



The third edition of our Ocean Vitality Forum considers the theme "**Blue Money meets Blue Conservation**".

This year, we bring together experts from the fields of Conservation and Finance, with the goal of discovering new types of financial options for the establishment and development of Marine Protected Areas.

By providing a platform that allows both parties to find common ground, the Forum reflects our purpose of bringing different groups together to explore, debate and reach consensus on how to help support Ocean Vitality.

Ocean Vitality Forum is guided by the Chatham House Rule which states: "When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed".

News reporters, journalists and media houses are not permitted at the Forum proper.



SWITZERLAND FOR THE OCEANS™**Together for Ocean Vitality**

Together, we act as facilitators to ensure Ocean Vitality.

Verein Switzerland for the Oceans is an ambitious 100% volunteer not-for-profit organisation operating from and within Switzerland. Our activities include fundraising for marine conservation projects, raising awareness of the oceans through education programmes, and organising the Ocean Vitality Forum.

the blueprint

We operate on the premise there are seven billion stakeholders for the oceans. We interpret this premise in a way that understands there are common as well as conflicting interests from different sectors. Our philosophy tells us the universe is not black and white and we are prepared to question both popular and unique positions from all sides of the spectrum.

Our primary function is to bring diverse influencers together so that individuals and organisations can explore impactful innovation; forging new and practical solutions that take advantage of shared knowledge, collaboration, new and shared resources, and common purpose.

Our point of reference is to support Ocean Vitality and it is expressed in this way:

Ocean Vitality is a consequence of thoughtful activity throughout the marine environment, so that all stakeholders can benefit whether they be in conservation, in industry, or in nature.

Positioning ourselves Without Bias is our overarching rule which allows us to operate freely between diverse and contrasting interests. This adherence to neutrality makes our proposition effective for all stakeholders, and it is especially viable for diametrically opposed stakeholders whose interests may be in conflict on the surface but with investigation the potential for reconciliation can be more available than might initially be supposed.

Our statute, governance, location, and other details can be found on our website.

To learn more about Switzerland for the Oceans, visit us on:



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SWITZERLAND FOR THE OCEANS

Experts – Speakers

**D. Michael Adams (CH)***President*Ocean Assets Institute[LinkedIn](#)

Michael has a 26-year career in finance: Founding The Journal of Investing in 1987, then Pedigree Investments Ltd in 1992 to advise and raise capital for alternative investments until 2010 when he became active in sustainable finance - first as a Partner with investment bankers GH Advisors (New York) then with Natural Assets Sarl (Switzerland). Michael and his wife, Anyes, funded coral reef studies and participated in the establishment of marine parks in the Abacos, Bahamas, where they lived during 2006-2009. Michael holds a MSc Business Policy from Columbia University and a BA from Bates College. He speaks and writes for a variety of sustainable finance and maritime forums. He lives with his family in Switzerland and works on maritime finance and conservation projects worldwide.

**Kitty Brayne (UK)***Head of Evidence and Learning*Blue Venture[LinkedIn](#)

Kitty Brayne is a conservationist with a passion for community-based management of natural resources. With a diverse career spanning communication, community engagement, strategy, partnership and network building, Kitty spent almost a decade managing projects and building teams in Madagascar and the Comoros.

Kitty joined Blue Ventures in 2014 to manage their Madagascar country programme, and is now based in Bristol, UK coordinating a team that supports learning and technical excellence across the organisation's global programmes.

**Clare Brook (UK)***CEO*Blue Marine Foundation[LinkedIn](#)

Clare was a pioneer of environmental investing before joining BLUE in November 2014. She managed SRI funds at Jupiter, NPI and Henderson and was Head of Socially Responsible Investment at Aviva. In 2009 she founded WHEB Asset Management. Clare is interested in the increasing confluence of philanthropy and the corporate sector. As CEO of the Blue Marine Foundation, she aims to combine the rigor of the investment world with her passion for solving environmental problems.



**Grégoire Muhr (CH)**

Head UBS Philanthropy Services and Impact EMEA & CH

UBS

[LinkedIn](#)

Grégoire Muhr leads the UBS Philanthropy Services and Impact EMEA & CH team. Drawing on over 15 years of experience in the for-profit and non-profit sector, she also advises wealthy families on how to have impact with their wealth.

Grégoire co-authored *Sea beyond the Blue – a guide on the oceans for philanthropists and changemakers*, and the *UBS Fundraising Guide: A Resource for Philanthropists*. She also led the UBS/TrustAfrica study *Africa's Wealthy give back* and co-elaborated the *UBS Philanthropy Compass* a methodology to advise philanthropists.

