

Press Kit

February 2022



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1 - Presentation

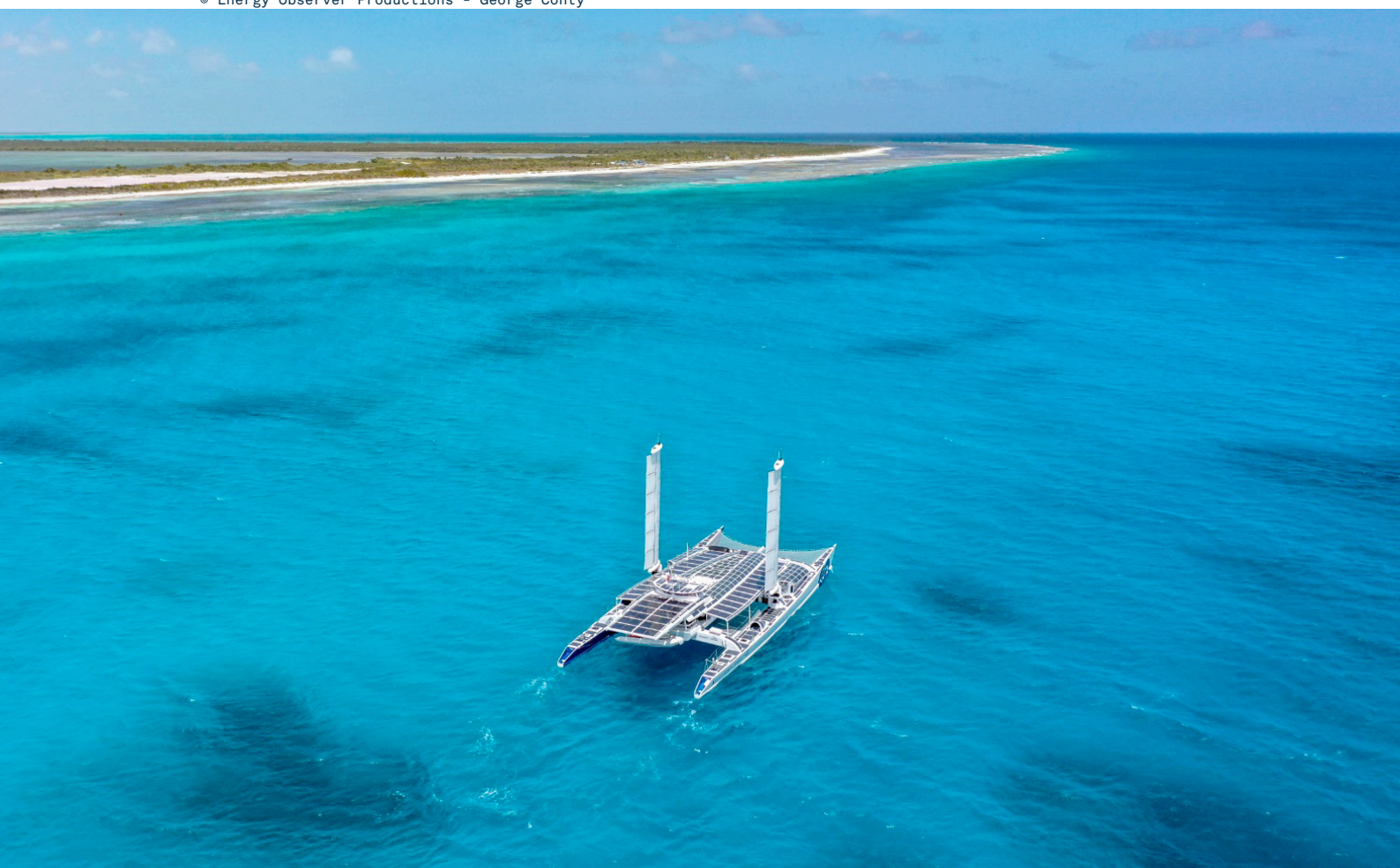
The Energy Observer project was born in 2013 from the commitment of Victorien Erussard, merchant navy officer and ocean racer". Aware that it is now vital to commit to the planet, he gathered around him a complementary team a complementary team of sailors, scientists, engineers and reporters to create the first self-sufficient vessel capable of drawing its energy from nature whilst also preserving it.

The dream became a reality 4 years later, when the Energy Observer vessel was launched for the first time. Developed from a legendary multiple award-winning catamaran, Energy Observer is a laboratory for the ecological transition designed to push back the limits of zero-emission technologies. Hydrogen, solar, wind and water power, all the solutions are experimented with, tested and optimised here with a view to making clean energies a practical reality that is accessible to all.

Criss-crossing the oceans in a bid to get out and meet those who are coming up with sustainable solutions for the planet every day, Energy Observer has become a movement, a round the world Odyssey, where every stopover is an opportunity to learn, to understand and to share the different energies.

