

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

September 2026



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AROHA

WHAT'S IN A NAME

The word “Aroha” signifies in te reo Maori the compassion, concern, empathy and love that is so vital to overcoming the challenges facing people and our planet today.



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 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.

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A WORD FROM THE TANIWHA

***A**s Taniwha reflects on 2025, one number keeps coming back: ten. Ten years since the Paris Agreement. Ten years of promises. And where has it got us? 2025 was the third-hottest year on record, the last eleven years were the eleven warmest ever measured, and, for the first time, the three-year average temperature surpassed 1.5°C. Arctic sea ice likewise hit its lowest winter extent since satellites started watching. Mess with nature and nature messes right back — with compound interest.*

And as the planet screams louder, some of the most powerful are walking away. The United States quit the Paris Agreement for the second time, dragging its climate finance commitments out the door with it. Wars continue to drain resources and divert public funding towards defence, squeezing climate and development budgets at the worst possible moment. Overseas aid dropped by up to 17%. The political context couldn't be more hostile to the cause — but Taniwha doesn't scare easily.

COP30 in Belém completed the Paris Agreement's first ambition cycle following a Global Stocktake with the clear majority of countries taking on stronger commitments that have improved the overall outlook. However, current pledges still point us towards a dangerous 2.4°C world. Multilateralism held — but holding isn't enough.

*In this landscape, Aroha co-funded an expert study published in Nature that revealed weaknesses in climate targets of major emitters — like G7 and G20 economies — in terms of fair share efforts to deliver the Paris Agreement. Unless gaping global ambition shortfalls are expected to be largely made up by the poorest, most vulnerable and least responsible countries, equity must be central to the solution. **Taniwha approved** ✓*

*Kia kaha there's still much work to do,
Aroha's Taniwha*

**Aroha remains
steadfast in its
resolve to drive
impactful and
sustainable
change.**



ABOUT US

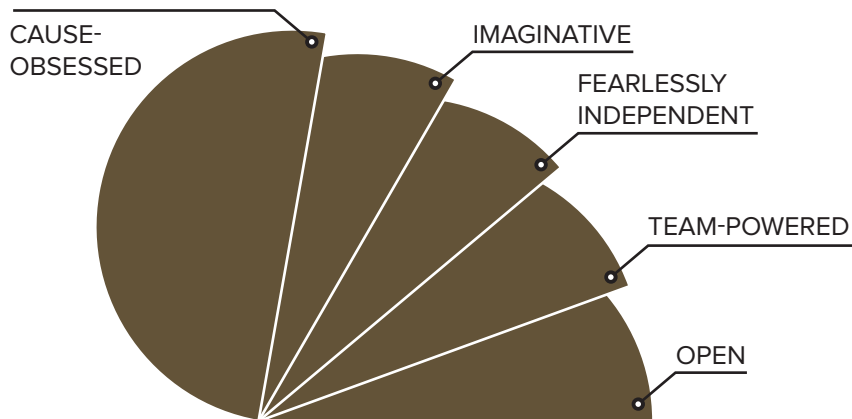
Aroha is an independent NGO based in Geneva, Switzerland, operating world-wide working towards averting climate chaos.

As part of our work, Aroha operates as a global platform mobilizing support for climate threatened communities and nations as key champions in overcoming a global crisis of the climate.

KEY FACTS ABOUT US

FOUNDED 2017 23.10	HEADQUARTERS GENEVA SWITZERLAND	MISSION AVOIDING CLIMATE CHAOS
OBJECTIVES Limiting warming to 1.5°C Safeguarding climate-threatened people and ecosystems Maximizing transition benefits	BIENNIAL BUDGET (2024-25) CHF 1'432'497	LEGAL FORM International, tax-exempt non-profit association under Swiss law

OUR VALUES



HOW WE WORK

Aroha's mission can be summed up in three words: **avert climate chaos**. We do so by mobilizing actions towards limiting global warming to 1.5°C, enhancing protection of vulnerable communities and ecosystems, and maximizing benefits of the transition to a climate resilient future. Towards these objectives, Aroha operates in partnership with public and private entities.

OUR TEAM

BOARD



ALBION ISHODA

Chair of Aroha

Former Ambassador of the Republic of the Marshall Islands to the Fiji and to the Republic of Korea and Marshall Islands Special Presidential Envoy for Maritime Decarbonisation.

“Aroha is an independent, cause-driven catalyst for action on urgent environmental challenges of global concern. Anchored in Geneva, at the heart of international cooperation, we remain focused on delivering impact for the world’s most vulnerable communities and ecosystems. As the planet approaches the precipice of dangerous global heating, Aroha has a particularly vital role to play in driving action, especially by advancing compliance with the lifeline Paris Agreement.



