

LEWIS PUGH



Endurance Swimmer and UN Patron of the Oceans

Lewis Pugh, OIG is an endurance swimmer and an ocean advocate. In 2013 the United Nations appointed him as the UN Patron of the Oceans.

He pioneers swims in the most vulnerable ecosystems on Earth to call for their protection. Over a period of 35 years he has undertaken more swims around famous landmarks than any other swimmer in history. He was the first person to complete a long distance swim in every ocean of the world. He was also the first to swim across the North Pole, and the first to swim the length of the English Channel.

Lewis has been instrumental in protecting over two million square kilometres of vulnerable ocean – an area larger than Western Europe. His dream is to help protect 30% of the world's oceans by 2030.

Over five million people have viewed Lewis's TED Talks, and countless others have followed him on the BBC, CNN, BBC Radio 2's Breakfast Show, HBO, France 2, Good Morning America, National Geographic, Al Jazeera, and many more. Lewis has appeared with Jon Stewart and Jay Leno. His editorials have been published in The New York Times and The Daily Telegraph, among others. Sky News has made three documentaries about his work.

For his work Lewis has received a number of awards. He was selected as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum. He was chosen as a National Geographic Adventurer of the Year. And he was awarded South Africa's highest honour the Order of Ikhamanga (Gold Class).

Lewis Pugh is a captivating and enchanting storyteller. The pictures he shows during his keynote are as jaw dropping and unique as Lewis' story itself. He inspires his audience with his extraordinary journey and his passion and provides valuable lessons to apply to business and to life.

Topics (Selection):

- Achieving the Impossible
- Vision
- Leading Diverse Teams
- Motivation
- Creating a Culture of Excellence
- Managing Change
- Overcoming Obstacles
- Resilience
- Embracing Risk
- Building a Sustainable Business

Publications (Selection):

- 21 Yaks and a Speedo - How to Achieve Your Impossible, 2013
- Achieving the Impossible: A Fearless Hero. A Fragile Earth., 2010