FUNDACIÓN CLEANWAVE

Annual Report 2025

Partner Organisations

IBEROSTAR BEACHFRONT RESORTS

TUI CARE FOUNDATION

RIU HOTELS & RESORTS

universal BEACH HOTELS

Marilles Foundation

BROOKLYN ★ FITBOXING ★

THE PLUM FOUNDATION

EXA CAPITAL

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Cleanwave S.L.

GOIB CONSELLERIA MEDI AMBIENT I TERRITORI

KGH NATURE gGmbH

Collaborators

EU MISSIONS RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

CSIC

IMEDEA

KELP FOREST ALLIANCE

atdepth NASA

Oceanográfica

seatrees

ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

2021 2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

Observadores del Mar

BIODIVERSITY CREDIT ALLIANCE

ICTIB

ocean ledger

CEAB

THE LANDBANKING GROUP

Making it happen - Our Team ...

Lucian

Pilar

Elena

Chris

Lucia

Paula

Line

Laura

Elena

Antonia

Ali

Vanessa

... and a Fantastic Community!

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Opening letter

Dear Changemakers,

Over the years, people have often asked me: **“So, how is Cleanwave doing?”**

And my answer has always had two layers.

On one hand, the projects are extraordinary.

I feel it every time I drive through Palma and see another fountain — that little rise of pride.

I feel it in the faces of the young people in the Invincible Children programme, lit up with possibility after transformative experiences.

I felt it snorkelling with my colleagues in Portocolom, watching an octopus glide past as I scanned the bay thinking: “This place is better because of Cleanwave’s scientific work.”

I feel it in the bridges we build with the professional community — and wherever we show up, whether in a classroom, at a festival, a government meeting, or a conference — knowing we send in the A-Team.

And behind all of that, there is the quiet, steady rudder of meticulous care in the accounts, which allows all of us to stand confident at the forefront.

But the other half of my answer has always been the same: the constant struggle to finance the organisation.

For the past three years, we have shared the financial reality with full transparency. The weight of that challenge wears down stamina over time — especially for the leadership team — and it creates insecurity for the organisation as a whole. So when we say that every decision has been deliberate, it has been.

Our goal is clear: to create a self-financing model of marine stewardship that secures our vision, protects the organisation, and safeguards the people within it.

We have pushed ourselves to the limits — building an unprecedented model of marine restoration through Marine Biodiversity Blocks (MBBs), interlinked with community engagement, education, and environmental solutions.

It was necessary to apply for a temporary reduction of work contracts (ERTE) in November for a period of six months. Our intention remains unwavering — we are committed to pulling this through. We have reflected, calculated, and recalculated countless times to minimise the impact on those affected.

But this work cannot be carried by a few of us alone. It is impossible.

The only way we elevate this Foundation to the next level is together.

This is not the moment to wait for the storm to pass.

The only way through the storm is all hands on deck.

Because on the distant horizon, I see an island preserved — marine life abundant — and a community where every resident and visitor plays a role in protecting its future for generations to come.

That is why we are here. That is why this Foundation exists.

So I invite each of you to be part of what comes next — because the impact we envision can only be built together.

And finally — thank you.

To each and every one of you, for your creativity, your time, and your dedication to this Foundation and its mission.

Line Hadsbjerg

President and Co-Founder

I. Executive Summary of 2025

FUNDACIÓN CLEANWAVE

Thanks to the support of our community, the Cleanwave Foundation has been able to continue making a real impact on the Balearics, promoting the protection and regeneration of marine ecosystems through a model that places the community at the forefront of marine stewardship. We don't just restore marine habitats — we accompany people so that they can become their long-term guardians.

During this year, we have continued to work on the restoration of 770,000 m^2 of coastal ecosystems, combining rigorous scientific action and ongoing fieldwork. Within this framework, we have continued to protect 27,000 m^2 of seagrass beds and have recovered 1,672 m^2 of underwater forests, strengthening the resilience of key habitats for Mediterranean biodiversity.

In the area of community and open knowledge, 600 people have been mobilised across 26 marine stewardship events, generating a network of local participation that amplifies the impact beyond technical intervention. Our scientific manuals on seagrass meadows and underwater forests have been consulted digitally 4,753 times, and articles published by our scientific team have been referenced 285 times.

We know that the future of these ecosystems depends on those who will care for them tomorrow. That is why we work with more than 850 young people who have participated in transformative programmes, of whom more than 100 are minors at risk of social exclusion. Our approach goes beyond one-off actions: we offer continuous educational processes that accompany participants over time and enable lasting change with real transformative power.

Our plastic-free water solutions and reusable cups with guaranteed circularity that we offer in the Balearic Islands have avoided more than 19.67 million single-use bottles and cups. This translates into a reduction of 2,383 tonnes of CO_2 emissions.

Progress in the RESHABAY Portocolom Project

Firstly, a 135-page diagnostic report was presented to the authorities and the community of Portocolom and subsequently published. The report details the ecological development of Portocolom Bay since 2006, its current status and the pressures it faces, as well as a coherent restoration and monitoring plan.

Secondly, the technical report on the removal of sea urchins to regenerate underwater forests was presented to the authorities and subsequently published at scientific events. The report details the actual density versus the ecological threshold of sea urchins in different restoration areas, as well as the measures taken to maintain an optimal population density to stabilise the marine forest ecosystem.

Thirdly, our scientific team published its second scientific article in a top tier journal, which analyses and contrasts different replanting methodologies for the effective restoration of Posidonia oceanica (seagrass). Please refer to the 'open knowledge' section of our website for all scientific publications, scientific guides and technical reports that have been published.

Fourthly, a documentary was broadcast by ARTE, a renowned Franco-German television channel, which effectively captures the essence of our work (see from minute 12:10 onwards). The documentary was filmed in Formentor Bay. At minute 16:44, images of a seahorse (an endangered species) in the restoration area are shown. A few months ago, we detected the same phenomenon for the first time in Portocolom Bay.

Last but not least, we have developed the MBB (Marine Biodiversity Blocks) Project Description, a working document detailing the baseline report, restoration actions and monitoring plan for the next 10 years. The Project Description and the fieldwork carried out to date will be submitted for external validation and verification by independent experts in marine science and project governance. The experts met for the first time in December 2025 and will begin the auditing process, coordinated by REGEN NETWORK REGISTRY, in January 2026. The external audit is expected to be completed by the end of March, which will lead to the official registration of the first high-integrity marine biodiversity blocks in the Mediterranean.

