

Atlantic Stories

The SeaCleaners

France







Overview

In 2017, the SeaCleaners association launched the MANTA project, aimed at **reducing ocean plastic waste**. Macro plastic waste will be collected by the Manta vessel, the first seagoing vessel capable of collecting and

processing large quantities of macro plastic waste on an ongoing basis. The vessel design will incorporate innovative technologies in renewable energy production, allowing it to reduce its carbon footprint and maximise its energy-efficiency.

The Manta will include an **innovative hybrid propulsion system**, which will provide it with the required mobility to rapidly access zones with high concentration of floating plastic waste before it breaks down, sinks or scatters. The electrical power will be generated by the on-board renewable energy equipment, such as **wind generators**, **solar panels**, **automated riggings**, and a waste-to-energy production unit.

The vessel will be equipped with an on-board factory for collecting, storing and converting plastic waste into energy. An innovative and efficient waste collection system will provide the ability to quickly bring waste on-board to the manual sorting unit, where operators will be able to separate potentially toxic and dangerous waste from plastic and organic waste. A waste-to-energy unit will be installed on board to convert collected, dried and homogenised non-recyclable waste into gas and oils, and then into electricity. An on-board scientific team will be able to geo-locate, quantify and qualify collected waste, and submit the results to the international scientific community in Open Data.

Results

The project is planned to run throughout 2019-2023, and is expected to contribute to biodiversity protection, education and awareness raising, as well as stimulation of the circular economy.

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