



TOP_{to}TOP

GLOBAL CLIMATE EXPEDITION

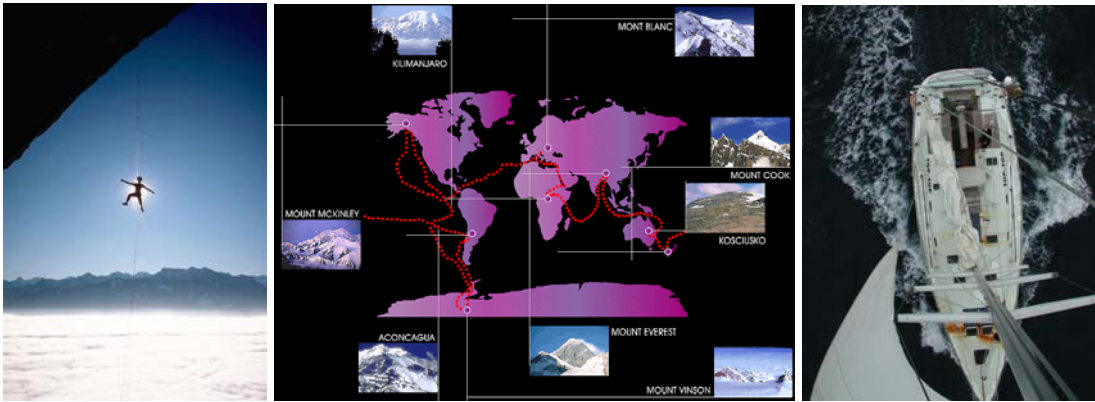
7-Summits non-stop round-the-world
by human power and nature's force

"1st Expedition over the 7 Seas to the 7 Summits by Nature's Power!"

**A unique challenge from TOP to TOP and SCHOOL to SCHOOL:
Sportswomen and -men share the joy of sport and environmental action
with young people all over the world.**

**under the patronage of UNEP, Switzerland , UIAA,
SAC, CCS, ProClim, Solarspar, SODIS**





OBJECTIVE

Following the successful start of the TOPtoTOP Global Climate Expedition with Swiss ToptoTop in 2002 (1), I am bound with my wife Sabine to sail over the 7 Seas to climb the highest Summit in each of the 7 Continents.

Our challenge is to connect all the major climatic zones, using only our own strength and natural energy such as the wind and the sun: - a unique initiative that is based on environmental sustainability.

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.

We also aim to move as many people as possible towards solidarity for the people affected by climate change and to connect people to nature and sport through the TOPtoTOP Global Climate Expedition.

The ultimate aim of the expedition is to show practically to children that great things can be achieved in harmony with nature.





MESSAGE

Catastrophes related to climatic change throughout the world are a reminder that our natural environment needs our help and care. Words and lip services are not enough to solve accelerating environmental problems.

TOPToTOP promotes a philosophy of care, positive thinking and actions: “We owe our lives to the earth and nature. It is time to give something back to nature.”

FOCUS

Global climate change is a major environmental issue and the expedition aims to collect climate change information and focus on positive projects and initiatives from all the places we visit.

We can all work towards a solution. We encourage people to take environmental action on an individual level. “Think globally, act locally.”

The expedition team visits mainly school children because they will be the custodians of the earth and they need the awareness and the information about environmental issues to grow into people capable of making decisions that are environmentally compatible.





ACTIONS

- we visit schools:

School visits are the key part of the expedition and already more than 10 000 children have been involved in classroom activities that focus on finding solutions to climate change.

Children are our future. By sharing our adventures and experiences with young people we aim to motivate them to take part in sport and outdoor pursuits and to appreciate the natural environment. We investigate and highlight the research, innovative projects and positive initiatives beneficial to the environment that are being carried out in the areas we visit.

School visits are made by crewmembers at each destination throughout the expedition. We teach children passionately about the importance of nature and use fun projects to help children understand global climate change and the importance of sustainable resources. Then the children express their own ideas about how we can care more for our environment and climate through painting and drawing.

