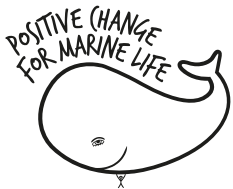




UBUNTU FOUNDATION

2022
PARTNERSHIP
PROJECT UPDATE



THE SPIRIT OF UBUNTU

DRIVING POSITIVE CHANGE

Time has absolutely flown of late. I can't believe that it's been over a year since our last in-depth report to Ubuntu and what an absolutely incredible year it has been!

We've seen an end to the lockdowns and the recommencement of our waste collection programs in India. We've further developed our pilot-project (the organic compost program) into a fully-fledged social enterprise. We've grown our team to 11 core staff across Australia, India and the Solomon Islands, while supporting 72 marginalised women and youth directly via meaningful employment through our Waste to Wealth programs. We've launched the results of our 18-month research program on the Brunswick River, through an innovative StoryMap platform, while building key alliances and partnerships to mitigate the climate crisis through restoring and connecting blue forests - a focus area that has allowed us to recruit a dedicated intern from Switzerland to further explore possibilities. We've redesigned our Strategic Plan, developed in-depth program plans, created a MARCOMMS strategy alongside an external consultant, and set-up new systems and processes to ensure our work is more effective, transparent and streamlined. We're also in the process of launching a new ongoing giving program with our Brisbane-based partners at Cornucopia Fundraising and have prioritised global partnerships through the recruitment of our new Partnerships Manager! We've been lucky enough to obtain high conservation value ex-dairy farming properties in Australia - with a vision to restore them - expanding our scope and shifting our focus to encompass more than marine life, while exploring possibilities for a rebrand in 2023. We've...actually, I think I need to take a breath...



Karl Goodsell
Founder & CEO

We've done so much and, as you can see from the above, sometimes it's been a challenge to just take it all in! When I've taken the time to breathe in a big, calm gulp of air, I've been able to reflect on what was, what is and what the future will bring and it absolutely blows my mind! I'm so excited about the growth that we have seen thanks to Ubuntu committing to a major partnership in January of this year - the additional resources that we've been able to tap into as a result, and the impressive milestones that this has helped our growing team to reach over the past 6 months alone. The future is bright, the opportunities many and the words unable to articulately express what your belief in me, in us, has been able to catalyse. Despite this, an enormous and genuine THANK YOU will have to suffice. I hope that you are equally chuffed by how far your commitment to PCFML has gone and the positive changes that it has subsequently resulted in.

While I write this report, I can think of so much more that we've achieved since June, however, I don't want to get ahead of myself, that will have to wait for our next report in 2023! I hope that you enjoy learning more about the work that you have helped make possible around the world over the past 12 months. I look forward to all that lies ahead and Ubuntu and PCFML's continuing partnership for people, planet and a brighter future!

Thanks again, as always,

Karl Goodsell
Founder & CEO

PARTNERSHIP PROJECT UPDATE CONTENTS

MARINE POLLUTION PROJECTS	4
GLOBAL PROGRAMS, INDIA	5
GLOBAL PROGRAMS, SOLOMON ISLANDS	8
RESTORATION & CLIMATE PROJECTS	11
RIVER WARRIORS	12
DEVELOPMENT UPDATES	14



WASTE COLLECTION SERVICE (WCS)
Putting solutions back into the hands of communities through our free door to door Waste Collection Service.



LEAVE NO TRACE (LNT)
Eliminating harmful plastics at their source by working with local businesses to transition to locally-sourced, ocean-friendly supply chains.



COMPOSTING & HYDROPONICS (CAHP)
Producing food and income from waste. Decentralising local economies, while reducing environmental pressure.



ACTIV8 TRAINING PROGRAMS
Developing the foundations for new economies and ideas. Providing a platform for conservation-focused employment.



ADVOCACY & LOBBYING
Working with companies and government to create ocean and community-friendly policies, which support our programs.



DATA COLLECTION & MONITORING
On-ground research and state of the art GIS technology to capture program metrics, informing impact across our priority areas.

MARINE POLLUTION PROJECTS

TURNING WASTE INTO WEALTH

Our team have visited and worked in a number of developing coastal communities around the world. In every one of these nations it's clear that the challenges facing the ocean and the communities themselves are linked. In both India and the Solomon Islands locals overwhelmingly agreed that waste management (especially plastic pollution) was the most pressing threat to the health of the ocean. Without addressing it first, they believed that there would be an uphill battle to solve other major environmental challenges such as waterway degradation and collapsing fisheries.

