



LOVE THE OCEANS

2020 IMPACT REPORT



Love The Oceans, Company no. 9322104
Love The Oceans Conservation, Charity no. 1184402

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An aerial photograph of a person standing on a sandy beach, looking out at the ocean. The person is in the bottom left corner, and their shadow is cast on the sand. The ocean waves are breaking onto the shore, creating white foam. The water is a deep blue-green color.

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Photo: Pascoal Nhamussua, Love The Oceans Community Outreach Manager
looking out to sea.

📷 Danielle Da Silva, Photographers Without Borders

“I applaud the Love the Oceans’ team and the entire community for doing what they can to push for a Marine Protected Area in the Jangamo Bay. With knowing comes caring, and the education they’re bringing to Jangamo Bay can empower young students to become ocean stewards and protect their blue backyard for generations to come.”



Dr Sylvia Earle, President and Chairman of Mission Blue and The Sylvia Earle Alliance, National Geographic Society Explorer in Residence

Photo: the corals of Painsand Bay, Mozambique, one of the communities Love The Oceans works in.

📷 Francesca Trotman





A note from our Founder

I'm thrilled to share with you our 2020 annual impact report. 2020 was a particularly challenging year, with the global pandemic shutting Mozambique's borders for 8 months during our 'high season', stopping almost all our research, and seriously slowing our community outreach. However, despite that we made a huge amount of progress with our mission and I'm very proud of our team for pulling through such a difficult time. A huge thank you to our dedicated team members, supports and donors.

With a number of countries declaring environmental and climate emergencies, our conservation work is crucial now more than ever and we're excited to see what the future holds.

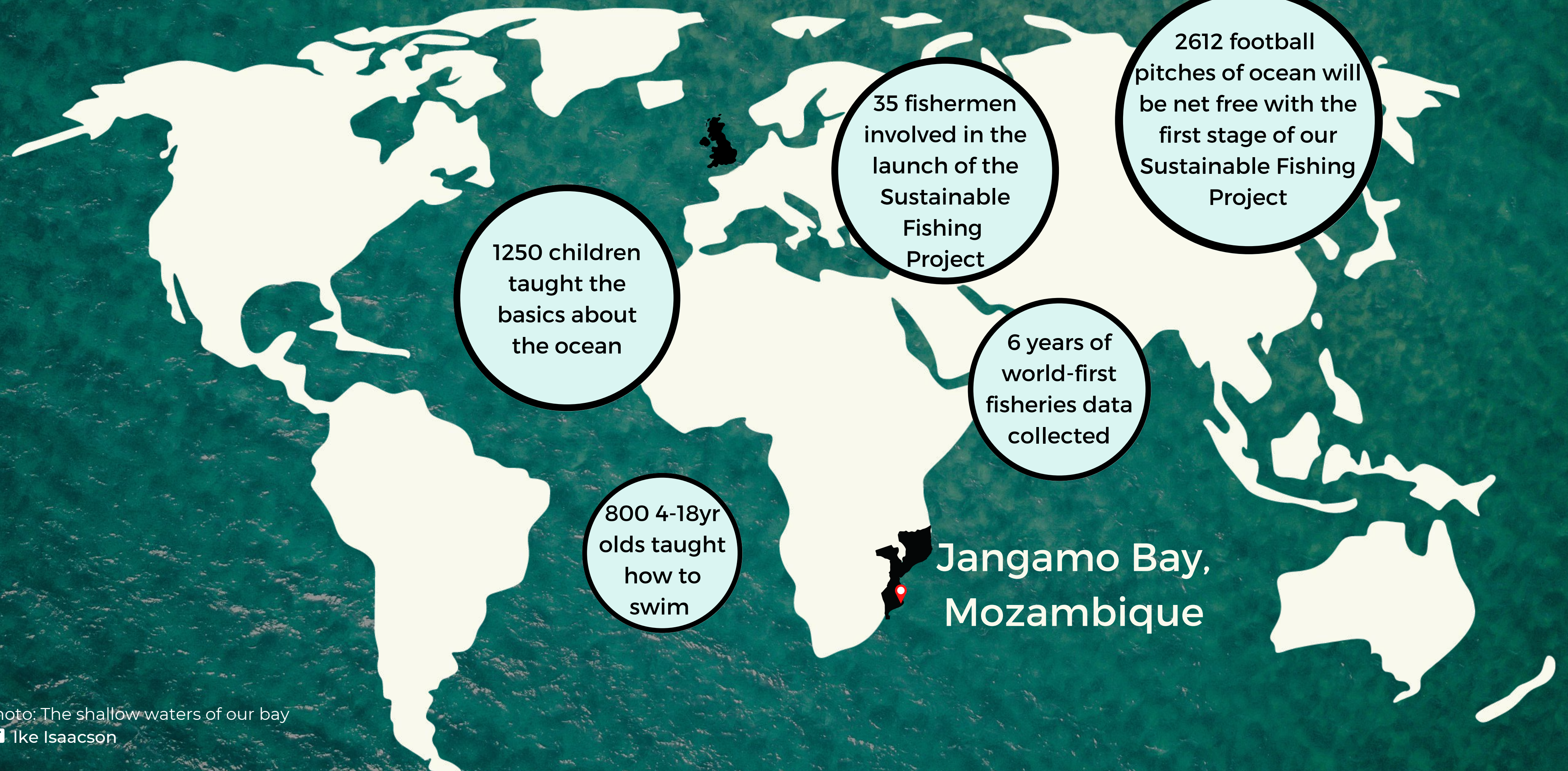
This report highlights some of the critical conservation work we're doing on the front lines, the ground-breaking research, and how we're empowering our communities to harness their natural resources.