Grégoire holds a Master of Sciences in Management of Human Resources and Labor Relations from the University of Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas and a B.A. in Economics from the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.

**John Vermilye (CH)**

Co-Founder

Gallifrey Foundation

[LinkedIn](#)

John Vermilye's started in airline operations, then as Senior VP at the International Air Transport Association, IATA. After 9/11 he was an advisor to the US Transportation Security Administration, TSA.

Vermilye's second career was as an entrepreneur. He created the Travel Sentry system for luggage locks used by security agencies globally.

His third career is as venture philanthropist and Co-founder of the Gallifrey Foundation focused on social enterprise education and marine conservation.

Vermilye earned his undergraduate degree at Harvard University, was a Harvard Fellow in 2017 and is an alumnus of the London Business School.

Experts – Roundtable

**Mallory Bovey (CH)**

Marine Biologist & Environmental Educator

Maison de la Rivière

[LinkedIn](#)

Mallory spent the last 3 years of her academic studies learning about marine ecology, conservation, and fisheries management, and graduated with an International MSc. in Marine Biological Resources from UGent. She took parts in different research projects and traineeships within various teams and institutions in Australia, Portugal, Belgium, and Norway. She conducted her MSc. thesis in the Philippines, where she spent 6 months investigating the impacts of community based MPAs on coral reefs and coastal fisheries. Notably, she used perception data to determine levels of participation, benefits, and acceptance from the local resource-users.

She currently works as an environmental educator and is involved in various projects raising awareness about the climate crisis while developing concrete solutions.



**Klaus-Michael Christensen (CH)***Founder & CEO*Sevenbridge[LinkedIn](#)

Klaus-Michael Christensen founded the Swiss Impact Investment Association in August 2015 to raise awareness about how positive socio-economic action can achieving a better collective future.

He is an entrepreneur who joined the banking and wealth management industry of Switzerland in 2001, where he worked for organisations such as Rothschild Bank, Lloyds TSB, Coutts, and Société Générale.

Today he is founder and CEO of Sevenbridge, a Swiss Impact Investment consultancy company with a mission to connect impact-entrepreneurs to stakeholders in society in collaborating for socio-economic outcomes. He works with organisations across the world in an effort of implementing Collabonomics.

**Tom Duncan (SE)***CEO*Earthbanc AB[LinkedIn](#)

Tom is a licensed regenerative investment advisor, with deep ecological & social impact expertise over 20 years. He worked as a fund manager and investment banker across Asia-Pacific, IPO'ing AgriTech and FinTech ventures which led him to found Earthbanc. He is the CEO of Earthbanc, a leading AI-driven regenerative investment & advisory platform that launched Grow Bond, achieving a 6% yield where every \$100 sequesters 2 tonnes carbon. Earthbanc is venture backed by titans of impact investment and Europe's largest accelerator network. Tom co-authored with Allan Savory and other regenerative thought leaders - 'Land Restoration' 500+ page book, taught in Universities globally.

**Dennis Fritsch (DE)***Project Coordinator, Sustainable Blue Economy | Ecosystems*UNEP[LinkedIn](#)

Dr. Dennis Fritsch is Member of the Secretariat and Coordinator of the United Nations' Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Initiative, part of UNEP FI, focused on bringing banks, insurers and investors together to develop guidance and tools to enable financial institutions to align their activities with a sustainable ocean economy. The initiative is the host of the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles; the gold-standard for investing in the ocean economy. Previously, Dennis established the Research department at Responsible Investor, where he led several investor research projects, most recently 'Investors & the Blue Economy'. He also worked as a consultant and expert jury member for the European Commission's BlueInvest Fund and BLUE Marine Foundation. After graduating from the University of Tübingen (GER), Dennis worked in research at the University of Cambridge and was awarded a PhD from University College London.



**Paule Gros (CH)***Director, Mediterranean Basin*MAVA Foundation[LinkedIn](#)

Paule is responsible for implementing MAVA's strategy for the Mediterranean and overseeing all projects and partner relations in the region. Together with the other Programme Directors and the Director General, she also jointly manages MAVA's overall project portfolio, including our global projects. Paule joined MAVA in 2009 and has a doctoral degree in Conservation Biology from the University of California, Davis, awarded for her work on wild cheetah populations in East Africa. Before joining MAVA, she conducted mammal and bird conservation research projects in the Mediterranean, California and Nicaragua. She has also delivered ethno-biological work with the Mayangna people of the Nicaraguan rainforest. A French/American national, Paule has a daughter. She enjoys hiking, cross-country skiing and horseback riding. She also enters her dog in agility competitions.

