



# 7<sup>th</sup> Generation Advisors 2019 Annual Report

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## Our Mission

7<sup>th</sup> Generation Advisors (SGA) was founded in 2007 on the ancient Native American philosophy that the decisions we make today should result in a sustainable world seven generations into the future. Recognizing the interconnection between climate, conservation and the health and well-being of all living things SGA strives to initiate and implement bold projects that support this interconnection.



## How We Carry Out Our Mission

- **Provide expertise** and guidance to decision-makers in government, business, non-profit, academia, and other stakeholders (based on our team's deep expertise in each of these sectors) on environmental policies that address the urgent need to take action;
- **Partner** with non-profit organizations and other key stakeholders on campaigns and initiatives that utilize bold tactics, including creative communications, litigation, and investor education/outreach (based on our experience with environmental litigation and celebrity empowerment/engagement, among other relevant skills);
- **Advise** emerging cleantech companies on sustainability and related issues; and
- **Educate** the public through speeches, op-eds, books, and blogs (including numerous widely published books and op-ed contributions to major online platforms and news outlets).



# Programs Overview

## **Thriving Climate**

- California-China Carbon Markets Linkage
- Clean Energy Access Fund (CEAF)
- COP25 Chile Advisory
- R20 Project Sourcing

## **Thriving Waters, Lands and Wildlife**

- Environmental Law Enforcement (Water for Fish/Revolving Litigation Fund/Climate Litigation Fund)
- Clean Seas Coalition
- Wildlife Waystation

## **Thriving Communities**

- First Nations Tribal Council
- Eco-Literacy

## **Donor Advised Funds**



# Thriving Climate

*Facilitating Climate Solutions*

**Our Thriving Climate Program is dedicated to the facilitation and implementation of solutions that contribute to the goal of reducing GHG emissions to net zero worldwide by 2050.**

**We bring expertise and project management skills to execute projects that address the urgency of the climate crisis - our projects are action oriented and solutions based.**

**The technology and know-how exist to transition to a low carbon economy and we believe that through a combination of strategies we can make significant, timely progress in this fight.**



## California-China Carbon Markets Linkage

- In 2019, SGA staff and experts convened a working group with the California Air Resources Board; China's National Development & Reform Commission (NDRC); Tsinghua University; UC Berkeley; and the Emmett Institute on Climate Change and the Environment at UCLA to design a roadmap for the California and Chinese cap-and-trade systems to facilitate the creation of one larger marketplace for the reduction of carbon pollution using market mechanisms.
- The further goal is to align this unified system with other global carbon markets to ultimately put a price on carbon in the majority of the world's economy by 2025.



# Clean Energy Access Fund

- CEAF was designed to bring clean and affordable energy systems to underserved and vulnerable communities around the world, especially in collaboration with First Nations and indigenous regions.
- The first project was implemented in Fiji with the creation of a trust fund, managed by the Fijian government and from which remote island communities can borrow funding to replace dirty diesel micro-grid generators with clean, renewable solar/battery systems, repaying the costs from fuel/maintenance savings.
- When loans are repaid, funding is made available to other communities.



## Clean Energy Access Fund

- As a project originator and manager, our work consists of utilizing our partnerships, contacts and expertise to research and vet potential low carbon economic development projects, especially in regions with the greatest need of capacity-building and technical assistance.
- The first project in Fiji was completed and SGA is now securing new funds and new government partnerships to expand the program to the Gujarat state of India and in sub-Saharan Africa.
- We are also working with the non-profit ReVolv to implement similar innovative financing (leveraged with crowd-funding) in North America for projects at community centers, schools, churches and other non-profit organizations. One of our projects was recently completed in Oakland CA.
- In November 2019, Terry Tamminen visited Vio Village (photo left), the site of the first Clean Energy Access Project that has now been lighting the lives of these remote island villagers for over a year.
- SGA is raising funds to bring clean energy through this program to villages and communities in Fiji, India, Africa and the U.S.





