



ANNUAL



2023 REPORT

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

OSA Community,

I am thrilled to share pivotal updates with you as we reflect on a transformative year for the organization and the broader movement. As the pressures and cascading effects of sewage and wastewater pollution collide with local, regional, and global shocks and stresses to our waterways and ocean, we know that our combined efforts must be bolder and more collaborative than ever.

With that in mind, I want to share some internal and external highlights as OSA matures and grows to keep up this fight alongside all of you. Firstly, I am delighted to announce a wonderful addition to the OSA brain power, as Jos Hill with The Pew Charitable Trusts joins our hard-working and deeply engaged Steering Committee. Her passion and expertise will undoubtedly elevate our collaborative efforts.

Furthermore, with a commitment to seamless leadership transitions, and in addition to my position as Chair of the Steering Committee, I was honored to step into the acting Executive Director role on 1 July 2023 and contribute to OSA's continued success, along with our Steering Committee members, staff, and partners. Together, we are doubling down on our commitment to the evolution of the organization and the movement in addressing ocean sewage and wastewater pollution even as we seek a new, permanent Executive Director.

We completed a strategic and operational planning process, focusing steadfastly on our enhanced mission **to eliminate sewage and wastewater pollution from our ocean and waterways, advancing equitable and holistic actions that benefit people and nature**. Supporting that mission, we reset ourselves on four foundational goals: build the case for action; unite our voice, empower champions, and facilitate and move funds. As we advanced these goals over the past year, OSA partners, staff, and steering committee members contributed to the recent SNAPP publication, "A Guide for Integrated Conservation & Sanitation Programs and Approaches." The Uniting Our Voice and Cross-sector Collaboration working groups launched a market research project and began developing a story map to highlight the collective efforts of our partners. Additionally, OSA has conducted a global innovator review to further break down industry silos and foster new partnerships. We have taken the messages and lessons to further stages and platforms around the globe while adding new partners and stakeholders to our larger cause. 2024 promises more of that growth, awareness, and impact.

I am confident that our shared dedication will propel us toward continued success. Thank you for your unwavering support and engagement, and together, let us champion the fight against ocean sewage and wastewater pollution.

Sincerely,

Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy



STEWART SARKOZY-BANOCZY

Acting Executive Director
Chair, Steering Committee

MISSION

To eliminate sewage and wastewater pollution from our ocean and waterways, advancing equitable and holistic actions that benefit people and nature.

STRATEGIC GOALS

1.

BUILD THE CASE FOR ACTION

Build an intersectional, evidence-based case on the impact of sewage on ocean and human health to drive action and support decision making to eliminate wastewater pollution.

3.

EMPOWER CHAMPIONS

Serve as the preeminent knowledge and learning hub across sectors and scales, dedicated to holistic ocean and coastal communities health, to support sewage and wastewater pollution elimination.

2.

UNITE OUR VOICE

Be the uniting force for diverse, global representation in eliminating sewage and wastewater pollution, resulting in silo busting and catalytic awareness building.

4.

FACILITATE AND MOVE FUNDS

Expand and diversify funding and financing for innovative wastewater research, project design and implementation, delivering measurable change on the ground and lessons for the wastewater pollution agenda.

STEERING COMMITTEE



Steph Wear, Vice-Chair
CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



Kim Falinski
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY



Helen Fox
CORAL REEF ALLIANCE



Katie Heffner
RARE



Jos Hill
THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS

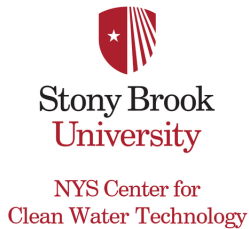


Kelly Trott
IMAGINE H2O

Growing Our NETWORK

to break down silos between water, sanitation and ocean conservation practitioners so that we may collaboratively find solutions to tackle wastewater pollution in ways organizations and individuals cannot achieve on their own.

In 2023, we welcomed Environmental Protection in the Caribbean (EPIC), Project Seagrass, reNASYS, Running Tide, and Global Island Partnership (GLISPA) into the growing Ocean Sewage Alliance.



Reaching NEW AUDIENCES

Engaging in high-profile events such as the World Ocean Summit & Expo, Nippon Roundtable, NY Water Week, UN Water Conference, SIWI, WEFTEC, Clinton Global Initiative, Climate Week, UN General Assembly, and Tomorrow.Blue Economy Congress provided us with a unique platform to amplify our message on the severe consequences of sewage and wastewater pollution.

