

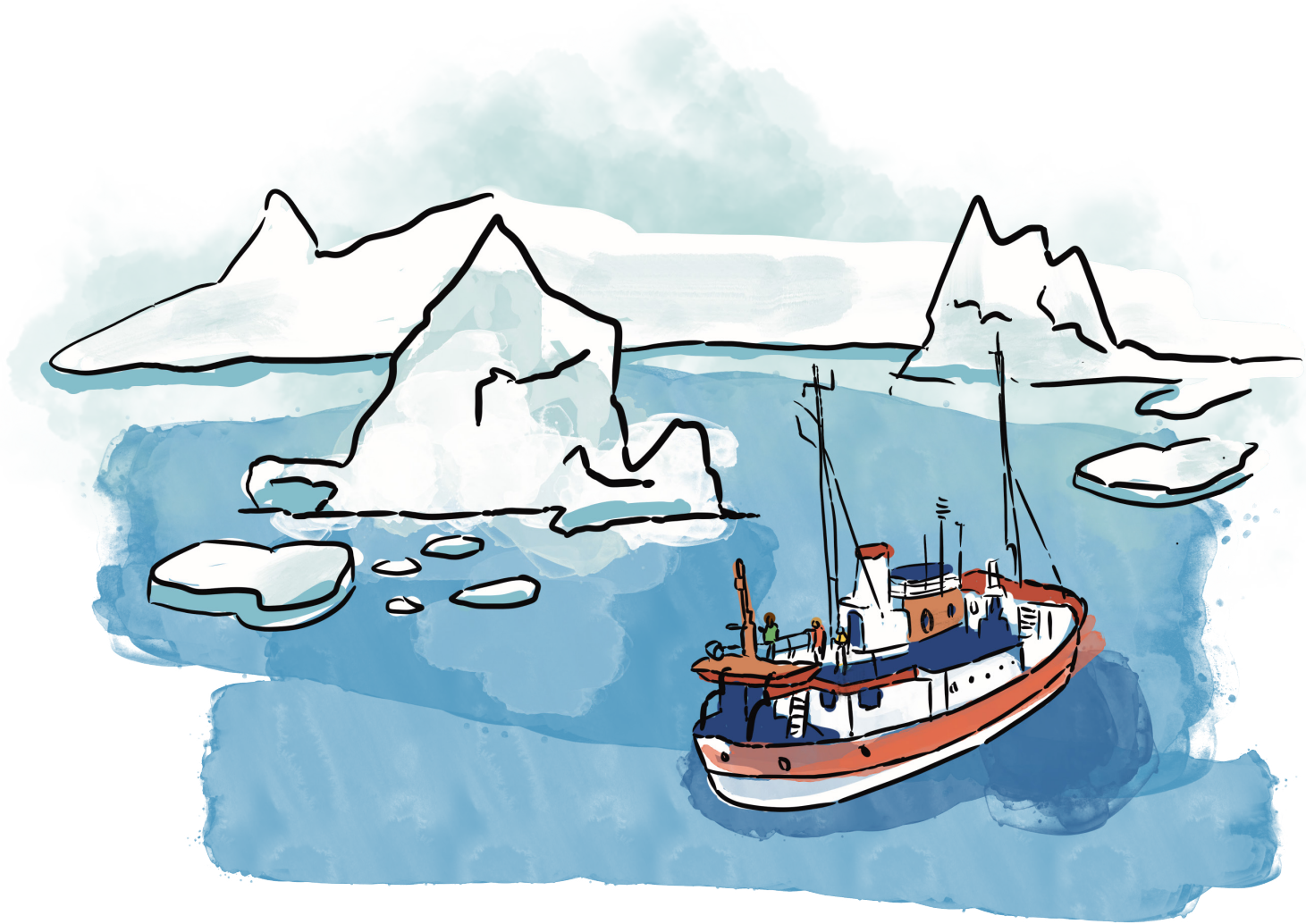
FOR A SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY: FIVE YEARS OF BNP PARIBAS INITIATIVES TO PROTECT THE OCEAN



BNP PARIBAS

The bank
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Table of Contents



- 🌀 **Building a sustainable blue economy p.4**
 - The Ocean, an essential resource under severe sources of pressure..... p.4
 - Five years of 360° actions to support Ocean protection p.5
- 🌀 **Taking action on the three major pressures impacting the Ocean p.6**
 - Drastically reducing greenhouse gas emissions..... p.6
 - Preventing and reducing pollution and the disturbance of marine environments p.8
 - Favouring the sustainable use of marine resources..... p.10
- 🌀 **Exploring the potential of the blue economy p.12**
 - Leveraging financial innovation to help safeguard ecosystems p.12
 - Contributing to the deployment of innovative renewable energies p.13
 - Facilitating the emergence of new marine technologies p.13
- 🌀 **Mobilising all stakeholders..... p.14**
 - Advancing together..... p.14
 - Actively supporting scientific research..... p.14

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY



THE OCEAN, AN ESSENTIAL RESOURCE UNDER SEVERE SOURCES OF PRESSURE

The Ocean is essential to life on Earth. We refer to our home as the “Blue Planet” because the Ocean covers more than **70%** of the Earth’s surface. Its waters host **exceptional biodiversity**. The Ocean plays a central role in **climate regulation** by absorbing around **30%** of our CO₂ emissions. It also helps us meet our basic human needs by providing **food security**, with the Ocean **nourishing nearly 40%** of the world’s population.

