

An aerial photograph of a harbor filled with Volvo Ocean Race sailboats. The boats are lined up, with various sponsor banners visible, including 'DONGFENG', 'Southwest', 'AkzoNobel', 'Woolworths Sustainability', 'Team Brunel', 'Clean Seas', and 'Turn the Tide on Plastic'. A large crowd of people is gathered on a bridge in the foreground, looking down at the boats. The water is a deep green color.

Summary
report

Sustainability Programme

Progress update, April 2018

VOLVO
OCEAN
RACE
ROUND THE WORLD



Sustainability Programme Progress update

Ocean Health
Plastic Pollution
Ocean Summits
Education
Clean Seas
The Globe
Science
Engagement
Race Villages

Volvo Ocean Race Sustainability Programme offers an unparalleled opportunity to connect the urgent worldwide issue of ocean health and plastic pollution to a high profile sports event. By utilising the global reach and timeframe of the race, the sustainability programme has so far delivered significant impact.

This has been achieved by maximising our impact through campaigning for action against marine plastic pollution. Meanwhile we are working to minimise our footprint by focussing on our own production practices. In the end we plan to leave a lasting positive legacy through our outreach, education programme, scientific data, leadership by our sailors and teams, and our ongoing communications channels.

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Minimise Footprint

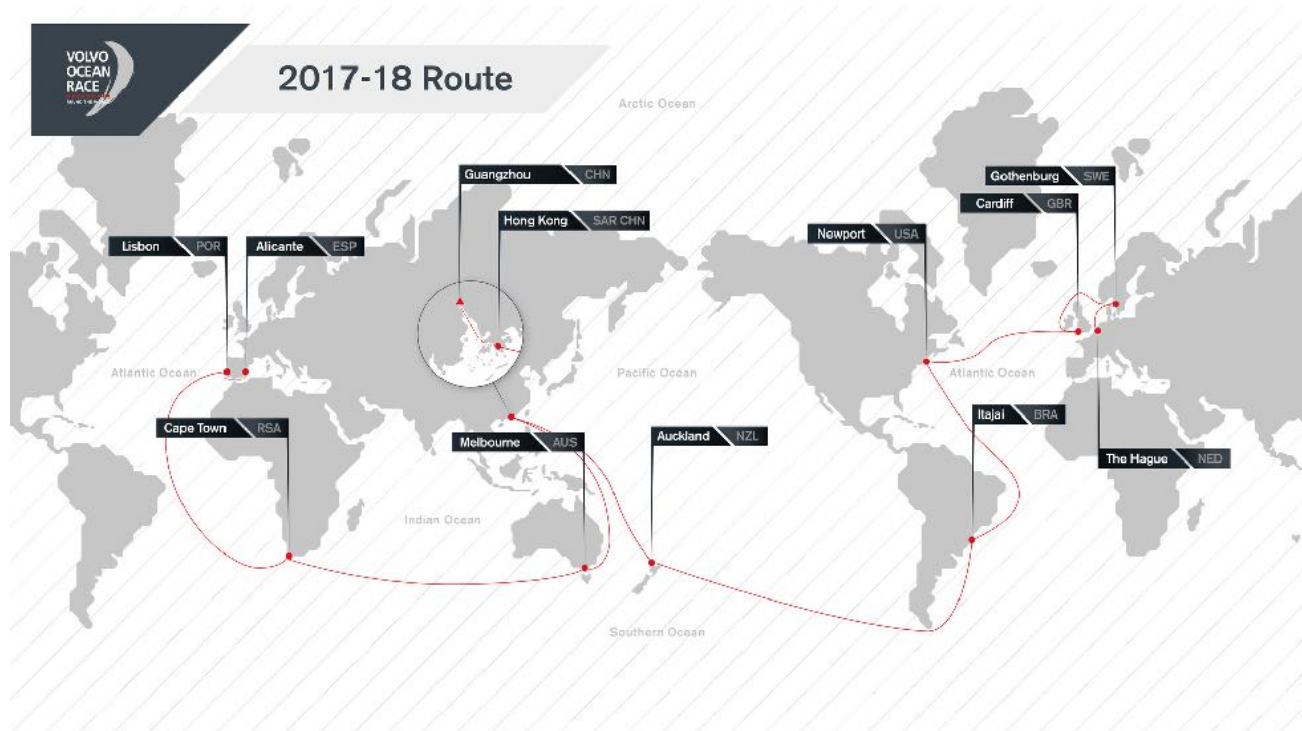
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Leave a Positive Legacy