Thank you for all your support, particularly to the 12 professionals with whom I am privileged to travel this exciting, purpose-driven journey!

Ali Vahlhaus

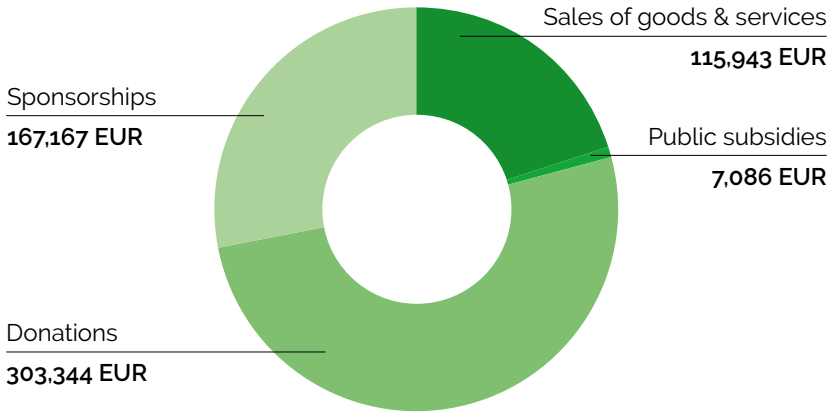
Managing Director

II. Finance, Actions & Impact 2025

1. Finance: Financial year 2025

Overview: Cleanwave Foundation

Funds Raised in 2025: Total 593,540 EUR

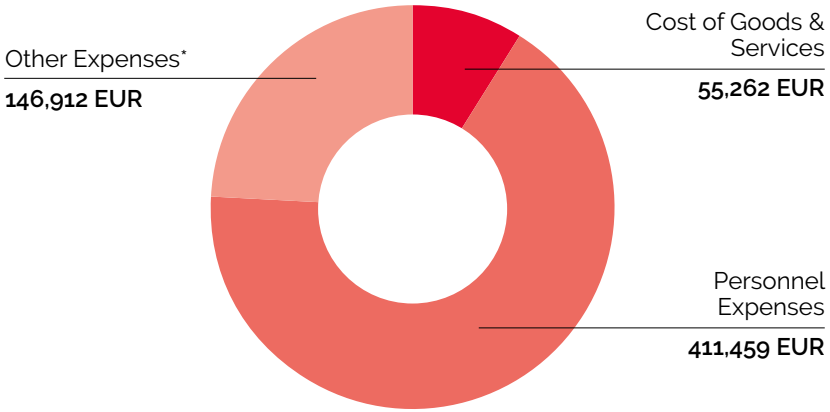


Building on the confidence of our supporters, we raised € 593,540 in 2025, 12% less in a year-to-date comparison. About 20% of that amount originated from economic activity such as sustainable event solutions, plastic free water solutions, and environmental training.

Donations accounted for 51% and were contributed by foundations (Plum Foundation, Marilles Foundation, RIU Foundation, H4C Foundation, JoyRon Foundation, Tui Care Foundation, and Mallorca Preservation Fund), companies (LifeXperiences, Marugal, and Hidrobal), and private individuals. Sponsorships make up 28% and are based on collaboration agreements with Universal Beach Hotels, Flor de Sal d'Es Trenc, Universal Beach Hotels, Cleanwave S.L., Iberostar Foundation, ICTIB, MBRC The Ocean Foundation, and TIRME.

Finally, 1% stems from government subsidies mostly related to coastal cleanups and environmental workshops.

Use of Funds by Cost Type in 2025: 613,632 EUR

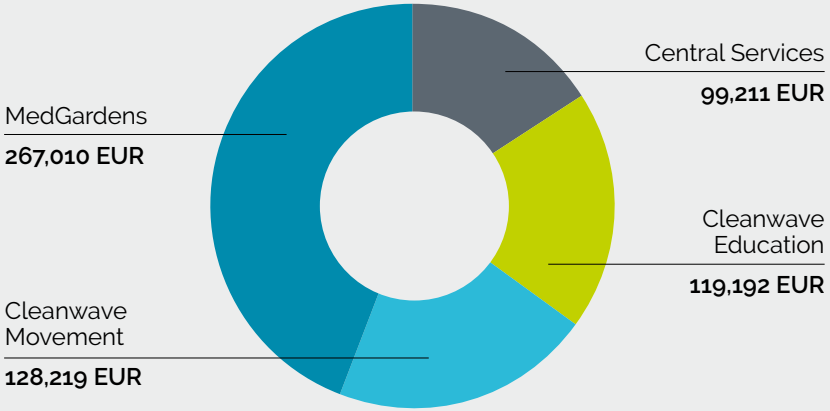


On the use of funds side, 67% are attributable to personnel expenses, 24% to other expenses, and 9% to procurement of goods & services sold. Other expenses are divided into scientific & professional services (€ 56,375), marketing & communication services (€ 23,676), Rent & Utilities (€ 30,363), and miscellaneous (€ 5,227).

*Other Expenses

Scientific & Prof. Services	€ 56,375
Communication & PR	€ 23,676
Other Services	€ 31,271
Rental & Utilites	€ 30,363
Insurances, Bank Fees, Tributes, Miscellaneous	€ 5,227
	€ 146,912

Use of Funds by Activity in 2025: 613,632 EUR

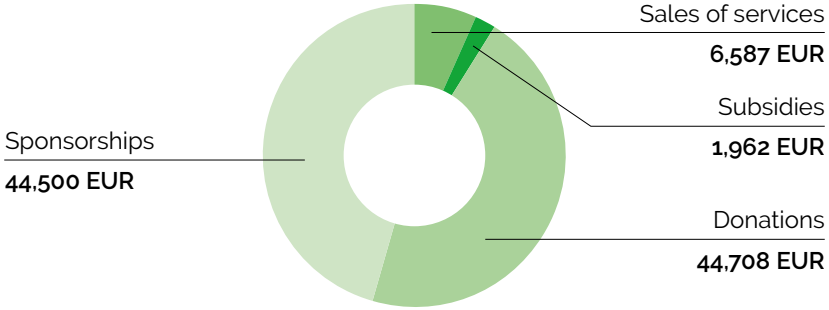


Broken down by activities, 44% were dedicated to marine restoration, 21% to the reduction of single-use plastic waste, 19% to environmental education, and 16% to central services such as general management, administration, marketing & communication, fundraising, and IT support. We are thankful to have received € 88,578 in unrestricted funds to finance € 61,297 of personnel expenses and € 37,796 of outsourced services that are needed to ensure a strong organisational support for our initiatives.

