



TE MANA O TE MOANA

« L'esprit de l'océan » - « Ocean's Spirit »



Presse Release – JUNE 8th 2015

Celebration of the events in favor of the Environment and the World Ocean -



*As every year since more than 10 years, we organise, as founder member of the World Ocean Network the celebration of the World Ocean Day in French Polynesia. Many We ecelebrate this huge event through different stands, animations, during many days... Celebrated by a thousand of foundations in more than 70 countries, this day has a common objective that is : **All together, protect our ocean !***

At least, these event days in favor of the world ocean conservation raised awareness of more than ...**320**... persons.

Friday June 5th : Encounter between children from Tubuai and Moorea

To launch those events in favour of the ocean, we decided to invite school children that have worked on this thematic the all year long. As part of the project « **Protect our oceans** » supported by The Pew Charitable Trusts, many exchange days were organised between classrooms from different islands, to share and show what the children have learnt during the school year.

This is how on Friday morning, the children of CM2 (11 years old) from **TUBUAI** (in the Australes islands), winners of the school contest, have encountered the school children of CM2 from Haapiti, Moorea at the "Fare Moana, to the school of the environment".

After having presented their respective productions and exchanged on them, the children participated to various activities such as: pedagogic workshops, visit of the underwater trail and the Sea turtle Clinic....

A morning that gathered 48 students



On the left side : winner poster (classroom of CM2 from Taharu'u Elementary school, Papara - Mrs Monia).

On the right side : winner charter (classroom of CM2 Aparā from Teina-Mahu Elementary school Tubuai, Austral Islands, Mr Tihoti).



Friday June 5th : Mr Leatherback in trip on Moorea ...

If you like the "Buzz" on Internet, you will probably already know him!! Mr Leatherback is a fervent defender of the sea turtles...

To relay his message to the public, he travels the world dressed up as a Leatherback turtle to raise awareness of the children and the adults to the sea turtles conservation. We were really proud to welcome him at the Clinic on June 5th. He proposed a special dance-show to the school children that won the 2015 Contest "Protect our oceans": the classroom of Tubuai, Austral Islands and the classroom of Haapiti, Moorea. In exchange, the children offered him a special local dance in which he has taken part of.... French Polynesia is the 92nd country visited by Mr Leatherback.

<< [Click here](#) to see the movies of Mr Leatherback.

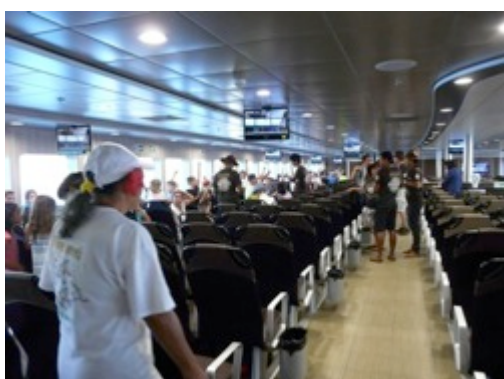


Lundi 8 juin : Launching of the World Ocean Day : Children awarness raising aboard the ferry ...

For the fourth one year, te mana is participating with the Planète Eco tours - le Mouvement Eco citoyen, to a special awareness raising day aboard of the ferry that links Tahiti to Moorea.

For this year, Yasmina and Coralie, intern and volunteer went on board to encounter 4 classrooms with children aged from 6 to 11 years old. Helped by gameboards, cuddly toys, memory game, posters..., booklets, they made the children learn about the marine animals such as sea turtles, marine mammals.... to help at a better understanding of why we need to protect them...

At least, 100 children participated to this morning celebrating the World Ocean Day...



Monday June 8th : Celebration of the World Ocean Day on Moorea...



Flagship day for our foundation, this event is for the education department an opportunity to finalise and reward the projects held during the school year. For this year, we have set up 2 educational projects : « **Protect our oceans** » and « **Bula honu, follow the sea turtles of the Pacific** »...



