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L
ike the rest of the world, the work of the Deep Sea Conservation Coalition in 2020 was upended and transformed in ways we never could have imagined as a result of Covid-19. With much of our work dependent on international meetings, science processes and convenings, we too migrated to online platforms. Travelling less is perhaps one of the silver linings, with the work of environmental protection so often depending on flying around the world.

At the same time, we witnessed many countries and management agencies using Covid to delay important decisions and processes. Again, perhaps there is a second silver lining here, given that the global pandemic has highlighted the gravity of the dual crises in biodiversity loss and climate disruption of our global ocean.

The DSCC has redoubled our efforts to protect vulnerable marine life from bottom fishing. We released our fourth report on progress—or lack thereof—by regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) and State Parties to implement the United Nations General Assembly Resolutions and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems from bottom trawling. As we continue our “in-the-trenches” work at RFMOs, it is increasingly clear that incremental progress will not result in biodiversity protection. To this end, we are excited to embark on a reenergized campaign to protect high seas seamounts from bottom trawling and secure agreement at a global level.

We have increased our engagement on deep seabed mining, with many new organizations working to secure support from countries for a moratorium on deep seabed mining. There is only one opportunity to protect the deep sea from these destructive activities; once begun most ecosystems and species will never recover, ever. We launched a public campaign to bring attention to the issue of deep seabed mining and increase our profile within the debate. Our membership is vibrant and growing; now over 90 organizations are supporting and contributing to ensuring the health and resilience of the deep sea.

2020 was supposed to be the “super year for the ocean”. However, most international meetings where further protection of the deep sea can be attained have been pushed to 2021 and beyond. While we continued to engage in the negotiations that did occur, 2020 was our year to organize, strategize and capitalize on an increasingly online audience. This gives us an opportunity, a global pause, which if taken seriously by States and all of us who inhabit our Blue Planet (and those set to inherit it), could set a new course where decisions err on the side of biodiversity protection and resiliency, rather than continued and unabated exploitation of the finite living resources of the deep sea.

Letter from the Board

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Susanna Fuller, Treasurer

Sebastian Losada, Secretary

Lance Morgan, Chair
Deep-Sea Fisheries: Protecting Seamounts from Bottom Trawling

In 2020, despite massive Covid-19 related disruptions to many of the processes and fora with which we typically engage, the DSCC continued its work in regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) for better regulations to ensure effective implementation of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions which commit nations to protect the deep sea from damage caused by bottom fisheries on the high seas.

**THE WORK FOCUSED ON THREE MAIN AREAS:**

1. Working with the United Nations (UN) and other international bodies to review, reinforce and strengthen international processes for the protection of the deep sea.

2. Stronger measures to protect deep-sea ecosystems and sustainably manage deep-sea fisheries on the high seas through specific RFMOs in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans.


*The DSCC’s primary goal regarding the management of deep-sea fisheries on the high seas is to protect vulnerable deep-sea ecosystems, particularly on seamounts, from destruction by bottom trawling.*
Central to the DSCC’s work in 2020 was our fourth global assessment of actions taken by States and RFMOs to manage deep-sea fisheries on the high seas, consistent with their commitments through UNGA resolutions and under the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The resulting report, *Preventing Biodiversity Loss in the Deep Sea – a critique of compliance by high seas fishing nations and RFMOs with global environmental commitments*, was published in October 2020.

The report reviews the progress made since the last UNGA review of implementation in 2016, to ensure that individual high seas fishing nations and RFMOs fully implement the actions called for in UNGA Resolutions 61/105, 64/72, 66/68 and 71/123. It also makes recommendations on what more should be done. It is the latest in a series of reports produced by the DSCC published in advance of the formal reviews conducted by the UNGA. The report will be used to show countries what other regions are doing, to counter misinformation, and ensure well-informed comment and appropriate regulation.

Due to the pandemic, the UNGA review scheduled to take place in 2020 was postponed until 2022. Although this delay made it difficult to ramp up a global public campaign on seamount protections, the report will be relevant to a number of political processes in 2021-2022, and will thus help prepare the groundwork for a more substantive – and, we hope, more high-profile and politically effective – UNGA review in 2022.

