

FONDATION PACIFIQUE

SAILING FOR SCIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY

Support our expeditions to
the Arctic Ocean and the Red Sea

Let's explore the last frontier together



THE OCEANS:

OUR MOST VITAL ECOSYSTEM AND LAST FRONTIER

The oceans constitute Earth's most vital ecosystem and yet remain for the most part a mystery. Only four individuals have thus far – and briefly – explored the Mariana Trench, the oceans' deepest point. This compares to more than 12,000 people who have reached the summit of Mount Everest and to 12 astronauts who have walked on the moon.

HUMAN IMPACT WITH CHAIN REACTIONS

Looming large among ocean unknowns is the impact of human activities on this huge and complex ecosystem. Our need for knowledge is all the more urgent given that human activities at sea are increasing relentlessly with consequences that put into motion far reaching chain reactions.

Dedicated to tackling this fundamental challenge, the Fondation Pacifique has been conducting multi-disciplinary oceanographic expeditions since 2009. Combining science, education and culture, the expeditions contribute to furthering knowledge of the impact of human activities on the oceans and to raising awareness of marine sustainable development.

NEW TOOLS AT THE SERVICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

A Geneva-based non-profit organization, the Fondation Pacifique harnesses the potential of its low-impact traditional sailboats offering them as logistical platforms for high-tech equipment and expertise. Its Swiss and international scientific partners carry out pioneering and innovative research programs on two of the major threats facing the ocean today: climate change and pollution.

FIELD DATA FOR DIAGNOSTICS AND SOLUTIONS

Through the collection of brand-new and reference data from the field, the foundation provides the scientific community with a wider and deeper look into the state of the oceans, thus enabling more accurate diagnosis of threats caused by human development, the sine qua non condition for coming up with relevant solutions.

NEW EXPEDITIONS IN PREPARATION

The foundation is currently preparing two new multi-disciplinary expeditions for launch in mid-2020: one in the Arctic Ocean (2020–2024) in partnership with the University of Geneva to map the concentration of greenhouse gases in order to reconsider the exact role of the oceans in the carbon cycle; another in the Red Sea (2020–2022) in partnership with the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne (EPFL) to establish the first genetic database of corals in what appears to be the world's last refuge for these astonishing marine invertebrates.



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FONDATION PACIFIQUE: CATALYZING ENERGY AND CREATING SYNERGIES

An adventure firmly rooted in Swiss civil society and driven by a strong entrepreneurial spirit, the Fondation Pacifique needs your help to understand and preserve the oceans, humanity's common precious resource and essential source of life on Earth.

In 2017, the United Nations created the fast-approaching "Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development" (2021–2030) in order to mobilize governments, companies, academic institutions, civil society actors and philanthropic organizations around the world to contribute to a common framework that puts science at the heart of Sustainable Development Goal 14 on the ocean (SDG 14).

In 2019, in an innovative blend of science and diplomacy, the Swiss Confederation supported the creation of a Transnational Red Sea Center dedicated to the study and preservation of Red Sea corals.

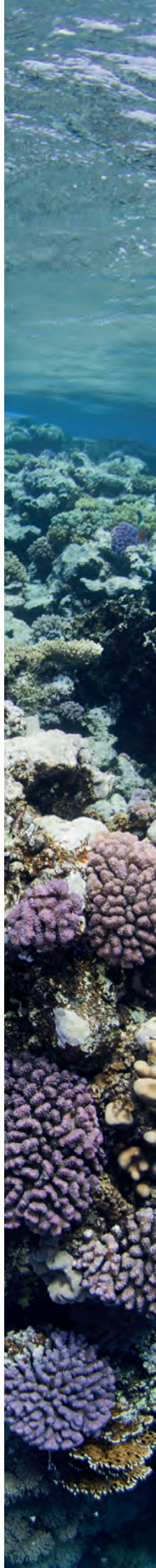
BUILDING ON OUR PAST ACHIEVEMENTS

The next two expeditions of the Fondation Pacifique will build on its previous missions in the Mediterranean (2009–2010), the Atlantic (2010), the Red Sea (2011), the North and Baltic Seas (2012) as well as on its circumnavigation of the globe during *The Ocean Mapping Expedition* (2015–2019). These previous expeditions featured several scientific programs or missions in partnership with the University of Geneva, the Polytechnic University of Catalonia (Barcelona), the University of Queensland (Brisbane), Stanford University (California), James Cook University (Singapore) and the NGO Oceaneye (Geneva).

In the frame of *The Ocean Mapping Expedition* alone (www.omexpedition.ch), the Fondation Pacifique and its partners have carried out:

4 long-term scientific programs and short-term missions on:

- microplastic pollution: 208 surface water samplings revealing the presence of particles in more than 90% of the samples
- noise pollution: hundreds of hours of underwater recordings revealing the middle of the Pacific Ocean as "point zero" of the expedition, the only region with a level of noise equivalent to the pre-industrial era
- greenhouse gases: 30,000 km of coastal and oceanic monitoring of methane and carbon dioxide concentrations, a world first, revealing that the Indian and Atlantic oceans are unexpected sinks of methane
- coral reefs mapping: 12,000 photos taken on the Great Barrier Reef as part of the development of a cutting-edge mapping tool of coral reefs now being implemented worldwide through the Allen Coral Atlas project
- coral bleaching: +1800 coral health observations in 6 countries



1 socio-educational program:

- 60 teenagers in total embarked as ship's apprentice for 2 month each

1 cultural program:

- 20 cartoonists and illustrators "in residence"

4 exhibitions in Geneva, Cape Town, Sevilla

+ 20 press conferences, seminars, talks, etc in Geneva, Seville, Buenos Aires, Valdivia, Tahiti, Brisbane, Mactan, Singapore, Brunei, Jakarta, Durban, Cape Town, Dakar, Vigo leading to hundreds of media coverage worldwide

Dozens of public visits on board at stopovers for a total of some 5,000 visitors including hundreds of primary and secondary school children

An 8-episode YouTube documentary series on the expedition (14,000 views)

CONTACTS & DONATION

To support us and learn more about the foundation and its upcoming expeditions, contact us at:

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