



VENDÉE GLOBE FOUNDATION 2026–2027 SPONSORSHIP PACK

“The ocean is a gigantic library
whose books we are burning.”

Dr. Franck Zal
*Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board
of the Vendée Globe Foundation*



TABLE OF CONTENTS

EDITORIAL	PAGE 4
INTRODUCTION	
OUR COMMITMENT	PAGE 5
OUR APPROACH	
OUR PROJECTS	
OUR SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD	
SUPPORT US	PAGE 12
OUR SPONSORS	
CONTACT US	PAGE 15

EDITORIAL

Founded in 2024, the Vendée Globe Foundation supports concrete projects aimed at better understanding and protecting the oceans. Every contribution, no matter how small, helps us achieve more together.

Guided by a Scientific Council chaired by Dr. Franck Zal, the Endowment Fund's work was recognized with the Ficade Group's 2025 Grand Prix de la Philanthropie in the Ocean and Biodiversity Protection category.

The Vendée Globe Foundation embodies the core values of a legendary race, driven by a commitment to taking concrete action for the common good. Joining this ecosystem means becoming part of a community that embraces global responsibility.



Gilles Sallé

Chairman of the Vendée Globe Foundation



Together, we support practical, science- and environment-focused initiatives, with a particular emphasis on the conservation of marine ecosystems, in conjunction with the skippers' round-the-world voyage.



Alain Lebœuf

*Trustee of the Vendée Globe Foundation
Chair of the Vendée Departmental Council*

OUR COMMITMENT

In collaboration with the scientific community, the Vendée Globe Foundation supports scientific projects aimed at providing sustainable solutions to current and future oceanographic challenges.

Encouraging dialogue

and the sharing of knowledge between scientists and the general public

Raising awareness

on oceanographic knowledge and the preservation of ecosystems

Supporting innovation

and scientific research in a sustainable manner for marine ecosystems

The ocean is crucial for humanity
3.5 billion people depend on it as their primary food source.

Offshore energy, medicines, trade, leisure... wherever we live, we are all connected to the ocean.

It is our planet's blue lung
The ocean plays a role as important as forests for our atmosphere.

It is indispensable to the oxygenation of our planet.

The marine biodiversity is exceptional
The ocean enabled the emergence of an environment rich in resources, and of the first forms of life on Earth.

Only 200,000 marine species are known today, out of an estimated 700,000 to one million (UNESCO).

The ocean is a key driver of innovation
The ocean is an invaluable source of wealth.

It is fertile ground for developing more sustainable energy solutions through biotechnology. Studying marine life also leads to groundbreaking medical advances.



OUR APPROACH

The Vendée Globe Foundation is driven by a firm belief: cooperation between business, science and philanthropy helps to advance our understanding of and protection for the ocean.



Collective philanthropy that is accessible to all

The Fund brings together a coalition of committed companies.

They support ambitious scientific projects, both internationally and closer to home, whilst keeping sponsorship costs at a reasonable level by pooling their contributions.



Guaranteed scientific excellence

An independent scientific panel assesses the applications and selects the most promising initiatives each year to help us better understand and protect the ocean.



A tangible impact on research and the ocean

Through collaboration with partner organisations, the Fund provides **substantial funding to researchers**, thereby making a direct and lasting contribution to their work in the field.



OUR MISSION



THE VENDÉE GLOBE FOUNDATION IS TAKING ACTION TO PROTECT THE OCEAN

Encourage exchanges and knowledge sharing between scientists and the general public

Establish biodiversity protection zones during the Vendée Globe, and taking measures to know it better

Raise awareness among children and adults about ocean challenges and ecosystem preservation

Protect endangered cetaceans through telemetry and bioacoustic data collection

Support innovation, and global scientific research

Develop scientific equipment such as onboard sensors on Vendée Globe boats to carry out preservation initiatives



OUR 2026 PROJECTS

BIOLIT – ALGUES BRUNES ET BIGORNEAUX

Building a Living History of the Coastline: A Participatory Adventure

BIOLIT, led by the Planète Mer association, is a citizen science program dedicated to coastal observation. It brings together citizens and scientists **to monitor changes in coastal ecosystems and build a living record of the coastline** in the face of global change.