In October 2020, the DSCC released its fourth review of actions being taken to manage deep-sea fisheries on the high seas by States and RFMOs (pictured above, left).
REGIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS

The DSCC’s primary goal regarding the management of deep-sea fisheries on the high seas is to protect vulnerable deep-sea ecosystems, particularly on seamounts, from destruction by bottom trawling.

Throughout the year we maintained our focus on and presence (from March onward, our virtual presence) at the priority RFMOs – South Pacific, North Pacific, Northwest Atlantic, Northeast Atlantic, South Indian Ocean – to advocate that deep-sea fishing should only take place in compliance with rigorous sustainability and ecosystem protection criteria. Key outcomes in 2020 include:

South Pacific

The campaign in New Zealand to end bottom trawling on seamounts continues to build important public pressure on the fishing industry and political decision makers. It forms a cornerstone of our global campaign to protect seamounts, which are recognized as biodiversity hotspots in the deep sea, from the ravages of this hugely destructive practice.

The national election in October 2020 provided scope for new outreach and the potential to build new champions among the refreshed cabinet. A month after the election, the DSCC – along with members of Forest and Bird, Greenpeace, LegaSea, Our Seas Our Future and WWF – presented a 50,000-signature petition to the New Zealand Minister for Oceans and Fisheries outside Parliament. The list of names was printed onto a giant model of a deep-sea bubblegum coral. The campaign will lead to a Select Committee hearing on bottom trawling.

At the 8th Annual Meeting of the Commission of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) in January 2020, New Zealand submitted a paper that sought to justify the destruction of vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) if there are more VMEs elsewhere. The DSCC sent a strongly worded rebuttal paper that led New Zealand to withdraw its paper. At the 8th Scientific Committee Meeting in October (which was held virtually), the DSCC – with scientists Prof. Les Watling and Prof. Peter Auster – made several presentations to the Deep Water Working Group and the Scientific Committee on VMEs, spatial management and encounter protocols. We also intervened to challenge the zonation model and call for more precautionary measures to be adopted. In response, the Scientific Committee acknowledged the “great uncertainty” in the model being used and finetuned its frame of reference. The virtual meeting format was very condensed, with 8- to 12-hour days being reduced to 4-hour days, which all but precluded side conversations and smaller group discussions.

The New Zealand government’s ongoing court case against prominent high seas bottom trawling company Talley’s for fishing illegally in a closed area drags on, with the trial date being repeatedly pushed back. The DSCC has been closely monitoring the case, and its members have sent protesters to bear witness where appropriate. In February 2020, the New Zealand press published a number of reports which stated that the New Zealand First Foundation – an arm of the political party in government which (until it lost seats in the October election) supported the fishing industry – had received a donation from Talley’s.
North Pacific

In March 2020, the DSCC signed a letter along with the Pew Charitable Trusts and WWF-Japan, sharing concerns about transparency at meetings of the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC). Concerns raised included a lack of observer access to meeting sessions, and a lack of public access to key information and Commission documents, both of which should be publicly available well ahead of meetings.

During 2020 the DSCC also took part in the two virtual meetings of the NPFC Scientific Subcommittee on Bottom Fisheries and Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems. We facilitated the participation of two lead scientists involved in recent research expeditions in the NPFC Area, Dr. Amy Baco-Taylor and Dr. Les Watling. Both have called for seamounts to be closed to bottom trawl fishing.

At the second NPFC Scientific Subcommittee meeting, the US introduced a proposal for a suspension of the bottom fishery on the NW Hawaiian and Emperor seamounts, based on the work of Dr. Baco-Taylor and recent information from a range of other scientists. The DSCC supported the US proposal, referring to SDG Target 14.2, the UNGA deep-sea fisheries resolutions, and the past decade of inaction at the NPFC on furthering VME protection. At least two other countries indicated that they were open to the US proposal. Japan however opposed the US proposal, but did agree that at least two areas of VMEs on the seamounts should be protected.