1. Finance: Financial year 2025

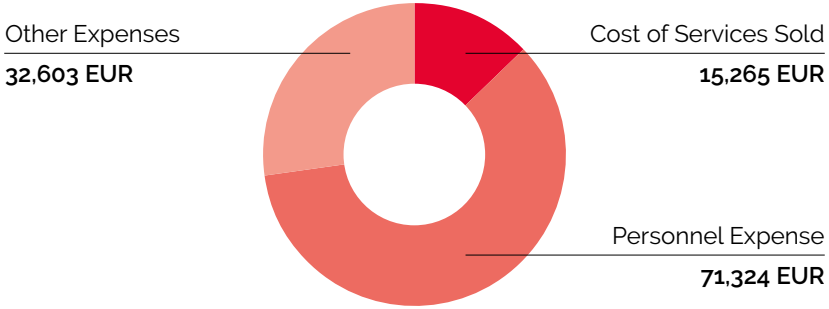
Cleanwave Education

Sources of Funds in 2025: 97,757 EUR



The environmental education program raised € 97,757 in 2025, an increase of 71% over the previous year. About 7% were generated from invoiced workshops, 46% from sponsorships, 46% from donations, and 2% from public subsidies.
Prime donors and sponsors were Iberostar Foundation, Flor de Sal d'Es Trenc, JoyRon Foundation, Tui Care Foundation, Caixa Colonya, and numerous private individuals.

Use of Funds in 2025: 119,192 EUR

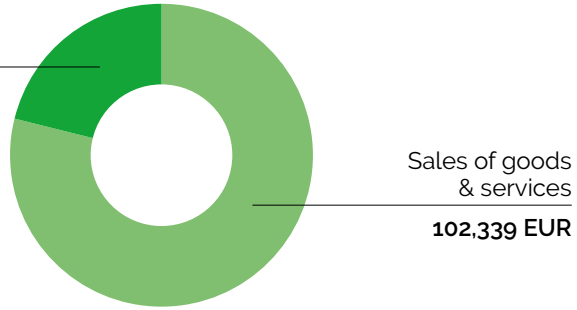


However, these funds fell far short to finance the initiative's € 119,586 resource requirements, which were divided into personnel expenses (60%), procurement (13%), and professional services (27%). The latter were largely used to develop and launch new educational programs on scientific grounds directed towards the "invincible" youth of Mallorca.

1. Finance: Financial year 2025

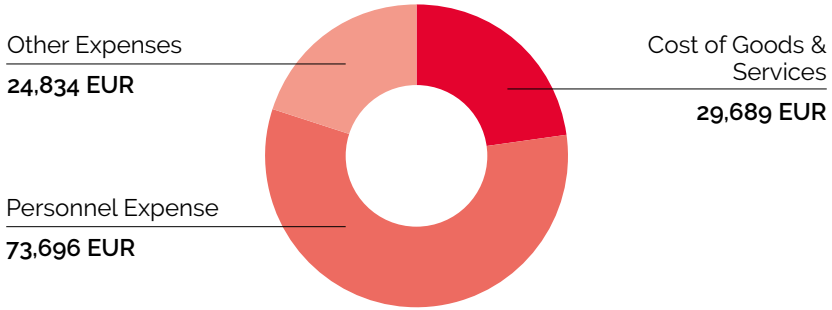
Cleanwave Movement

Sources of Funds in 2025: 129,015 EUR



Cleanwave's single-use plastic reduction program raised € 129,015, 29% less than previous year. More than 79% of that amount was generated from sales of our sustainable event solutions and plastic free water solutions. Sponsorships by Cleanwave S.L. and TIRME accounted for 21%.

Use of Funds in 2025: 128,219 EUR

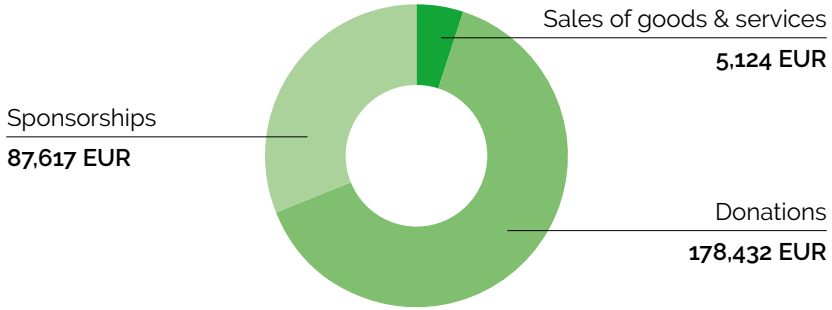


The initiative was able to cover the € 128,219 of resource requirements, which were divided into personnel expenses (57%), procurement (23%), and professional services (20%). Our substantial investments in impact driven projects such as the Plastic Free Traveller, CC-Cups for events, and exterior water dispensers with refrigeration supplied by TAIGA enabled us to deliver sustainable solutions to events, leisure-, and sports parks across the Balearics.

1. Finance: Financial year 2025

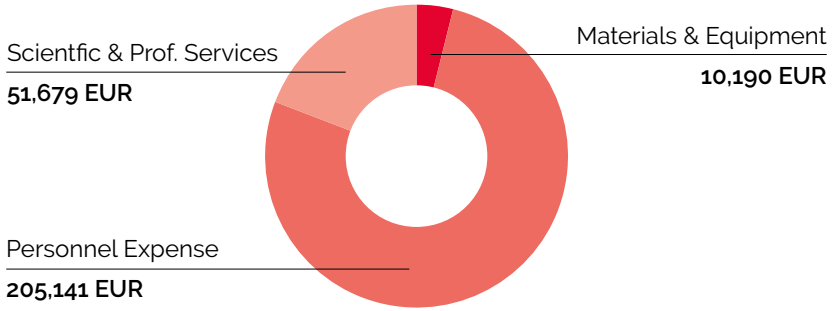
Cleanwave Marine Restauration (MedGardens)

Source of Funds in 2025: 278,190 EUR



Our marine stewardship program received € 278,190, a decrease of 6% over the previous period. About 64% came from donations and 31% from site specific, exclusive sponsorships. Prime donors are the Plum Foundation, Marilles Foundation, RIU Foundation, H4C Foundation, ICTIB, and Marugal. Flor de Sal d'Es Trenc, Universal Beach Hotels, and Cleanwave S.L. have continued to be distinct sponsors.

