

# **COSEE Informal Educators/Scientists Workshop**

**Science Education: What Will  
Foundations Fund?**

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# Introduction

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- Ocean issues and foundation support
- What attracts foundation support?
- Case studies



# Our oceans are threatened

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- Fishing
- Chemical pollution
- Habitat alteration
- Introduction of exotic species
- Global climate change



# Foundations seek to reverse current trends

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- Education
- Advocacy
- Policy change
- Science
- Litigation
- Capacity building
- Improved resource management



# Capacity is woefully inadequate

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- About 100 professional staff working on ocean issues in US in 2001; today estimate 160
- 10,000 organizations devoted to conservation and animal protection in the US; employ tens of thousands of people; in 1998 received and spent between \$4 and \$4.5 billion
- \$20 million per year devoted to oceans, or one half of one percent of all charitable dollars going to conservation/animal protection
- Public understanding and engagement is inherently difficult

# What attracts foundation support?

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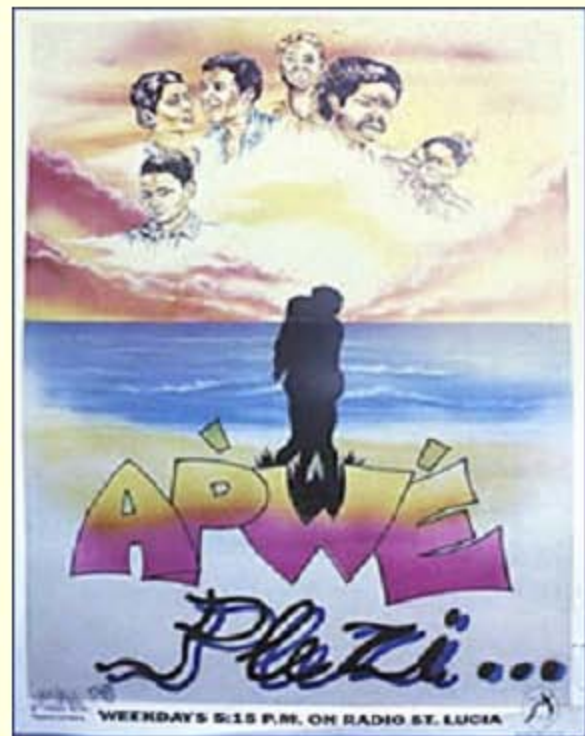
- Innovation
- Leadership
- Leverage
- Clear and measurable goals and objectives



# RARE Center for Tropical Conservation ([www.rareconservation.org](http://www.rareconservation.org))

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- Look outside your normal constituency
- Identify what moves and engages your audience
- Do your homework
- Make it fun!



# New England Science Center Collaborative ([www.nescc.info](http://www.nescc.info))

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- Link a trusted group with the community
- Be flexible and creative
- Make the issues personal
- Encourage leadership in others

