

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The International SeaKeepers Society Asia recognises The JARI Foundation for inspirational marine conservation efforts in Indonesia



Ms Hani Nusantari and Mr Taufik Hizbul Haq, receiving The International SeaKeepers Society Asia Achievement Award 2024 on behalf of the JARI Foundation from Mr Fabien Cousteau

Photo by: The International SeaKeepers Society Asia

[SINGAPORE, 18 October 2024] – The Juang Laut Lestari (JARI) Foundation was recognised as this year’s recipient of The International SeaKeeper Society’s Asia Achievement Award, for its contributions towards marine conservation and environmental protection projects in Lombok and Sumbawa, Indonesia.

The JARI Foundation has a strong focus on educating and empowering coastal communities through marine conservation and eco-tourism. In particular, the organisation has engaged local communities in East Lombok and West Sumbawa to instil sustainable local octopus fishing activities among rural fishing communities. It has also facilitated voluntourism opportunities for the National University of Singapore, and the Australia Volunteers Programme.



Their co-founder, Ms Hani Nusantari's research in education and marine conservation efforts has led to the '*Laut Sahabat Kita*' programme which has been incorporated into the primary school curriculum in Lombok. Through her work with the marine conservation community, Ms Nusantari has been recognised with an Australian Award Scholarship on Sustainable Tourism Management.

Mr Julian Chang, President of The International SeaKeepers Society Asia, said: "We have been inspired by JARI Foundation's work to empower rural communities through marine conservation. Through their work with these communities, in particular with women and children, they continue to enact transformative, long-lasting change in how we view marine conservation. We are honoured to have the privilege to acknowledge JARI Foundation as our recipients of The International SeaKeepers Society Asia Achievement Award this year."

The International SeaKeepers Society Asia Achievement Award has been awarded yearly since 2016, to recognise the contributions of organisations who show a commitment towards the health of Asia's marine environment. Past winners include the REEFS Research Group of the Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, the Nature Society Singapore's Marine Conservation Group, and the Maritime & Port Authority of Singapore.

The award dinner was held on the sidelines of The Ocean Collective Summit (TOCS) 2024. The third edition of the annual event, held at Sheraton Towers on 17 and 18 October 2024, focused on the fundamental role that businesses can play in driving innovation in the marine conservation landscape.

Organised by The International SeaKeepers Society and The Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Centre, the two-day conference served as a knowledge-sharing platform for representatives from the public, private and non-government sectors to discuss avenues to promote marine conservation in Singapore and the region.



Mr Fabien Cousteau (left) sharing his insights on rethinking sustainability and conservation during a fireside chat with Mr Nicholas Fang (right) at The Ocean Collective Summit 2024

Photo by: The International SeaKeepers Society Asia

Mr Fabien Cousteau, famed aquanaut, oceanographic explorer, and environmental advocate, kicked off the second day of the conference with a fireside chat on the urgent need to rethink our approach towards sustainability, as we experience escalating resource depletion. His views served as backdrop for the fundamental discussions on investments in the blue economy, global energy as well as developments in blue foods and aquaculture.

Prominent speakers, including Dr Daniel Mira-Salama, Lead Environmental Specialist at World Bank and Ms Janet Shum, Sustainable Investing Specialist at Citi Wealth, shared about the business of ocean action and the importance of investing in a sustainable blue economy. In addition, Ms Kong Man Jin (also known as Biogirl MJ), Co-Founder of *Just Keep Thinking* shared with participants the importance of science communication and utilising creative storytelling to develop a common, eco-conscious language with the young.



(L-R) Ms Janet Shum, Sustainable Investing Specialist at Citi Wealth, Ms Celine Schulze, Co-founder & Managing Partner of 10power9 Pte Ltd, Dr. Daniel Mira-Salama, Lead Environmental Specialist at The World Bank, and Ghislaine Nadaud, Senior Sustainable Investing Specialist at Robeco

Photo by: The International SeaKeepers Society Asia

The summit concluded with a Collaborative Action Planning activity, where participants were encouraged to brainstorm ways to use nanofibers for cleaning up oil spills and solving water pollution.

Mr Chang added: “TOCS 2024 has been a landmark event that has allowed members from the public, private and non-government organisations to collaborate and reimagine marine conservation efforts in Singapore and the region. We hope that this event will stir a wave of support around a collective commitment towards protecting our oceans for future generations.”

For more information, please visit <https://theoceancollective.net/>.

- END -



About The Ocean Collective Summit

The Ocean Collective Summit (TOCS) is a knowledge-sharing conference that serves as a platform for public institutions, private organisations, and non-government agencies to discuss critical marine conservation issues.

Initiated by The International SeaKeepers Society, the conference is held in collaboration with Fabien Cousteau; the Founder of The Fabien Cousteau Ocean Learning Centre and Proteus Ocean Group; and famed for his work as an Aquanaut, Oceanographic Explorer and Environmental Advocate.

TOCS aims to bring a focus on the ocean and its intricate connections to life and all the inhabitants of our planet, Earth. Through its annual conference, TOCS will gather thought leaders in the marine conservation space to raise awareness, educate, and inspire action to work collectively towards a more sustainable future.

For more information, please visit <https://theoceancollective.net/>

About The International SeaKeepers Society

The International SeaKeepers Society (SeaKeepers) is a non-profit marine conservation organisation that strives to enhance understanding of the oceans, advocate for critical ocean issues, as well as promote oceanographic research, conservation and education.

Founded in 1998 by a small group of yacht owners concerned about the deterioration of our natural environment, SeaKeepers runs several yacht-involved programmes that enable the yachting community to support oceanographic research and conservation efforts. The organisation also collaborates with like-minded organisations, academic institutions, government agencies, and scientists.

The International SeaKeepers Society expanded into Asia in 2016 with the SeaKeepers Asia chapter, under the leadership of Board Member and Asia President Julian Chang. The International SeaKeepers Society Asia aims to raise awareness about the region's status, fostering appreciation and dedication to the preservation, conservation, and restoration of the marine environment and ecosystem whenever feasible.

Motto: Research. Educate. Protect and Restore.

For more information, please visit <https://www.seakeepers.org/>

For media queries, please contact Black Dot on behalf of SeaKeepers Asia:

Steven VINCENT

Consultant

steven@blackdot.sg

Aidan WOODFORD

Account Director

aidan@blackdot.sg