North Atlantic

DSCC member Oceans North joined the Canadian delegation to attend the (virtual) Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization’s (NAFO) Annual Meeting in September. With the DSCC’s support, black corals were added to the VME indicator list. However, all VME closures and reviews were postponed to the 2021 meeting. No progress was made on addressing the Olympic shrimp fishery on the Flemish Cap. Additionally, despite scientific advice that the Flemish Cap cod fishery should be limited to 1,000 t, it was agreed to allow a catch of 1,500 t. Having recovered following a moratorium on directed fishing, the cod population is now headed towards another crash.

In November, the DSCC attended the (virtual) 39th Annual Meeting of the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC). In our recommendations we pushed for zero total allowable catch (TAC) for three deep-sea species (orange roughy, beaked redfish and roundnose grenadier); swift progress to conserve deep-sea sharks; and a ban on bottom trawl fishing on seamounts and similar features within the NEAFC area. Member States voted to prohibit directed fishing for orange roughy, a measure which the DSCC has advocated for several years. However, the NEAFC adopted a several-thousand-tonne TAC for roundnose grenadier, a species recognized as critically endangered in the Northeast Atlantic. Further review of seamount closures was postponed until 2021.
South Indian Ocean

Also in November, the DSCC participated in the (virtual) South Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) 7th annual Meeting of the Parties. There we called for an RFMO-wide bottom fishing measure that establishes a fishing footprint; adopts a VME encounter protocol consistent with UNGA resolutions and UN FAO International Guidelines; protects VMEs everywhere they are known or likely to occur; and provides for VME closures (including seamounts). However, the online format did not allow adequate time for discussion, and progress was slow. The DSCC is continuing to participate virtually in ongoing scientific and protected area working groups.

EUROPEAN DEEP-SEA FISHERIES LEGISLATION

The European Commission had planned in 2020 to begin a formal review of EU regulation 2016/2336 (adopted in 2016) for the management of deep-sea fisheries in EU waters bordering the Northeast Atlantic. Although this was postponed to early 2021, preparatory work got underway in the first half of 2020 and we began engaging with the Commission through informal consultations with members (in DG Mare) who are taking the lead on the review.

We organized and coordinated input into a stakeholder study contracted by the Commission, working with EU-based non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that sit on several of the EU’s Fisheries Advisory Councils: the North Western Waters Advisory Council, the South Western Waters Advisory Council, and the Long Distance Advisory Council.

In preparation for the evaluation, in the summer of 2020 the Commission conducted an online public survey of views on the deep-sea fisheries regulation. We worked with DSCC member organizations to coordinate input from a significant number of EU-based NGOs. Altogether 156 contributions were submitted from public authorities, the academic sector, NGOs and EU citizens. The survey results were posted online, and a summary report was published in December. We were pleased to see included among the main outcomes of the consultation:

- Broad support for the regulation (and no one calling specifically for its revision).
- The majority said VMEs should be protected.
- Some 80% said more restrictions on bottom trawling should be put in place and violations of the measures should be punished.
- 88% of respondents support the ban on bottom trawling below 800m.
Throughout the year we emphasized the importance of maintaining the regulation intact in our consultations with the European Commission. The Commission has indicated that it will not ‘reopen’ the regulation for amendment, but will prioritize more effective implementation of the regulation, including establishing closures of VME areas within EU waters in 2021.

We also engaged with the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), the Commission, and EU member states to adopt VME area closures to bottom trawl fishing at depths between 400-800m to protect deep-sea ecosystems, as required by the regulation. We participated in a (virtual) three-day stakeholder consultation with ICES in September and follow-up discussions on how to approach the formulation of ICES recommendations to the Commission on VME closures.

Finally, we worked with a group of NGOs to incorporate recommendations on deep-sea fisheries and deep seabed mining into joint NGO input to the European Commission, Parliament and member states on the implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030 released in May 2020.

One of the species targeted by deep-sea fisheries on seamounts is the splendid alfonsino (*Beryx splendens*), pictured above. These fish are very vulnerable to overfishing because they grow slowly, and take a long time to mature and reproduce, and the seamount habitats they call home are highly vulnerable to damage from destructive bottom trawling.
A Moratorium on Deep Seabed Mining

The DSCC’s primary goal regarding the threat of deep seabed mining (DSM) is to ensure that deep-sea marine habitats, biodiversity and ecosystems – including ecosystem functions – are effectively protected. In practical terms, that means we are calling for a global moratorium on DSM; the adoption of seabed mining regulations for exploitation (the International Seabed Authority Exploitation Regulations); and the issuing of exploitation and new exploration contracts – unless and until a number of conditions are met. See our position paper for more information.