Francesca Trotman
Founder and Managing Director

Photo: A giant oceanic manta ray, on one of our research sites, Manta Reef.
📷 Francesca Trotman

Where We Work

Love The Oceans is headquartered in the UK but works in Jangamo Bay, Mozambique. Our area is very rural but typical of the Mozambique coastline. This means our successful conservation strategy can be replicated in similar villages and areas.



Our Mission

To protect the marine environment in Jangamo, Mozambique, by conducting education projects and scientific research that will support the establishment of a Marine Protected Area.

Our Vision

To develop a holistic conservation strategy which can be replicated along the East African Coastline protecting and preserving the diverse ocean fauna native to those areas while empowering the surrounding communities to thrive.

Photo: Our research boat heading back to shore after some survey dives.

📷 Ike Isaacson



Francesca Trotman
Founder & Managing Director



Pascoal Nhamussua
Community Outreach Manager



Jasmine Roncevalles
Marketing Director

Our Team

Over the years our team has grown and 2020 saw the official addition of two Ocean Conservation Champions and our Marketing Director. We're excited to see our team grow and these amazing people bring their own skills and points of view to the table, making our conservation strategy as effective as possible.



Mario Guilamba
Ocean Conservation Champion



Hannah Williams
Social Media Manager



Andrea Biden
Executive Director



Bento Nhamussua
Ocean Conservation Champion



Meghan and Harry Windsor
Duke and Duchess of Sussex



Ursi Marren
Clipper race sailor, Love The Oceans
Ambassador



Sarah Roberts
Eco-journalist, Author and Presenter



Danielle Da Silva
Founder & CEO of Photographers
Without Borders

Our Supporters

Over the years we've gained support from a number of influential people. These people help us raise awareness of our cause, fundraise, and draw further support to our projects.



Megan McCubbin
Wildlife TV Presenter and Zoologist



Dougie Poynter
Musician



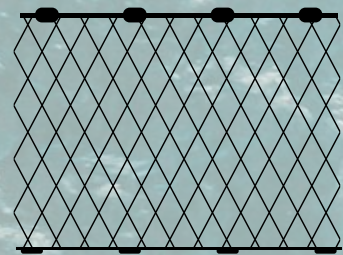
Lizzie Daly
BBC Wildlife Presenter and animal
movement scientist

Research

Due to the global pandemic 2020 saw Mozambique's borders close for 8 months and the country entered a national state of emergency. During this period, it was illegal to launch our research vessel so we were unable to collect most of our usual data. With that in mind, we decided to reflect on some highlights since we began our work here. All of our work is the first of its kind in our area.



183+ hours of
megafauna
surveys



Analysed fisheries & coral
reef data informing a
project which will
protect 16,444 football
pitches of ocean from
monofilament net
fishing.



22000+ fish recorded in
artisanal fisheries
catches over 6 years
and sustainability
assessments
underway



400+ sea turtle
hatchlings guarded
& guided to the
ocean



9450m of coral
reef surveyed



Over a tonne of ocean
trash removed from the
oceans inc. >85,000
pieces of plastic and
created over 150
eco-bricks



In 2020 we've
identified 5 whale
sharks never seen
in our area
before



Supervised over 40+
university students for
theses and placements
and hosted over 230
volunteers



The first ever bioacoustics
studies of humpback whale
song in our area, identifying 22
phrases and 13 units used by
the whales, as well as a
possible cultural
revolution event

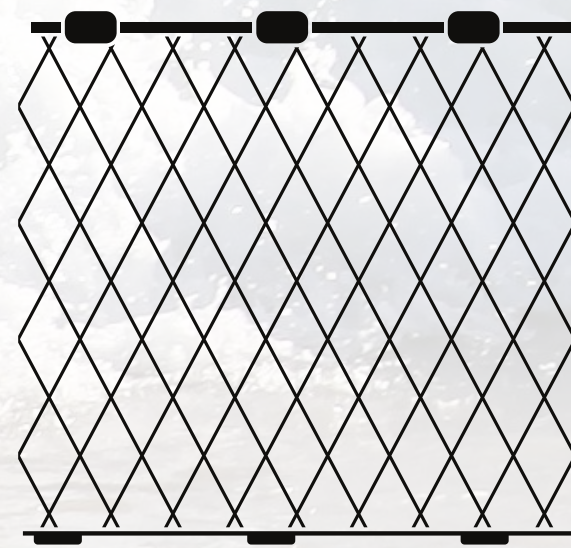
2020 Featured Project: Sustainable Fishing Project

Approximately 70% of people in our area rely on subsistence farming and fishing to survive, with the other 30% formally employed, largely within the tourism sector. COVID-19 closed Mozambique's borders from March - October 2020 leading to a drop in tourism by over 95% across the nation. This border closure meant that the 30% of people in our area employed in the tourism sector, and their dependents, suddenly became reliant on fishing and farming too. Through 2020 we saw a rise in the number of monofilament net fishing, one of the most damaging and unsustainable fishing methods, and we decided something needed to be done to enable people to still feed their families and survive through this pandemic, but do so legally and sustainably. After talking with Gemo Guilamba, the Guinjata fishing chief, the Sustainable Fishing Project was born. This is a six phase project, with plans to scale up across three bays. 2020 saw us launch phase 1. The project has been received enthusiastically as it provides fishermen with a sustainable way to fish during this pandemic at no extra cost. Kayak fishing also tends to catch larger, meatier fish, feeding more people.