## COP25 Chile Advisory

- In January 2019, we met with government officials in Chile, to recommend initiatives that could help COP parties implement the Paris Climate Agreement.
- Although Chile was not able to host COP25 in Santiago as planned and the launch of new projects was therefore delayed, we are currently working with government staff on a sub-national climate finance fund for Latin America (in partnership with the R20); bringing the California environmental education initiative to Chile as a global model; and working with other NGOs to enhance and expand Chile's Marine Protected Areas based on experience in California.



## R20 Project Sourcing

- SGA continues to serve as the project manager for the R20 Regions of Climate Action “100 Climate Solutions” campaign and “\$5b+ Initiative” - projects launched to help sub-national governments identify potential low carbon and climate resilient infrastructure projects and secure political and financial support for their development.
- The need has never been greater to pivot to a green economy in order to avert the catastrophic effects of climate change. The Paris Agreement set forth the goal of holding warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius compared with preindustrial levels but the most recently released U.N. report estimated that global greenhouse gas emissions must begin falling by 7.6 percent each year beginning 2020 to meet the most aggressive aims of the Paris accord.
- The effort to slow warming will require wide-scale change and transformative action. Our work with the R20 and its partners is designed to address this crisis by accelerating investment in green projects and in doing will contribute to the large scale shift required.



# Thriving Waters, Lands and Wildlife

*Health for the Whole Earth*

**Our Thriving Lands, Waters and Wildlife program is designed to fill in gaps and provide resources for efforts to protect threatened ecosystems, recognizing the link between climate; conservation; and the health and well-being of all living things.**

**We seek out and implement bold, novel ideas and solutions that can be replicated and leveraged in order to make greater impact before “points of no return” are reached for species and the climate.**

**From litigation to advocacy and education we strive to contribute to the goal of ending the extinction crisis and protecting our wild lands and waters to support the collective health of the Whole Earth.**



# Environmental Law Enforcement

- Under the US federal Clean Water Act and other environmental protection statutes, citizens are encouraged to identify sources of pollution and back up limited government enforcement efforts in their region.
- SGA continues to provide advice and support to NGOs bringing lawsuits to protect our air, water, lands, climate, and endangered species. Critical resources for this work are provided through “Revolving Litigation Funds” from which NGO plaintiffs, especially First Nations tribes and indigenous communities, may draw funding to support evidence gathering, expert analysts/witnesses, and specialized lawyers (who generally work at significantly reduced rates).
- If cases are successfully prosecuted or settled, fees and costs are recovered and repaid to these Funds, providing a perpetual source of support for new cases.



# Environmental Law Enforcement

- In 2019 the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation provided funding for a Donor Advised Fund to benefit Environment Now and its enforcement programs in forestry and water quality.
- Today, SGA manages three such funds:
  - Revolving Litigation Fund (water, air, endangered species)
  - Water for Fish (restoration of rivers and salmon habitat along the US west coast)
  - Climate Litigation Fund (mitigation of climate change impacts to municipalities)



# Clean Seas Coalition

- SGA continues to participate in multiple efforts to protect our oceans and water quality, including on climate change and ocean acidification; fisheries management and species conservation; First Nations Marine Protected Areas; marine mammal protection; and clean drinking water and municipal water quality issues.
- One area of focus is plastic pollution source reduction, managed through our facilitation of the Clean Seas Coalition (CSC), a growing network of environmentalists, scientists, lawmakers, students, and community leaders developing and strengthening measures that reduce trash in our seas and on beaches through grassroots campaigns, education, and legislation.
- To date, the CSC has spearheaded hundreds of local bans on various types of plastic pollution; local ordinances supporting extended producer responsibility measures; and statewide laws on plastic pollution from pre-production pellets (“nurdles”).
- In California, we have led efforts to ban single-use plastic bags and plastic microbeads in personal care products.



# Wildlife Waystation

- In late 2019, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), asked SGA to establish a Donor Advised Fund to support the animals at southern California's Wildlife Waystation. After 40 years of caring for abandoned and surrendered exotic and domestic animals, the Wildlife Waystation closed its doors in early 2019. The fund helps offset the costs for vital veterinary care, feeding and housing for the wild animals that are still at the Wildlife Waystation.
- With the aid of CDFW nearly half of the 500 animals at the Waystation have found homes at other sanctuaries, including grizzly bears, black bears, African lions, tigers, bison, hyenas, primates, exotic small cats, birds, reptiles and horses. But the remaining animals – including 39 chimpanzees that will need to be kept together in a number of family units – are still in critical need of help.
- SGA is currently working with the Wildlife Waystation, the CDFW and other partners to secure homes and funding to support the lives of these animals.



