

## **15 Ocean Technology Startups Graduate from Sustainable Ocean Alliance 2019 Ocean Solutions Accelerator And Scale-Up Program**

**October 9, 2019, San Francisco, Calif.** — [Sustainable Ocean Alliance](#) (SOA), a global non-profit organization that advances the impact of ocean leaders and ocean solution startups, is excited to announce that 15 startups from its Second Wave Cohort have successfully completed the intensive 8-week leadership and startup development program.

SOA launched its inaugural accelerator program in 2018 with the mission of providing entrepreneurs with the necessary tools and resources to develop their prototypes into market-ready solutions. This year, SOA announced a [\\$1.5 million gift](#) from Marc and Lynne Benioff with a target to accelerate 100 ocean solution startups by 2021.

“Our commitment to the world is to identify the most promising solutions with the greatest transformative impact to handle the climate crisis we are currently facing,” says Daniela Fernandez, founder, and CEO of Sustainable Ocean Alliance. “This year, we did just that. Each of these startups recognizes the ocean is under severe distress and acknowledges that we can no longer settle for promises of change from governments or corporations. We are all stewards of the ocean and the planet and the time has come for us to take matters into our own hands.”

To graduate, startup founders must complete the assigned curriculum and network with like-minded entrepreneurs and develop skills in negotiations, branding, hiring, pitching and more. They also had exclusive access to SOA’s resources and mentors to help them as they grow their business. The 8-week program concludes at Demo Day, on October 16, where the companies will showcase their final pitches in front of SOA, investors, media, and industry business leaders.

“Given the extreme threats that our ocean is facing, it is time to invest in solutions that can yield exponential impact returns,” says Craig Dudenhoeffer, Chief Innovation Officer at Sustainable Ocean Alliance and Co-founder of the Ocean Solutions Accelerator. “These 15 startups demonstrate that, through the use of emerging technologies and innovative business models, we can build scalable solutions to the seemingly insurmountable problems plaguing our ocean and our planet. I hope these entrepreneurs will inspire others to explore what is possible at the intersection of science, business, technology, and sustainability.”

### **Companies from the Second Wave Cohort include:**

Ocean Solutions Accelerator Startups building solutions to end marine plastic pollution:

- [BioCellection](#) (Menlo Park, Calif.) — develops innovations to turn currently unrecyclable plastic waste into valuable chemicals for a circular economy
- [Cruz Foam](#) (Santa Cruz, Calif.) — produces compostable foam by upcycling shrimp shell waste for packaging from the ocean for the ocean
- [Dispatch Goods](#) (San Francisco, Calif.)— eliminates disposable food ware from the food delivery ecosystem by providing a zero-waste alternative
- [Ellipsis Environmental](#) (London, United Kingdom) — scans rivers and coastlines with drones, processes these images with a uniquely-trained algorithm to create detailed heatmaps of plastic waste hotspots, and advises partners on the best approaches to tackle each pollution challenge
- [muuse](#) (formerly Revolv.)(San Francisco, Calif.) — operates a global network of elegant, robust, tech-enabled products (cups, bottles, and to-go containers) by using a seamless deposit system and fully-integrated mobile/web application
- [rePurpose Global](#) (Bangalore, India) — measures customers plastic footprint, purchases equivalent plastic offsets and curates a personalized guide on ConsciousLiving according to each unique footprint

Ocean Solutions Accelerator startups aiding in ocean data collection and analysis.

- [Blue Tribe](#) (Mountain View, Calif.) — uses federated machine learning to predict natural disasters and sea-level rise on the coast
- [Ecodrone](#) (formerly La Barchetta Magica) (Firenze, Italy) — develops sea drones propelled by renewable solar and wind energy
- [ONET Global](#) (San Mateo, Calif.) — provides an affordable and accessible wireless infrastructure for the world's oceans
- [Sea Proven](#) (Saint Jean Sur Mayenne, France) — develops Autonomous Laboratory Vessels to better understand and protect the oceans by a collection of data
- [SINAY Maritime Data Solution](#) (Caen, France) — is a Data Analytic Platform for maritime sectors

SOA *Scale-Up* startups developing ocean sustainability solutions for fisheries, aquaculture, and for protecting ocean resources:

- [Blue Ocean Gear](#) (Redwood City, Calif.) — develops IoT tracking for the oceans, starting with Smart Buoys to track gear for the fishing industry
- [Coral Vita](#) (Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas) — grows climate change resilient coral up to 50x faster to restore dying reefs

- [Finless Foods](#) (Emeryville, Calif.) —produces nutritious, environmentally-friendly versions of the fish and seafood products the world loves by harnessing cellular biology
- [SmartCatch](#) (Woodside, Calif.) — offers a high-speed digital network for data collection and “eyes in the net” from the trawl net to the wheelhouse to the cloud

Since its debut in 2018, 20 startups have taken part in the SOA Ocean Solutions Accelerator program. Applications for the 2020 class will be available in November. For more information or to apply, please visit [www.soalliance.org](http://www.soalliance.org).

### **About Sustainable Ocean Alliance**

[Sustainable Ocean Alliance](#) (SOA) is a global non-profit organization that advances the impact of startups, social enterprises and initiatives that are developing solutions to protect and sustain our ocean. SOA’s pipeline of ocean leaders is cultivated through a hub-based model, led by students at the collegiate and young professional levels.

Sustainable Ocean Alliance (SOA) was founded in 2014 as a college-room idea. With phenomenal speed, SOA has created the world’s largest network of young ocean leaders – through establishing a presence in over 156 countries, launching the first-ever Ocean Solutions Accelerator in 2018 to support ocean tech startups, and partnering with corporations and governments to develop technological solutions that can address the greatest threats facing our planet.

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