In addition, the Ocean is a source of employment – 60 million people work directly in the fishing and aquaculture sector – and value creation, contributing up to **2%** of global GDP.

Overall, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) estimates that the global economic value of the Ocean amounts to at least **\$3 trillion each year**. By 2030, the **funding gap to achieve the target for the 14th United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) “Life Below Water” is estimated at \$175 billion per year**.

And this at a time when the Ocean is facing increasing pressures linked to human activities such as climate change, pollution and the overexploitation of marine resources, all of which are jeopardising Ocean health.

The Oceans or the Ocean?

Although it is common to talk about oceans in the plural form and identify each ocean basin – the Arctic, Atlantic, Southern, Indian and Pacific – **the scientific consensus is moving towards favouring the term “Ocean” in the singular form with a capital “O”**. The simple reason is that the Ocean has a **unique and deep circulation system** (known as thermohaline circulation) that transports energy, materials and organisms from one Ocean basin to another. In fact, the geophysicist Athelstan Frederick Spilhaus (1911-1998) designed a world map centred on the South Pole, making it possible to represent the Ocean as **a single body of water**.

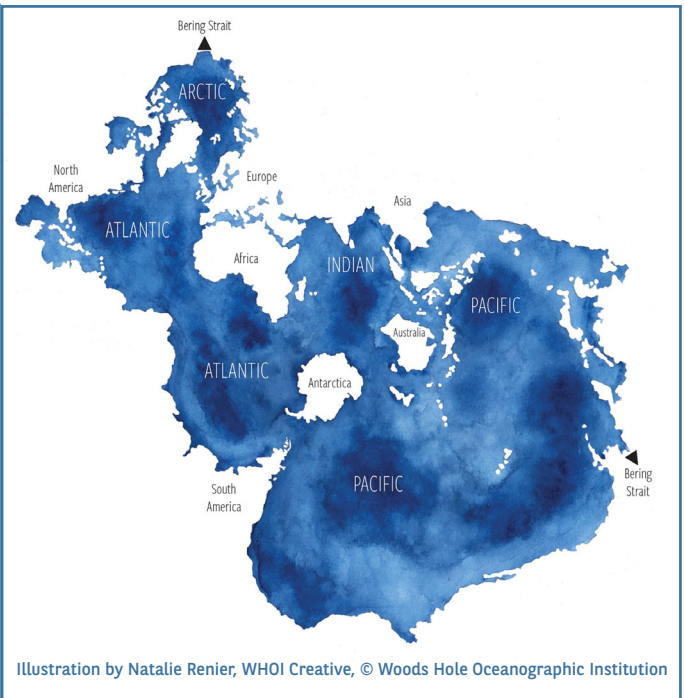


Illustration by Natalie Renier, WHOI Creative, © Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

FIVE YEARS OF 360° ACTIONS TO SUPPORT OCEAN PROTECTION

Aware of these challenges, BNP Paribas was one of the first banks to clearly outline how it could contribute to protecting the Ocean.