It enables large-scale data collection, enhances our understanding of foreshores, and strengthens commitment to their conservation through an approach that combines ecology with digital tools.



© C. Mebarki – MNHN

BioLit
Les observateurs du littoral



© Julien Challandes-12-Édition Malauray Morin

LES VOILES IODÉES

Seaweed in the Spotlight: An Expedition at the Intersection of Science, Art, and Society

Les Voiles iodées, organized by the Blutoxia association, is **a local sailing expedition connecting Biarritz and Roscoff**. Through 10 stops that combine science, art, and public engagement, the project aims **to raise awareness** about issues related to seaweed and its ecological, nutritional, and cultural roles.

In August 2026, the crew will set sail to meet you at roundtable discussions, documentary screenings, tastings, and exhibitions that blend art, photography, and popular science.

BLUTOPIA



ENVIRONMENTAL DNA ANALYSIS

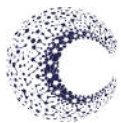
A project that turns sailing into a global scientific mission

Citizens of the Sea, led in Europe by skipper Fabrice Amedeo, aims **to transform offshore races into true global scientific missions.**

Through the ongoing collection of environmental DNA (eDNA) from beneath the hulls of boats, the project aims **to create a genetic record of the ocean** and gain a better understanding of marine biodiversity, migration patterns, and the effects of climate change. This international project paves the way for broader implementation, including at the 2028 Vendée Globe.



© Citizens of the Sea



CITIZENS OF THE SEA



The ocean is a treasure trove of innovations that we are only just beginning to explore.

Every marine organism holds secrets that could revolutionize human medicine.

Protecting the oceans is therefore not just an environmental issue; it is also a matter of urgent importance for human health.

Losing this biodiversity means losing opportunities for future cures.



*- Dr. Franck Zal -
Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board
of the Vendée Globe Foundation*



Franck Zal

Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board
of the Vendée Globe Foundation
Founder of Hemarina

Franck Zal holds a Ph.D. in oceanography. He specialized in respiratory pigments found in marine invertebrates. He is a Knight of the National Order of Maritime Merit, and won the Galien Prize.



Charlotte Schoelinck

Co-founder and CEO of Lisaqua

Charlotte Schoelinck holds a Ph.D. in marine biology. A graduate of Sorbonne University and the National Museum of Natural History in Paris, she worked at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans in Canada, where she specialized in aquaculture, and at the Natural Heritage Service to improve the national biodiversity inventory.



Daniela Zeppilli

Head of the Deep-Sea Laboratory at IFREMER

Daniela Zeppilli is a biologist specializing in the ecology and taxonomy of deep-sea benthic fauna. She was awarded the L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Fellowship in 2014.



Simon Bernard

President and Co-founder of Plastic Odyssey

Simon Bernard holds a degree in engineering from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure Maritime. He is a member of the Société des Explorateurs Français. He is a Knight of the National Order of Maritime Merit and was named to the 2021 Forbes 30 Under 30.



Matthieu Guesné

President and Founder of Lhyfe

Matthieu Guesné, an engineer by training, has specialized in this field for several years and has become a pioneer in the field of green hydrogen. Before founding Lhyfe, he headed the CEA research center in Nantes. He has also held senior positions in international sales, notably at Hewlett-Packard.

OUR PARTNERS



On Friday, November 8, in Les Sables-d'Olonne, the Vendée Globe Foundation and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation formalized a partnership agreement aimed at protecting marine ecosystems, demonstrating both organizations' commitment to taking concrete action to preserve natural resources.

In the presence of H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco and Mr. Alain Leboeuf, President of the Vendée Globe, that Mr. Gilles Sallé, President of the Vendée Globe Foundation, and Mr. Olivier Wenden, Vice President and CEO of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, formalized this partnership, which will notably result in the participation of a Vendée Globe skipper in the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation's program dedicated to young leaders, as well as through an unprecedented collaboration to support scientific projects in the fields of oceanography and technology.