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This progress update highlights our sustainability programme efforts from Alicante start though to Itajai stopover. It is intended to give a snapshot of key features of our sustainability programme. It does not cover every sustainability objective and target, operational detail or programme initiative. This document is available for public readership.





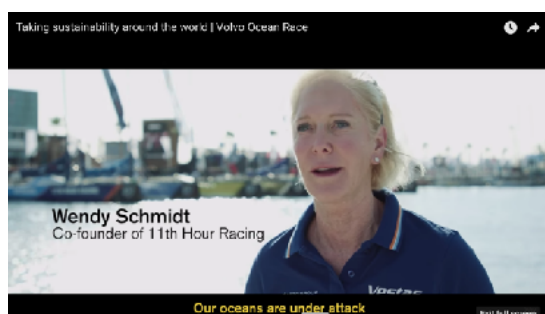
We're on the home straight

Alicante
Lisbon
Cape Town
Melbourne
Guangzhou
Hong Kong
Auckland
Itajai

We're now well over halfway in our race round the world and our Sustainability Programme has made real impact.

Race Village visitors, online fans and followers in the millions have been touched by our campaign - real experiences on plastic reduction in our Race Villages, inspiring and informative video content on screens, news stories and social media, signing up to the Clean Seas campaign, participating in our Education Programme, attending beach cleans, TedX talks, and even an ocean film festival. Our Ocean Summits have brought the top thinkers and doers together and our ground-breaking Science Programme is collecting unprecedented datasets.

The following pages highlight some of our achievements so far!



[View our half-way video](#)

Key figures

- 15 000 pledge to reduce their plastic footprint and help fight ocean plastic pollution with UN Environment's Clean Seas
- New Zealand becomes the 42nd country and Itajai the first city in South America to sign up to Clean Seas.
- 275 000 visitors to theGlobe in our Race Villages to view our sustainability films and Clean Seas exhibition.
- 64 500 students are Champions for the Sea through our ocean health and plastic pollution Education Programme, downloaded in 37 countries.
- 10 000 students have attended our ocean health workshops in the Race Village.
- 1 480 000 views of our sustainability video content.
- Avoided an estimated 238 000 single use plastic bottles in our Race Villages through our water refill stations.
- 180 000 single use cable ties avoided through re-usable bungee straps.
- 85% of potential single use plastic service ware avoided through our single use plastic bans.
- 19 scientific drifter buoys successfully deployed.
- Oceanographic measurements recorded at 2142 points.
- 40 microplastics samples analysed.
- 900 representatives from government, industry, science, academia and ocean advocates gathered to hear specialist speakers at our Ocean Summits and side events.



Showcasing innovative solutions to the ocean plastic pollution crisis.

Alicante, Cape Town,
Hong Kong

83 speakers
510 guests

The Ocean Summits bring together the worlds of sport, government, science and ocean advocacy, to discuss innovative solutions to the global crisis of ocean plastic pollution. Those attending have had an invaluable opportunity to exchange ideas and form collaborations.

Upcoming Ocean Summits:

Newport - Friday 18 May 2018

Cardiff - 5 June 2018

Gothenburg - 18 June 2018

The Hague - 28 & 29th June 2018



Alicante

18 October 2017
Volvo Pavilion

- The Spanish Government announced that it would be joining the UN Environment Clean Seas Campaign.
- The Mayor of Alicante announced an education campaign on plastic in all schools in the city, and that events he attended in an official capacity would not serve or sell drinking water in disposable plastic bottles.

