# International Pole & Line Foundation For One-by-One Fishers

Annual Report 2019/20

## IPNLF

INTERNATIONAL POLE & LINE FOUNDATION



## One hook, one line, one fish at a time

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### From our chair

### Together, we're leading the way

Welcome to the International Pole & Line Foundation's Annual Report for 2019/20. This has probably been the most remarkable year to date for our organisation; one in which our dedicated team worked harder than ever to support, develop and promote oneby-one tuna fisheries around the world, whilst we simultaneously generated greater security for the many coastal communities and lives connected to them.

The Covid-19 coronavirus, which continues to cause so much devastation and heartbreak as we put the finishing touches to this report, has been having a considerable impact on the one-byone sector, its supply chains, and our members. We hope these pressures will be temporary, but we also expect to endure further turbulence before we fully emerge on the other side of this global disaster.

Pandemic aside, our tireless strategic endeavours over the past year have continued to achieve crucial progress among tuna regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOS), including the introduction of the 15-year rebuilding plan for bigeye tuna stocks at ICCAT, while stronger relations were established across the G16 coastal states as we continue to collectively pursue improvements at IOTC. We have also seen two years of intense fishery improvement work in Indonesia pay off with eight more one-by-one fisheries advancing into full sustainability assessment.



At the same time, we have expanded our network reach into Japan and Vietnam, while the inherently collaborative nature of IPNLF led to important new MOUs in the Maldives with the Maldives Seafood Processors and Exporters Association, Dhivehi Masverin, and with the Olive Ridley Project. There are many more exciting developments in the pipeline.

IPNLF prides itself on its resilience and for being an organisation that always strives for purposeful progress. Over the next five years, this mantra will be guided by our new strategic plan. Details of this are on the opposite page, but in essence it will empower responsible fisheries in such a way that everyone connected to them can thrive. Developed through an extensive process that began at the end of 2018, we're confident that this plan is sufficiently robust to guide us through these unprecedented times and to provide the platform from which we will make even more meaningful contributions to one-by-one tuna fisheries for years to come. - John Burton, IPNLF Chairman

# Our new strategy

### Setting purposeful goals

To continue living up to our organisation's clear ambitions regarding planet, people and supply chains as defined by our vision, mission and values, we have developed the new IPNLF Strategic Plan 2020-2025. Designed to fully-utilise our international presence, our technical expertise, and our commitment to providing the support that one-by-one tuna fisheries and communities need to overcome inevitable challenges, this is the roadmap by which we intend to bring further meaningful change within the sector in times ahead. The plan comprises five goals to be achieved by 2025. Each of these has its own specific objectives and robust courses of action.

As retail and foodservice markets adopt increasingly stringent targets for environmental sustainability, business best-practice and social wellbeing, the mandates within our strategic plan will become more relevant over time. We also believe that this awareness will elevate one-by-one fisheries' international status as the preferred source of tuna, and provide the opportunity through which they can thrive as the most SDG aligned tuna fishing methods.

"The time is now. We believe that now is the time to limit destructive fishing methods and promote sustainable, one-by-one fishing from individuals fishing communities where responsible fishing is a part of their culture and history. Our new strategic plan will continue to help drive the sustainable management of the world's one-byone tuna fisheries and focus on cultivating an increased understanding amongst the seafood industry and wider public regarding the socially responsible and environmentally sustainable sourcing credentials of these fisheries."

- Martin Purves, IPNLF Managing Director



## Safeguarding the future of coastal tuna fisheries, and the livelihoods connected to them

Mission	
them.	

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FISHERIES SUPPORT BUSINESS DEVELOPMEN
By 2025 have By 2025 75% of IPNLF increase our member supply revenue by 30 fisheries directly to grow our engaged in influence responsible through supply chain solution-base improvements, partnerships thereby driving with member greater and by transparency in diversifying ou one-by-one tuna network of supply chains. donors.

