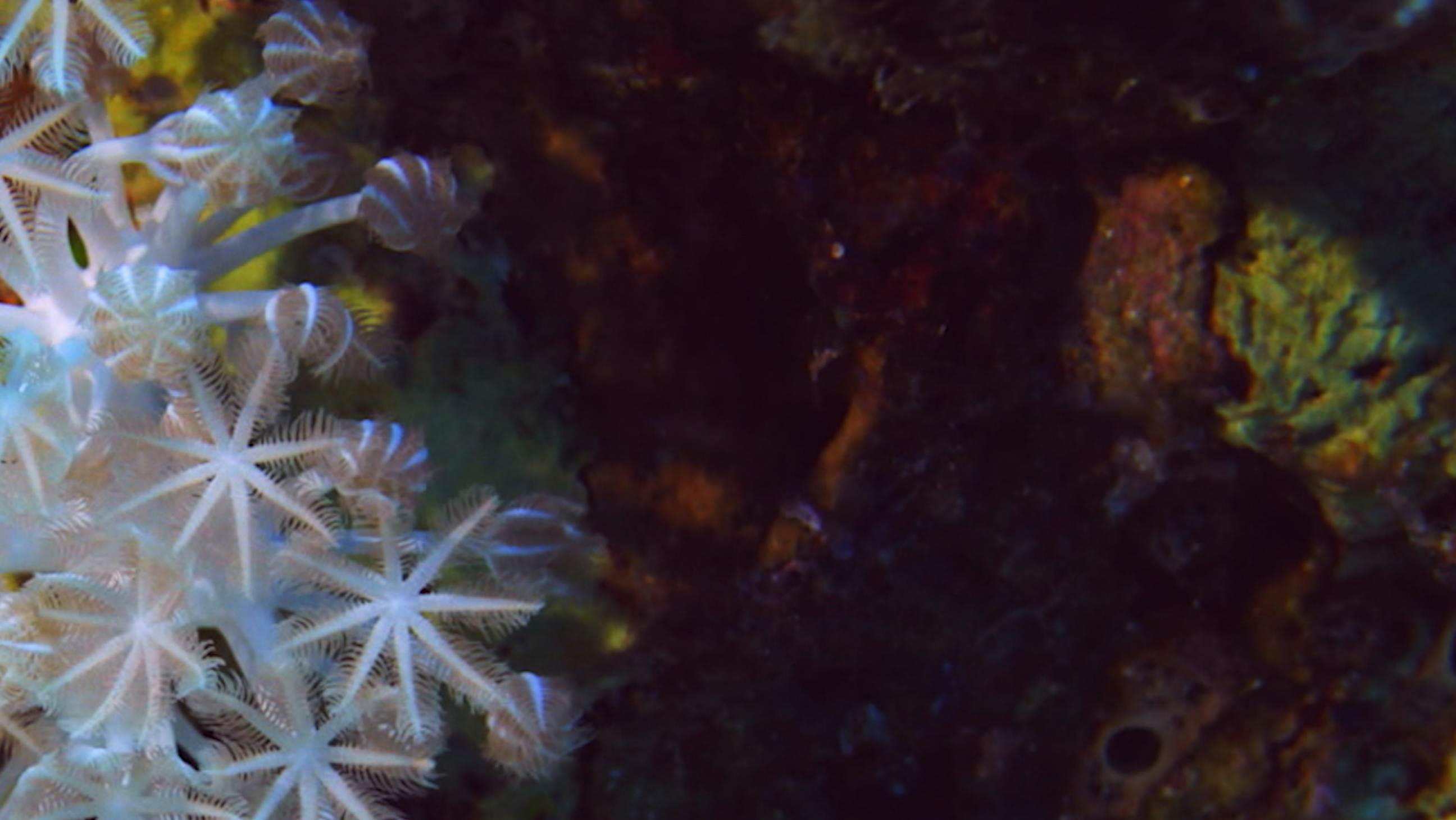


The Deep is Rising

Building Solutions to
Create a **Bluer Future** →







A Letter from our CEOs

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A Letter From our CEOs

This year was one of innovation, imagination, and collaboration that came together to push the boundaries of what's possible for ocean science and education.

At OceanX, we know the future of exploration lies in developing tools that not only advance ocean discovery but also make it accessible to all. Throughout 2025, we continued creating technologies that help scientists see deeper, learn faster, and share more widely, transforming how the world studies and protects the ocean.

We also redefined what ocean literacy can look like. Through immersive and gaming experiences, we're connecting new audiences to the sea in ways that feel alive and personal, turning curiosity into understanding, and understanding into stewardship.

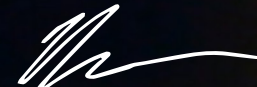
These innovations mean little without partnerships. Every expedition and breakthrough we achieve begins with collaboration. Together we unite science, creativity, and technology to spark real change. By combining our tools, data, and stories, we're building a global alliance that invites everyone to help shape a brighter, bluer future.

The ocean's potential is limitless.
And so is ours, when we move forward together.

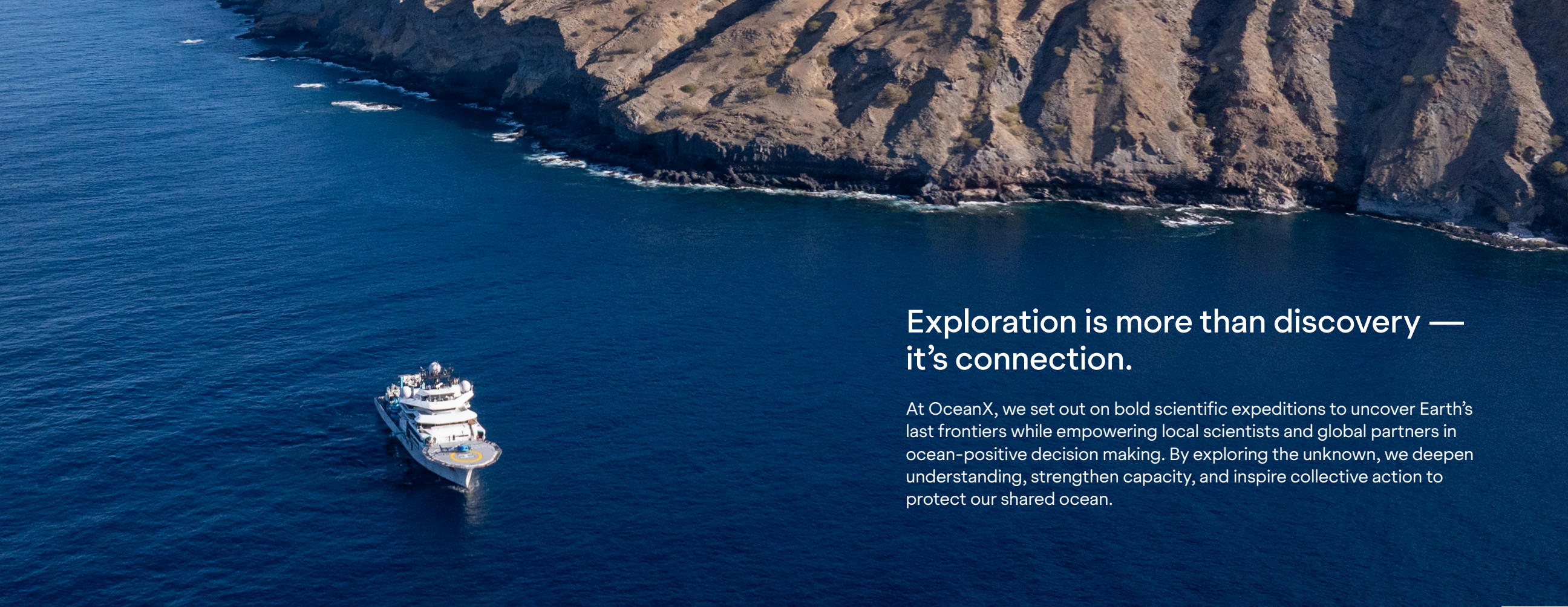
With gratitude,



Mark Dalio
Co-CEO and Founder, OceanX



Dr. Vincent Pieribone
Co-CEO and Chief Science Officer, OceanX



Exploration is more than discovery —
it's connection.