[View the highlight video.](#)

Cape Town

7 & 8 Dec 2017
Nedbank Auditorium

- At this Ocean Summit we released our ground-breaking data on the amount of microplastics in European waters. [More.](#)
- **V&A Waterfront**, which welcomes 24 million visitors each year, pledged to eliminate single-use plastic bags and bottles.
- Our Cape Town delivery partner for Volvo Ocean Race, **WorldSport**, declared their commitment to sustainable event management at all future events, using the Volvo Ocean Race as a benchmark.

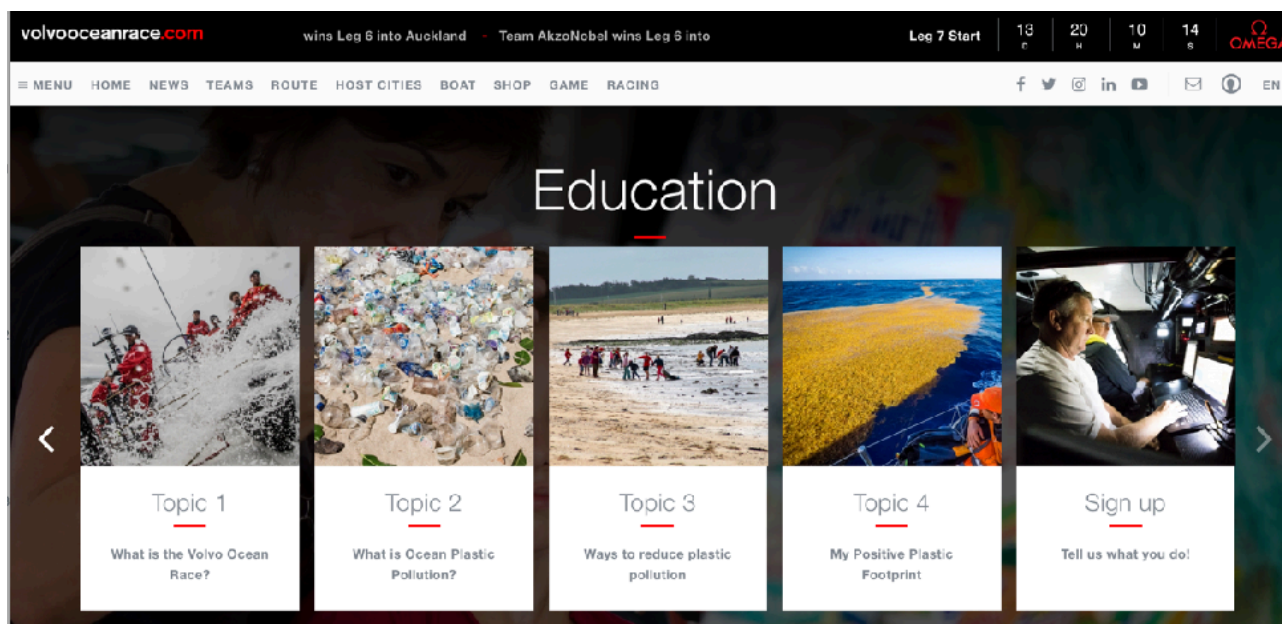
[View the behind the scenes video.](#)

Hong Kong

22 Jan 2018
Volvo Pavilion

- Daisy Lo, assistant director of environmental protection, **Hong Kong Special Administrative Region** (HKSAR) government, pledged to explore ways to reduce plastic at source, revealed plans for a \$HK20 million fund for upgrading plastic recycling facilities and talked of Government efforts to clean up the marine environment.
- Race Team **AkzoNobel** was announced as the second team to use the on-board data gathering equipment to measure water quality and composition, as well as microplastics in some of the world's remotest oceans.

