



APRIL 2024

Neptune Endowment ("Neptune")

The <u>Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance</u> (ORRAA), <u>Synchronicity Earth</u> and <u>Aurum</u> are collaborating to develop the <u>Neptune Endowment</u> - supercharge your philanthropic ocean conservation impact through an expendable endowment fund where each dollar invested delivers, 10 years of nature-positive action.

Financial Innovation

 Neptune is designed to up-cycle the traditional 'dollar-in-dollar-out' model of philanthropy, putting each dollar to work for 8-10 years, through an enduring endowment.

Snapshot

- Neptune is an expendable endowment that allows both capital and income to be spent on ocean conservation, thereby providing reliable, long-term support to locally led ocean conservation for some of the most threatened and overlooked marine species and ecosystems.
- A single donation to Neptune will work towards ocean conservation action for the next 8-10 years.

Purpose

- Neptune provides exactly the type of funding which is most needed: core and multi-year support to empower conservationists working in developing country coastal states and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to act strategically, working alongside the local communities that rely on healthy ocean ecosystems.
- Longer term core operational support means better planning for annual funding cycles, ultimately making them more effective by supporting the knowledge, culture, and experience of local communities and Indigenous Peoples.

Size: Neptune has grown from an initial investment of USD\$50,000 to an over USD\$520,000 facility.

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Impact

- Initially, the fund will focus mainly on small, multi-year investments into Southeast Asia, Melanesia and the East Indian Ocean, regions with exceptionally high levels of marine biodiversity, but which face key gaps in philanthropic resourcing.
- Neptune is currently supporting the:
 - Save Andaman Network, a locally led Thai organisation 'Community Seagrass Restoration Project', which is working with three coastal communities in Southern Thailand.
 - Piku Biodiversity Network (PBN) is a coalition of individuals and organisations working collectively to conserve and manage the biodiversity of Papua New Guinea.
 - o Bengal Elasmo Lab, a collaboration based at the University of Dhaka which is working to conserve the sharks and rays in Bangladesh's Bay of Bengal.

Stage of Development: [ESTABLISHED]

- Neptune is an enduring endowment, set up as a registered charity, managed by Synchronicity Earth and established in collaboration with ORRAA.
- Aurum Fund Management Ltd. ("Aurum"), an ORRAA member, has provided seed funding to the Fund.
- ORRAA together with the Neptune Fund will continue to fundraise together, showcasing early success stories.

Discover more about Neptune, and donate here.

The Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA) is the only multi-sector collaboration connecting the international finance and insurance sectors, governments, non-profits, and stakeholders from the Global South to pioneer finance products that incentivise investment into coastal and ocean nature-based solutions. Our goal, by 2030 is to activate at least USD\$500 million of investment into this space, and in so doing, help build the resilience of at least 250 million climate vulnerable coastal people.

ORRAA is spearheading the development of the Sea Change Impact Financing Facility (SCIFF), an open ocean financing architecture designed to drive at least US\$1 billion of private investment into coastal and ocean ecosystems by 2030, with a focus on the Global South. The SCIFF is building an ocean financing ecosystem to complement ORRAA's development of an investible project and product pipeline and will integrate sustainable blue finance into broader climate and biodiversity finance ecosystems.

ORRAA is working together with its members on a blue finance delivery roadmap between now and 2025, developing financing instruments, bridging policy frameworks, building financial literacy, and developing pathways and scalable tools to unlock financing for coastal and ocean resilience and regeneration.

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