At OceanX, we set out on bold scientific expeditions to uncover Earth's last frontiers while empowering local scientists and global partners in ocean-positive decision making. By exploring the unknown, we deepen understanding, strengthen capacity, and inspire collective action to protect our shared ocean.

Explore



Around Africa Expedition 2025

The Expedition Exploring Africa’s Oceans to Uncover Seamount Ecosystems and Empower Early Career Scientists

■ LOCATION

Mozambique Channel, Agulhas Plateau, the Nola seamounts off Cabo Verde, and the first-ever visual surveys of the deep flanks of Walters Shoal as well as a newly mapped seamount at the southern Madagascar Ridge.

■ DATES

December 2024 – April 2025

■ OVERVIEW

The *Around Africa Expedition* in partnership with OceanQuest, endorsed by the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, brought together science, education, local capacity-building, and storytelling to uncover Africa’s unknown ocean and protect our blue planet.

■ OUR PARTNER

OceanQuest أوشن كويست
OceanQuest



Africa’s coastline is vastly understudied, presenting a unique opportunity for exploration.

The Collaboration Building Capacity and Empowering Leaders to Explore Africa's Deep-Sea Ecosystems

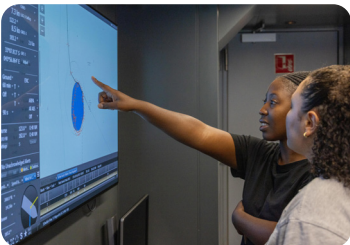
The *Around Africa Expedition 2025* united OceanX, OceanQuest, and a network of African and international partners to advance understanding of Africa's vast and understudied marine environments. The expedition partnered with 69 scientists from 31 countries and 29 institutions — including NASA, NOAA, WHOI, GEOMAR, POGO, Challenger150, African Network of Deepwater Researchers (ANDR) and more — to map deep-sea ecosystems, collect biodiversity data, and strengthen scientific and educational capacity across the continent.

Prioritizing OceanX Education programming, the expedition hosted 59 participants of both the Young Explorers and Early Career programs from across Africa and beyond. Participants gained first-hand experience in marine science, data collection, and ocean storytelling aboard the *OceanXplorer*. Port-based tours and outreach events engaged over 300 students, educators, and members of the public in hands-on learning, inspiring the next generation of ocean stewards.



Through collaboration, capacity-building, and open data sharing, the expedition helped establish a foundation for future African-led ocean research and regional conservation initiatives.

The Impact



Discovering the Deep: Mapping, Science, and Stories Beneath Africa's Seas

Africa's oceans are biologically and geologically rich, yet critically underexplored. By combining cutting-edge ocean technology, deep-sea exploration, and media storytelling, the expedition not only explored the ocean and brought it back to the world through engaging stories, it contributed to OceanX impact goals: enhancing marine biodiversity, supporting sustainable use of ocean resources, and increasing ocean literacy.

The science teams on board the Around Africa Expedition conducted 23 ROV dives, 16 submersible dives, and mapped more than **120,000 km²** of seafloor, of which over **95,000km² was previously uncharted**, revealing vibrant deep-sea habitats and detailed surveys of five understudied seamounts. The *OceanXplorer* team deployed 20 NOAA buoys and 3 Argo floats, instruments that are vital to understanding long-term ocean currents, temperatures, and chemistry, informing weather and climate models worldwide. Scientists collected **470+ eDNA samples**, water-column chemistry data, and biological and geological specimens to better understand the ecosystems of the Walters Shoal, Madagascar Ridge, Agulhas Plateau, and Nola Seamounts.

Partnering with African universities and research agencies, the expedition documented thriving coral gardens, Brisingid sea stars, dumbo octopuses, and deep-sea sharks — species that highlight the ecological richness and resilience of Africa's deep ocean.

These discoveries provide essential baseline data to guide marine spatial planning, biodiversity protection, and sustainable fisheries management. The expedition's open-access data will support regional research and future climate studies while its education and storytelling efforts ensure that knowledge and inspiration reach well beyond the ship.

Together, OceanX and OceanQuest are exploring Africa's deep-sea frontiers, advancing global science, and empowering the next generation to protect the ocean's future.

23

ROV Dives

16

Submarine Dives

120,000 km²

Total Mapped Seafloor

95,000 km²

Newly Mapped Seafloor

470+

eDNA Samples

Case Study: Early Career Explorers

Strengthening Africa's Ocean Leadership
Through Immersive Exploration

Launched during our *Around Africa Expedition*, our **Early Career Explorers program** marked the beginning of our effort to connect and empower early-career ocean professionals. There are countless challenges working in ocean research, and also immense potential for those dedicated to its future, especially where there is still so much to explore in Africa's oceans.



The Program

Building Capacity and Empowering Leaders in Africa's Ocean Future

Launched this year, the **Early Career Explorers (ECE) program** marks a major step forward in OceanX Education's expedition to build capacity and opportunity for emerging ocean professionals. The program offers immersive at-sea training, mentorship, and workshops that strengthen technical and scientific expertise while fostering collaboration across marine research communities.

Building on the foundation of the **Young Explorers program**, which introduced students to ocean-focused careers through entry-level research experiences, the ECE program extends that learning journey, empowering early-career ocean professionals to refine their skills and apply them in real-world exploration and conservation contexts.



In the Field



Highlighting Africa’s Rising Ocean Explorers

When over two dozen **Early Career Explorers** from across Africa boarded the *OceanXplorer* for the *Around Africa Expedition 2025*, their goal was clear: gain firsthand deep-sea exploration experience to bring back new skills, networks, and momentum for African-led ocean science.

Under the mentorship of OceanX and OceanQuest, in partnership with the Partnership for Observation of the Global Ocean (POGO), the program found its sea legs on multiple expedition transits with skill-building workshops across eDNA collection and analysis to science communication through film.

“Being part of the expedition was a turning point in my career,” said Phyllis Amamoo, an Early Career Explorer from Ghana. “It was where I first worked hands-on with the Planktoscope and eDNA — collecting samples, filtering, extracting, and sequencing in real time. That experience gave me the confidence and skills I now use in molecular research with the Oceans Margin Initiative, building a phytoplankton DNA reference dataset for the Gulf of Guinea.”

The cohort also explored career pathways in ocean science, media, and conservation, through immersive, interdisciplinary learning.

“It pushed me to step outside of my comfort zone, strengthened my confidence, and gave me a clearer vision of how I want to contribute to ocean conservation and science education in Africa.”

— Drame Gueye, Senegal

“Beyond research, the program inspired me to think more creatively, especially through the integration of immersive technologies like XR to communicate complex ocean science in engaging ways,” said Dame Gueye from Senegal. “It pushed me to step outside of my comfort zone, strengthened my confidence, and gave me a clearer vision of how I want to contribute to ocean conservation and science education in Africa.”

The program continues to link alumni across Africa, fostering peer learning and career development making an impact far beyond the voyage itself.

United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC 3)

THEME

Driving Action for a Sustainable Ocean Through Science and Education

LOCATION

Nice, France

DATES

June 9 – June 13, 2025

EVENT TYPE

International summit on ocean science, education, and sustainability





cordap



Deploying Science at Scale to Save the World's Coral Reefs

cordap



Deploying Science at Scale to Save the World's Coral Reefs

Event Summary

In June 2025, OceanX attended the 3rd United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3) in Nice, France and featured its research vessel, the *OceanXplorer*, as a hub for dialogue and collaboration. The week-long conference united scientists, educators, policymakers, and innovators under the theme of “Driving Action Through Science and Education for a Sustainable Ocean.”

Throughout the week, OceanX convened leaders from governments, science, and industry to transform discovery into action. New initiatives were launched that reflected our expedition to unlock the ocean’s sustainable potential through science and education, including:

- OceanX announced a partnership with Katapult Ocean to pilot breakthrough ocean technologies aboard the vessel, enabling innovators to test solutions for marine conservation and monitoring in real-world conditions.
- The launch of **OceanQuest**, a nonprofit dedicated to deep-sea exploration and education, marked another milestone, expanding access to knowledge and training for the next generation of ocean leaders and delving deeper into deep sea research around seamounts.
- OceanX also celebrated a landmark multi-year partnership with the Government of Indonesia, building on earlier expeditions to support long-term marine research, capacity building, and ocean education across the archipelago.



