



## PRESS RELEASE

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### Caring for our Climate

Coral Cay Conservation (CCC), the British coral reef conservation group, has joined forces with Climate Care to offset Volunteer flight carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions.

Carbon dioxide is the main greenhouse gas that causes climate change. Each time we turn on the TV, switch on the cooker, drive the car or take a flight, CO<sub>2</sub> is added into the atmosphere. Scientific research indicates that we may experience more intense and frequent extreme weather events as a result of climate change. A gradual increase in temperature will also have major implications for ecosystems, including coral reefs and the local communities that depend on them (for further details visit Defra's newly launched climate change communications initiative - [www.climatechallenge.gov.uk](http://www.climatechallenge.gov.uk)).

Established in 1998 Climate Care is a global initiative to tackle climate change by reducing greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. They achieve this objective by operating a portfolio of carbon offset projects. These projects include renewable energy in schools in India, fuel efficient stoves in Honduras and restoring rainforests in Uganda. As well as reducing CO<sub>2</sub>, the projects also have wider benefits for the communities and local environments in which they work. For example in Honduras, fuel efficient cooking stoves are made available to some of the poorest communities. As well as cutting CO<sub>2</sub>, this supports conservation by reducing the wood needed for cooking. It also benefits the householders by removing smoke from the kitchen and so dramatically cutting health risks.

Coral Cay Conservation is encouraging its volunteers to use Climate Care to calculate their expedition flight emissions and offset an equivalent amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Volunteers can find out more about by Climate Care and how to make their contribution by visiting [www.climatecare.org](http://www.climatecare.org)

#### Note to Editors

1. For further information on Coral Cay Conservation please visit [www.coralcay.org](http://www.coralcay.org) or contact Ms. Tanya Blackburn (PR and Communications Manager) via e-mail at [tb@coralcay.org](mailto:tb@coralcay.org) or telephone on +44 (0)207 874 5206.
2. Additional details about Coral Cay Conservation are attached.

# CORAL CAY CONSERVATION

*Providing resources to help sustain livelihoods and alleviate poverty through the protection, restoration and management of coral reefs and tropical forests.*

Coral Cay Conservation (CCC) is a non-profit organisation at the cutting edge of ecotourism. We send teams of volunteers to survey some of the world's most endangered coral reefs and tropical forests. Our mission is to protect these crucial environments by working closely with host countries and the local communities who depend on them for food and livelihood. Anyone can be a CCC volunteer. Anyone can help make the difference.

## **Aims & Principles**

Coral Cay Conservation provides resources to help sustain livelihoods and alleviate poverty through the protection, restoration and management of coral reefs and tropical forests. We achieve these aims by:

- providing technical and financial support that countries need in order to produce conservation management plans for threatened reefs and forests;
- training international volunteers and host-country partners to gather, interpret and monitor the data that's so crucial for effective conservation;
- working with host-country governments and other organisations to encourage education and sustainable livelihood opportunities in local communities.

## **Brief History**

- 1986-1998: CCC supports the Belize Government's drive to create numerous marine reserves and a World Heritage Site along the Great Atlantic Barrier Reef.
- 1995-present: CCC works with the Philippine Reef and Rainforest Conservation Foundation Inc (PRRCFI) to safeguard Danjungan Island and other key areas.
- 1996: CCC expeditions survey Sulawesi's Banggai Islands.
- 1998: CCC's East Kalimantan Reef Conservation Project.
- 1998-present: The Bay Islands of Honduras – CCC's second Caribbean programme.
- 2001-present: CCC's Fiji Coral Reef Conservation Project
- 2002: CCC assists with a project to help the Tobago Cays (St Vincent and the Grenadines) become a World Heritage Site.
- 2003: Six-month pilot project to assess natural resources within the Perhentian Islands, Malaysia. Three-month marine project in the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, Mexico.
- 2004: The 2003 pilot project leads to the launch of the Malaysia Tropical Forests Conservation Project and the Malaysia Coral Reef Conservation Project
- 2005: At the invitation of the Royal Thai Government, CCC undertook a period of impact assessment resulting from the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami in the Surin Island National Park.

## **CCC Charitable Trust (UK Charity no. 1025534)**

**President: Sir Bruce MacPhail**

Coral Cay Conservation donates all profits to the CCC Charitable Trust, the UK's only charity dedicated to protecting coral reefs and tropical forests – and the livelihoods of the people who depend on them. The CCC Trust:

- funds conservation diving scholarships for local people;
- produces education resources for schools;
- raises awareness of conservation issues through events and displays;
- supporting alternative livelihood schemes and other local community projects.

## **CORAL CAY CONSERVATION**

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