Check out the most inspiring climate solutions from the children:

http://www.toptotop.org/act_now/index.php





- we organize aid:

We organize school material, medicine and food for people affected by climate change. See: http://expedition.toptotop.org/archives/2004_07.php

- we clean up the world:

One of the main causes of global climate change is pollution from our traffic and from the disposal of our waste. That's why TOptotop use only nature friendly transportation: walking, biking and sailing.

Along the expedition route we try to leave a "green path" and minimise our "ecological footprint". For example we clean up at least the same amount of waste on our weekly clean ups as we produce during the expedition.

The TOptotop team goes into the local community to encourage and assist people to clean up their surroundings. Giving something back to nature can bring satisfaction to us all.

See: http://expedition.toptotop.org/archives/2004_09.php



¹ The global expedition started in Geneva on December 3rd 2002, with Swiss TOptotop. The core expedition team Sabine and Dario Schwoerer climbed to the highest TOP of each Canton in Switzerland in 160 days non-stop, covering in total 2953 km and 96609 altimeters. Along the route they visited 35 schools to motivate children about nature and sport. Swiss TOptotop - the start of the Global Climate Expedition, delivered 83 press articles, 16 radio and 10 TV interviews. Check the Swiss TOptotop archive (at the end of the page):

<http://www.toptotop.org/globalexpedition/index.php>



- we set new limits:

"1st Expedition over the 7 Seas to the 7 Summits by Nature's Power!"

The TOPtoTOP Global Climate Expedition sail over 50 000 miles, cycle 15 000 km and climb a total of 230 000 meters in altitude to reach the seven summits of each continent. Only human power, wind power and solar power will be used to achieve these goals, no motors. TOPtoTOP sees sustainable energy as our future in combating climate change. TOPtoTOP will visit all the major global climate zones.

Volunteers are invited to join the expedition and to date people from 27 nations have participated.

With this record we set an example that also great goals can be done in harmony with nature. On the other hand it attracts media and gives us a perfect platform to distribute our message and organize aid for people affected by climate change.

- we set an example:

Pachamama is the name of the TOPtoTOP-Expedition sailboat that serves as a reference for the cruising world! Bernard Nivel designed this 50 feet aluminium sloop especially for this extraordinary expedition. The design objective and concept of Pachamama was to develop a vessel that can operate sustainably and fully autonomously (renewable energies) with maximum safety in the toughest marine environments. With Pachamama, we set new limits and give another example that great goals can be achieved in harmony with nature. Several world-leading companies around the globe are participating to outfit Pachamama with state of the art technologies and products.





MEDIA & COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

The TOPtoTOP expedition makes use of extensive media coverage to expand the awareness of our activities and our reasons for wanting to do something for the environment from which we personally get so much pleasure.

TOPtoTOP organises interviews with the local and national press, radio and TV stations to reach out and inform people of the goals and achievements of the expedition. Local and regional journalists cover the expedition on an ongoing basis in each country visited by the team. The media are proactively targeted prior to the arrival of the expedition whenever possible. On sailing trips, journalists are invited to visit the sailboat and interviews are conducted with the core expedition team. Journalists are invited to participate in school and environmental projects whenever appropriate on the expedition.

The international media are updated on the expedition in an annual press release and through press releases following a major summit climb or initiative. These press releases are sent to newspapers, magazines, radio and television centres on our growing media list. TOPtoTOP has a core network in Switzerland and continually contributes to international, national and local publications.





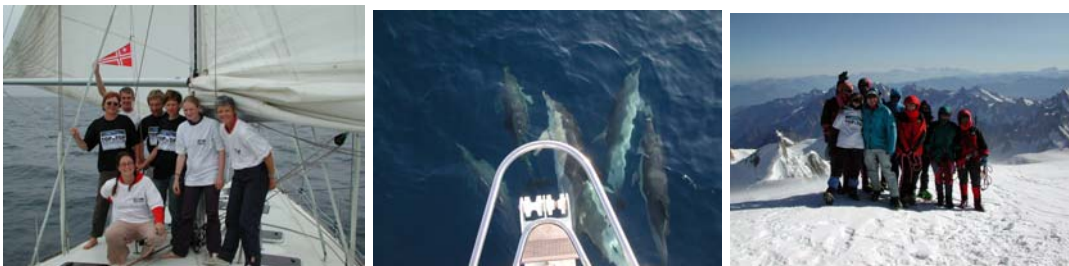
WEBSITE

The TOPtoTOP website invites people to join the expedition through its daily reports. There are more than 500 visitors per day to the TOPtoTOP website which follows the progress of the expedition and is a forum for developments in climate change. Visitors can add their own ideas and observations concerning climate change.