**Tanja Jegger (CH)***Head of Philanthropy*Globalance[LinkedIn](#)

Tanja Jegger leads the client segment of Philanthropy, advising individuals and families and charitable foundation on philanthropy strategy and implementation. Prior to joining Globalance Bank, Tanja worked as Head of Philanthropy at Credit Suisse in Zurich, and before that built up the philanthropy practice and managed the Stonehage Charitable Trust at Stonehage, a leading, independent, international multi-family office. After her studies and qualifying as a Chartered Accountant, Tanja started her career at UBS Warburg in corporate finance, followed by work in the investor relations area for UBS and the capital markets of team of Lombard Odier, where she focused on corporate transactions, especially for family-owned businesses. Tanja Jegger is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and Chartered Accountant (CA(SA)). She holds a Master of Arts (Finance and Investment) degree from the University of Exeter, a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Blue Economy focus area: SDG14 Investment Roadmap / connecting investors to projects.

**Alan Laubsch (PT)***Founding Partner*Planet Positive Ventures[LinkedIn](#)

Alan is an internationally recognized risk management thought-leader and impact investor. His mission is to protect life and regenerate Earth's ecosystems by growing an Earth Positive economy that includes nature in global accounting systems.

Alan leads Natural Capital at Vlinder, a tokenized impact investment platform. Alan is also a Founding Partner at Planet Positive Ventures, focused on nature-based solutions.

Alan listed the world's first mangrove and Blue Carbon credit backed digital token on Lykke Exchange.

Alan is also a co-founder of EarthPulse, a super brain (and heart) to empower protectors of Mother Earth with exponential technologies.



**Nicola Lei Ravello***Responsible Investment Analyst*White Stag Investing[LinkedIn](#)

After starting his career as investment analyst in the hedge funds industry for 7 years, Nicola decided to cover sustainable finance on his own initiative since early 2019. He has been heavily engaging the finance community with sustainable topics and on how to recognise them as a long-term source of value. He has researched the most promising sustainable themes investors can engage with, analysed their investment landscapes and show how to construct performing portfolios around them. He is now working as an independent research provider and sub-advisor in the field. He holds a Bsc. in Economics from HEC Lausanne and a M.sc. in Finance from the University of Zürich. Nicola is finally a relentless karateka and a passionate windsurfer.

**Christopher N. Mbanefo (CH)***CEO & Founder*OXI-ZEN[LinkedIn](#)

Christopher describes himself as a humble seeker of wisdom and truth. He is a professional pilot and has various degrees, including a MSc in Aeronautical & Astronautical Engineering from The Ohio State University. He is an entrepreneur and innovator and is currently heading his new venture OXI-ZEN, a disruptive blockchain-powered platform that will enable Emitters and Converters of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gases (GHG) to directly link, interact and transfer economic value with no third parties involved. By providing solutions to monetize terrestrial and marine carbon sinks, new economic models and ecosystems can be developed for the new millennium which meet SDGs.

**Nicolas Pascal (FR)***Director*Blue Finance[LinkedIn](#)

Nicolas Pascal is an expert in both Finance and Marine Science, with over 20 years global experience. He is a former investment banker, environmental economist, entrepreneur and current Director of the Blue Finance, developing blended finance solutions for marine conservation, livelihood enhancement and climate change resilience.





Romain Renoux (MC)

Executive Director

The Med Fund

[LinkedIn](#)

Executive Director of The MedFund the first conservation trust fund dedicated to marine protected areas in the Mediterranean, Romain Renoux was the former president of the French Marine Protected Areas' Managers Forum. French and Canadian scientist Romain has worked many years in the philanthropic sector for the protection of environment and sustainable development in the Indian Ocean, the Caribbean, the Pacific, North America, and the Mediterranean.

Committed in innovative financial mechanisms' development and biodiversity preservation, he joined the Principality of Monaco a few years ago to establish and manage The MedFund initiative launched by the Foundation of Prince Albert II of Monaco, the Principality of Monaco, France, and Tunisia.



