



**AROHA**  
geneva

Annual Report  
2019

Aroha is a young and independent NGO based out of Geneva, Switzerland, working to help government and private institutions safeguard the world's most vulnerable people, ecosystems and regions

AROHA is a young and independent non-profit international organization based out of Geneva, Switzerland, working to help government and private institutions overcome global environmental and sustainable development challenges.

#### Our aim:

To support public and private institutions to advance the interests of the world's most vulnerable people and regions.

#### We support our partners in:

- Multilateral cooperation and dialogue
- International partnerships
- Public communications
- Research initiatives
- Sustainable development financing

#### Our key activities currently include:

- Supporting countries vulnerable to climate change
- Assisting the private sector to improve the state of the world
- Helping the Pacific to be better represented

#### What's in a name:

The word Aroha signifies **compassion**, **concern**, **empathy** and **love** in te reo Maori, an official language of New Zealand, the home country of our lead founders.



#### Key facts about us:

- **Founded:** 23 October 2017
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
- **Focus:** Climate, environment and sustainability; diplomacy and finance
- **Approach:** Expertise and activity support to public and private actors for enhanced contributions to environment/sustainable development
- **Legal Form:** International non-profit association under Swiss law
- **2019 budget:** CHF 260,000

#### From our founding statutes:

##### AROHA PROMOTES

EQUITABLE AND INTEGRATED ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL PROGRESS  
TOWARDS ACHIEVING GLOBAL PROSPERITY,  
SAFEGUARDING NATURAL RESOURCES, AND  
REDUCING HUMAN SUFFERING AND VIOLENT CONFLICT.

##### AROHA AIMS

TO PARTICULARLY CONTRIBUTE TO ENHANCING SOLIDARITY WITH  
AND PROTECTION AND RESILIENCE OF,  
THE WORLD'S MOST VULNERABLE PEOPLE AND ECOSYSTEMS.

##### AROHA SEEKS

TO ASSIST GOVERNMENT ENTITIES,  
MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS,  
THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE PUBLIC  
TO REALISE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL FOR CONTRIBUTING TO SUCH AIMS.





## Words from us

ROSS MOUNTAIN, **Governing Board Chair**

“Aroha’s second operational year firmly cemented the groundwork laid in 2018. Our strong collaboration with the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), the MSC Foundation, the Global Center on Adaptation and the support of partners like the Canton of Geneva have enabled Aroha to continue its contribution to global efforts to tackle climate change.

Early in 2019, the Republic of the Marshall Islands established the first permanent Micronesian representation to International Geneva, with Aroha support, and was soon followed by Nauru. Working with the far-flung Pacific to strengthen their voice and collaboration with the international work of Geneva remains a core priority for us. Fora like the UN Human Rights Council, the World Health Assembly and the International Organization for Migration Council, have as much to benefit from Pacific inputs to the development of their work here as Pacific small islands stand to benefit from them for advancing regional priorities and the SDGs.

## Views from the team

“Working at Aroha In 2019, I had the pleasure of supporting the Marshall Islands in their campaign to become a member of the Human Rights Council. The success of this campaign and their election as a member illustrate that the global community is finally beginning to understand that climate change is a major threat to human rights.”  
4 *Julia Vanian, Program Assistant*

I am also glad we have managed to sustain momentum for climate action following the CVF Virtual Summit and V20 Ministerial work of 2018, and this all the way to the UN’s climate summit, COP25, in December in Madrid where the #MAD4survival initiative to encourage greater ambition provided countries with a collaborative means to join in solidarity with the world’s most vulnerable.

Finally, some two years of work in developing the MSC Foundation were rewarded with that institution’s formal launch in the fall of 2019 alongside the MSC company’s own commitment to become the world’s first carbon neutral cruise fleet as of 2020.

Aroha looks forward to building on such accomplishments and continuing, with our partners, to expand the impact of our work. We are proud to be operating as a dynamic and highly networked new organization that brings value to policy, communications and financing domains of today’s most critical environmental challenges.”

“Aroha has given me real experience of operating an international non-profit organization and of taking concrete actions in safeguarding the world’s most vulnerable people and ecosystems. I have grown professionally and am aspired to continue to support its mission.”  
*Katherine Wong, Program Assistant*

MATTHEW MCKINNON, **Executive Director**

“2019 was a highly charged year for Aroha with activities all around the globe. The whole team worked very hard to further develop and deliver impact across our three key activities areas.

