I'm struck by RESOLVE’s perseverance, creativity, and optimism.

As politics turns inward, we're looking outward. We're working on the future of food with stakeholders across global supply chains, economic resilience and rebirth in Sierra Leone, restoration of the Missouri River watershed, new technologies and strategies to stop poaching and address conflicts between humans and wildlife, stream restoration to support habitat for salmon and other anadromous species in Alaska and the Yukon, and helping communities determine how to allocate scarce medical resources during a crisis.

In an era of increasingly polarized politics and community schisms, we’re building unlikely partnerships, pushing frontiers in our current programs, and launching new programs. We're opening new policy spaces in the radical middle so we can help provide access to healthcare for all, address our climate challenge, steward our land and water resources, and protect biodiversity. Through our Energy Shift program, we’re working on carbon removal policy and “carbon smart” supply chains and investing. Our Health Solutions team is building policy models and tools that address all of the determinants of health. For example, for asthma, this means not only increasing access to medicine, but also addressing the causes like mold, mites, and other allergens and irritants where people live, work, learn, and play.

As some stakeholders focus on retrenching and defense in an era of “I win, you lose” policy and politics, we’re innovating, collaborating, and taking a series of calculated strategic risks. Through our new impact@RESOLVE platform, we’re deploying new responses to age-old problems, like poaching and degraded habitat, by inventing and launching for-profit enterprises that achieve positive environmental, economic, health, and social impact. We can put donor funds to work to do the research, ideation, and strategic work to develop solutions, and then use impact@RESOLVE to put the market to use to support and scale good works.

History matters, especially during a transitional period. We know that our future success is built on the collaborative policy fabric that our founders and other colleagues built during our first four decades. RESOLVE has deep roots and a keen sense of how we got here. During 2018, our 40th Anniversary year, we strengthened our relationships with long-standing partners in agencies, industry, and civil society. And we worked hard to build relationships with new partners – tech companies, inventors, impact investors, climate modelers, and others.

Our agenda today draws from past successes. Our work on stream restoration in Alaska rests on the “no net loss of wetlands” policy that we helped negotiate in the 80s. Our work over several decades on safe drinking water positioned us to convene the Lead Service Line Replacement Collaborative to create tools and strategies to help municipalities and communities address the problem of lead pipes. We supported early market innovations, such as the Marine Stewardship Council in the 90s, and a landmark state-of-knowledge assessment of natural resource certification systems in 2012, setting the stage for our new market innovations like impact@RESOLVE. We’re using a tested methodology, joint-fact-finding, to help stakeholders grapple with new strategies to address climate issues, such as carbon removal and advanced nuclear power. And, a new virtual reality video on responsible artisanal mining, produced with Google and our partners in the Responsible Artisanal Gold Solutions Forum, is an evolution in storytelling as a way to promote solutions.

Our partners are optimistic too. We know because we surveyed our networks. You told us that you see a strong trend toward better NGO-corporate relationships over the next decade. You told us radical, constructive action is needed to address climate change, and we need to think and act outside-the-box. You told us the biodiversity crisis calls for protecting and restoring more of the earth. You told us that inequality of access to services tops the list of health challenges. You told us, and we’re listening.

Our focus on 2019 is on these and other issues. We are looking forward to what’s next. Reach out to our team or visit our new online home at www.resolve.ngo to learn more about what inspires us and drives our work.

Stephen D’Esposito
President
RESOLVE Launches impact@RESOLVE

Impact Investing: Investments in projects or enterprises with the objective of generating a measurable beneficial social or environmental impact along with a financial return.

impact@RESOLVE is our newest innovation. Launched in 2018, impact@RESOLVE is a platform for mission-aligned impact enterprises—for-profit businesses created and managed to solve social and environmental problems.

We work with nonprofits, donors, and socially responsible companies to identify innovations and transform them into financially sustainable enterprises. impact@RESOLVE provides early stage planning and operations support, enables access to donors and impact investors, and supports dynamic goal-setting and performance monitoring to help ensure that impact enterprises achieve their social and environmental objectives while also attaining financial self-sufficiency.

Using the impact@RESOLVE platform, we launched Salmon Gold™, which uses innovative techniques to responsibly re-mine tailings and restore critical habitat for salmon and other anadromous species, and WildTech™, an impact enterprise that develops durable, high technology devices to protect and monitor wildlife.

impact@RESOLVE provides the following services to RESOLVE and RESOLVE’s mission-related partners:

• Impact enterprise ideation workshops and consulting support, including exploration of a diverse range of funding resources (e.g., blended finance, PRIs, impact bonds, and commercial investment);

• Direct administration, management, and governance support for newly created impact enterprises; and

• Provision of a legal “home” for the impact enterprises of non-profit organizations, foundations, and companies.
Stopping Poachers with One of the Coolest Gadgets for 2019: TrailGuard AI

TrailGuard™ is an innovative end-to-end, camera-based, anti-poaching system for national parks to detect and arrest poachers before they kill wildlife. Small enough to conceal along trails, TrailGuard’s camera head uses artificial intelligence to detect poachers within the images and relays pictures back to park headquarters via GSM, long-range radio, or satellite networks, allowing them to intervene and stop poachers before they act. The technology helps improve intelligence on poaching and related illicit networks, helping authorities crack down on illegal wildlife trade.

