

Plastic Odyssey Fund Secures U.S. 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Status and Expands Global Cleanup Efforts with UNESCO



Plastic Odyssey Fund, the U.S. arm of the international ocean conservation organization Plastic Odyssey, has officially received 501(c)(3) public charity designation from the Internal Revenue Service — marking a major milestone in its U.S. expansion. This new status enables tax-deductible contributions from American individuals and institutions and unlocks access to critical philanthropic and grant-based funding.

The milestone comes on the heels of a major partnership announcement with UNESCO to clean up plastic pollution in vulnerable marine World Heritage Sites, announced at the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC3) in Nice, France. These marine sites — among the most fragile and remote ecosystems on Earth — will now be the focus of large-scale cleanup, education, and science-based restoration missions led by Plastic Odyssey, with UNESCO’s official support.

With tax-deductible status now in place, Plastic Odyssey Fund is launching a new phase of U.S.-based activity — including a \$30 million fundraising campaign to restore 50 endangered UNESCO sites and the rollout of local “Lighthouse” chapters across the country. These hubs will drive education, cleanups, and innovation while connecting American communities to Plastic Odyssey’s global mission.





*“Achieving 501(c)(3) status is a pivotal step for us,” said **Fabien Lamaison**, Director of Plastic Odyssey Fund. “It allows us to unlock new funding pathways and partner more effectively with American donors, companies, and institutions who are ready to invest in global ocean solutions — and now, we can invite them to support one of the most cost-effective and scalable strategies to tackle ocean plastic pollution.”*

*“U.S. support will be critical as we scale this work globally,” said **Alexandre Dechelotte**, co-founder of Plastic Odyssey and CFO of Plastic Odyssey Fund. “This recognition allows us to activate a broad network of allies across borders, sectors, and communities — and accelerate one of the world’s most ambitious cleanup missions: restoring biodiversity in ocean sanctuaries too often overlooked.”*



With new chapters launching and restoration missions underway, Plastic Odyssey Fund invites donors, partners, and ocean advocates to take part — by contributing, volunteering, or joining upcoming Lighthouse events across the U.S.

Tax-deductible donations can now be made at plasticodyssey.fund

MEDIA CONTACTS



PLASTIC ODYSSEY FUND (U.S.)

Fabien Lamaison, Director

☎ +1 (347) 725-1975

✉ fund@plasticodyssey.org



PLASTIC ODYSSEY (GLOBAL)

Alexandre Dechelotte, CFO & Press Manager

☎ Whatsapp: +33 6 777 356 37

✉ press@plasticodyssey.org



Our Partners

Main

L'OCCITANE
EN PROVENCE

Field

 **après
demain**

Officials

CLARINS



matmut

Main patron

FORVIA
Foundation

U.S Partners

loft



MP Law



plasticodyssey.fund