DINA IONESCO

Senior Expert at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Former Head of Migration, Environment and Climate Change at the International Organization for Migration (IOM), former Co-director of the Master of Arts program on Migration, Climate Change and Environment

Climate change and mounting environmental pressures are profoundly transforming our world and societies. From the degradation of agricultural land and fragile ecosystems to the depletion of precious resources such as fresh water, people’s lives, homes and even patterns of human settlement are directly affected. Greater knowledge can incentivize urgent action and leave us better prepared to respond. This is precisely where Aroha’s unique contribution remains vital.



KHADEEJA (HAJJA) NASEEM

Former State Minister of Environment of the Republic of the Maldives

“The international policy, communications and partnership work that Aroha leads may seem abstract to some. For small island nations and atolls, however, the environmental challenges we are working to address can determine whether countries remain viable and habitable. We’re talking fundamentals. We put our focus on the strategic opportunities in global environmental cooperation that we believe matter most in shaping our future.



ANOOP POONIA

Former President of the Indian Youth Climate Network

Efforts to tackle climate change must ultimately be accountable to the people who make up our global population, which requires concerted action across government, business and civil society. If solutions are not serving communities, we are simply wasting opportunities to mobilize our nearly limitless human capacities to act and evolve. Aroha's work is grounded in ensuring that the communities most in need are at the heart of the solutions we pursue.



PERSONNEL



**MATTHEW
MCKINNON**

Executive Director



**JULIA
TOMAZI**

Program
Officer



**PIERRE
CONILLE**

Senior Digital
Officer

WHAT WE ACHIEVED

2025 saw landmark scientific publications and the inauguration of our partner's – the MSC Foundation – Ocean Cay Marine Conservation Center, as a part of our continued work towards protecting the world's most vulnerable communities and ecosystems.

CLIMATE EQUITY

- We co-funded a groundbreaking study that was published in Nature Communications in September 2025 (Robiou du Pont et al.), introducing a new framework for assessing whether countries' climate pledges are truly fair and ambitious. The study shows that conventional approaches to measuring national climate efforts inadvertently reward past inaction.
 - A key finding: the emissions targets of G7 countries and a limited number of major economies are responsible for most of the global 2030 ambition gap, while only a small number of countries align
- with their fair 1.5°C allocation. The research highlights the critical role of high-emitting nations in closing the gap — and shows that many developing countries are already fulfilling their equitable share.
- Through its support for this research, Aroha underscores its long-term commitment to advancing rigorous, science and analytics which can be drawn on to strengthen fairness, accountability, and ambition in global climate action.

Study on fair emissions allocations
based on equity
Photo credit: Nature Communica-

nature communications



Article

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-62947-9>

Effect of discontinuous fair-share emissions allocations immediately based on equity

Received: 11 June 2023

Accepted: 5 August 2025

Published online: 03 September 2025

Yann Robiou du Pont^{1,2}, Mark Dekker^{1,3}, Detlef van Vuuren^{1,3} & Michiel Schaeffer^{1,4,5}

National emissions targets are collectively insufficient to align with the Paris Agreement. The fair share literature assesses whether these targets are fair

 Check for updates

HEALTH & THE ARCTIC

- We continued to be involved in the communications and engagement strategy for the "Effects of Polar Climate Change on Global Health and Healthcare" project, in collaboration with Arctic Basecamp and an international team of polar and public health experts, ensuring that the science reaches policymakers in countries most affected by the health impacts of climate change.
- A major milestone of this project was the publication in November 2025 of a landmark peer-reviewed paper in *Ambio* (Naik et al. 2025). The paper presents the first comprehensive framework mapping how changes in the Arctic and Antarctic amplify global health risks — from extreme weather and heat stress to food security and disease spread.
- The research found that current health models significantly underestimate polar-driven risks, and calls for stronger interdisciplinary collaboration between climate scientists, health professionals, and data experts. A clear validation of the project's mission — and of Aroha's role in working to bridge science and action.

MSC FOUNDATION

- We supported the inauguration of the Marine Conservation Center at Ocean Cay on 10 April 2025, a state-of-the-art facility featuring a Bio Lab, coral nursery with 22 tanks, and a 50-seat lecture hall — now the operational hub for the MSC Foundation's Super Coral Reefs Programme.
- We continued to support the advancement of coral restoration at Ocean Cay, where over 600 corals have been grown in the underwater nursery and more than 250 successfully outplanted onto surrounding reefs, demonstrating remarkable resilience during peak summer temperatures.
- We helped drive the MSC Foundation's participation at the 3rd UN Ocean Conference (UNOC3) in Nice (June 2025), where the Foundation hosted interactive panels at the ICRI #ForCoral Pavilion, bringing together marine scientists, educators, and conservation partners to shape the future of reef protection.
- We supported the expansion of the MSC Foundation's educational partnerships, with hands-on marine science training delivered to over 20 students from Bahamian universities and more than 17,000 visitors engaged in ocean education at the Center in its first year.