Key pillars IPNLF Strategic Plan 2020-2025

## Impact

### A solutions-focused approach

Traditional one-by-one tuna fishing methods, including pole-andline, handline, and troll, support many coastal tuna fisheries around the world, including the people, businesses and marine ecosystems connected to them.

In 2019/20, IPNLF's network reached more than 50,000 fishers in global tuna supply chains. And by working with our international partners, we further increased its contribution towards the global sustainable development agenda.



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**Enhancing fisheries:** Increasing the supply from, value of, and sustainability of on-by-one tuna fisheries in global markets.



Advancing policy: Providing a voice that promotes and protects the interests of one-byone tuna fisheries, associated environments and communities.



**Building evidence:** Scientifically demonstrating the beneficial attributes of one-by-one tuna fisheries and refining best-practice.







**Promoting benefits:** Increasing the value of one-by-one tuna to increase the support and demand for the fisheries that we work with.



#### 1. Australia

Members<sup>.</sup> 2

### 2. Azores

Members: 3

### 3. Bangladesh

Engagement: built relationships with local stakeholders

#### 4. Belgium

International event: 1

### 5. Brazil

Engagement: The launch of Fisheries Improvement Projects in one-by-one Brazillian fisheries

### 6. Canada

Members: 2

### 7. Cape Verde

Engagement: Built relationships with local stakeholders and discussed potential new project

#### 8. Curacao Member: 1

**9. Costa Rica** Members: 2

**10. Ecuador** Member: 1

**11. Germany** Members: 2 Team: 1

#### **12**. India

Member: 1 International event: 1

### 13. Indonesia

Engagement: Working with Indonesia's one-by-one tuna fisheries since 2012, on a path to achieve international sustainability standards Members: 2 Team: 5 International events: 3

### **14**. Japan

Engagement: Built relationships with local stakeholders Member: 1

### 15. Kenya

Engagement: Ongoing engagement with local fishery stakeholders and work with government to improve conditions for one-by-one fisheries

### 16. Korea

Member: 1

#### **17. Madagascar** Team: 1

### 18. Maldives

Engagement: Working with the Maldives since 2012 to enhance local one-by-one tuna fisheries Members: 7 Team: 5

### **19.** Netherlands

Member: 1 Team: 2

### 20. New Zealand

Member: 1 Palau Engagement: Built relationships with local stakeholders Papua New Guinea International event: 1

### **21**. Philippines

Engagement: Built relationships with local stakeholders

### 22. Senegal

Members: 2

#### **23. Solomon Islands** Members: 2

### 24. South Africa

Members: 4 Team: 4

### **25**. Spain

Members: 11 International event: 1

### **26.** St Helena

Engagement: Partnership to secure the world's first one-byone tuna fishing zone out to 200 nautical miles Member: 1 Team: 1

### **27**. Switzerland

Member: 1

### 28. Tanzania

Engagement: Ongoing engagement with local fishery stakeholders

#### **29.** Thailand

Member: 1 International events: 3

### **30**. United Kingdom

Members: 6 Team: 2 International events: 3 IPNLF Annual Meeting

### **31.** USA

Members: 13 Team: 1 International events: 3

#### **32. Vietnam** Member: 1

### **Maldives**

### **Committed to transparency advancements**

The Maldives is a long-standing champion of sustainable tuna fisheries with only one-by-one fishing practices now allowed within its entire national jurisdiction of about 1 million sq km. The country continues to advocate for and implement measures locally and internationally to protect its traditional fisheries and Indian Ocean tuna resources.

In 2019/20, on-the-ground activities focused on improving data capture using an electronic platform, improved monitoring control and surveillance, enhancing traceability systems to support information sharing between fishers, processors and international markets. Crucially, the Maldives Parliament passed the long-awaited new fishery bill (enacted in September 2019) which incorporates modern principles of fishery conservation and management – giving ample powers to the management authority to develop and build a regulatory framework to manage and conserve fishery resources.

"I am delighted MSPEA is now formally collaborating with IPNLF on issues of common interest; on protecting the fishery of the Maldives, on reaching out to markets, retailers and consumers on the environmental advantages of one-by-one fishing. There is so much we need to do, and I am confident that our alliance will prove very beneficial to the Maldives fisheries sector and stakeholder supply chains."

