



# CORPORATE DONORS

September 17<sup>TH</sup> , 2021



## THE BAY ISLANDS CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION (BICA)

- Non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of the fragile ecosystems of Bay Islands, Honduras.
- Co-manager of the Bay Islands National Marine Park with 30 years of experience implementing conservation projects.
- Programs: environmental education, community development, protection & enforcement and more recently in research & monitoring.
- BICA is part of the Bay Islands National Marine Park Technical Committee (BINMP-TC) to manage the marine protected area. The BINMP-TC is comprised of 14 co-managers (NGO's and Local and Central Government) of the marine protected area.

## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to conserve in a participatory, transparent and sustainable way the coastal marine resources and the ecosystem services which they provide for the social and cultural well-being of present and future generations in the Bay Islands.

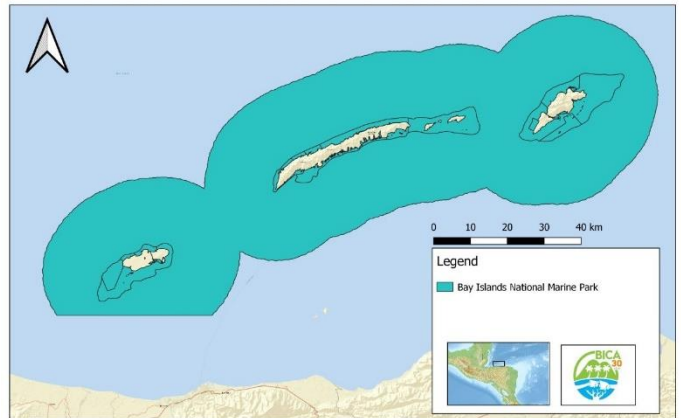
# CONSERVATION IN THE BAY ISLANDS

Help restore and protect the Bay Islands by choosing to give of your success and help us build a better tomorrow for the Bay Islands.

## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- Develop and implement environmental education and outreach campaigns
- Implement community development projects throughout the Bay Islands, including strengthening locals and providing alternative livelihoods
- Restore and protect the objects of conservations in the protected areas
- Utilize that data, through research & monitoring, to create change

MAP OF THE AREA OF IMPACT



*The Bay Islands of Honduras*

The Bay Islands Conservation Association (BICA), was established in 1991, a Honduran non-profit, with chapters in each of the Bay Islands: Utila, Roatan and Guanaja. BICA has 29 years of experience implementing projects in the Bay Islands, specifically in environmental education & outreach, community development, protection and more recently on research & monitoring. It has been working in protected area management since 1994 as a co-manager with the Institute of Forestry and Wildlife Conservation (ICF). We are currently co-managers of the following protected areas:

- Bay Islands National Marine Park
- Port Royal Park (Roatan)
- Turtle Harbour Wildlife Refuge (Utila)
- Forestry Region #3 (Guanaja)

Since 2013, we have been working diligently to expand our research and monitoring program to collect data over time, which can be used as a tool to promote change. Examples of this can be seen in our monthly marine water quality monitoring. As islanders, we depend directly on our reefs; because of their proximity to the coast the anthropogenic effects increment exponentially. Therefore, we have been collecting data over time, to understand the effect of these factors (contamination by sewage, solid waste, as well as sediment) on our reefs. This data has been used to sensitize our municipal leaders and central government on the need for investment in sanitation in the communities around our marine protected area. To date, we have seen investment in the sewage treatment plant in West End, Coxen Hole and more recently funding availability for the construction of a new sewage treatment plant in West Bay.

Furthermore, through citizen science we have been able to collect data on solid waste, promoting bans on single use plastics throughout the municipalities in the Bay Islands.

To continue this work, we hope that you can support us through our corporate donor program.

## CORPORATE DONATION TIERS

Select from the options below what type of corporate donor you will like to be, donation can be monetary or in-kind; included is the signage and benefits that you can include at your business to show your support:

### SUPPORTER

#### **\$1,000+ donation**

- Use of BICA logo
- Name and link on BICA webpage
- Mention in BICA publications
- “Proud Sponsor” signage for local orgs
- (1) Facebook post and (1) Instagram story thanking sponsor

### SPONSOR

#### **\$3,000+ donation**

- Use of BICA logo
- Name, logo and link on BICA webpage
- Logo in BICA publications
- “Proud Sponsor” signage for local orgs
- Quote of support for use in partner publications
- (1) Facebook post, (1) Instagram story and (1) Instagram post thanking sponsor
- Ability to dedicate funding to particular program / area