In the early morning, we invited 3 classrooms to celebrate this world ocean day : two that participated to the « **Protect our oceans** » project and « **Bula honu, follow the sea turtles of the Pacific** » one's.

In fact, more than the project held for the school-year, another objective was to create a toolkit for the next one generations. But more than a pedagogic tool including a teacher guide, a brochure, 4 posters and a game, we would like to deliver a message... By using the words and productions of the children we found a way to go through...



That is why the winner Charter of Tubuai (Austral Islands) and the winner Poster of Taharū'u, Parara (Tahiti) will be included in the toolkit that will be edited in 100 specimens and distributed for free to all participants, partners, ministries and elementary school at the end of the school year. This toolkit will be also available on our website.

The third one classroom invited to celebrate the oceans is the CM2 of Paopao Elementary school,

Moorea. They came to present their work to the public and the other students, as part of the « **Bula honu, follow the sea turtles of the Pacific** » project conducted during the year.

In fact, to finalise the actions of the Observatory for the sea turtles and the marine mammals initiated in 2011, different classrooms of French Polynesia, France, Samoa, Tonga, Fiji and New-Caledonia exchanged through a website during the all school year, following the travel of 6 green turtles equipped by satellite transmitters.

After having exchanged on this website : bulahonu.org, one of the classroom went in New Caledonia to encounter their partners.

This travel was conducted from May 7th to May 14th with our two educators : Magali and Charlotte. During their trip, the children have discovered different cultures, and the vision of the sea turtle that is similar than in French Polynesia : protect the sea turtles before they disappear.



When they arrived, the 3 classrooms were taken in charge by Magali, our animator that gathered them under the bog top placed at our Sea turtle Clinic, thanks to the InterContinental Resort and Spa

Moorea. Vie, the director presented them the activities of the day before she congratulating them for their hard work and offering them many gifts thanks to the help of the Moorea Dolphin Center, the Polynésienne des eaux and The PEW Charitable Trusts). Then, children also enjoyed a special snack offered by the hotel before they started playing activities...



Gathered per group of 8, the children have presented and participated to 8 stands : one hosted by students from the island of Tubuai, one hosted by the children othat went in New Caledonia.

With Henz and Vetea from the **Polynésienne des eaux**, children enjoyed to understand why we need to protect the water, and discover with Jonathan from the **Municipality of Moorea Maiao**, the Protected Marine Plan of the island (PGEM).

Guided by Matthieu, our marine biologist, the students discovered an underwater trail and accompanied by Magali, Dimitri and Vie, the groups visited the **Sea Turtle Clinic**, the dolphin lagoon managed by the **Moorea Dolphin Center**, and participated to various pedagogic activities on the environment and the animals we need to protect. (the race of fe'e the octopus, the ilecolo, the adventures of a green turtle, the cetaceans game...). Finally, Donation from the **PEW Charitable Trusts** proposed them educative activities on the Marine Areas in French Polynesia.



But to celebrate this event, we wanted to propose activities for the locals and teenagers of the island that could not come usually to our facility. Thanks to the support of the Municipality of **Moorea Maiao**, a special shuttle was specially made available to the public of their island that would like to take part of our celebrating day. More than 30 persons came.

To finish the day, the two winner enjoyed a special gift to reward their hard work :

The classroom of Tubuai (Austral islands), thanks to the support of the PEW Charitable Trusts, has participated to a special discovery day of the Marine Protected Plan of Moorea (PGEM) with Matthieu from te mana o te moana and have discovered the stingrays of our lagoon...

The classroom of CM2 from Papara, Tahiti has enjoyed a special encounter with a dolphin thanks to the Moorea Dolphin Center....

A special event day that welcomed more than 125 persons (75 children and 50 adults and teenagers).



Evening restitution for the Marine Environment of the Austral islands ...

