feel a connection with the natural world and to learn about the vital role mangroves play to both communities, and our environment.

This year's competition celebrated 20 years of participation. This year we received 600 beautiful and stunning digital art submissions from 45 countries, with entrants ranging from ages six to sixteen. Thank you to the students, families, teachers, and organizations that supported and took part in the contest for the 2022 calendar.

Partner organizations included BEDS-Bangladesh, CINVESTAV-Mexico, CMCN China, and Nature Classroom.

[Click to see the more winners & entries.](#)



“In my artwork I want to show the beauty of the mangrove forest and the connection with animals, birds, and humans.

I learned that mangroves are very important to balance the ecosystem.

So, let's save the beauty!”

Divyanshi Singhal, 9 years old / India

Advocacy & Outreach

Expanding Connections

Communications are a vital part of the way that MAP spreads the message of mangrove conservation and restoration globally – ranging from social media and blogs to conferences and podcasts. We post on our social media channels on a regular basis, share mangrove news and updates from our mangrove restoration workshops, and we utilize some of the amazing images from our photography awards to tell important stories about mangroves. 2021 saw an increase in social media followers across all channels and a high number of reach and engagements.

We also work with external partners and organizations to amplify our voice on a global scale. MAP's Co-founder (Alfredo Quarto) has featured in podcasts, newspaper articles and online blogs this year. We have featured in articles for The Washington Post, Mongabay, Conservation International and ECO Magazine. Our Executive Director (Dr Dominic Wodehouse) has presented at the World Forestry Congress in South Korea and our Programs Manager (Dr Laura Michie) has co-written a Mangrove Community Management Guide with NGO Blue

We have organized and run CBEMR workshops both online and in-person this year, including for the US Forest Service, Wetlands International and Waterkeepers Bahamas. We have shared insights from these workshops online to promote our work and share stories from participants. While we were in the Bahamas, we also featured on the evening news and in various newspaper articles and online stories.

We were also thrilled to be partnering with the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, a global movement to restore ecosystems around the world. The next 10 years are vital in stopping and reversing the destruction and degradation of billions of hectares of ecosystems. We joined fellow partners to discuss plans for the UN Decade's official launch on World Environment Day on 5th June 2021.

We kicked off the event with our first ever 'live' streams on our YouTube Channel. [Watch the videos here.](#)



A total of 89,400 views on MAP's YouTube Channel

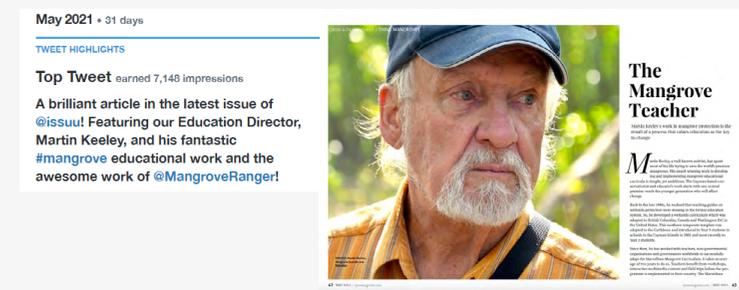


'Restoring the Natural Mangrove Forest' was an official selection at the International Ocean Film Festival with Q&As organised for CEO and staff at Salesforce and middle schools across the globe.

Alfredo spread the importance of CBEMR in forests rebounding, through the Washington Post.

"There is an alternative," Quarto said. "That's the thing we try to instill in people around the world."

