

Inspiring Creative Leadership for the Conservation of the Mesoamerican Reef

Foto: Ian Drysdale 2010 MAR Fellow



Mesoamerican Reef Leadership Program

Empowering the next generation of Mesoamerican Reef Conservation Leaders

2.2 Million
inhabitants

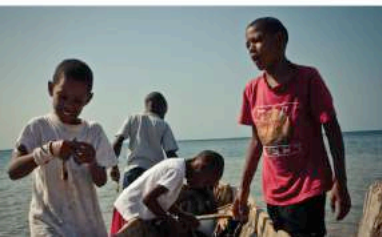
500 Fish
species

65 Coral
species

71 Fellows

50 Projects
incubated

65% Projects
Implemented



WHAT do we do?

We work for the long-term **conservation** of the **Mesoamerican Reef** by **empowering** the next generation of local conservation **leaders**.

We provide our Fellows with the necessary **technical tools**, **leadership skills**, and **networking** opportunities to design and implement **high impact projects**.

We identify **regional** conservation priorities and rally **Fellows** around a **shared set of solutions** for greater impacts.

To this end, our Fellows come together in **annual cohorts** that identify an overarching **theme**:

A circular graphic with a teal background and a textured, water-like pattern. The text is white and centered.

2010
Coastal
Development
& Tourism

A circular graphic with a pinkish-purple background and a textured, water-like pattern. The text is white and centered.

2011
Sustainable
Fisheries
& MPAs

A circular graphic with a blue background and a textured, water-like pattern. The text is white and centered.

2012
Marine
Reserves
Network

A circular graphic with a green background and a textured, water-like pattern. The text is white and centered.

2014
Solid Waste
Management

A circular graphic with a green background and a textured, water-like pattern. The text is white and centered.

2015
Mangrove
Conservation
& Valuation

A circular graphic with a blue background and a textured, water-like pattern. The text is white and centered.

2016
Promoting
Blue Economy

Our Fellows are **bold and passionate**, true **agents of change** who work on **innovative solutions** to conservation challenges at scales **never before attempted**.

They come from a great **array of backgrounds** and sectors in order to **break down** communication **gaps** and promote institutional **cooperation**.

Our **6**-STEP Process

Define the Cohort Theme

Our team identifies regional challenges and environmental threats that need innovative solutions



1



Select 12 Fellows

Motivated young leaders from different backgrounds with great project ideas are recruited

2



Train and Mentor

Renowned international experts are invited to provide technical trainings

3



Strengthen Leadership Skills

Fellows are trained in strategic communication, personal development, conflict resolution and advocacy

4



Incubate Projects

Design projects and mobilize resources

5



Build a Leadership Network

Support regional conservation leaders' ongoing impactful projects

6



MAR Leadership Network



MAR LEADERSHIP

Mesoamerican Reef Leadership Program

Joel Verde
2012 Fellow
SACD
Belize



MAR-L has helped with my conflict resolution and negotiation skills. My project deals with balancing diverging interests in fishing and conservation. Collaboration is essential to securing the health of the ecosystems well as the livelihoods of traditional fishers of Northern Belize.

I will need these skills during my entire professional life, beyond my tenure in the program.

Cindy Flores
2014 Fellow
ICF
Honduras



Solid waste can become a serious problem on an island such as Roatan. My project seeks to solve this issue at its roots through education with the implementation of Green Classrooms and recycling collection center in Roatan.

Being a MAR Fellow has given me the tools to believe in myself and connect with important partners. I am now promoting my project to greater scales in order to replicate it to the Bay Islands.

Gabriela Nava
2011 Fellow
Oceanus A.C.
Mexico



My project is restoring vital Elkhorn coral reefs in order to recover overfished stocks in critical marine protected areas. Being part of MAR-L Network has enabled me to place my work in a regional context like never before, expanding into neighboring countries.

Healthy reefs and replenishment zones promote spillover effects benefitting both conservation and fishing communities.

José D. Caal
2015 Fellow
Fundaecco
Guatemala



I come from the Río Sarstún area, on the Belize-Guatemala border, where my project promotes community participation for mangrove conservation.

Through MAR-L program I have been able to make critical connections and synergies with other Fellows that helped my project.

With support from the program, I have grown professionally and gained responsibilities.

Follow us on:

 **MARLeadership**

 **@MARLeadership**

 **MAR Leadership Program**

To find out more about our
Fellows and their projects:



MAR Leadership Program is an initiative of:



FONDO MEXICANO
PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN
DE LA NATURALEZA, A.C.

FMCN

INSTITUCIÓN PRIVADA

With our supporters:



OAK
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