PRESS KIT

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QAIR AND ENERGY OBSERVER

A journey toward a sustainable and autonomous energy future

Qair

Energy Observer

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EDITORIAL

Trailblazing the future of sustainable energy

Louis Blanchard

President of Qair

"We are very proud to be associated with the extraordinary journey of Energy Observer. Guided by the vision of Victorien Erussard and his remarkable team, this pioneering vessel has undertaken the ambitious challenge of proving the potential of renewable energies in action, offering the world a tangible glimpse of a sustainable future powered by clean energy.

We are deeply grateful to play a part in supporting this groundbreaking mission and witnessing the profound impact of their bold leadership.

Thanks to Energy Observer, we have the unique opportunity to collaborate on vibrant events across the globe amplifying the vessel's message and inspiring communities far and wide. Whether at local stopovers or on the global stage during events like the Paris Olympic Games, Energy Observer has become a powerful emblem of innovation, resilience, and optimism for the future of energy.

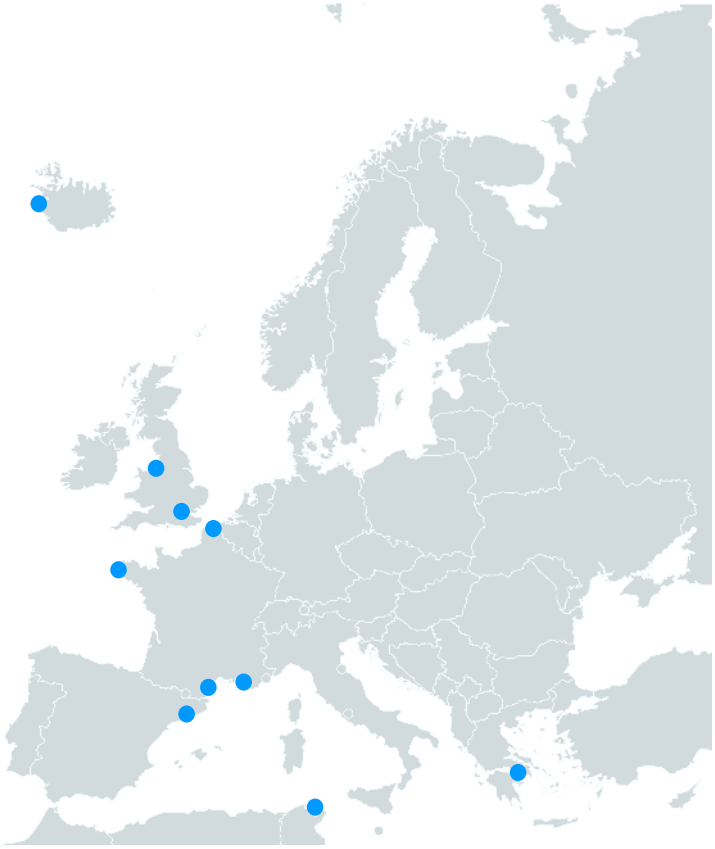
The values that drive Energy Observer—entrepreneurship, innovation, and an unwavering commitment to advancing the energy transition—are ones that resonate deeply with us at Qair. This collaboration is more than a partnership; it is a shared human adventure, fostering a sense of camaraderie as our teams keep connecting and collaborating across the world, strengthening our mutual vision of a more sustainable future."

OVERVIEW

Launched in 2017, Energy Observer was the first vessel in the world to feature a complete hydrogen system combined with renewable energies and wind-assisted propulsion, demonstrating **the viability of a 100% renewable energy mix under real-life conditions**.

The collaboration between Qair and Energy Observer was a natural fit, grounded in a mutual dedication to promoting renewable energy solutions on a global scale. By acting as a live laboratory, testing technologies that Qair is deploying on a larger scale, this collaboration directly supports the partners' mutual vision of **delivering clean energy solutions and shaping a sustainable future**.