Given this local insight, our inaugural Global Program in India (2017) focused first on addressing solid waste-related issues, through what have now become a range of Waste to Wealth programs. These include the four priority programs mentioned on the facing page, as well as advocacy, lobbying, in-depth data collection, monitoring and reporting to ensure that our programs can be self-managed at a local level and replicated in other coastal communities around the world. They also help us to measure outcomes - highlighting strengths, challenges and opportunities, which ensure maximum program effectiveness.

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

INDIA



Richu Baby
Global Programs India Manager

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to have a detrimental impact on billions of people around the world. It was devastating to witness the many challenges that our target communities in India have faced as a result of COVID. The repercussions of continued lockdowns were severe and far-reaching, with many people within our communities not having access to food or their regular forms of income. Many families were lucky if they had access to one meal per day

during the worst periods of the lockdown, with military-delivered rice often the only option. While there was so much heartbreak around COVID and all that it created, there was also hope, with our partner organisation SISP, PCFML and other non-profits doing their best to support the community through this incredibly difficult time.

Despite ongoing lockdowns and the limited access that we had had to our target communities for most of 2021, our team in India resumed to total capacity in September. Since then, we have significantly ramped-up our work alongside the community to develop and co-create strategies to achieve sustainable growth, build more resilient decentralised economies, and support local women and youth (in particular) to support their environment. A win, win for people and the natural systems that they need to thrive.





OVER THE LAST 12 MONTHS,

OUR TEAM IN INDIA HAVE:

- Recommended the weekly Waste Collection Service (WCS) at Vizhinjam Fishing Village. The WCS now enables **220 households and businesses (>1500 people)** in the region to sort and recycle their waste!
- Continued to employ women from below the poverty line to manage our weekly WCS, with **60 women currently employed.**
- **Removed 1000kg of solid waste and 2000kg of organic waste** from polluting the environment.
- **Produced 1300kg of certified organic compost** from the organic waste collected from the community.
- Identified and engaged further street food vendors and businesses to participate in our Leave No Trace plastic-free programs. The number of **businesses participating**

has now grown to 54, which has **eliminated ~1.51 million plastic items from circulation each year!**

- **Developed the curriculum for a project-based-learning (PBL) educational program** for students at our partner organisation SISP, which will complement the Leave no Trace program and provide real-world opportunities for participants.
- **Developed an educational wall for the Marine Conservation Centre.** The conservation-inspired exhibition is intended to strengthen community interest, knowledge, and understanding of sea turtles, their habitat and the myriad threats that they currently face.

- **Built a pilot black soldier fly larvae (BSFL) composting plant, which can process 25kgs of organic waste daily.** The plant is set up in the **newly developed Ocean Innovation Hub (OIH)** following certification and licences, the team have also **begun the commercial sale of the BSFL compost** through our marketing partner, Xylem Botanicals. Our aim is to **develop local market-based social enterprises** for the community to lead through additional plants being set-up.

- **Ran product trials made from the soft and hard plastics that we collected through the WCS.**

The team is currently in the process of procuring a new sheet press machine, injection mould, and product moulds for the plastic repurposing workshop in our OIH.

- **Developed infrastructure for the material recovery centre arm of the OIH** to include washing, sorting, and storage facilities. The mini recovery centre will operate from the Hub and will employ women from our target communities.

While we are beyond impressed by what our local team in India have been able to achieve, we are especially excited to announce the expansion of the Marine Conservation Centre through the opening of the OIH. The OIH was built onto the roof of our existing building and now houses the Composting Plant (CP), Material Recovery Centre (MRC), Plastic Repurposing Workshop (PRW), and a Sewing Workshop (which will be completed towards the end of the year). The OIH will serve as an open experiential learning ecosystem, which focuses on co-creating, testing, and scaling-up sustainable innovations, which benefit the marine environment. The hub will also connect

relevant public bodies, community and grassroots movements through knowledge exchange and collaboration between multiple stakeholders, enabling local communities to adopt sustainable blue innovation practices. The hub will leverage ocean science to empower young people from urban, underserved communities to transform their lives, community, and our world as scientific and environmental leaders.

In addition, we've been exploring new opportunities, including the Gangaya Estuary Remediation Project to restore this degraded and polluted coastal wetland, as well as engaging our target community in developing a well-managed, sustainability-focused fishing cooperative (with potential for coral reef reconstruction in future).

Ubuntu funds have supported this incredible growth over this very difficult time and seen our programs dramatically expand over the past 12-months, despite external global challenges. We are incredibly thankful, and excited to continue to scale these exciting programs over the next 12 months, while exploring opportunities for them to be replicated in other marginalised communities around the globe!



