



**TITLE:** Project Lead, #BackBlue Ocean Finance Commitment  
**REPORTS TO:** Executive Director, ORRAA  
**DEPARTMENT:** #BackBlue  
**CLASSIFICATION:** Permanent, Full-time or Fixed Term Consultancy

### **ORGANISATION OVERVIEW:**

A resilient, net zero and economically secure world is not possible without a healthy, regenerating ocean. The Ocean, one of the planet's greatest assets, is in crisis. Heating, leading to extreme weather events, sea level rise, and adverse ecosystem changes as well as pollution, overfishing and destructive fishing, rising levels of acidity and biodiversity loss all jeopardise its health. Rebuilding and restoring 'blue nature' means protecting the critical impact buffers and biodiversity reservoirs that provide food, social and economic security to billions of people and businesses across the world.

Immediate and scaled action is needed to build resilience to change. The Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA or the Alliance) is the only multi-sector collaboration connecting the finance and insurance sectors, governments, multilateral organisations, civil society, and local partners, to pioneer finance and insurance products that incentivise investment into coastal and ocean resilience, and through Nature-based Solutions (NbS).

The mission, by 2030, is to activate at least USD\$500 million of investment to build the resilience of 250 million climate vulnerable coastal people in the Global South. ORRAA is delivering system-wide change by growing an investable product pipeline and generating the transformative investment instruments, vehicles and policies that contribute to a regenerative and sustainable blue economy. These solutions enable coastal communities and the Ocean to adapt and thrive, creating greater economic, social and cultural resilience.

### **PROJECT SUMMARY:**

The #BackBlue Ocean Finance Commitment is a joint initiative between ORRAA and the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Ocean Action Agenda, working with leading financial institutions, insurers and public development banks, to give a regenerating and sustainable ocean a seat at the table in finance and insurance decisions.

It has been endorsed by AXA, Deutsche Bank, Standard Chartered, BNP Paribas, Mirova, Eurazeo, WTW and Palladium. The current cumulative value of the assets under management covered by the Commitment is USD\$3.45 trillion. By mid-2028, our goal is to expand this to USD\$10 trillion.

#BackBlue drives action that:

- Invests in nature-positive and more resilient outcomes for coastal communities and the Ocean
- Accelerates the transition towards a healthy, regenerating and sustainable ocean
- Delivers on robust net zero commitments
- Drives financial system change
- Joins together ORRAA and the sustainable finance community at the World Economic Forum

Over the next two-and-a-half years, the #BackBlue Ocean Finance Commitment will onboard more finance and insurance institutions in all key regions. Based on the planetary boundaries scientific framework, we will develop #BackBlue Red Lines and Blue Lines to help channel capital away from the detrimental and harmful and into the regenerative and sustainable. We also will develop blue finance literacy-building tools designed specifically for financial institutions and insurers that focus on ensuring that leading-edge #BackBlue joiners can train their staff to understand, value and invest in future-proof investments that recognise the critical value of the Ocean as an Earth System, and the regenerative and sustainable blue economy as core to building resilience, adaptation and mitigation solutions.

### **POSITION SUMMARY:**

The Project Lead for #BackBlue will oversee this next phase in the expansion of the #BackBlue Ocean Finance Commitment. Reporting to ORRAA's Executive Director, the Project Lead will drive the design, delivery, and coordination of this initiative, ensuring strong alignment with the WEF Ocean team, the ORRAA Secretariat, joiners and other partners. This includes establishing and maintaining robust project management systems, stewarding internal and external collaboration, and ensuring the project delivers against the grant's expectations.