In 2018, The TrailGuard™ system enabled 30 poacher arrests and the seizure of over 1000 kilograms of bushmeat at the Grumeti Reserve in Tanzania. This initial success and proof of concept enabled RESOLVE to secure a partnership with Intel Corporation to create TrailGuard AI, the newest and most advanced version of the TrailGuard™ anti-poaching system. Following launches in Big Sur and at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, TrailGuard AI was touted by CNN Business as one of the “Coolest Gadgets for 2019”.

RESOLVE appreciates the support of our TrailGuard™ AI partners, who include Intel, Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, National Geographic Society, Arrow Electronics, Microsoft, Wildcat Foundation, Stadler Family Foundation, Arcus Foundation, Kowalski Family Foundation and Lori Price.

Saving Habitat for Pangolins, Macaws, and Tapirs, Oh My!

The Quick Response Fund for Nature (QRFN) provides a solution-oriented approach to save the world’s most important places for nature by providing the necessary funding to purchase and secure land when the opportunity arises. In conservation, opportunities to purchase important lands—and as a result save rare and endangered species—may arise abruptly and require an immediate financial commitment to secure broader protections. QRFN works at a speed unparalleled in the funding community to rigorously review applications and deliver funding—within a week when necessary—so that sites essential to the protection of rare and endangered species can be conserved. We provide scientific review of proposals, handle funding decisions, and administer all subawards.

In 2018, thanks to generous support from the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, the Weeden Foundation and others, QRFN funded 13 high-priority land conservation deals on 4 continents and helped conserve more than 12,000 acres of globally significant habitat that will contribute to the survival of unique species such as the cotton-top tamarin, Chinese pangolin, great green macaw, mountain tapir, and black-footed ferret. We expect to see these acres leverage additional habitat protection in the future.
First Conflict-Free Artisanal Gold Exported from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to U.S. Jewelers

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), more than 95% of artisanal gold is smuggled out of the country, which contributes to the ongoing conflict in DRC and the African Great Lakes Region. Through the Responsible Artisanal Gold Solutions Forum (RAGS Forum), leaders from business, nongovernmental organizations, and government create viable, responsible supply chains of artisanal gold from DRC to downstream buyers. RESOLVE convenes and is the secretariat for the RAGS Forum, seeking to learn about and address critical barriers to the production and trade of artisanal gold from the DRC in a way that verifiably meets regional, national, and international laws and standards.

In 2018, we announced the first conflict-free artisanal gold from the DRC exported to U.S. jewelers. With support from USAID, a pilot project was implemented in South Kivu, DRC, and conflict-free artisanal gold was exported by Fair Congo, processed in the U.S. by Asahi Refining, manufactured into gold jewelry by Richline Group, and sold through brands including Kay Jewelers and Zales.

We also produced the virtual reality film Journey of Gold with Discovery VR. Through the film, viewers can explore an artisanal mine, hear from Congolese miners, and learn how to support responsible sourcing of artisanal gold from the DRC. The film debuted at the Cannes Film Festival’s Marché du Film in May, had its U.S. debut at Mountainfilm in Telluride, and has additional laurels – winning Best Scientific Work at Sweden’s VR Scifest and Best VR Film at the Tonneins International Film Festival.

Producing Gold and Restoring Salmon Habitat

Launched in 2018 by RESOLVE, Salmon Gold™ is a voluntary partnership to re-mine tailings at historical placer gold mine sites and then restore fish habitat using sustainable techniques in Alaska and the Yukon Territory, a region with globally significant habitat for salmon and other anadromous fish species. We are working with miners, conservationists, manufacturers, retailers, and regulatory agencies. We’re producing gold that tells a positive story in the marketplace and demonstrates the value of restoration.

In 2018, Salmon Gold demonstrated proof-of-concept, with the completion of our first pilots in the Fortymile River region near Chicken, Alaska, and the production of gold that will enter the electronics and jewelry supply chains in 2019. We are now initiating a second phase, during which we will expand the pilot projects and work with our partners to demonstrate that restoration can scale and become self-sustaining based on strong, downstream market demand for Salmon Gold and recognition that Salmon Gold produces high-quality stream restoration that could qualify for compensatory mitigation.

“Our gold is entering supply chains for jewelry, cell phones, and computers and contributing to stream restoration — RESOLVE was uniquely positioned to make this happen.”

— Dean Race, Goldnut’s LLC, Salmon Gold Partner
Leading Collaboration in Public Health

The Public Health Leadership Forum (PHLF) gives public health thought leaders and practitioners a platform to share insights, respond to emerging challenges and opportunities in the field, and develop shared visions for how best to provide leadership in an ever-changing health landscape.

