



## PURE OCEAN ANNOUNCES THE WINNING PROJECTS FROM THE 2023 CALL FOR PROJECTS



The Pure Ocean Fund announces the support of 6 new scientific projects following its annual call for projects. Thanks to its donors, Pure Ocean funds innovative applied research projects around the world to protect marine biodiversity and ecosystems. The 6 new projects were selected by Pure Ocean's Scientific Committee for their scientific excellence and impact.

### **“There is still time to act, but the window is closing fast”.**

The synthesis report of the 6th IPCC assessment report, published on March 20, alerts once more. The ocean is our best ally, playing a key role and providing essential services for climate change mitigation and adaptation: climate regulation, CO<sub>2</sub> capture, water quality, food resources, coastal protection... While our future depends on the health of the ocean, marine ecosystems are struggling to adapt to the combined impacts of climate change and human activities.

**For David Sussmann, President of Pure Ocean, «to better protect, we need to better understand; to develop solutions, we need financial means. Faced with the many environmental challenges and complex issues, I am convinced that scientists hold the keys.** Thanks to its numerous donors, Pure Ocean financially supports each year a selection of scientific projects contributing to a better knowledge and an increased protection of the marine environment.

### **PURE OCEAN 2023 CALL FOR PROJECTS**

The 2023 call for projects, under the name **“Pure Ocean Challenges”**, in line with the United Nations' “10 Ocean Decade Challenges”, focused on four main themes:

- Understanding and combating marine pollution
- Protecting biodiversity and restoring degraded marine ecosystems
- Strengthening the resilience of marine ecosystems and the people who depend on them in the face of climate change
- Improving our knowledge of the ocean system.

Projects supported by Pure Ocean must include an innovative dimension - technological, social, exploratory or inspired by nature.

### **72 APPLICATIONS RECEIVED, FROM 28 COUNTRIES**

In addition to the relevance of the proposed research topics and their scientific excellence, the 72 candidate-projects were evaluated according to one main criterion: their impact, i.e. the tangible and sustainable benefit provided by the realization of the project in the framework of one or more of the Pure Ocean Challenges.

### **THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE AT THE HEART OF THE SELECTION PROCESS**

The scientific committee, the central body for the selection of scientific projects supported by Pure Ocean, is composed of five world-renowned researchers on the ocean and climate: Françoise Gaill, Gilles Boeuf, Anna Zivian, Kartik Shanker and Abdelmalek Faraj. They validate the annual call for projects and evaluate the numerous candidate projects to establish the final short-list of winners.

## 6 NEW SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS THAT OFFER CONCRETE SOLUTIONS TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

These 6 new projects join the 15 innovative projects supported by Pure Ocean since 2019



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Hannes Klostermann

BRAZIL / CHILE

### BIOSSA

**Combining satellites and marine drones to analyze the effects of noise pollution on cetacean migrations between Brazil and Chile.**

Establish recommendations regarding marine noise pollution and its consequences on cetaceans.

*Sphyrna Odyssey, University of Toulon,  
University Rio Grand do Norte*



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FRANCE

### CITIZEN INTO SCIENCE

**Develop a satellite box to involve boat-owners in the collection of oceanographic data.**

Better understand the microclimates and currents in the open sea and to raise awareness in the sailing community.

*IFREMER, Oceano Vox*



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SVALBARD/CANARY ISLANDS/  
MEDITERRANEAN /CARIBBEAN

### GENESIS

**Compare species and physiological strategies of Atlantic marine sponges from the North Pole to the Caribbean.**

Identify new compounds of interest bio-inspired for medicine & green chemistry.

*University of Perpignan, Criobe,  
Under the Pole (Concarneau)*



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PANTELLERIA, ITALY

### PANTHER

**Experimental community restoration of degraded habitats, monitored by photogrammetry, in order to establish a Marine Protected Area.**

Establish a pilot model of technical-economic transition of a Mediterranean island in the service of coastal ecosystems.

*Polytechnica University of Marche*



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BREST/ BRAZIL

### PLASTIDRUGS

**Measuring the accumulation of emerging pollutants on microplastics (comparison between France and Brazil).**

Establish recommendations for decision makers to curb microplastic pollution and its indirect chemical effects.

*University of Western Brittany, Lemar*



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Beth Watson

RAJA AMPAT, INDONESIA

### YAF KERU

**Combining collaborative management/restoration and scientific monitoring for the protection of an exceptional coral reef.**

Protect biodiversity from habitat degradation while promoting ecotourism and food security for local populations.

*Planète Mer, University of Montpellier*

## ABOUT PURE OCEAN

Pure Ocean is an international NGO based in Marseille and Lorient, France. Its main mission is to support innovative applied research projects to better understand and protect marine biodiversity and ecosystems, and to find sustainable solutions to threats to the ocean. The five eminent researchers composing Pure Ocean's scientific committee select projects with a strong innovative dimension on the basis of an annual international call for projects. Pure Ocean mobilizes and educates civil society on the situation of endangered ecosystems through conferences, races and sporting challenges, and by empowering people to take action through the "La Goutte Bleue", the movement to encourage litter pickup. [www.pure-ocean.org](http://www.pure-ocean.org)

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### Visuals:

<https://bit.ly/3JVW9RQ>



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