Energy Observer has received the High Patronage of Mr. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic. French ambassador for the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, supported by the Ministry for the Ecological Transition, Unesco, the European Union, Irena and Ademe.

© Energy Observer Productions - George Conty



The mission of Energy Observer

Innovation to accelerate the energy transition

Energy Observer is a laboratory where engineers and researchers are developing new technologies in order to make renewable energies a reality for all. The latest, cutting-edge technologies in terms of hydrogen, batteries, solar and wind power are tested in the most hostile environment: the ocean. These have been optimized over the course of a 40,000 nautical miles voyage. The variety and diversity of renewable energies are central to resilient zero-carbon energy systems developed by our engineers with the support of our manufacturing partners. The development of reliable, sustainable, noise-free, affordable energy solutions is at the heart of the energy transition.

A journey of exploring into the initiatives changing our world

The Energy Observer adventure is also a historic 7-year around-the-world Odyssey to meet the pioneers reinventing the industry, agriculture and energy sector in an attempt to live in a more sustainable way. The focus is on positive and concrete innovations that are available today and show that a better future is possible.

As the first French ambassador of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals set by the UN in 2015, Energy Observer carry France's message on the urgent need to preserve the planet.

Raising awareness

At each stopover, the team meet women and men who are carrying out local and replicable projects. "Energy Observer Solutions" is the showcase for this ecosystem of committed players around the world, thanks to short films broadcast freely on a dedicated platform. The Ministry of the Ecological Transition, Ademe, the International Association of Universities, Unesco and SDSN support the project in identifying pioneers and solutions around the world.

Furthermore, at each major stopover of this Odyssey, the team is deploying an open-access exhibition village designed to raise awareness among all audiences of the challenges of the energy and ecological transition. Families, students, elected officials and local industrial decision-makers, all are invited to dive into the Energy Observer adventure of playful and immersive way. This travelling exhibition welcomes each year nearly 100,000 people.



2- 2017–2022

The Odyssey's key figures

4 years
of sailing

- France, 2017
- Mediterranean, 2018
- Northern Europe, 2019
- Atlantic, 2020
- Pacific, 2021

+ 40 visited
countries

2 ocean
crossings

- Atlantic Ocean, 2020
- Pacific Ocean, 2021

+ 45 000

nautical miles sailed

69 stopovers

including 15 with the itinerant village

300 000
visitors

welcomed in the village

13 films

documentaries produced

70 episodes

of the Energy Observer web series Solutions
produced and broadcasted

+ more than 400
short reports

on our YouTube channel

3 - 15,000 nautical miles sailed in 2021 thanks to renewable energies and hydrogen

The 2021 Energy Observer's Odyssey program had to adapt to the uncertain and changing constraints of the pandemic, yet, the vessel continued its round-the-world expedition against all odds and restrictions, persisting its research mission.

Adapting, uncovering opportunities, coping daily with unpredictable health guidelines, repeated quarantines: the teams had to deploy a great deal of energy and imagination to continue the Odyssey. Despite two years of preparation, the iconic stopover planned in Tokyo during the Olympic Games could not occur. However, distinguished stopovers in California, Los Angeles, and San Francisco were conducted.

Since March 2020, Energy Observer has completed its longest sailings, with its first transatlantic crossing and the exploration of the overseas territories up to Guyana.

In 2021, the vessel further extended its stride by tackling the largest ocean in the world, the Pacific, from the Galapagos to California to Oceania via Hawaii.

Facing the logistical constraints imposed by the health crisis, the crew had to sail directly to New Caledonia, Energy Observer's longest crossing, where it reported on many subjects on rare piles of earth and nickel: essential resources for the production of batteries.

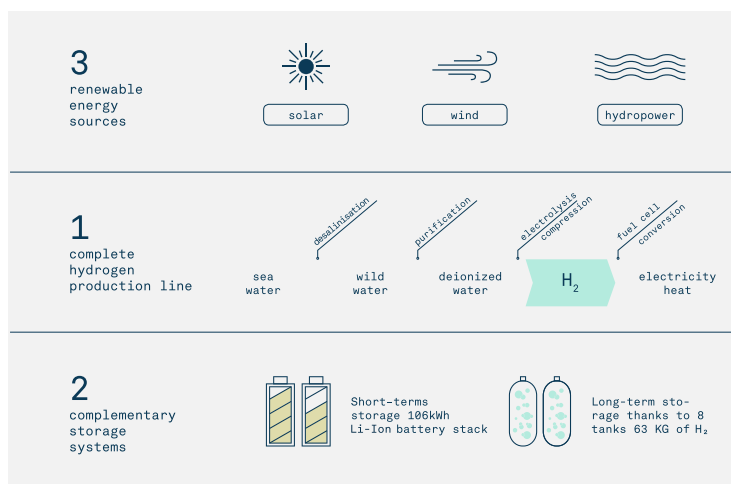
Energy Observer then set sail again in September for 25 days of sailing towards Kupang in Indonesia. That means 15,000 new nautical miles on the counter in 2021!