We kept up active support for Climate Vulnerable Countries, working closely with the Global Center on Adaptation to assist the efforts of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and V20 Finance Ministers to advance their action agenda and partnerships in the international arena. As a group of countries with a population of nearly 1.5 billion people highly threatened by the climate crisis, come year’s end the CVF made up around a not inconsiderable half of all countries communicating the steps they were taking to increase their own national climate targets in 2020, challenging the international community into action.

In the domain of Corporate Social Impact, we have been proud to be at the inception of the charitable arm of the MSC shipping group, the MSC Foundation. Newly launched, we helped the Foundation to coordinate a major response effort delivering over 250 shipping containers of donated humanitarian relief in the immediate aftermath of the tragic disaster of Hurricane Dorian, a totally unprecedented storm in terms of its severity and stationary course that tore through the Bahamas last September, yet another harbinger of the climate dangers

the world now faces. We also helped MSC Foundation and partners to develop its first projects, including in relation to MSC Cruises’ pathbreaking carbon neutrality policy.

2019 was also a significant year for the Pacific in International Geneva. With Swiss support, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and Nauru both established their first ever Permanent Missions to the UN here. Symbolizing the affinities of Geneva and the Pacific, a canoe was transported from Micronesia as a gift from the Marshall Islands’ President becoming perhaps the first such Oceanic passage-making vessel to take on the choppy waters of Lake Lemman. Smooth sailing has followed with the Marshallese campaign to join the United Nations Human Rights Council as of 2020 proving successful. We look forward to continuing to build up our Pacific program aimed at supporting effective and universal representation of the region in Geneva’s critical work from health to trade, human rights, and humanitarian and environmental issues.

We would like to extend a big thanks to our donors and partners especially the government of the Marshall Islands for leading the recent expansion of the Pacific presence to the UN in Geneva as well as the CVF and V20, and to the MSC Group for its responsible show of leadership and commitment to start tackling the causes and consequences of the climate crisis.”



**ROSS MOUNTAIN**  
Governing Board Chair

**Work highlights:**

- UN Assistant Secretary-General, Deputy Representative of the Secretary-General, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, and UNDP Resident Representative in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq and Lebanon
- UN Assistant Emergency Relief Coordinator and Director of Geneva Office of the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- Special humanitarian envoy of the Secretary-General for the East Timor crisis and floods in Mozambique
- Senior Advisor to the Secretary General on Cholera in Haiti
- Held senior UN functions in Liberia, Sudan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Fiji, and Barbados



**ROBERT WATKINS**  
Governing Board Vice-Chair

**Work highlights:**

- UN Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan
- UN Deputy Special Coordinator for Lebanon
- UN Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator, and UNDP Representative in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Georgia, and Lebanon
- Head of the ECHO Regional Office for the Middle East
- Head, and Deputy Head of Mission, for IFRC in Iraq and Turkey



**JAVIER DIAZ CARMONA**  
Executive Committee Chair

**Work highlights:**

- Costa Rican Ambassador for Climate Change and Global Environmental Affairs overseeing the creation of the AILAC negotiating bloc in the UN climate talks for progressive Latin American countries that was first chaired by Costa Rica, and chairing the Forest-Eleven alliance of tropical forest nations
- Ambassador of Costa Rica to Guatemala
- Director General for Foreign Policy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Costa Rica
- Chairing the G77 Group as Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the UN Office at Geneva during the restructuring of UNCTAD
- Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to UNESCO at Paris



