



**OLIVE RIDLEY
PROJECT**

Registered Charity in the UK #1165905

PROTECTING SEA TURTLES AND THEIR HABITATS

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS



SEA TURTLES - ANCIENT REPTILES UNDER THREAT



Sea turtles have existed on Earth for over 120 million years and there are seven species left in the world today. These incredible reptiles grace the waters of all the world's oceans except the Arctic and play a vital role in ensuring the health of our oceans.

Unfortunately, sea turtles face many threats to their survival including: entanglement in marine debris, poaching, bycatch, and destruction of feeding and nesting habitats.

Six out of seven species of sea turtles are threatened with extinction according to the IUCN.

OUR MISSION

The Olive Ridley Project (ORP) is on a mission to protect sea turtles and their habitats through rescue and rehabilitation, education and outreach, and scientific research.

At the core of our work is a passionate and dedicated team of scientists, veterinarians, conservationists, citizen scientists and volunteers.

We collaborate with NGOs, governments, research institutions, industries and other essential stakeholders to achieve our joint vision of sea turtle conservation.





OUR STORY

Olive Ridley Project (ORP) was founded by Dr. Martin Stelfox in 2013. During his time working as a biologist in the Maldives, he recorded a countless number of sea turtles entangled in ghost nets (abandoned or lost fishing nets). Curious to understand why this was happening and where the nets were coming from, he enlisted the help of other biologists and citizen scientists to help answer these questions.

Martin's dedication and passion for helping these prehistoric reptiles formed the foundations of ORP, which later expanded its mission to take a multifaceted and holistic approach to protecting sea turtles and their habitats.

OUR TEAM



Dr. Michael Sweet
Trustee



Lee Cannan
Trustee-Treasurer



Cliona Kirby
Trustee



Amanda Costain
Trustee



Dr. Martin Stelfox
Founder & CEO



Jannicke C Hallum
COO



Dr. Stephanie Köhnk
Senior Scientist



Dr. Max Polyak
Lead Veterinary
Surgeon



Dr. Claire Petros
Veterinary Programme
Officer



Junho Yu
Fundraiser

OUR BASES

United Kingdom

Established: 2013

Main Activities: Headquarters & educational outreach

Oman

Established: 2015

Base: Musandam

Main Activities: Sea turtle population research, ghost gear recovery, research and mitigation, educational outreach

Kenya

Established: 2018

Base: Diani

Main Activities: Sea turtle population and habitat connectivity research, education & outreach

Seychelles

Established: 2021

Base: Félicité

Main Activities: Sea turtle population and habitat connectivity research

Pakistan

Established: 2015

Bases: Abdul Rehman Goth, Kakapir, Karachi

Main Activities: Ghost gear recovery and mitigation, ghost gear repurposing through circular economy projects, educational outreach

Maldives

Established: 2013

Bases: Baa, Laamu, Lhaviyani, Noonu, North Malé, Raa & Shaviyani atolls

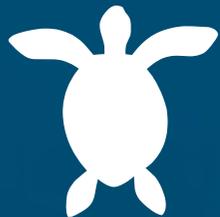
Main Activities: Sea turtle rescue and rehabilitation, sea turtle ecology research, ghost gear recovery, mitigation and research, educational outreach

Facilities: Martine Turtle Rescue Centre, Baa Atoll and Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Centre, North Malé Atoll

WHY WE PROTECT SEA TURTLES



Humans rely on the ocean for many things including food, fresh water and oxygen. Saving our ocean is therefore a question of human survival.



The amount of stress an ecosystem can handle before it collapses is determined by its many interconnections, sea turtles being one such integral connection. As a "keystone species", sea turtles play a vital role in maintaining the health of the world's ocean and marine eco systems as prey, consumer, competitor, and host. If sea turtles become extinct, the whole marine ecosystem – the planet's largest – will weaken. Unfortunately, sea turtles face many threats to their survival.



ORP's work fits within the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 13 (ClimAte Action), 17 (Global Partnership for Sustainable Development), and 14 (Life Below Water), which aims to: 'Prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution' and 'Sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration.'

What We Do



Sea Turtle Rescue & Rehabilitation

We operate two sea turtle rescue and rehabilitation facilities in the Maldives: The Marine Turtle Rescue Centre in Baa Atoll and a Sea Turtle Rehabilitation Centre in North Malé Atoll. We provide veterinary care and rehabilitation facilities for injured sea turtles rescued across the country.



