



2017

Annual Report



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Introduction



Who We Are

Misool Foundation (called Yayasan Misool Baseftin in Indonesian) is the registered non-profit arm of the private island resort, Misool.

Misool Foundation operates in some of the world's most remote and challenging locations, focusing on programs across Indonesia. We protect some of the most biodiverse marine environments on earth while consistently delivering measurable conservation results.

We established the Foundation in 2011 to formalize the marine conservation initiatives that our team has been developing in Raja Ampat, Indonesia, since 2005.

Our head office in Sorong, West Papua, supports our team in Raja Ampat and in 2014 we established a satellite office in Larantuka, East Flores, which is the hub for our Savu Sea Alliance program.

Our team of conservation stewards are almost exclusively Indonesian residents - 95% of our total staff are Indonesian. We are committed to the communities that surround us and 65% of staff are employed directly from the local vicinity. Our regional staff brings us invaluable skills, knowledge and expertise from across the locale.



"The Misool Private Marine Reserve represents one of the most pristine reef systems left on earth — one of only a handful of places in the universe where biodiversity is improving rather than declining."

Mark Erdmann, marine biologist, coral reef ecologist, and Vice President of Conservation International's Asia-Pacific marine programs

Our Mission

Our Mission

From our base in Raja Ampat our mission is to safeguard some of the most biodiverse reefs on Earth. We empower local communities by providing education and employment opportunities, helping them to redefine their relationship with the sea and become passionate guardians of the reefs around them.

Conservation Approach

Our broad approach to conservation combines environmental, social and educational elements. The spectacular environment we call home cannot survive without collaboration and we strive to embrace the community at all levels – fishermen, local villagers, government leaders, schools and international organizations all play their part in our story.





Redefining Sustainable Tourism

Misool and Misool Foundation have developed a unique partnership and model to demonstrate that for-profit enterprises can, and should, invest in conservation. Misool Resort was founded in 2005 on this principle; our aim was to use tourism as a funding vehicle for crucial conservation initiatives. Six years later we formalized our efforts by registering Misool Foundation as a non-profit organization.

The two organizations share resources in an extremely remote location, with both sectors benefiting from the economy of scale. The resort provides critical logistical, technical, and administrative assistance and supports the Foundation with a senior management advisory team, fundraising and technical expertise. The Foundation in turn protects the business's central asset, which is the integrity of the ecosystem.

In 2017 Misool implemented a fundraising initiative to reinvest the business' profits into conservation work, and the resort donates US\$50 per guest to the Foundation. This generated over US\$50,000 in 2017. Additionally, Misool's guests contributed more than US\$22,000 in donations in 2017, inspired by their first-hand experiences of the Misool Private Marine Reserve. Our shareholders also joined this mission and donated almost US\$15,000 during this period.

"Over the past decade, the Misool Private Marine Reserve effectively transformed the region from ground zero for destructive fishing practices into a sanctuary for marine life, including manta rays, baby sharks, and other species. The team's steadfast commitment to protecting the sea, the life within it, and the millions of people who depend on it for their livelihood and food is powered by a unique partnership of responsible tourism and marine conservation."

Dr. Sylvia Earle, legendary oceanographer and National Geographic Society Explorer in Residence, declaring Misool a Mission Blue Hope Spot in September 2017.



Redefining Sustainable Tourism



Redefining Sustainable Tourism

Misool's unique blend of responsible tourism and marine conservation is rightfully considered both blueprint and paragon for marine biodiversity, sustainability, and community engagement worldwide. In 2017, interest from professionals, intrigued by Misool's model, ran high.

- Oxford University's Saïd Business School invited Misool to serve as a case study for a new executive education program where global senior strategy teams work within a Networked Strategy Lab.
- University of California Santa Barbara's Bren School of Environmental Science and Management invited our team to speak about the creation and preservation of the Misool Private Marine Reserve.
- The Fuqua School of Business at Duke University selected Misool from a field of competitors for their MBA students' Client Consulting Practicum. It focused on proving that socially and environmentally responsible practices in the high-end ecotourism realm can be core to profitability and ensuring that key aspects of the resulting model can be scaled and replicated in similar settings across island communities and resorts.
- In late 2017, Economist Films chose Misool for its Ocean Protectors series. This film is scheduled for release in mid-2018.
- In April 2017, Misool Foundation and Misool Resort received the World Travel and Tourism Council's 'Tourism for Tomorrow' award in the Environment category. This award recognized the partnership of both organizations as we use tourism as a tool to further our conservation goals.
- In September 2017 the Misool Private Marine Reserve was named as a Mission Blue Hope Spot. Hope Spots are areas that are critical to the health of the ocean and we are tremendously proud to have our reefs included on this important list.

Throughout 2017, Misool Foundation, in partnership with Misool private island resort, set the gold standard for scientists, conservationists, business people, policy makers, and leaders alike.