**MATTHEW MCKINNON**  
Executive Director

**Work highlights:**

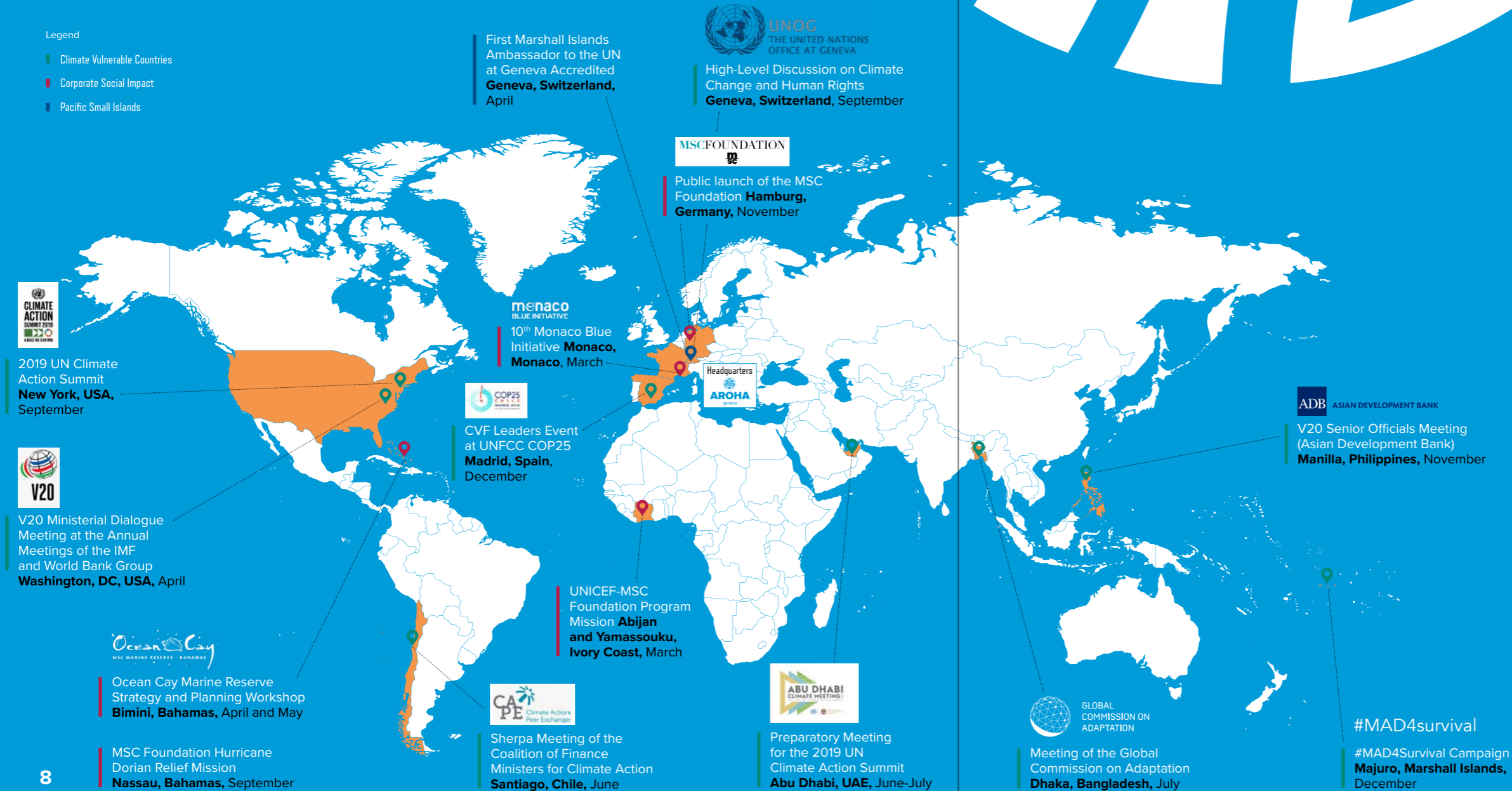
- Supporting the establishment of the Climate Vulnerable Forum and V20, managing its secretariat and acting as the Forum's Advisor and Representative
- Architect of the "#1o5C" campaign for inclusion of a 1.5 Celsius goal in the 2015 Paris Agreement, and the "tcktctck" campaign ahead of the 2009 UN Copenhagen Climate Summit
- Advisor on Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Maldives, and Philippines delegations to the UN Climate Change Convention (UNFCCC) negotiations
- Speechwriter and programmatic advisor to former UN Secretary-General and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, the late Kofi Annan
- Edited several global reports on climate vulnerability and low-carbon development, such as the Climate Vulnerability Monitor and Low Carbon Monitor

# Snapshot of our year

Our activities around the world in 2019

Legend

- Climate Vulnerable Countries
- Corporate Social Impact
- Pacific Small Islands



We offset all **68.54 tons** of CO<sup>2</sup> generated by our air travel in 2019

To support emission reduction projects to tackle global climate change that include:



**Gyapa Stoves**

Supports the manufacturing and distribution by local entrepreneurs in Ghana of safe, efficient cookstoves which cut charcoal use by up to 50%, saving money and reducing toxic smoke inhalation and soot from inside households.