This is a senior, strategic role requiring exceptional coordination, stakeholder engagement, and delivery discipline. It is a substantive, analytical, content-heavy position, ideal for someone with deep subject-matter knowledge, strong research capability, management skills, the ability to communicate well with different audiences and translate science and policy into clear, actionable recommendations for financial institutions.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Oversee and lead overall strategic direction and implementation of the #BackBlue project to deliver the project, align with ORRAA's 2026–28 Strategy, and meet key donor and partner delivery milestones.
- Ensure each workstream is sequenced, resourced, and moving towards clear deliverables.
- Provide strategic direction for the integration of #BackBlue's Arctic lens, ensuring polar-specific risks, opportunities, and governance issues are consistently reflected across the initiative.
- Provide senior leadership across all workstreams, ensuring conceptual consistency and coherence.
- Coordinate technical inputs across ORRAA teams.
- Ensure alignment with external partners including WEF, UNEP FI, WWF, UNGC, IUCN and Commitment joiners.
- Lead high-level partner engagement to support consultation, endorsement, case studies, and regional outreach.
- Represent ORRAA/#BackBlue in strategic discussions and public and private convenings with endorsers, financial institutions, insurers, and public development banks.
- Co-lead preparation and delivery of key convenings for the project.
- Oversee progress tracking, risk management, and internal and external reporting requirements.
- Coordinate and manage all staff and consultants associated with this project.
- Engage with experts, research partners, and institutions (e.g., polar scientists, governance bodies, expedition partners) to ensure sound technical foundations.
- Ensure integration of the commitment into ORRAA's broader communications and advocacy strategies.

- A good sense of humour and willingness to 'dive in', think innovatively and strategically and work as part of a cross-cultural team to achieve project goals and the organisational mission.

#### **REQUIRED & PREFERRED SKILLS:**

- At least 10 years' experience in project leadership, programme management, sustainable finance, responsible investment, ocean/climate policy, or related fields.
- Demonstrated experience leading complex, multi-stakeholder initiatives.
- A systems thinker, able to connect science, policy, finance and communications.
- Strong understanding of sustainable finance frameworks, nature-positive investment, and/or ocean/climate policy (highly desirable).
- Proven ability to manage dispersed teams, partners, and high-profile projects with pace and clarity.
- Experience with major international convenings (e.g., COP, WEF, UN events) preferred.
- Demonstrated understanding of ocean-climate systems, ideally with exposure to Arctic issues, polar governance, or high-latitude marine risks.
- A team-player with ability to work across cultures and time zones, with diplomacy and precision.
- Values collaboration and transparency.
- Highly organised and mission driven.
- Able to bring humour, humility and kindness to your work.

#### **WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

- Competitive salary.
- This position is a full-time role.
- As a fully remote organisation with charities registered in both the United States and the United Kingdom. We pride ourselves on our globally dispersed workforce. We conduct all work virtually and work flexible hours to accommodate multiple time zones. In-person meetings are arranged on a needs-basis, bearing in mind climate footprint, and as budget allows. Preference for this position to be in the EU or UK.
- International travel is expected as needed and as safety allows, including potential Arctic-region or global convenings.
- The ORRAA team takes a break at the end of each calendar year typically between Christmas and New Year's Day.

#### **CANDIDATE APPLICATIONS:**

Applications should include a CV/resume, a cover letter outlining how your skills and experience will benefit ORRAA, and your salary expectations at [this link](#). **Your CV/resume and cover letter should be uploaded as one document.** Applications will be assessed on a rolling basis. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. The successful candidate must be authorised to work in their country of residence. Work visas and relocation expenses are not available for this position.

#### **DATA PRIVACY:**

Please note that any personal data submitted to ORRAA as part of the job application process will be processed in accordance with the GDPR and related UK data protection legislation, for more information regarding GDPR please see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guide-to-the-general-data-protection-regulation>

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER:**

Entry into employment with the ORRAA and progression within employment will be determined only by personal merit and the application of criteria which are related to the duties of each post and the relevant salary structure. In all cases, ability to perform the job will be the primary consideration. No applicant or member of staff shall be discriminated against because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

No terminology in the advert or job description is intended to discriminate on the grounds of a person's gender, marital status, race, religion, colour, age, disability or sexual orientation. Every candidate will be assessed only in accordance with their merits, qualifications and abilities to perform the duties of the job.