Embargoed until November 17th,7am CET

Catalytic Finance Foundation announces its first own investment

Geneva, 17th of November. Catalytic Finance Foundation (Catalytic), a Geneva-based foundation, has invested in Outrigger Impact Fund, through its Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR) mandate, to expand investment in reef-positive businesses, financial mechanisms and climate-adaptation solutions across Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS). The investment is expected to address a persistent regional investment gap whereby local entrepreneurs often lack access to the appropriately structured capital and technical support needed to reach scale.

Outrigger Impact Fund I is a blended finance vehicle that will provide equity and debt financing to blue economy businesses in SIDS. The fund aims to build resilience to climate change and help close the estimated US$10 billion annual global adaptation finance gap for islands by fostering a sustainable ocean economy. The fund is targeting a total size of US$100 million, with a final close anticipated in 2027. Catalytic's investment is especially targeting Pacific SIDS.

Catalytic started its own investment activities in 2025 in order to deploy and redeploy the purpose-restricted concessional capital entrusted to the Foundation so that each contribution achieves the maximum cumulative impact within the donor's stated purpose.

Currently Catalytic has two investment mandates; one under GFCR to deploy funds to support regional actors that can finance portfolios of reef-positive businesses acting as aggregators. The second one under Canopy Trust to de-risk and catalyze significant additional private sector investments in sustainable agriculture and forestry, cooking energy, renewable energy, and deforestation-free agricultural value chains in the Congo Basin.

"Some of the sectors and regions that matter most for climate and nature are the ones private investors find hardest to enter. Catalytic's role is to change that calculation by taking the junior, first-loss position, absorbing the first losses so that commercial and impact investors can come in on terms they can accept, and then redeploying every return toward the same purpose. Outrigger Impact Fund is our first investment on this model, and we hope it encourages potential philanthropic capital providers to start catalytic investments. Being an early anchor investor, we hope to attract senior investors and other like-minded concessional investors", David Albertani, Chief Executive Officer, Catalytic Finance Foundation.

"Coral reefs are vital economic assets for Pacific Small Island Developing States. They sustain fisheries and tourism, support local jobs and protect homes and infrastructure from storms. Yet many Pacific businesses that can help keep reefs healthy struggle to access the finance they need to grow," said Pierre Bardoux, Director of the Global Fund for Coral Reefs. "By working together through the GFCR Coalition, Catalytic Finance Foundation and Outrigger aim to expand access to finance so reef-positive businesses can grow and help keep the marine ecosystems that underpin the long-term resilience of Pacific islands healthy."

Beyond the investment itself, the goal of the foundation is to encourage other philanthropies and foundations to use their capital as concessional capital for impact investments that would otherwise struggle to attract private investors.

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Catalytic

About Catalytic Finance Foundation

Catalytic Finance Foundation is an independent, non-profit organization that accelerates investment in sustainable infrastructure and nature. The foundation deploys its strategy through three core activities: 1) It **incubates catalytic finance solutions** — including blended-finance vehicles and enabling facilities — to mobilize capital toward projects that are underserved by commercial markets. 2) Catalytic provides targeted **technical assistance** to strengthen project bankability, environmental and social safeguards, and impact outcomes. 3) It also **deploys early-stage, catalytic capital** to prepare high-impact initiatives for subsequent investment by commercial and impact investors.

For further information, visit https://www.catalyticfinance.org/

About Outrigger Impact

Outrigger Impact is a specialised blue economy platform, building environmental and economic resilience in Small Island Developing States, by catalysing and leveraging the blue economy and enhancing the sustainability of ocean resources. The Outrigger Impact Fund will provide investment capital for blue economy projects in a range of Small Island Developing States; the Outrigger Technical Assistance Facility provides grants and concessionary loans to support early-stage projects in islands. Together they aim to deliver more than US$100 million of catalytic funding to island states.

For more information, please see outriggerimpact.com

About the Global Fund for Coral Reefs

The Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR) is the world's leading investment platform dedicated to coral reefs. A UN-backed public-private coalition, GFCR applies blended and innovative finance approaches to mobilise capital to protect the world's most climate-resilient coral reefs while strengthening the communities and economies that depend on them. Operating across 22 coral nations, GFCR brings together governments, UN agencies, financial institutions, philanthropies, impact investors, conservation organisations and civil society to develop and scale reef-positive businesses and sustainable finance solutions. By 2030, GFCR aims to support at least 400 reef-positive business and finance solutions, improve the management of 3 million hectares of climate-resilient coral reefs—representing more than 10 per cent of the world's coral reefs—and strengthen the resilience of 20 million people.

Dive deeper at www.globalfundcoralreefs.org and follow GFCR on LinkedIn for the latest updates **#ForCoral**.

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