Redefining Sustainable Tourism

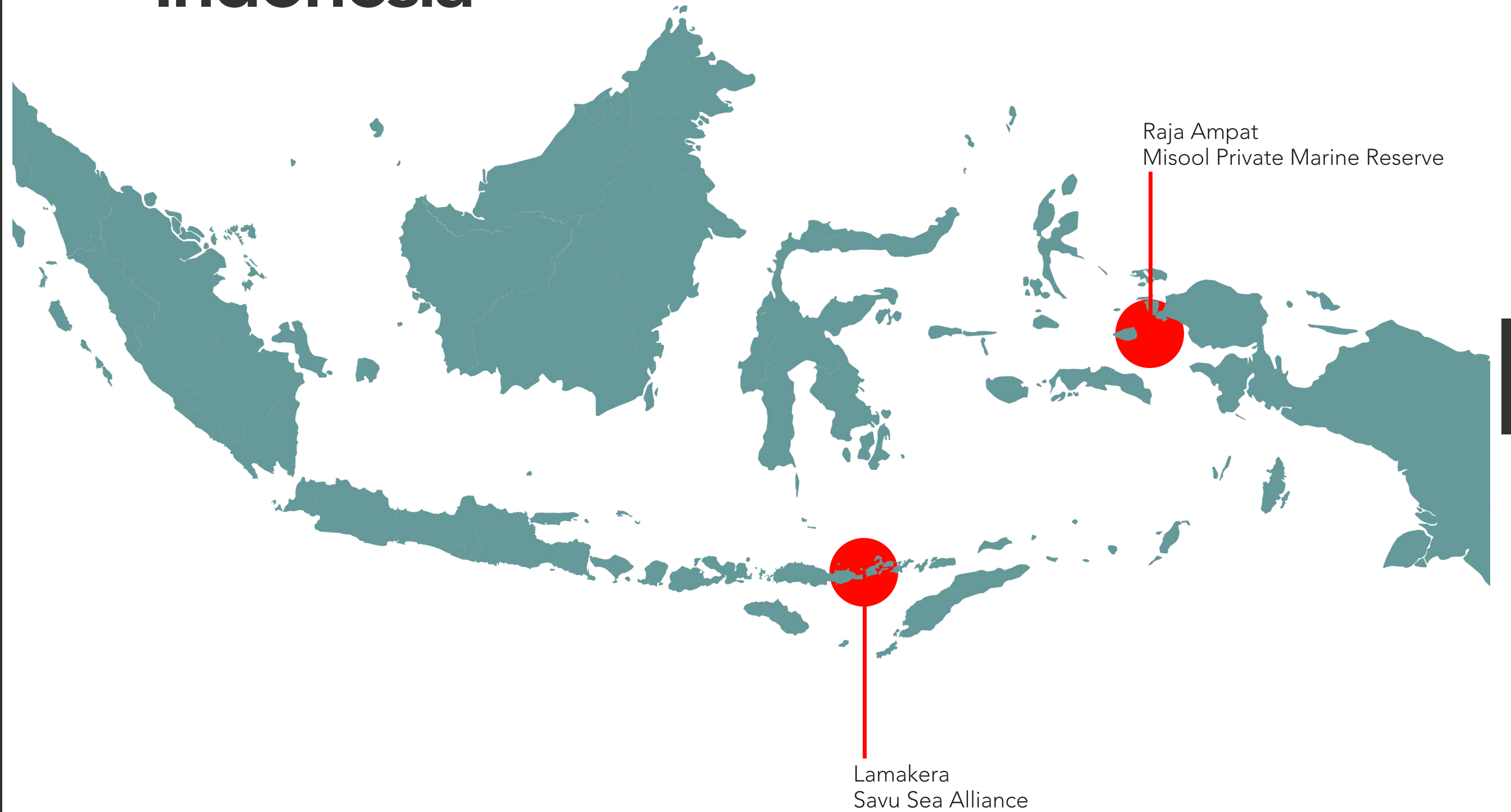




Misool Foundation Conservation Sites



Indonesia





Misool Private Marine Reserve



The Misool Private Marine Reserve lies at an epicenter of marine biodiversity in the heart of the Coral Triangle. Established in 2005, the reserve now protects 300,000 acres/1220 sq. km in South Raja Ampat – that’s the size of all five boroughs of New York City combined. The reserve is comprised of two distinct No-Take Zones (NTZs) and a linking restricted-gear, blue-water corridor that is closed to all commercial fishing.

We lease this area directly from the local villages. The lease includes the sea, reefs and islands within – including Kalig, Yillet, Boo, Fiabacet, Batbitim, Kanim, Sapenipnu, Jef Gelu, Warakaraket, and the Daram Islands.

Inside the reserve all extractive practices are prohibited. That means no fishing, no collecting of turtle eggs, no netting, no reef bombing, no cyanide fishing and no shark finning.

Regulations are enforced, 24 hours a day, by a 15-person unit of local rangers. Rangers move between four stations using five dedicated patrol boats. The team also employs radar surveillance and unmanned aerial vehicle patrols while working directly with the marine police and army. Police and army personnel have jurisdiction to impound vessels caught fishing illegally inside the reserve.

Misool’s visitors remark on the stunning biodiversity within the reserve while fishermen report a better catch from outside of our borders.



Misool Private Marine Reserve



"We have dived on tropical reefs around the globe, and Misool is one of the very few places where the experience is better now than it was a decade ago: More fish, healthier reefs, and even more dedication to preserve them."