In 2025, Qair renewed its partnership with Energy Observer for three more years. This new phase marks the launch of Energy Observer's new 2025–2033 expedition: *A journey to carbon neutrality*. For the first mission (2025–2026) on carbon capture, Energy Observer has crossed the Mediterranean and is continuing on to Northern Europe to analyse both natural, ecosystem-based solutions and industrial technologies for carbon capture, storage and utilisation. Along the way, **Qair is hosting local events in the countries where the Group operates** to raise awareness, share insights, and highlight real progress in the energy transition.



Energy Observer x Qair 2025 – 2026 stopovers

ABOUT QAIR

Qair is a **European independent renewable energy company** engaged across the entire value chain of solar, onshore and offshore wind, hydroelectric, tidal energy, battery storage and green hydrogen production assets.

From its origins as an Independent Power Producer, Qair today develops innovative projects and positions itself as a pioneer in sectors such as floating wind power with 30 MW pilot farm Eolmed, tidal power with FloWatt and renewable hydrogen with Hyd'Occ. With a comprehensive global and local perspective, **Qair's mission is to deliver robust and sustainable solutions tailored to each region** and continue innovating to make **competitive renewable energy readily available across Europe.**

Learn more on our website Follow our news @Qair Group

ABOUT ENERGY OBSERVER

Energy Observer is first and foremost a name engraved on the hull of a pioneering vessel, both a floating laboratory and an energy manifesto. Launched in 2017, this experimental catamaran was **the first in the world to embark a complete hydrogen energy chain, combined with renewable energies and wind-assisted propulsion**, demonstrating the viability of sustainable solutions in demanding maritime environments.

But Energy Observer is also a much broader initiative, at the crossroads of scientific exploration, technological innovation, and environmental awareness. Today, it brings together engineers, sailors, journalists, experts, and artists around a shared objective: **to experiment with cutting-edge technologies to reduce emissions from maritime transport, to decode and explain global energy challenges, and to engage and inspire the public on the path toward carbon neutrality.**

Learn more on EO's website Follow EO's news @Energy Observer

ENERGY OBSERVER'S ODYSSEY: A LOOK BACK AT A FIRST THREE-YEAR PARTNERSHIP WITH QAIR

Over the course of our first partnership with Energy Observer (2022-2024), Qair actively participated in numerous key events during the vessel's global journey, enhancing its mission to raise awareness and inspire action for energy transition.

Signature in Seychelles

One of the standout moments in this collaboration came in April 2023, when **Qair signed with the Seychelles' public utility the first-ever Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) in the history of the country.** The agreement, finalised aboard Energy Observer, marked a significant step in supporting the island nation's energy transition.

Stopover in Fortaleza, Brazil

In November 2023, Qair hosted a landmark stopover in Fortaleza, Brazil which was marked by **the introduction of the GEH2® hydrogen generator in Brazil** - EODev's French-made solution - commercially used for the first time in the country to power Qair's exhibition dome. This paved the way to major events across the region to be powered by a clean and renewable energy source.

[1] EODev is an industrial spin-off of Energy Observer which develops hydrogen-powered generators and battery systems

2024 Paris Olympic and Paralympic Games

After escorting the boat back to her homeport in Saint-Malo in June 2024 to celebrate the successful completion of her round-the-world Odyssey, **Qair was very honored to be with Energy Observer's crew on their arrival in Paris for the 2024 Olympic Games.**

© Energy Observer Productions – Marco Strullu

Energy Observer's final stop in Paris provided a fitting stage for Qair to host its shareholders, backers, and partners at the Energy Observer Village, and celebrate its latest achievements.

Following the **signing of a partnership agreement with Montenegro's public utility, Elektroprivede Crne Gore AD Nikšić (EPCG),** aimed at advancing renewable energy projects in the region, Qair welcomed an EPCG delegation on board Energy Observer.

Additionally, Qair celebrated the **signing of a renewable PPA with Carrefour in Italy** by inviting the retailer's representatives to visit the vessel.