2.5 million impressions across MAP's social channels

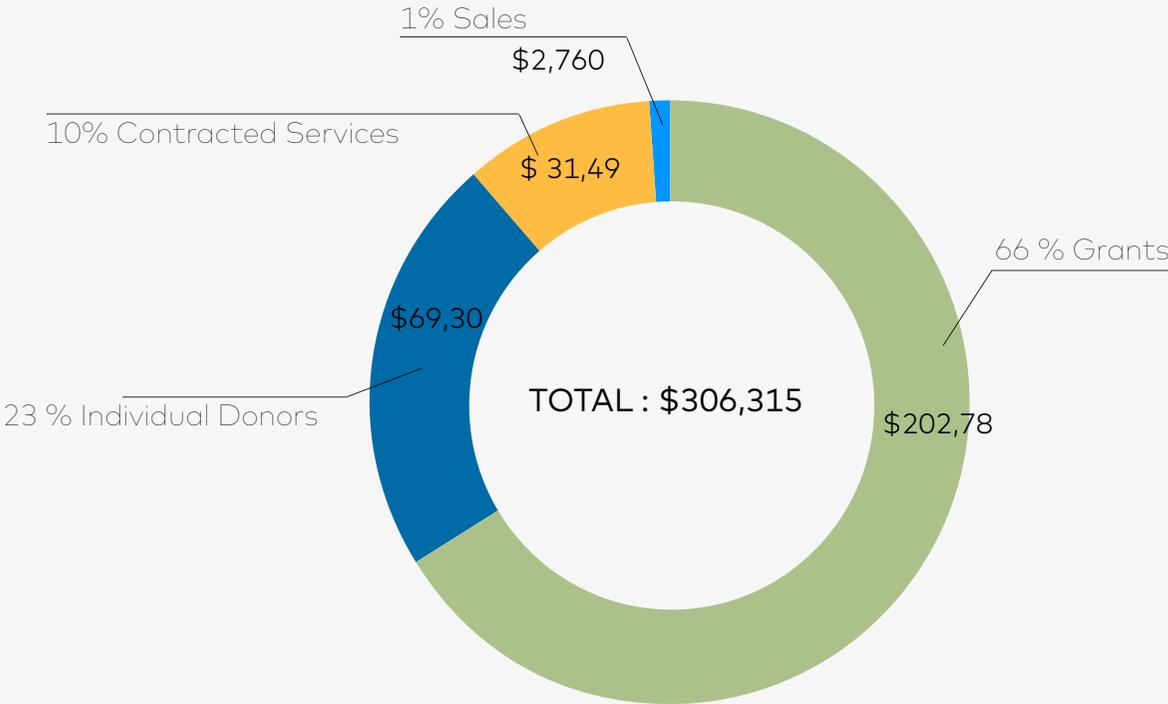


The BBC Mangrove Photography Awards article received 427,026 views.