Burt Jones – Photography Pioneer and Underwater Explorer

2017 Achievements

Increasing Biomass

Our unfaltering vigilance has resulted in a massive increase in biomass inside our reserve. Sharks and other key species are rapidly recovering from exploitation.

- Biomass of key indicator species has increased on average by 250% over a six-year period, at some sites this rose to 600%.
- The sandy beaches around Raja Ampat are popular breeding grounds for both hawksbill (*Eretmochelis imbricata*) and green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*). In 2017 we released 4030 turtle hatchlings inside the reserve.
- We transplanted 1517 coral fragments in 2017 with several genera adapting well. These include *Acropora*, *Seriatopora*, *Pocillopora*, *Porites* and *Psammocora*.
- We recorded the first bull shark sighting within the reserve in 2017.



Misool Private Marine Reserve



"This spectacularly beautiful region is also incredibly fragile, and we have to do everything in our power to protect it, for all life that depends on it now and for generations to come. None of this would have been possible without the support of our guests, our team and our partners. Most importantly, we acknowledge our unique partnership with our local stakeholders and our Ranger Patrol. Their foresight, support and continued vigilance has been key to achieving our conservation goals."

Marit Miners, Co-Founder of Misool and Misool Foundation

2017 Achievements

Vigilance and Enforcement

Our Ranger Patrol maintains constant vigilance over the reserve with physical patrols, radar and drone surveillance.

- In 2017 we conducted 511 routine patrols. During this period the rangers intercepted 187 vessels to review the regulations of the reserve and processed 4 individuals who were caught fishing illegally.
- This year we added two UAVs (Unmanned Aircraft Vehicles) to the patrol unit; this helps us conduct more effective patrols with greater fuel efficiency. We are currently in the testing phase and expect to have these vehicles ready for routine patrols in late 2018.
- Construction of our Research and Information Center on Kalig island continued in 2017. This center will provide a base for researchers and act as an education center for visitors to the marine reserve. We aim to accept our first visitors in late 2018.



Misool Private Marine Reserve



"Misool is located in an area of unparalleled natural beauty and marine biodiversity. Our operational decisions must reflect the value of these natural assets and will bolster our objective of protecting the world's richest reefs."

Andrew Miners, Co-Founder of Misool and Misool Foundation

2017 Achievements

Maintaining Local Support

Our commitment to the surrounding communities continues to grow. As our operation expands, we are able to catalyze these successes into economic expansion in local communities.

Our inclusive business model helps to support the regional economy by employing local residents wherever we can.

- Misool Foundation employs 81 people including 15 permanent rangers patrolling our area and 22 staff employed by our Community Recycling Project (Bank Sampah).
- This equates to combined incomes of almost US\$100,000 per year; a substantial amount for these small communities.
- Our sister organization, Misool Resort, employs 165 people. Many of those are domiciled in small coastal villages, injecting \$98,500 worth of wages into the local economy in 2017.



BANK SAMPAH



Community Recycling Project



As the number two plastic polluter in the world, Indonesia produces about 130,000 tons of plastic and solid waste every day, and only about half of that reaches landfill sites. Municipal services such as waste management rarely reach remote coastal communities. In 2014 we built a local solution to this global problem called Bank Sampah in Indonesian, or the Misool Community Recycling Project in English.

Bank Sampah incentivizes local communities to properly dispose of waste by purchasing rubbish directly from these coastal villages. Materials are then shipped back to the mainland and processed for recycling, diverting ocean-bound plastics while improving household incomes. Bank Sampah members can choose to be paid directly for their waste or leave funds in the 'bank' to collect interest.

Bank Sampah is now at an inflection point with the opportunity to grow at an exponential rate.



Community Recycling Project



BANK SAMPAH

2017 Achievements

- Our success has exceeded expectations and we now process four times the amount of waste that we set out to.
- In 2017 we processed 337 tons of waste – that’s almost one ton per day. We can currently process plastics (HDPE, PP, PET, LDPE), plastic sachets, cardboard, paper, cans and other metals (steel, aluminum, bronze, silver).
- In 2017 we paid out IDR 554,000,000 (almost US\$40,000) and Bank Sampah members now number over 3500.
- Since the project was established, we have distributed US\$70,000 to the community as remuneration for their waste.
- We recently expanded our reach to North Raja Ampat and Aimas and completed the construction of a new warehouse.



Misool Manta Project

The Misool Manta Project (MMP) is a manta identification and tagging program. Established in 2011 our key objectives are to study, educate, inspire and protect. The MMP provides robust population data to the government, NGOs, communities and conservationists. This data has been leveraged to push the protection of mantas and ensure the long-term survival of these charismatic megafauna and their habitat.

2017 Achievements

- By the end of 2017, our manta ray database grew to over 750 manta IDs - 422 reef mantas (*Manta alfredi*) and 345 oceanic mantas (*Manta birostris*).
- We strengthened our partnership with the Manta Trust and the Indonesian Manta Project as we collaborate to gain more knowledge about Raja Ampat's manta ray population.
- Our manta ray adoption scheme generated over US\$10,000 for Misool Foundation in 2017.