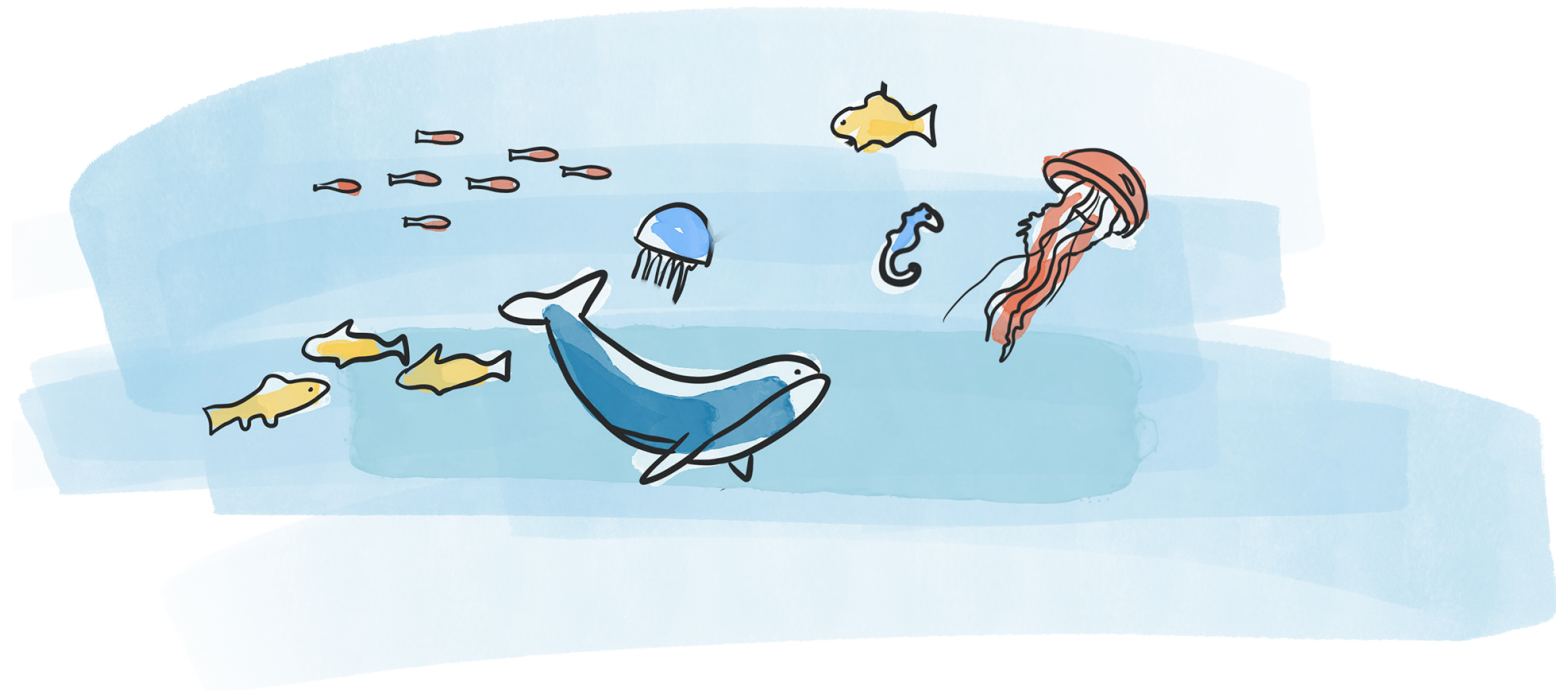
Since **2019**, the Group has established guidelines to: oversee financing and investment activities that are directly or indirectly linked to the Ocean; actively support initiatives promoting a sustainable economy that respects marine ecosystems; and promote a collaborative approach with the participation of all its stakeholders.

More than five years on, BNP Paribas is convinced now more than ever that only global, multi-stakeholder and multi-sector action can meet the major challenges facing the Ocean. The Group’s primary objective is simple: to help companies in key sectors of the blue economy develop and adopt innovative solutions (such as maritime transport, marine renewable energy, fisheries and aquaculture), as well as to support other sectors that have a close link to the Ocean due to the impacts their operations can have on marine environments or their dependence on marine resources (for example, the agriculture, mining, pharmaceutical, cosmetic or food industries).

BNP Paribas has several domains of expertise to support its clients in this transition and enable them to adopt practices that protect the Ocean and coastal systems. These include the Low-Carbon Transition Group, whose experts support low carbon projects for major companies, as well as diverse teams specialised in areas such as maritime transportation and infrastructure finance or innovation through dedicated hubs in France and internationally. In addition, the Group directly invests in the development of innovative companies through, for instance, BNP Paribas Développement and the BNP Paribas Positive Impact Business Accelerator. The Group also capitalises on its vast network of clients and partners to **create synergies and catalyse action, particularly through coalitions and working groups**.

Lastly, **BNP Paribas supports researchers and community initiatives striving to preserve and restore marine ecosystems through the BNP Paribas Foundation: since 2010, €24 million in funding has been dedicated to biodiversity and climate research.**

For BNP Paribas, supporting clients in their transition, backing innovative companies and financing research are key actions driven by a commitment to finding solutions to protect the Ocean and building a sustainable blue economy.



TAKING ACTION ON THE THREE MAJOR PRESSURES IMPACTING THE OCEAN

Millions of people around the world – primarily in coastal cities and areas – depend on a healthy marine ecosystem. Yet this health is now threatened **by three increasing pressures in the form of climate change, pollution and the exploitation of fishery resources...** which are all linked to human activities and identified as major pressures by the IPBES (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services).

In its report dedicated to this issue, the IPBES calls, like the IPCC, for an **integrated approach combining climate and biodiversity**. BNP Paribas is fully committed to this vision of synergy, which is essential to preserving marine services and achieving the objectives of the Paris Agreement, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the UN SDGs.

As such, BNP Paribas is striving for a blue, sustainable and regenerative economy by focusing its efforts on adopting solutions to these three major sources of pressures.



DRASTICALLY REDUCING GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

Although the Ocean currently absorbs about a third of the CO₂ and 90% of the excess heat generated by the increased greenhouse effects linked to human activities, this absorption capacity is not infinite. Therefore, it is **crucial to limit this pressure and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from inception** by promoting responsible energy use and limiting deforestation.

Since 2010, BNP Paribas has adopted **sector-specific policies** that define criteria for its financing and investments in sensitive areas and the **responsible management of its credit portfolios**. In fact, for the nine highest emitting sectors worldwide, the Group has published targets to reduce GHG intensity per unit produced or GHG emissions in absolute value for 2025 or 2030 to align with “net zero” by 2050 targets.