A performance achieved thanks to the energy autonomy of the onboard systems, a model of resilience that is particularly well suited to the current situation and reassuring for the continuation of the Odyssey.



A reliable energy mix

On board technologies, combining multiple sources -solar, wind and hydropower- and forms of storage, batteries and above all hydrogen, are the forerunners of tomorrow's smart energy grids, which can be reproduced on a large scale, everywhere and for everyone.



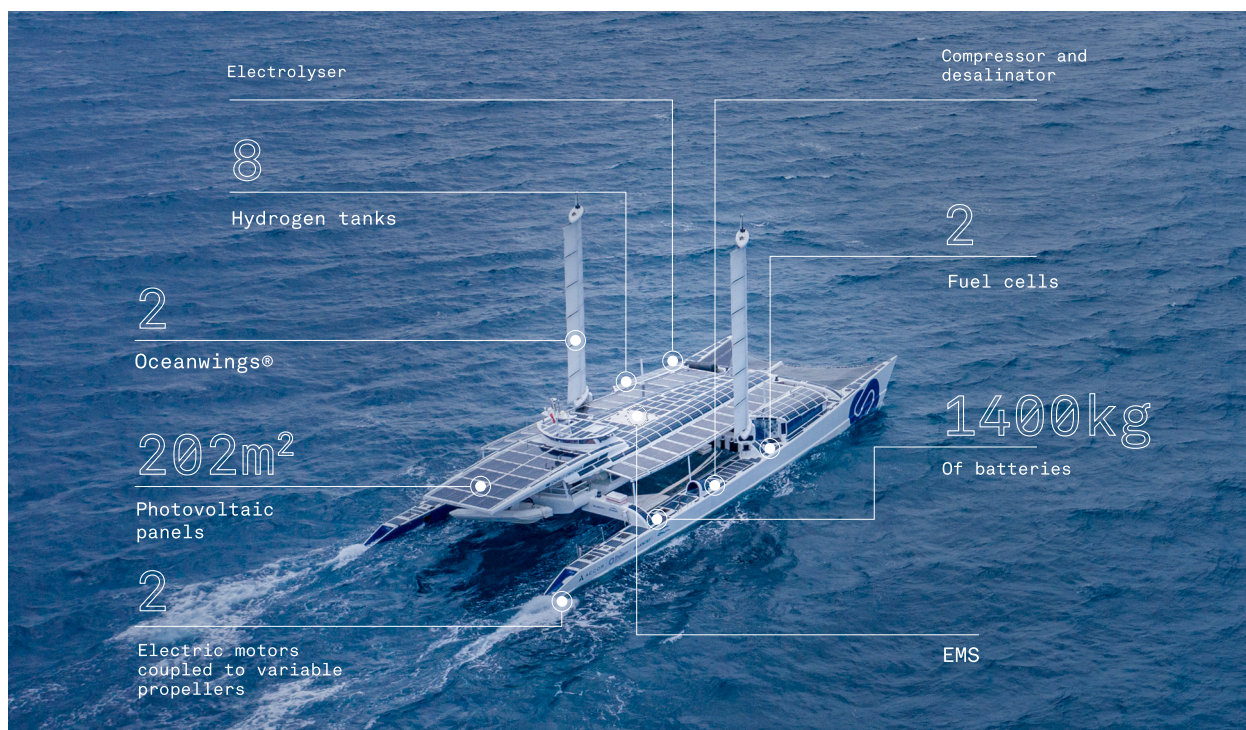
Hydrogen, the keystone of the Energy Observer system

To date, hydrogen is the best ally of the renewable energies. It is the lightest and most abundant chemical element in the universe, and has an energy density three times higher than traditional fuels. As a result, hydrogen allows the storage of excess energy from renewable sources and makes it possible to offset their intermittence. If all the energy was stored in traditional batteries, the ship would be a third heavier!

Today, the 63 kg of hydrogen stored on board provides 2 MW of electricity, i.e. the average consumption of a household of 4 for a month. While maritime and land mobility meet everincreasing demands for power, speed and reliability, hydrogen is currently the only energy carrier that offers a credible alternative to fossil fuels without impacting the environment.

