

Plastic Odyssey stops in Cape Verde from April 1 to 17: a key milestone in its global expedition against plastic pollution



In October 2022, the Plastic Odyssey vessel set off on a 3-year expedition around the world from the Port of Marseille. After several stopovers in the Mediterranean (Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco) and West Africa (Senegal, Guinea), the Plastic Odyssey expedition ship and its team continue their adventure in Mindelo, Cape Verde.

On the agenda: a launch press conference, the development of a local plastic waste valorization project, technical training for recycling entrepreneurs engaged in the fight against plastic pollution, school visits to the ship, and numerous actions on the ground.

THE STOPOVER PROGRAM

This stopover is organized around two main axes:

- meet and exchange with local recycling entrepreneurs to develop sustainable solutions against pollution;
- explore alternatives to build a world without plastic and share them.

— **Support a local plastic valorization project**



In partnership with the NGO Biosfera, the consulting firm SCE, the NGO SMILO, ConsultantSeas, and the Cape Verdean NGO Do Lixo ao Luxo, Plastic Odyssey contributes to the creation of a plastic valorization industry on the island of Sao Vicente.

— **Provide technical training for recycling entrepreneurs**



On April 11th and 12th, the expedition team will offer a training program on recycling techniques for local teams, thus contributing to skill development and the promotion of sustainable plastic waste management.

— **Present an exhibition on plastic alternatives**



The vessel carries the «Treasure Chests» exhibition from one stopover to another: a library of solutions and objects from around the world to replace plastic. The nomadic exhibition will be enriched with new Senegalese objects and will showcase the solutions discovered by the expedition as it progresses.

The exhibition is free and open to all from April 3rd to 10th, 2023, at the Mindelo Cultural Center.

— **Share our experience with schools**



Raising awareness of plastic pollution is central to building a more sustainable world. Young people of all ages are invited to visit the ship and meet the crew from April 10th to 13th, 2023. A live broadcast from the ship is also organized for French students on April 11th at 3 pm (French time).

— **Search for solutions to reduce plastic**



The Plastic Odyssey team is also carrying out a global research program to understand how to break free from our dependence on plastic.

Visit plasticodyssey.org to learn more.



WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE EXPEDITION?

After this stopover in Cape Verde, the Plastic Odyssey expedition team will cross the Atlantic to reach South America in Recife, Brazil. The ship will be an ambassador for the fight against plastic pollution on these continents. The team will meet the actors building today's and tomorrow's world, with the ambition to create a global network of solutions to curb plastic pollution.

WHAT IS PLASTIC ODYSSEY?

Founded in 2016 by Simon BERNARD, Alexandre DECHELOTTE, and Bob VRIGNAUD, two young sailors and an engineer, all passionate about low-tech and environmental protection, Plastic Odyssey is built on a simple observation: 20 tons of plastic are dumped into the ocean every minute. Once in the sea, most plastic is no longer recoverable. The project's action is therefore focused on land with two main pillars:

- **Clean up the past:** For over four years, Plastic Odyssey has been developing low-tech and open-source technologies to transform plastic waste into resources and thus treat waste already produced on land before it ends up in the sea. The goal of these machines is to develop the economic sector of plastic waste treatment: creating jobs while fighting pollution at the source.
- **Build the future:** Transforming plastic waste into resources is not enough! To eliminate plastic pollution in the long term, Plastic Odyssey is working on several awareness programs aimed at populations most affected by plastic pollution. The goal of these programs is to provide everyone with access to practical solutions that exist to avoid using plastic.



Scan the QR Code to download our resources (photos/vidéos) and the press kit.

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