POLITICAL ADVOCACY

Throughout 2020, the DSCC advocated for the effective protection of the international seabed through participation in several meetings and workshops of the International Seabed Authority (ISA), established in 1994 with the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which controls DSM in the international areas of the world’s ocean. We also engaged in direct outreach to government and industry stakeholders, and public outreach.

Within the ISA, we attended the 26th Session of the Council from 17-21 February. There we put the case for strengthening the environmental regulations for DSM; argued for developing robust and precautionary regional environmental management plans (REMPs); advocated against financially underwriting commercial mining operations; and discussed the future composition of the Legal and Technical Commission (LTC) to ensure the ISA has the institutional capacity to understand and ensure effective protection of the marine environment.

We have been successful in raising awareness of the risks and dangers of DSM with government officials and other stakeholders with political influence.
More broadly we challenged ISA member countries to prohibit mining until the risks to the environment, ecosystem services, biodiversity, and potential marine genetic resources can be prevented. We called for a much better understanding of deep-sea species and ecosystems and argued that it should be deemed unacceptable for the ISA to authorize mining activities that risk loss of species before we even know they exist. We also challenged restrictive procedures adopted by the ISA, as did a number of other observers and country members.

We also brought important issues to the forefront of the ISA Working Group on Financial Matters on 13-14 February, prior to the meeting of the Council. We emphasized the importance of an accurate valuation of deep-sea ecosystem services; highlighted the very small amount of income DSM is likely to generate in royalty payments based on the current estimates, recommending that States reconsider whether any mining should be permitted at all under current economic conditions; and challenged governments to justify DSM as a “benefit to humankind as a whole”.

The DSCC and/or member organizations also attended several workshops of the ISA later in the year, including a webinar on the comparative analysis of the financial aspects of seabed mining and land-based mining, and several workshops to discuss REMPs in the Northwest Pacific, North Atlantic and Indian Oceans – areas where the ISA has issued exploration licenses. The ISA issued three sets of draft guidelines and standards for DSM for public comment. The DSCC submitted substantial comments on these, primarily arguing that ISA member countries need to agree that biodiversity loss from DSM should not be permitted – consistent with international political commitments such as those found in the SDGs and the September 2020 Leaders Pledge to halt and reverse biodiversity loss – before any guidelines or standards are developed. The DSCC also submitted extensive comments on the environmental impact assessment by India for testing DSM equipment in its claim area.

The main meetings of the ISA Council and Assembly, scheduled for July 2020, were postponed repeatedly and then only dealt with a few issues in a virtual format. All decisions were taken by a ‘silence’ procedure, including approval for a new exploration contract for Jamaica, despite objections from the DSCC and others.

Due to the restrictions imposed as a result of the pandemic, there was minimal progress in further developing the exploitation regulations. The delay may be good for the deep sea, as long as it doesn’t lead to undue haste to develop inadequate exploitation regulations when meetings do restart.
In addition to our work with the ISA, we invested substantial effort in increased engagement with other UN bodies and corporate entities to draw attention to the threat of DSM and generate informed global debate.

We engaged with a number of governments throughout the year, both directly as the DSCC and through, or working with, partners on the ground in the countries concerned. We have been successful in raising awareness of the risks and dangers of DSM with government officials and other stakeholders with political influence. We have also worked closely with civil society in key Pacific countries, including Tonga and the Cook Islands, and carried this forward with the ISA in relation to would-be seabed miner DeepGreen and its takeover of the Tonga seabed mining claim.

However, a number of key international meetings such as the UN Oceans Conference, the 15th Meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and the IUCN World Conservation Congress were postponed due to the pandemic in 2020. We had anticipated engaging in debate with governments and others at these conferences over the international action required to protect the deep sea from DSM as well as deep-sea fishing. If and as the pandemic recedes, we hope to be able to do so in the coming year and beyond.