Umar Iamaal, President, Maldives Seafood Processors and Exporters Association (MSPEA)

### Partners

- Maldives Seafood Processors and Exporters Association
- Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources & Agriculture
- Maldives Marine Research Institute
- Dhivehi Masverin (Maldives Fishermen)
- Olive Ridley Project
- WDC

**Impacts and achievements** 



**Observer Programme:** We continue to undertake detailed sampling of catch and bycatch on regular fishing trips. Data from this programme feeds to IOTC via the Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture to strengthen compliance with International fisheries and improve understanding of bycatch levels in the fishery.



Marine Plastics: IPNLF has initiated an ambitious project to demonstrate that the Maldivian one-by-one fishery is plastic neutral in terms of its associated abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gear (ALDFG). The aim of this project is to enable the Maldivian one-by-one fishery to retrieve more plastic fishing gear from the ocean, mostly originating from foreign purse seine and gillnet fleets, than is lost from its own operations (see page 18).



**Responsible Tourism Initiative:** A new initiative working with hotel resorts to showcase the Maldives' one-by-one fisheries heritage as part of their guests' vacation experience.



**International Advocacy:** Enhanced engagement at international tuna resource management meetings through capacity building, championing small-scale tuna fishery needs and also the fair and equitable management of tuna.

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### Indonesia

### Creating a platform for sustainable growth

As well as being the world's largest tuna fishing nation, Indonesia is home to a number of one-by-one tuna fisheries. In 2019/20, an additional eight pole-andline and handline tuna fisheries from AP2HI supply chains entered the process of achieving Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) full assessment. Key initiatives of this period include scientific data collection through onboard observers and portside enumerators, solving compliance and fishery management issues with Indonesia's Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF), and working with the private sector to ensure robust traceability is in place.

We look forward to further activities with the Tuna Consortium, a group comprising local NGOs working in tuna fisheries that was developed during the reported period. Work will include supporting the institutional strengthening and implementation of the National Tuna Management Plan (NTMP) and the Indonesian Archipelagic Waters (IAW) Harvest Strategies (HS). This requires the scaling of industry-led, on-the-water interventions, and also standardising and disseminating scientific fishery data for sustainable fishery policy development. Another key endeavour will be addressing the socio-economic impacts to one-by-one tuna fisheries and their stakeholders under various fishery management systems.

"The team at Yayasan IPNLF Indonesia has been working hard to find practical and local solutions to overcome the biggest challenges that face our fisheries. Small-scale and developing world fisheries, such as those in Indonesia, have an uphill battle, a disproportionate burden to deliver on policy and market demands, which has been amplified by the Coronavirus Pandemic. Despite these challenges the team has still been able to deliver on market outcomes for entering MSC certification of 8 of its fisheries and achieving 1 Fair Trade USA certified fishery." Jeremy Crawford, IPNLF South-East Asia Director



# Impacts and achievements



International accreditation: Eight Indonesian pole-and-line and handline tuna fisheries are currently in the process of MSC full assessment, with at least five more fisheries targeting full assessment in 2021. Additionally, one pole-and-line tuna fishery achieved full Fair Trade USA certification in 2020.

**Resource management:** Supporting MMAF to develop Harvest Strategies for Archipelagic Waters and the National Tuna Management Plan through data and stakeholder interventions.



Regional progress: Advocating for sustainable and equitable management measures at a regional level for tropical tuna species at WCPFC16 with the Indonesian delegation, and support for data collection in one-by-one Indonesian tuna fisheries. **Industry support:** Policy reforms at the national level that impact one-by-one tuna fisheries through the submission of 6 policy briefs to the government.



Social contributions: Working with academia and supply chain actors to highlight the socio-economic contributions of one-by-one tuna fisheries to coastal communities. **Impact calculations:** Developing social-economic indicators for Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) of Indonesia's Harvest Strategies for its Archipelagic Waters alongside government and NGOs. **Evidencing best-practice:** Supporting MMAF to update onboard observer data collection protocols and logbook forms for both pole-and-line and handline fisheries, as well as mobile applications for capturing scientific fishery data.



