



MARCH 2025

Nautilus, the Blue Guarantee Company

The [Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance](#) (ORRAA) and the [Development Guarantee Group](#) (DGG), are developing **Nautilus, the Blue Guarantee Company**, with development funding from the UK government.

Nautilus unlocks debt investments in the regenerative and sustainable blue economy by offering guarantees, a ‘promise to pay’ that mitigates risks for private sector investors. Nautilus is committed to supporting regenerative and sustainable projects that promote a healthy ocean and prosperous coastal communities.

Financial innovation

- Guarantees are a highly flexible financing instrument that enhance the credit quality of financial transactions and mobilise private financing at scale from local and global investors.
- Guarantees have the capacity to mobilise larger volumes of private impact capital than would typically be possible via direct investment models.

Snapshot

- Nautilus provides a means to de-risk private investments into the six ORRAA-identified regenerative and sustainable blue economy sectors¹ through the provision of guarantees in local and hard currency.

Purpose

- Guarantees address a number of risks in financial transactions, therefore unlocking private capital investment at scale from local and global investors and helps close the funding gap for investments into SDG 14 ‘Life Below Water.’
- Nautilus will mitigate risks faced by private investors, providing the confidence needed to crowd-in private sector finance, and attract financial institutions to invest in regenerative and sustainable blue economy projects in coastal countries.
- The transformational effect of guarantees will, over time, positively impact the risk perception of private investors and increase access to longer-term private institutional capital, enhancing the risk-return ratio of the underlying debt instrument.

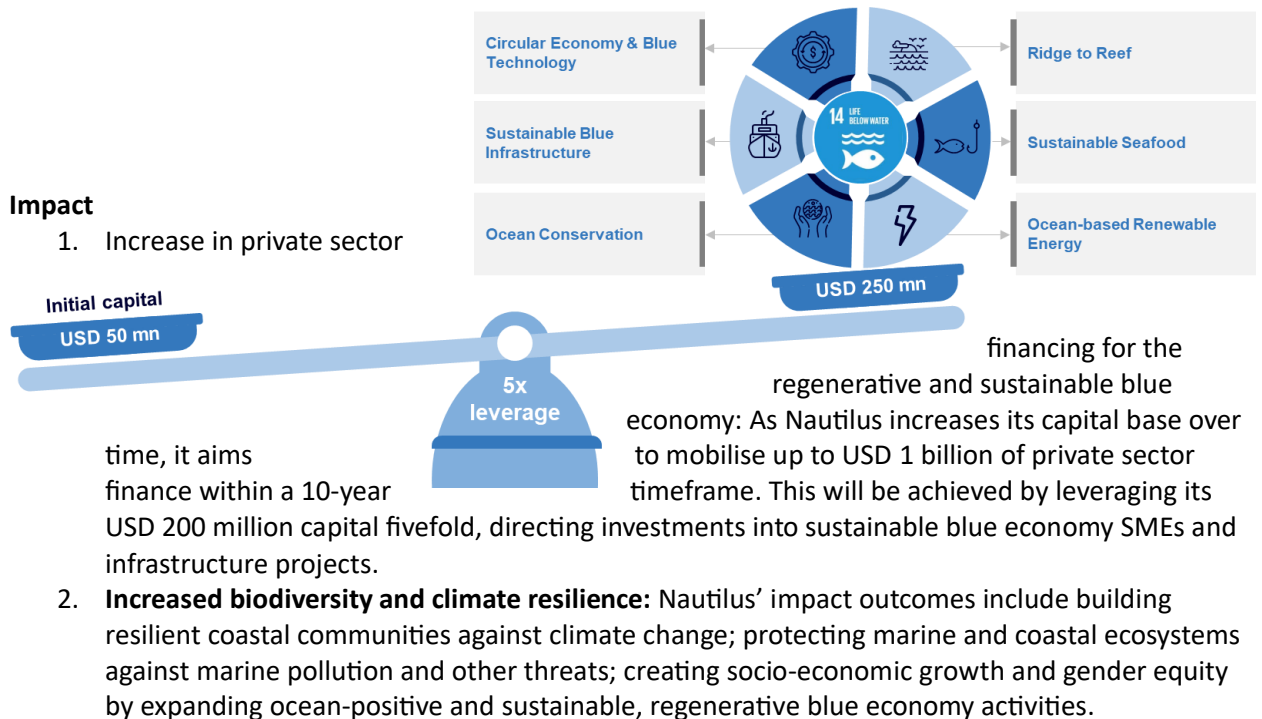
¹ The six [ORRAA-identified regenerative and sustainable blue economy sectors](#) are: Ocean Conservation, Ridge to Reef, Sustainable Seafood, Sustainable Blue Infrastructure, Circular Economy and Blue Technology, and Ocean Based Renewables.