By participating in these gatherings, we seized the opportunity to reach diverse audiences, from policymakers at the UN General Assembly to industry leaders at WEFTEC, fostering meaningful conversations about the urgent need for integrated, holistic solutions.

These events serve as a pivotal stage to catalyze awareness and collaboration, driving collective action toward a sustainable and pollution-free future for our oceans and water ecosystems.

By actively participating in influential events like Tomorrow.Blue Economy Congress, we not only broaden our reach but also contribute to shaping a global narrative that prioritizes sustainable practices for the benefit of our precious water resources.



Advancing OUR GOALS



BUILD THE CASE FOR ACTION

OSA partners, members and steering committee contributed their expertise to the Science for Nature and People Partnership Improving Coastal Health Working Group publication, 'A Guide for Integrated Conservation & Sanitation Programs and Approaches.'

The purpose of this guide is to raise stakeholder awareness on the detrimental effects of poor sanitation and wastewater pollution on ocean health, emphasizing the need for integrated solutions that benefit human and ecosystem health while enhancing climate resilience. Additionally, it offers guidance for fostering partnerships between the conservation and sanitation sectors.



UNITE OUR VOICE

OSA Uniting Our Voice working group launched a market research survey seeking insights from professionals in the coastal fisheries, aquaculture, and conservation sectors to understand interests, challenges, communication methods, and relationships to ocean water quality.



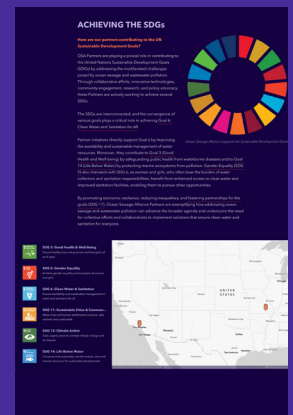
EMPOWER CHAMPIONS

OSA conducted a global innovator review to identify key stakeholders who are advancing sewage and wastewater technology that will serve as a core network of experts to support champions implementing solutions.

UNITE OUR VOICE & EMPOWER CHAMPIONS

OSA Cross-sector Collaboration working group is developing the partners story map to show the breadth and variety of efforts to address ocean sewage pollution and achieve Sustainable Development Goals across the alliance.

Ocean sewage and wastewater pollution is a multifaceted challenge with far-reaching implications. Addressing it requires a collaborative effort that considers the intersections with public health, tourism, marine ecosystems, climate change, food security, sustainable development goals, inequality, and more. By recognizing these connections and working across sectors, we can mitigate the devastating impacts of pollution and move toward a more sustainable and equitable future.

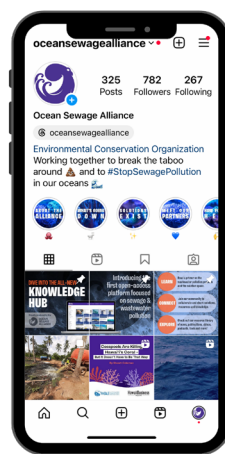


Sparking **GLOBAL CONVERSATION**

Over the past year, OSA has actively engaged with diverse audiences through various media platforms. Notable instances include insightful contributions on the Zuloo Pōdcast, engaging interviews with thought leaders like Kassie Morton from our partners at The Nature Conservancy and Chris Clapp, as well as a dynamic conversation on “Friday Flush: Let’s Talk Poo” featuring prominent partners and members like Kim Worsham of FLUSH, Shawn Shafner from The Poop Project, and Lina Zeldovich author of *The Other Dark Matter*.

OSA’s media presence extended to The Playfull Podcast, where Acting Executive Director and Steering Committee Chair Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy delved into the taboo topics surrounding sewage and sanitation. These interactions reflect OSA’s commitment to fostering dialogue, raising awareness, and sharing expertise on sanitation and wastewater issues across diverse and influential platforms.

Additionally, the OSA website stands as a comprehensive resource with a notable highlight being the Knowledge Hub and Library crafted by the dedicated Knowledge Hub working group last year. This dynamic hub is a treasure trove of in-depth insights, research, and educational materials, serving as a valuable tool for practitioners, funders, stakeholders, researchers, and the public alike. It not only centralizes crucial information on sewage and wastewater pollution issues but also reflects the Alliance’s commitment to knowledge-sharing, fostering a global community dedicated to addressing the challenges faced by our oceans.



5.5K

SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS

77K

POST & PROFILE
IMPRESSIONS

327

NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIBERS

3.2K **WEB**
VISITORS



100 **SLACK**
MEMBERS



OCEAN SEWAGE ALLIANCE

Photos provided by Larissa Balzer, Kim
Worsham, Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy, and
Steering Committee.