[View behind the scenes video.](#)



Ocean Health Education Programme

37 countries
64 500 students

10 710 workshop students

Our education resources are available in English, Portuguese, Spanish, Dutch, Chinese, Swedish and will soon be presented in French.

The resources, which are free to download, include presentations, teacher's guide, student booklets, worksheets and quizzes that can easily be integrated into international curricula.

The programme covers a range of different subjects including language, geography, history STEM and art.

Thousands of school children have visited the Race Village as part of our schools excursion programme. They learn about the Race and the importance of preventing plastic pollution, through various activities arranged by the local stopover partners.

Each day that school kids visit, they are able to attend workshops delivered by our Sustainability Education Programme Manager Lucy Hunt. So far 10 710 have experienced our workshops at the Race Villages.

volvoceanrace.com/education

[Watch the video](#)





Our work to help turn the tide on plastic #CleanSeas

Volvo Ocean Race has adopted the United Nations Environment Clean Seas campaign as our foundation call to action to help turn the tide on plastic. Our campaign includes:

- a mission-based race team
- branding across highly visibility race assets including all race boats and many race village components
- logo inclusion on staff and sailors uniforms
- The Globe (installation & video onsite)
- calls for individuals, groups, companies and governments to sign up to Clean Seas 'make the pledge'
- exposure across all communications platforms
- video and social media content
- website exposure



View our video summarising our Clean Seas campaign at Volvo Ocean Race.



We encourage governments, companies, groups, NGOs and individuals to 'sign up' to Clean Seas and commit to taking action to reduce their plastic footprint and to help prevent plastic pollution.

This is done through our advocacy in the Race Village, at our Ocean Summits, and through all our communications with stakeholders.

We have pledge kiosks within the Race Village and a direct link on our website.

Our race sponsors **GAC Pindar** (Official Logistics Provider) and **Musto** (Official Supplier of Sailing Apparel and Footwear) have both joined the Clean Seas campaign, making commitments and taking action in their own businesses. [Read more.](#)

During the Auckland stopover, **New Zealand Government** became the 42nd country to officially partner with Clean Seas. This was celebrated at an event hosted in the Volvo Pavilion, with key ocean health and plastic pollution organisations, campaigns and other stakeholders. [Read more.](#) [View the news.](#)

At the Auckland stopover too, airline **HiFly**, also officially signed to Clean Seas and committed to eliminate the use of avoidable and single use plastics on their aircraft and in their offices before the end of 2019. **HiFly** is owned by the same group as the not-for-profit **Mirpuri Foundation**. [View the news.](#)

In a first for Brazil and South America, the port city of Itajaí has signed up to the United Nations Environment Clean Seas campaign, at an event in the Race Village. [Read the news.](#) [Watch the Video](#)



Making pledges to #CleanSeas

15 000 pledges

volvoceanrace.com/pledge



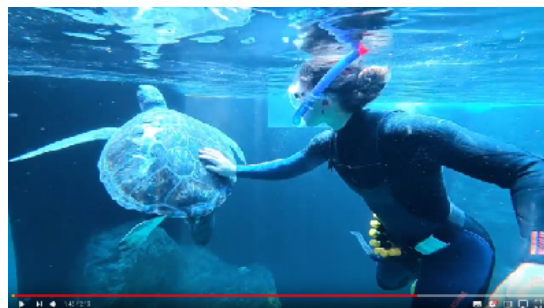
theGlobe video reveals the issue of ocean plastic pollution

275 000 visitors to
theGlobe

theGlobe is an installation hosting a 20 minute video where people can learn about Volvo Ocean Race, its history, the current edition, about ocean plastic pollution and what action they can take. It includes a Clean Seas exhibition.

theGlobe is also the venue of our onsite school kid's Ocean Health workshops. In Cape Town it also was the venue for a three night TedX Salon focussed on plastic pollution and Ocean Health.





