# Honduras

# WE ARE OCEAN Honduras

is an interdisciplinary art project to raise awareness of our dependence on the ocean. WE ARE OCEAN is a project of ARTPORT\_making waves, a network of international curators and collaborators in different parts of the world that connects interdisciplinary projects through art with science and sustainable development.



contribute to positive change.

## WE ARE OCEAN Honduras

WE ARE OCEAN is an official project contributing to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. The interdisciplinary art project has worked out our dependence on the ocean in Berlin, Venice, Marseille and Vancouver from 2019 to 2021 and transported it to the public.

WE ARE OCEAN targets Indigenous leaders, arts practitioners, students, researchers, educators and art enthusiasts to raise awareness and dialogue about the ecological state of the ocean and the role of humans in its current and future state. It illustrates how all of us, citizens of all countries, both cause and are affected by the state of the ocean, but can also potentially WE ARE OCEAN Honduras brings together traditional knowledge from different parts of the country and connects it to the people, including in relation to ocean conservation and the link between a healthy ocean and a healthy country. The project will reflect what the country stands for at the moment, analyse the environmental development of the last 50 years and give a voice to indigenous peoples to show us their perspective in relation to a healthy ocean.

# **Content & Components**

Honduras is a Central American country with a strong national identification factor and a diverse cultural heritage with a pre-Columbian history. It was home to several Mesoamerican cultures, the strongest of which was the Maya. For more than 60 years, the country has been heavily controlled by Canada and the US, in terms of exploitation of natural resources and the related environmental degradation of the country. The current global economic system and globalised mechanisms have exacerbated Honduras' economic, social and environmental challenges. And we want to shine a light on best practices at the grassroots level, bringing positive ideas to the young people participating and to the world.

#### The topics are:

- Interconnectedness/connections of all seas and oceans.
- Indigenous peoples of Honduras and their connection to marine conservation (Garífunas, Nahua, Chortís, Lencas, Mayan Chortís, Misquítos, Criollos, Peches, Tawahakas, Tolupanes).
- Indigenous protection of land and sea in Honduras
- Discovering the ecological marine history of Honduras
- Monocultures versus biodiversity
- Colonialism and its impact on marine health
- Fruit corporations and local fishermen
- How is the forest connected to the sea?
- How can traditional knowledge teach us a better system?
- Sustainable fisheries (in connection with the RARE Foundation's "Fish Forever" project)

In the first part, Honduran students reflect on the impact of climate change on the ocean and how this affects the country's ecosystems and indigenous culture.

The meetings and workshops will be accompanied by screenings of national and international art films and videos, performances, interventions and interdisciplinary fishbowl discussions. The results of these discussions and the formats will travel to international conferences and art exhibitions to be presented to new audiences. The artistic results will be discussed with the participating artists and thinkers. This can be anything from an interactive performance, a film, a publication or a play, a dance, a musical composition or a concert. The implementation of the project was complicated by Covid19, but should be done by the end of 2022.

**Grant Period:** 2021 - 2022

Grant 2021: 4.500 EUR

### Project partner:

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