

SPRING UPDATE FROM THE ROCKET TEAM

OUT & ABOUT



In December 2021, we hosted dinner for twenty Rocket supporters at Mühle Tiefenbrunnen in Zurich, with Alastair Harris from [Blue Ventures](#), our latest portfolio project.

ZURICH

Alastair wowed us with an overview of the incredible work that his team is carrying out around the globe, and we discussed the pilot project that we are partnering with them on in the Philippines.

We were lucky enough to have an incredible crowd of like minded people creating a passionate ambiance around Ocean, Philanthropy and Impact. We would like to thank our guests who are financially supporting the project with us, and remind you that [we continue to fundraise!](#)

LONDON

At the end of January, Rocket Foundation CEO Fabrice d'Erm was invited to participate in a panel discussion in London on the topic of Impact Investing, hosted by the UK INSEAD Alumni Association.

He was joined by Jean de Fougères, CEO of Ascension Ventures and the debate was moderated by Chirag Shah, also a Rocket Foundation Board member. The event was the first post-Covid in-person event held at the infamous Brown's Restaurant in London and enjoyed a great turnout with a lot of interest around the difference between Venture Capital and Venture Philanthropy. We would like to thank Nermenn Varawalla, President UK INSEAD Alumni Association for hosting the event and inviting the Rocket Foundation on the panel.



In March, we made the most of Blue Venture's CEO Alasdair Harris being in Dubai: we invited a select group of [Rocket Ambassadors and Partners](#) to a private dinner where the Rocket CEO Fabrice d'Erm and Alasdair gave a presentation on the progress of the Blue Ventures project in the Philippines. An intimate group of 20 guests enjoyed a sustainably-farmed seafood dinner whilst hearing how Blue Ventures helps local fishermen and fisherwomen to improve their catch through better yield management, whilst also strengthening marine environments and collaborating with local government to protect the local coastlines.

DUBAI

We would like to thank Ilke and Chirag for their warm hospitality and for opening up their home to The Rocket and Blue Ventures, it was an amazing evening.

[Please let us know if you would be interested in hosting a dinner for your friends to be introduced to The Rocket Foundation or any of the specific projects that we are supporting.](#)

NEW YORK

Also in March, The Rocket Foundation was present at the INSEAD Alumni Conference being held in New York. This year's Conference topic was entitled "Leading with Purpose in Disruptive Times" and it was very timely that we hosted a roundtable on the topic of 'What is Venture Philanthropy and how do you get started'.

There was strong interest and we plan to repeat these types of mini events at other conferences in the future. [Please let us know if you hear of any events or trade shows that you think might be a good fit with our venture philanthropy message.](#)



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ROCKET PORTFOLIO UPDATE



BLUE VENTURES

[Since the end of 2021 we have been actively fundraising for our project with Blue Ventures.](#) The ocean has never been more vital and our project in the Philippines will help build resilience in coastal communities deeply impacted by climate change; safeguarding ocean life and biodiversity in ways that benefit people.

[We are raising EUR 150,000](#) over three years to support the launch and scaling of this project, leveraging Blue Ventures experience and success to date across Africa and the coral triangle. You can join us in supporting this project by [donating via our website](#) or as a [Rocket Partner](#).

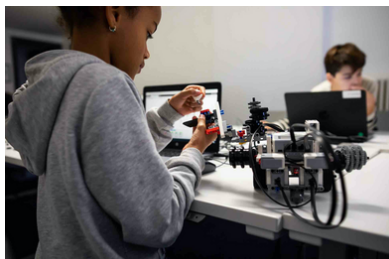
VELAFRICA

In January we concluded our project with Velafrica and the Insead Social Enterprise Consulting Group. This project deep dived into how social enterprises can target corporations, looking to contribute to society and progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. [Find out more.](#)

We continue to support Powercoders with the launch of their Remotecoders project. They are currently running a pilot in Tunisia and are working with potential partners across Northern Africa and IT companies in Europe. Depending on the outcome of this scoping phase the project will be launched in the second half of this year, all donations are matched by the Swiss Development Centre, who are funding 50% of this project.

POWERCODERS

We will soon launch our fundraising for Remotecoders and in the meantime are connecting Remotecoders to IT companies and IT outsourcers across Europe, contacts with nearshoring/outsourcing experience, and potential partners in Northern Africa. [Get in touch if you can support.](#)



We are also excited to see the launch of the Futurecoders website. The Rocket Foundation financed the launch of Futurecoders in 2020 and this project continues to grow and grow.

Their goal is to roll out 25-30 courses across Switzerland this year reaching upwards of 250 teenagers. [Find out more.](#)

CHILD'S i

Child's i continues to scale the bicycle project launched together with The Rocket Foundation in 2020, supporting vulnerable communities across a further three districts in Uganda. Ongoing disruption from COVID continues to restrict life in Uganda and the bicycles enable Child's i to reach more families and more children.

The Rocket Foundation continues to support Child's i. For Christmas, Charlie decided to donate to Child's i. To do like Charlie, [support Child's i here.](#)



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PARTNERSHIP WITH INSEAD

Since spring 2021 we have partnered with the INSEAD business school Social Enterprise Consulting Group, partnering projects with MBA students to support them in scaling their positive impact. In 2021 we completed two projects, including one with Blue Ventures, and in 2022 we have concluded a project with Velafrica. Find out more in [this article](#) by Matthew Michaelides who was part of the INSEAD team working with Blue Ventures. A massive thank you to all the INSEAD students involved.

THE ROCKET TEAM ON THE MOVE

We are super proud to announce that Rebecca Berlinger, our beloved COO, has co-founded [BELIEVE.](#) a consultancy that specialises in helping corporations to understand their ESG Impact and design sustainability strategies aligned to their long term business goals. She takes on this new role alongside her role at The Rocket and we are thrilled to see the eco-system around The Rocket continuing to expand.

GET INVOLVED

As always there is lots going on, we are always excited to discuss [new partnerships](#), [collaborations](#) and [donations](#) towards our portfolio projects. [Get in touch](#) to find out how we can work together.

The Rocket Team

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