

## Background

Sitting at the crossroads of sport, nature and global business, The Ocean Race is uniquely placed to connect a vision for a healthy ocean to a world-class sporting competition which uses the ocean as our field of play.

Since 1973, The Ocean Race has been sport's ultimate test of a team. Considered by many as the pinnacle of offshore ocean racing, winning the coveted trophy has long been an obsession for the world's best professional sailors – from Olympic champions, to pioneers and record breakers. Sailing is a sport that provokes great passion among millions of fans around the world, and is a powerful platform for positive change.

## Our Vision

The Ocean Race's vision is to unite and motivate people to achieve the extraordinary, driving change towards a healthier, sustainable planet.

We want everyone to understand that the health of our seas is critical for all life on earth, and we want to inspire action that leaves a positive impact on the planet.

We believe a healthy ocean means a healthy planet for all. Sustainability for us means a healthy, safe and abundant planet, balancing human needs now and for future generations, protecting human and nature's rights.

## Our Mission

Our sailors, teams, cities and partners are all part of the race for the ocean. Racing through some of the most remote and unseen regions of the planet using just the power of the wind, means that nature drives us.

Epitomising teamwork, tenacity and endurance, our Race is action packed, entertaining, safe, environmentally-sound and inclusive, and we know, leaves a positive legacy in its wake.

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this Policy is to provide a framework for setting sustainable development objectives.

**Scope:** This policy applies to all activities under the financial and operational control of The Ocean Race 1973 SLU. We ensure the principles of this policy are applied to those areas we can influence, by including requirements in contracts and support and guidelines for stakeholders to meet the ambitions of this policy.

## Our Commitments

As organisers of The Ocean Race, we recognise the responsibility to embed sustainability into the heart of our operations, and to make decisions that support our ambition to be a leader in sports and sustainability.

We make a deep commitment to **ethical, fair, responsible and sustainable** business practice, and promise to place care for the planet and people at the heart of our decisions.

We support the **principles of sustainable development**, ensuring **inclusivity and diversity** within our organisation's policies, competition rules and event access.

We commit to being **responsible stewards of nature** and apply the precautionary principle where impacts are not clear.

Good corporate governance and professional **integrity and codes of conduct** are managed through our company and employment policies.

Through our sourcing choices, we support **fair labour practices** and ensure we are not complicit in any human rights abuses in our supply chain or business dealings.

## Our Ambitions and Objectives

We turn our vision to action, through establishing the Racing with Purpose sustainability framework.

We cluster our work under three main pillars: **Impact, Footprint and Legacy**, and have nine strategic aims to guide our efforts.

These drill down into objectives, measurable targets and performance indicators, which can be reviewed in our [Sustainability Action Plan](#).

### IMPACT

#### Engagement and Commitment

Engage our stakeholders and obtain their commitment to Racing with Purpose.

#### Advocacy, Outreach and Learning

Maximise the impact of The Ocean Race as a purpose-based platform.

#### Related Documents Policies:

[Sustainability Action Plan](#)  
[Sustainable Sourcing Code and Targets](#)  
[Sustainable Catering Guidelines and Targets](#)  
[Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Plan](#)

### FOOTPRINT

#### Environmental Stewardship

Protect the natural environment from Race and event impacts.

#### Resource Use

Responsible resource use and circularity.

#### Climate Change

Minimise greenhouse gas emissions and achieve net positive impact.

### LEGACY

#### Ocean Science

Advance knowledge and collect data on ocean health.

#### Inclusion and Diversity

Celebrate inclusion and diversity through sailing and our race.

#### Industry Legacy

Industry leadership, innovation and positive legacy.

#### Community Legacy

Enduring positive impact in host communities.

## POLICY REQUIREMENTS

**To uphold our vision and ambitions, the following are our principle operational requirements. Our management approach enforces our other commitments:**

- All seafood served or sold must be from verifiable sustainable fisheries
- No single-use plastic used in food and beverage service
- No single-use PVC used in banners or site branding
- Renewable energy is prioritised
- Reusable serviceware is prioritised
- No confetti, glitter, balloons, fireworks or other 'pretty litter'

#### Related requirements embodied in additional policies:

- Gender balance in race rules
- Diversity, equality and inclusion in our recruiting process.

## TARGETS

**Related principle targets for the 2022-23 Race include the following. Additional targets are in the Sustainability Action Plan:**

- 50% reduction in Race Organiser greenhouse gas emissions compared with the previous edition of the Race.
- A 'Climate Positive Race', drawing down more GHGs than emitted by the Race Organiser, achieved through investing in blue carbon and other nature-based solutions.
- All stopovers, teams and partners join us in making the entire race climate positive.
- 100% of seafood from verifiable sustainable fisheries will be served or sold.
- 100% renewable energy to our race villages.
- 100% of all recyclable and compostable materials are recycled.
- 100% of textiles in signage, look and overlay are sent to textile recycling.

## Our Management Approach

Sustainability management of The Ocean Race is facilitated through the implementation of our management system, in conformity with the requirements of **ISO 20121 Event Sustainability Management System**.

As owners, leaders and stewards of the Race, we ensure that adequate resources and personnel are engaged to deliver against our sustainability objectives.

Our Sustainability efforts align with many of the SDGs, and our focus on ocean health, climate change and plastic pollution focus align directly with **SDG 12 Responsible Consumption and Production, SDG 13 Climate Action**, and **SDG 14 Life Below Water**. In our Sustainability Plan, and alongside our Objectives and Targets we map our work to the relevant SDG's sub-targets.

## How Do We Chart Our Progress?

Improvement is our ambition. By charting our progress we can set goals to do better for every new edition of the Race. This is both improving our management approach, via our sustainability framework and management system and the consequential outcomes, impacts and performance of our sustainability efforts.

Progress against overall goals and targets are through annual sustainability reporting. After the completion of each stopover, an update report is produced in collaboration with the local delivery partner. At race-end an overall Sustainability Performance Report is produced. Performance is measured against our principles, objectives and targets as detailed in our **Sustainability Action Plan**.

We align with relevant [GRI Standards](#) to report our management approach and measured outcomes and results.



*Richard Brisius*

**Richard Brisius**  
Race Chairman



*Anne-Cecile Turner*

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Sustainability Director