

Gulf of Maine Seafood SPRINT



Gulf of Maine
Research Institute



SeaAhead
BlueTech Innovation



SPRINT Mission

Venture Innovation for a Resilient Seafood System

An enhanced economic corridor in northern New England that will allow the region to be more resilient to the next economic shock.

Create and accelerate for-profit companies for entrepreneurs and start-ups who can make positive impacts and generate sustainable growth in the Gulf of Maine.

Help scale and develop a range of marine businesses by connecting them with a robust network of regional partners, industry resources, and supportive services.

Help fund the growth of our Blue Economy through partnerships with angel investors, venture capital firms, state, local, and non-profit lending entities, and other capital sources.

SeaAhead and GMRI's combined network creates two-way flow of information & opportunities between startups and our partners



Key Stakeholders

Innovators, Investors,
and Institutions with
impact and operations
in the Gulf of Maine

Startups and Small Businesses

- Aquaculture harvesters -
Finfish, shellfish, and seaweed
- US wild fisheries harvesters
- Local seafood suppliers
- Supply chain digitization,
traceability, and analytics
- Processing technology
- Electronic monitoring
- Sustainable aquaculture feed
- Aquaculture and fisheries
hardware

Angel Investors

- Investors looking for a community in
ocean investing and blue economy
- Investors that support resilience and
sustainability in ocean related
businesses and coastal communities
- Futurists interested a Blue Economy
revolution

Regional Institutions and Experts

- Institutions with testing facilities and
maker space available to
entrepreneurs and startups
- Researchers and experts interested in
collaborating with regional innovators

Continuum of Care

Combining the technical expertise of GMRI with business formation and support services of SeaAhead to forge a pathway for Blue Economy entrepreneurs and startups, so they can access the investment capital they need to take charge of the region's future.

For Startups and Small Business

- Curated connections to mentors and industry stakeholders
- Simplified access to physical assets and resources
- Workshops addressing technical and business operations hurdles
- Opportunities to pitch to investors
- Visibility within New England's bluetech innovation ecosystem & beyond

For Investors

- Access to a robust pipeline of investable companies
- Access to a network of leading experts and institutions
- Educational sessions focused on seafood-centric investment

Gulf of Maine Innovation Ecosystem

- A lasting entrepreneurship support model and innovation corridor along the Gulf of Maine coast
- Platform for generating high quality, sustainable jobs in a new generation of Blue Economy entrepreneurship.

SPRINT Programming

Building pathway for blue economy startups – from ideation through incorporation, business development, and operationalization.

Enabling startups to navigate market volatility, access new capital, pivot to new business models, and help seafood harvesters adjust to economic uncertainty.

Scaling Entrepreneurship Support Models

- One-year free membership to SeaAhead's startup support platform
- Virtual 'Free Swim' networking sessions
- Technical sessions focused on navigating retail seafood markets, climate and covid impacts, and fisheries diversification
- Business operations workshops focused on legal, accounting, regulatory, and grant writing and fundraising support
- Webinars featuring regional institutions that can help startups access technical expertise, testing and research facilities, and incubation and acceleration capacity.
- Marketing support and increased visibility through startup showcases and a series of promotional videos highlighting startups and small businesses in the Gulf of Maine's sustainable seafood sector.

SPRINT Programming

Building pathway for blue economy startups – from ideation through incorporation, business development, and operationalization.

Enabling startups to navigate market volatility, access new capital, pivot to new business models, and help seafood harvesters adjust to economic uncertainty.

Enhanced Mentorship Support Models

- Curated connections between SPRINT participants and mentors in GMRI and SeaAhead’s network
- Mentor matching sessions
- Access to SeaAhead’s Mentor Connections Portal
- Virtual and in-person ‘Free Swim’ networking session

Enhanced Capital Access

- Expanded connectivity of Angel Networks along the Gulf of Maine Innovation Corridor
- Cultivation of seafood-centric investment from family offices, impact funds, and corporations
- Gulf of Maine Corridor integration, connection the Greater Portland, Greater Boston hubs of Excellence and relevant Economic Development Districts

Why the Gulf of Maine?

Its where the Blue Economy and Innovation Meet

- Major fishing ports, from Massachusetts to Maine
- A dynamic and diverse commercial aquaculture industry (both land and ocean-based)
- Industrial working waterfronts and 7,500 miles of coastline
- An extraordinary network of international caliber marine science research institutions and supporting NGOs
- Boston's startup ecosystem, which ranks as one of the top venture capital regions in the world



Gulf of Maine Ventures:

A Strategic Initiative of Gulf of Maine Research Institute

- Develops mission-driven business ventures and partnerships that will leverage private sector market opportunities.
- Provides a powerful platform to scale solutions to global ocean challenges.
- Combines entrepreneurs, impact capital, industry knowledge, scientific expertise, and extensive networks.