GLOBAL PROGRAMS

SOLOMON ISLANDS



Zelda Hilly
Coordinator

The challenges of the pandemic making its way into the Pacific region later than many other parts of the world had a significant impact on our Solomon Islands program over the past 12 months. As a result of this, we re-focused our energy into forming strong local partnerships, further developing our strategic planning for the Solomons and keeping our Waste Collection Service operational. One of the challenges we have also faced with our Solomon's program is the high cost of operations VS our current funding for the program, with existing organisational funds

largely directed elsewhere. To address this challenge, we recently hired a full-time Partnerships Manager to support our existing part-time Development Manager (now Ongoing Giving Program Manager). With growing resources directed to fundraising, we have some exciting opportunities in the pipeline to further fund our Solomon's programs well into the future.

Our Waste Collection Service (WCS) project in the Solomon Islands commenced in mid-2021 through a funding opportunity from the New Zealand government. We partnered with Plastic Wise Gizo (PWG) to reduce the amount of rubbish going into landfill by collecting pre-segregated household waste and storing it for upcycling (the same model as our India WCS program).



OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS, OUR TEAM IN THE SOLOMON ISLANDS HAVE:

- **Expanded the WCS to 50 households**, with growing interest within the community as a result of the delivery of our community engagement and awareness initiatives. With the funding support of Ubuntu, we have been in a position to maintain the WCS, while increasing participation and engagement as we aim to secure new funding opportunities to greatly expand the program.
- **Increased production of operational assets** such as our waste bags, gloves, grabbers and hand sanitiser, in order to cater for increased participation, while **providing new income streams for the 12 local women that we employ** through the program.
- **Partnered with Gizo Town Council (GTC) and the Gizo Market**, who have supported us with transportation logistics for the WCS. This partnership has relieved the transportation challenges which we encountered over the past year, while strengthening our relationships with the local council. This partnership will also allow for broadened participation in the WCS, while we grow the program towards **80 households by the end of 2022**.
- **Purchased a Plastic Presser machine**, which we sourced through the PCFML India team. This piece of equipment will assist us in **upcycling the plastics collected through the WCS**, turning it into solid panels, which can then be moulded into other usable items such as chairs and tables.
- **Commenced our Leave No Trace (LNT) program**, which is gaining awareness and engagement with local market vendors. At present, **we have removed an estimated 100,000 single-use plastic bags and straws from circulation**. As we move towards a plastic-free Gizo Market (a pilot for the broader rollout of the program across Gizo), we have realised the difficulty of locally-



sourcing plastic alternatives. With alternative product sources scarce across the Solomon's, we are now looking at ordering sustainable product options from the India team's suppliers there. One day, we hope to set-up sustainable supply chains directly through our communities, employing our women and youth leaders to drive these new initiatives.

- **Were successful in our application to the United Nations to lead the International Coastal Clean Up Day (ICCD)** in Gizo. This is a great opportunity for us to take a leadership role in the waste and marine debris space in the Western Province and we will be facilitating the program, inviting WWF, World Fish and other leading global NGOs to join us in our efforts. While **cleanups on land and underwater** will be a component of this project, we will also be running **'whole of community' engagement workshops to inspire proper waste management** across the Western Province.

- Our India-based Conservation and Community Outreach Officer Krishna, will be joining our team early next year to help develop the concepts that the India team have been successful in implementing there early next year. This will **pave the way for the CaHP systems set-up to manage organic waste and develop social enterprise models**. It will also allow for more frequent **cultural exchanges between India and the Solomon Islands** - a collaborative approach that we term as **'Globalisation for Good!'**

It's an exciting time for our Solomon's team. Our programs are unique and desperately needed. With the support of Ubuntu funding we are in a position to make a long-term commitment to our programs here through covering our operational costs, and working towards future-proofing our environment and communities.

RESTORATION & CLIMATE PROJECTS

CREATING RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF A CHANGING PLANET

According to the 2022 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, climate change continues to present an increasing threat to human wellbeing and the health of the planet. Despite dire warnings, IPCC indicates that hope persists through targeted global action to restore degraded ecosystems. Ecosystem-based adaptation can reduce climate risks that people already face, while simultaneously delivering co-benefits for biodiversity, livelihoods, health, food security and carbon sequestration.

Over the past 12 months, our focus has been to define what we can do as an organisation to mitigate climate change and enact action that ensures a more sustainable future. To this end, our River Warriors program aims to reverse the trend of coastal degradation through restoring and protecting mangroves, seagrasses and saltmarsh in some of the world's most valuable blue carbon locations.