Our time at UNOC 3 was dedicated to positioning the ocean as both an imperative target of study and a partner in sustainability. We believe the ocean is the earth’s greatest asset and the partnerships we foster around its protection enable extraordinary progress across innovation, science, pushing boundaries, and discovery.

The week served as both a showcase of innovation and a catalyst for multi-sector collaboration, setting the stage for long-term partnerships and commitments to sustainable ocean management.

The Impact



In the UNOC Blue Zone, OceanX Co-CEO and Chief Science Officer **Dr. Vincent Pieribone** joined the official **Ocean Action Panel 2**, co-chaired by the Governments of Portugal and Panama. There, he emphasized the critical role of accessible data, shared tools, and education in building an inclusive and science-driven approach to ocean governance. “The fight for a sustainable ocean is a fight for all,” Pieribone shared. “The knowledge we gather at sea must directly inform practical solutions for the planet we share.” His remarks captured OceanX’s philosophy that exploration is not an end in itself, but a means to empower collective understanding and stewardship.

Beyond the policy rooms, OceanX brought the deep ocean to dry land for the public in the UNOC Green Zone. OceanX created a journey from the surface to the deep in the Deep Blue Pavilion, in collaboration with ocean exploration innovators Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), Schmidt Ocean Institute, Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego, OceanQuest, Avatar Alliance Foundation, and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI).

The **Deep Blue Pavilion** was an immersive experience that invited visitors to encounter the wonders of the deep ocean through life forms that have evolved specific adaptations, and understand how few deep-sea ecosystems have been explored. The Pavilion also highlighted ocean experts from around the world, and provided space for the public to interact with and learn from experts and early career ocean professionals. In his public session, No Limit Ocean, Pieribone transported audiences beneath the surface through cinematic storytelling, challenging them to rethink humanity’s connection to the sea. The experience underscored a central truth: exploration is not only about discovery, but about safeguarding the very foundation of knowledge that sustains life on Earth.



On the final day OceanX hosted “**Empowering Young Ocean Leaders: Reverse Mentoring and Scaling Impact for Ocean Governance**”, led by the Sustainable Ocean Alliance (SOA). The event brought together youth from over 40 countries with global decision-makers for a rare exchange of ideas on the future of ocean governance.

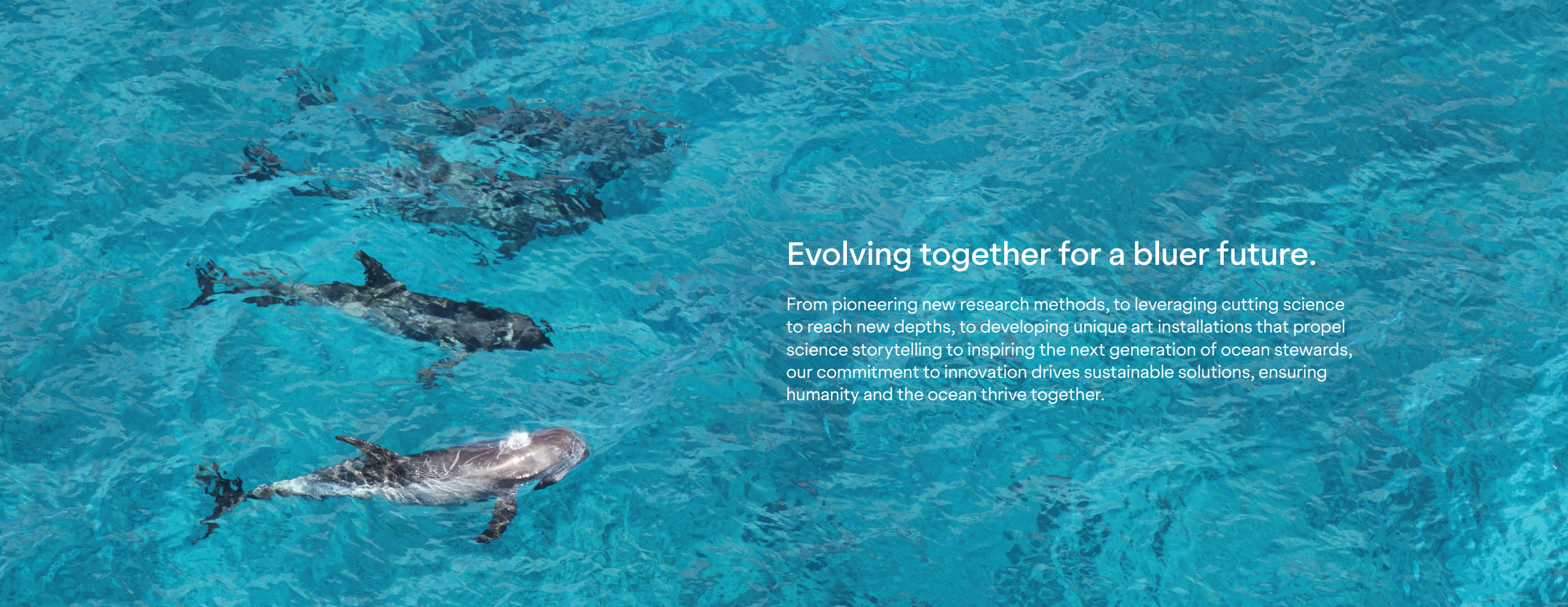
Throughout the week, the *OceanXplorer* stood as a gathering place for science and storytelling. From hosting the launch of the International Platform for Ocean Sustainability (IPOS) with the French Government, to welcoming partners such as the Bloomberg Ocean Initiative and Together for the Ocean, OceanX helped amplify the call for global action. Each conversation reinforced the same message: knowledge is the most powerful tool we have to protect the ocean and ensure a thriving blue planet.

Through reverse mentoring, scenario planning, and open dialogue, young leaders shared innovative approaches to overcoming systemic barriers and shaping more inclusive, collaborative, and sustainable ocean policies. Held aboard the *OceanXplorer*, the gathering celebrated youth-driven insight and SOA’s ongoing leadership in amplifying young voices at the heart of ocean governance.

As OceanX expands its work across regions like Southeast Asia, these partnerships continue to grow. New collaborations with organizations such as **Ant International** are extending ocean literacy through digital platforms, empowering students and communities to connect with the ocean in transformative ways. As OceanX Founder and Co-CEO **Mark Dalio** reflected, “When we protect these waters, we’re not just safeguarding biodiversity - we’re investing in the future of communities, economies, and our shared planet.”

OceanX’s presence at UNOC 3 embodied the organization’s core belief: that science and education together can ignite the global movement our ocean needs.

By turning exploration into understanding and understanding into action, OceanX continues to help chart the ocean’s course toward a more sustainable, resilient, and inspired future.



Evolving together for a bluer future.

From pioneering new research methods, to leveraging cutting science to reach new depths, to developing unique art installations that propel science storytelling to inspiring the next generation of ocean stewards, our commitment to innovation drives sustainable solutions, ensuring humanity and the ocean thrive together.

Innovate



Cabo Verde: Digital Deep

The Expedition

Leveraging New Technology to Predict and Understand Atlantic Seamount Systems

LOCATION

Nola Seamount complex, Santo Antão & São Vicente, Cabo Verde Archipelago

DATES

July 7 – July 17, 2025

OVERVIEW

Together with Cabo Verde's Instituto do Mar (IMAR) and regional partners, OceanX mapped and modelled one of the Atlantic's least-explored seamount systems, building science, capacity and conservation tools for a shared ocean future.