Expanding our reach and amplifying our message

Volvo Ocean Race, our teams and partners do outreach programmes at our stopovers. Examples include:

- Visiting the Irish Consulate and promoting the programme to 250 Irish ex-pat teachers in Hong Kong.
- Workshops on Ocean Health to all Race Academy students.
- Holding special workshops to local groups such as underprivileged students attending sailing schools and women-only groups.
- Offsite school visits.
- Visiting, involvement in and support of community projects.

[Click to watch videos above](#)



11th Hour Racing grantee programme

At every Volvo Ocean Race stopover our Founding Principal Sustainability Partner **11th Hour Racing**, visits a local not-for-profit organisation with their team **Vestas 11th Hour Racing** to learn more about their environmental work – and deliver a \$10,000 grant for their project.

Grantees so far:

Alicante: [Asociación De Naturalistas Del Sureste](#)

Lisbon: [Circular Economy Portugal](#)

Cape Town: [Environmental Monitoring Group](#)

Melbourne: [Take 3](#)

Hong Kong: [Ocean Recovery Alliance](#)

Auckland: [Orca Research Trust](#)

The **Vestas 11th Hour Racing** team base also has a public exhibition installation with information and activities relating to renewable energy, ocean health and plastic pollution. This team base is one of the most popularly visited in the Race Village.





Volvo Cars hosts beach cleans at each stopover

At each stopover Volvo Cars hosts a beach clean, in association with a local environmental organisation.

Volvo Car's executive management team have been joined by Volvo Cars employees, race team crew and sailors, Volvo Ocean Race staff and local community groups and individuals.



Watch a video of the Takapuna Beach clean NZ.



Race Village activations engage our visitors

At each stopover Volvo Ocean Race and our local delivery partners create interactive, entertaining and inspiring activities for Race Village visitors to participate in, all centred around Ocean Health and plastic pollution.

So far we've had kids workshop zones, installations, exhibitions, competitions, films, talks and arts activities. Some of these activities were programmed by the local delivery partner, included in sponsor activations, or community collaborations.

Plastic waste artwork made at CoCreate's design challenge



Volunteer Green Team

Clean Seas

At each stopover a dedicated 'Green Team' are roving the Race Village to talk to people about ocean health, plastic pollution and the Clean Seas pledge.

We often station them by the resource recovery stations, the water refill points, at The Globe or other areas where valuable conversations can be had.

This engagement is essential to personalise our message. Visitors are really interested and receptive to discuss the issue and share their thoughts on ways to tackle plastic pollution and what they can do in their homes.



Reducing single use plastic in our Race Villages

238 000 single use plastic bottles avoided.

Single use plastic is a major target in our Race Village operations. This includes attempting to completely eliminate disposable plastic bottles, through installing water refill points and using alternatives for other beverages such as wet-pour, cans, glass bottles and re-usable cup systems.

We have also been working hard to avoid all other single use plastic items such as beverage cups, cutlery, plastic lined coffee cups, condiment sachets and cable ties.

Watch a [video](#) to find out more about Bluewater and Volvo Ocean Race.





Boat Captain for Turn The Tide on Plastic, Liz Wardley is responsible for sample collection.

Science Programme

Microplastics and
oceanographic sampling
Drifter buoys
Meteorology

The Volvo Ocean Race Science Programme has brought together an elite scientific consortium to capture data that will contribute to a better understanding of the world's ocean and climate.

The programme is supported by Volvo Cars who are donating €100 to the programme from every V90 Cross Country Volvo Ocean Race series car sold.

Environmental and oceanographic data from onboard sampling, scientific drifter buoys and meteorological measurements will contribute a vast amount of data especially from critical data-sparse areas to improve the reliability of forecasts and predictive models.

- 19 scientific drifter buoys successfully deployed.
- Oceanographic measurements recorded at 2142 points.
- 40 microplastics samples analysed.