International recognition: Online public reporting of Indonesian pole-and-line and handline tuna FIPs on fishery progress. All the FIPs are third-party verified and scored 'A' (advanced progress). Story sharing: Working with industry and government to publicly report verified tuna catching vessels, of all sizes, on the online government registry, DIVA-TUNA, which will be coordinated with the RFMO vessel registry.

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### Partners

- Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF)
- Asosiasi Perikanan Pole & Line dan Handline (AP2HI)
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)
- Global Fishing Watch
- Marine Change
- Yayasan Masyarakat dan Perikanan Indonesia (MDPI)
- University of Technology Sydney (UTS)
- USAID-Oceans and Fisheries Partnership
- Fair Trade USA

## St Helena

The remote South Atlantic Ocean island of St Helena has a rich tuna fishing tradition, and has precious marine resources within its 172,439 square mile open ocean maritime zone. However responsible one-byone tuna fishers are suffering the consequences of tuna stocks being overfished by larger, foreign vessels, especially industrial purse seine fleets using drifting fish aggregating devices and unsustainably harvesting juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tunas from these ocean wide shared tuna stocks.

IPNLF has continued running practical initiatives in St Helena aimed specifically at supporting the local one-by-one fishery. In addition to devising and helping implement operational improvements that improve the value of the catch and fisher's livelihoods, ongoing efforts aim to also make St Helena's entire EEZ a relative haven that only allows responsible one-by-one tuna fishing methods. "Despite its remoteness and long tradition of responsible one-by-one tuna fishing, St Helena is unfortunately not immune from the consequences of industrial scale overfishing of internationally shared tuna resources. As a result, we continue our efforts to help St Helena's fishers sustainably glean maximum financial and social benefits from each harvest they make, while helping their rights to these resources be protected throughout ICCAT decision making processes. We're also continuing to support the local government's legislative efforts to only allow one-by-one tuna fishing methods throughout their large economic exclusive zone. Successes will set an important precedent and example for other responsible tuna fishing nations to replicate in future." **Roy Bealey, IPNLF Fisheries Director** 

### **Partners**

- St Helena Commercial Fishermen's Association
- St Helena Government
- Cefas
- Oceans 5



# **Fisheries Development**

### Advocating low impact, selective fishing

Consumers want to be confident that the food products they are buying are healthy, safe and responsibly produced, with minimal incidental impact inflicted on the environment. Knowing that these criteria will increasingly define tuna products in the marketplace, IPNLF is engaged in several projects around the world aimed at further improving traceability and transparency levels throughout one-by-one supply chains, as well as leveraging the soaring demand for these products.

In accelerating the progress of one-by-one tuna fisheries through improvements tailored to each specific geography and local stakeholder engagement, we are also demonstrating that best-practice and sustainability offer greater economic, social and ecological benefits than those fisheries and gears characterised by overexploitation or poor management. Through this commitment, we are encouraging and providing the support for fisheries to transition towards low impact one-by-one catching methods.



"At IPNLF we are continuously working to improve transparency, equity, and sustainability in tuna fisheries and supply chains around the world. This work lies at the heart of what IPNLF does and is in the best interest of fishers and consumers alike."

### **Roy Bealey, IPNLF Fisheries Director**



# Sustainable Development Goals

# Championing one-by-one tuna through fishery empowerment

Typically located in vulnerable, developing regions, small-scale one-by-one fisheries are a critical source of food, income and livelihood. In being labour intensive, these fisheries provide essential employment in coastal communities and thereby make a major contribution to poverty reduction and building economic, social and cultural resilience. Inherently, many women working in the sector fulfil essential, skilled roles.