ATLANTIC
OCEAN

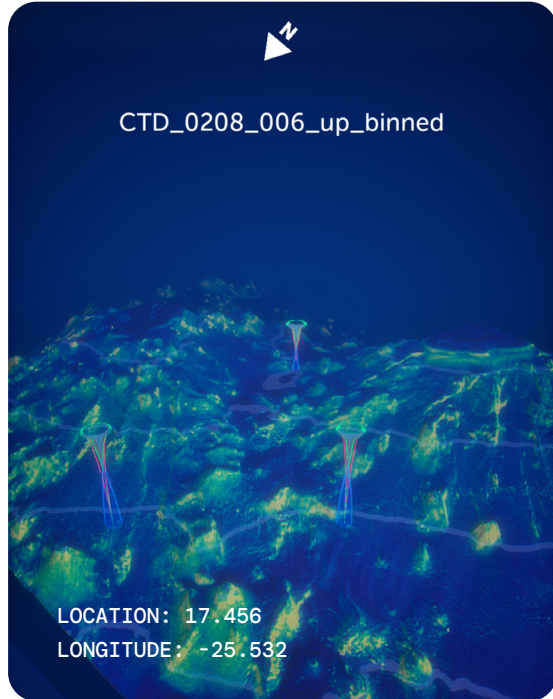
Africa

Cabo Verde is a gateway to mid-Atlantic seamount ecosystems, pivotal to biodiversity and ocean health.

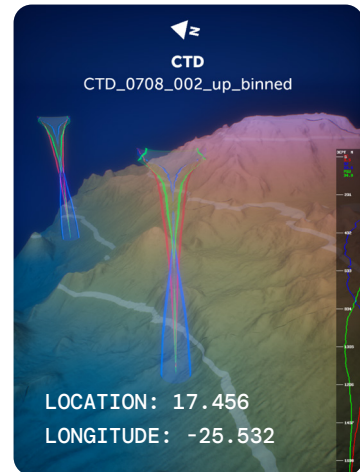
The Collaboration Empowering Local Science, Unlocking Global Insight

Cabo Verde: Digital Deep marked a bold leap for ocean science and innovation. Together, OceanX and Cabo Verde's Instituto do Mar (IMAR) ventured to the deep ocean to pioneer new ways of understanding and protecting marine seamount ecosystems. Over ten days of exploration, scientists aboard the *OceanXplorer* combined eDNA sampling, ROV and submersible imaging, oceanographic sampling, and AI model development to reveal the hidden biodiversity of the Nola Seamount complex, insights that will guide both national strategy and global conservation efforts.

This CTD cast captures essential data that offers a vertical profile of the water column. Tools like these help science transform invisible ocean dynamics into knowledge that can guide protection and sustainable use.



▲ This bathymetric map of the Nola Seamounts reveals seafloor "rugosity" – a measure of complexity that helps scientists identify where coral communities can thrive.



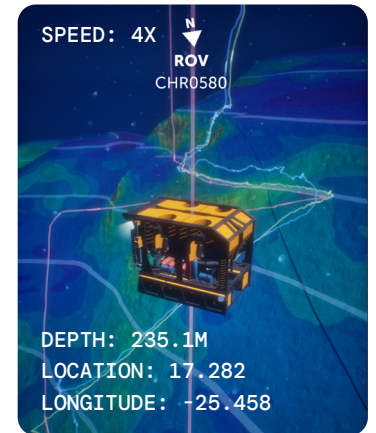
As one of the region's first expeditions to fuse AI-driven prediction with real-time seafloor discovery and molecular data, *Cabo Verde: Digital Deep* transformed how we explore and analyze the ocean, to utilize research on seamount biodiversity and vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) for policy, protection, and a thriving blue planet.

This expedition aimed to deliver three core achievements:

- first, to map the Nola Seamount complex in high-resolution;
- second, to collect biodiversity and oceanographic data to inform the creation of an AI-platform to describe VMEs toward the goal of producing a digital twin of the Nola seamounts;
- and third, to train and engage early-career scientists from Cabo Verde, thereby building regional capacity in deep-sea research and ocean stewardship.

This seamount complex plays a crucial role in biodiversity support, nutrient upwelling, carbon cycling and marine-ecosystem resilience. Building new ways to study and understand productive nearshore biodiversity hotspots advances our commitment to unlock ocean sustainable potential and empower local communities. The partnership with IMAR anchored the work in national priorities, reinforcing the global momentum of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

Together, we turned discovery into capability, and knowledge into action.



▲ ROV Chimaera traces transect lines along the Nola Seamounts, collecting high-resolution imagery and real-time data on position and environment.



The Impact

From Deep-Sea Mapping to Local Leadership

Over roughly ten days of continuous operations, our teams aboard the *OceanXplorer* executed 25 ROV dives, 9 manned submersible dives, more than 1,000 km of acoustic mapping, and collected around 700 ocean specimens and over 22 terabytes of data. Using an in-situ eDNA filtration system we processed 12,733 litres of seawater, generating nearly 600 biodiversity samples. AI-powered image-processing facilitated 1.7 million predictions of species and habitats in real time, retraining models 351 times.

This expedition marks the first iteration of OceanX's AI program, and is just the beginning, as OceanX continues to refine its AI annotation tool in new deep ocean environments, accelerating habitat characterization and advancing predictive modeling to identify and understand unexplored environments.

The expedition's findings now inform Cabo Verde's national ocean-strategy and hold the potential to provide a predictive model for identifying vulnerable marine ecosystems globally.

By coupling high-resolution mapping with capacity-building and local leadership, this expedition laid the groundwork for informed marine-spatial planning, long-term conservation and a new generation of ocean stewards, ensuring that knowledge fuels both innovation and impact.

