



CONTACT: soa@globalstrategygroup.com

Sustainable Ocean Alliance and Plastic Odyssey Announce Global Partnership to Combat Ocean Plastic Pollution

The two nonprofits join forces to tackle the ocean plastic pollution crisis through innovation and youth empowerment.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - (September 29, 2022) Today, two leading environment-focused organizations [Sustainable Ocean Alliance](#) (SOA), the world's largest network of young ocean leaders and home to the first Ocean Solutions Accelerator, and [Plastic Odyssey](#), an international project addressing plastic pollution from the source, announced their partnership to protect our ocean from the plastic pollution crisis.

Through this collaboration, SOA and Plastic Odyssey will offer training and mentorship for young leaders and entrepreneurs, technical partnerships and pilot initiatives for field recycling initiatives, and joint education and advocacy around ocean protection.

"We are proud to announce our new partnership with Sustainable Ocean Alliance," said [Simon Bernard](#), Co-Founder and CEO of Plastic Odyssey. "We share in common a deep commitment to protect the world's ocean by empowering local entrepreneurs, and we look forward to a great collaboration."

This announcement comes as Plastic Odyssey embarks – October 1 – on a three-year sea expedition porting in 30 countries across three continents traveling 40,000 nautical miles on a journey providing tools, entrepreneurial training and resources to communities who are those most impacted by plastic pollution.

As part of the partnership, the Plastic Odyssey ship will make stops in locations that are home to SOA hubs, hosting events in each region with global leaders, activists, scientists and partners. The groups will also use the expedition to host 'entrepreneur exchanges,' an opportunity for the local leaders and entrepreneurs working on Plastic Odyssey recycling initiatives to connect with SOA-accelerated solution leaders and technologies.



“This partnership marks a new phase in SOA’s fight to prevent ocean plastic,” said [Daniela Fernandez](#), Founder and CEO of Sustainable Ocean Alliance. “Earlier this year, we rolled out a network of 222 solutions to fight the climate crisis, and we were proud to feature 10 startups and micro-grant recipients focused on plastic pollution. As we join forces with Plastic Odyssey, we are thrilled to double down on these efforts, and make a direct impact on the communities experiencing the effects of plastic pollution firsthand.”

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About Sustainable Ocean Alliance

SOA is a global organization created for youth – by youth – dedicated to restoring the health of the ocean in our lifetime. We were founded in 2014 by Daniela Fernandez during her first year of college, after she attended a United Nations meeting on climate change – and was stunned to realize none of the experts had a plan to stop it. Since then, SOA has grown into the world’s largest network of young ocean leaders, innovators, and policymakers, and we have accelerated [222 solutions](#) to the greatest threats facing our ocean. These solutions include for-profit startups and community-led nonprofit projects around the world.

About Plastic Odyssey

Based in Marseille, France, Plastic Odyssey is an international project aiming to fight against ocean plastic pollution by acting at the source: ashore. Its ambition is to build a global network of local recycling initiatives by encouraging social entrepreneurship, developing and disseminating low-tech and open source technologies and empowering local communities. In October 2022, Plastic Odyssey will launch a 3-year, global expedition to deliver technologies, training and solutions to 30 communities most impacted by plastic pollution across Africa, South America and Asia. For the team’s full itinerary, visit <http://www.plasticodyssey.org>.