**Aqua Clara water filters**

This project helps people in rural Kenya access safe water by making affordable household water filters – avoiding the need to boil water. The project team works closely with communities to ensure filters keep customers safe for the long-term. They do this through training users to check and maintain filters and by educating people on the importance of washing their hands, fruits and vegetables in safe water.

Offset certification provided by:



# How we work

We help others to work faster, further, and more effectively for the people and planet put at risk by developments that are global in nature.

We are a compact organisation that brings:



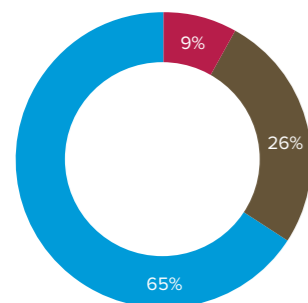
WE ARE CARBON NEUTRAL: WE OFFSET ALL OUR TRAVEL, AND OUR OFFICE RUNS ON **100%** renewable energy

# Our supporters and financials

## Our supports

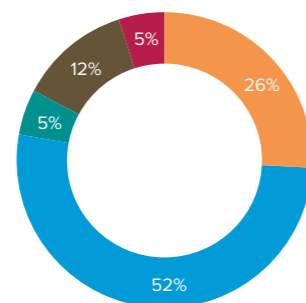
As a not-for-profit entity, we devote all our funds to our own projects and activities.

### Where our support came from in 2019



Private sector: 26%  
International organizations and non-profits: 65%  
Public sector: 9%

### Where we invested our resources in 2019



Climate vulnerable countries: 26%  
Corporate social impact: 52%  
Pacific small islands: 5%  
Office costs: 12%  
General administration: 5%

### State and Canton of Geneva



In 2019, we benefitted from a subsidy provided by the State and Canton of Geneva towards the costs of our office premises in the Maison de la Paix. This generous contribution has enabled us to operate from the heart of international Geneva, facilitating our forging of partnerships with UN member states, as well as international and non-profit organizations.

## Balance sheet

On 31 December 2019 (2<sup>nd</sup> period)

	2019 CHF
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash	5'866.53
Other assets	547.82
2019 grants received in 2020	96'431.78
Guarantees and deposits	6'020.00
<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>108'866.13</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>108'866.13</b>

	2019 CHF
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Other liabilities and accruals	12'891.13
Wages and social benefits	63'108.25
<b>Short-term external assets</b>	<b>75'999.38</b>
Carried over capital	32'866.75
<b>Capital</b>	<b>32'866.75</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>108'866.13</b>

## Result account

From 1 January 2019 until 31 December 2019 (2<sup>nd</sup> period)

	2019 CHF	2018 CHF
<b>Total donations</b>	<b>259'248.59</b>	<b>217'826.00</b>
Consultants	–	9'944.70
Travel expenses	10'994.57	8'950.10
Financial expenses	922.50	283.10
<b>Project expenses</b>	<b>11'917.07</b>	<b>19'177.90</b>
Gross wages	178'609.25	116'749.15
Social benefits	23'512.80	14'955.60
<b>Staff costs</b>	<b>202'122.05</b>	<b>131'704.75</b>
<b>Gross result</b>	<b>45'209.47</b>	<b>66'943.35</b>
Office charges	31'541.96	23'582.40
Administration fees	7'852.25	6'3442.72
Insurance and authorizations	894.20	970.40
Third party fees	3'176.32	3'258.99
Other overheads	1'400.00	300.00
<b>Overhead</b>	<b>44'864.73</b>	<b>34'454.51</b>
<b>Net operating margin</b>	<b>344.74</b>	<b>32'488.84</b>
Creditor interests	33.17	–
<b>Financial products</b>	<b>33.17</b>	<b>–</b>
Capital account details	377.91	32'488.84
Carried over capital	32'488.84	–
<b>Net result</b>	<b>377.91</b>	<b>32'488.84</b>
Carried over capital	32'866.75	32'488.84



# Our Work

## Spotlight 2019 activity: #MAD4Survival

### Our aim:

At the end of this year, together with our partner, the Global Center on Adaptation, we proudly led support to the #MAD4survival social-media based communications campaign launched by the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) at the Chile-led United Nations Climate Conference at Madrid, Spain COP25.