Use of Funds in 2025: 267,010 EUR



The initiative was able to cover its € 267,010 (€ 280,764 in 2023) of resource requirements, delivering proof for economies of scale in marine restoration. While the area under restoration increased 17 times (from 4.5 ha to 78 ha), resource requirements merely doubled (+94%) 2023 to 2025. In 2025, MedGardens' cost structure was divided into personnel expenses for our scientific team (77%), outsourced professional and scientific services (19%), and materials and equipment (4%).

Cleanwave Education

Our team of experts in ocean literacy and environmental education has predominantly focused on scaling two projects.

Firstly, "The Wave Generation", a 10-month curricular activity in secondary schools co-created and executed with Iberostar Foundation that has engaged more than 400 students in examining and solving environmental challenges.

Secondly, a 10-month nautical training program for young people at risk of social exclusion in collaboration with JoyRon Foundation and Tui Care Foundation that has provided formal training and possibilities for professional insertion to 32 participants in 2025.

Both projects have completed their second year and are poised to grow in scale and impact.

Please see key impact data for Cleanwave Education to the right.

Cleanwave Education
FUNDACIÓN CLEANWAVE

The Wave Generation by Cleanwave Education (CWE)

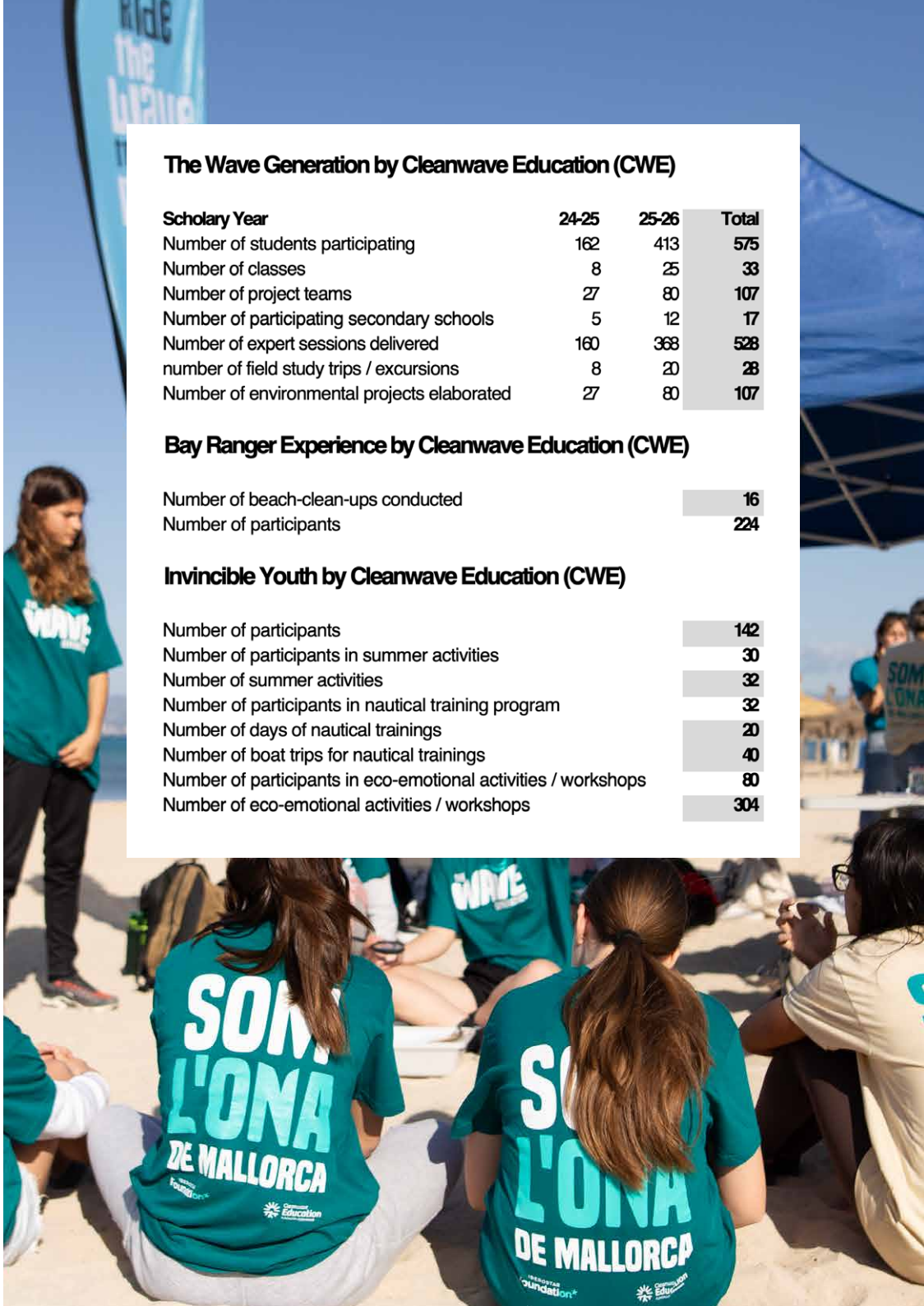
Scholary Year	24-25	25-26	Total
Number of students participating	162	413	575
Number of classes	8	25	33
Number of project teams	27	80	107
Number of participating secondary schools	5	12	17
Number of expert sessions delivered	160	368	528
number of field study trips / excursions	8	20	28
Number of environmental projects elaborated	27	80	107

Bay Ranger Experience by Cleanwave Education (CWE)

Number of beach-clean-ups conducted	16
Number of participants	224

Invincible Youth by Cleanwave Education (CWE)

Number of participants	142
Number of participants in summer activities	30
Number of summer activities	32
Number of participants in nautical training program	32
Number of days of nautical trainings	20
Number of boat trips for nautical trainings	40
Number of participants in eco-emotional activities / workshops	80
Number of eco-emotional activities / workshops	304