25

ROV Dives

9

Submarine Dives

22 TB

Total Data Generated

12,733 Litres

Total Seawater Processed,
Generating Nearly 600
Biodiversity Samples

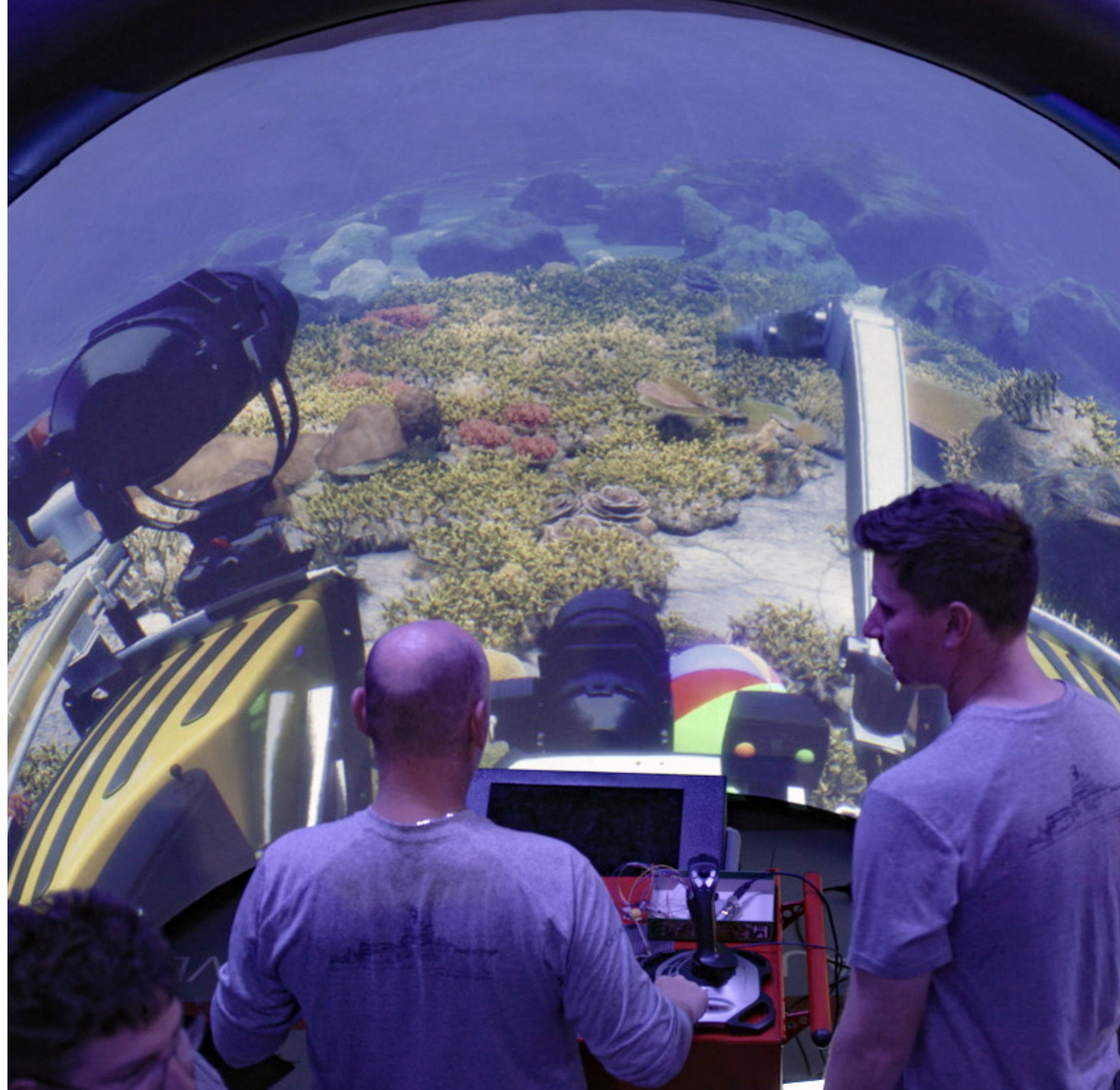
1.7 M

Total AI-Powered Image-
Processing Predictions of Species
and Habitats in Real Time

Introducing: OceanX Education Hackathons

Where Science Meets Storytelling

Launched this year, the **OceanX Education Hackathon** is a new program that brings together scientists, creatives, and technologists to reinvent how ocean science reaches the world. Through immersive, collaborative innovation sprints, participants transform ocean research data into experiences that inspire curiosity, deepen understanding, and expand ocean literacy across generations and geographies.



The Program

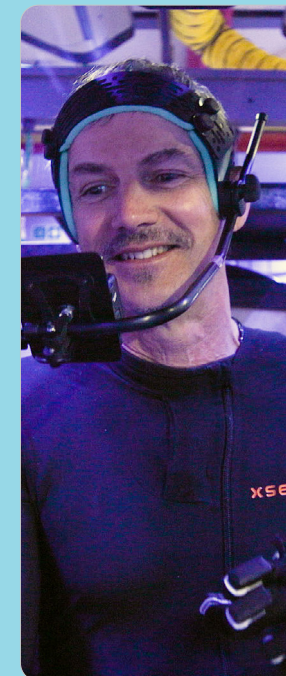


Transforming Ocean Learning Through Innovation and Play

At OceanX, we believe that the future of storytelling is immersive, interactive and playable. To explore this, OceanX Education brought together 35 leading scientists, educators, digital artists and technologists on a pilot series of four Hackathons to conceptualize and create working prototypes of immersive learning experiences focused on reimagining ocean literacy in the digital age.

From coral reef simulations to interactive deep-sea exploration games, each prototype reflects a shared goal: to translate complex marine science into immersive learning experiences that spark curiosity and connection.

Strategically, the program advances OceanX's broader commitment to education innovation. By empowering creators to merge immersive storytelling with science, these Hackathons strengthen the organization's role as a global leader in ocean education designed to reach every museum,



science center, classroom, or digital platform. They also serve as a pipeline for new collaborations, enabling OceanX Education to experiment with emerging tools, from AI-driven content to XR learning environments, that amplify engagement and democratize access to ocean knowledge.

Through this program, OceanX is building not only tools, but a community of innovators shaping the future of how the world experiences the ocean.

In the Field

“If you were somebody visiting our planet of first time, you would look for intelligent life in the ocean because its the biggest habitat on earth. This is why we want everyone to feel an empathy with the ocean, and interactive games is the hook to just that.”

— George Matsumoto,
Senior Education & Research Specialist

From Idea to Immersion: A Creator’s Journey Beneath the Waves

For George Matsumoto, Senior Education & Research Specialist at Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), joining the first **OceanX Education Hackathon** was an opportunity to flex his creativity while sharing his scientific expertise. George helped teams of creative technologists maintain the scientific integrity of real ocean science while inviting audiences into a shared space of imagination where data meets wonder. A standout project transformed real *OceanXplorer* datasets, from 3D seafloor maps and ROV footage to environmental DNA visualizations, into an interactive virtual ecosystem where learning becomes an act of discovery.

The Hackathon concluded with five standout prototypes selected to premiere at the ArtScience Museum exhibition opening in June 2026, before expanding across our global network of university partners to inspire new ways of exploring and understanding the ocean.



Looking ahead, OceanX Education will expand the Hackathon series across the globe, bringing them onshore to empower communities of creators to transform science into stories and curiosity into conservation. Because the future of ocean education begins where imagination meets impact.

Mayotte

The Expedition Mapping the Future of the Mozambique Channel

■ LOCATION

Mayotte Island, Mozambique Channel

■ DATES

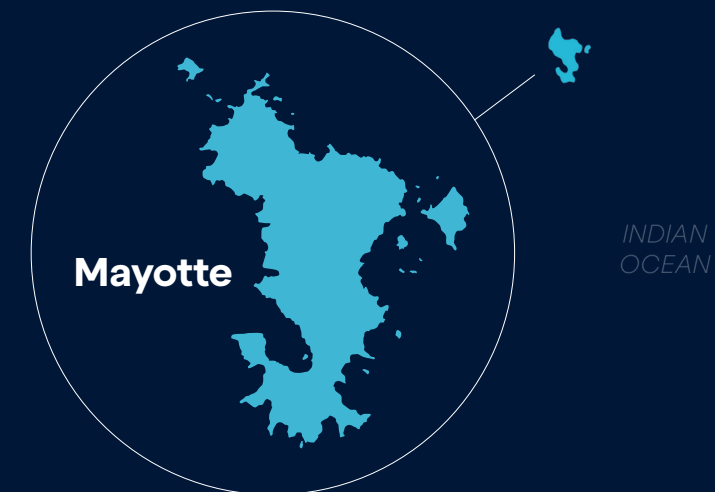
August 2025

■ OVERVIEW

Aboard the *OceanXplorer*, OceanX and French Institute for Ocean Science (IFREMER) explored the deep waters surrounding Mayotte to study the island's underwater volcano region, strengthen regional ocean science, and ignite the next generation's curiosity about our blue planet.

■ OUR PARTNER

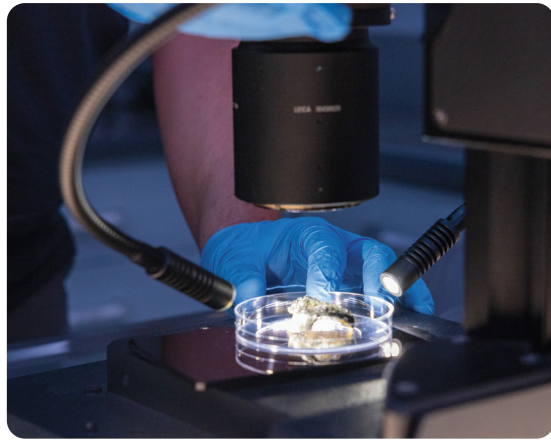
French Institute for
Ocean Science (IFREMER)



Mozambique Channel

Madagascar

The islands of the Mozambique channel are vastly understudied, presenting a unique opportunity for exploration.



The Collaboration Charting a New Frontier Beneath the Waves

OceanX and the French Institute for Ocean Science (IFREMER) joined forces to explore one of the ocean's newest and most mysterious frontiers, the underwater volcano near Mayotte in the Indian Ocean. Following the 2018 formation of the Fani Maoré submarine volcano, the region experienced hundreds of seismic events, revealing a dynamic seafloor landscape.

Together, the teams mapped this uncharted territory using advanced remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) and high-resolution acoustic imaging. The expedition also identified the optimal site for a permanent deep-sea observatory designed to monitor volcanic and seismic activity in real time, a critical foundation for understanding and forecasting oceanic change.



The Impact

From Discovery to Protection

By locating the ideal site for long-term monitoring and retrieving specialized instruments such as seismometers and magnetotelluric sensors, the expedition captured vital data on hidden magma systems and deep-sea faults. Researchers studied rare CO₂ seeps to deepen understanding of the ocean's carbon cycle. These discoveries expanded global knowledge of one of the planet's most active underwater environments and helped strengthen early warning systems to protect the 300,000 people living on Mayotte.