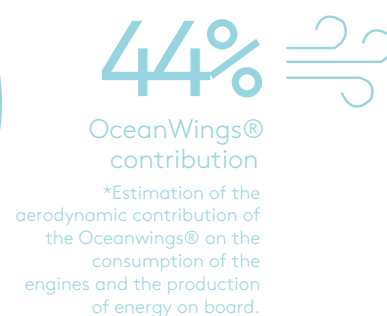
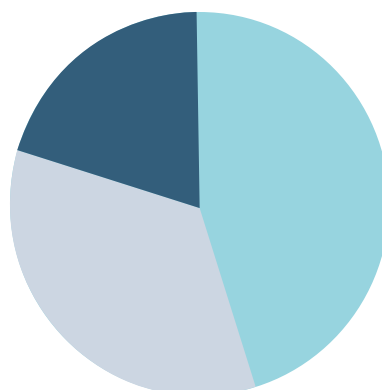
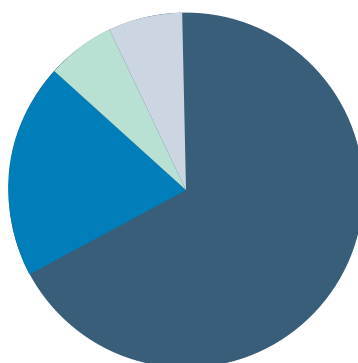
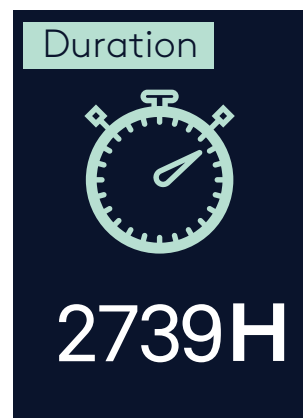
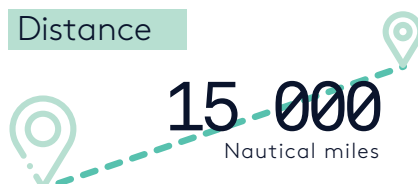
By testing an energy system based on a mix of renewable energies and hydrogen, Energy Observer is paving the way for multiple land and maritime applications that can be replicated at the level of a user, a neighborhood or even an entire city.

© Energy Observer Productions - George Conty



2021 ENERGY BALANCE

Fort-de-France (Martinique) ► Kupang (Indonesia)



4 - The Odyssey from Asia, to Paris 2024



© Thibaut Voisin

On May 25, 2021, for the very first time in its history, the Eiffel Tower will be illuminated with green hydrogen, thanks to a GEH2® electro-hydrogen unit developed by EODev, Energy Observer's industrial subsidiary. This premiere takes place within the framework of the event "Le Paris de l'hydrogène" organized by Energy Observer with the support of the City of Paris. A symbolic demonstration to send a strong message: hydrogen technologies to support the electrical grid exist, are reliable and accessible.

The 2022 navigation program

South-East Asia is home to one-in-ten of the world's population and is a very diverse and dynamic region. These countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) have all experienced rapid economic and demographic growth in the last decades and are looking to meet the rising energy demand in a secure and affordable manner. Since 2000, overall energy demand in the region has grown by 80% and most of this growth has been met by a doubling of fossil fuel use. The fuel demand, especially for oil, has far outpaced production from within the region, and South-East Asia is now on the verge of becoming a net importer of fossil fuels for the first time.



Many of these countries are still struggling to bring electricity to their entire population and some have only recently risen to "middle-income" status countries, illustrating the ongoing efforts to alleviate poverty and improve living standards. In this situation, the choice of the cheapest fuel is understandable, at least in the short term. However, governments are aware of the need to switch to renewable energies such as solar-, wind- and hydro-power. Fortunately, with improvements and innovations on renewable

energies worldwide, solar energy is quickly becoming cheaper than coal, countries like Thailand, Singapore and Cambodia, are investing massively into photovoltaic power plants to secure their energy needs.



From Jakarta to Bali

Before joining the boat in Lombok, the audiovisual production team traveled to Jakarta to document the challenges of the capital in the face of climate change threatened in particular by rising sea levels, but also on the ecological consequences of tourism. The team wants to take stock of Indonesia's energy mix and its ambitions in terms of renewable energies and the environment like in Bali, where young activist Melati Wijsen the heroine of the award-winning documentary *Bigger Than Us*, will speak about the fight against plastic.



© Energy Observer Productions - George Conty

Energy Observer in Singapore: A concrete example of French innovation at the service of maritime communities

Last year, France and Singapore signed a cooperation agreement for the future of maritime transport. The arrival of Energy Observer is thus precisely in line with the ambitions of this agreement.

Using components from all over the world, Energy Observer symbolizes the best that technological cooperation can bring to the energy transition. It is a showcase of French know-how in terms of integration and design of innovative systems at the service of maritime transport professionals.

For Energy Observer, Singapore represents the heart of the maritime industry. Not only an essential point of passage but also a symbol of cultures, technologies, innovations, and ambitions. Many actors from the maritime sector, shipowners, investors, shipyards, as well as design offices are based in Singapore.

Energy Observer is also working with LMG Marin, part of the Sembcorp group, to develop a new generation of clean ships.

As one of the world's leading refueling ports, Singapore is at the heart of crucial challenges for the energy transition, as many alternatives to fuel are tested by the shipping industry. To raise awareness of these issues and the preservation of the oceans, this step is highly strategic for the Energy Observer Odyssey in Asia

The stopover will be an opportunity to mobilize key actors in the maritime sector, energy, hydrogen, and sustainable development through visits, conferences, and reporting of Singapore's flagship initiatives and projects: Energy, of course, as well as construction and heat management in equatorial and swampy areas.