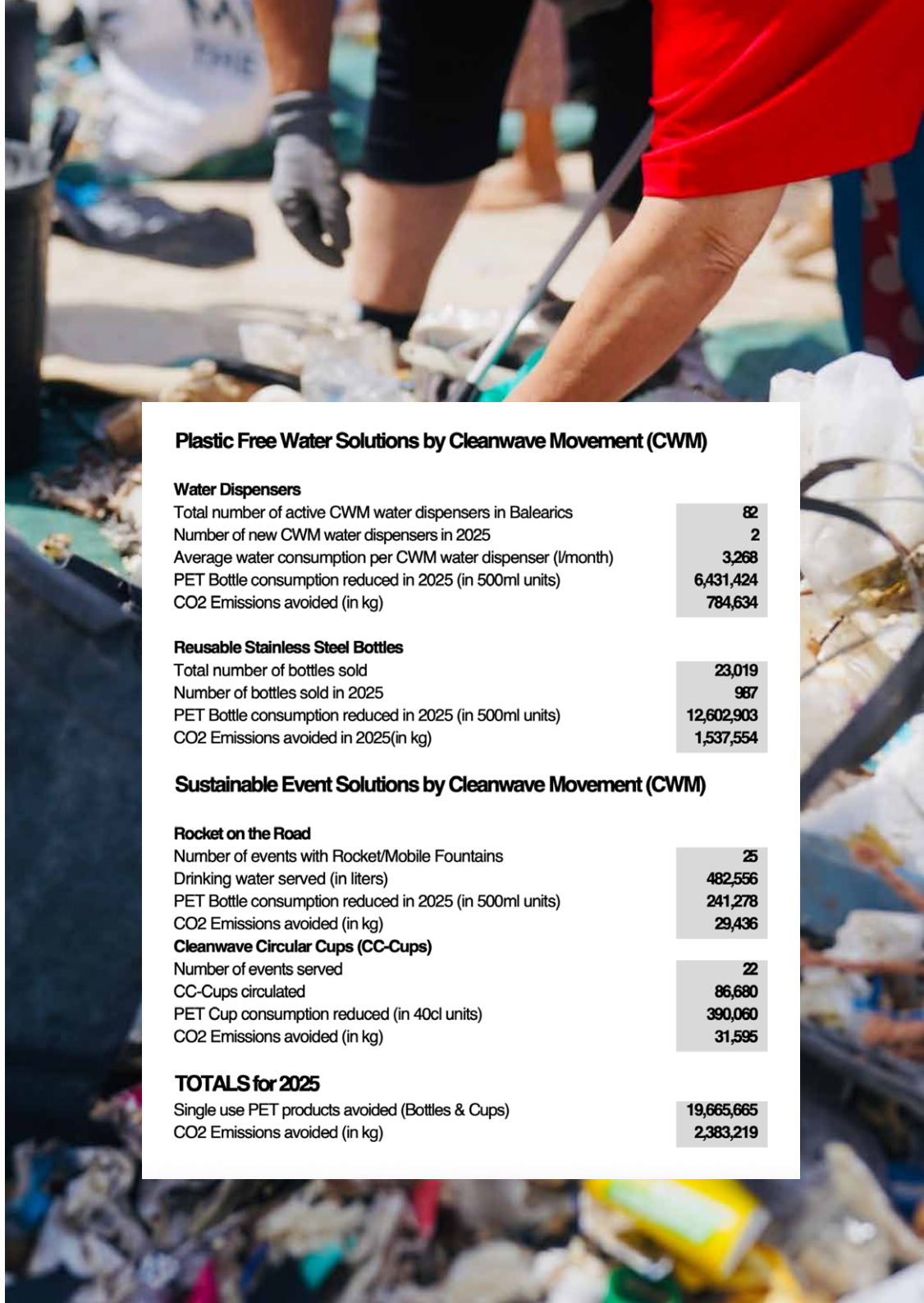
Cleanwave Movement

With solutions such as “Rocket en Ruta”, Cleanwave Circular Cups, exterior fountains providing filtered and chilled water, and our classic, personalized stainless-steel bottles, the relentless effort of our Cleanwave Movement team has generated remarkable impact again.

Please see key data to the right.

cleanwave movement

FUNDACIÓN **CLEANWAVE**



Plastic Free Water Solutions by Cleanwave Movement (CWM)

Water Dispensers	
Total number of active CWM water dispensers in Balearics	82
Number of new CWM water dispensers in 2025	2
Average water consumption per CWM water dispenser (l/month)	3,268
PET Bottle consumption reduced in 2025 (in 500ml units)	6,431,424
CO2 Emissions avoided (in kg)	784,634
Reusable Stainless Steel Bottles	
Total number of bottles sold	23,019
Number of bottles sold in 2025	987
PET Bottle consumption reduced in 2025 (in 500ml units)	12,602,903
CO2 Emissions avoided in 2025(in kg)	1,537,554

Sustainable Event Solutions by Cleanwave Movement (CWM)

Rocket on the Road	
Number of events with Rocket/Mobile Fountains	25
Drinking water served (in liters)	482,556
PET Bottle consumption reduced in 2025 (in 500ml units)	241,278
CO2 Emissions avoided (in kg)	29,436
Cleanwave Circular Cups (CC-Cups)	
Number of events served	22
CC-Cups circulated	86,680
PET Cup consumption reduced (in 40cl units)	390,060
CO2 Emissions avoided (in kg)	31,595

TOTALS for 2025

Single use PET products avoided (Bottles & Cups)	19,665,665
CO2 Emissions avoided (in kg)	2,383,219