By supporting its clients in the energy production sector to develop low carbon – and particularly renewable – energy, BNP Paribas is helping to meet today's needs while also preparing for the future. By the end of September 2024, the Group's funding for renewable energy production had reached €34.2 billion. The Group has set itself the objective of increasing the proportion of low carbon energies (renewable and nuclear) in its energy credit portfolio to 90% by 2030. In fact, this figure was already at 76% by end of 2024.

Beyond the energy sector, BNP Paribas has set itself the objective to dedicate €200 billion by 2025 to support its clients in their transition to a low carbon economy. By end of 2024, the Group had already mobilised €179 billion. BNP Paribas specialists also structure financial solutions tailored to the climate performance of the Group's clients and the investment needs of their respective sectors. Since 2012, this expertise has enabled the Group to support the development of 45 offshore wind farms, adding 26.6 gigawatts of energy capacity worldwide.

In 2019, BNP Paribas set itself the objective of dedicating €1 billion to support its maritime transport clients in the ecological transition of their fleets, and this target has already been well exceeded.

This includes:

- **Sustainability-Linked Loans** (or SLLs) indexed on the reduction and monitoring of the carbon intensity of the client's fleet.
- **Financing of innovative ships**, such as the co-structuring of a green loan for Hapag Lloyd for the delivery of six ships eventually compatible with biomethane propulsion. Compared to conventional propulsion systems, biomethane propulsion can reduce CO₂ equivalent emissions by 95%.
- **Support for the development of a low carbon French maritime ecosystem**. For example, BNP Paribas has financed several companies involved in the construction of wind-powered vessels with wings. This includes the shipping company Jifmar, the start-up OceanWings that designed the vessels' wings, and the start-up D-Ice that provided the software to allow for the wings' optimal functionality.

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), maritime transport represented 2% of global CO₂ emissions in 2022. This industry is a central player in international trade, and its decarbonisation is of paramount importance in spite of the considerable technological and economic challenges posed by its transition to a carbon-neutral future. As a signatory of the Poseidon Principles, BNP Paribas aims to reduce the GHG emission intensity of its financing portfolio by at least 23%, and up to 32%, by 2030 compared to 2022.



Port infrastructure, which brings together multiple stakeholders, is also shifting the boundaries of the ecological transition of the maritime sector. Thus, BNP Paribas supports clients and projects contributing to the electrification of ports, most notably by structuring the Port of Melbourne's sustainability-linked loan. As Australia's largest general cargo and container port, Port of Melbourne has put in place a greenhouse gas emissions reduction and monitoring plan, which will rely on infrastructure electrification and planning for future low-emissions fuels including investigating the potential to establish a green methanol bunkering hub.

Making a concrete contribution to the development of low carbon in maritime transport

Committed to supporting its clients in low carbon innovation across the entire maritime transport value chain, BNP Paribas has supported two flagship projects, from Norway to France. Fjord 1 is a leader in the electric ferry market in the Norwegian fjords that has benefitted from the Group's support to deploy its fleet of environmentally friendly vessels.

BNP Paribas Développement has invested in BlueFins, a start-up whose hydrofoil technology inspired by whale fins allows wave energy to assist in a vessel's propulsion. This biomimetic innovation is applicable to all types of commercial vessels and should result in a 20% reduction in fuel consumption.

In France, BNP Paribas has also formed a partnership with the startup incubator and accelerator ZEBOS, launched in 2018 by CMA CGM, a global leader in maritime transport and logistics. Its objective is to promote innovation and decarbonised navigation in the sustainable maritime transport industry.

PREVENTING AND REDUCING POLLUTION AND THE DISTURBANCE OF MARINE ENVIRONMENTS



Omnipresent and highly visible, plastic pollution has been labelled as a “planetary crisis” by the United Nations. The PEW Charitable Trusts, an American NGO specialising in data sharing, estimates that approximately **fifteen million tonnes of plastic waste end up in the Ocean every year**, a figure that is forecasted to increase significantly by 2040. These plastics break down into microplastics and then nanoparticles, which make them extremely difficult to collect.

At the same time, **invisible chemical pollution** – including pesticides, drug residues and persistent organic pollutants such as PFAS – is also dumped into the Ocean, seriously disrupting marine organisms. Therefore, it is vital to support companies in their transition to more ecological business models that are circular and less polluting. **The cost of inaction – especially in terms of recycling and waste management – could be particularly high for companies.** In fact, PEW estimates it could reach **\$100 billion a year by 2040**.

Though cigarette butts are often overlooked as plastic waste, they are the waste most commonly collected on beaches in terms of volume. In fact, cigarette filters are made of cellulose acetate, a plastic fibre often mistaken for cotton. Since 2017, BNP Paribas has ceased all its financing and investment activities for companies whose business is primarily linked to tobacco.

What about the Deep Sea Mining sector?

