

## Plastic Odyssey to Combat Plastic Waste in Cambodia



**Plastic Odyssey, a pioneering global initiative committed to combating plastic pollution worldwide, is launching its groundbreaking efforts in Siem Reap to confront the pervasive issue of plastic waste in our landfills, rivers and oceans. Through innovative low-technologies and community empowerment initiatives, Plastic Odyssey aims to convert plastic waste into valuable resources, fostering sustainable solutions that empower local communities.**

### KEY NUMBERS

Building a global network of +100 entrepreneurs trained onboard, +70 recycling initiatives discovered in more than 20 countries, +300 members of the global community, +10000 Young explorers educated about plastic pollution.

Siem Reap, and the area of Tonle Sap, renowned for its vibrant culture and natural beauty, faces significant challenges posed by plastic pollution, especially in the Tonle Sap Lake region. Acknowledging the critical need for immediate action, Plastic Odyssey is set to collaborate closely with local authorities, organizations, and residents to implement effective strategies that mitigate these major stakes.

Prior to the arrival of the ship, Plastic Odyssey team will be in Siem Reap from September 5 to September 9 to work closely with local stakeholders. **Plastic Odyssey Expedition ship will be docked in Phnom Peng from September, 11 to September 22.**



## COLLABORATIVE STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

Meetings with Cambodia's government officials, Siem Reap authorities representatives, waste management experts, and environmental organizations will be pivotal in developing comprehensive strategies to combat plastic pollution. Plastic Odyssey seeks to forge partnerships that drive impactful policy changes and sustainable development in the region.

## SUPPORT FOR LOCAL INITIATIVES

Plastic Odyssey is set to collaborate with initiatives like The Lake Clinic, as Bamboo Shoot and more to strengthen Siem Reap and Tonle Sap area waste management infrastructure. By supporting local projects and fostering knowledge exchange, Plastic Odyssey is pursuing the same goal of community resilience and environmental stewardship across the island.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING SESSIONS

Plastic Odyssey will host workshops and key activities on board in partnership with local NGOs and entrepreneurs to share knowledge on effective plastic waste management. These sessions aim to empower locals with practical skills, fostering sustainable practices, meanwhile learning from the existing solution across Cambodia.

## INNOVATIVE RECYCLING INITIATIVES

Visitors can see examples and samples of recycled objects obtained through the use of low-tech machinery by Plastic Odyssey. These innovations will showcase how plastic waste can be transformed into valuable materials, promoting a circular economy model in Cambodia and beyond.

## PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Through exhibition at the «Institut Français» and engagement with local schools, Plastic Odyssey will raise awareness about plastic alternatives and responsible consumption habits, based on insights gained during all project stopovers. These initiatives aim to inspire collective action towards a cleaner, healthier environment in Cambodia.

## INVESTMENT IN LOCAL LAB FACTORY

A pivotal aspect of our Cambodian stopover, marking a significant milestone in the ecosystem's development. We are hoping to launch pilot projects here and seeking participation from investors, environmental organizations, local communities, and governmental bodies. Together, we aim to advance models of waste management that enhance both the local economy and environment.



*«Arriving in Cambodia marks a significant milestone for Plastic Odyssey as we continue our mission to combat plastic pollution. We are excited to engage with the community here, forging partnerships and empowering locals with practical solutions to build a cleaner, more sustainable environment,» shared **Simon BERNARD**, founder of Plastic Odyssey. «Together, we believe in the power of innovation and collective action to drive meaningful change.»*



## THE STOPOVER PROGRAM

The Plastic Odyssey program will take place in two phases:

Siem Reap - from September 5 to 9, 2024:

- ≡ **From September 5 to 9, Exploring local initiatives to raise awareness with local lake communities, meeting waste management stakeholders and designing first steps of a micro recycling factory pilot project.**
- ≡ **September 6, Opening ceremony at Sofitel Angkor Resort, Siem Reap, anticipates over 200 attendees including his excellency Dr. Eang Sophalleth, Minister of Environment, local authorities representatives, universities, national press, key investors, and members of the local community gathered around our expedition vessel.**

This event marks the commencement of our mission in Cambodia: fostering synergies and innovative solutions for local communities. It aims to unite stakeholders from diverse backgrounds at the same table, driving collaborative action towards a sustainable future.