Together, these efforts advance OceanX's expedition to turn exploration into protection, ensuring that discovery drives sustainable progress for both people and the planet.



▲ CO₂ hydrate mounds release carbon dioxide into the surrounding ecosystem, forming what are now recognized as CO₂ seeps off the coast of Mayotte.



▲ Liquid carbon dioxide droplets form as CO₂ leaks from hydrate mounds.



Sharing passion and vision for a healthier ocean.

At OceanX, everything begins with **connection**, to each other, to discovery, and to the ocean itself. By bringing together scientists, storytellers, philanthropists and ocean stewards, we transform exploration and the search for sustainable solutions into a shared journey. Collaboration builds bridges between disciplines and communities, turning curiosity into understanding and awareness into action. Every connection we make strengthens our collective bond with the ocean, ensuring that humanity and the ocean thrive together.

Connect



OceanX Summit

THEME

Inventing Scaled Solutions Through Inciteful Collaboration

LOCATION

Singapore

DATES

October 1 – October 3, 2025

ABOUT THE EVENT

Held in Singapore from October 1–3, the inaugural **OceanX Summit** convened visionary leaders from science, technology, philanthropy, education, and creative industries to reimagine humanity's connection with the ocean.

Over three transformative days, participants journeyed from imagination to implementation, sparking cross-sector dialogue, and inspiring actionable commitments toward a sustainable and inclusive ocean future.





DAY 1 OCTOBER 1, 2025

Inspiration and Immersion

OceanX Co-CEO **Mark Dalio** opened the Summit with a call to re-envision our relationship with the ocean through exploration, storytelling, and innovation, highlighting Southeast Asia's role in ocean discovery.

- Launch of the **OceanX–Pioneer Works Digital Artist Residency**
- Panels showcasing immersive media, XR, and gaming as tools for experiential learning
- **OceanXplorer Hackathon** outputs connecting educators, technologists, and scientists



DAY 2 OCTOBER 2, 2025

Collaboration and Governance

The second day shifted focus toward translating ideas into policy and partnerships.

- Insights from **Mr. Teo Chee Hean** on the ocean-climate nexus
- Discussions on blue economy innovation and the role of philanthropy
- Signing of an **MOU between OceanX Education and OceanQuest** to expand ocean literacy across Asia and the Middle East



DAY 3 OCTOBER 3, 2025

Innovation and Leadership for the Future

The final day emphasized scalable innovation and leadership for ocean preservation.

- Updates from **Vincent Pieribone**, Co-CEO of OceanX, on groundbreaking expeditions including the UN Ocean Decade-endorsed *Around Africa Expedition*
- Panels on AI, robotics, and eDNA in marine research
- Announcements of the **OceanX Fellowship Program** and a partnership with Singapore's ArtScience Museum for an upcoming interactive exhibition

The background image shows a large crowd of people at an event, likely the OceanX Summit. In the center, a large, dark, cylindrical submersible is on display. The scene is illuminated with vibrant blue and purple lights, creating a futuristic atmosphere. The ceiling is covered in a pattern of colorful, glowing spots. The overall setting appears to be an outdoor or semi-outdoor space at night, with city lights visible in the distance.

A Vision for the Future

The **OceanX Summit** illuminated a defining truth: progress for our ocean depends on the fusion of **science, creativity, and education**. By transforming data into stories and ideas into collective action, OceanX demonstrated that innovation, powered by imagination and collaboration, can drive lasting, meaningful change.

Case Study: OceanX Residency

Where Discovery Inspires Creation

The **OceanX Education Residency** advances our expedition to bring the ocean to everyone, everywhere. By connecting mid- to senior-career innovators across immersive media, digital arts, gaming, AI, and data science with real ocean exploration, the program transforms cutting-edge research into powerful new forms of science communication, empowering communities worldwide to foster ocean stewardship in their own fields.





The Program

Expanding the Frontiers of Science Communication

The **OceanX Residency** represents a bold new chapter in OceanX's expedition to unlock the ocean's sustainable potential through science and education. It brings together mid- to senior-career creatives working at the intersection of data, design, and discovery, from immersive media and digital arts to gaming, AI, and data visualization, to translate the latest ocean research into experiences that reach people everywhere.



In the Field

Where Science Meets Storytelling

The pilot includes two tracks, one that is an opportunity for anyone in the ocean science field to continue their studies with OceanX, while the other is developed in partnerships with Pioneer Works, a Brooklyn-based cultural institution uniting art, science, and innovation, will support three digital and performance artists who will further expand on OceanX's expedition to reach a wider public audience.

Together, these pilot projects serve as a testbed for a global residency program launching in 2026. They explore how creative collaboration can amplify scientific storytelling, expand access to ocean knowledge, and deepen humanity's connection to the sea.

OceanX Education announced its first residency participant earlier this year at the OceanX Summit in Singapore. Selected through the OceanX Young Explorer and



Early Career Explorer Alumni Network, Tunisia-based scientist Nada Abdelkader, who specializes in seagrass ecosystems, is collaborating with the OceanX Education Immersive Media team to transform her research into an interactive educational game.

OceanX will use insights from this pilot to refine and scale the residency globally, developing new partnerships with scientific and cultural institutions.

The Goal:
Unlock and share innovative science communication that reaches communities worldwide, inspiring meaningful impact and nurturing ocean stewardship across disciplines.



Advancing ocean knowledge and capacity.

At OceanX, to advance is to transform exploration into enduring progress in marine science. Each expedition expands our understanding of the ocean while strengthening the capacity of those who study, teach, and protect its waters. Our work builds networks of collaboration that connect local insight with global science, creating opportunities for shared discovery and long-term stewardship.

Advancement is about legacy and purpose. It ensures that what we uncover today shapes a wiser and more connected world tomorrow. Through science, education, and storytelling, we empower the next generation to lead with curiosity and conviction. Together, these efforts move us towards a future where humanity and the ocean thrive in harmony, driven by knowledge and shared purpose.

Advance



Into the Deep: Monsoon Rise

The Expedition

Advancing Deep-Sea Seamount Biodiversity Knowledge and Regional Collaboration in the Indian Ocean

■ LOCATION

Indian Ocean

■ DATES

October 9 – October 28, 2025

■ OVERVIEW

In October 2025, OceanX and the National University of Singapore (NUS) co-led the first major deep-sea research expedition since the ratification of the Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement, commonly known as the High Seas Treaty), which was ratified by 60 member states in September 2025. The expedition explored the Monsoon Rise seamount chain in the High Seas region of the Indian Ocean to map unexplored terrain, study deep-sea ecosystems, and strengthen regional collaboration in marine science.

■ OUR PARTNER

National University of
Singapore (NUS)



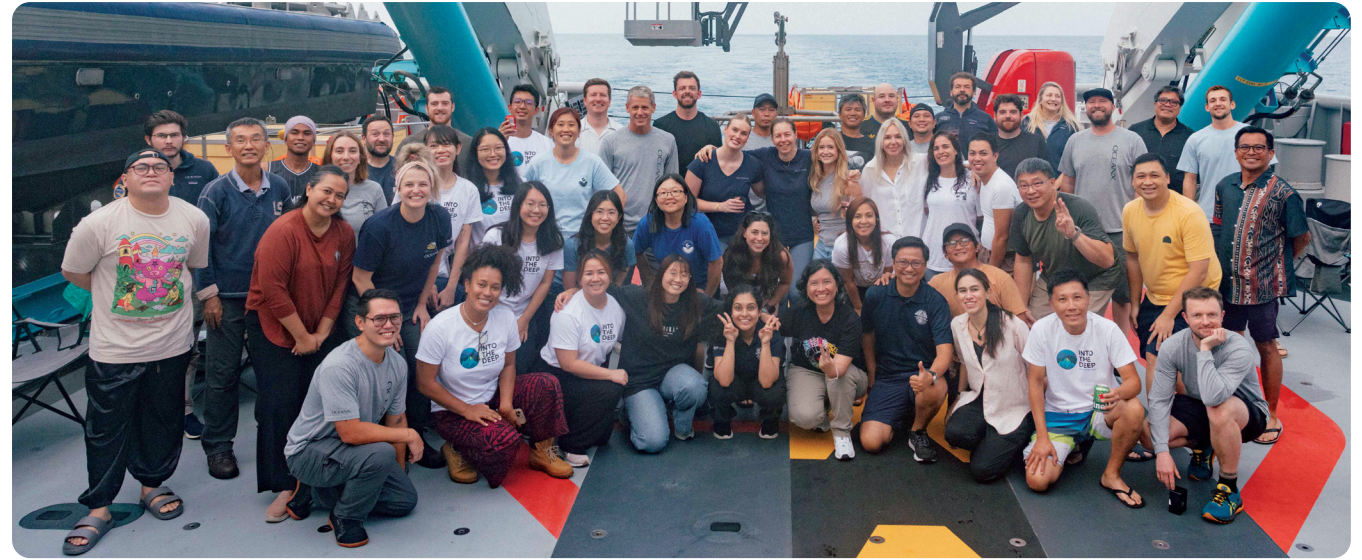
This expedition will provide the first comprehensive baseline of biodiversity in the Monsoon Rise.