Despite the volume of **strategic mineral resources** that it could potentially provide, mining of the seabed – and particularly the mining of polymetallic nodules – in the great depths, known as deep sea mining or DSM, presents **intrinsic risks, as well as economic uncertainties**. In this context, **BNP Paribas does not finance DSM mining projects**.

A holistic response is necessary to combat this land-based pollution that is then transported further by waterways and pipelines. The Group aims to help reduce water pollution – and thus, the pollution of the Ocean – by systematically assessing the quality of its clients’ waste management in the mining and agriculture sectors, helping clients implement good practices and actively participating in international coalitions dedicated to reducing plastic pollution or managing hazardous chemicals more effectively.

BNP Paribas finances and invests in technologies that eliminate residual or non-recoverable pollutants before they reach the marine environment. For example:

- **Blue Foot Membranes**, is developing innovative filtration membranes for the treatment of wastewater, enabling its reuse and thus reducing aquatic pollution.
- **Saur**, which specialises in the water sector, called upon BNP Paribas to co-structure its first blue bond. This **€500 million** blue bond will primarily be used to finance wastewater collection and treatment projects.

Limiting plastic pollution with the circular economy

The Group has made financing the circular economy a priority in its sustainable finance strategy. The threefold objective is to promote circular solutions, limit the creation of new waste and recover residues.

This strategy is embodied in several of the Group’s investment products (such as the Easy ECPI Circular Economy Leaders UCITS ETF launched by BNP Paribas Asset Management in May 2019), as well as **investment in technologies that facilitate the recycling of plastics (including the solution developed by Plastic at Sea)**. This innovative French company measures the toxicity and biodegradability of various materials and, by testing the plastics present in the sea, it **helps companies reduce the environmental impact of their products**.

Waste already produced and which is non-recyclable can be transformed. For example, the Aubervilliers-based **start-up Le Pavé®** turns this waste into an attractive, durable material for construction use. BNP Paribas supports this company as an impact investor.

The Group’s third-party private asset management subsidiary, BNP Paribas Asset Management, is also a member of the Business Coalition for a Global Plastics Treaty, which supports an ambitious approach to reduce plastic pollution and promote a circular economy.

Moreover, the BNP Paribas Solar Impulse Venture Fund helps finance circular initiatives that reduce pollution by addressing food waste with the start-up Phenix and agricultural inputs with the company Axioma.



FAVOURING THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE RESOURCES

While limiting pollution is essential, the rational use of marine resources is equally important. Therefore, BNP Paribas has put in place a framework for activities in sensitive sectors – such as the fishing and aquaculture sectors – and guides its clients towards more sustainable practices.

In the fishing sector, BNP Paribas engages in dialogue with its clients regarding their fishing techniques and geographical areas to ensure that they are in line with the highest standards and respect fishing quotas. The Group supports the sustainable management of fish stocks and asks its clients to refrain from using destructive methods such as dynamite, cyanide, drift nets longer than 2.5 kilometres, electric fishing or bottom trawling beyond a depth of 800 metres.

Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing accounts for 15% of global catches. Counteracting conservation and sustainable management efforts, IUU fishing contributes significantly to the overexploitation of the Ocean and the erosion of marine biodiversity. To combat this practice, the Group encourages transparency across its clients' supply chains and supports the development of monitoring tools to more effectively detect illegal activity to make it easier for governments to oversee fishing activities. BNP Paribas has invested in a company specialising in long-range solar drones that can be used at sea for scientific research, as well as rescue and surveillance missions in sensitive areas.

To limit pressure on the horseshoe crab, which is a key endangered species, BNP Paribas Asset Management has been in dialogue with approximately thirty companies in the pharmaceutical sector for several years with one clear goal: to convince these companies to stop laboratory testing using horseshoe crab blood (which clots in the presence of bacterial toxins). Horseshoe crab blood has long been used for testing, but now there is a synthetic alternative that allows for the preservation of this species, which has existed for 450 million years and is vital for certain coastal ecosystems in Southeast Asia and the North Atlantic coast.

More broadly, while wild fish stocks are declining, demand is only increasing. As such, aquaculture is developing rapidly, which means that better environmental standards need to be introduced, especially in terms of pollution prevention, the transmission of diseases to wild species, and the management of the footprint on coastal areas such

