



# TOPtoTOP

GLOBAL CLIMATE EXPEDITION



**PRESS RELEASE – 19 September 2011**

**TOPtoTOP Global Climate Expedition  
under the patronage of United Nations Environment Program  
arrived in Port Louis, Mauritius on the 17 of September 2011**

**The expedition will achieve a world record, by being the first to travel over the seven seas to the seven summits using only Nature’s Power! At the moment they are on the way from Singapore to Richards Bay (South Africa) with the aim of attending the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Durban in November 2011**

<b>Dates in Port</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>September</b>	<b>Port Lois, Mauritius</b>
<b>November 7-15</b>	<b>Richards Bay, South Africa</b>
<b>November 28-December 12</b>	<b>Durban, South Africa</b>
<b>December 20-31</b>	<b>Cape Town, South Africa</b>

The traveling team is engaged in educational activities with schools and universities all over the world, inspiring for clean energy solutions. So far they have sailed over 40’000 nautical miles in their expedition vessel, climbed 400’000 vertical meters, cycled over 18’000 kilometres and visited over 50’000 students!



Students from College de Port Mathurin in Rodrigues Visit PACHAMAMA after TOPtoTOP presentation



Dario and Sabine Schwörer in Nepal

TOPtoTOP Global Climate Expedition began in 2002, and is a non-profit organisation of volunteers from 28 nations, based in Switzerland, under the patronage of the United Nations Environment Program and the Swiss Government. The yacht, PACHAMAMA, (Incan word for “Mother Earth”), is equipped with 11 Solar Panels and 2 Wind turbines, making it THE example for the cruising world, demonstrating what is possible in extreme conditions with smart renewable technologies. After more than 10 years on their mission, the team is currently crossing the Indian Ocean, braving harsh conditions so as to reach South Africa in time for the Global Climate Conference in November 2011 to demonstrate TOPtoTOP as a platform for young people to express their ideas and solutions for climate protection and contribute an important message to the conference.

Their challenge is to travel to the highest peak in each seven continents, connecting all the major climate zones, using only their own strength and natural energy such as the wind and the sun. This unique initiative is based on environmental sustainability and to prove that great things can be achieved in balance with nature.

The goal of the expedition is to bring awareness of environmental issues, to promote the search for environmentally compatible solutions and to encourage the start of projects beneficial to the environment.

A major part of their mission is to inspire children to achieve a better future. They share examples of nature's beauty and innovations for a green planet in class rooms all over the world and also give presentations to universities, service clubs and other organisations throughout the world. Already, they have taught over 50,000 Children across the globe! They teach students about the importance of nature and give them various fun projects to learn all about sustainability. The students are then encouraged to express their own ideas about how we can care more for our environment and climate in the TOPtoTOP International Climate Solution Contest.

TOPtoTOP has chosen this expedition as an adventurous means to create awareness of global climate change and inspire the world to research and support lasting, environmentally friendly solutions. To expand the reach of this expedition and its aim, TOPtoTOP is working closely with the media, scientists and business worldwide.

Another aspect of the expedition is the clean ups. They have done cleans ups at each of their destinations. The last TOP they cleaned from trash was the top of EVEREST and on the current voyage have cleaned beaches in Malaysia, Cocos Keeling (Australia) as well as connected with schools in Singapore, Cocos Keeling and Rodrigues (Mauritius)! It is estimated that the TOPtoTOP expedition has collected 25 tonnes of waste so far!

All these amazing achievements would never have been made possible without the generous support of their sponsors, particularly their two major sponsors SGS and Victorinox. **SGS** and **Victorinox** have both been actively involved in keeping PACHAMAMA ready for difficulties of this incredible voyage. Their amazing support as well as the patronage of the **United Nations Environmental Program** and **Presence Switzerland** is a crucial aspect of the success of the TOPtoTOP expedition. Both companies and organizations are great examples of institutions that are increasingly embracing the principles of environmental sustainability in their planning, reporting and decision-making.

For further information and live updates on the expedition's progress, please visit the TOPtoTOP website: [www.toptotop.org](http://www.toptotop.org)

To arrange free school visits and public presentations or for film material, pictures and interviews with the team, kindly contact us:

**Dario Schwörer**

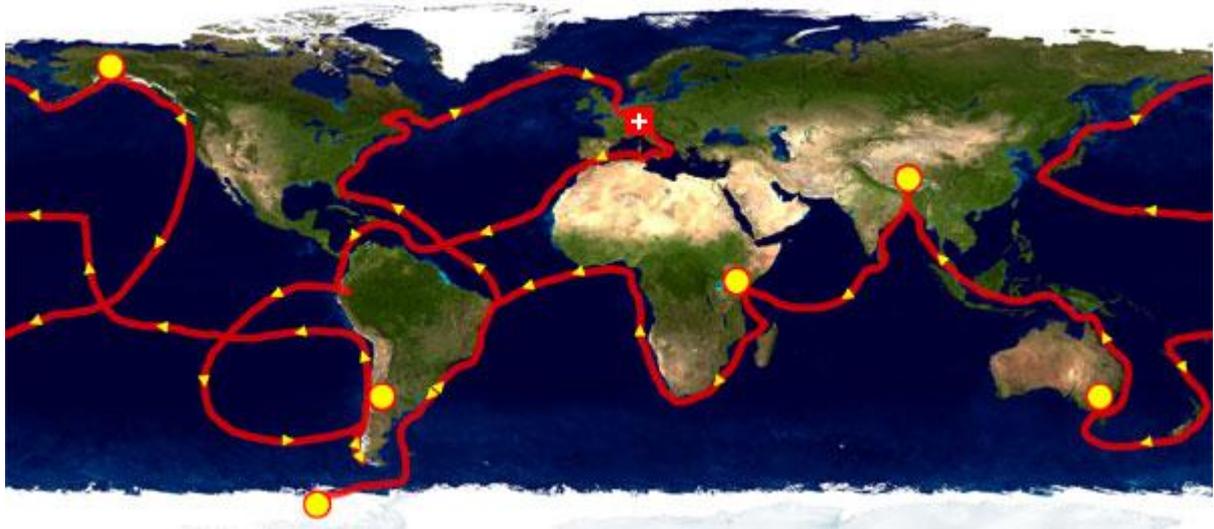
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- **The expedition aims** to demonstrate that great goals and progress can be achieved in balance with nature.
- **The mission** is to inspire young people for a better future. Along the expedition we show examples of nature's beauty and promote innovations for a green planet and specially to protect our climate, in class rooms all over the world.
- **The key messages** are "climate protection" and "enjoy nature through sport but also give something back to nature".
- **The vision** is that TOPtoTOP becomes a lasting platform which brings active people closer to nature and sports.

**MT. BLANC  
ACONCAGUA  
DENALI  
MT. KOSCIUSZKO  
MT. EVEREST  
KILIMANJARO  
MT. VINSON**