The Collaboration

Regional Collaboration and Science for a Shared Ocean Future

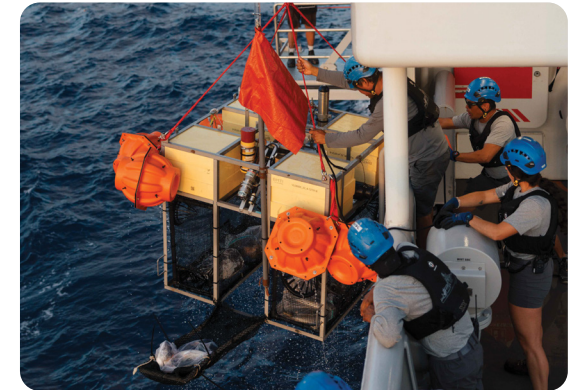
Jointly led by OceanX and NUS with support from Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the *Into the Deep: Monsoon Rise* expedition united scientists from Singapore and across Southeast Asia and the Pacific to study deep-sea biodiversity in an underexplored region of the Indian Ocean. The expedition combined exploration, research, and capacity-building to catalog and understand biodiversity and species community dynamics in the Monsoon Rise seamount region to strengthen regional understanding of the ocean.

By integrating expertise from multiple nations and disciplines, the expedition built a framework for sustained cooperation in deep-sea exploration and data sharing. Teams aboard the *OceanXplorer* deployed remotely operated vehicles, deep-sea landers, acoustic mapping, and sampled for environmental DNA to investigate seamount habitats between 1,000 and 5,000 meters.



The expedition reflects OceanX and NUS's shared commitment to transparency and open collaboration under the BBNJ framework.

By linking technology, science, and regional leadership, the expedition strengthened Singapore's position as a hub for ocean research, biodiversity knowledge, and advanced understanding of the Indian Ocean's deep ecosystems as a whole.



The Impact

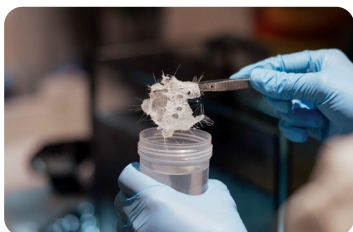
Expanding Knowledge, Building Capacity, Strengthening Networks



The *Into the Deep: Monsoon Rise* expedition mapped more than 8,300 square kilometers of seafloor, about 70 percent of which was new to science. High-definition imagery, acoustic data, and biological samples revealed thriving deep-sea ecosystems, including coral and sponge habitats that support carbon cycling and fisheries, as well as rare species such as sleeper sharks, lantern sharks, and chimaeras.



The findings expand scientific understanding of biodiversity and ecosystem resilience in the High Seas of the Indian Ocean and will guide future research and monitoring. Data and specimens will be shared openly through peer-reviewed and institutional channels, reinforcing the expedition's focus on transparency and knowledge exchange.



Beyond its discoveries, the expedition strengthened scientific networks across ASEAN and the Pacific, demonstrating how regional cooperation can advance ocean science, accelerate capacity building, and support the shared goals of the BBNJ Agreement.

The Into the Deep: Monsoon Rise expedition stands as a model for how partnership-driven exploration can build understanding and collective stewardship of the deep ocean beyond national borders.

8,300 km²

Total Mapped Seafloor

70 %

Mapped Seafloor New to Science



Young Explorers: Singapore– Timor–Leste

Empowering Young Leaders Through Ocean Discovery

DATES

October 30 – November 7, 2025

Fourteen students and three faculty members from nine countries joined the Young Explorers-Singapore 2025 voyage, including nine Tanoto Scholars from Indonesia. The six-day transit from Singapore to Timor-Leste immersed participants in ocean science, storytelling, and exploration. The goal was to build regional capacity, deepen ocean literacy, and strengthen leadership among emerging ocean stewards across Asia.



The Program

Learning Beyond the Classroom and Into the Deep Blue

The **Young Explorers program** is a core part of OceanX Education's strategy to expand access to ocean science and create pathways for young people to enter ocean-focused careers. Designed for students aged eighteen to twenty-four, the program introduces emerging leaders to marine research, technology, and storytelling through direct engagement aboard the *OceanXplorer*.

During the Singapore to Timor-Leste transit, participants learned how science, engineering, and media work together to support exploration. Faculty specialists led sessions on seagrass ecology, marine sampling, and laboratory techniques, providing practical exposure to scientific workflows. The OceanX team introduced acoustic mapping and explained how depth, structure, and physical processes are interpreted to understand the ocean. Students also

joined media workshops that demonstrated how scanning, photogrammetry, and immersive capture strengthen communication and build public engagement with ocean issues.

The program supports OceanX's expedition by strengthening skills, confidence, and regional leadership. Through partnership with the Tanoto Foundation, this edition expanded opportunities for youth across Southeast Asia and built a network of participants who can contribute to science, technology, and community impact in the future. By blending scientific practice with creative communication, the program continues to connect young leaders with the tools, knowledge, and inspiration needed to shape a more sustainable ocean future.



In the Field

Exploration, Leadership, and Shared Discovery at Sea

Life aboard the *OceanXplorer* gave participants an inside view of ocean exploration. Students observed bridge operations, visited the ROV and submersible bays, and joined discussions with scientists, technologists, filmmakers, and crew. These interactions encouraged them to link scientific concepts with environmental challenges across the region and consider how they can contribute to future ocean solutions.

Mentorship shaped the experience. Faculty members and OceanX Education leads guided students through practical demonstrations and reflective sessions that strengthened communication skills and increased confidence. The international makeup of the cohort created a collaborative environment built on cultural exchange, shared curiosity, and collective purpose. Participants supported one another's learning and formed connections that will extend beyond the voyage.

Feedback reflected strong impact. Students described the program as transformative and highlighted how hands-on exposure to equipment, real-time demonstrations, and direct access to experts clarified potential career pathways. Faculty noted students' growing confidence and curiosity as they engaged with new ideas, tools, and perspectives.

Looking ahead, OceanX Education and the Tanoto Foundation plan to expand opportunities for regional youth leadership and experiential learning.

By building skills, networks, and purpose among young people, the program helps cultivate future ocean professionals who can support science, storytelling, and community resilience.



Exploring the Edge: The Timor Passage

The Expedition Exploring the Edge of the Coral Triangle to Advance Science and Conservation

■ LOCATION

Timor Passage, Timor-Leste

■ DATES

November 8 – November 22, 2025

■ OVERVIEW

In November, OceanX and a team of international partners embarked on a scientific expedition aboard the *OceanXplorer* to explore the waters north of Dili and Atauro Island. *The Exploring the Edge: Timor Passage* expedition combined deep-sea mapping, biodiversity surveys, and blue-whale research to build a comprehensive picture of one of the least-studied marine regions within the Coral Triangle. Using submersibles, remotely operated vehicles (ROVs), and aerial imaging systems, the expedition revealed new insights into Timor-Leste's ocean ecosystems and strengthened regional collaboration in marine science.