HOW IT WORKS



Fishermen sign up
with the fishing chief



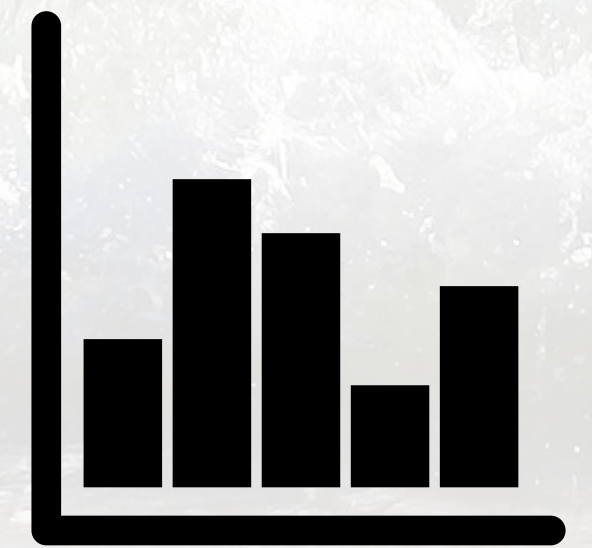
Fishermen give up current
methods of fishing and gear is
destroyed responsibly.



Attend 2 workshops -
1. Sustainability: which fish are best
2. Methods - safety and fishing
techniques



Fishermen use the kayak and
fishing gear secured by LTO
free of charge, on a check-in,
check-out basis.



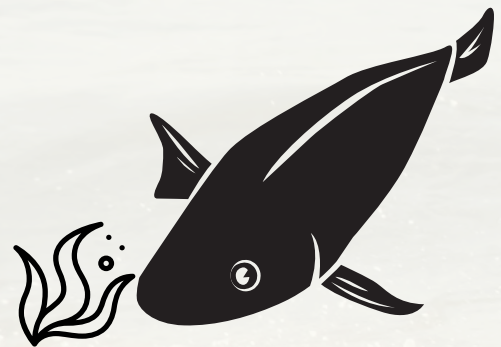
Report catches to
Pascoal to monitor
progress.

2020 Featured Project: Sustainable Fishing Project

THE SCIENCE

Our research has shown a decline in large herbivorous fish on our reefs. This lack of herbivores can effect coral health. The lack of larger herbivores could be caused by overexploitation which happens in Jangamo by 2 methods of fishing: spearfishing and gill-netting. This combined fishing pressure on the reefs could be causing the decline of large herbivores. This fishing pressure can be addressed by transitioning fishermen towards more sustainable fishing methods like kayak fishing.

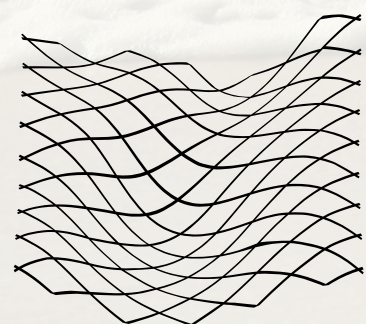
According to our research, kayak fishing enables selective fishing (no by-catch), in deeper waters, allowing the fishermen to target piscivore fish, which generally provide more meat for the consumer and prey on other fish like herbivores. By targeting these we could address the lack of larger herbivores. Kayaks will enable the fishermen to fish away from the local reefs, giving the reef fish population a chance to recover, ultimately benefitting the corals.



Herbivorous fish are crucial to maintaining a healthy reef system as they graze on algae which competes with corals for space on the rock. With no herbivores keeping the algae in check, coral growth is limited leading to the destruction of coral reefs.



Spearfishing is usually sustainable. However, the shelf of Jangamo is steep, and strong surface currents mean spearfishermen are limited to fishing on the shallow, local reefs. Local reef fish tend to be herbivores.



Netting is prolific in this region, with long, unmanned nets cast close to shore and left unattended for hours. Nets are renowned for being unselective and our data has shown a huge range of fish caught, including reef, herbivorous fish and elasmobranchs.

WHO'S INVOLVED?



GUINJATA FISHING COMMUNITY

Gemo, Chief of Guinjata fishing community is spearheading the project. Stakeholder buy-in is essential in successful conservation.



LOVE THE OCEANS

We're the NGO partner in this project, responsible for delivering sustainability workshops, securing funding and organising on-the-ground logistics. Pascoal heads up the project from within Love The Oceans.



PRIME ZULU FISHING CHARTERS

Prime Zulu is the supporting organisation responsible for delivering methods and safety workshops, and helping source the appropriate equipment.

Photo: A fisherman takes his kayak fishing
📷 Hasse Hedström, Photographers Without Borders



“ Our work is welcomed in the community. The type of work that we do gives hope to the community and contributes to education about marine life and the protection of animals, to restore the structure of the marine world in view of the massive destruction that has occurred in recent years. We must work with love and believe in our potential. We must do our best in our work to help marine life and achieve our objectives of protecting the oceans. ”

Pascoal Nhamussua, our Community Outreach Manager

We've been working across the Jangamo communities for the last 6 years and it's been an absolute pleasure. The wealth of knowledge our coastal community stakeholders have is integral to our successful conservation strategy. Here are some highlights of our educational outreach work so far.