Japan, the concrete ambitions of the hydrogen's pioneer society

Inaccessible at the moment because of the Covid-19 pandemic, Japan is the focus of all Energy Observer's engineers' curiosity: as the undisputed pioneer of the fuel cell, the heart of the vessel, Japan is developing exciting projects to promote a decarbonated society. Since the Fukushima disaster, the country has propelled hydrogen as an energy carrier to the top of the list of priorities for its mobility and its city of tomorrow, as shown by the spectacular initiatives in this direction (Woven City at the foot of Mount Fuji). Heavy investments have been made to develop transport and infrastructure based on its use, with more than 200 stations and thousands of hydrogen vehicles already produced in Tokyo. The country's fundamental strategy unveiled in 2017, and the roadmap adopted in 2019, foresees a wide diversification of hydrogen uses, its massive production, and import to make it competitive with other fuels. For example, Japan is organizing an exceptional maritime link with Australia to import large quantities of liquid hydrogen, the power that drives the project of Energy Observer 2.

The team hopes to attend the Fuel Cell Expo in March, where a prototype of the Energy Observer will be exhibited, on the Air Liquide stand, then at the annual meeting of the Hydrogen Council leaders for reporting in May.



Heading towards Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam

After the Singapore stopover, the Energy Observer will make a series of stops in South-East Asia: Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand.

Thailand energy policy is to reduce its dependence on natural gas to enhance energy security. This country has a long and rich history, having reached universal access to electricity decades ago and has been experiencing a doubling in energy use per capita in 20 years. Today, Thailand aspire to become the "Silicon Valley of Asia", transforming its power sector entirely and investing massively in renewable energies.

Bangkok, similarly, wants to become the "Electric Transportation Capital of Asia", with 1 million electric vehicles by 2025 and 15 million by 2035. Some electric ferries already transport passengers along the Chao Phraya river that runs through the capital.

Wind farms, hydro-solar hybrid plants, solar farms, photovoltaic rooftops, biomass power plants; all the options and possibilities are being implemented to reduce the need for fossil fuel imports. This is a critical decade for Thailand and its economic development that Energy Observer wants to document during its round-the-world Odyssey.

Cambodia's modern history has been brutal and unstable. Having suffered multiple occupations by France and then Vietnam, the country also went through one of the most violent genocide under the Khmer Rouge regime between 1975 and 1978. During this period, a quarter of the population was killed and the population was forced into an agricultural model close to the standards of the 11th century. Present-day Cambodia was only born in 1993, a very recent country with incredible challenges to face.

Cambodia had one of the quickest economic growth in the region, with an average of 7% a year. Nonetheless, the gross domestic product per capita remains among the lowest in Asia. Agriculture remains the dominant economic sector, with a strong growth in textiles, construction, garments and tourism. Energetically, the country remains highly dependent on traditional biomass (44.4%), especially for cooking, and oil and petroleum products (38.5%) mostly for transport, industry and power generation. In 2012, only 50% of the population had access to electricity, compared to 93% in 2019.

The quick economic growth and the increased living standard of the population means that the energy demands of the country are increasing rapidly. Cambodia imports all fossil fuels that it consumes, including coal and oil. The country has an untapped and unquantified potential for petroleum extraction, but most importantly has considerable renewable resources such as hydropower, biomass, solar and wind power. For example, the estimated technical potential of solar power in the country is 8 000 MW, a great news, when solar energy is now becoming cheaper than coal.

Vietnam: how to manage simultaneously rapid growth and energy transition.

Very recently, in February 2021, the Vietnamese government has released a draft of the country's national power development plan for 2021 to 2030. The plan expands current wind and solar capacity and prioritizes enhancing grid infrastructure to ensure stable operation with a higher share of renewables. Currently, more than half of the country's electricity generation comes from coal, and about 20% from hydroelectric generation. Other non-hydro renewable sources make up 5% of Vietnam's electricity. This share of renewables other than hydropower is expected to rise to 25% by 2030 and as much as 42% by 2045.

While investing in renewable energies, the country is also planning to double the amount of coal-fired electric generation by 2030, to accommodate the predicted 10% of power consumption annual growth in the next ten years. The total investment capital for the 2021-2030 period will be about 128.3 billion USD, of which 950 million USD will be for power generation and 32.9 billion for power grids.

India, a territory six times larger than France and home to nearly one-sixth of the world's population

After these stopovers in South-East Asia, Energy Observer will head towards India.

A key step in its Odyssey marked by the vessel's stop in Pondicherry: a cosmopolitan enclave of this 3.3 million km² territory.

India is a major force in the global energy economy. Energy consumption has more than doubled since 2000, propelled upwards by a growing population and a period of rapid economic growth. Near-universal household access to electricity was achieved in 2019, meaning that over 900 million citizens have gained an electrical connection in less than two decades.

The country will soon become the world's most populous country, adding the equivalent of a city the size of Los Angeles to its urban population each year. To meet growth in electricity demand over the next twenty years, India will need to add a power system the size of the European Union to what it has now.