RIVER WARRIORS

AUSTRALIA



Lauren Morgan
Coordinator



With the support of ongoing contributions to our River Warriors program from the Ubuntu Foundation, River Warriors are currently creating a proof of concept case study through which ground-breaking community-led blue carbon restoration programs can serve to protect and support carbon sinks, enhance ecosystem services and engage a diverse group of stakeholders, while addressing emerging threats from climate change.

UBUNTU'S VALUED CONTRIBUTION CONTINUES TO SUPPORT THE RIVER WARRIORS PROGRAM BY WAY OF CO-FUNDING THE PROGRAM COORDINATOR.

UBUNTU FUNDS HAVE ALSO SUPPORTED THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS:

- The **development of a unique, in-depth and comprehensive understanding of the river** gained through identifying, monitoring and mapping a range of environmental threats, such as vegetation coverage, bank erosion, water quality, marine debris and pollution hotspots.
- The facilitation of **five working group meetings, seven kayak-based surveys** (covering more than fifteen kilometres of riverbank), **four community engagement clean-**

up events, two collaborative boat-based surveys and the **collection of more than seven hundred and fifty research data points in the field** - including georeferenced imagery.

- The **collection of 1,710 pieces of debris, weighing 359kg over 8.9km** of the Brunswick River. This was achieved with the support of **38 volunteers** from the community.
- The **production of our innovative River Warriors ArcGIS StoryMap:** an engaging online platform designed to display a wide range of ecological information in an interactive format, sharing the story of the river to bring together the many different stakeholders, groups and management authorities responsible for ecosystem health across the catchment. This platform also includes a **unique data form where users can contribute to our datasets** through uploading their findings and pictures directly into the system itself.

- **Continued community outreach through ongoing meetings, workshops and events;** bringing fishers, farmers, scientists, government and business together to protect our rivers.

- The **identification and prioritisation of two sites best suited to the preservation and restoration of carbon sinks** on the Brunswick River.

With Ubuntu's ongoing support, we are looking forward to commencing Blue Carbon restoration work on the Brunswick River later this year. Our team are also identifying potential large-scale blue forest remediation areas in India and the Solomon Islands, through a dedicated intern who is assessing these locations. We're very excited by our growing program focus in this new and important space. We're looking forward to the evolution of this work, as we continue to drive outcomes to mitigate climate impacts through restoring and protecting our blue forests!



DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

BUILDING THE FOUNDATIONS FOR LONG-TERM GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY



Amy Butler
Development Manager

The past year has seen significant, global challenges in the fundraising space. The pressing financial requirements in relation to COVID19 and extreme weather events nationally saw funding paths stretched. This, coupled with the incredible major partnership that Ubuntu undertook with us, provided an opportunity for our team to examine the ongoing sustainability of the organisation, with a view to diversifying funding streams.

OVER THE PAST 12 MONTHS, OUR FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT TEAM HAVE:

- **Hired a dedicated full-time Partnerships Manager** to develop long-term corporate relationships on a global-scale.
- Secured the resources required to **re-develop our 3-Year Strategic Plan, Campaign Program Plans and timelines** in order to more effectively plan for success.
- Enabled my part-time role as Development Manager to be redesigned as an **Individual Giving Program Manager, with a new partnership to drive a nationwide giving program.**

- **Engaged a part-time Engagement Coordinator** to drive outreach and digital communications.
- **Sourced a giving platform (Raisley) to support the anticipated growth of the individual giving program**, while also exploring options for a **full redesign of our existing website.**
- **Developed a new financial team** to manage our accounts and financial transparency, while proactively budgeting in order to meet our growing objectives.
- Formed **a resourced plan to network** enabling the team to showcase our work at regional, national and international functions and events.
- **Worked more collaboratively with our partners at a regional level** to deliver greater awareness of our programs that are delivering meaningful and impactful change.

- Engaged a consultant **to develop a MARCOMMS Strategy** alongside our Development team, Campaigns team and CEO.

With a greatly enhanced, strong and dedicated team we approach this coming financial year with renewed optimism. As we share the success and stories of the organisation to a broader network of businesses and individuals, we're confident that we can achieve all that we have set out to in our new Strategic Plan, while driving positive change in new and exciting areas to increase resilience, while helping nature to thrive!



PHONE 0422 756 848

EMAIL info@pcfml.org.au

PO Box 238, Byron Bay, NSW Australia, 2481



www.pcfml.org.au