# Thriving Communities

*Educating the Future*

Our Thriving Communities program is centered around the ancient First Nations belief that the decisions we make today should result in a sustainable world seven generations into the future.

To accomplish this idea, we work closely with and learn from our First Nation's partners, then help to share and apply their knowledge and wisdom to modern day problems. This knowledge directly links to the work we do on environmental education.

Through this program we provide guidance to help build environmental literacy in public schools and for the public at large that is based on the idea of creating a sustainable world into the future.





## First Nations Collaboration

- SGA was appointed manager of the UTOM River Donor Advised Fund. The fund is used to support efforts to conserve endangered, threatened, and sensitive species that occur within the Utom (Santa Clara) River Watershed and to educate the public on the importance of conservation. The Fund's Committee is comprised of conservation groups and first nations, including the Wishtoyo Foundation and the Santa Inez Band of Chumash Indians
- SGA is also working closely with the Black Mesa Trust of the Hopi people and with members of the Standing Rock Sioux tribe, both fighting to restore and protect their water sources.



## Eco-Literacy

- To get lasting and large-scale change in America and beyond, we need to go directly to the source of future decision makers: our students in public schools. We believe students who are environmentally literate will make informed decisions as consumers and voters, be better stewards of their own environment, and will be equipped to take advantage of green job opportunities.
- To achieve this, the State of California's Department of Education (CDE) and our partner Ten Strands are implementing a model pilot program for leveraged change and capacity building in California to influence more than 350,000 public school students in grades K to 12, implementing the state's Environmental Education Initiative law (drafted by SGA's Leslie Tamminen in 2001) as part of regular instruction in science, history- social science, English language arts, and other core subjects.
- Efforts like this showcase California as a model for investing in and spreading environmental literacy. SGA is now working with the government of Chile to model their new eco-literacy programs along California's example.



## Donor Advised Funds

In addition to the Utom River, Wildlife Waystation and Environment Now Donor Advised Funds, in 2019 SGA completed its 3 year mandate to build the Climate and Conservation programs of the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation (from a staff of 2 and \$1m/year in grants to a team of 20 with grants and programs exceeding \$25m/year). In July, LDF merged with two other foundations into the new Earth Alliance.

*Photo left: SGA President – Terry Tamminen with Leonardo DiCaprio, George DiCaprio and members of the Wishtoyo Foundation.*



# Staff

*Clockwise from top left*

- Terry Tamminen, President
- Leslie Mintz Tamminen, Program Director
- Kristina Haddad, Program Director
- Jenna Cittadino, Operations Manager

*For Staff Bios please visit*  
[www.7thgenerationadvisors.org](http://www.7thgenerationadvisors.org)

# Board of Directors/Advisory Committee

## Board of Directors *(Left to right)*

- Drew Bohan, Executive Director – California Energy Commission
- Daniel Emmett, CEO – Next Energy Technologies
- Mati Waiya, Executive Director – Wishtoyo Foundation



## Advisory Committee *(Left to right 1<sup>st</sup>; 2<sup>nd</sup> rows)*

- Dr. Yufu Cheng, Director R20 China Program
- Daniel Cooper, Founding Partner – Lawyers for Clean Water
- Brian Goldstein, Executive Director – Energy Independence Now
- Kim Lewand-Martin, Environmental Attorney and Blogger, Founder and Board Member of Grades of Green
- Peter Lobin, Managing Director of Zerowaste Global, LLC
- Gregory Lopez, Climate Solutions Consultant
- Caryn Mandelbaum, Water Program Director – Environment Now Foundation
- Jill Matteson, Founder/President – Ecostrategies



For the Board and Advisory Committee Member bios please visit [www.7thgenerationadvisors.org](http://www.7thgenerationadvisors.org)

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