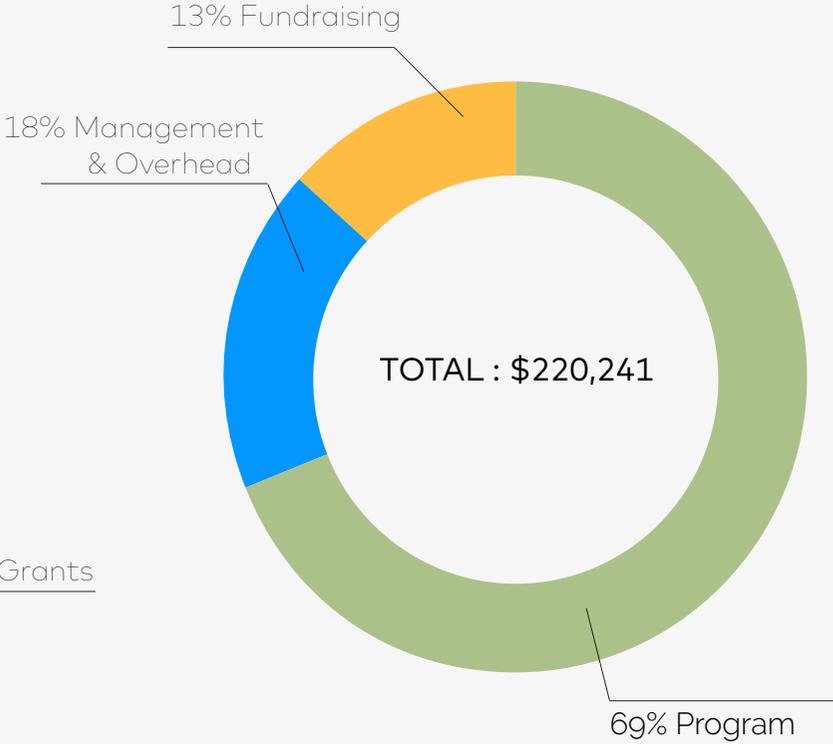
Financial Overview

2021

Breakdown of MAP Income



Breakdown of MAP Expenses



MAP forward balance - Jan 1 2021- \$75,518
end balance - Dec 31 2021 - \$165,296

Team

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



**Dominic Wodehouse, PhD
Executive Director**

Dominic continues to teach CBEMR while taking on the Executive Director role from the start of 2020. He is a member of the IUCN Mangrove Specialist Group and is based in the Philippines.



**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.



**Dylan Skeffington
General Manager**

Dylan has worked with MAP for three years, both as Executive Director, and as General Manager since the beginning of 2020, in addition to working with other international NGOs. He enjoys traveling and exploring outdoors, and pretending to be an adventure photographer.



**Jim Enright
CBEMR trainer**

Though semi-retired, Jim continues to assist MAP with CBEMR training workshops around the globe and from his base in Thailand.



**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.



**Laura Michie, PhD
Communications Manager**

Laura Michie, PhD is a marine biologist and science communicator who joined Mangrove Action Project as a communications specialist earlier this year. She has over 10 years' experience working in mangroves and coastal wetlands, specializing in ecosystem services, plant/animal interactions and invertebrate ecology.



**Jaruwan Kaewmahanin
Field Project Manager**

Ning helps oversee the OnlyOne supported Apiculture project with Nai Nang village in Krabi, Thailand.



**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.

Board Members



Roan Blacker
Board Treasurer

Roan has been financially advising, raising capital and monitoring finances for nonprofit corporations and government organizations for nearly 30 years. As Treasurer, Roan oversees MAP's finances and monitors the corporation's reporting and fiscal policies. Currently he is also President of Blacker F/CS, a financial consulting firm for nonprofit and government entities, and is a professor of accounting at Olympic College.



Roger de Freitas
Chair of the Board

Roger is a British philanthropist who often works directly with local NGOs to develop their capacity to deal with a broad range of challenges.



Graham Andrews
Board Secretary

Graham holds a Masters of Public Administration from the Evans School of Public Policy & Governance, and has 8 years combined experience in scientific programming and software project management. Formerly a software designer and program manager for Microsoft, Graham has brought his talents to considering MAP's financial situation and helped design a framework for evaluating the CBEMR program.



Sherry Manning
Board Vice President

Sherry has worked as a development specialist for more than 20 years, providing planning and procurement support for nonprofit organizations and educational institutions. She joined the MAP Board of Directors in 2018 and supports the board and staff in grant and development planning.



John Cowan
Board Member

John has over 3 decades of experience in water resources management, environmental restoration and international development. Over the last 20 years his focus has been on working with marginalized communities around the world to give them a voice at the table and learn ways to effect change. John has a BS in Ecology and a Masters in Transformational Leadership, and believes that the regeneration of our soils, forests, and marine coastal environments are the keys to the restoration of our health and well-being.

Thank You

Major Donors

Thank you to the following Major Foundations / companies:

Becht Family Charitable Trust

Darwin Plus Initiative

Seattle Foundation

Milkywire (Stiftelsen WRLD Foundation)

OnlyOne

Jewish Communal Fund

Laird Norton Company Inc.

Major individual donors:

Margy Stewart

James Davies

Stuart Licht

Amanda Angus

Jan Dijs

Carol Lawler

Dan Peterson

