

WORKSHOP ON OCEAN PRESERVATION IN BERMUDA

A focus on marine debris and existing solutions

Race for Water Odyssey 2017-2021 Bermuda 1st main stopover

30th of June. 2017

Race for Water Ambassador Vessel at Caroline Bay Marina

Bermuda



After a first stopover in Bermuda during the Race for Water Odyssey in 2015, Race for Water comes again to continue its commitment operating this time with her new ambassador vessel (formerly Planet Solar) using the ocean, the sun and the wind as it sole sources of energy. This unique vessel supports a 5-year expedition around the world, Race for Water Odyssey 2017-2021 dedicated to ocean preservation and energy transition through science and social actions.

In 2015, the first Race for Water Odyssey was a unique environmental expedition on board a racing trimaran boat MOD70 to race against on the plastic pollution issue. It allowed the Race for Water team to collect necessary scientific and sociological data required for a thorough understanding of the impact of plastic pollution within and beyond the 5 oceanic gyres.

Building on the dramatic ocean plastic pollution assessment of this first expedition, Race for Water launched a second expedition aiming to act again for the ocean with 3 main goals:

- Conduct scientific studies supporting the preservation of our oceans
- Act, raise awareness and promote new solutions to fight plastic pollution in the oceans
- Promote "Clean-Tech" innovations

A workshop to focus on ocean preservation

The main objective of this meeting is to gather scientists and NGOs to learn from each other's experiences and to share the actions and efforts that are taken for ocean preservation, as well as finding the best collaborative way to tackle the world-wide plastic pollution issue.

"No problem is too hopeless if we are together".

This workshop would be also the opportunity to share the results obtained during the first Odyssey in 2015 and to learn more on the EPHEMARE project thanks to scientists that will be on board the Race for Water platform to conduct their micro plastics analyses around Bermuda.

PROGRAM

Access on board: 8.45 am

Introduction: 9.00 am - 9.10 am

Race for Water Foundation welcoming on board (5 min)

Pascal Morizot, boat captain of the Race for Water's ambassador vessel

Bermuda Marine Debris Taskforce introduction (5 min)

Anne Hyde, Executive Director at Keep Bermuda Beautiful and current chair of Bermuda Marine Debris Taskforce (BMDT)

Press conference on first Race for Water Odyssey results and the two JPI Oceans projects: 09.10 am - 9.30 am

First Race for Water Odyssey results (13 min)

Martin Gaveriaux, engineer representative of the Race for Water Foundation

During the first Race for Water Odyssey in 2015, our scientific team collected and analysed marine debris and took micro-plastics samples on different shorelines around the world to process the following analyses in collaboration with three main laboratories:

- the Central Environmental Laboratory (GR-CEL) of EPFL in Lausanne Switzerland with the study of the typology, quality and concentration of the micro-plastics collected.
- the HEIA Laboratory in Fribourg Switzerland
 with the analyses of micro-pollutants absorbed by the micro-plastics collected.
- UMR CNRS 5805 EPOC of Bordeaux University France with the investigation of the eco-toxicological effects of micro-plastics on fish cells and embryos.

Here we will present results we wrote with the GR-CEL EPFL in a public report, and more in detail what we found in Bermuda. The other analyses performed on this micro-plastic samples like the chemical and eco-toxicological analyses demonstrate interesting results and scientific publications should be submitted before the end of this summer.

As a reminder, Bermuda was the second stopover of the first expedition in April 2015, where debris were identified and quantified and micro-plastics collected in 3 Bermudian beaches (Well Bay, Grape Bay, Somerset Long Bay).

Short presentation of the Race for Water scientific platform (2 min)

Pascal Morizot, boat captain of the Race for Water's ambassador vessel

Two JPI Oceans projects: Ephemare and Weather-Mic project on board the Race for Water platform to analyse micro-plastics impact on the marine environment. A focus on the EPHEMARE project taking samples around Bermuda (5 min)

Camilla C. Carteny (Ephemare team, University of Antwerp)

During 2017, the Race for Water scientific platform will welcome on board different scientists of WEATHER-MIC and EPHEMARE, two JPI Oceans projects to carry out a part of their studies around micro-plastics impact on the marine environment.

The WEATHER-MIC research project is investigating the processes controlling the fate and distribution of micro-plastics and their leachates in the marine environment. The EPHEMARE research project aims to investigate the uptake, tissue distribution and final fate of micro-plastics in organisms' representative of pelagic and benthic ecosystem.

Coffee break (30 min): 9.30 am - 10.00 am

Round table with Bermuda Marine Debris Taskforce's members: 10.00 am – 11.30 am Anne Hyde (co-moderator)

Short presentation summarizing the goals / projects / actions of each organization concerning marine debris issue in Bermuda (each member has 5 min to present their organization/institute, etc.)

EPHEMARE project – analysis at University of Antwerp (5 min) Camilla C. Carteny, University of Antwerp, Belgium

EPHEMARE project – analysis at University of Vigo (5 min) Raimundo Blanco, Uniiversity of Vigo, Spain

EPHEMARE project – analysis at University of Bordeaux (5 min) Christelle Clerandeau, University of Bordeaux, France

Some scientific results of the Bermuda Marine Debris Taskforce research (5 min)

Robbie Smith, Curator for Natural History Museum at the Bermuda Aquarium, Museum & Zoo and chief scientist for the Bermuda Marine Debris Taskforce

Project on microplastics in Bermuda beach sediments (5 min)

Shane Antonition, Bermudian undergraduate at University of Plymouth

Open discussion on marine debris and solutions (30 min)

Specific action plan(s)

Find the best way to keep exchanging the information, including getting and sharing data Exchange and learn efforts on education and messaging on the issue

Conclusion / Possible collaborations and next steps: 11.30 am – 11.40 am Anne Hyde (co-moderator)

End of the workshop: 11:45 am

For more information on this workshop, do not hesitate to contact: Kim van Arkel, Scientific Advisor at Race for Water, kim.vanarkel@raceforwater.org







Location of the workshop

On board the Race for Water vessel



docked at
Caroline Bay Marina
8 Caroline Bay Road, Sandys SB 02
Bermuda



Please note that there is no parking close to the boat as Carolyn Bay Marina is in working progress. Thanks for your comprehension.