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Press Release
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Outrigger Impact Fund I Reaches a First Close to Finance Blue Economy Projects across Global Small Island Developing States

- **Cornerstone junior commitments from the Nordic Development Fund and the Luxembourg - European Investment Bank Climate Finance Platform**
- **Unique blended finance facility prioritising investment in the blue economy across Small Island Developing States**
- **Aims to benefit at least 2 million people, support more than 12,500 jobs, avoid 1 million tonnes of CO_2 emissions and enhance the resilience of more than 100,000 hectares of natural ecosystems**

Outrigger Impact (Outrigger) today announced the launch of the Outrigger Impact Fund I, a blended finance vehicle that will provide equity and debt financing to blue economy businesses in Small Island Developing States (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.

SIDS are better understood as "Big Ocean States" and the custodians of our ocean ecosystems. Together, they steward around 30% of the world's ocean through their Exclusive Economic Zones, are home to more than 20% of global biodiversity and approximately 40% of the world's coral reefs. Their economies, livelihoods and cultures are fundamentally dependent on healthy oceans, with the blue economy contributing more than 40% of GDP in many island nations. Yet despite sitting on the front line of climate change, they receive a disproportionately small share of global development finance.

The fund will focus primarily on investments in blue economy sectors that strengthen climate adaptation and resilience, including circular economy, sustainable fisheries, ecosystem restoration, coastal resilience and climate-smart infrastructure. The portfolio will also support distributed clean energy, energy efficiency and low-carbon shipping where these contribute to broader resilience outcomes for islands.

Outrigger has been designed as a blended finance platform to mobilise institutional capital into sectors that have traditionally been underserved by private investors. The fund combines a catalytic junior tranche, supported by development finance institutions and philanthropic partners, with a senior tranche designed for private investors seeking both financial returns and measurable impact outcomes.

Complementing the investment fund is the Outrigger Technical Assistance Facility (OTAF), which provides grants and concessional financing to help early-stage projects become investment-ready and to build a pipeline of bankable opportunities across island economies. The OTAF is already supporting projects in the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean, and Pacific regions. The OTAF is backed by UK International Development, Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance, the Global Environment Facility and the Nordic Development Fund.

Simon Dent, Managing Director, Outrigger Impact said: "Achieving the first close of Outrigger Impact Fund is a major milestone in our ambition to support adaptation and resilience in small island developing states. Through combining private and junior capital, alongside grant funding for technical assistance, Outrigger is accelerating critical blue economy investment at scale into island states. We are pleased to be working with investors and partners who share our conviction that investing in resilient blue economies is essential to the long-term prosperity of island communities."

The fund contributes directly to seven of the UN Sustainable Development Goals: (1) No Poverty, (5) Gender Equality, (6), Clean Water and Sanitation, (10) Reduced Inequalities, (13) Climate Action, (14) Life Below Water and (15) Life on Land.

By combining private investment with catalytic public and philanthropic capital Outrigger will demonstrate that climate adaptation and blue economy investments can deliver both sustainable financial returns and measurable environmental outcomes, unlocking a new model for financing resilience in SIDS at scale.

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 to catalytic funding to island states.

For more information, please see outriggerimpact.com.

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