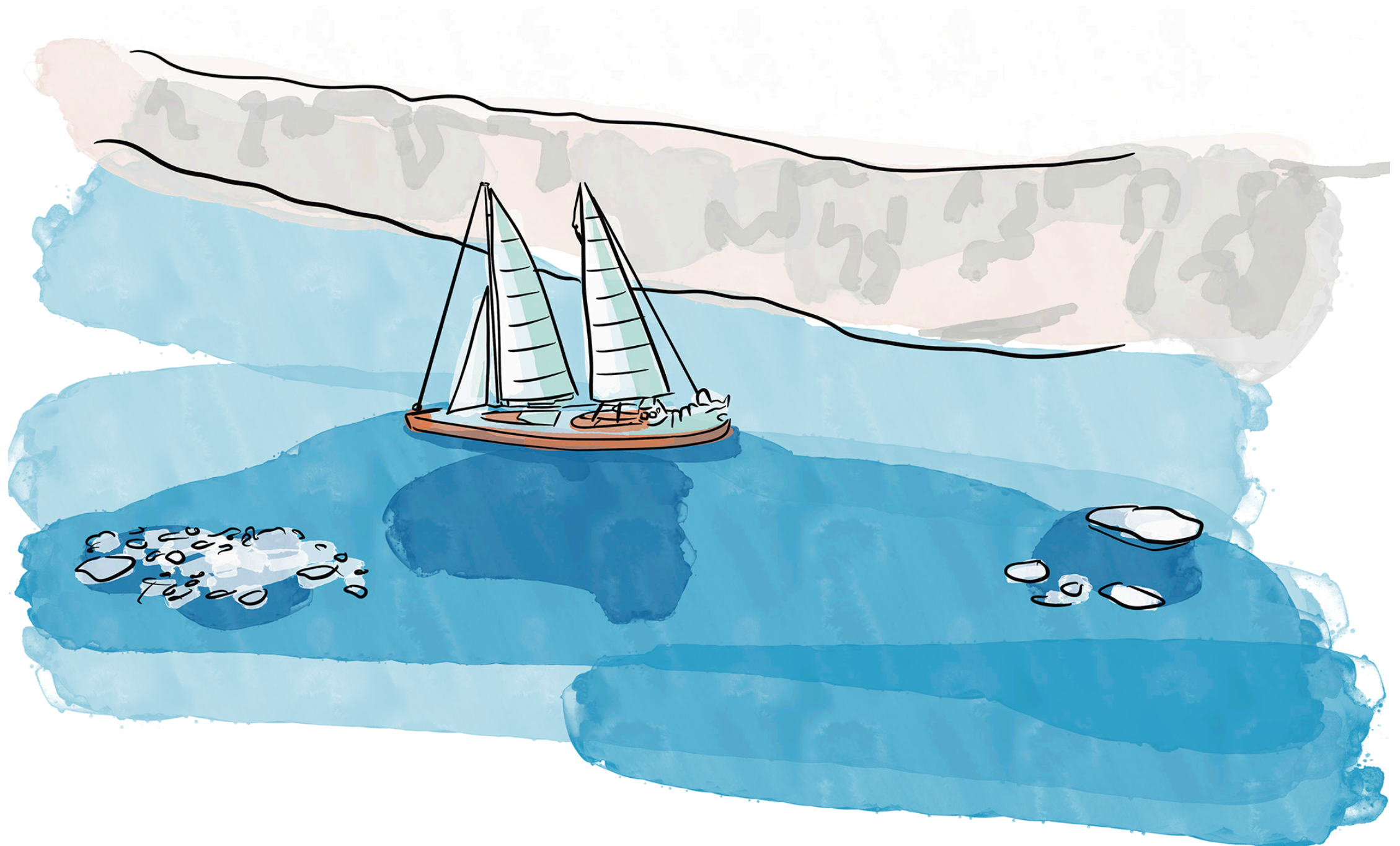
as mangroves. With the aim of both supporting good environmental practices and ensuring compliance with standards when it comes to health, safety and local community rights, BNP Paribas is fostering greater dialogue with its clients and stakeholders. For example, BNP Paribas Asset Management participates in FAIRR's Protein Diversification & Sustainable Aquaculture Commitment initiatives, which help global leaders in salmon aquaculture make their transition towards more sustainable food, better traceability of supply chains and increased transparency. This is all based on the reporting framework of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD).

Beyond the topics most directly related to fishing and aquaculture, measuring and managing the impact of coastal and marine infrastructure on biodiversity are also key to working towards an integrated and sustainable blue economy sector. The energy transition involves installing offshore wind farms, which provide a substantial energy supply but also require management of their impact on the surrounding marine ecosystem over time. As a signatory to the Equator Principles, BNP Paribas ensures that the offshore wind projects it finances comply with a set of environmental standards, from construction to operation.

A subject less known to the public, underwater noise pollution – which is generated by offshore construction and operations or even simple navigation – constitutes a serious threat to marine biodiversity, largely because it disturbs cetaceans. To address this problem, innovative companies are coming up with new technologies to reduce, for example, underwater noise from offshore

Seaweed, a crop of the future?

The Mordor Intelligence firm estimated the potential of the global seaweed market at around \$20 billion in 2024. Although it is already used by the food, pharmaceutical, cosmetics, biofuel or biofertiliser industries, seaweed cultivation is expected to continue to increase. In France in particular, several companies are fully demonstrating this dynamic. For example, companies are inventing biomaterials that can replace plastic from seaweed biomass or specialising in the sustainable harvesting and processing of marine seaweed for food and cosmetic applications. All without encroaching on agricultural land or using pesticides.



EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL OF THE BLUE ECONOMY



The blue economy is constantly evolving in response to the dual demands of preserving marine ecosystems and supporting the economies of local and international communities. By developing innovative financing and investment solutions, BNP Paribas aims to leverage the power of finance to attract capital to the sustainable and innovative projects required to achieve the UN SDG 14.

LEVERAGING FINANCIAL INNOVATION TO HELP SAFEGUARD ECOSYSTEMS

In May 2025, the Group issued its first two “blue” private placements for a total amount of more than €37 million. The aim was to mobilise online markets to provide solutions and offerings dedicated to pollution prevention, marine and coastal conservation and preservation, and water treatment.

Moreover, BNP Paribas has been supporting sovereign, institutional and corporate players for several years in the construction of frameworks dedicated to blue economy investments and programmes. In 2025, BNP Paribas arranged a €100 million blue bond for CAF – development bank of Latin America and the Caribbean – in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as a technical advisor. It seeks to finance coastal ecosystems protection and adaptation measures for local communities notably in Brazil and Ecuador. It has been fully subscribed by BNP Paribas Cardif. The Group also arranged for CABEL, the multilateral development bank of Latin America, a \$30 million blue private placement to support restoration of aquatic ecosystems.

In addition, the Group offers its clients the financial tools to attract the capital needed for the sustainable management of marine and coastal ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangroves and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in close liaison with local communities that depend on these ecosystems for related activities like fishing and tourism. BNP Paribas has contributed to two examples of this multi-stakeholder collaboration:

- Participation in the structuring of a financing tool dedicated to the conservation of MPAs in Indonesia in collaboration with the World Bank, the Indonesian government and the GEF.

- The launch of the “Blue Finance” impact loan facility at the end of 2024 (in collaboration with the NGO Blue Alliance) to help finance the sustainable management of MPAs by local communities and contribute to the restoration of coral reefs. Initially deployed in Cape Verde, Indonesia, the Philippines and Tanzania, it will support the regeneration of 1.8 million hectares of ecosystems and directly improve access to employment and food security for 110,000 local community members. While BNP Paribas is the first investor in the facility, with an initial funding of \$2.4 million, the objective is to welcome other investors and reach a first funding stage of \$10 million.

Enabling individual clients to finance a new blue economy

The Group’s initiatives include BNP Paribas Asset Management’s launch of the first Blue Economy ETF in 2020. This Blue Economy ETF, aligned with the ECPI Global ESG Blue Economy Index, allows individual clients to direct their savings towards 50 companies around the world that are focused on the sustainable development of the blue economy, while also staying committed to better resource management and Ocean preservation. These companies, classified into five categories – coastal life, energy and resources, fisheries and seafood, pollution reduction and maritime transport – allow for broad action. As of 31 January 2025, this ETF had €213 million in assets under management.

BNP Paribas is currently studying several markets with promising development prospects, while assessing the risks they could pose to marine biodiversity.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEPLOYMENT OF INNOVATIVE RENEWABLE ENERGIES

Although conventional offshore wind power is the most well-known renewable energy source in an oceanic context, several other innovative, decarbonised technologies are currently available, including floating offshore wind, wave and tidal energy, and ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC).

Floating wind turbines make it possible to exploit deeper areas, often more exposed to the wind, while aiming to reduce conflicts of use and impacts on the seabed.

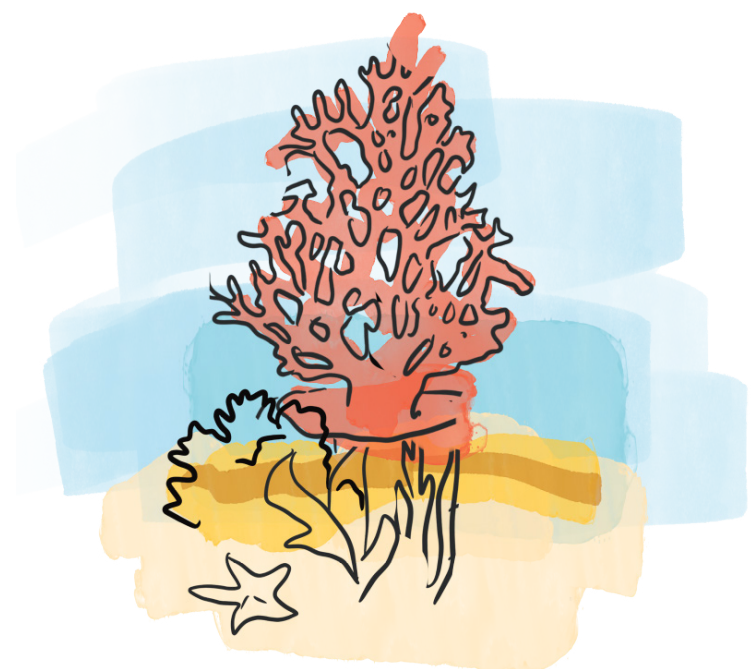
BNP Paribas has notably backed Ideol BV which supports the development of floating wind projects such as Floatgen. Installed in 2018, the latter was the first floating wind turbine in France. The Group also participated in the financing of the Provence Grand Large project, developed by EDF and Enbridge, for a capacity of 25 megawatts of floating wind power in the Mediterranean.

