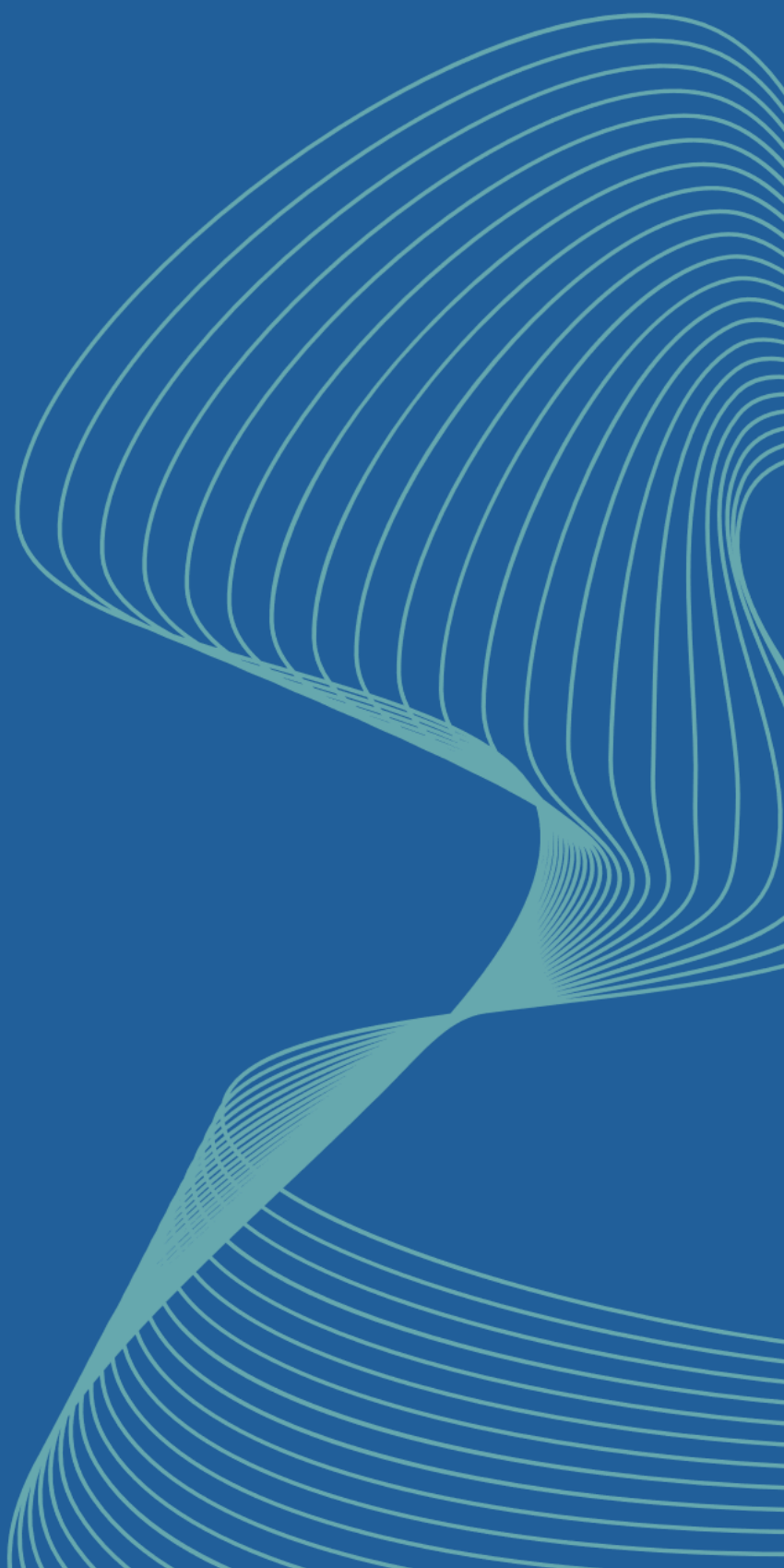


# Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles

## Member Report 2024

WaVeritas AG

31 May 2025



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## 1. Introduction

WaVeritas is honored to join the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles (SBE) group. The group's mission strongly aligns with our own, and we sincerely thank the Secretariat for the trust and warm welcome. We are committed to advancing sustainable blue finance through our operations and services - supporting marine conservation, water sustainability, and the responsible use of ocean resources. We look forward to deepening our impact and contributing to global sustainability goals in the years ahead.

