



OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

AT ECOVENTURA WE HAVE ALWAYS COMMITTED TO A RESPONSIBLE SUSTAINABLE OPERATION. BESIDES BEING PART OF A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT SUSTAINABILITY FUNDS AND SUPPORTED SEVERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS, WE HAVE SLOWLY ADJUSTED OUR OPERATION TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE THE ABUNDANCE OF THE UNIQUE FLORA AND FAUNA THAT HAVE FLOURISHED IN THIS ECOLOGICAL PARADISE

FUNDRAISING



World Wildlife Fund (WWF)

In **2007**, together with the WWF we created the Galapagos Marine Biodiversity Fund (GMBF) which until **2015** successfully raised over **\$400,000** to support research, social and educational projects along the islands.



Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF)

In **2017** a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by Ecoventura and the CDF, with the Galapagos National Park (GNP) as a witness, to establish the Galapagos Biodiversity & Education for Sustainability Fund (GBESF) to support research and education projects as well as surveillance and management needs of the GNP. Until **2020** we successfully donated almost **\$300,000**.

EDUCATION



From December 2014 to December 2017 we committed to cover the salaries of medical professionals of the "Gotitas de Esperanza" Foundation, located in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno. This foundation, which had a classroom dedicated to offer physical therapy, helped adults and kids with disability and special needs. For those 3 years, over \$12,000 was donated to help with infrastructure, teaching materials and teachers' salaries.

In July 2019 Ecoventura agreed to support Esperanza foundation, by providing monthly payments for the next 5 years to aid the areas of social inclusion and equity. The foundation located in the island of San Cristobal, supports people with vulnerability in the physical, socio-economic, health and education areas.

By asking our travelers to pack 5 lbs (2.27 kgs) of school supplies to donate to communities that need it, Ecoventura delivers them directly to "Alejandro Alvear School" and The "Unidad Educativa Especializada Corazones Unidos" which help kids with disabilities and special needs. This was possible by teaming up with Pack for a Purpose, a non-profit organization dedicated to help families and their kids have what is required to improve their education.

Guests participate in programs developed by Ecology Project International High School students from Puerto Ayora. During the activities, students teach Ecoventura's group about Galapagos history sharing stories, legends and traditions of the islands. As conservation support, they have the option to clean up the bay using a handmade net built by students as part of a campaign to keep beaches and bays safe for marine life.

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

We support several projects by donating a cabin from our luxury or first class yachts (valued between \$4,900 to \$16,100) to different organizations that are focused on giving back retribution to the archipelago in the social & education and environment areas. These organizations and their projects are:



Chicken Coops in Floreana Island

Construction of chicken coops that will benefit the community by:

1. Protecting key focal species important to tourism such as the Galapagos hawk.
2. Increasing production for the poultry farmers which will provide a more stable income source for local farmers.
3. Reducing significantly environmental conflicts between the community and endemic species.



Galapagos Whale Shark Project

21 ultrasounds on 16 wild female whale sharks providing information on migrating patterns.

12 satellite tags to track whale shark migration to better understand "swimway" patterns from Galapagos to Cocos Island, allowing to also obtain images.

Drone surveys of shark nursery sites around San Cristobal Island. This helps to increase knowledge about the early stages of sharks' lives



ECOLOGY PROJECT
INTERNATIONAL

"Vocación a bordo"

By donating 3 cabins from our first class yacht Letty, EPI students go on board for a full week to learn from Ecoventura's naturalist guides about the Galapagos Islands, its wildlife, protection and conservation.

This way, they are not only inspired to become ambassadors and protectors of the archipelago, but also have complete access to specific sites and ecosystems that are not normally easy to visit

OUR CONSERVATION EFFORTS



REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS

We constantly monitor the emission of gases generated by our fleet. Being the main objective to mitigate these GHG emissions with the reduction of fuel consumption, some of the measures we have adopted are: Reduction of the speed by optimizing routes, more efficient engines, among others. A 15% reduction of emissions has been estimated by the end of 2020.



SUPPORTING LOCAL ECONOMY

We seek the integration of values and principles associated with sustainable development in our operational processes and believe that sustainability is the key element that will allow tourism to continue to be a great contribution to the Galapagos economy. We constantly maintain economic relations with suppliers from the Galapagos Islands. Due to this, as of March 2020, 30 % of the total produce used in our menus comes from the Galapagos. Mainly Fruits and vegetables are from San Cristobal Island and meats, seafood and dairy from Santa Cruz Island; 50% of our menu is completely organic.



WASTE MANAGEMENT ON BOARD

The crew in the entire fleet is trained by specialized technicians from public and private organizations. This way, we maintain continuous awareness among the personnel on board regarding waste management issues.



MARINE LIFE

Evidence suggests that oxybenzone and octinoxate are two of the more harmful chemicals for reefs found in regular sunscreens. So as of June 2020, we will start offering biodegradable and coral friendly SPF only in the boutiques of the entire fleet.



REDUCING PLASTIC POLLUTION ON BOARD AND IN GALAPAGOS

We have successfully removed plastic straws on all four yachts, as well as single-use plastic water bottles. To date, we provide guests with reusable metal bottles of water that can be used not only during their trip, but also as a souvenir from Ecoventura. By the end of 2020, we will have replaced plastic amenities such as toothbrushes and cotton buds, to bamboo amenities in cabins.

In conjunction with Ecology Project International local Students, our guests have the opportunity to participate in their program "Walking Excursion of Puerto Ayora with Epi's Eco Club", where they will be able to do beach clean ups during conservation activities.

During 2019, Ecoventura recycled almost 27,000 kilograms of plastic and glass (compared to 45,500 kilograms in 2018). Thus reducing the amount of plastic and glass waste by 18,800 kilograms in one year across the fleet.

100% OF OUR CLEANING PRODUCTS ON BOARD THE FLEET ARE ECO-FRIENDLY.