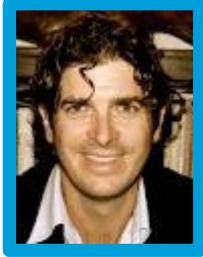


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# PHILIPPE MAX ROUJA



## TRUSTEE OF ADARA DEVELOPMENT (BERMUDA)

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Philippe Rouja is a Bermudian cultural and medical anthropologist with over 20 years of research experience working with indigenous coastal communities specialising in marine heritage, traditional marine resource management and human health and nutrition, with communities in Australia, the Caribbean and French Polynesia.

Since 2003, Philippe has been a Principle Investigator with the mobile ecotoxicology lab Atlantis working out of the WHO PAHO collaborating centre at the University of Laval Hospital under the direction of Dr Eric Dewailly. The labs have worked extensively in remote coastal communities from the Arctic to the Caribbean.

Drs Rouja and Dewailly began their work together with the Bardi people of Northwestern Australia in 2000 where, with the Bardi, they documented and tested traditional fishing practices, highlighting the presence and nutritional benefits of seasonal deposits of omega three fatty acids in tropical fish. Their work in Bermuda began in 2003 through the Atlantis labs conducting the islands first foetal cord blood ecotoxicology study followed in 2006 by a benefit/risk assessment of local fish; measuring levels of n-3 fats, selenium and mercury.

Since 2005 Philippe has worked as the Principal Scientist and the official “Custodian of Historic Wrecks” in the Department of Conservation Services in charge of the implementation of a management plan for Bermuda’s shipwrecks and partnering in a myriad of ocean and human health related research projects and films.

Recent projects have included:

- The Bedford Institute/ Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute partnership investigating rates of prehistoric sea level change in Bermuda.
- Follow up field work among the Bardi people of North Western Australia highlighting the importance of Omega three fatty acids to community health.
- The Bermuda Government led Sargasso Sea Alliance initiative seeking to enhance the protection of the High Seas that surround Bermuda through an international coalition of forward thinking nations, scientific institutions, NGO’s and enlightened individuals.
- The rescue of artefacts (including corked bottles of wine) from the historic civil war blockade-runner, the Mary Celestia.

In the last 5 years Philippe has begun specialising in the communication of these science stories through the medium of film and has participated, and is partnering in the production of several documentary films.

In 2010 Philippe was selected as the Bermuda College’s Corange/Roche Bermudian Scientist of the year.