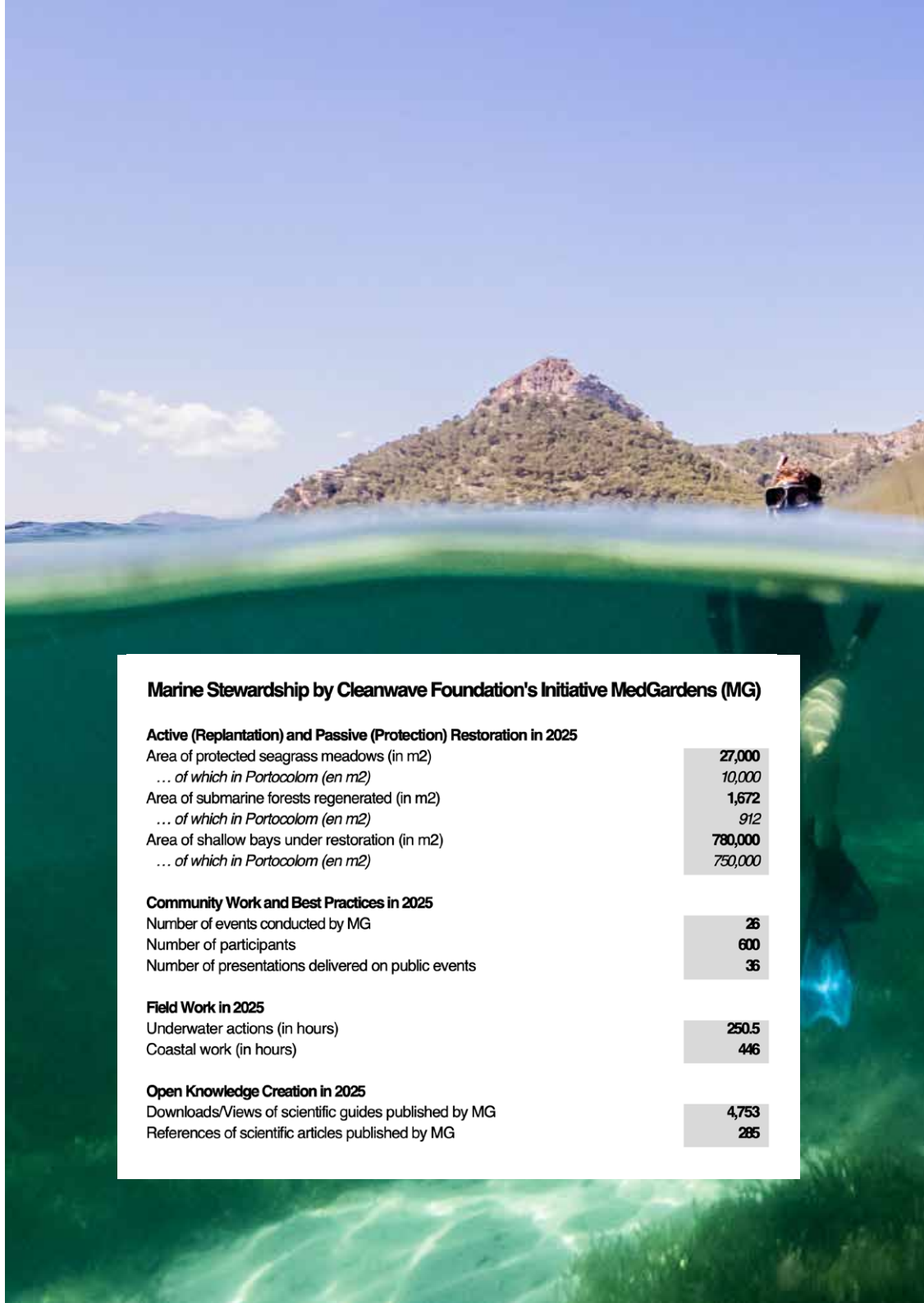
Cleanwave Marine Restauration (MedGardens)

As for our science focused, technology based, and community driven marine restauration program, our team of marine biologist, marine ecologist, oceanographer, and environmental economist has delivered coherent action and tireless effort.

Please see key data to the right. :

Med Gardens

FUNDACIÓN CLEANWAVE



Marine Stewardship by Cleanwave Foundation's Initiative MedGardens (MG)

Active (Replantation) and Passive (Protection) Restoration in 2025	
Area of protected seagrass meadows (in m2)	**27,000**
… of which in Portocolom (en m2)	*10,000*
Area of submarine forests regenerated (in m2)	**1,672**
… of which in Portocolom (en m2)	*912*
Area of shallow bays under restoration (in m2)	**780,000**
… of which in Portocolom (en m2)	*750,000*
Community Work and Best Practices in 2025	
Number of events conducted by MG	**26**
Number of participants	**600**
Number of presentations delivered on public events	**36**
Field Work in 2025	
Underwater actions (in hours)	**250.5**
Coastal work (in hours)	**446**
Open Knowledge Creation in 2025	
Downloads/Views of scientific guides published by MG	**4,753**
References of scientific articles published by MG	**285**

III. Outlook for 2026 and Beyond

Our strategic objectives for 2026 are crystal clear and will take us a step closer to our long-term objective namely, to create an unprecedented, self-funding and self-scaling marine stewardship program.

III. Outlook for 2026 and Beyond

Cleanwave Education

Cleanwave Education is set to scale the "Invincible Youth of Mallorca" project, aimed at facilitating social and professional insertion of young people at risk of social exclusion.

We will also expand "Wave Generation", an explorative environmental project that spans an entire school year and will involve 26 secondary school classes in Mallorca. We started with 8 classes in 2024, with the vision to include all secondary schools in the Balearics and reach-out to the Peninsular by 2029.

Imagine the Human and Social Capital that this project will produce, ready to serve the creation of Natural Capital to the benefit of all.

Cleanwave
Education
FUNDACIÓN CLEANWAVE

Cleanwave Movement

Cleanwave Movement's plastic free water solution and sustainable event solutions have helped to reduce PET bottle and single-use cups consumption on the Balearics by 20 million in a year, which has avoided 3.294 tons of CO_2 emissions.

We are poised to scale our impact by increasing the density of water stations and event participations.

cleanwave movement

FUNDACIÓN **CLEANWAVE**

III. Outlook for 2026 and Beyond

Cleanwave Marine Restauration (MedGardens)

Apart from a continued commitment to operational excellence, **MedGardens** will continue focusing on the creation of the first Mediterranean Marine Biodiversity Blocks (MBBs) rooted in the:

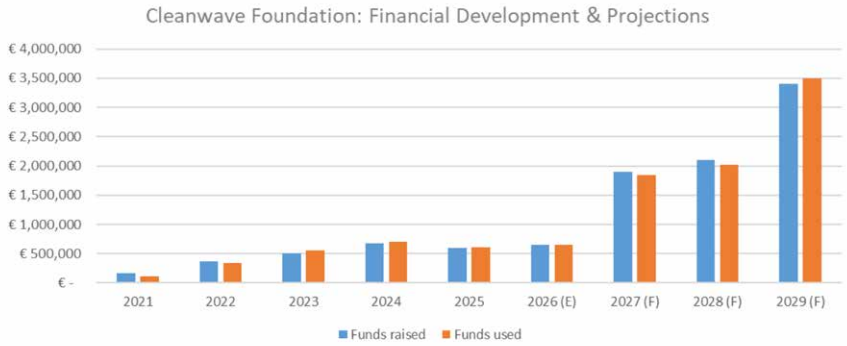
- ✓ Integration of AI with remote sensing analytics and field data to establish habitat baselines (done in 2024).
- ✓ Projection of reforestation actions to maximise impact using biophysical modelling (done in 2024).
- ✓ Development of natural capital accounts to value the ecosystem services they provide (2025-2026).
- ✓ Implementation of a peer-reviewed protocol for a scientifically robust restoration and monitoring plan for the ecosystem of Mediterranean shallow bays (done 2025).
- ✓ External validation and verification of the restoration plan, action, and data generation by independent experts of marine science and project governance (scheduled for Q1 2026)
- ✓ Registration and commercialisation of these MBBs via the Regen Network to make them secure and accessible to global funders (scheduled for Q2 2026).
- ✓ Expansion of restoration area to approximately 1.000 ha (2026-2029).
- ✓ Induce the standardisation of Marine Biodiversity Blocks on a Balearic, national and Mediterranean scale (2027-2029).