IPNLF maintains that through their holistic vision to eradicate poverty and deprivation, responsibly grow economies, protect the environment, advance peace and promote good governance, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals provide an ideal pathway for socially conscious, responsible businesses to engage with and support these fisheries. Through this process they can also capitalise on the unprecedented demand for sustainable one-by-one caught tuna, by including small-scale operators in equitable procurement strategies to demonstrate a strong commitment to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

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# Advancing policy

# Protecting one-by-one tuna fisheries through policy reform

Alongside coastal states and small-scale tuna fishery representatives throughout the Indian, Atlantic and Pacific oceans, IPNLF's policy team continues to advocate for regulations that protect our ocean resources and the communities that are the most reliant upon them. To ensure that smaller-scale, oneby-one tuna fisheries are fully taken into account in decision-making, IPNLF is working with coastal state delegations and one-by-one fishery representatives on key issues that currently undermine equity and the sustainable management of tuna populations through various international forums.

"Tuna provide a vital food source and contribute to the livelihoods of coastal communities around the world whose futures are increasingly uncertain. It is crucial that decisionmakers stop the overfishing of tuna populations, protect endangered bycatch species, and move towards a more equitable approach which fully recognises the needs of small-scale fishers. We have pushed for meaningful change throughout this period, including the Covid- 19 pandemic, and hope to see further steps forward in the coming years." Yaiza Dronkers, IPNLF Policy and Outreach Officer

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### RFMO engagement in 2019

**ICCAT:** IPNLF's Atlantic region manager, Yaiza, attended the annual meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation Atlantic Tunas in November, IPNLF worked alongside likeminded delegations to get a rebuilding programme adopted for overfished bigeye tuna. While a crucial foundation has now been laid, further refinement of the adopted measures is now needed, including ensuring the rights of developing coastal states and small-scale fisheries are fully protected.

**IOTC:** Progress was achieved on meaningful monitoring and control measures for drifting FADs at the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission meeting in Hyderabad, India. While these measures require further improvement, it was encouraging to see more delegations recognising transparency issues in the operation of drifting FADs. However, the continued overfishing of yellowfin tuna continues to disappoint us. We would also like to see much more rapid progress on the equitable allocation of tuna resources.

**WCPFC:** IPNLF advocated for continued progress on harvest strategies for all major tuna stocks at the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. We also stressed the need to improve the regulation of FADs; to adopt measures that will effectively safeguard threatened marine species; to improve monitoring, control and surveillance of longline vessels; and to implement stricter controls on the use of any aerial means to search for tropical tuna. Currently, equitable reference points and control rules that take small-scale fisheries into consideration remain urgently required.

# **Tackling marine pollution**

The threat posed by plastic pollution in our oceans is a global concern. With fishing gear commonly manufactured from durable plastic that can potentially remain in and cause damage to marine ecosystems over centuries, IPNLF has initiated an ambitious, first-of-its-kind project to demonstrate that the one-by-one tuna fishery in the Maldives is "plastic neutral" in terms of its associated abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gear.

With the aim to enable the fishery to retrieve far more plastic fishing gear from the ocean than is lost through its own operations, fishers will be incentivised to retrieve the foreign ghost nets – gillnets, longlines, trawls and other gear - that are turning up in their waters. These nets weigh considerably more than all the fishing gearrelated material inadvertently lost by the Maldives fishery and pose a far greater risk to marine life.

Beginning with calculations of how much gear is lost by the Maldives fishery, the project will progress with fishermen removing the ghost nets they encounter from the water. Those fishers' coastal communities will then be encouraged to re-use and/or up-cycle the nets. A similar project is now ongoing in the Azores.