Savu Sea Alliance

Around 1000 miles/1600 km to the south-west of Raja Ampat is the Savu Sea. Surrounded by the islands of Flores, Rote and Sumba this small yet incredibly biodiverse sea is home to some spectacular marine life including mantas and whale sharks. However, the wildlife here is frequently under threat as this sea is also home to one of the world's largest manta fisheries.

Misool Foundation is rewriting this story – Indonesia outlawed manta fishing in 2014, and the Savu Sea Alliance was launched to help transition communities away from manta hunting. By creating sustainable new economies, protecting marine life, and conducting scientific research, the Savu Sea Alliance is helping to safeguard the future of mantas, whale sharks, and the communities that used to hunt them.

The alliance expanded on the conservation work that we do in Raja Ampat and today incorporates a network of partners across the region including the Indonesian Manta Project, Sea Sanctuaries and the Wildlife Conservation Society.





Savu Sea Alliance



"I remember our rallying cry when we started in Lamakera, "if we can drive change in a place as challenging as Lamakera, we can accomplish anything". That change is happening now and the future for the entire region looks brighter. Under the leadership of Misool Foundation, with partners including WildAid, Indonesian Manta Project, Sea Sanctuaries, and Blue Sphere Foundation, and with support from Vulcan Philanthropy, MacArthur Foundation, and private donors, a community of like-minded people came together and have accomplished something really special. I am so proud of what our team has accomplished, and even more excited about what the future holds."

Shawn Heinrichs, Filmmaker, Activist, Founder of Blue Sphere Media and Blue Sphere Foundation, Senior Advisor to Misool Foundation

2017 Achievements

- Between 2015 and 2017 we recorded a 97% decrease in the targeted manta catch.
- We have employed 63 ex-manta hunters and fishermen within our sustainable fisheries cooperative. All 63 have pledged to stop hunting mantas for good.
- We have created five business units to support alternative employment. We provided 45 grants and small loans to help alternative businesses and awarded six scholarships to children of local fishermen.
- Our research has built critical baseline data for the region and recorded 26 different types of megafauna including mantas, whale sharks, leatherback turtles, blue whales and dolphins.
- In 2017 we released 21 marine animals that were caught as by-catch.



Community Education Program



Education is one of the core tenets of our conservation philosophy and we ensure that all of our projects have an educational aspect. As part of our lease agreement we built a kindergarten (called Taman Kanak-kanak Baseftin Al-Ma'arif in Indonesian) in the village of Fafanlap, which is one of the villages from which the Misool Private Marine Reserve is leased.

Construction began in 2011 with support from Seacology and WildAid, and in January 2017 renovations were completed; the school welcomed a new class of 39 students and three teachers.

A key intention of this project is to prepare younger children for primary school. Fafanlap has noted poor student retention in government schools with teachers reporting that students are not suitably prepared to benefit from classes.

2017 Achievements

- Our kindergarten educates children aged four to six. In 2017 39 students registered with the kindergarten.
- We employ a teacher from Jakarta to support students; daily activities include learning through play and teaching pupils about the environment around them.
- Our commitment to education extends further to the villages of Yellu and Djabatán. Here we employ seven local teachers, paying their monthly salaries and provide support to four local schools.



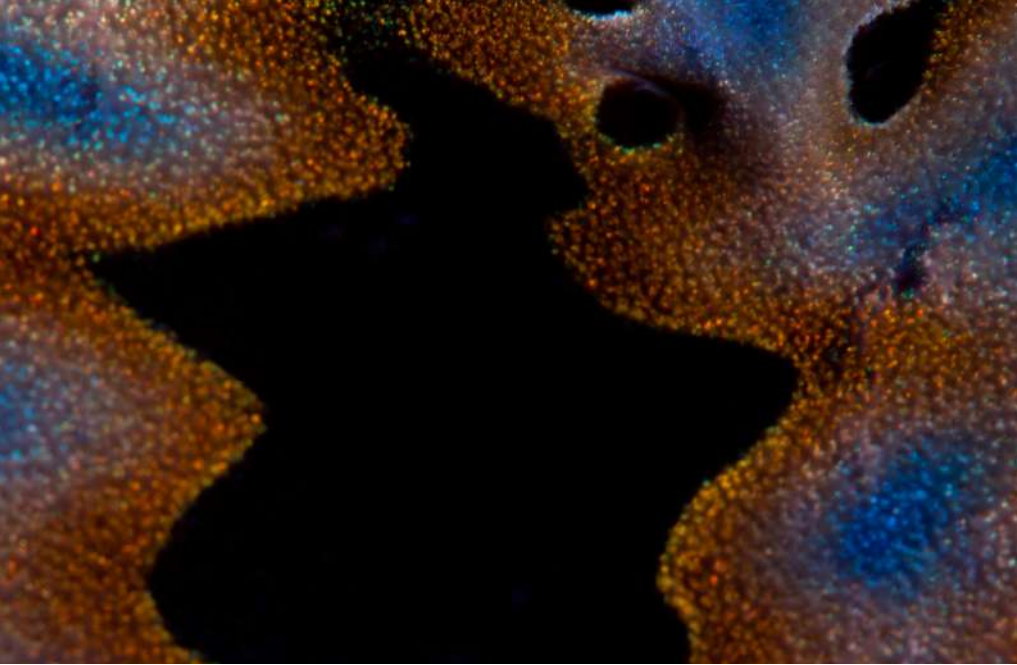
Raja Ampat Hydroponics Project

In August 2017 we began working with a regional organization (PT R.A.E. Agro Makmur) to develop a hydroponic agriculture business in Raja Ampat. The business objectives were to increase income to the area, build a regional market for organic produce, and champion healthy eating to the local communities. Misool Foundation joined the enterprise in a consultancy role and also fostered the relationship between the enterprise and Misool Resort, which will become one of the first customers.