© Alankit Thapa



© Shifaaz Shamoon

Today, 80% of India's energy demand is still being met by coal, oil and solid biomass, but solar power is set for explosive growth, matching coal's share in the power generation mix within two decades. This dramatic turnaround is driven by India's policy ambitions, notably the target to reach 450 GW of renewable capacity by 2030, and the extraordinary cost-competitiveness of solar, which out-competes existing coal-fired power by 2030 even when paired with battery storage.

By reaching 50% of renewable energies by 2030, India – currently the world's third biggest emitter of greenhouse gases – will cut its projected emissions by one billion tonnes. Energy Observer will stop over in Pondicherry this year to witness the current state of development of the country and the projects and solutions implemented to reduce its greenhouse gases emissions.

If the sanitary conditions and the weather is permitting, the crew would aim to stop in Sri Lanka, a country that committed itself during the COP26 not to build any more coal-fired power plants, and where more than 40% of its energy is renewable.

The Indian Ocean, as many islands as there are needs for autonomous solutions

After India, Energy Observer will head towards the South of the Indian Ocean, passing near a diversity of isolated islands. In the Maldives, a high place of tourism but under permanent stress from rising waters, the countless hotels all need exemplary energy and waste management to preserve their lagoon or coral environment.

Another example is Mahé, a floating solar panel farm developed by Qair, a partner of Energy Observer also present in Africa, allows us to consider competitive solutions in sites where land is rare and precious.

Annual shipyard in the Indian Ocean

It will be high time for Energy Observer to carry out its annual worksite after these thousands of miles of crossing. Scheduled at the moment: removal from the water and a general refit in Mauritius to benefit from the facilities of the local charter industry and regular air links.

The previous CEA-Liten fuel cell will be removed and integrated into a new educational project led by the Energy Observer Foundation. A series of maintenance will be supervised by the captain and the engineering teams around the Oceanwings®, the electrolyzer, the compression stages with NovaSwiss and the Rockwell automatons.

The ship will have the right to a fairing in preparation of the hulls and painting work. Important work will be the replacement of the bifacial solar panels, which were solar panels that were badly damaged during the Pacific crossing, but also on some conformable panels. The shaft lines and the automatic variable pitch propellers will be overhauled, as well as the 24V batteries and all the necessary tests for the safety of the systems.

From Singapore, and to serve the Energy Observer Foundation's missions on maritime pollution, the vessel will integrate a complete seawater analysis station, as well as fine particle sensors to collect data, analyzed by scientists to further be shared by the project's endowment fund.

© Energy Observer Productions - Marta Sostres



«Pendant les trois années qui viennent, nous allons voir se développer de nombreux projets d'hydrogène vert, et apparaître de solutions énergétiques vertueuses. Nous sommes persuadés que lorsque le bateau reviendra en France, il y aura de l'hydrogène vert à un coût accessible dont les plus grands événements pourront profiter, comme les Jeux Olympiques».

Victorien Erussard



Notre programme autour du monde (2017-2024)

2019 Northern Europe
2020 Atlantic
2021 California, Asia

2022 Singapore, Indian Ocean
2023 Brazil and USA
2024 France

A resourceful and complementary team

Aboard the boat, the founder, the captains and professional sailors pilot this extraordinary vessel. Mechanics, engineers and technicians ensure the smooth operation of the on-board systems, whilst the reporters and cameramen document the stopovers and share Energy Observer's journey around the world.



5 - An SDGs ambassador role strengthened by the development of the Endowment Fund