We are convinced that Marine Biodiversity Blocks to become a powerful financial instrument to fund and scale the future of marine restoration.

Med Gardens
FUNDACIÓN **CLEANWAVE**

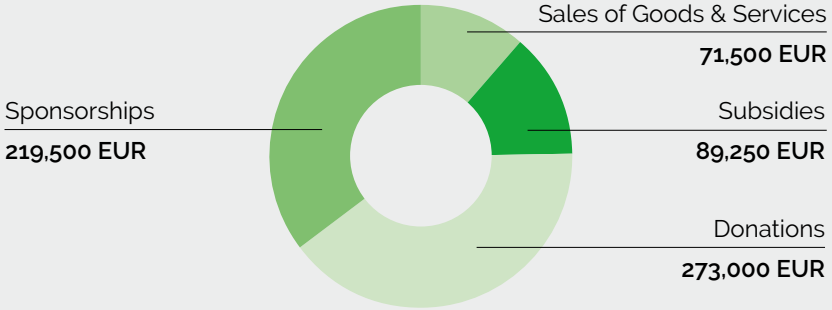
IV. Financial Projections 2026 and beyond

Overview: Cleanwave Foundation



Our projections for 2026 are modest, as we've entered a "make or break" phase. Our budget calls for a total funding of € 653,552, a 10% increase over last year's amount.

Budget 2026: Sources of Funds: 653,250 EUR



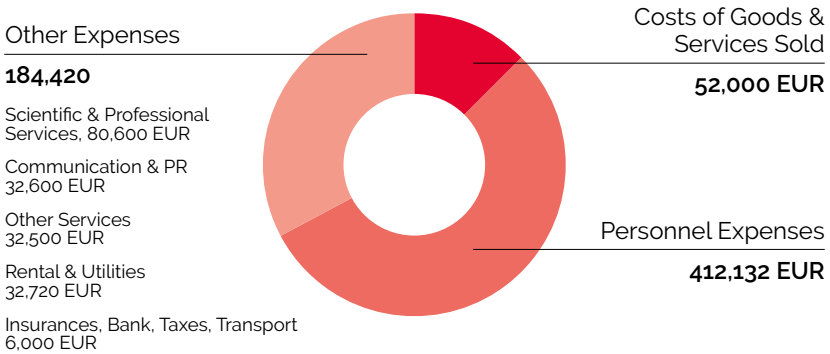
Projected funding is broken down into:

- Donations with € 273,000 (42%)
- Sponsorships with € 219.500 (37%)
- Institutional funding with € 89,250 (14%)
- Projected sales of goods & services with € 71,500 (12%)

Of the budgeted revenue, € 503,635 (77%) are confirmed thus leaving a gap of € 150,000 funding requirements to ensure continuity of our holistic marine stewardship program and impact driven actions.

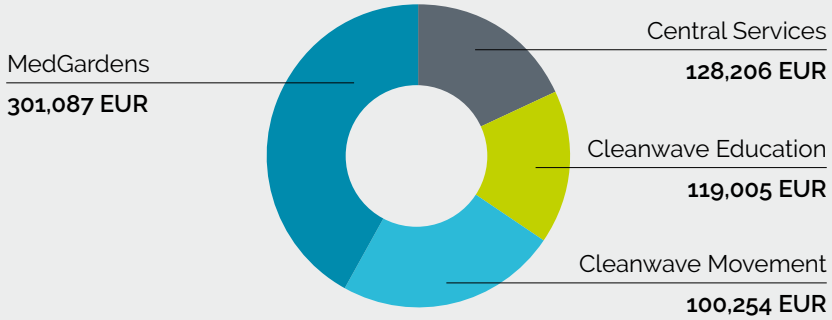
Cleanwave Foundation Overview

Budget 2026: Use of funds by Cost Type: 648,552 EUR



The projected use of funds for 2026 reads € 648,522, of which 63% are personnel expense, 8% procurement of reusable bottles, circular cup services, materials for educational programs and scientific equipment for marine restoration, and 28% are used for professional services (scientific advice, IT support, legal and admin support, marketing & advertisement).

Budget 2026: Use of funds by Activity: 648,552 EUR



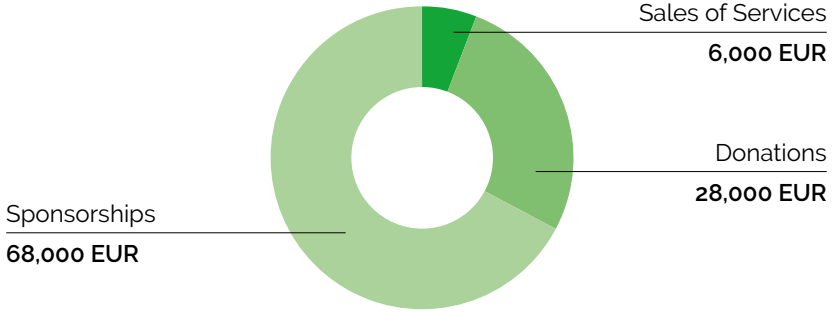
Broken down by initiative, budgeted expenses are allocated as follows:

- 20% to Central Services, such as general management, administration, communication & PR, fund raising, and IT support
- 18% to Cleanwave Education
- 26% to Cleanwave Movement
- 46% to Cleanwave Marine Restoration (MedGardens)

Please find the details for each initiative on the following pages.

Cleanwave Education

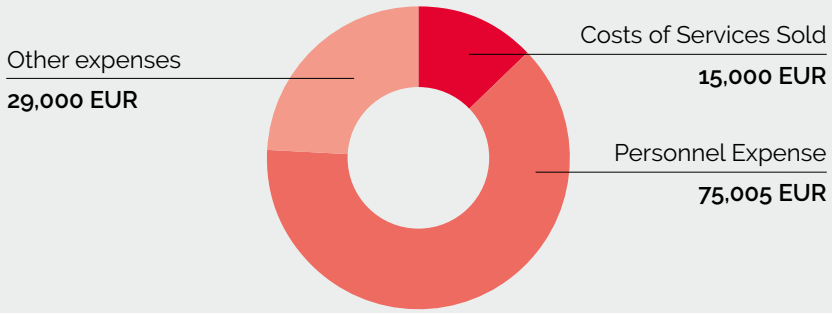
Budget 2026: Sources of Funds: 102,000 EUR



We anticipate that Cleanwave Education will raise € 102,000 in 2026. 6% are expected to stem from invoiced workshops, 67% from sponsorships, and 27% from donations.