2017 Achievements

- Assisted with the design of the green house facility and training center in Raja Ampat's capital, Waisai.
- Developed training materials to enable the company to educate local communities about the importance of incorporating fruits and vegetables as part of a healthy diet.
- The first harvest is scheduled for mid-2018.

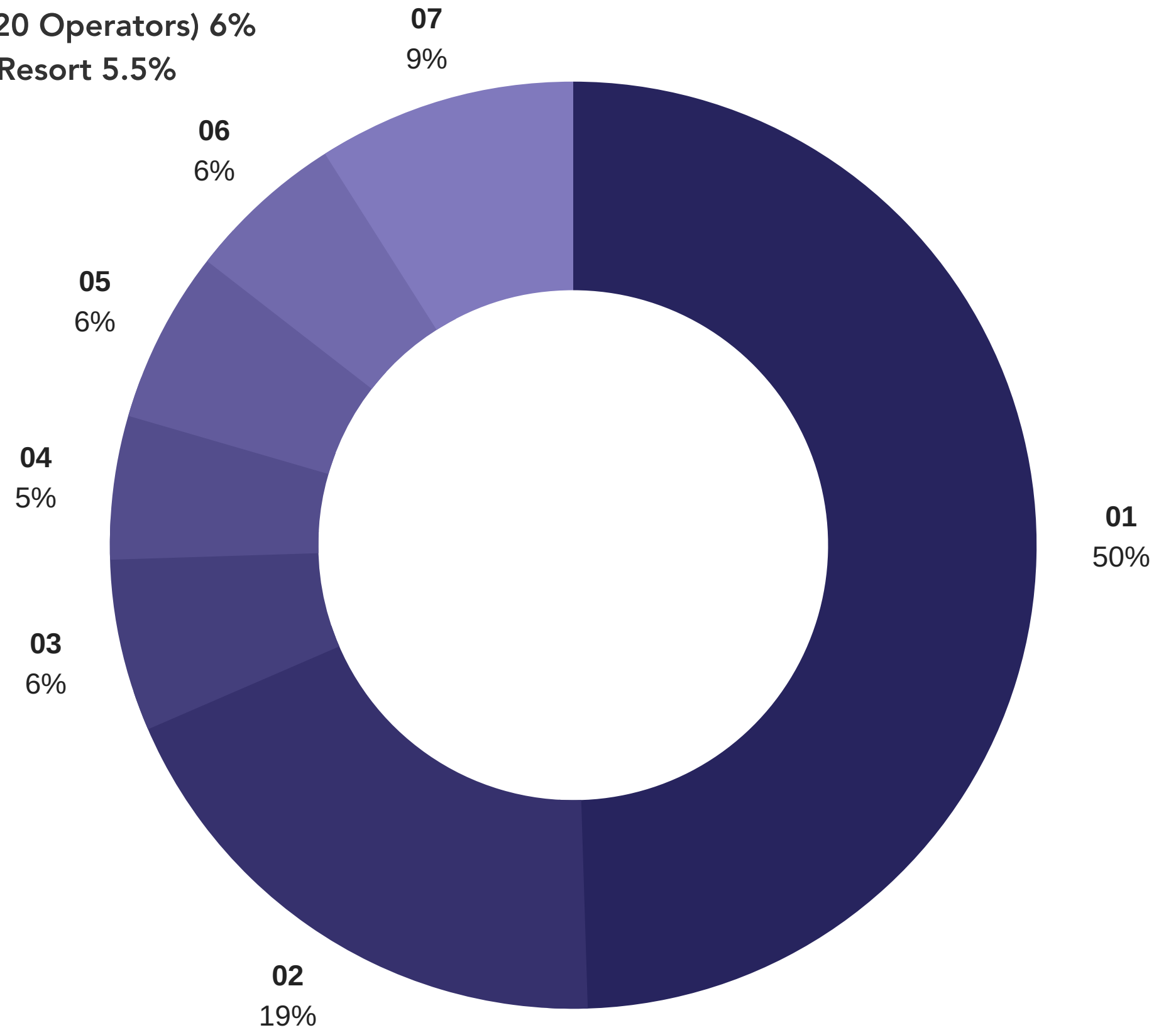