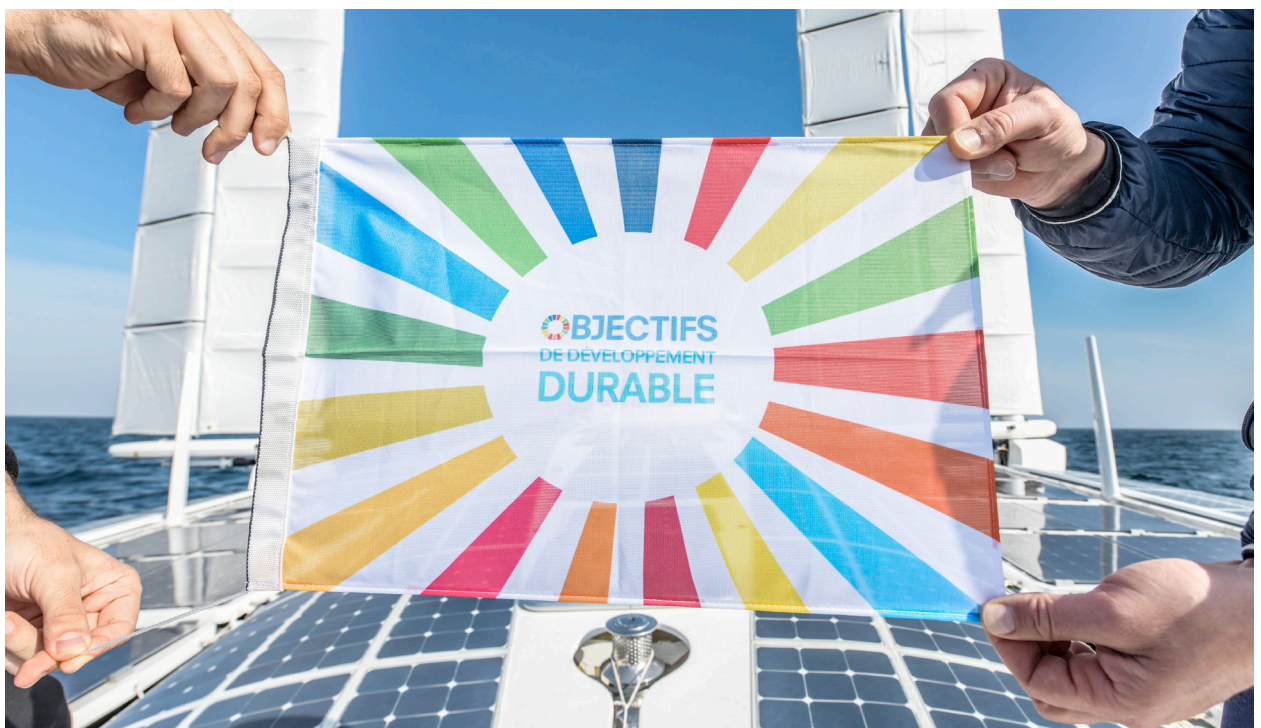
17 goals, a real roadmap for sustainable development

Appointed first French Ambassador for the Sustainable Development Goals by the Ministry of the Ecological transition, Energy Observer mission is to accelerate the energy and ecological transition through the promotion of local initiatives and sustainable solutions for the planet.

All over the world, women and men are devoting their energy to the creation of sustainable solutions for a more harmonious world. Energy Observer is meeting these change-makers, to promote their local initiatives and actions. These actions relate to a variety of subjects such as circular economy, responsible consumption, gender equality, responsible agriculture,

protection of life on land and at sea, etc. This role of ambassador is emphasized during the stopovers, but also through documentary films and the “Energy Observer Solutions” digital platform. This platform promotes the solutions encountered around the world and educates about the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their interrelationship. Doing so, Energy Observer builds a database of “Solutions”, a silver lining of positive and inspiring actions around the world, despite the multiple challenges faced by humanity. Thousands of protagonists globally are working to make this world a better place, and they deserve to be known.

© Energy Observer Productions - Amélie Conty



Energy Observer Solutions

Energy Observer Solutions is a digital platform launched in 2019, though production began from the very start of the project. It highlights solutions regarding ecological and inclusive transition identified by Energy Observer's editorial and scientific community all over the world and directed by the pioneers who are reinventing tomorrow's world. All these Solutions are being grouped together on the Energy Observer Solutions platform and illustrated through short episodes through the prism of Sustainable Development Goals, in connection with the Ministry of the Ecological Transition, the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) created in 2012 under the auspices of the UN Secretary-General, the International Association of Universities (IAU), Ademe and Unesco. These inspirational and positive 2 to 3-minute videos, whose tone and format are geared around the social networks, are designed to raise awareness beyond the borders about these forces for change by giving visibility to their solutions and their local projects.

Educational editorial and audiovisual programs

Energy Observer has produced nearly 13 documentaries since its launch:

→ A series of 12 documentaries broadcast on the Canal + Group channels, "Energy Observer, the Odyssey for the Future ®". From Saint Malo to Saint Petersburg, this collection of films traces the lives of the crew aboard Energy Observer and their encounters around the world.

→ A 90-minute video was also broadcast in prime time during the COP 25.

This CANAL+ documentary creation was produced by Energy Observer Productions and Upside Télévision and directed by Jérôme Delafosse. Entitled "Energy Observer, les messagers de la Terre" (Energy Observer, the Earth's messengers), it traces both the human adventure and the technological challenges taken on by Energy Observer during her passage from Saint Petersburg to Spitsbergen whilst self-sufficient in energy, and during encounters with committed communities in Europe, Asia, South America and Africa to protect our children's future.

Other science-focused documentaries are expected to emerge and address major societal issues related to energy and biodiversity.

Live content from the ship

Energy Observer also shares live content: log books about the highlights of the Odyssey (life aboard, deciphering of the ecosystems by a scientist or biologist, the making of the film, the boat's technical operation, perspectives on the major world days...), a way of immersing oneself in the daily life of the crew.

This educational content, accessible to all, enables a greater understanding of the key challenges of renewable energies and ecological transition.



© Energy Observer Productions - Francine Kreiss

Energy Observer Foundation

Federate expertise to accelerate the energy transition, raise awareness of the potential of hydrogen and promote the Sustainable Development Goals

In addition to raising awareness of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the group is developing non-profit actions via an endowment fund, Energy Observer Foundation. To heighten its impact, three new priority areas are now at the heart of its public interest action.