The **“Madrid Ambition Drive for Survival”**, or #MAD4Survival, campaign was launched by the Chair of the CVF, HE Hilda Heine, President of the Marshall Islands, to call on other nations to stand in solidarity with those most vulnerable to climate change by going public with their commitment to bring strengthened national climate targets under the Paris Agreement in 2020.

Amid an aggravating climate emergency #MAD directly addressed the prevailing shortfall of commitments to action to fight climate change. With the policies of governments leaving the world headed for double the level of warming of the Paris Agreement’s **1.5°C goal**, were the international community not to seize the UN-agreed window for the international community to raise ambition in 2020, then the next 2025 interval would likely prove too late for the survival of some of the world’s most vulnerable nations.

This was the right moment to send a powerful message: we need to commit to stronger efforts to tackle climate change, and we cannot wait another half decade. Every year that passes without sufficient ambition renders the 1.5°C goal harder to achieve. The Climate Envoy of the Marshall Islands, Kathy Jetnail-Kijiner, summed up the campaign: “We are MAD! We are MAD at the situation we are in. We are MAD to become the sacrifice of rich and powerful countries.

We are also MAD about our survival. So we launched the MAD campaign here at COP. Because there must be a Madrid Ambition Drive for Survival – if we are to have any chance. It’s Time for Action because we are Out of Time.”

Through this online campaign, we wanted to help the most vulnerable nations in their efforts to highlight the **breadth of support for raising ambition to fight climate change in 2020**, to encourage all countries to commit to doing so, and to support the strongest possible decision on the revision and enhancement of Paris Agreement national contributions, or “NDCs”, in 2020 by Madrid’s global climate summit (UNFCCC COP25).

The #MAD campaign consisted of a flood of social media posts, images and videos of heads of state and government, top negotiators, and other prominent officials anchored around the hashtag **“#MAD4Survival”** and calling on others to join in. Participants posted similar texts declaring themselves on board for new NDCs in 2020 and calling on others to join in by way of solidarity with the most vulnerable. The President of UNFCCC COP25, 8<sup>th</sup> UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, UNFCCC chief Patricia Espinosa, current and former Heads of State, and the heads and COP25 delegations of major international organizations all went #MAD.

### The online campaign succeeded in:

- Mobilizing some 40 governments and a large number of UN and international organizations and public figures, who took part in the #MAD campaign committing to strengthened 2020 climate targets
- Supporting some 25 new countries to newly declare their commitments to the international community that they would seize 2020 to enhance their national climate targets (Paris Agreement NDCs) as they joined in the campaign
- Supporting a strong outcome from the Madrid UNFCCC COP25 meeting that underpins a clear new international consensus that 2020 is the collective global deadline for delivering new, ambitious climate targets and commitments to action





## Our Work

### Climate Vulnerable Countries: supporting countries vulnerable to climate change to overcome its threats

#### Background

Established in 2009, the CVF is an international cooperation body comprised of 48 developing country governments highly vulnerable to climate change. The Forum, and its Finance Ministers' body, the V20, serve as a South-South cooperation platform for participating governments to act together to deal with global climate change.



Climate Vulnerable Forum  
Foro de Vulnerabilidad Climática  
Forum de la Vulnérabilité Climatique

Learn more at:  
<https://www.thecvf.org>

Part of our mandate is to provide support to partners in the area of transnational cooperation to facilitate progress towards achieving the goals set out in the Paris Agreement on climate change. Our project under this mandate is the provision of advisory and operational support to the Member States of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and Vulnerable Twenty Group (V20), as well as hosting the office of the Forum's Advisor and Representative.

#### What are the project objectives?

- Enhance the ability of government representatives and institutions of the CVF and V20 to shape more effective international policies relating to climate change
- Support the CVF and V20 initiative to secure enhanced assistance and support for national climate change actions
- Assist the CVF/V20 to network and liaise with relevant international partners in advancing its objectives

#### Concretely, what do we do?

- **Policy:** we provide policy and technical advice to Forum leadership and member states, liaising with forum partners and expert bodies and supporting the development of Forum-commissioned technical reports
- **Member and partner relations:** we assist the Forum leadership in maintaining communications and relations with Forum member states, sustaining and developing relations with donors and institutional partners
- **Operational:** we support the Forum leadership in planning and implementing global and regional member and partner events, representational engagements, research activities, and communications initiatives