- Given guarantees are a “promise to pay” rather than a cash investment, Nautilus’ capital is only used if a project defaults on its repayment, triggering a claim on the guarantee. This means that under normal circumstances, Nautilus' capital remains largely unutilised, allowing it to leverage each dollar more effectively compared to traditional cash investments.
- Nautilus will be able to leverage its capital 5 times meaning that an initial capitalisation of USD 50 million will provide a guarantee capacity of USD 250 million.

Size

- A target capital of USD 200 million within its first 10 years of operations with a first close at USD 50 million of paid-in equity by 2026.
- Nautilus’ guarantees will be categorised under two separate windows: (i) the small and medium enterprises (SME) window for transactions with an average ticket size of USD 5 million and tenors of up to 5 years, and (ii) the infrastructure window for transactions with an average ticket size of USD 25 million and tenors of up to 15 years.

Figure displaying the mobilisation capacity of Nautilus guarantees (The Development Guarantee Group).



Investing in coastal communities and the Ocean



3. **Contribution towards multiple [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#):** Nautilus has a targeted approach to SDG 14 “Life below Water” with the capacity to also cross-benefit SDGs 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 17.

Stage of development and progress update:

- A feasibility assessment is complete. The establishment phase is underway in partnership with the Development Guarantee Group (DGG)².
- The UK government is providing development funding for Nautilus’ implementation through the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance.
- Nautilus is currently in the process of developing its impact framework including a Measurement, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) system, as well as its Theory of Change, Environmental Social Management Systems (ESMS) Policy and Gender Action Plan.
- A soft launch of Nautilus is envisaged at the [UN Ocean Conference 2025](#).

Support needed

1. Investment engagement

- a. *Funded and committed (2023 – 2025):*
 - i. USD 780k for feasibility studies and development funding
- b. *Requested:*
 - i. Additional development funding of USD 1.5 million
 - ii. First financial close of USD 50 million by 2026
 - iii. USD 200 million total over a 10-year period (leveraged to mobilise USD 1 billion of private sector finance)

2. **Pipeline development:** Nautilus plans to work with partners (including multilateral development banks and development finance institutions) to develop a pipeline of eligible blue economy projects that it can support once fully operational. The project pipeline which will be aligned with Nautilus’ sectoral guarantee capacity allocation, will primarily target waste management projects, circular economy initiatives, and sustainable agriculture projects, including aquaculture and fisheries.

² The [Development Guarantee Group](#) (DGG) is the only specialist advisory, project development and asset management company focused on creating innovative guarantee solutions that help deliver the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The company provides advisory services to strategy, operations, risk management and governance of guarantors and guarantee programmes; asset management of newly created guarantors or guarantee programmes in partnership with project clients including the Green Guarantee Company, the world’s first climate focused financial guarantor with a guarantee capacity of USD 1 billion, and project development to bridge the gap between advisory and asset management and create bespoke guarantee solutions including Nautilus, the Blue Guarantee Company.



Funded by the UK Government and supported by the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance Inc. (ORRAA Inc.).



Partnership | Progress | Prosperity

The [Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance](#) (ORRAA) is the only multi-sector collaboration connecting the international finance and insurance sectors, governments, non-profits, and stakeholders from the Global South to pioneer finance products that incentivise investment into coastal and ocean nature-based solutions. Our goal, by 2030 is to activate at least USD500 million of investment into this space, and in so doing, help build the resilience of at least 250 million climate vulnerable coastal people.

ORRAA is spearheading the development of the Sea Change Impact Financing Facility (SCIFF), an open ocean financing architecture designed to drive at least USD1 billion of private investment into coastal and ocean ecosystems by 2030, with a focus on the Global South. The SCIFF is building an ocean financing ecosystem to complement ORRAA's development of an investible project and product pipeline and will integrate sustainable blue finance into broader climate and biodiversity finance ecosystems.

ORRAA is working together with its members on a blue finance delivery roadmap between now and 2025, developing financing instruments, bridging policy frameworks, building financial literacy, and developing pathways and scalable tools to unlock financing for coastal and ocean resilience and regeneration.

Investing in coastal communities and the Ocean