Financial Review: Revenue & Support



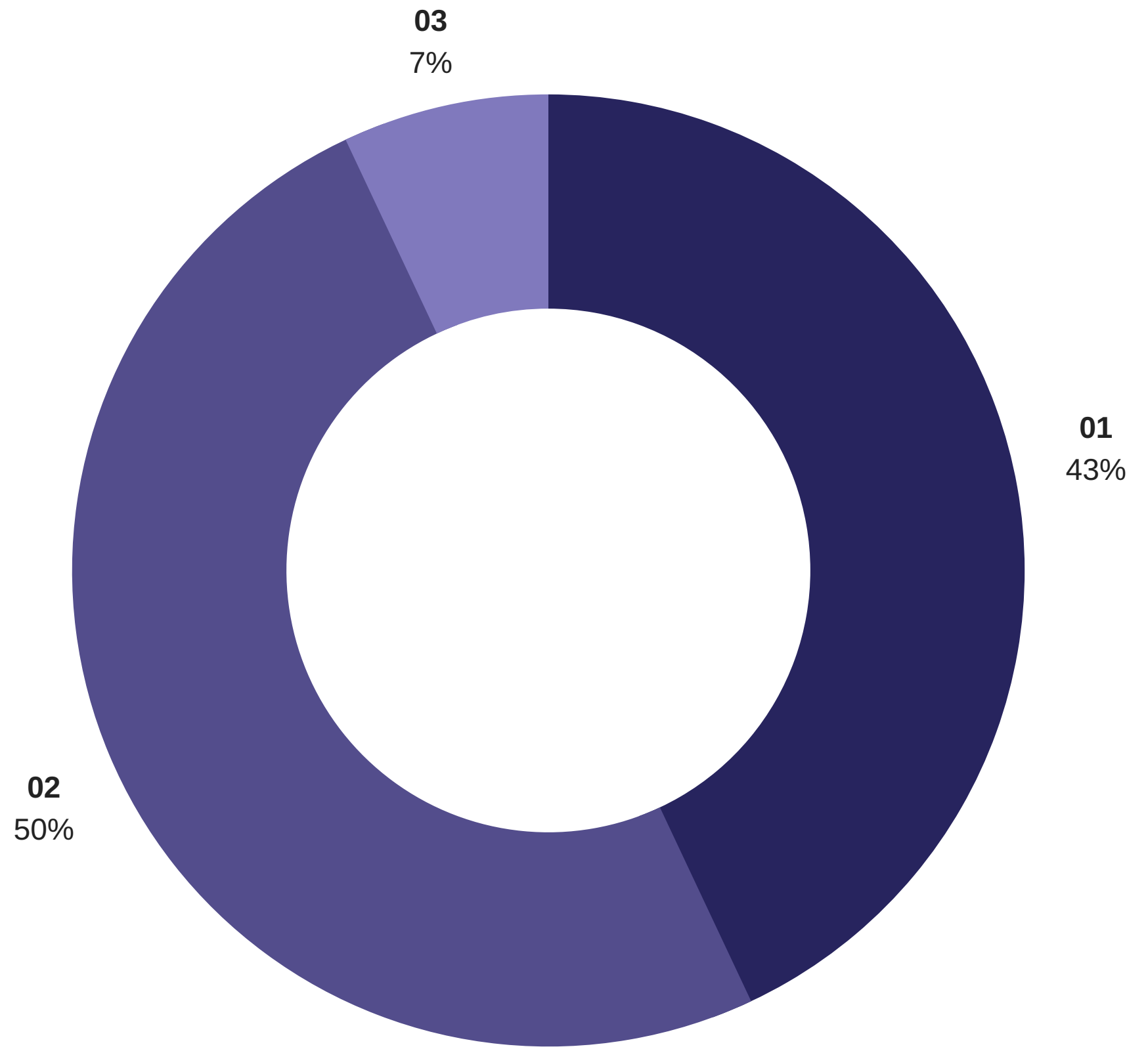
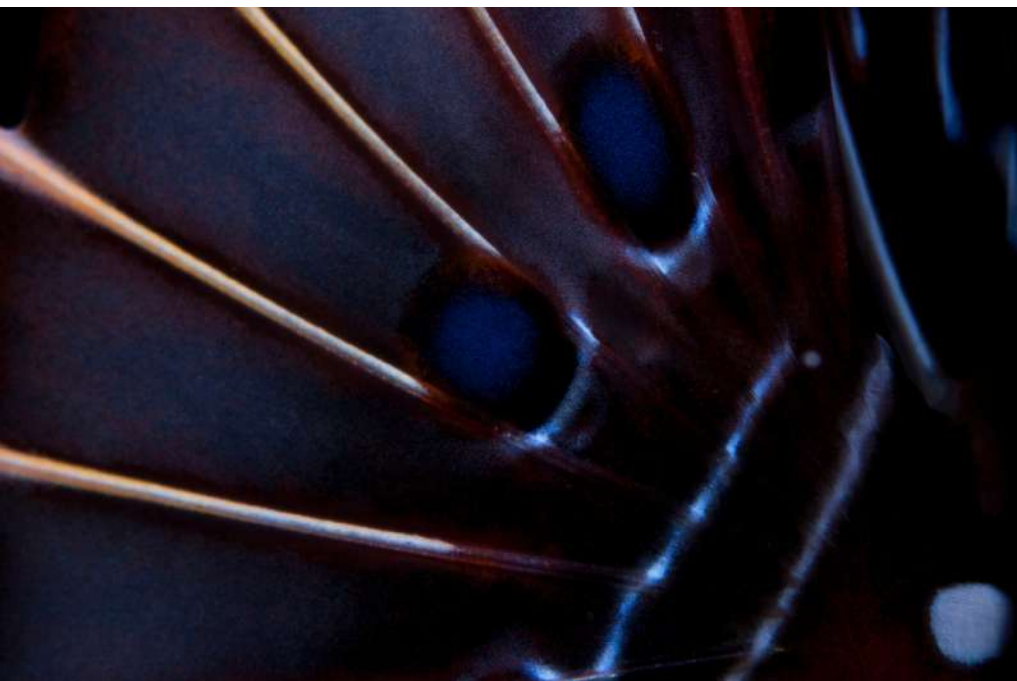
- 01/International Grants 49.5%
- 02/Fundraising & Donations 19%
- 03/Government Institutions 6%
- 04/Corporate Donations 5%
- 05/Liveaboard Donations (20 Operators) 6%
- 06/Donations from Misool Resort 5.5%
- 07/Other Income 9%