Frank Schweikert (DE)

Founder & Director

Deutsche Meeresstiftung

In 1992 Frank was the initiator of the "Aldebaran", a sailing ship, with which marine research and media work for the seas and oceans is operated. In 2005, he launched a maritime competition for young talent in the maritime competition "Research at sea". Supported by the "boot" trade fair in Düsseldorf, he curated the "love your ocean" sustainability initiative at the boot Düsseldorf boat show together with the "Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation" under the umbrella of the German Marine Foundation with a sea symposium organised by Prince Albert II by Monaco (2017) and Klaus Töpfer (2016).



Marie-Laure Schaufelberger (CH)

Head of Group ESG & Stewardship

Pictet Group

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Marie-Laure Schaufelberger is Head of Group ESG & Stewardship for the Pictet Group. She began her career at Pictet in 2007 within the media relations and public affairs team. In 2014 she moved to Pictet Asset Management's Thematic Equities team as a Product Specialist, covering business development and client-servicing for several environmental and social impact strategies. She coordinates the Pictet Group's Sustainability Board and sits on the Board of its Philanthropic Foundation. Marie-Laure holds a Masters in International Relations from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, and is a CFA.



**Diana Rico Vélez (DE)**

Research Assistant & MSc. Student, Marine Ecosystem & Fisheries Science
Hapag-Lloyd Center for Shipping and Global Logistics (CSGL), University of Hamburg
[LinkedIn](#)

I am biologist, interested in marine field and environmental education, currently working as research assistant for sustainability in the shipping industry and starting my master's degree, also in marine sciences. I like to link the natural sciences with the society, and contribute to the education for the health of the oceans and marine life; using ideas and methodologies which allow me to make citizen science. I have high interest in marine biology, investigation, education at level of the school and university, citizen science, and Sustainable Development Goals.

**Tenke Zoltani (CH)**

Founder
Better Finance
[LinkedIn](#)

Tenke built her career in sustainable finance and impact investments advising international corporations, private foundations, financial institutions, and HNW individuals on direct investments. She specialises in environmental finance, from catalysing innovative solutions, to identifying viable startups, and implementing projects in the field. Most recently, Tenke was the Director, Impact Investing at UBS where she built the impact investing advisory offering for UHNW clients. Prior, she was an Investment Manager at Islan Asset Management in Switzerland, advising global agribusiness Bunge on sustainable direct investments, and implementing projects in least developed countries' food-water-energy sectors. Previously, Tenke worked in the emissions markets in London and Geneva across alternative investments—analysing private market opportunities in emerging markets' biomass, biogas, sustainable agriculture, renewable energy sectors. Notably, she also worked alongside Lord Nicholas Stern, author of the seminal Stern Review, in climate research and publications.



Organising Committee

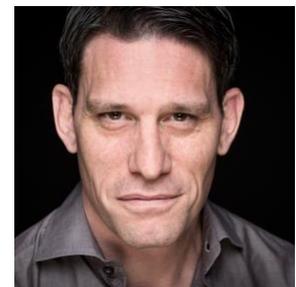
A special thank you to the individuals who give their practical and generous support as volunteers to making the Ocean Vitality Forum happen.



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***Additionally, we thank
Andrej Voina · Audio Visual Specialist, Freiraum Zürich, Sprüngli and John Baker.***



Programme

09:45

Doors opened for Registration, coffee & networking

10:15

Welcome message and introduction of the OVF Committee

Charles Barber, OVF Chairman

10:25

Round robin, 19 experts

10:45

Roundtable 1 – “Rebuilding Fisheries: A community-based path to marine conservation at scale”

(15 min keynote presentation, 30 min discussion)

Kitty Brayne, Blue Venture

11:30

Roundtable 2 – “Blue Carbon – Mind the Gap”

(15 min keynote presentation, 30 min discussion)

John Vermilye, Gallifrey Foundation

12:15

Lunch break

12:45

Roundtable 3 – “Financing the Transition to Green Shipping & Ports”

(15 min keynote presentation, 30 min discussion)

Michael Adams, Ocean Assets Institute

13:30

Roundtable 4 – “Blue Philanthropy – Opportunities & Challenges”

(15 min keynote presentation, 30 min discussion)

Grégorie Muhr, UBS

14:15

Networking coffee break

14:30

Roundtable 5 – Wild Card Presentation

(15 min keynote presentation, 30 min discussion)

Speaker to be selected on the day

15:15

Plenary session – “Blue Economics & Finance”

Chairperson Clare Brook, Blue Marine Foundation

16:00

Closing words, wrap up & light refreshment

Switzerland for the Oceans

