



# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Celebrating the Past, Mapping the Future



## Celebrating the Past, Mapping the Future

We are excited to share with you **Earthwatch's 2016 Annual Report!**

In 2016, we celebrated our 45th anniversary. 45 years! Some might call us middle-aged, but we know better. In many ways our work is just beginning.

The world is a different place than it was in 1971 when Earthwatch was founded, at a time when the modern environmental movement was just taking shape. Sea levels have risen, oceans have warmed, global temperatures have increased, and glaciers have melted. The pace of environmental change has accelerated.

The good news is that as citizens of this planet, we've never been more connected. The Earthwatch community continues to grow, and our organization is evolving with it. We continue to strengthen and diversify our expedition portfolio, remaining laser-focused on the top challenges at hand. We remain committed to innovating new programs, testing new models, and inviting your ideas because together, we can make a difference.

**Thank you for your support of Earthwatch, for scientific field research, and for the wild things and wild places that so urgently need you.**



# Celebrating Our 45-Year History

Since 1971, Earthwatch has upheld a passion for exploration and a commitment to improving the planet for generations to come. Over the last 45 years, more than 100,000 volunteers have worked across 131 countries on 1,400 projects to improve our shared planet. In responding to emerging environmental challenges, we've discovered new species, and saved others from extinction. We've conserved threatened land and seascapes, relying on our time-tested model of pairing citizens with scientists to protect the health of the planet. Together, we've accomplished more than we thought possible. That's thanks to YOU and your unwavering support over the years.

To view highlights from our history, including an interactive map illustrating our global presence, we encourage you to visit our 45-year celebration site: [earthwatch45.org](http://earthwatch45.org).



**100,000**  
VOLUNTEERS



**1,400**  
PROJECTS



**131**  
COUNTRIES





## Responding to the Urgent Needs of Today

Despite massive global change and growing environmental challenges, government funding for climate science is being slashed, halting critical research that aims to better understand and conserve our environment.

Earthwatch is uniquely positioned to mobilize the scientists, volunteers, and resources needed to protect the planet when it needs us the most. As a member of the Earthwatch community, you know better than anyone how vital we all are in the fight to conserve our planet. You know the power one person has in being the force it takes to turn the tide.

In this uncertain time, know that Earthwatch is here, as we have been for 45 years—and we will continue to support critical scientific research. Your support ensures we remain steadfast in our shared mission to advance conservation while educating and empowering ambassadors for the planet.



EARTHWATCH  
PODCAST



VIRTUAL  
REALITY



SCHOLARSHIP  
FUND



NEW  
MODELS

## Mapping the Next 45 Years

What does the future hold for Earthwatch? Our donors, volunteers, and scientists will always remain at the heart of who we are and what we do. And given the urgency of our mission, we have a responsibility to expand our reach and engage with new audiences in new ways.

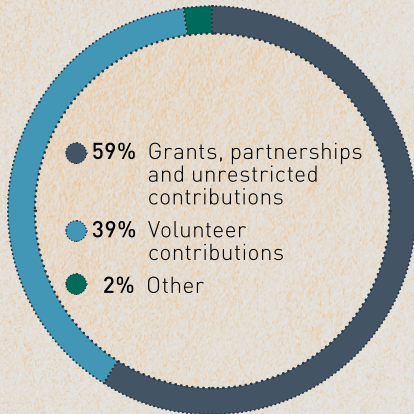
We have seen firsthand the life-changing experiences students and teachers can have on Earthwatch expeditions. Teachers return inspired to bring science alive in the classroom, and students go on to pursue majors and even careers in STEM fields. To expand opportunities for this key audience, we will soon be launching a scholarship fund.

To reach new audiences, we are pursuing new engagement tools, including virtual reality, a podcast, and shorter-duration expedition opportunities. We'll also be further expanding our engagement with our corporate partners. Earthwatch is committed to expanding our reach to better conserve our planet and the many species that call it home.

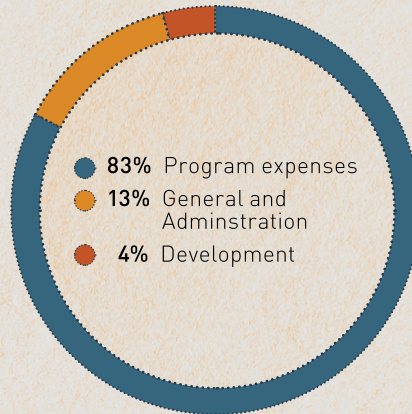
# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

This Annual Report contains the U.S.-based 2016 financial results of the 501(c)3 Earthwatch Institute. Earthwatch is pleased to report strong improvement in FY16. We turned a \$511,116 deficit from FY15 into a modest surplus in FY16 (largely by decreasing our general and administrative costs by 20%). We are a lean organization with a large global mission—and deeply appreciate your continued support as we forge ahead.

## INCOMING RESOURCES



## RESOURCES EXPENDED



OPERATING REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR EARTHWATCH U.S.	FY 2016 (US\$)	FY 2015 (US\$)
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>	7,819,294	7,701,683
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	7,772,691	8,212,799
<b>Program Expenses</b>	6,416,875	6,603,019
<b>General and Administrative</b>	1,018,406	1,257,415
<b>Fundraising</b>	337,410	352,365
<b>NET (OUTGOING/INCOMING RESOURCES)</b>	46,603	(511,116)
<b>END OF YEAR NET ASSETS</b>	3,882,338	4,468,069




**NOTE:** We are reporting our earnings net of temporary restricted funds. Temporary restricted funds have high volatility due to periodic awards of 3-5 year grants.





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