#### 2019 activity highlights:

- We supported the V20 Ministerial Dialogue Meeting at the Annual Meetings of the IMF and World Bank Group held in April 2019 in Washington, DC, working to drive economic and financial transformation to fight climate change.
- We participated in the Sherpa Meeting of the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action in Santiago de Chile in June 2019 and contributed to the development of a multilateral finance platform for climate action.
- In June and July 2019 in Abu Dhabi, we contributed to the preparations for the UN Secretary General's Climate Action Summit.
- We attended the Meeting of the Global Commission on Adaptation in Dhaka in July 2019, contributing to accelerating adaptation action.
- At the UN Climate Action Summit in New York City, held in September 2019, we supported leaders' contributions to building political momentum for global climate action.



- We co-organized the High-Level Discussion on Climate Change and Human Rights at the UN Headquarters in Geneva in September 2019, promoting international dialogue for strengthening the work of the UN on climate change and human rights.
- In November 2019, we were in Manila to support the V20 Senior Officials Meeting hosted by the Asian Development Bank.
- We co-organized the CVF Leaders Event at the UNFCCC COP25 in Madrid, in December 2019.
- Also at COP25, in December 2019, we led the operations of the campaign #MAD4Survival in Majuro, Marshall Islands. This campaign aimed at communicating commitment to stronger efforts to tackle climate change by 2020.

# Our Work

Corporate Social Impact: assisting the private sector to improve the state of the world

## MSC FOUNDATION



One of our other areas of focus as an organization is the issue of corporate sustainability and social responsibility. The successful realization of the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals relies on a whole-of-society approach, in which the efforts and contributions of the private sector are indispensable. We therefore provide support in the areas of sustainability and corporate social responsibility, including philanthropy, to business entities to help increase and accelerate the contributions of the private sector towards global sustainable development targets.

Our initial project under this program is to support the Mediterranean Shipping Company (M.S.C) in the creation of a new philanthropic foundation, MSC Foundation, essentially focused on ocean protection.

### What are the project objectives?

- Drive the creation and establishment of the forthcoming MSC Foundation as an effective new philanthropic actor with a special focus on promoting the protection of the seas

- Effectively support the administrative, legal, managerial, and communications processes for the establishment of the MSC Foundation

### Concretely, what do we do?

We act as a lead advisor and exercise the management function for the Foundation creation process, and perform the following roles:

- **Institutional:** we provide expertise and advisory support for the establishment and institutional, legal constitution of the Foundation and creation of a core MSC Foundation team
- **Communications and programmatic:** we advise on communicating the creation of the Foundation to internal and external audiences in maintaining communications and on the development of the programs of the Foundation and projects to be supported
- **Operational:** we advise and provide activity support for rendering the Foundation operational, including through MSC stakeholder engagement and giving systems and project activation (grant-making)

### 2019 activity highlights:

- In March 2019, we evaluated a new program to build schools from waste plastic at the UNICEF-MSC Foundation Program Mission in Abijan and Yamassouku in Ivory Coast.
- We participated in the 10<sup>th</sup> Monaco Blue Initiative in March 2019 to engage with global collaboration for marine protection.
- We designed an approach to create and manage a new Marine Protected Area at an Ocean Cay Marine Reserve

- Strategy and Planning Workshop held in Bimini, Bahamas, in April and May 2019.
- In September 2019, we coordinated a global humanitarian relief contribution to the Hurricane Dorian disaster in Nassau, Bahamas – a mission launched by the MSC Foundation.
- The public launch of the MSC Foundation, the creation of which we led, took place in Hamburg in November 2019.



## Our Work

### Pacific Small Islands: working for enhanced Pacific representation in International Geneva

Our third program area is focused on support to Pacific Small Island Developing States' (SIDS) efforts within multilateral cooperation in Geneva. The contributions of SIDS to international environmental regulations, including the Paris Agreement, consistently demonstrate how the contribution and voice of SIDS has strengthened protection of the environment and of vulnerable groups. In Geneva, a major global hub for international relations and development, small islands and especially the Pacific SIDS nevertheless continue to be the most under-represented group of UN member states.

We therefore provide technical and advisory support to Pacific small islands towards becoming more adequately represented on a permanent basis in Geneva, and with a view to enhancing the representational capabilities of these countries within International Geneva.