Phnom Penh - from September 11 to 22, 2024:

- ≡ **September 12, Opening event in Phnom Penh : Exhibition opening in Institut Français and projection of Plastic Odyssey Documentary, followed by Q&A with the crew.**
- ≡ **From September 16 to 18, 3 days of Onboard Laboratory training program : meeting and exchanging with local recycling entrepreneurs on board of the vessel and visiting local facilities to develop sustainable solutions against plastic pollution.**
- ≡ **Exploring alternatives to build a plastic-free world and sharing them.**

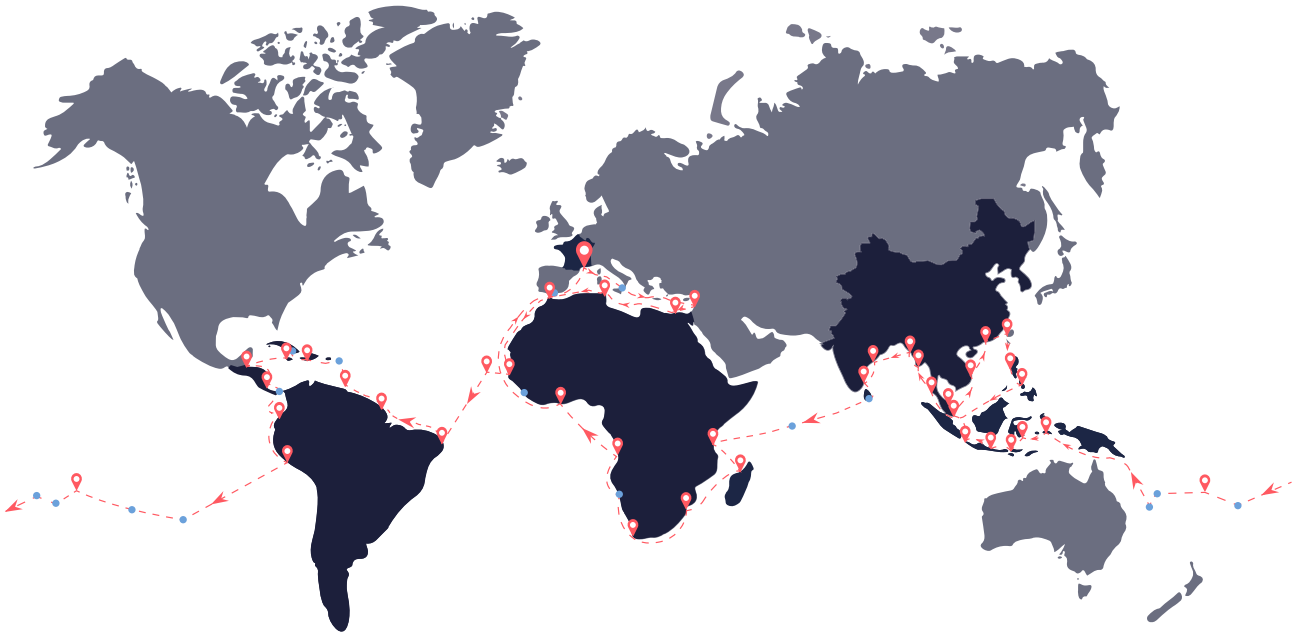
The ship hosts the «Treasure Trunks» exhibition, featuring global solutions and objects to replace plastic. Exposed in the «Institut Français» between September 12 and 17, it evolves with new items at each stop, highlighting solutions discovered on the expedition. **Free and open to all.**

- ≡ **School visits are organized each week days to share our exploration mission with the youngest and raise awareness about plastic pollution.**



## THE NEXT LEG OF THE EXPEDITION

After this stop in Cambodia, the Plastic Odyssey expedition team will head to Vietnam before reaching Hong Kong and the Philippines by the end of the year. Serving as an ambassador in the fight against plastic pollution in this critical region exposed to plastic pollution, the ship will engage with stakeholders shaping today's and tomorrow's world. Our aim is to create a global network of solutions to combat plastic pollution. Join our adventure, follow and support our extensive journey through incredible Asia.



## CONTACT

### Press and media partnerships

Photo reports, video content, or interview requests should be addressed to [press@plasticodyssey.org](mailto:press@plasticodyssey.org)

### Partnerships

For partnership inquiries, please write to us at [partnerships@plasticodyssey.org](mailto:partnerships@plasticodyssey.org)



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