Educational Outreach



Taught 850+hrs of basic marine resource management to over 1150 10-13 yr olds



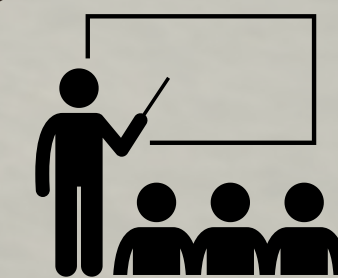
Taught 290+hrs of swimming lessons to over 800 4-18 yr olds



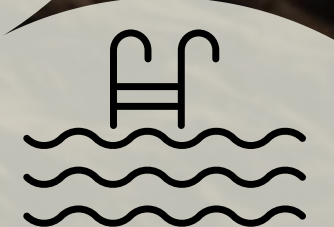
Qualified the first ever Mozambique citizen as an STA swimming instructor and 6 aquatic helpers



Ran the first ever sustainable fishing workshops with Jangamo fishing communities



Built 14 classrooms on community request to enable the first high school in the area to be established



Raised funds to construct the first ever community swimming pool



“ I love marine species, and I would like to be one of the future protectors of marine life. I will forever be thankful to the Love The Oceans team that is helping me become a professional in taking care of the oceans. ”

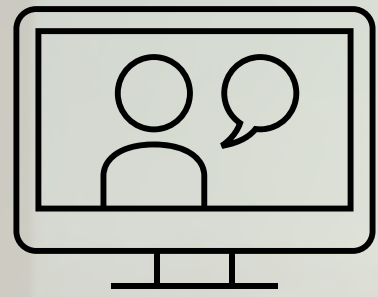
Bento Nhamussua, one of our Ocean Conservation Champions

Photo: Bento Nhamussua teaching swimming lessons

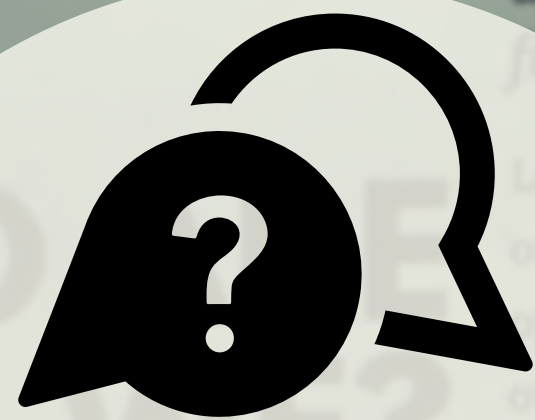
📷 Matt Jarvis

International Outreach

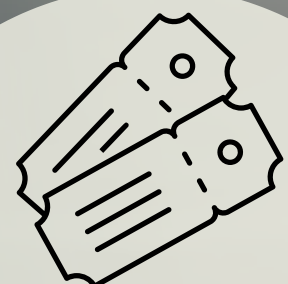
2020 saw a massive increase in our webinars, virtual presentations and online events. Here's some highlights of the year.



Hosted over 32 international webinars and talks to over 22950 people



Launched an instagram live Q&A series interviewing over 32 international marine conservationists across the industry, viewed by over 4000 people



Participated in 8 shows and fairs



A theatre production has been made based off our work



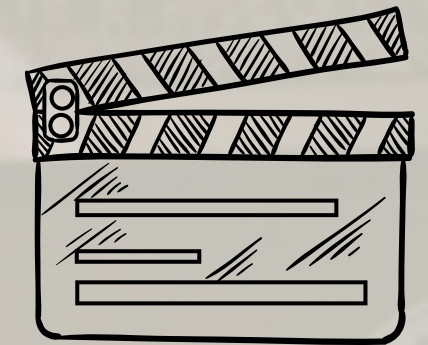
Launched our sustainability challenge which reached 2000+ people



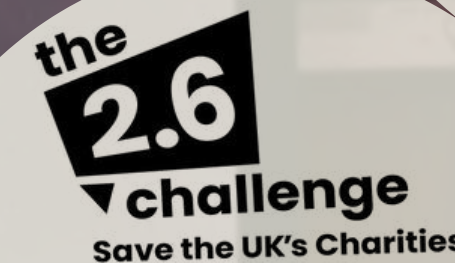
Finalist for the 2020 Go Blue Awards



Attended and presented at 3 conferences including presenting our humpback whale bioacoustics research



The multi-award winning documentary on Pascoal and our work was released and aired around the world across numerous film festivals



Ran our first ever 2.6 challenge and raised funds for conservation



Recorded >6 podcasts listened to by audiences across the globe



Featured in the Daily Mail's Escape Magazine: The Best Wildlife Conservation Holidays



Other Conservation Highlights



Sasol abandoned a controversial gas-drilling venture on the doorstep of the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park after public backlash from many organisations including Love The Oceans, and further environmental impact surveys



The Bazaruto Archipelago and Inhambane Bay have been established as an IUCN marine mammal area, extending from the Save River in the north to Tofino in the south



New legislation published in October 2020 to come into effect in early 2021 protecting more marine animals from fishing, including whale sharks, mantas and seahorses

Photo: A male humpback breaches during a mating pod race
Danielle Khan Da Silva, Photographers Without Borders



“ I love the oceans because it's an incredible natural resource, it spans over 70% of our planet's surface and gives us the air we breathe. It's the place many call home and it's heaven on earth. I am a part of Love The Oceans, I'm an Ocean Conservation Champion, and it's changing my life. ”

