

HSH PRINCE ALBERT II OF MONACO AWARDS THE 2018 PRINCE'S PRIZE FOR INNOVATIVE PHILANTHROPY TO DOUGLAS WOODRING (OCEAN FOR RECOVERY ALLIANCE)

Monaco, January 22, 2018 - Mr. Douglas Woodring, Founder and Managing Director of Ocean Recovery Alliance, has been awarded 2018 Prince's Prize for Innovative Philanthropy by H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco.

[Ocean Recovery Alliance](#) focuses on bringing together new ways of thinking, technologies, creativity, collaboration, and initiatives to help improve the ocean environment.

The [Award](#) is a global initiative jointly developed by The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and The Tocqueville Foundation. Its goal is to highlight projects and initiatives that have triggered innovative activity in the field of philanthropy, seeking out individuals and organizations that inspire others and demonstrate strong impact or potential impact.

Mr. Woodring received the award for his years of dedication, focus and persistence on reducing plastic pollution, and by doing so with creative, scalable programs that can be replicated across borders. It is one of the first NGOs to work with both the UN Environment (UNEP) and the World Bank on their respective programs aimed at reducing plastic pollution.

Mr. Woodring founded the Ocean Recovery Alliance with the strong conviction that improving the health of the global ocean require to bring together innovative solutions, technology, collaborations between the public and the private sector, national and multilateral policies, said H.S.H Prince Albert.

In 2010, Mr. Woodring announced two programs at the Clinton Global Initiative: the [Plastic Disclosure Project](#) (similar to carbon reporting), a breakthrough program which helps stakeholders to calculate the volumes of plastic used and recovered, and therefore how it can be better managed without waste; and [Global Alert](#), an innovative App which engages communities to report trash hotspots of plastic waste before it reaches our waters, or the ocean. These initiatives continue to grow as the urgency increases on this global challenge, as their use by stakeholders around the world helps to engage resources on the problem. To date, the Global Alert app has that have been reported from more than 25 countries.

Mr. Woodring is also the founder of the [Plasticity Forum](#), first launched in Rio de Janeiro at the Rio+20 Earth Summit, and since held in Hong Kong, New York, Portugal, [Shanghai](#), [London](#), Dallas, Los Angeles, and Sydney. This event gathers global experts from across the plastic spectrum to share experiences on opportunities with plastic sustainability and inclusion in the circular economy. Relevant to most sectors of the business community - design, innovation, materials, recycling and solutions - the event focuses on solutions for a world with a reduced waste footprint.

Mr. Woodring said. "We have taken a different, creative, yet realistic approach to solving this issue globally. Both programs can be used by anyone, in any country, without the need for bans, legislative changes or taxes. Each brings focus to the issue of plastic in its 'afterlife', either through use in a company or institutional setting, or via trash hotspots which need to be cleaned and prevented, via community engagement."

“In addition to vigilance, rigour and individual mobilisation, it is solidarity that is progressing, and philanthropy with it. And, on the other hand, in response to this growing solidarity, we note the States’ unprecedented commitment to subjects that, in many cases, go beyond their traditional responsibilities. This is also a type of solidarity that should be commended”, a indiqué SAS le Prince Albert II de Monaco, lors de la table ronde de la philanthropie intitulée “Philanthropy and Science: from research and innovation to impact” qui s’est tenue au Yacht Club.

H.SH. Prince Albert stated that “plastic pollution was probably one of the most urgent issues to address, given its tragic consequences on marine biodiversity and its adverse impact on human health”.

The Prince Albert II of Monaco valued “the sound initiatives developed by the Ocean Recovery Alliance to reduce ocean pollutions”, and stressed out the fact through the Plastic Disclosure Project and the Global Alert Platform, “Mr. Woodring has structured innovative prevention programs for plastic waste reduction”. He “brought to light the power of dialogue and cooperation between the various stakeholders, from the citizens’ level to the business industry and the governmental levels, to minimize the amount of plastic spread into our environment and favor a better collection and recycling process”, added H.SH. Prince Albert II of Monaco.

His Highness finally underlined the fact that “Mr. Woodring’s approach led to fruitful results, setting up a sound model which will hopefully be considered as an example to follow around the globe to protect our seas.”

Press queries to:

Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation

Sandra Bensoussan, Communications Officer, sbenssouan@fpa2.mc, + 377.98.98.19.88

Tocqueville Foundation

Nabil Ait Akkache, Director of the Prince's Prize, nabil.aitakkache@tocquevillefoundation.org, +33(6).68.34.47.75

Ocean Alliance for Recovery

Douglas Woodring, Founder and Managing Director, doug@oceanrecov.org, +852.9020.3949

The Prince's Prize for Innovative Philanthropy is an initiative developed by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation and The Tocqueville Foundation. The Prince's Roundtable on Philanthropy, a closed-door forum of leading international philanthropists, takes place in Monaco every year following the annual World Economic Forum in Davos, and many of the Roundtable's members serve on the nominating and evaluating committee for the Prince's Prize.

The Prize for Innovative Philanthropy results from HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco's close involvement in the Prince's Roundtable on Philanthropy, a closed-door discussion of leading international philanthropists, which takes place in Monaco every year, immediately following the World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos. The Prize was awarded for the first time in January 2014.

The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, created by HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco in 2006, addresses the alarming threats hanging over our planet's environment. The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation works for the protection of the environment and the promotion of sustainable development. The Foundation supports initiatives conducted by public and private organizations within the fields of research, technological innovation and activities to raise awareness of the social issues at stake. It funds projects in three main geographical regions: the Mediterranean Basin, the Polar Regions and the Least Developed Countries. The Foundation's efforts focus on three main sectors: Climate change and renewable energies, biodiversity, and integrated and sustainable water management together with the fight against desertification.

The Tocqueville Foundation is an international grant-making, prize-awarding and operating foundation registered in France under the auspices of the Fondation Entreprendre. Its mission and vision are deeply rooted in Alexis de Tocqueville's social and political thought, and particularly his belief in the fundamental contribution of civil society to democratic and economic development. The Tocqueville Foundation fosters a dynamic civil society through learning, innovation and engagement. By promoting strategic philanthropy and social investing, building bridges across borders and generations, the Tocqueville Foundation promotes a well-developed and effective civil society where individuals, acting together, address common problems and build sustainable social equity for future generations.