01/Personnel (81 Employees) 43%
02/Project Expenses 50%
03/Office & Administration 7%

Financial Review: Expenses By Type

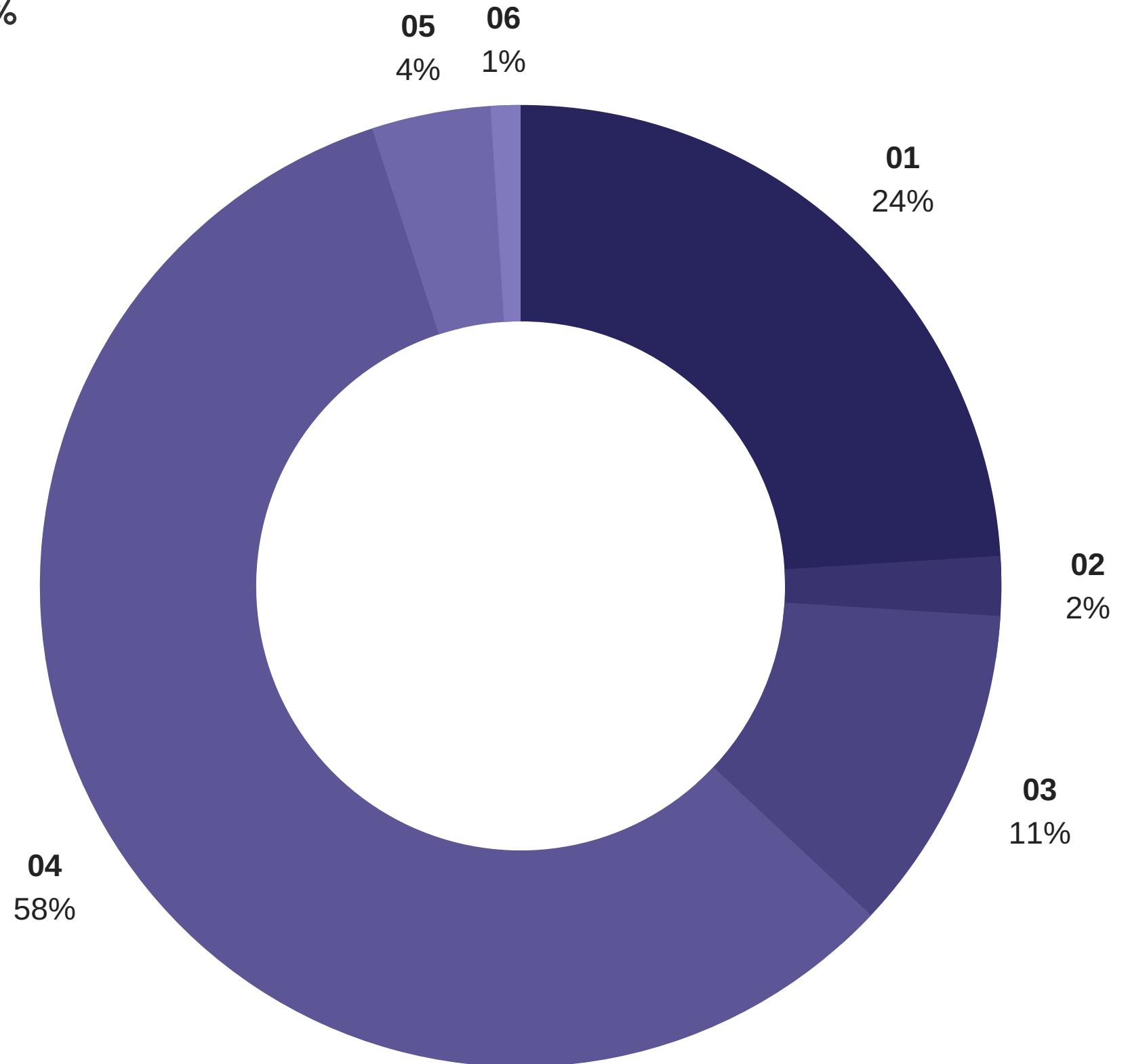




Financial Review: Expenses By Program



- 01/Misool Private Marine Reserve 24%
- 02/Community Education 2%
- 03/Community Recycling Project (Bank Sampah) 11%
- 04/Savu Sea Alliance 58%
- 05/Hydroponic Agro Tourism 4%
- 06/Misool Manta Project 1%