Learn More at gmri.org/ventures



Prime
Location



Strong
Connections



Knowledge and
Expertise



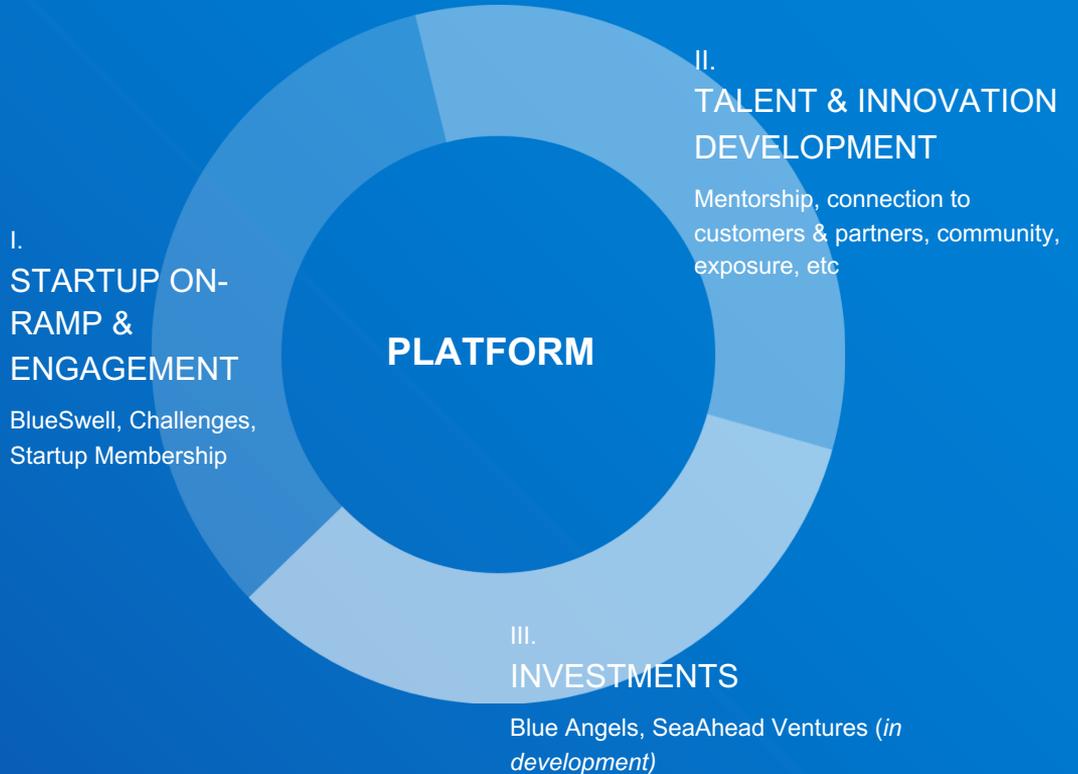
Demonstrated
Success

SeaAhead's Mission

Venture Innovation for the Ocean

We are catalyzing New England's bluetech cluster through our Boston-based startup platform

Our ecosystem includes startups, scientists, corporations, technologists, governments, and other ocean stakeholders.



Learn More at sea-ahead.com

The Team



BLAINE GRIMES | GMRI | CHIEF VENTURES OFFICER: Blaine leads GMRI's Gulf of Maine Ventures group. This new initiative supports the incubation, acceleration and funding of mission-driven business ventures and partnerships to leverage private sector market opportunities where GMRI's involvement, leadership and investment can accelerate positive social and economic impacts in the Gulf of Maine. BA from Amherst College, MBA Harvard Business School.



DONNA HAZARD | SEAAHEAD | GENERAL PARTNER & BOARD MEMBER: Donna's career has spanned strategic board and entrepreneurial roles, including board roles at the New England Aquarium, Women Working for Oceans and Ventures for Hope. She was a co-founder at Exact Sciences, a diagnostic biotech company with a market cap of \$22B as of Apr '21. AB Princeton, MBA Harvard



TAYLOR WITKIN | SEAAHEAD | PROGRAM MANAGER: Taylor has 10 years of marine science experience in New England. Prior to SeaAhead, he served as Coordinator for the Local Catch Network and organized the 2019 Local Seafood Summit. He has conducted fisheries supply chain research for the University of Maine and kelp market research at URI. BA in Environmental Studies, Colby College; MA In Marine Affairs, URI