Confirmed funding are the amount for sponsorships from Flor de Sal d'Es Trenc and Iberostar Foundation, as well as donations from JoyRon Foundation and Universal Beach Hotels. This leaves us with a funding gap of € 17.000 needed to ensure continuity of Cleanwave Education.

Budget 2026: Use of Funds: 119,005 EUR

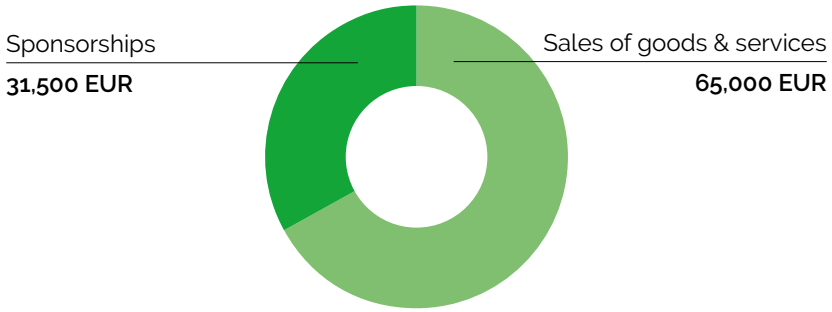


Projected use of funds reads € 119.005, of which 63% cover personnel expenses of our licensed educators, 13% for workshop materials and related activities, and 24% for professional services such as punctual support of trained educators.

Cleanwave Education
FUNDACIÓN CLEANWAVE

Cleanwave Movement

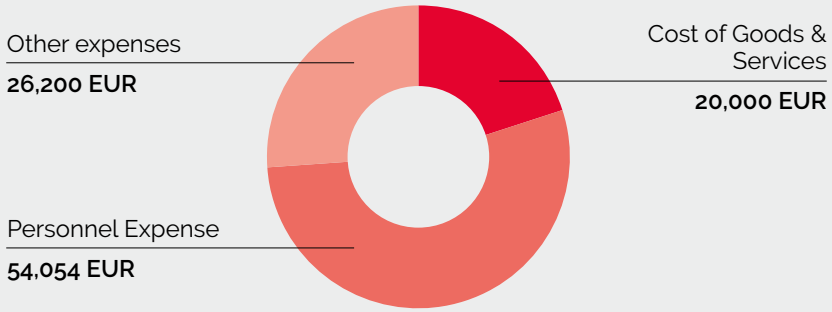
Budget 2026: Sources of Funds: 96,500 EUR



Cleanwave Movement is projected to generate € 96.500 in 2026. Sales of goods and services account for 67%, particularly via our sustainable event solutions. Sponsorships account for 33% and are expected to proceed from TIRME and Cleanwave S.L.

However, the latter depends on the financial performance of the entity. Cleanwave S.L. is the for-profit arm of our initiatives that reinvests its pre-tax profits in projects of the Cleanwave Foundation.

Budget 2026: Use of Funds: 100,254 EUR



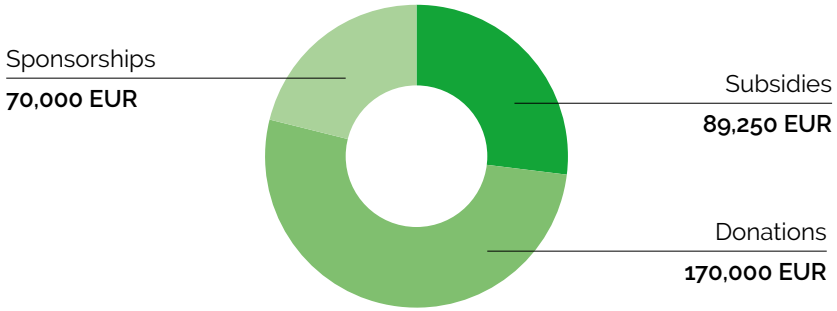
Projected use of funds reads € 100.254, of which 20% are used for the procurement of circular cup services, stainless-steel bottles, and fountain rentals, 54% for personnel expenses, and 26% for professional services such as marketing and operational support.

cleanwave movement

FUNDACIÓN **CLEANWAVE**

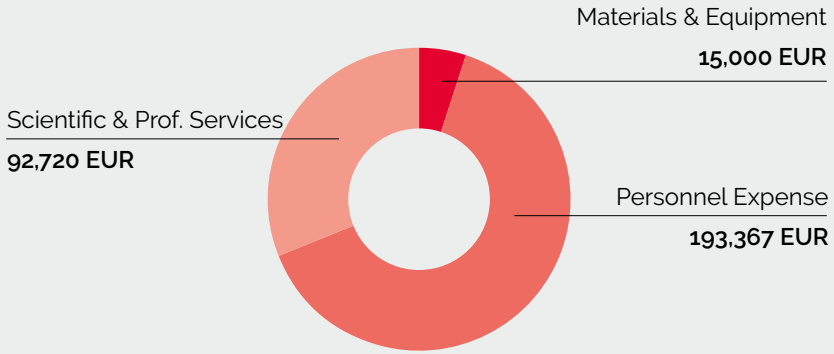
Cleanwave Marine Restauration (MedGardens)

Budget 2026: Sources of Funds: 329,500 EUR



Total funding for MedGardens is projected to reach € 329.500 in 2026. Donations represent 52% and originate from the Plum Foundation, Tui Care Foundation, RIU Foundation, Marilles Foundation, H4C Foundation, LifeXperience, and Marugal. Confirmed sponsorships amount to € 70,000 (21%) from Flor de Sal d'Es Trenc, Universal Beach Hotels, and Cleanwave S.L. Institutional funding accounts for 27% and are expected from ICTIB and grants related to restore the Med and seagrass research programs.

Budget 2026: Use of Funds: 301,087 EUR



Projected use of funds reads € 301,087, of which 78% are allocated to the marine restoration project of the bay of Porto Colom. The use of funds is split into 64% for our scientific team, 31% for outsourced scientific and professional services and 5% for materials and equipment required for marine restoration.

Med Gardens
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Support us

We want to express our sincerest gratitude to our growing circle of private donors and corporate partners.

We welcome your continued engagement, and are deeply thankful for your ongoing support of the Cleanwave Foundation and its initiatives.

Become a financial contributor
or a volunteer today:

Contact

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