Statement of Activities 2017

Financial Review

REVENUE & SUPPORT		EXPENSES BY PROGRAM	
International Grants	\$463,826.94	Misool Marine Reserve	\$217,961.75
Fundraising & Donations	\$182,435.90	Community Recycling Project (Bank Sampah)	\$98,029.03
Government institutions	\$51,995.85	Misool Manta Project	\$11,769.79
Corporate Donations	\$46,829.04	Savu Sea Alliance	\$521,276.12
Liveaboard Donations	\$57,000	Community Education	\$12,262.29
MER Donations	\$55,303.51	Raja Ampat Hydroponics Project	\$32,984.94
Other income	\$79,969.93	Total Expenses	\$894,283.92
Total Revenue & Support	\$937,361.17		
EXPENSES BY TYPE		CHANGES IN ASSETS	
Personnel (81 Employees)	\$382,703.14	Net Asset Beginning of Year	\$148,963.19
Project Expenses	\$447,704.01	Change in Net Asset	\$43,077.24
Office & Administration	\$63,876.77	Net Asset End of Year	\$192,040.43
Total Expenses	\$894,283.92		



How You Can Help



Our mission is simple: to protect the world's richest reefs. Manifesting this mission on a day-to-day basis is complex, and without donations from our valued patrons we would be unable to achieve our goals.

The Foundation's annual operating costs are currently close to \$900,000. Funding our Ranger Patrol alone costs over \$200,000 per year.

Below we have outlined some examples of how you can become a Guardian of Misool:

- **\$50 helps us continue our coral restoration project.**
- **\$50 provides vital support for our turtle release program.**
- **\$50 buys 30 textbooks for Fafanlap kindergarten.**
- **\$200 allows you to adopt and name a manta ray while supporting the Misool Manta Project.**
- **\$200 funds one routine patrol around the Misool Private Marine Reserve.**
- **\$4,000 pays our Rangers' salaries for one month.**
- **\$6,000 supports our coral restoration project for a year.**
- **\$10,000 enables us to build accommodation for our teaching staff.**

Become a Guardian of Misool - Donate Now

Each year our impact and results grow stronger; 2017 has been a hugely successful year for us and the oceans. However, there is still much work to be done. Paradoxically, our ongoing vigilance only makes our work in the future more difficult; as marine life recovers, poachers notice as well. As populations continue to grow, pressure from pollution also increases. Our plans for 2018 are ambitious and, with your support, achievable. Join us and become a Guardian of Misool. Without your help, we risk losing it all.

Donations of any size are appreciated. We are a streamlined organization with extremely cost-effective operations.



How You Can Help



Ways to Donate

1. PayPal - You can donate directly to Misool Foundation via PayPal.
<https://www.paypal.me/misoolfoundation>
2. Bank Transfer - You can make a bank transfer in either Indonesian Rupiah or US Dollars.
Email fundraising@misoolfoundation.org for more details.
3. WildAid - Make a US tax-deductible donation through our fiscal sponsor, WildAid, [here](#).
Select 'Marine' and write Misool in the comments to ensure that we receive your donation.
4. Visit Misool - Come and experience the world's richest reefs in Raja Ampat. By visiting our sister resort, Misool, you are supporting valuable conservation projects.

Misool donates 50 USD to Misool Foundation on behalf of each guest visiting the resort.

Contact fundraising@misoolfoundation.org for more details.



@misool.baseftin



@misool.foundation





Thank You
To Our
Partners



WILDAID



MacArthur
Foundation





Thank You
To Our
Liveaboard
Partners



ALILA PURNAMA

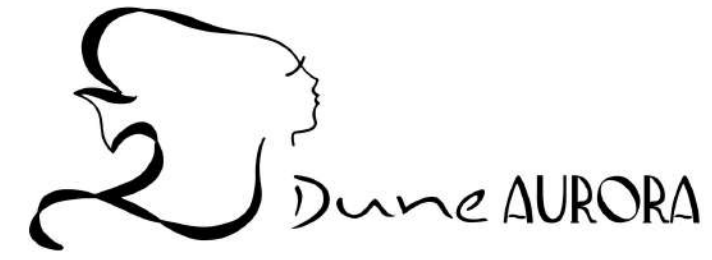
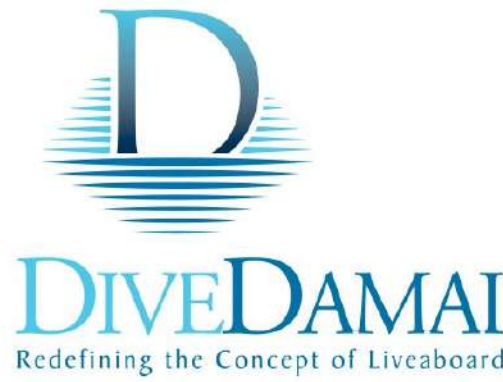


AMIRA

premium diving indonesia



Dewi Nusantara



25





misoolfoundation.org

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