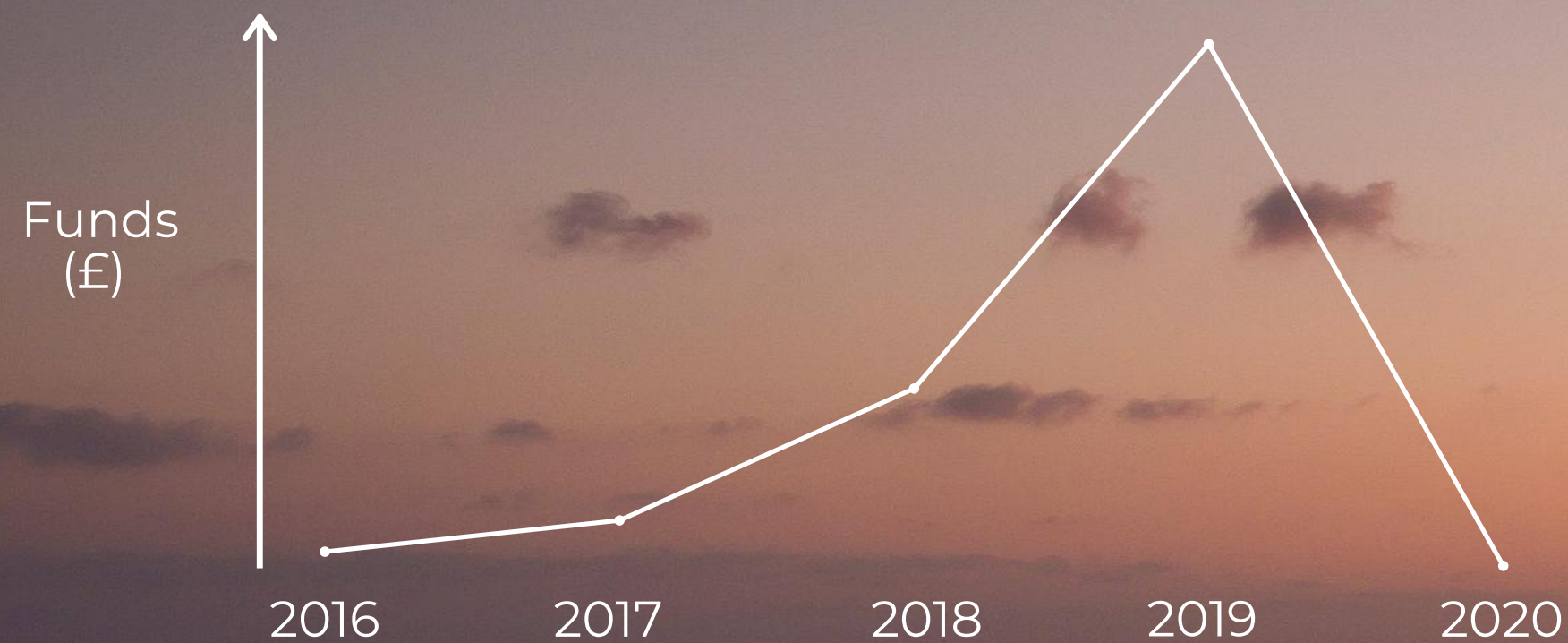
Mario Guilamba, one of our Ocean Conservation Champions