► Lab nursery for coral restoration at Ocean Cay
Photo credit: MSC Foundation

OUR JOURNEY OF IMPACT: 2018 - 2025

From past to present, explore the milestones that have defined our commitment to creating lasting change.

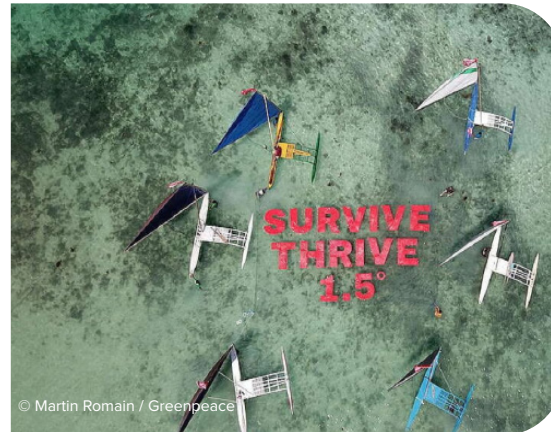
2018

SUPPORTING CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP

Aroha acted as the lead advisor to the creation of the MSC Foundation, the philanthropic arm of the world's largest shipping and logistics group, the Mediterranean Shipping Company. The primary mission of the foundation is protection of the Ocean, and Aroha continues to advise the foundation as it advances environmental, humanitarian and community actions around the globe.

ORGANIZING THE FIRST EVER VIRTUAL SUMMIT OF WORLD LEADERS'

Together with partners including the CVF and Climate Action Network International, Aroha led organization support to the Marshall Islands in their organization of the first ever entirely online meeting of world leaders – the 2018 Virtual Climate Summit – which brought together leaders from 50 nations across five continents in commitments to enhance their efforts to combat the climate emergency.



2019

RAISING PACIFIC FLAGS AT THE UN IN GENEVA

Aroha provided support to the Republic of the Marshall Islands for the establishment of the first mission to the United Nations at Geneva of a Micronesian nation, with the mission going on to join the Human Rights Council and spearhead the creation of a dedicated UN Special Rapporteur on climate change.

2020

ENCOURAGING PARIS AGREEMENT COMPLIANCE WITH NEW CLIMATE TARGETS

Together with the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), the Global Center on Adaptation and Bangladesh, Aroha designed and supported the *Midnight Survival Deadline for their Climate* campaign, which helped turned the tide on countries committing to updated Paris Agreement climate targets (or "NDCs") – around 40% of countries by midnight on 31 December 2020 – as required by the accord.

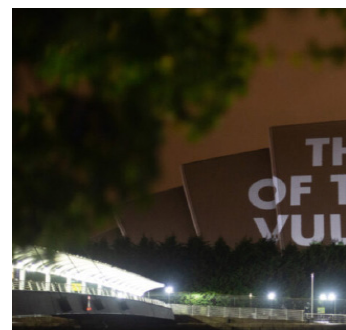
RAISING AWARENESS ON RISKS AND SOLUTIONS FOR THREATENED CORAL REEFS

Working with MSC Foundation and the 2020 Miami Super Bowl Host Committee, Aroha supported the design and promotion of the #SuperCoralPlay which saw key NFL players and one of the world's premier sporting events act as a platform to raise awareness about the plight of the world's declining coral reefs and encourage actions to protect them.

2021

CHAMPIONING A GLOBAL PACT TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Aroha teamed up with Jenny Holzer and partners to call for the United Nations to adopt a global pact capable of responding to the escalating climate emergency including through a petition for COP26 in Glasgow signed by more than 800 organizations, as well as large-scale projections on the venue. The Glasgow Climate Pact became the summit's main outcome.



2022

UNDERSTANDING THE TOLL OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Together with partners, Aroha supported the development and publication of the Climate Vulnerability Monitor (third Edition) "A Planet on Fire" and the Climate Vulnerable Economies Loss Report, the latter found that the world's most vulnerable economies had lost one fifth of their wealth since the year 2000 due to climate impacts.

