



**Galapagos
Conservancy**

Saving One of the World's Great Treasures

ANNUAL REPORT
2017

www.galapagos.org



The complex and sometimes daunting work of conservation has, as a core value, collaboration. The work we do in Galapagos, both as a project implementor and as a funder, depends on strong partnerships that share a vision, a commitment to growth and change, and a fundamental respect for the unique role that each collaborating institution brings to the table.

For almost three decades, Galapagos Conservancy has operated as a catalyst and partner to ensure that all institutions with which we work are supported with the proper resources — sometimes financial and sometimes technical — which will allow them to flourish and be successful. It is only when local institutions, residents, and actors have the necessary tools to meet the many challenges to conservation in the islands that we can truly plan for, and achieve, success. Our partners and donors understand the power of true collaboration and we are grateful, as always, for your partnership in our work.

For Galapagos,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Johannah E. Barry". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Johannah E. Barry, President

Who make up our Galapagos Conservancy Donor Community?

12,936 Total Members

FRIENDS, SUPPORTERS, ADVOCATES
& PROTECTORS

9,569 give \$25-\$999 annually

AMBASSADOR SOCIETY MEMBERS

443 give \$1,000+ annually

GALAPAGOS GUARDIAN SOCIETY MEMBERS

491 give \$10+ monthly

GALAPAGOS LEGACY SOCIETY

54 have committed to making planned gifts



CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017

With GC programs well in place in 2017, we were able to build quickly on the successes that your continued support has allowed and ramp up our key programs in the islands. That work also includes our important support of other NGOs, government agencies, and local community organizations whose work is critical to the overall well-being of the archipelago.

Giant Tortoise Restoration Initiative

In 2017, our tortoise efforts focused on critical data collection as well as implementing a new incubation system in the tortoise breeding centers. With our partners at the Galapagos National Park Directorate, we established four Floreana Island tortoise breeding groups based on the results of earlier genetic analyses of tortoises found on Wolf Volcano on Isabela Island. This will allow us, after five to six years, to reintroduce Floreana tortoises back to their island of origin, where they have been extinct in the wild since the mid-1800s.

We also released an additional 190 tortoises on Santa Fe Island, to begin a re-engineering of that island which again has not seen tortoises for more than 100 years. Understanding how tortoises impact ecosystems and ensuring that we are creating the right conditions to induce a healthy, growing population will be our goals for 2018 and beyond.

Education for Sustainability

The ESG Program continues to increase the capacity of teachers, peer mentors, and school directors in Galapagos to expand student learning and, in turn, the contributions of young people towards building a more sustainable society in the islands. This year we conducted two week-long Teacher Institutes with nearly 1,000 individual coaching sessions. Ecuador's Ministry of Education is already replicating components of our program on the Ecuadorian mainland and has asked Galapagos Conservancy to consider future extensions of this model to other parts of Ecuador, including the Amazon. We believe our work in Galapagos will provide invaluable information and processes for similar efforts in other parts of the world.

Control of Invasive Species

Our donors' generous commitment to supporting critical research conducted by scientists at the Charles Darwin Research Station and other institutions around the world has allowed these committed professionals to continue to battle against harmful invasive species that include insects, plants, and more recently, marine species. In 2017, scientists made great strides with insect growth inhibitors in bird nests and synthetic lures to trap *Philornis downsi*, the destructive bot fly that is decimating several land bird populations in the Islands. Funding to the Galapagos Biosecurity Agency (ABG) allowed for training of staff in the identification of new species arriving in the islands and, in particular, the Galapagos Marine Reserve. With the Biosecurity Laboratory soon to be opened in the Islands, ABG staff will be able to more quickly identify invasive species and manage a response.



Above: Galapagos math teachers get a lesson in using manipulative tools to teach fractions during a 2017 Education Institute in Galapagos.
© Jonathan Drake, T2TI



Left: This baby tortoise is one of the first to hatch in the breeding program for tortoises with partial Floreana Island ancestry.
© Wacho Tapia/GTRI

Community Projects

Through our partnership with Celebrity Cruises, we are able to partner with a number of local institutions and fund initiatives to ensure that Galapagos residents are engaged and aware of their special role in conservation.

Nova Galapagos Foundation (NG) is a youth-focused NGO that promotes activities in education and wildlife conservation, working closely with Darwin Animal Doctors (DAD), to fill the void in local veterinary care by bringing qualified volunteer vets to Galapagos. One of the primary services offered by NG/DAD is free spaying and neutering for pets. This helps to minimize interactions between wildlife and domesticated animals, which can result in predation of native and endemic animals, as well as the spread of disease. These activities include supporting the ABG's animal sterilization campaigns on several islands, operation of a clinic that offers free treatment for parasite control, the treatment of diseases such as distemper, specialized surgeries, and on-call vet service for the GNPD's Wildlife Rescue Program.

GECO is a San Cristóbal-based NGO with a strong track record in providing action-oriented environmental education for young people living in the Islands. GECO designed an educational community outreach campaign to change the local thinking and habits related to plastic trash generation. Galapagos now counts on a provincial ordinance prohibiting the use of plastic shopping bags and styrofoam containers, and GECO's work helped to reinforce the message of recycling, composting, and aims to ultimately move towards a "plastics free" environment. The project is sustained by ongoing education projects that complement the Ecuadorian Ministry of Education's current environmental education initiatives and reusable bags in hotels and markets.

MISSION

To advance and support the conservation of the unique biodiversity and ecosystems of Galapagos through directed research, conservation management, informed public policy, and building a sustainable society

VISION

Galapagos Conservancy works to ensure a balance between human society and nature that will protect and enhance the unique ecosystems of the Galapagos Archipelago. We value innovative science and conservation management that constantly strives to add knowledge and context to the world's understanding of biodiversity conservation. We envision a healthy and engaged society within Galapagos that actively cares for and respects the sustainable and thoughtful use of local resources.

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Washington, DC, May 20, 2017
Washington, DC, Nov. 18, 2017

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GALAPAGOS CONSERVANCY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal year beginning January 1, 2017 and ending December 31, 2017

REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions & Membership	\$5,054,706
Sales	17,140
Investment Income	<u>620,157</u>
Total Revenue and Support:	\$5,692,003

EXPENSES

Program Services:	
Education for Sustainability	916,473
Giant Tortoise Restoration Initiative	185,719
Science for Conservation	<u>2,523,584</u>
TOTAL Program Expenses:	3,625,776
Costs of Goods Sold	5,790
Support Services:	
Management and General	348,341
Fundraising	<u>575,640</u>
TOTAL Support Expenses:	923,981
Total Operating Expenses:	\$4,555,547
<i>Operating (loss) Income</i>	<i>\$1,136,456</i>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$6,715,066

OPERATING EXPENSES

Fundraising: 12.64%
Management: 7.65%

*Grants and Conservation
Investments: 79.72%*

We are grateful for the financial support provided by our 10,000+ members whose generosity is at the core of our conservation investments. Below, we recognize our Ambassadors, who made annual gifts of \$1,000 or more in 2017.

Legacy gifts are marked (L). Travel Partners are marked (TP). Corporate matching gift programs are indicated by (MGP).

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