Leading one of the most comprehensive habitat characterizations on the Timor-Leste northern coast and Atauro Island region, OceanX's collected data will support the development of the Atauro Marine Protected Area.

The Collaboration Strengthening Regional Science and Deep-Sea Research Capacity in Timor-Leste

Exploring the Edge: The Timor Passage brought together OceanX, the Government of Timor-Leste, and scientific partners from KAUST, the University of Florida, and the University of Western Australia to study one of the most dynamic marine corridors in the Coral Triangle. Over two weeks at sea, the expedition examined deep and coastal ecosystems across the Timor Passage, an underexplored region that supports rich biodiversity and critical whale migration routes.

Using the *OceanXplorer's* submersibles, ROVs, aerial imaging systems, and environmental DNA techniques, teams documented seafloor habitats, coral and invertebrate communities, pelagic species, and whale activity across depths reaching three thousand meters. The collaboration also advanced understanding of habitat connectivity by combining biological samples, high-resolution mapping, and oceanographic measurements.

Exploring the Edge: The Timor Passage represented Timor-Leste's first integrated deep-ocean study and helped strengthen national capacity in marine science. Training and knowledge exchange were central, with local researchers joining operations, learning technical workflows, and contributing to data collection and analysis. The partnership built a foundation for long-term collaboration and will support future conservation and marine resource management efforts.

Together, these institutions demonstrated how shared exploration and open data can accelerate scientific progress while empowering nations to understand and protect their own ocean environments.



The Impact

Building Knowledge and Capacity for the Coral Triangle's Future



Exploring the Edge: The Timor Passage delivered one of the most thorough marine datasets ever collected in Timor-Leste. Across fourteen days at sea, the team mapped four thousand nine hundred square kilometers of seabed and completed eleven ROV dives and eleven double submersible dives, generating more than one hundred hours of underwater observation. These operations produced a large suite of coral, invertebrate, and benthic specimens, including more than four thousand samples representing roughly two thousand species across reef, mesophotic, and deep habitats. CTD casts and acoustic mapping added new insight into the structure and oceanography of the Timor Passage.

The expedition advanced whale ecology research through helicopter and vessel-based surveys that recorded sixty blue whale sightings and forty-seven close encounters from the Metal Shark. Researchers collected genetic and microbiome material from forty-six whales, creating an invaluable baseline for understanding the health of migrating Pygmy Blue Whales and the pressures they face along this corridor.

These datasets will guide national planning for the Atauro Marine Protected Area and strengthen collaborative research across the region.

By involving Timor-Leste researchers in daily operations and technical workflows, the expedition advanced local capability in ocean science and reinforced OceanX's commitment to open, impactful, and locally grounded exploration.



Beneath the Ring: The Sulawesi Seamounts

The Expedition

Exploring Newly Revealed Seamounts to
Guide Future Conservation

LOCATION

Sulawesi, Indonesia

DATES

November 28, 2025 – January 27, 2026

OVERVIEW

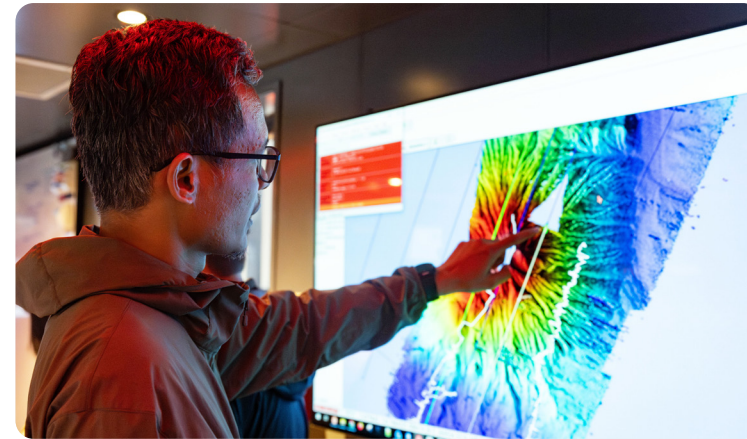
The first leg of this two-leg expedition centered on uncovering the geologic story of the Sulawesi seamount chain off Northern Indonesia, mapping the structure of the seamounts and the surrounding seafloor in detail. This multi-parameter study was the first of its kind in the region, generating a comprehensive ecosystem baseline, and subsequently guided the ecological and biology-focused research planned for Leg 2 in January 2026.

OUR PARTNER

Badan Riset dan
Inovasi Nasional
(National Research and
Innovation Agency)



The Sulawesi seamount chain is one of the most remote and least understood areas of the Indo-Pacific. This expedition was designed to uncover how geological forces, biodiversity, and ecosystem processes interact beneath the Pacific Ring of Fire.



The Collaboration **Establishing a Joint Research Expedition for Capacity Sharing and Strengthening Biodiversity Baselines**

The inaugural OceanX–BRIN Indonesia 2025–2026 expedition focused on newly discovered, unexplored seamount ecosystems in Northern Sulawesi, Indonesia. This expedition generated foundational ecological and genetic baselines, supported MPA design, trained Indonesian researchers, and built momentum for Indonesian-led deep-ocean exploration. Capacity exchange was a central pillar of this expedition and a direct contribution to Project Krisna, BRIN’s national initiative to strengthen Indonesia’s long-term ocean science independence through technical training, co-authorship, operational readiness, and talent development.

The OceanX–BRIN collaboration established joint expeditions, capacity building, and policy relevant outputs supporting the National Medium–Term Development Plan (RPJMN) targets for marine knowledge and innovation, Project LAUTRA: MPA expansion and ecosystem connectivity, Project Krisna: national ocean science capacity, and strengthened biodiversity baselines and national marine governance. This partnership is grounded in Indonesian scientific leadership, with BRIN as lead agency for research design, data stewardship, and publication.

The Impact



Setting a Baseline for Long-Term Protection

The OceanX—BRIN expedition collaboration supported Indonesian-led deep-ocean science, capacity exchange, and policy-relevant data generation in 2025. The partnership was designed to evolve annually through joint planning, rotating research sites, and targeted training aligned with BRIN’s research roadmap and national priorities. The expedition strengthened Indonesian ocean science capacity, informed marine policy for marine spatial planning, and created the foundation for a long term collaboration for research, education, and public engagement in science.

The first leg of this two-part expedition set out to illuminate how deep and shallow waters connect across the uncharted seamounts of Indonesia’s Northern Sulawesi EEZ. This region sits within one of the most dynamic zones of the Pacific Ring of Fire, shaped by shifting faults and active subduction, and yet its offshore waters remain largely unexplored.

Understanding these hidden landscapes is essential. Indonesian seamounts are biodiversity hotspots that reveal how nutrients move, how ecosystems connect, and how life thrives from the depths to the surface.



By mapping and characterizing these habitats, OceanX is collecting and sharing the knowledge needed to guide sustainable protection ensuring this remarkable region can continue to support both ocean and human wellbeing.

Looking Ahead

In early 2026, we will embark on Leg 2 of this unique expedition. Our planned research during leg 2 builds on everything we uncovered in the first phase of the expedition, returning to each seamount to understand the living systems shaped by these dynamic undersea landscapes. Guided by Leg 1 discoveries, we’re focusing on the ecological forces at play: biodiversity surveys, water sampling, and the fine-scale processes that reveal how life adapts and connects across the seamount chain.

Together, these efforts will give us a full characterization of this region and its influence on the wider Indonesian ocean environment.



Leadership





Mark Dalio
Co-CEO and Founder



Vincent Pieribone
Co-CEO and
Chief Science Officer



Connor Boals
Vice President of
Digital Media



Amy Freeland
Vice President of Marketing
and Communications



Gerrard Harvey
Head of Marine Operations



Max Khosrowshahi
COO and CFO



Nicole Kidston-Thomson
Vice President of
Partnerships



Tit Meng Lim
APAC Regional
Executive Director,
OceanX Education

Partner Celebrations

We are grateful to our partners whose collaboration and trust continue to amplify our expedition and make meaningful ocean innovation possible.

■ PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS



■ STRATEGIC PARTNERS





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ocean's sustainable potential.**

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