Photo: Mario Guilamba about to start teaching our advanced swimmers

📷 Matt Jarvis

Financial Transparency

Financial year: November 30th 2019 - December 1st 2020



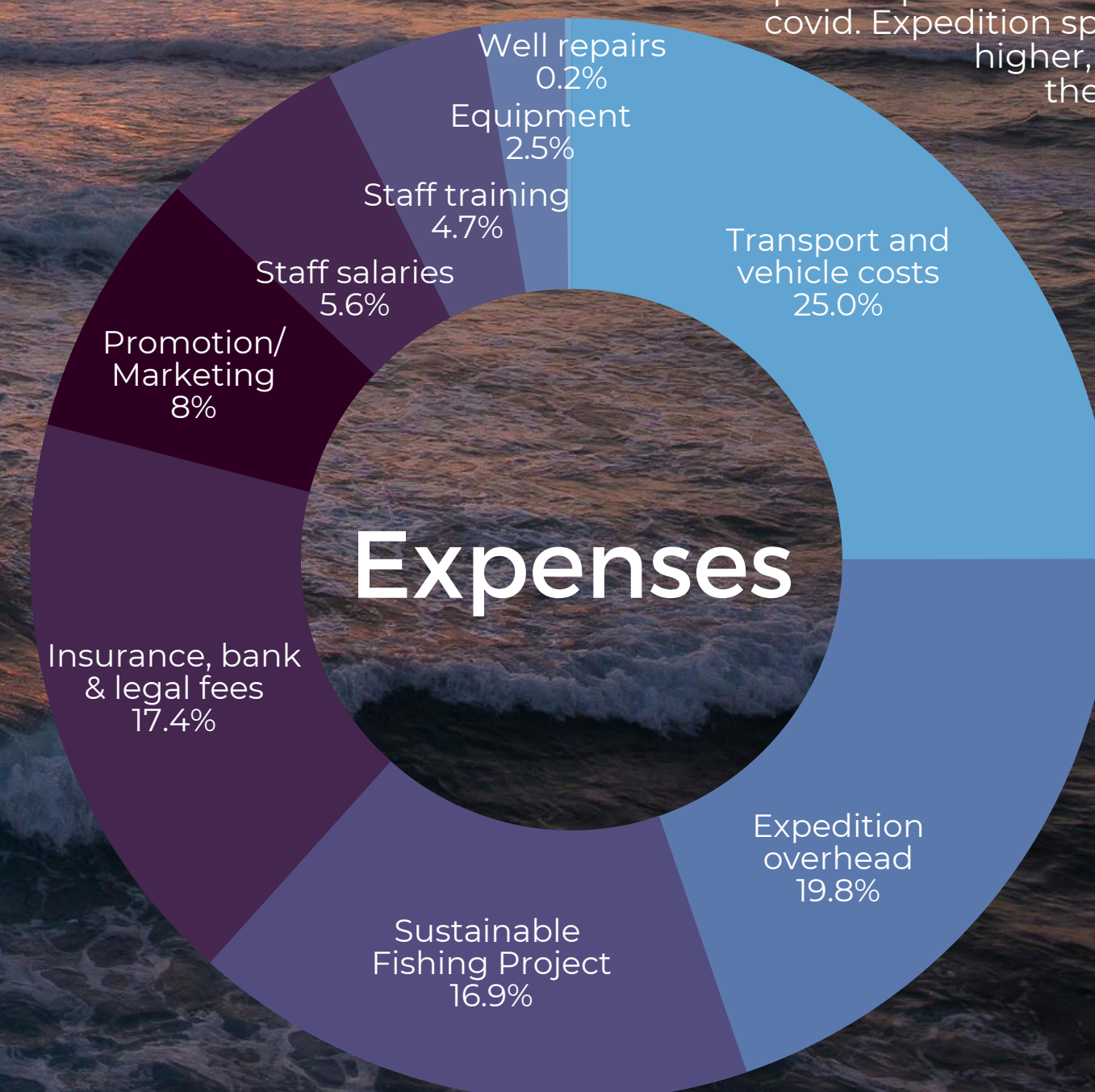
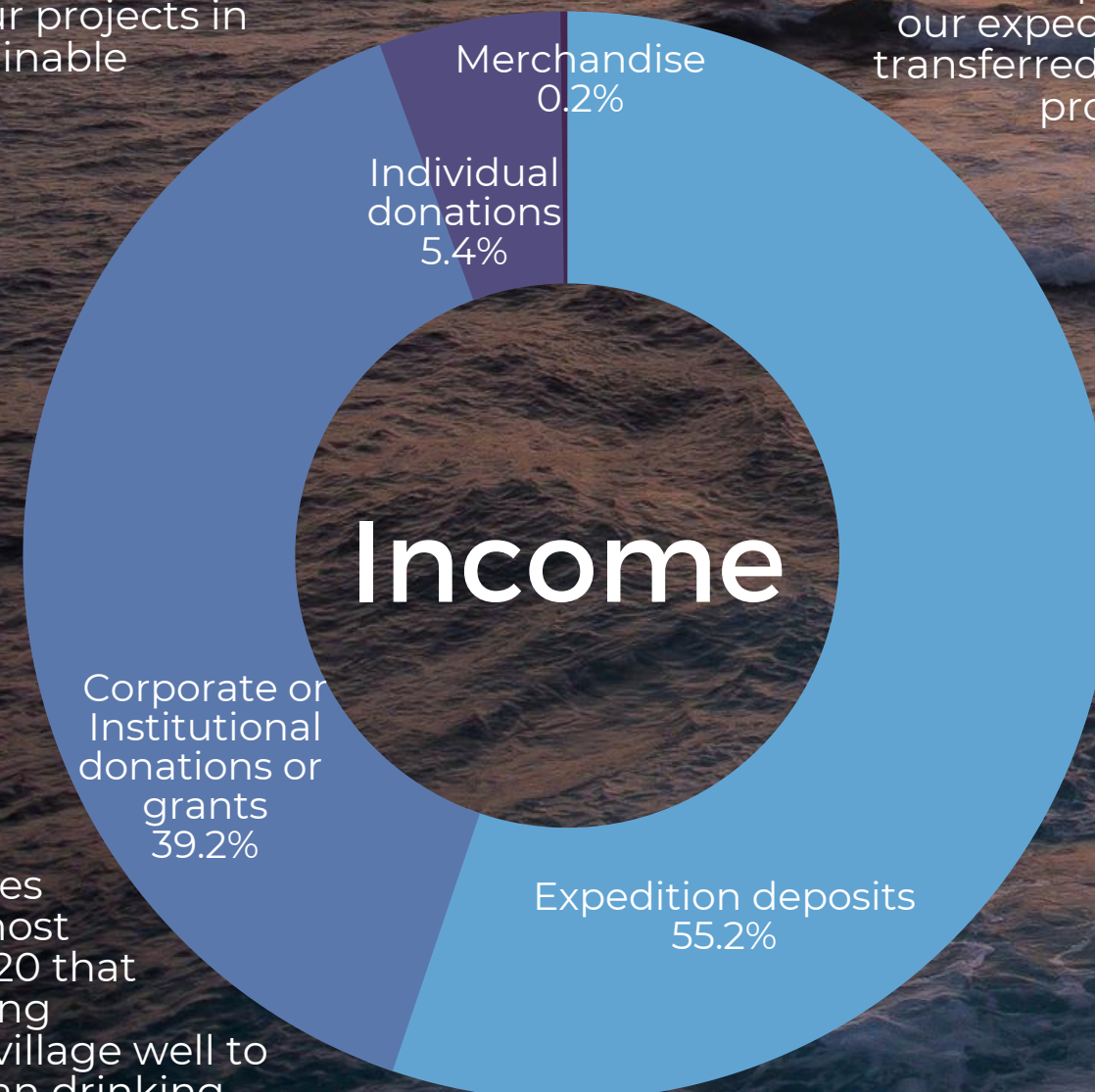
The global pandemic hit us heavily, not only limiting our activities by law, but also seriously limiting our income. Between 2019 and 2020, the pandemic caused our income to drop by 85%. This meant we had to pull back and re-evaluate where we could spend money in 2020 and what we needed to prioritise. Paying our Mozambican staff members is always a priority for us, especially in the pandemic when we saw poverty levels in our area sky rocket.

We've heavily relied on donations to be able to launch and run our projects in 2020, especially the Sustainable Fishing Project.

Due to the pandemic most of our expedition participants transferred onto 2021 & 2022 programs (for free!).

Our expense split looks a little different than pre-covid. Expedition spends would usually be higher, but travel bans meant these costs (and income!) dropped significantly.

We pride ourselves on transparency. When we receive a donation 100% of that donation goes to the cause specified. If a cause isn't specified, it goes to whichever project is most in need at the time. In 2020 that was our Sustainable Fishing Project and to repair the village well to enable access to safe, clean drinking water for our coastal communities.