[Email us to request the science report](#)



future ocean
KIEL MARINE SCIENCES

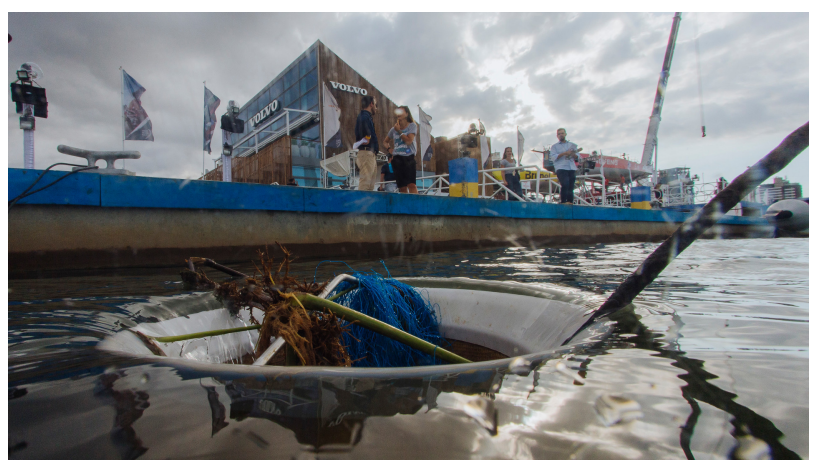
SeaBin

Collecting marine litter

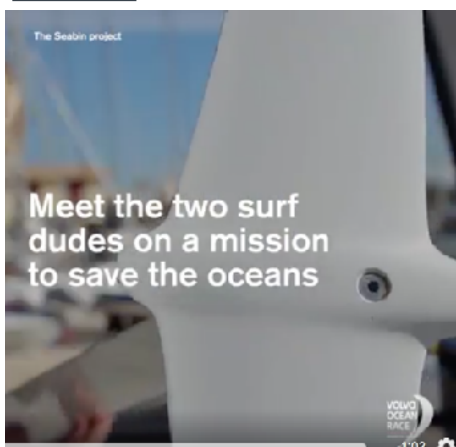
At each stopover we install a SeaBin, which sits in the water, attached to the pontoon, and collects surface litter. We empty the contents and send an audit of items found back to SeaBin for their ongoing survey data.

View the SeaBin in action on their website seabinproject.com

[Read our Auckland SeasBin report](#)



[Watch video](#)



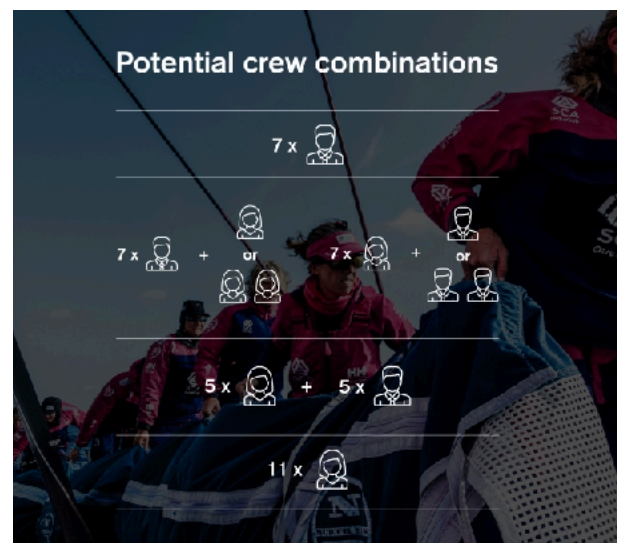
Women in Volvo Ocean Race

To allow further opportunity to elite female sailors, in this edition Volvo Ocean Race rules limit all male teams to just seven crew members.

All teams have chosen to include women in their crew and potential crew combinations are as follows:

7 all-male; 7 men + 1 or 2 women; 5 men + 5 women; 7 women + 1 or 2 men; 11 all-female.