## 2. Actions taken during the reporting period

Our core activity is delivering tailored research to asset managers. We see the alignment with the principles as a valuable opportunity to further embed leading international practices into our work and to collaboratively advance the topics we care about. The efforts we take reflect a strategic direction toward supporting a sustainable blue economy. We believe our greatest impact lies in integrating these principles into our services and encouraging their adoption among our clients.

### 2.1 Integration of ocean health factors in current mandates

As part of our ongoing research services, we systematically monitor and assess the activities of invested companies that may either contribute positively to ocean health or pose material risks to investors and society. We apply a strict exclusion policy that covers both environmental and social concerns, including unsustainable fishing and farming practices. None of our mandates or client portfolios are exposed to such companies.

Our assessments and reporting are guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with particular focus on SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and SDG 14 (Life Below Water). We also actively promote investments in companies offering solutions to critical water-related challenges—such as water treatment, access to clean water, pollution prevention, and sustainable fisheries.

### 2.2 Water impact strategy

We designed a new nature-positive investment strategy that aims to channel capital towards solutions that address major ocean health issues in a very dedicated manner. For the concept we received recognition in the form of a well-known award nomination. Currently we are looking for interested seed investors for the unique impact investment opportunity. At the project level, we established partnerships with academic institutions and scoped ecological baselines for a seagrass restoration initiative in a sensitive marine area that is currently facing biodiversity loss and sedimentation-related challenges. This effort aligns with SDG 14.2 and 14.5, supporting marine ecosystem restoration and coastal habitat conservation.

### 2.3 Support of the Seafood Traceability Program

We encouraged our partners to become participants in the FAIRR Seafood Traceability Engagement Collaboration.

### 3. Short- and long-term plans

Our short-term plan is to operationalize the water impact strategy as soon as we find an interested seed investor.

A long-term project is the further refinement and integration of blue economy indicators within our ESG rating methodology, with the goal to enable an extended risk and impact consideration for marine-relevant industries.

### 4. Alignment with global agreements

Global Agreement	Strategy integration / alignment
The Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 14	Through systematic consideration in our core business activity
The Paris Climate Agreement	<u>Business Activity</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Systematic consideration of climate risks in our research work (portfolio level, corporate analysis and quantitative integrations)</li> </ul> <u>Corporate level</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbon Accounting and Offsetting</li> <li>ESG policy and lean setup in terms of footprint</li> </ul>
The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework	Through collaborative engagements with industry organizations and scientific institutions.  Through projects focusing on marine life and habitat protection

### 5. SBE targets

Principle	Title	Target and KPI	Progress during the reporting period
1	Protective	Consider SDG 14 + 6 targets in our sustainability research activities whenever applicable	Achieved (short summary above)
2	Compliant	Extend and maintain robust governance framework based on applicable international standards	Achieved (short summary above)
3	Risk aware	Systematically consider and highlight financially material risks detected in our corporate ESG analysis.	Will be further extended
4	Systemic		
5	Inclusive	In project-based work make sure we the recommended holistic perspective	Work in progress
6	Cooperative	Be an active participant in the blue finance space	Attendance at several events
7	Transparent	Maintain reporting frame	Work in progress
8	Purposeful	Try to advance our own water strategy and integrate SDG 14 and SDG 6 aspects in our sustainability research activities	Work in progress
9	Impactful	Maintain impact first principle and achieve an innovation driven, nature positive impact in the water strategy	Work in progress
10	Precautionary	Systematically consider and highlight financially material risks detected in our corporate ESG analysis.	Achieved (short summary above)
11	Diversified	Consider the principle in both our large cap analysis and project work	Achieved (short summary above)
12	Solution-driven	Maintain impact first principle and achieve an innovation driven, nature positive impact in the water strategy	Work in progress
13	Partnering	Be an active participant in the blue finance space	Attendance at several events
14	Science-led	We actively seek to develop knowledge and base our work on best practices.	Achieved in project-based work and through consideration of latest scientific findings in our daily work

## 6. Governance overview

At the top of our governance structure is the sustainability strategy and by the ESG policy which includes our values, mission, vision and goals.

Our core business activity is the provision of sustainability research which is governed by the Research Code of Conduct, ensuring methodological rigor and alignment with scientific and industry best-practices.

In our work with clients, as well as throughout our internal processes, we aim to achieve the greatest possible alignment with international standards and practices as well as regulations.

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