Social Media Statistics

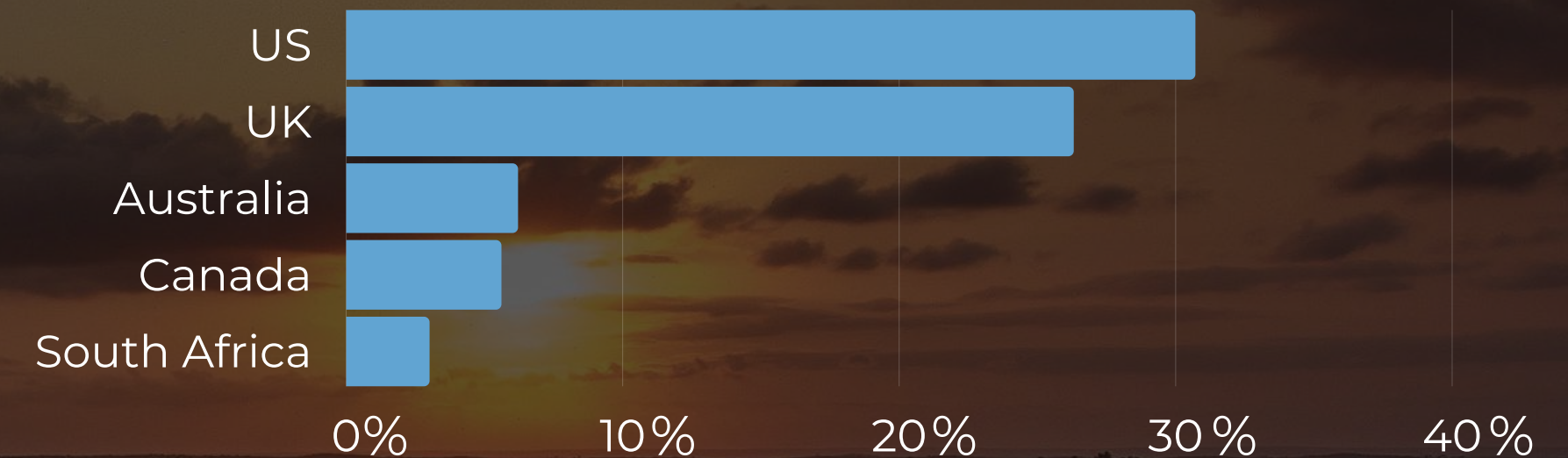
+725,000

Love The Oceans social media has created over 725,000 impressions throughout the year