### **Our team**

### Staff

Martin Purves – Managing Director Roy Bealey – Fisheries Director Dr M Shiham Adam – Science & Maldives Director Jeremy Crawford – Southeast Asia Director Kama Dean – Americas Director

Zacari Edwards – Socio Economic Manager Philippine Wouters – Communications Manager

Elza Cloete – Finance Manager Elsabe Crockart – Executive Assistant Yaiza Dronkers Londoño – Atlantic Region Manager

Heri – Programme Manager, Indonesia Jason Holland – Media & Communications Advisor

Ali Manzoom – Software Engineer Ibrahim Nadheeh – Fisheries Research Officer Fiona Peters – European Outreach Officer Ibrahim Saneeh – Fisheries Research Officer Julie Thomas – Project Manager, St Helena Craig Turley – Fisheries Improvement Manager

Trustees

Iohn Burton – Chair Natalie Webster – Deputy Chair Rahim Hoosen – Deputy Chair Adnan Ali Mialy Andriamahefazafy Andrew Bassford Duncan Leadbitter Dr Anthony Lewis Ali Wibisono

### **Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee**

Dr M Shiham Adam – Chair Dr Anthony Lewis – Co-Chair Dr Megan Bailey Professor Kate Barclay Dr Laurent Dagorn Robert Gillet Dr Paul Medley Dr Lida Pet-Soede Dr Dale Squires

### Market Advisory Group

Latiefa Behardien, Woolworths Foods - Chair Joel Cardoza, American Tuna Carrie Brownstein, Whole Foods Market Adrian Lehmann, Migros Jain Mahood, World Wise Foods lan Ricketts, Ocean Brands Cassie Leisk, New England Seafood International

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### Network

Members: In 2019/2020. IPNLF's membership increased to 67 as we expanded our reach across the world.



# **Partnerships and** alliances

IPNLF partners with a number of key organisations to promote sustainable seafood messages. Through these collaborations and alliances, we increased the strength of our impact and contributed to wider goals. These associations comprise:

- Advisory Network of the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy
- Azores Fisheries Observer Programme (POPA)
- Conservation Alliance for Seafood Solutions
- G16- Group of IOTC Coastal States
- Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability (GDST)
- Global Ghost Gear Initiative
- International Association for Women in the Seafood Industry
- Kenya Department of Fisheries
- Long Distance Advisory Council (LDAC)
- NGO Tuna Forum
- Outermost Regions Advisory Council (CC RUP) or ORAC)
- Rise Up for the Ocean
- South Africa Department of Fisheries
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

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We also endorsed the GDST 1.0 Standards and Guidelines, and had representation within the International Association for Women in Seafood Technical Advisory Group.

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# **Funding and finances**

### **IPNLF** Funding

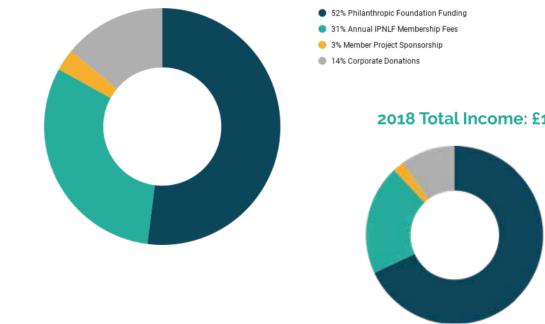
IPNLF acknowledges the valued contributions of its key donors in 2019/20; Walton Family Foundation, Oak Foundation, Oceans 5, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, The Waterloo Foundation, Waitt Foundation, Resource Legacy Fund, World Animal Protection, GCRF Blue Communities, and the Global Greengrants Fund. Their generous support is enabling us to accelerate one-by-one fisheries reform and progress around the world.

We are also extremely grateful for additional project support provided by Marks and Spencer, World Wise Foods, Migros, Caterers Choice, Fish Tales, Sea Delight, and the University of Essex.

### **Finances**

IPNLF's work is funded by its Member organisations, philanthropic grants and corporate project sponsorship. IPNLF thanks all of the organisations and people that have supported its work throughout 2019/20, making many of our achievements possible. Full accounts are available online via the UK Charity Commission (www.charitycommission.gov.uk)

### 2019 Total Income: £1 112 622.06



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### 2018 Total Income: £1,232,301



- 20% Annual IPNLF Membership Fees
- 2% Member Project Sponsorship
- ION Corporate Donations

### IPNLF

INTERNATIONAL POLE & LINE FOUNDATION

# **IPNLF**

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