FACILITATING THE EMERGENCE OF NEW MARINE TECHNOLOGIES

Also known as “SeaTech,” marine technologies are experiencing rapid growth and paving the way for new alternatives in the sustainable management of the Ocean. Drones, robotics, sensors and artificial intelligence (AI) are revolutionising our ability to observe, understand and protect marine ecosystems. In the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, these tools help optimise yields, reduce waste and limit environmental impacts. For example, sensors measure water quality and fish behaviour, while AI automatically adjusts feeding or harvesting procedures. Bioceanor, which specialises in the real-time monitoring of water quality, demonstrates this potential with a solution that combines connected sensors and AI to provide aquaculture players with accurate environmental forecasts. The approach of this company, who is supported by BNP Paribas, makes it possible to anticipate risks, optimise practices and strengthen the resilience of business operations against climatic uncertainties.

Satellite imagery is an essential tool for collecting reliable data and improving our understanding of marine environments. With this in mind, the BNP Paribas environmental data research and analysis team conducted an initial experimental study using satellite data provided by the specialist company Kayrros.

The study focused on a protected area in Indonesia that is crucial for conserving several endangered species, including the dugong, which plays a vital role in maintaining the local ecosystem’s balance. The purpose was to demonstrate the role that data analysis can play in evaluating the impact of maritime activities on marine biodiversity.



MOBILISING ALL STAKEHOLDERS



ADVANCING TOGETHER

Beyond its commercial activities, BNP Paribas is demonstrating its commitment to the Ocean by actively supporting scientific research and participating in the global dialogue on this important issue. **An official sponsor of the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC) in Nice, France, the Group is convinced that it is essential to strengthen scientific knowledge and promote active collaboration between various stakeholders.**

Understanding the specific challenges of decarbonising maritime transport, for instance, requires close cooperation between the public and private sectors. BNP Paribas is committed to this approach, in particular, through its participation in the European Commission working group led by DG MOVE, which aims to structure the value chain for decarbonised fuels.

In parallel, **the Group joined the “Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance” (ORRAA)** coalition in spring 2025. This multi-sector initiative aims to raise \$500 million in

investments by 2030 to strengthen the resilience of coastal ecosystems and vulnerable communities by developing innovative financial instruments – such as blue bonds and parametric insurance – to support concrete projects for mangrove restoration, sustainable seaweed cultivation and coral reef protection. It is with this same aim of reducing the funding gap that **BNP Paribas also joined the #BackBlueOceanFinance** initiative, which further reinforces the Group’s commitment to place the sustainability of the Ocean at the heart of its financial decisions, making it an essential part of its responsible investment strategies.

As part of the **UNOC** and the **Blue Economy Finance Forum (BEFF)**, the Group collaborates with the entire maritime sector and scientific experts, including with the NGO **Great Whale Conservancy**, which plays a leading role in collective innovation aimed at protecting the Ocean by leveraging marine biodiversity data.

BNP Paribas actively contributes to the production of research that specifically aims to better understand the impacts of human activities on biodiversity thanks to the work carried out by members of the Group’s environmental data research and analysis team. After two publications devoted to the study of ecosystem integrity and species indicators, the third research paper, released in June 2025, is dedicated to the **assessment of the marine footprint of companies**. As an overall evaluation of current approaches to modelling

marine pressures, this research paper summarises existing methods and assesses their maturity in terms of modelling the impact of human activities on marine environments. The goal of this research is to **help the scientific and economic communities** better understand these issues, available models and data gaps, while also providing initial insights into the impact of economic activities on marine biodiversity.

ACTIVELY SUPPORT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Scientific research is an essential lever to having a better understanding of the interactions between climate and marine biodiversity. It is in this context that **the BNP Paribas Foundation** launched its **“Climate & Biodiversity Initiative”** in 2025, the sixth edition of its call for projects, and the first edition **dedicated exclusively to the Ocean and coastal ecosystems.**

Benefitting from **€7 million in funding** over three years, this programme is officially endorsed by UNESCO’s Ocean Decade initiative and will support up to 15 international scientific projects that will help provide further marine research knowledge to better support public and private decision-making.

Furthermore, the BNP Paribas Foundation supports key structures such as the International Platform for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS), a global initiative that provides transdisciplinary scientific analyses and concrete recommendations for sustainable Ocean governance.

The Foundation also supports and is part of **Ocean Matcher**, an initiative that helps **Ocean science projects identify philanthropic funding sources** to promote sustainable development in line with the 17 United Nations SDGs. These commitments help BNP Paribas reinforce its internal expertise. The Group’s expertise is also strengthened thanks to academic partnerships such as the partnership between BNP Paribas Fortis and the University of Antwerp to address major port issues.





BNP Paribas – June – Design and illustrations (except for the WHOI map): BNP Paribas' internal agency



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