LEADING CALLS FOR JUSTICE ON CLIMATE DAMAGES

Together with partners, Aroha developed and ran the *Payment Overdue* campaign, spearheading successful calls by governments, youth and civil society for the United Nations to establish a special loss and damage fund for those worst affected by the climate crisis, which became a key outcome of the COP27 meeting at Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt that year.



© Kiara Worth

SUPPORTING PATHBREAKING CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

With the support of Aroha and partners, Sri Lanka publishes a pathbreaking long-term climate strategy, becoming the first nation to commit to producing more than 100% of its domestic power consumption needs through renewable energy (by 2040), with Aroha also providing similar support to other countries, including Lebanon.

2023

PROMOTING EQUITABLE CLIMATE ACTION

We developed and ran the *Fair Share Now* campaign to advocate for an outcome to the Paris Agreement global stocktake at COP28 in Dubai that would see major emitting nations doing their fair share to reduce the burden on the global climate moving forwards, garnering +13 million of online engagements.

2024

AFRICAN LEADERSHIP ON PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

We supported the creation of the Macky Sall Foundation for Peace, Dialogue and Development to champion efforts to advocate for a sustainable and resilient "Emergent Africa", under the leadership of multi-term Senegalese President Macky Sall.



2025

CALCULATING FAIR SHARE EFFORTS TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHAOS

The analytical framework, independently developed with support from Aroha, was published in the leading journal *Nature*, offering a new paradigm for understanding emissions responsibility in support of equitable responses to the climate crisis. The framework had been applied in studies such as the Traffic Light Assessment report developed by Aroha and partners.

© Jenny Holzer



FINANCIALS

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

BALANCE SHEET

On 31 December 2025

ASSETS		2025 (CHF)	2024 (CHF)
Cash		18'506	658'183
Grant receivable		2'388	12'403
Other assets		17'719	2'994
CURRENT ASSETS		38'614	673'579
Operating equipment		13'353	49'699
Guarantees and deposits		2'852	722
FIXED ASSETS		16'205	50'421
TOTAL ASSETS		54'819	724'000
LIABILITIES		2025 (CHF)	2024 (CHF)
Accounts payable		7'764	596'006
Accrued Expenses		17'710	49'534
CURRENT LIABILITIES		25'474	645'540
FUND CAPITAL		15'780	86'773
ORGANIZATION CAPITAL		13'566	8'312
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL		54'819	724'000

54'819

Total assets

INCOME STATEMENT

From 1 January 2025 until
31 December 2025

	2025	2024
TOTAL GRANTS / INCOME	248'437	478'615
Restricted funds returned	-	543'277
Consultants and Contractors	11'227	21'908
Travel expenses	-	5'459
Direct project costs	-	-
Independent subgrants	59'901	100'960
Personal expenses	75'502	303'270
Office charges	86'131	94'286
Administration fees	1'169	6'056
Insurance & authorizations	772	864
Events and conferences	-	+ 15'879
Third party fees	32'010	65'221
Other administration fees	365	2'540
Depreciation	18'392	19'067
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	285'469	1'147'028
FINANCIAL CHARGES	18'579	957
Exchange differences	6'495	15'069
Commissions	-	-
FINANCIAL RESULT	-12'084	14'112
ANNUAL RESULT (before change in programs capital)	49'115	654'301
Change in programs capital	70'994	642'230
ANNUAL RESULT (before allocation to the capital of the organization)	21'879	12'071

248'437

Total Income

285'469Total
Expenditures**21'879**

Annual result

INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

From our base in Geneva, Aroha maintains a formal presence at the center of multilateral discussions. This positioning supports our engagement with UN missions, governments, and international bodies, enabling us to remain connected to key global processes and policy developments.

Our proximity to key international bodies such as the Human Rights Council (HRC) and the World Health Assembly (WHA) provides us with unparalleled access to decision-making forums where critical discussions on global issues take place.

Aroha also holds consultative status with the **United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)** and is an admitted observer organization to the **United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)**, enabling us to participate directly in multilateral climate processes and reinforcing our advocacy for a 1.5°C aligned, climate-resilient future.



United Nations
Framework Convention on
Climate Change



ECOSOC
United Nations

SUPPORT OUR WORK

Aroha is mainly supported by international organizations and philanthropic foundations interested in promoting climate action and sustainability.

For donors or potential partners who would like to see more of the work that we are doing, our team would be pleased to explore and discuss options for supporting our work.

Modalities

Aroha mainly works with project agreements with funding directed towards specific activities. We can also accept core funding and are open to explore different options case-by-case.

Donations in Switzerland are fully tax deductible.

IMPRESSUM

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Julia Tomazi was the editor of our report working with inputs from the whole team.

We hope you also love the report design and layout adapted from Blou Design (www.blou-design.ch)

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



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