Environmental Education

Education is a powerful tool to increase awareness, engage people and stimulate action. We educate school children, community members, divers, fishermen, tourists, resort staff, biologists, and the general public, in person and online. We also offer volunteer and internship programs.



Scientific Research

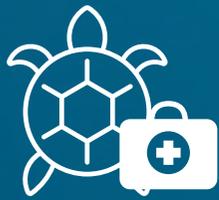
We conduct research about sea turtle populations, distribution, health, habitat connectivity and threats to improve scientific knowledge and inform sea turtle conservation policy.



Collaboration & Community Outreach

To create long lasting change, we ensure that our conservation initiatives are inclusive of local communities and are practised from ground-up. We therefore collaborate with affected industries, communities, governments, local and international NGOs, in order to apply research to practice.

How We Protect Sea Turtles



Sea Turtle Rescue & Rehabilitation

The ultimate goal of wildlife conservation medicine is to return healthy individuals who have suffered injury or disease to their natural habitats so that they may continue to contribute to their populations.



Scientific Research

You cannot manage what you cannot measure. To conserve sea turtles, we need to have a solid understanding of their biology and ecology to develop effective plans to protect them and their habitats. For example, identifying migratory routes and nesting grounds will help develop effective marine protected areas (MPAs).



Education & Outreach

Education can change people, communities, entire nations, and even the future of humanity. Therefore, communication, education and public awareness is vital to the success of any conservation program.

We believe we can achieve sustainable and positive behavioural changes only if the local communities which are affected are part of the solution. Participation from local communities and increasing local capacity for sea turtle conservation is therefore very important to us.



SEA TURTLE REHABILITATION

The ORP Marine Turtle Rescue Centre in Baa Atoll in the Maldives opened in February 2017. The clinic is the most advanced sea turtle medical facility in the Maldives and functions as a teaching hospital. It is equipped with a full diagnostic and blood laboratory, pharmacy, microscope, Class-4 therapeutic laser, ultrasound, endoscope, digital radiography system and full surgical suite.

A second facility, a sea turtle rehabilitation centre, in North Malé Atoll, can house up to two turtles at a time. Here we treat non-critical patients requiring long-term rehabilitation without veterinary care.

We are able to triage and treat any injury or condition faced by sea turtles in Maldivian waters and serve as an expert resource for other rescue centres in the country and region, as well as for the Maldivian government.

MEET OUR TURTLE PATIENTS



Pickle

Adult female olive ridley.
Ghost net victim and flipper amputee.
Tagged and released after five months.



Amal

Adult female green turtle.
Ghost net victim.
Released after six weeks.



Emme

Juvenile loggerhead.
Ghost net victim.
Released after two months.



Harry

Adult male hawksbill.
Found floating.
Released after four months.

All our turtle patients can be adopted.

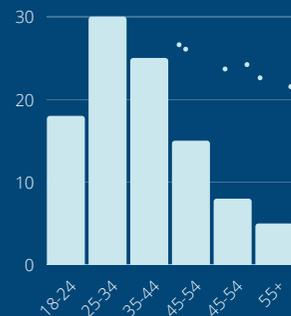
OUR COMMUNITY

Just like sea turtles, our supporters can be found all over the world (except in the Arctic). We use our digital channels to raise awareness, share updates on our work, and educate the public about sea turtles and the threats they face.

Digital Reach



40% ♀ 60% ♂



OUR IMPACT

SINCE EACH PROJECT'S INCEPTION,
NUMBERS ACCURATE AS OF MARCH 2023.

 **207**
Turtle patients
admitted

 **123**
Turtle patients
released

 **78**
Turtle patients
deceased

676 
Sites w/sea turtles sighted

 **7,043**
Sea turtles identified

>36.3K 
Sea turtle sightings recorded

2 
Rehabilitated olive
ridley turtles
satellite tagged

 **984**
Nests Recorded

 **>11K**
Kgs of
ghost gear
removed

 **32**
Publications

10 
Sea Turtle Guardian
Programme
Graduates

 **36K**  
Hatchlings
counted

 **51.1K**
Square metres
of ghost net
repurposed

 **179**
Volunteers
hosted at the
Rescue Centre

 **~40K**
Individuals educated

 **~2.2M**
YouTube Views

OUR FUTURE



Broaden our research and fill data gaps in scientific sea turtle knowledge.



Improve our understanding of sea turtle ecology such as the ways in which sea turtles use different habitats.



Grow our rescue and rehabilitation operations in the Indian Ocean and beyond.