The DSCC’s primary goal regarding the threat of deep seabed mining is to ensure that deep-sea marine habitats, biodiversity and ecosystems – including ecosystem functions – are effectively protected.
REFRAMING THE DEBATE

We continue to challenge governments and industry to rethink what materials and technologies are needed for a transition to a greener economy and where we will get them. The DSCC participated in more than a dozen webinars, panels and other initiatives during 2020, to put forward a civil society perspective relating to seabed mining. This has contributed to increased international visibility for the issue, and journalists and others have been contacting DSCC personnel for comment, background and information.

We identified the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) as a new priority process for engagement with respect to Resolution 4/19 on Mineral Resources. Over several months in 2020, UNEA held a series of regional consultation sessions around implementation of the resolution, which was passed at its 4th Assembly Meeting in 2019. The DSCC, along with our member organizations The Goa Foundation, Seas At Risk and the Deep Sea Mining Campaign, participated in the (virtual) European and Asian sub-regional consultations, culminating in a global session in September. We made both a written submission and a verbal statement to the European consultation, supporting efforts towards ensuring social and environmental sustainability and justice within the terrestrial mining supply chains, and raising a set of concerns around DSM.

In January, the DSCC attended a panel session on ocean minerals hosted by the World Economic Forum at Davos. The panelists made a powerful case against mining the deep sea, with comments and questions from the floor reinforcing this view. Notably, Dr. Sylvia Earle made an impassioned plea to protect the deep, stressing that “We now know how critical the ocean is to our life support systems.”

In June we participated in a debate in the Belgian Parliament over a resolution for a moratorium on DSM. This was proposed by two MPs, with whom several Belgium-based members of the DSCC had worked to draft and introduce the resolution. This is the first such debate we have joined, with a combination of scientists, government officials, the ISA Secretary-General and a mining company coming together in an influential forum. In December we participated in a (virtual) workshop with Norwegian government officials, scientists and others over Norway’s plans to open its national seabed area along the Arctic Mid Ocean Ridge to DSM.
**International Ocean Governance**

The DSCC had planned to attend the Fourth Intergovernmental Conference for the negotiation of a new treaty for the conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ); however this meeting was postponed due to Covid-19. Our work on international ocean governance centered on this and other international processes that support the implementation of SDG14. While opportunities to engage on this front were limited in 2020, the DSCC and its member organizations will continue their call for high seas fishing nations to fully and effectively protect deep-sea ecosystems from the significant adverse impacts of deep-sea fisheries, including through prohibiting bottom trawling on seamounts; and to recognize and agree to prevent biodiversity loss in the deep ocean from DSM.

**Outreach**

The DSCC continues to increase its visibility as an expert voice and authority on threats to deep-sea biodiversity. Our presence across legacy media is burgeoning. The growing volume of calls for a moratorium has put the pro-miners on high alert: we have noticed an amplification of their efforts to be seen as the answer to the planet's future sustainability needs. The Coalition and its members have been featured in numerous media stories on deep-sea fisheries, including in *ScienceDaily, New Internationalist, Scoop NZ* and *Stuff NZ*. Media reports on DSM including references to the work of the DSCC appeared in a number of outlets worldwide including *Gizmodo, Financial Express, EOS, Radio New Zealand, China Dialogue, Deutschland Public Radio*, and *Radio France Internationale*.

Our social media following continues to grow with 5,048 followers on *Twitter* (@DeepSeaConserve), 505 likes on *Facebook*, and 483 followers on *Instagram* (@deep_sea_conserve) as of 31 December 2020. We also overhauled much of the DSCC’s *website* to update the design, better align its structure with our campaigns, and greatly improve accessibility to the array of resources it contains.
In place of the series of events planned for the ‘Ocean Super Year’, we both hosted and participated in several webinars around DSM between June and December. The webinar circuit that erupted as the world went into lockdown has provided us with some good opportunities to reach new stakeholder audiences as well. We co-hosted targeted events, including:

**World Economic Forum and Friends of Ocean Action’s Virtual Ocean Dialogues, 3 June 2020:** ‘Communities, Ocean Value, Deep Seabed Mining – Stories from the Pacific’ was a panel discussion focused on storytelling by Pacific island communities affected by plans to mine the deep seabed in their national waters. Participants were from the Pacific islands and further afield, and the event highlighted important cultural aspects of seabed mining which have not been heard sufficiently to date.