In the afternoon of June 8th, Matthieu Petit has joined the team of PEW Charitable Trusts at the "Maison de la Culture" in Tahiti to assist to the restitution of more than 340 pages, on the Marine Environment of the Austral Islands. This book was realised in year and edited by the CRILOBE-IRCP (Insular Research Center and Observatory for the Environment - Coral reefs Institute). More than 30 experts have taken part of this work including our President Dr Cécile Gaspar and our marine biologist Matthieu Petit. To download the publication: [click here](#).



Then, he presented the project "Protect our oceans" conducted by the foundation during the 214-2015 school year thanks to the support of the PEW Charitable Trusts. This project gathered more than 25 classrooms from the Austral Islands, and 9 classrooms from Tahiti and Moorea (11 years old). At least, this project **raised awareness of more than 700 children** to the conservation of the oceans... This evening was also an opportunity to introduce the "Protect of the ocean" toolkit that will be edited in 100 specimens and distributed for free to all the schools of the project at the end of the month. The end of the evening was dedicated to the beautiful documentary realised in the Austral Islands by National Geographic with the PEW Charitable Trusts Foundation « Rapa : the spirit of the rahui ». [Click here](#) to read the article from Tahiti Infos (only French).

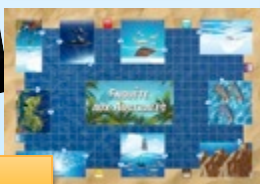
An evening that raised awareness of more than 150 persons -



Toolkit « Protect our oceans » :



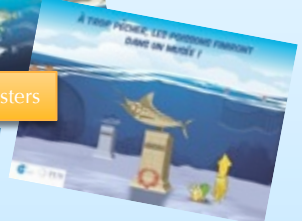
Teacher Guide



Board game



Posters



Flyer



Charter of the CM2 Anapa, from Tubuai, Austral islands



Poster of the CM2 Taharu'u from Papara, Tahiti



Participation to the World Ocean Photo Contest : te mana wins the first prize

For the second year, the Ocean Project organise a contest of the most beautiful picture in favour of the oceans and we do have the great pleasure to see our picture winning the competition.

The picture was announced and displayed during the reception at United Nations Headquarters in New York City. Later this year, the winning photos will be shown at the World Underwater Imagery Festival in Marseille, France, and may also be part of a traveling exhibit. The winning photos will be uploaded soon to the Ocean Project website.

The picture posted illustrated Papehau and the rehabilitated green sea turtle baby in Moorea Island, French Polynesia. In fact, Papehau, a 10 years old Tahitian girl is watching a rescued baby green sea turtle reaching out the lagoon. This is a very rare occasion while green sea turtles nesting in French Polynesia have been declining. This nest found in November 2014 was the only one seen in 10 years on Moorea Island...



<< [Click here](#) if you would like to see the other pictures of the Contest.

2nd reward for te mana from the Fondation EDF Diversiterre.

And to close those days in favor of the environment, our President Cecile Gaspar, currently on Paris for the event, has been rewarded "Coup de Chapeau" in the category "Environmental Education "by EDF Diversiterre foundation. For the second time, te mana o te moana is receiving a prize of 15,000 euros to reward educational actions around the conservation and management plans for the marine space of Moorea, conducted for more than 4 years with all school Cycle 3 (9 -11 years) of the 7 schools of Moorea.

For more information about the project : <http://www.temanaotemoana.org/education/the-citizen-of-the-ocean-passport/>
Pour voir les associations nommées : <http://tropheesfondation.edf.com/associations-nominees>



Te mana, partner of the WWF Foundation

For this World Ocean day, the [WWF France](#) and our foundation represented by our President Cécile G. have just signed a convention of partnership to better preserve our polynesian marine life, a maritim space as big as the Europe surface. The words from our President are : « *Thanks to our partnership with International network such as the WWF, the conservation of the oceans are placed as a priority and we will be able to progress faster on our awareness raising programs and our research ones.*



Finally, more than 320 persons, including 260 children have participated to those events in favor of the oceans... and are now aware about the necessity to protect our world ocean -

Ha'api'i no te Paruru -

(Understand to better protect)