Widen our collaboration with communities, NGOs, governments, industry, universities, schools and businesses.



Further develop our educational outreach programmes and online learning platform.



Expand our circular economy projects to new locations in the Indian Ocean region.



Apply our research to help guide governments and industry in making informed decisions at the policy level.



WHY YOU SHOULD SUPPORT US

Healthy oceans play a large role in our future and sea turtles are considered to be a keystone species, essential for the structure and function of many marine ecosystems. As public interest in the marine environment grows, you can send a powerful message of solidarity by joining ORP as a Corporate Partner. This will enable you to demonstrate that your business is earnestly supporting conservation efforts to your clients, customers and staff. Our partnership also allows you to showcase your dedication to achieving your Corporate Social Responsibility goals by working to protect one of the oceans' most iconic animals.

Your contributions will help us continue our vital research and conservation efforts, and increase our public engagement with new audiences.



CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS



Corporate-charity partnerships should bring benefits to both parties. It is important to everyone at ORP that our partners share our goals, principles and culture, and resonate with our supporters.

As every business is different, we do not offer set partnership programmes. Instead we collaborate with you to form a mutually beneficial partnership that aligns with your CSR goals and our mission. Together we will define opportunities for brand alignment and exposure, focusing on bringing about sustainable impact and real change.



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT ORP



Corporate Patron

Corporate Patrons make a huge difference by helping ORP cover core costs and ensuring sustainability of our long-term projects.



Project Funding

Sponsor a specific project that aligns with your CSR goals or interests.



Commercial Supporter

Donate a percentage or a fixed amount of your sales to ORP.



Payroll Giving

Support your employees' charitable giving with Payroll Giving. It's easy, convenient and tax efficient - and a great way to boost staff morale. It also enhances your business' charitable giving with little effort and cost to you.



Charity of the Year

Choose ORP as your charity of the year, and we will work with you to inspire your staff towards raising funds that support sea turtle conservation.



In addition to monthly or annual cash donations, we also welcome donations of equipment, products and services.



BENEFITS TO YOUR BUSINESS

In recognition of your support, some of the benefits that we can offer your business include, but are not limited to:

- 🐢 **RECOGNITION ON OUR WEBSITE AND IN OUR PUBLICATIONS**
- 🐢 **USE OF OUR LOGO ON YOUR MARKETING MATERIALS, WEBSITE OR PRODUCTS**
- 🐢 **USE OF OUR IMAGES & VIDEO FOOTAGE**
- 🐢 **VIRTUAL LIVE TOURS OF THE RESCUE CENTRE**
- 🐢 **NAMING OF A WILD SEA TURTLE**
- 🐢 **PRESENTATIONS BY ORP AT YOUR EVENTS, IN PERSON OR VIRTUALLY, DEPENDING ON LOCATION.**
- 🐢 **NAMING DEDICATIONS FOR STRUCTURES, EQUIPMENT, RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS, OR TURTLE PATIENTS.**

FOURTH ELEMENT



fourth element

Fourth Element makes innovative activewear from regenerated materials. We partnered in 2015 and they support our fund raising events as well as design and produce our range of limited edition clothing.

"The Olive Ridley Project does outstanding work, not only for sea turtles of the Indian Ocean, but to raise awareness of marine environmental issues in general, through education and outreach initiatives. As Fourth Element is working towards a sustainable future that respects the environment, we are proud to sponsor ORP and assist in the great work they do in protecting sea turtles and their habitats."

Paul Strike, Director, Fourth Element

fourthelement.com

FOLLOW YOUR LEGEND



Follow Your Legend sells bracelets, caps and plushies, donating part of their profits to partner organisations working to protect the world and its wildlife, including Olive Ridley Project. since 2020.

"We've been proud to work with ORP for several years. The work they do to protect sea turtles and their habitats is incredible.

Their team is extremely passionate and great to work with. They know that conservation requires a multifaceted approach and they work hard to accomplish their mission."

Kevin McCroary, Founder, Follow Your Legend

followyourlegend.com



OLIVE RIDLEY PROJECT

Registered Charity in the UK #1165905

GET IN TOUCH WITH US



INTERESTED IN PARTNERING WITH US?

To discuss a corporate partnership package that suits you and your organisation, please contact us at fundraising@oliveridleyproject.org

CHARITY REGISTERED IN ENGLAND & WALES, NO. 1165905, CR/04/2022 IN THE MALDIVES

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[OLIVERIDLEYPROJECT.ORG](https://oliveridleyproject.org)