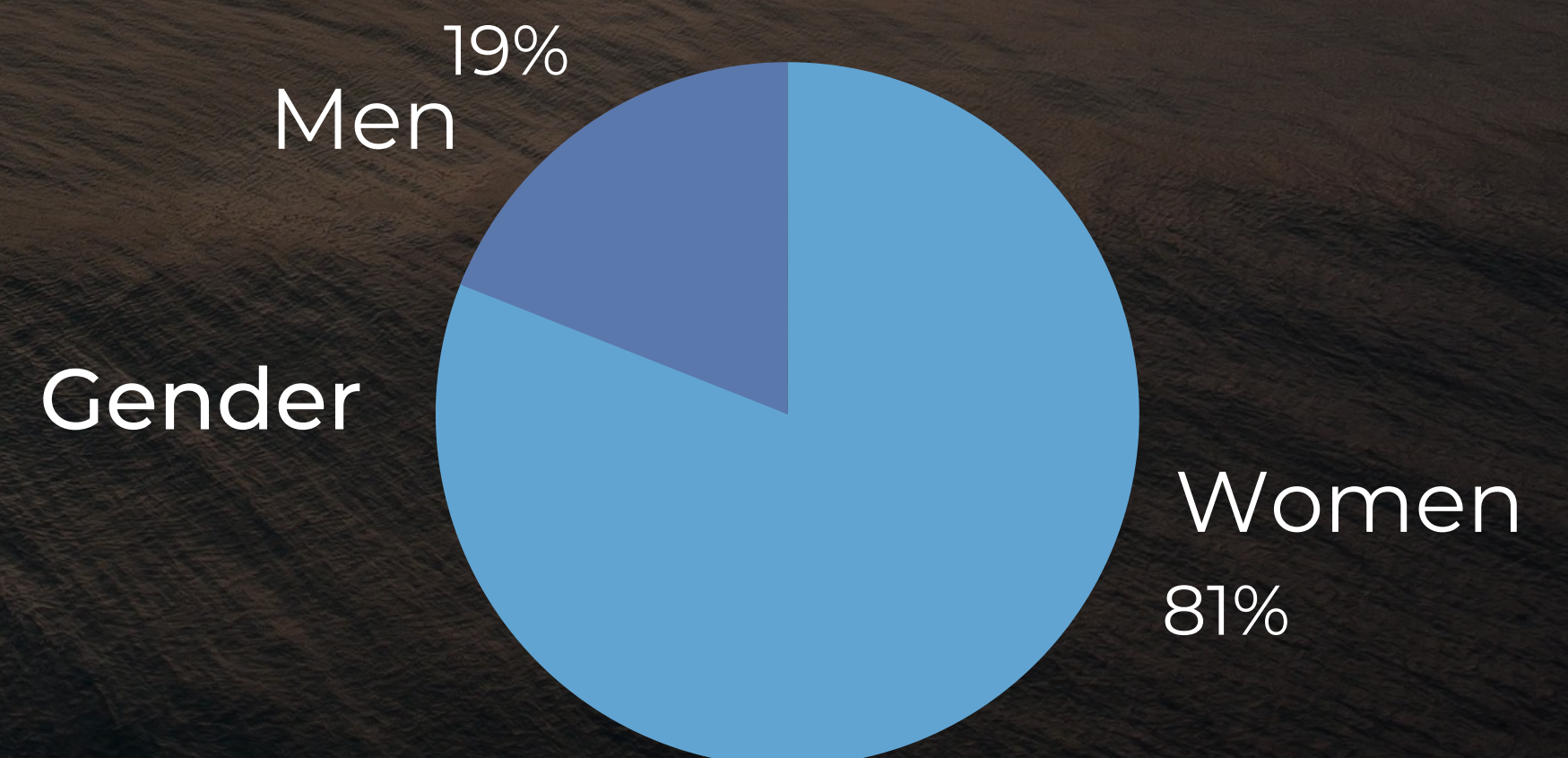
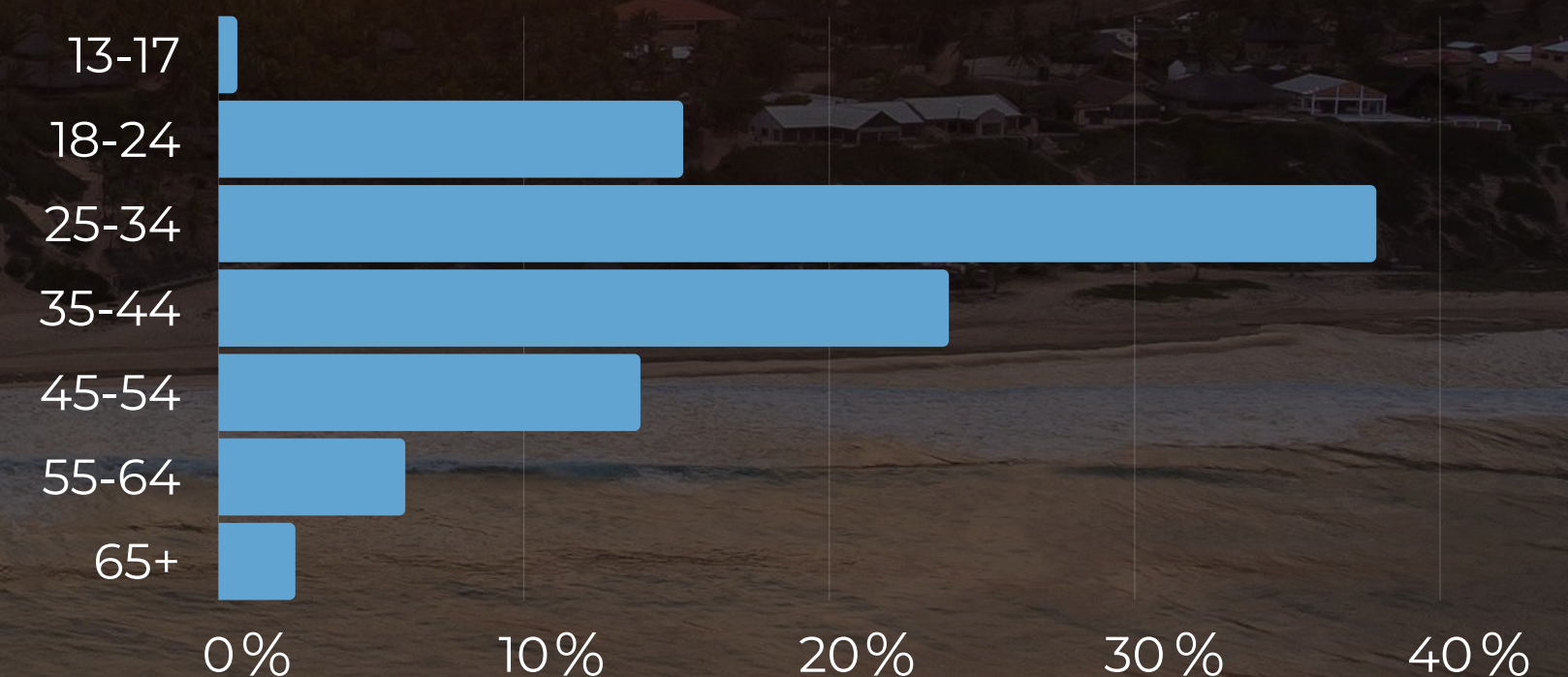
34%

We've increased our following by over 34% in 2020

Top Locations



Age ranges



“ In a year of great uncertainty we've been encouraged, and humbled by the outpouring of generosity and support. Thank You for helping us meet the challenges of this moment, so we could continue to deliver impactful conservation initiatives in partnership with the community, and expand our reach. ”

Andrea Biden,
Love The Oceans Executive Director

Special Thanks Supporters

Hannah Williams
Jasmine Roncevalles
Evercare
Paddleyak Sea Kayak

Photographers Without Borders
Jays Pro Dive Centre
World Cetacean Alliance

A special thank you to Photographers Without Borders for the continued support of our work and the creation of such beautiful media to help communicate our work.

Donate

Give Online

If you'd like to donate online, you can do so by visiting

www.lovetheoceans.org/donate

Give by bank transfer

If you'd like to donate via bank transfer, please reach out to info@lovetheoceans.org for more information

Become a Corporate Sponsor

If your business is interested in supporting our work and becoming a corporate sponsor, please contact francesca@lovetheoceans.org and we can send you our sponsorship pack and design a partnership together that suits you.



Photo: A whale shark swims by a snorkeler
Jeff Hester, Photographers Without Borders 



LOVE THE OCEANS

Photo: Humpback whales play
Teresa Wood, Photographers Without Borders 

Get In Touch

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