Strengthening Pacific small islands' representation in Geneva would enable Pacific interests and values to have a more significant role in shaping international assistance and the outcomes of decision-making bodies in cooperation areas such as disaster risk reduction, environment, climate change, and human rights.

#### What are the project objectives?

- Support Pacific small island nations to achieve universal representation in International Geneva
- Leverage partnerships and resources to enhance the representational capabilities of Pacific small islands to best advance the interests of this group in Geneva's international policy-making system

#### Concretely, what do we do?

In collaboration with Swiss and international partners, we provide direct policy assistance, communications and partnership building support, as well as operational assistance to Pacific small island developing states seeking to establish permanent representation in Geneva or looking to enhance representational capabilities in the world's second United Nations hub after New York.

#### 2019 activity highlights:

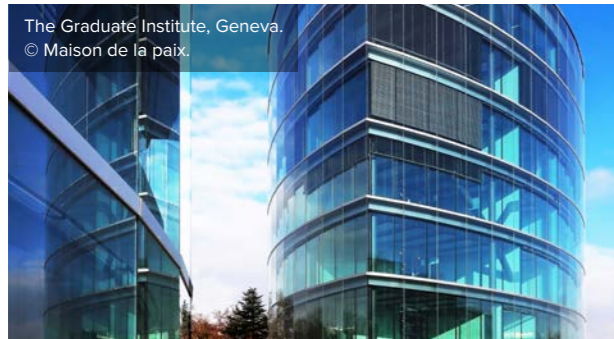
- In April 2019, the first Marshall Islands Ambassador to the UN at Geneva was accredited. This made the Marshall Islands the first Micronesian nation to ever be represented in Geneva – an achievement we had worked towards. The Marshall Islands were closely followed by Nauru, which shortly after established their own permanent diplomatic representation in Geneva, greatly increasing the representation of the Pacific's voice to Geneva-based UN bodies.
- We organized an event in June 2019 to celebrate the arrival of Micronesian representation in Geneva, hosted by the president of the Marshall Islands Hilda Heine.



The first Ambassador of the Marshall Islands to the United Nations at Geneva, HE Doreen De Brum (right) with colleagues, in front of her office in Geneva. © 2019 Aroha



## Where to find us



### Maison de la Paix

We are proud to be housed at the Maison de la Paix right next to the Geneva headquarters of the United Nations in the heart of the international quarter of this global city which is also home to the Red Crescent and Cross, the World Health Organization and the headquarters of dozens of other international organizations. The Maison de la Paix, or “house of peace”, was designed by Swiss architect Eric Ott to resemble the unfolding petals of a flower and is a centre for study, dialogue and collaboration to address global challenges. The building is a part of the campus of Geneva’s Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, the first university school to solely teach international affairs created in 1920 together with the UN forebear, the League of Nations.

Our office is a high performance (Minergie) building running on 100% renewable energy from Swiss hydro



facilities with triple glazed windows and a system to regulate inside temperatures that uses water from Lake Geneva and no fossil fuels.

Next to us are the offices of the Right for Livelihood Award Foundation (<https://www.rightlivelihoodaward.org>), the Dennis Mukwege Foundation (<https://www.mukwegefoundation.org>), whose eponymous special advisor was awarded the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize for his work supporting survivors of wartime sexual violence in Central Africa, as well as the Center for Civilians in Conflict (<https://civiliansinconflict.org>) and Universal Rights Group (<https://www.universal-rights.org>), a unique think tank focused on the human rights work of the United Nations. These partners and many others at Maison de la Paix are a constant source of inspiration for our work.



MINERGIE®

100%  
renewable energy

## Taniwha: behind the logo

The symbol incorporated into our logo is the “Taniwha”, literally signifying “shark” in a number of Polynesian languages native to the Pacific, but often representing a water-dwelling being of mythical nature. Taniwha are thought to have followed the vessels of Pacific explorers in many an island to island migration, at once a menace and a guardian. We found the two-fold character of this interaction point of people and nature an apt symbolic analogy to global challenges facing the world today.



Front cover photo:  
Hurricane Dorian passing over the Bahamas  
at peak intensity, September 1<sup>st</sup> 2019.  
© U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



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geneva

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Pauline Seppey was the editor of our report  
working with inputs from the whole team

We hope you also love the report  
design and layout by Kathleen Morf



Our printed report uses paper  
sourced from forests that are  
managed to stay put and was produced  
by an environmentally conscious printer