



**KERSTIN SAMANTHA FORSBERG GHIO**

**Planeta Océano**

**Peru**

Kerstin Forsberg is founder and director of Planeta Océano, organization empowering coastal communities in marine conservation. As a young social entrepreneur and biologist with over 9 years in conservation, she's designed and developed numerous research and environmental education initiatives across Peru.

With Planeta Océano, she's promoted dozens of community-lead environmental projects, fostered hundreds of citizen scientists and founded participatory platforms as the Marine Educator's Network of Peru, which engages >50 schools in marine education. She's been invited to present in national and international events, and has contributed to multiple publications and biodiversity policy initiatives in Peru, such as the Peruvian Red-List for endangered species, among others. She's presided international conferences on environmental education and conservation and has been consultant for inter-governmental projects as the UNOPS/UNDP/GEF/IMARPE Humboldt Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project. Prior to Planeta Océano, Kerstin also worked as an environmental consultant for the mining industry.

Kerstin's efforts have engaged thousands of people in conservation. She's been recognized as a top "30 under 30 Social Entrepreneur" by Forbes Magazine and one of the Top 10 Social Entrepreneurs in Latin America by abc/Univisión. She has received the WWF International President's Award, the Peruvian National Environmental Citizenship Award and the International Youth Foundation's fellowship for entrepreneurs, handed by Nobel Laureate, Martti Ahtisaari. She's an Ashoka Fellow and a Fellow of the Marine Action Conservation Fund at the New England Aquarium.