With our members in New Zealand (Greenpeace, Forest and Bird, WWF, LegaSea, and Our Seas Our Future), we hosted a successful webinar on International World Oceans Day, 8 June 2020, called ‘Creatures of the Deep’. Focused on seamounts and the creatures that live on and around them, scientists Dr. Les Watling and Dr. Lissette Victorero also covered the threats from fishing practices like bottom trawling, focusing in particular on New Zealand’s fishing. Our alliance of New Zealand-based NGOs remains active, working toward the phase-out of deep-water bottom trawling by New Zealand vessels.

**#DeepWeek and DeepSeaTV** – We created the first ever #DeepWeek (5-9 October) – a concerted communications effort across the DSCC community to deepen public awareness of, and engage new audiences with, the urgent threats facing the health of the deep sea.
The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) 10th Pacific Islands Conference, 25 November 2020: ‘Deep Connections: Pacific Communities and DSM’ was a panel session held in collaboration with WWF and others to explore what we know about the impacts of the emerging DSM industry, whether there is social license to go ahead, and what action is required from institutions and global leaders.

In July, we launched the #GameOver campaign, published a series of factsheets on various aspects of DSM, and released a briefing paper: Seabed Mining: Legal Risks, Responsibilities and Liabilities for Sponsoring States. As a result of our campaign activity, the DSCC’s profile – and thus attention to the deep sea – is skyrocketing across social media, with our content seen by an increase of 5,430% and engaged with by 1,778% more people compared with the previous year.
Science for Advocacy

We maintain ongoing liaisons and consultations with deep-sea scientists individually and through marine science projects and networks. In this way we both provide information to scientists on key policy issues at play in international negotiations and learn from them, keeping abreast of the latest research and developments in key fields of deep-sea biology and ecology, which we can take to policy makers and help carry into the debate over international regulatory processes. This work is done in support of the objectives in the previous sections. Measurable outputs include scientific submissions to and organizing the participation of scientists in meetings of regulatory bodies and/or related workshops, along with papers appearing in scientific and policy journals to which DSCC members have made contributions as co-authors. These include:

- Orejas et al., *Towards a common approach to the assessment of the environmental status of deep-sea ecosystems in areas beyond national jurisdiction*, *Marine Policy*.


"Total deep-sea fish catch since 1950 represents about 3 per cent of the global catch, yet the environmental harm caused to deep-sea bottom communities by bottom trawling is extensive and long lasting, far exceeding the value of the fishery." — Watling et al., 2020
Accounts & Operations

The Stichting Deep Sea Conservation Coalition Board of Directors comprises:
Chair — Lance Morgan
Treasurer — Susanna Fuller
Secretary — Sebastian Losada

To support the Board, a coordination team works with a Steering Group that, in 2020, consisted of Earthworks, Greenpeace International, the Marine Conservation Institute, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Oceans North, the Pew Charitable Trusts, Seas at Risk and WWF.

The DSCC has developed a strong international team of scientists, policy and communication experts, lawyers and political activists who have established a strong reputation and profile at the UN and in other fora. The DSCC also has an affiliate foundation in New Zealand with an identical Board of Directors to the Stichting.

The Coalition is composed of more than 90 NGOs, including law and policy institutes, environmental organizations and fisher organizations who are committed to protecting the deep sea. More information on DSCC member organizations and information on each one can be found on our website.

In 2020, the DSCC’s team saw considerable growth through the addition of several new personnel to our already strong team of experts. By December 2020, the Coalition had further strengthened its core team, consisting of administrative, strategic campaign and communications-focused support, as well as personnel in Europe and the Pacific, key regions for our work.
The DSCC’s work is made possible through the generous support of foundations and member organizations. The DSCC does not receive any funding from governments or corporations, nor does it have any paid staff. In 2020, the DSCC received in-kind support from many of our member organizations and financial support from The Schmidt Family Foundation, 11th Hour Project, Benioff Ocean Initiative, Arcadia – a charitable fund of Lisbet Rausing and Peter Baldwin, J.M. Kaplan Fund, Oceans 5, the Overbrook Foundation, Synchronicity Earth, The Waterloo Foundation and the Charles T. and Marion M. Thompson Foundation.