Women in Volvo Ocean Race were celebrated on International Women's Day while in Auckland in association with the Magenta Project. This programme was created after the last Volvo Ocean Race, through the all-female team SCA. The project work on providing a pathway for professional female athletes to compete at the highest level of sport.



View Behind-the-scenes of the Volvo Ocean Race celebrating women event





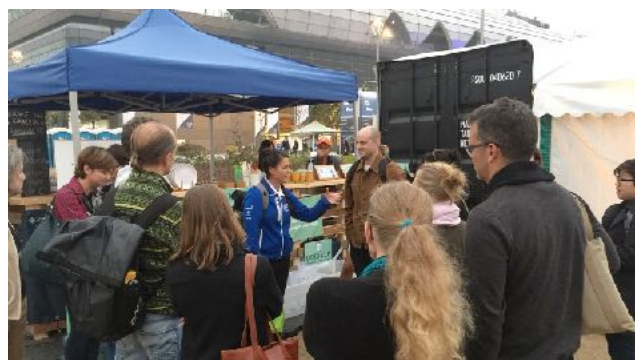
Sustainable event workshop

During the Hong Kong stopover we hosted a **Sustainable Event Workshop**. This followed on from a similar workshop conducted by The Purpose Business and The Hong Kong Jockey Club in June 2017.

The focus of the workshop was reducing single use plastic at events in Hong Kong. Discussed was the recent ban on exporting recyclable waste to China, the upcoming introduction of a landfill tax in Hong Kong, the trouble with using compostable service-ware when no composting facilities exist, the Drink Without Waste initiative to reduce single use disposable beverage containers, and the controversy of chain of custody of recyclable materials collected in Hong Kong, actually making it to recycling facilities.

The event was attended by 80 Hong Kong based event industry participants. The panellists included local event organisers, suppliers and materials specialists. Event solutions and cross-sector solutions were discussed.

After the workshop, a tour around the Race Village to showcase Volvo Ocean Race's initiatives was conducted.



Meegan Jones, Sustainability Programme Manager conducts a sustainable operations Race Village tour.

Thank you.

The Volvo Ocean Race Sustainability Programme is only possible because of the vision, commitment, support and involvement of our sustainability partners.

Each partner has an important part to play in activating and engaging with us and our programme elements.

We thank them wholeheartedly for their continued support in making these achievements possible.

Founding Principal Partner



Principal Partner



Main Partners



We Support



Sustainability Team

Anne-Cecile Turner: Sustainability Programme Leader

Meegan Jones: Sustainability Programme Manager

Lucy Hunt: Sustainability Education Programme Manager

Emilie Llorens: Sustainability Event Manager (Ocean Summits)

Robin Clegg: Sustainability Communications

Mairéad O'Donovan: Science Co-ordinator

Stefi Sichel: Onsite Co-ordinator

Anaïs Boulon: Sustainability Intern

Toste Tanhua: Scientist.

Sören Gutekunst: Scientist

Contact us:

sustainability@volvooceanrace.com

The extended sustainability team:

Reineke Boot, Genevieve Bow, Isabel Cirilo, Rosie Geyman, António F. Meireles, Julia Moura Campos, Ulrika Persson, Andrea Tagliamacco, Jonno Turner, Laura Urrutia, Susie Walker, Bex Worthington.

Host Cities Sustainability:

Lisbon: Andreia Barbosa, Lindsey Wuisien and Circular Economy Portugal

Cape Town: Simon Borchert, Janneke Brasecke, and Du Toit Malherbe

Hong Kong: Melvin Byrnes, Darren Catterall, Nicola Evans, Oliver Lang, Vicky Lee, Nick Maloney, Helen Norton, Merrin Pearce, and Gaelle Tong

Guangzhou: Natty and Li Li

Auckland: Sarah Bilkey, Hannah Lyle and Nick Carter

Itajai: Adriene Carlotto, Darlan Haussen-Martins, Joao Malavolta