*Proud*  
**SUPPORTER**  
*of the Bay Islands  
Conservation Association*



*Proud*  
**SPONSOR**  
*of the Bay Islands  
Conservation Association*

# CORPORATE DONATION TIERS

Select from the options below what type of corporate donor you will like to be, donation can be monetary or in-kind; included is the signage and benefits that you can include at your business to show your support:

## ALLY

### **\$5,000+ donation**

- Use of BICA logo
- Name, logo, link and short description on BICA webpage
- Logo in BICA publications
- “Proud Sponsor” signage for local orgs
- Quote of support for use in partner publications
- (2) Facebook posts, (2) Instagram stories and (2) Instagram posts thanking sponsor
- Ability to dedicate funding to particular program / area
- Dedicated BICA staff to facilitate partnership
- Lunch and discussion on BICAs current projects with executive director

## CHAMPION

### **\$10,000+ donation**

- Use of BICA logo
- Name, logo, link and short description on BICA webpage
- Logo in BICA publications
- “Proud Sponsor” signage for local orgs
- Quote of support for use in partner publications
- (2) Facebook posts, (2) Instagram stories and (2) Instagram posts thanking sponsor
- Ability to dedicate funding to particular program / area
- Dedicated BICA staff to facilitate partnership
- Private site visit to local program of interest and lunch with executive director
- Short video promotion thanking partner



Proud  
**ALLY**  
of the Bay Islands  
Conservation Association



Proud  
**CHAMPION**  
of the Bay Islands  
Conservation Association

# Programs

# PROGRAMS

- Depending on the tier you choose (Sponsor, Ally or Champion) you have the ability to dedicate funding to a particular program or area. Below you will learn more about some of our specific programs. You can also visit our website to learn more, [www.bayislandsconservationassociation.org](http://www.bayislandsconservationassociation.org)

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

1 **Environmental Education Campaigns** – Each year we create educational campaigns to conduct in the schools and communities that revolve around different themes:

**“Will you keep feeding the garbage monster?”**

**“Si del SAM quieres gozar, menos plastic debes usar”**

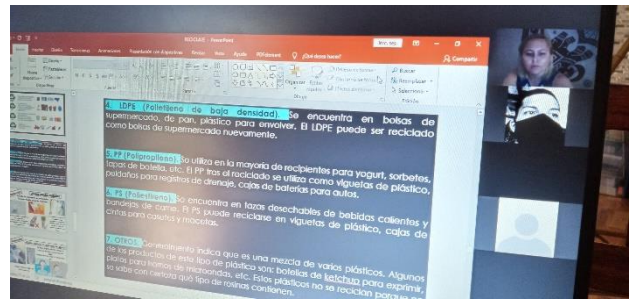
**“Wild & Free”**

**“Our Voices”**

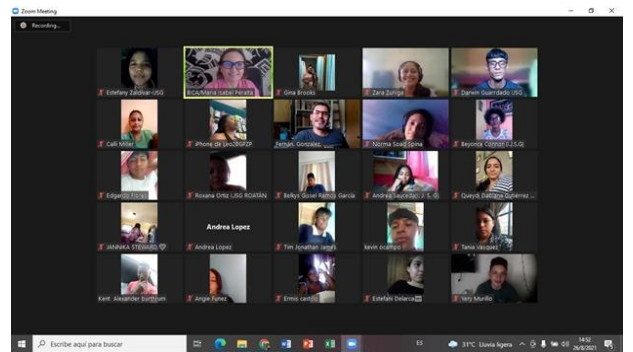
2 **Virtual Classes** – Due to Covid-19 we had to switch our way of working with the schools (public and private), a zoom account was created and three users were purchased for unlimited use (one for each chapter). Although, we prefer in person interactions with the students, we are happy that during these hard times we were still able to increment awareness on the waste problem on the islands.

3 **In Person Classes** – In 2021, the community centers began to open back up, this was an opportunity that we took advantage of and began conducting weekly classes at some of the centers (Center for Community Growth in Sandy Bay and the Charmont Bilingual School). Furthermore, in September 2021, a few schools will began having part time in person classes, we plan on working with these schools to implement the campaigns.

4 **Hands-on Activities** – Along with the zoom classes or face to face classes, hands on activities were implemented to interact with the kids. These included worksheets, art, clean-ups in their communities and visits to the MPA.



Virtual classes were conducted monthly with students from different schools around the island on waste.



Zara Zuniga, our Research & Monitoring program coordinator, present the effects of micro plastic in the ocean to students from Jose Santos Guardiola High school.



In person classes at the community center in Sandy Bay, Roatan.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- 1 **Projects** – We have different projects that we conduct on the different islands to empower people and communities:

**My Community : My Responsibility**, this consist of empowering community and water boards on how to better their community through the proper management of potable water, sewage and solid waste.