In early 2018 we teamed with the Health Care Transformation Task Force to develop a framework that supports enhanced collaboration between health care and public health entities. Partnering to Catalyze Comprehensive Community Wellness: An Actionable Framework for Health Care and Public Health Collaboration outlines essential elements and key strategies for shaping effective, health-based collaboratives among public health, health care, and community-based organizations. Its release was featured in the NEJM Catalyst Blog and the American Journal of Managed Care.

In December 2018, the PHLF and the Bipartisan Policy Center hosted an event featuring the Forum’s most recent initiative — Developing a Financing System to Support Public Health Infrastructure — calling for stronger federal investment in public health, making the case that all communities in the U.S. should have reliable public health protections to improve health outcomes. The event included a fireside chat with former Governors Jim Douglas (R-VT) and Martin O’Malley (D-MD). The bipartisan attention is anticipated to mobilize policy makers to fully invest in the public health infrastructure in communities across the country.
Fiscal Year 2018
July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE
$5,447,344

EXPENSES
$5,722,735

- Grants: $2,463,153
- Management and General Support: $476,743
- Fundraising: $65,234
- Contributions: $422,799
- Contract Service Fees: $2,225,963
- Other Income: $335,429
Highlights from 2018

- Community meetings on allocating scarce medical resources during a crisis
  WASHINGTON STATE

- First Salmon Gold™ pilot breaks ground
  ALASKA

- Hudson River Comprehensive Restoration Plan released
  NEW YORK STATE

- Celebrated RESOLVE’s 40th Anniversary
  WASHINGTON, D.C.

- Journey of Gold VR film debuts at the Cannes Film Festival’s Marche du Film
  FRANCE

- Future of sustainable agriculture and crop protection meeting
  FRANCE

- United Nations International Seabed Authority meeting
  JAMAICA

- ReGrow West Africa SME training completed
  SIERRA LEONE

- Congo Power Launch with Google and the Give Power Foundation
  DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- TrailGuard™ Anti-Poaching System launched
  CALIFORNIA

- Celebrated the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee’s 10th Anniversary
  MISSOURI
The RESOLVE Team

Staff and Program Leadership

Stephen D’Esposito, President & CEO
Abby Dilley, Vice President of Programs, Senior Mediator
Langston Alexander, Salmon Gold Fellow
Laura Bartock, Program Associate
Mahlette Betre, Senior Program Manager
Erin Bongard, Business Manager
Maya Breitburg-Smith, Senior Mediator
Paul De Morgan, Senior Mediator
Eric Dinerstein, Program Director
Sanjiv Fernando, Program Associate
Nathan Hahn, Conservation Technologies Consultant
Mason Hines, Facilitator
Sherry Kaiman, Senior Advisor
Taylor Kennedy, Senior Program Manager
Margaret Lee, Program Associate
Tim Martin, Senior Advisor and Program Director
Meg Perry, Mediator
Jennifer Peyser, Senior Mediator
Latha Saikrishnan, Chief Financial Officer
Richard Schroeder, Program Director
Beth Weaver, Senior Mediator

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Dave Baker, Board of Directors, Denver, Colorado
Stephen D’Esposito, Board of Directors, Washington, D.C.
Abby Dilley, Board of Directors, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Ramanie Kunanayagam, Board of Directors, London, England
Britt Banks, Board of Advisors, Miami, Florida
Jay Campbell, Board of Advisors, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Bennett Freeman, Board of Advisors, Washington, D.C.
Alana Knaster, Board of Advisors, Seattle, Washington

Huguette Labelle, Board of Advisors, Ottawa, Canada
Sara Lipscomb, Board of Advisors, Chicago, Illinois
Thomas Lovejoy, Board of Advisors, Washington, D.C.
Tim Martin, Board of Advisors, Buenos Aires, Argentina / Minaki, Canada
Lori Price, Board of Advisors, Washington, D.C.
Paul B. Thompson, Board of Advisors, Lansing, Michigan
Gail Bingham, President Emeritus, Washington, D.C.
Hank Habicht, Chair Emeritus, Board of Directors, Washington, D.C.
Jeffrey Wright, Vice Chair Emeritus, Board of Directors, New York, New York

Strategic Partners

Todd Bryan, Boulder, Colorado
Miguel CervantesRodriguez, Lima, Peru
Sheka Forna, Freetown, Sierra Leone
Hrach Gregorian, Washington, D.C.
Joseph Kirschke, Washington, D.C.

Amy Larkin, New York, New York
Mike Loch, Cary, Illinois
Kathryn Tomlinson, London, England
Carly Vynne Baker, Seattle, Washington
Hussine Yilla, Freetown, Sierra Leone
For more information about our current and recent work, please contact us at:

RESOLVE, Inc.
1255 23rd St., NW, Suite 275
Washington, D.C. 20037
202.944.2300

To make a tax-deductible donation in support of our mission, please visit our new online home at:

WWW.RESOLVE.NGO