The 2020 annual accounts were drawn up in the Netherlands by Counting for the Future according to generally accepted accounting principles, and were audited by Boonzaijer and Merkus.

### BALANCE SHEET

**as of December 31, 2020 (in euros)**

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<th>Assets</th>
<th>2020</th>
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<td>Current</td>
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<td>Cash &amp; cash equivalents</td>
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<td>Receivables</td>
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<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>290,561</strong></td>
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### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

**Year end December 31, 2020 (in euros)**

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<th>Project Revenue</th>
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<td>Science</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>660,352</strong></td>
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| Excess of expenses over revenue | 0 |
Additionally, the grant funding received from two of our donors, represented below is administered by DSCC member organization the Marine Conservation Institute, according to generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America.

### EXPENSES

as of December 31, 2020

*€0.813315 = US$1.00*

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<tr>
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<th>US Dollars ($)</th>
<th>Euros (€)</th>
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<td>Advocacy &amp; communications</td>
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<td><strong>70,689</strong></td>
<td><strong>57,493</strong></td>
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Deep Sea Conservation Coalition Members:

As of December 31, 2020

Portuguese Association for the Study and Conservation of Elasmobranchs (APECE)
Asociación Argentina de Capitanes, Patrones y Pilotos de Pesca (Argentinean Fishing Captains Association)
Australian Conservation Foundation
The Antarctic and Southern Ocean Coalition (ASOC)
Australian Marine Conservation Society (AMCS)
Beneath the Waves
The Biological Conservation Research Foundation (BICREF)
BirdLife International
BLOOM Association
Blue Marine Foundation
CeDePesca
Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)
Centro de Conservacion Cetacea (CCC)
Centro Ecoceanos
Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental
Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB)
Conservation International
David Suzuki Foundation
Deep Sea Mining Campaign
DEEPWAVE
DEPANA
Deutsche Stiftung Meeresschutz
Earthworks
Ecologistas en Acción
Ecology Action Centre
Environment and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand (ECO)
Environmental Justice Foundation
Fauna & Flora International
Forest and Bird
Friends of the Earth International
Fundación Cethus
Fundación Jatun Sacha
Fundación Malpelo y otros ecosistemas marinos
GEOTA – Grupo de Estudios de Ordenamiento do Território e Ambiente
German Forum on Environment and Development
Gesellschaft zur Rettung der Delphine e.V.
Global Ocean Trust
GlobalChoices
Goa Foundation
Greenpeace International
Groupe d’Étude des Mammifères Marins
Iceland Nature Conservation Association (INCA)
Instituto de Conservación de Ballenas (ICB)
International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)
International Fund for Animal Welfare, Latin America (IFAW Latin America)
International Ocean Institute
International Wildlife Coalition - (IWC/BRASIL)
International Programme on the State of the Ocean
Korean Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM)
Living Oceans Society
LPN - Liga para a Protecção da Natureza
MarBrasil
Marevivo
Marine Conservation Institute
Marine Conservation Society (MCS)
Marine Research Foundation
MarViva
National Fisherworkers Forum
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Nederlandse Elasmobranchen Vereniging (NEV)
Nekton Mission
Ocean Futures Society
Ocean
Oceans North
Organización Conservación de Cetáceos (OCC)
Orissa Marine Resource Conservation Consortium (OMRCC)
Oxygen Project
Pelagos
PONG-Pesca - Portuguese Platform of NGOs on Fisheries
Programa Restauración de Tortugas Marinas (PRETOMA)
ProNaturaleza
Quercus
Save Our Seas (SOS)
Sciaena
Seas at Risk
Sharklife Conservation Group
Sociedad peruana de Derecho Ambiental (SPDA)
SPEA
SPESEAS
The Fisheries Secretariat
The Pew Charitable Trusts
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Turkish Marine Research Foundation
Wildlife Conservation Society
World Forum of Fisher Peoples (WFFP)
WWF