Updated report on our web site keeps the public and our supporters informed of the progress in our travels and climbs as well as developments on the environmental front.

ORGANISATION

TOPtoTOP is a non-profit organisation of volunteers from 28 nations based in Switzerland. Mostly young people join us as part time crewmember and help us to succeed our goals and actions. Thanks to the patronage of the United Nations Environment Program we often do not have to pay harbour taxes. Other patronages like Switzerland or equipment sponsors help us also to minimize our operating expenses.





RESULTS (2002-2005)

Expedition:

- 800+ days non-stop
- Biking total: 142 days, 6247 km, 29890 altimeters
- Climbing total: 262 days, 3411 km, 128847 altimeters
- Sailing total: 400 days, 13669 nm, 26 altimeters (Panama Channel)
- 10 Tons of waste removed from coastal and protected nature parks
- already more than 10'000 children visited
- 50 public presentations
- 20 presentations in yacht clubs throughout the expedition

Media:

- Local and regional newspapers
- & magazines 151
- Radio Interviews 28
- Television Interviews 31
- Boat shows 5
- Schools visited 250
- Environmental project participation 10
- average visitors on our website per day 500





NEXT GOAL

Patagonia - Antarctica - Pacific – Australia - New Zealand

Following the success in the last years of the expedition, we would like to continue to the most remote places on our planet:

:-) Antarctica - Pacific is our challenge for the near future (-:

We equipped our expedition sailboat at the shipyard ALWOPLAST in Valdivia, Chile. We would like to explore the Antarctic Peninsula for the first ascent of the highest point in Antarctica only with human power and nature's force at the end of our expedition in 2011/12. In October 2005 we sailed from Valdivia to the Patagonian channels.

The Chilean Institute for Global Climate Change, the Centro Educativo Cientifico Valdivia (www.cecs.cl) is our planning centre and provides us together with the Universidad Austral (www.uach.cl) with satellite images, sea and ice data to plan the trip to the South.

Between Valdivia and Puerto Cicnes we also visited remote schools and collaborated with the Chilean organisation “ballena azzul” to protect the blue whale population South of the island of Chiloe. The whales immigrated to the Patagonian channels where global warming produces the melting of the Patagonian ice shield, more fresh water in the channels and finally more food for the biggest species on earth.

The goal was to take as much film and pictures to have enough material to promote a marine park in this remote area. This park will regulate tourism in a sustainable way and will prevent destructive whale watching in the future.





Since March 2006 we visit schools in remote islands in the Pacific. Cooking with wood is more and more a problem because trees are limited on an island. We explain and build with them our simple solar cooker.

The people are also short of drinking water because the climate is getting dryer. We collaborate with the organisation SODIS (www.sodis.ch) and the company Katadyn (www.katadyn.com) to share our experience how you can purify the water with a simple and efficient method.

In February we have been invited to the Swiss Boat Show in Bern, Switzerland, where we present our experiences and our sample ship the Pachamama. We are always very interested in showing which materials and equipment have proved their worth on the expedition.

From March 2007, we will embark on the 4,000 nautical miles to Australia via schools in the Cook Islands, Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu and New Caledonia. From October 2007 in Australia, we will cycle with our Canyon Mountain bikes to the highest mountain, Kosciusko at 2,228m. Along this 1,500km journey from Brisbane through Sydney and Melbourne we will visit schools and do clean ups in coordination with our Australian partner, Clean Up the World.

In 2008 we will operate in Australia and New Zealand.

FINALLY

TOPtoTOP is a non-profit initiative that has proven to be able to operate with minimal budget. However, the TOPtoTOP expedition cannot exist without the ongoing support of its sponsors, donors and members. Therefore, we would appreciate your **partnership!**

