



Communiqué - Energy Observer will be present at the Dubai World Expo during the France Pavilion's Oceans Thematic Fortnight

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The France Pavilion at the Dubai World Expo is delighted to host Energy Observer during the thematic fortnight dedicated to Oceans. Energy Observer, the first French ambassador for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, explores practical solutions and develops technology to accelerate the ecological transition. It is fully in line with the challenges of building tomorrow's world, which the Pavilion will highlight.



Pavillon France / Cofrex

The Dubai World Expo will be the premiere global gathering of 2021. Expo 2020 Dubai is the first world expo to be held in the MEASA (Middle East, Africa and South Asia), and is centred around the theme of "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future". Expo 2020 Dubai, which will be held from 1st October 2021 to 31st March 2022, brings together over 200 diverse participants — countries, organisations, companies, and academic establishments — and is expected to receive some 25 million visitors.

Today, the ambitions of these expos have moved towards international cooperation and the search for solutions to the challenges humanity faces. Over six months, every country in the world will come together in order to discuss, propose and implement practical solutions for the benefit of all humankind. In light of the ongoing health crisis this theme is no longer a symbolic proposal, but rather an urgent and critical need.

The France Pavilion's commitment to Ocean conservation

In Dubai, France is setting out to position itself as an international driving force for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the UN, and for rebuilding the post-health crisis world.

As such, the Pavilion will shine a spotlight on initiatives and innovations with the power to address the challenges of economic, social, ecological and cultural transformation in our society. From 18th to 31st March 2022, the France Pavilion will dedicate its event programming to Oceans, and how to discover, preserve and exploit the oceans for sustainable development.

"Oceans are a vital resource and therefore their conservation is crucial. France's action in terms of ocean protection includes the fight against pollution from land-based and maritime sources and underwater noise, as well as banning single-use plastic bags.

Energy Observer explores and develops solutions to meet those objectives with its zero emission, zero fine particle and zero noise vessel. I am therefore delighted to rely on this team to promote our French vision at the France Pavilion at the Dubai World Expo!"

Erik Linquier, Commissioner General for France at Expo 2020 Dubai, and CEO of COFREX



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Energy Observer is invited by the France Pavilion

Developed from a legendary multiple award-winning catamaran, Energy Observer is a veritable laboratory for the ecological transition, designed to push the limits of zero-emission technologies. Hydrogen, solar, wind, and water power, all solutions are experimented with, tested and optimised with a view to making clean energy a practical reality that is accessible to all.

The Energy Observer project, which began its Odyssey around the world in 2017, has visited 28 countries and made 63 stopovers, and will be present at the France Pavilion for several reasons.

- As the first French ambassador for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, it carries France's message on the need to preserve the planet and its ecosystems everywhere in the world. It will highlight the local initiatives and sustainable solutions developed by women and men around the world through audiovisual content that will illustrate the 2030 agenda in a concrete way.
- Documentary films will also be shown in the Agora and on screens in front of the France Pavilion to provide a wide audience with an inspiring experience on the great environmental issues of our time.
- Energy Observer will also present a photographic and educational exhibition on its missions and its involvement in ocean conservation by means of its zero emission and zero noise systems and as a partner of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.
- Victorien Erussard, Founder and Captain, will have an opportunity to speak about those new sustainable energy solutions, based on a renewable energy mix and decarbonised hydrogen, while Katia Nicolet, Doctor in Marine Biology and Expedition Leader, will detail the consequences of indirect atmospheric and noise pollution thanks to the scientific stations onboard the catamaran.

"Participating in this Oceans fortnight with the France Pavilion could not be more meaningful for Energy Observer. Showcasing renewable energies and green hydrogen, we work every day to promote clean and silent maritime solutions. As the first French ambassador for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, our actions could not be more aligned with the objectives of the World Expo and its aim to propose practical solutions for the benefit of all humankind."

Victorien Erussard, Founder and Captain of Energy Observer



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About COFREX

Founded in January 2018, COFREX (French Exhibition Company) is a publicly owned simplified joint-stock company. Its creation was a turning point for French involvement at international events for the general public, as it was the first time that an expert body had been put together in this area. Its aim is to prepare, organise and oversee France's participation in universal and international Exhibitions. COFREX's creation is part of a sustainable, long-term project to use the experience of previous Expos in order to perfectly and cost-effectively organise France's involvement at World Expos and other international exhibitions. Its role falls under the rationale of partnership between public and private operators working to boost France's image and international appeal. For more information: www.cofrex.fr

About Energy Observer

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 saving the planet, he assembled a complementary team of sailors, scientists, engineers and reporters in order 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 ship was launched for the first time. Developed from a legendary catamaran, Energy Observer is a laboratory for the ecological transition, designed to push the limits of zero emission technologies. Hydrogen, solar, wind, and water power, all solutions are experimented with, tested and optimised with a view to making clean energy a practical reality that is accessible to all. Criss-crossing the oceans to meet those 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 these different forms of energy.

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

For more information: www.francedubai2020.com & www.energy-observer.org

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