**Saving Clubs**, consist of teaching fishermen, their families and the community they live in how to save money.

**Fishing Livelihoods and Lionfish Markets**, consist of training women on hunting lionfish to sell and also use the left overs to create jewelry for sale.

**Ocean Protectors**, consist of training locals as certified Dive Masters as an alternative livelihood.

- 2 **Meetings** – We hold continuous meetings with target groups (community boards, water boards, women, fishermen, and more) to carry out the objectives of the management plans of the protected areas and the organization. As well as to implement different development projects within the community.

- 3 **Presentations** – To expand awareness on the objects of conservation we conduct presentations in the communities with target groups. Recently, we have focused on waste to emphasize the problems that our island face. However, the presentation range from waste, water conservation, best practices for reef and seafood consumption to watershed management and all the endemic and endangered species we have on our island.

- 4 **Workshops** – Workshops and training are conducted with different target groups on different topics. Among them are training that will empower women and others to create alternative livelihoods (example: creating art from microplastic found on beaches and selling the art; micro funds for fishermen to create new business to decrease fishing pressures; among others)



Community meeting in East End, Guanaja about the pilot separation project.



Screening of "The Story of Plastic".



Workshop in Guanaja, Honduras on using macro/micro-plastic in art.



Art produced by the participants.

**5 Baseline data in communities on water & Sanitation** – In an effort to have baseline data on water and sanitation to work with community boards on what efforts are needed we collected data with “Community Scientist”- locals trained to collect data in communities around the Bay Islands. On the island of Roatan, we collected data from over 1,000 homes in the communities of Pensacola, Sandy Bay and Coxen Hole. In Guanaja data was collected from 30 homes in the community of East End.



*Sharicka Connor, Community Scientist, collecting baseline data on water and sanitation.*

**6 Strengthening the ARR** – The Roatan Recyclers Association continued to be strengthened, with the purchase of new equipment (two trucks for motorcycles) in order to provide other work tools and thus they can have another alternative to collect recyclable material. Also in 2021, they were given new uniforms (gloves, vest, long-sleeved shirts and protective glasses) so that they can have better personal care while doing their work in the garbage dump. Through the project, we were able to continue working with them because of the availability of funding for salaries.



*Truck for motorcycles for ARR.*

**7 Water & Sanitation** – Untreated sewage is one of the main problems in the Bay Islands, especially since our reefs are located very near to the coast. We have been working in conjunction with community and water boards, local government, central government, private sector and NGOs, to find solutions to these problems. In 2021, we have been working closely with the government (municipality of Roatan, ERSAPS (central government entity in charge of the management of water & sanitation) and ZOLITUR) to understand the problems with water and sanitation in the community of Coxen Hole. The goal is to create a plan of action for water and sanitation in this community.



*Meetings and visits to sewage treatment plant, community of Coxen Hole, and working on action plan with municipality of Roatan, ERSAPS, and Polos Water Board.*



## RESEARCH & MONITORING

**1 Marine water quality monitoring** – Since 2013, we have been collecting data on the island of Roatan. In 2015, we expanded to Utila and more recently, we began collecting samples in Guanaja. The monitoring design consist of collecting bacteriological and physical-chemical data at selected sites around the Bay Islands. We utilize a multiparameter sensor that allows us to collect data on temperature, salinity, conductivity, pH, dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll and ORP. Furthermore, we collect samples to be analyzed for the presence of enterococci bacteria which is more prevalent in seawater and is entered into the environment through untreated sewage.



*Monthly marine water quality monitoring, West Bay, Roatan.*

**2 Sewage treatment plants** – In other to promote change in sanitation, we also need to have an understanding of how well the current systems are working. To make sure, that investment is being used effectively and in reality the sewage is being treated appropriately. Therefore, we conduct monitoring of the current sewage treatment plants (2) in communities (West End & Coxen Hole) on Roatan. In 2021, ZOLITUR approved funds for the improvement of the sewage treatment plant in Coxen Hole and for the construction of a sewage treatment plant in West Bay.



*Monitoring the sewage treatment plant in the community of West End, Roatan.*

**3 Baseline of freshwater wells** – Since 2014, we have understood that potable water and sewage go hand in hand. You can not work with one without working with the other. In 2020, we were able to collect baseline data on the quality of freshwater wells around the island of Roatan (municipality of Santos Guardiola and Roatan), because of the availability of materials, equipment and personnel.

**4 Ocean Acidification** – More recently, we have partnered with other organizations world wide conducting research on ocean acidification and have been able to receive funding for equipment to monitor acidification on our reefs.