The two organizations will thus work together, drawing on the shared values embodied by sports, sailing, and respect for the ocean, with the goal of encouraging more environmentally friendly behavior and promoting sustainable initiatives, while supporting future generations.

In keeping with this shared commitment, H.S.H. Prince Albert II has agreed to serve as Honorary President of the Vendée Globe Foundation.

Read more: Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation: www.fpa2.org
Vendée Globe Foundation: www.vendeeglobefoundation.org



JOIN OUR OCEAN CLUB



*Build credibility for
your environmental policy*



Boost your employer brand



*Join a community of socially
responsible companies*



Unite around a shared sense of pride

THE VENDÉE GLOBE FOUNDATION BY THE NUMBERS: 2024-2025

20 SPONSORS

ESSENTIAL SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS
AND A GUARANTEE OF THE STABILITY
OF OUR MODEL

282 000 €

RAISED (INCLUDING IN-KIND
DONATIONS AND PRO BONO SERVICES)

66 000 €

DONATED TO 3 SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS

136 000 €

FOR PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

1,3 MILLION

VISITORS TO OUR BOOTH
AT THE 2024 VENDÉE GLOBE AND
PARTICIPANTS IN OUR OUTREACH
ACTIVITIES

+1400 FOLLOWERS

A NETWORK OF AMBASSADORS
AND ADVOCATES TO HELP SPREAD
OUR IMPACT AND MESSAGE

OUR GOAL: TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF OUR ACTIONS

300 000 €

TARGETED TO PROVIDE MAXIMUM
SUPPORT FOR SCIENTIFIC PROJECTS
AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FUND

MAKE A BIGGER IMPACT

20 NEW SPONSORS TO RAISE AWARENESS,
CHAMPION AND COLLECTIVELY EMBODY
THE CAUSE OF OCEAN CONSERVATION

SUPPORT US

Your support is vital to making our participatory initiatives dedicated to protecting the oceans a reality. By supporting the Vendée Globe Foundation, you are part of the solution!



Laura Le Goff

*Secretary of the Vendée Globe Foundation
Chief Executive of the Vendée Globe*



Tax exemption

A business? You can claim a tax deduction of 60% of the donation amount for the portion up to €2,000,000 and 40% for the portion of the donation exceeding €2,000,000 (up to a limit of €20,000 or 0.5% of annual turnover excluding VAT)

▶ **send us an email at: contact@vendeeglobefoundation.fr**

Counterparties

A private individual? You can claim tax deduction of 66% (IFI deduction) on the amount of your donation, regardless of the amount you give (up to a limit of 20% of your taxable income)

▶ **make a donation at www.vendeeglobefoundation.org**

Other benefits

Showcasing your commitment

By joining CLUB OCEAN, and depending on your contribution, you'll be bringing ocean conservation into your company: visibility across our various platforms, exclusive invitations to the Fund's key events, project launch conferences, webinars, and more.

- **A tangible commitment to the values of the Vendée Globe**
- **Local roots and an international reach**
- **Visibility for your business and the development of your CSR strategy**

Every contribution, however small, enables us collectively to achieve what is beyond our individual capabilities.

Supporting the Fund means choosing to take action to protect the oceans and marine ecosystems, with a view to building a more sustainable world together.



Stéphanie Renault

*Treasurer of the Vendée Globe Foundation
Deputy Managing Director of Crédit Agricole
Atlantique Vendée*



The Vendée Globe Foundation plays a key role in supporting scientific progress to help build a better future for our planet and for humanity – values shared by Crédit Mutuel, which aims to become the bank of the environmental and societal revolution.



Jean Eric Lecrenais

*Trustee of the Vendée Globe Foundation
Public Relations Officer at Caisse Fédérale
du Crédit Mutuel Océan*

Supporting the Fund means protecting the oceans: every drop counts!



Benoît Catel

*Trustee of the Vendée Globe Foundation
Chief Executive of Banque Populaire Grand Ouest*

YOUR SUPPORT, OUR STRENGTH TO TAKE ACTION

OUR MAJOR SPONSORS



OUR MAIN SPONSORS





VENDÉE GLOBE
FOUNDATION

ONE OCEAN, ONE MISSION