FEDERATE EXPERTISE to concretely accelerate the energy transition and the fight against maritime pollution. Optimize the daily use of energy, reduce fossil fuels in favor of renewable energies, change our behaviors to better respect our environment: these are the challenges we must take up now.

They will require a profound and sustainable transformation of all energy sectors, from production to consumption. That is also true in the maritime sector, responsible for nearly 3% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions.

That will be done by federating expertise to find low-carbon solutions and remove existing obstacles, the development of research on a charging vessel for professional use, the production of general interest studies on new technologies and propulsion systems in the maritime sector, and the optimization of tools for measuring maritime pollution (water, air, and noise pollution) from ships.

© Energy Observer Productions - Francine Kreiss



TO RAISE AWARENESS AND PASS on our experience and know-how in the field of hydrogen and sustainable energy

Hydrogen is one of the key elements of the energy transition. It plays a fundamental role in decarbonization, particularly through industrial and mobile applications.

This environmental priority is also an economic one. It is at the heart of the industrial renaissance and an important issue in terms of sovereignty.

The Energy Observer Foundation aims to contribute to the development of the hydrogen society, to remove the obstacles that slow down its growth, and to guide young people towards the future jobs that it proposes.

DIFFUSE, PROMOTE the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, raise awareness, and contribute to changing behaviors.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals, adopted in September 2015 by the UN as part of the 2030 Agenda, are fundamental. They provide a quantified course, a common language, a universal agenda. As part of the diplomatic mission entrusted to Victorien Erussard, Energy Observer Foundation spreads the message of the need to act on all aspects of the ecological transition, hoping to inspire as many people as possible.

The ambition is also to feed the reflection in France and internationally on these 17 SDGs, whose interconnected economic, social, and environmental issues are no longer in question. Too few French people are aware of these 17 SDGs, even if awareness-raising is growing. In this context, it is essential to continue the awareness-raising actions carried out since the beginning of the Odyssey (through the Solutions platform, exhibitions, educational tools, etc.).

© Energy Observer Productions - Amélie Conty





© Energy Observer Productions - Antoine Drancey

7 - A brand new immersive and digital exhibition



© Thibault Voisin

Throughout the Odyssey, an itinerant exhibition is deployed during all the main stopovers to welcome the public free of charge and provide them with a unique experience. Through an interactive and educational exhibition, as well as projections, it is a real window on the world of today and tomorrow. It is a place of meetings, exchanges and discoveries on the theme of the energy and ecological transition and has welcomed nearly 300,000 visitors over the last 3 years.

For its 2021 tour, the village has been given a new look. Now equipped with containers, thanks to our partner CMA CGM, and its two geodesic domes, the exhibition will unveil to visitors a brand new route and a new immersive and digital experience.

The visitors' journey is now punctuated by various themes, such as the project's missions, the on-board technologies, the key stopovers, our role as ambassador, as well as the practical applications, which can be developed both at sea and on land. One of the containers is also intended to be historical by combining the histories of energy transition, ecological awareness and awareness of self, together with that of the Energy Observer laboratory in partnership with Ademe.

The objective of this timeline is clear: to show that the development of renewable energies, green hydrogen and the intelligent energy mix is an answer to climate emergency.

8 - An international multi-partner project

In light of the urgent struggle to combat climate change, it is essential to rethink our model of society: to push the envelope in terms of inter-sectorial cooperation, switch the traditional models of competitiveness, halt the quest for unlimited growth in a world with limited resources...

To take up these challenges, many companies are searching for new models for working together. Energy Observer intends to become a catalyst to enable these committed protagonists to realise their projects and really step things up a gear in terms of ecological transition. In total, there are already 60 companies and institutions from the public and private sector, who are responsible for making this expedition possible.

This adventure exists thanks to the financial, technological and human commitment of a solid cluster of partners, the key ones being: Accor and AccorInvest, Thélem assurances, Delanchy Group and Engie. Official partners and sponsors like Toyota and CCR, Strategic partner such as CMA CGM, as well as several official supporters like Air Liquide, Petit Forestier, the BenTouch Group, Lamotte, Chereau and the Crédit Maritime Grand Ouest, are all making a specific contribution and often become a key player in the programme.



→ Project instigator



© Energy Observer Productions - Francine Kreiss

Victorien Erussard
Chairman, founder and captain

As a versatile officer in the merchant navy, he has been sailing on several vessels as far as Antarctica. However, this professional sailor has also graced a series of race podiums over the past 10 years, from the Route du Rhum, to the Transat Jacques Vabre to the Quebec-St Malo. During one of these transatlantic passages, a broken diesel generator in the middle of the Atlantic made it impossible for him to helm his machine albeit surrounded by solar, wind power and hydropower and Victorien realized that the finest victories are those that have some meaning. At that point, he decided to invest his time in the race for smart energy rather than the race for trophies.

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