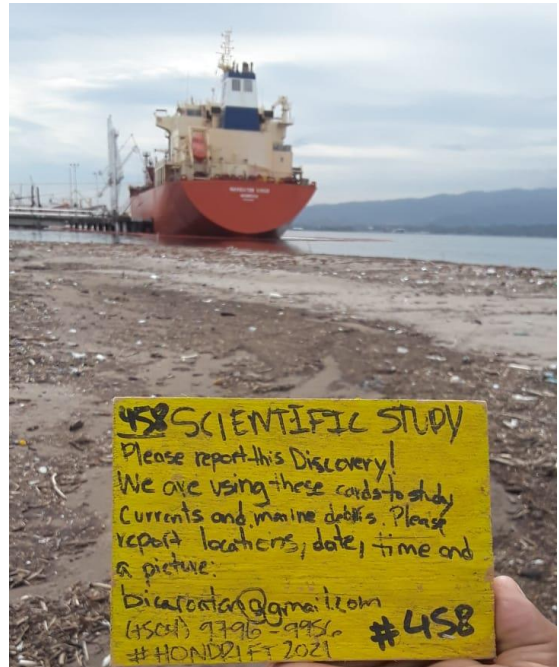
*Monitoring the quality of freshwater wells in the community of Camp Bay, Santos Guardiola, Roatan.*

**5 Citizen Science/Brand Audits** – These are specialized clean-ups conducted on beaches around the three islands, in order to identify brands to hold them accountable for waste pollution. A total of **24** brand audits were implemented (**5** Utila, **15** Roatan, **4** Guanaja). The clean-up begins with a 15 minute presentation on how waste affects us and the environment; including a quick description on how to collect the information. The recyclable waste collected during the duration of the project were equivalent to **4,125** lbs.



Brand Audit conducted in the community of Pensacola with 7 volunteers from the community.

**6 Citizen Science/Drift Card Studies** – In 2021, we conducted three drift cards studies through the project. The first was conducted on the mainland of Honduras; it included the main rivers of the Motagua, Chamelecon and Ulua. 768 driftcards were launched along 77 kilometers, the methodology consisted of launching three driftcards every 300 meters and taking the geographical coordinates of each trio at the time of release. We used #HON2021 to share the study on social media. The second study, consisted of launching 387 drift cards around the island of Utila and the third study, consisted of launching 487 drift cards around the island of Guanaja. Results from the three drift card studies include reports from the Bay Islands, Mainland Honduras, Guatemala, Belize and Mexico.



Driftcard 458 launched near Barrio Rio Chachagula and found in Puerto Cortes, Honduras 19 days later.

**7 Citizen Science/Microplastic Studies** – Through microplastic studies we obtain a baseline of the level of contamination by plastic waste on our beaches, bodies of water and marine organisms. In 2019, we began microplastic studies analyzing lion fish stomachs. In 2020, there were several beached animals along the beaches of Roatan; we saw this as an opportunity to collect stomachs from species that we otherwise would not be able to. To date we have been able to collect stomachs of three hammerhead sharks, a beaked whale, a hawksbill turtle, a red-footed booby, and a green moray; from communities around the Bay Islands National Marine Park and Tela. To analyze stomachs and verify if these species have been consuming plastic.



Microplastic study on beached animals in the Bay Islands. Stomach of a moray eel is being opened to analyze for micro plastic.

## PROTECTION

- 1 Projects** – We have different projects that we continue on an ongoing basis to protect the different objects of conservation:

**Turtles-** In Utila, we have been monitoring and protecting the turtle nesting sites for over 30 years.

**Corals-** In Roatan and Guanaja, we have established coral nurseries to contribute to the restoration of degraded areas in the Bay Islands National Marine Park.

**Mangroves-** In Roatan and Guanaja, we have established mangrove nurseries to contribute to the reforestation of degraded areas throughout the islands.

**Pinus caribaea-** In Roatan and Guanaja, we have established nurseries of the subspecies *Pinus caribaea* found on the two islands to reforest degraded areas.

**Native plants-** In Roatan, we have established a nursery of native fruit and hardwood trees to be reforested in communities.

- 3 PATROLS** – We conduct patrols, marine and terrestrial in the different protected areas:

**Utila, marine patrols**

**Roatan, terrestrial patrols**

- 4 SINEIA** – We are a part of the national system that evaluates new and old projects under the environmental permitting system.

- 5 DENUNCIAS (environmental complaints)** – We receive “denuncias” from the communities and individuals about environmental degradation conducted illegally. We proceed to report those complaints to the authorities in charge of implement the laws.



*First Seaturtle nest of the season in Utila.*



*Monitoring the growth of the corals in the nursery in Roatan.*



*Patrolling and working in the Port Royal Park in Roatan.*