QAIR IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: SHOWCASING REGIONAL ENERGY AMBITIONS WITH ENERGY OBSERVER

Athens 2025

In September 2025, **Qair had the honor of welcoming Energy Observer to Greece** at Astir Marina. The event, co-organised with Natixis Corporate & Investment Banking and supported by CCI France Grèce and Astir Marina, marked the **first milestone in Qair's renewed three-year partnership with Energy Observer.**

Together with our local team, we welcomed distinguished guests including Mrs. Laurence AUER, French Ambassador to Greece; Mr. Stefanos Gkikas, Deputy Minister of Maritime Affairs & Insular Policy; Mr. Dimitris Kollias, Advisor to the Deputy Minister of Environment and Energy; and Mr. George Prokopiou, owner of Astir Marina.

© Kostas Mpekas Photography

More than a symbolic stopover, the Astir Marina event was a key moment for Qair to present its projects in Greece and to address the current energy challenges with local authorities.

Since 2021, Qair has been deeply engaged in the Greek market with a local office and a fast-growing pipeline of solar and storage projects.

Among them:

- **A 250 MW solar plant** — one of the largest PV projects in the country — already recognised by the Greek Parliament as a strategic investment but still awaiting grid connection for two years.

- **A 130 MW PV installation combined with a 100 MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)**, designed to enhance grid stability.
- **A 50 MW / 100 MWh storage facility**, directly targeting local congestion.

These projects, like many others, face the bottleneck of a heavily saturated transmission network managed by the Greek Transmission System Operator, IPTO. With over 50% of Greece's energy mix still reliant on gas, fossil fuels continue to dominate, leaving renewable energy sources underutilized. For Qair, the solution lies in **coupling renewable generation with storage systems to ease congestion, reduce curtailments, and secure a more resilient grid**, allowing renewable projects to contribute fully to Greece's decarbonization targets.

Tunis 2025

In Tunisia, Energy Observer investigated the phenomenon of 'blue carbon', which refers to the carbon dioxide absorbed by coastal and marine ecosystems, in this case, Posidonia seagrass beds. Their conservation is a key issue for the region's climate resilience and directly addresses Tunisia's priorities in the fight against climate change. This study echoes Qair's own approach to combine the energy transition with ecosystem conservation in the development of its projects.

Energy Observer's stopover also gave Qair the opportunity to engage with the Tunisian authorities and present the progress of its projects in the country.

Feriana PV Park © Qair

In Tunisia, Qair already operates **two photovoltaic plants (20 MWp)** and is developing over **900 MWp of solar and wind projects**, including the Gafsa and El Khobna PV parks. These infrastructures directly contribute to the country's ambition to generate 35% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030.

Energy Observer's stopover in Tunis marks a symbolic milestone in the country's energy and ecological transition. By joining forces, Qair, the Tunisian authorities and local stakeholders are demonstrating that it is possible to **reconcile technological innovation, ecosystem conservation and economic development**.

ENERGY OBSERVER ACROSS EUROPE: MAPPING QAIR'S FLOATING WIND SCALE-UP

The stopover of Energy Observer in Port-La Nouvelle in December 2025 coincided with a key development for Qair: **the installation of its 30 MW Eolmed pilot project's floating wind turbines 18 km off the coast.**

Eolmed floating offshore wind farm © Qair

As the three wind turbines have now reached their final location, the insights gained from **Eolmed** are already shaping Qair's broader offshore wind strategy across Europe, where the company is advancing **over 8 GW of floating wind projects**.

To celebrate this progress, Qair provided the Energy Observer crew with an Eolmed flag, which was hoisted aboard the vessel.

This flag will travel with Energy Observer to every port where Qair is developing offshore wind initiatives—from Iberian Peninsula to the UK—serving as a symbol of **Qair's pioneering role in floating wind technology** and its commitment to expanding renewable energy across European coasts.

© Qair

Qair's leadership in floating wind was also showcased as **Energy Observer, sailing from Port-La Nouvelle to the UK, stopped in Brest, France.** The visit of our partner vessel— a unique demonstration project for carbon-free shipping—provided an opportunity to highlight Eolmed and Qair's other flagship offshore projects:

- **Ayre,** a 1 GW floating wind project located east of Orkney, Scotland. Part of the UK's first wave of commercial-scale floating offshore wind projects, Ayre reinforces Qair's role in advancing this transformative technology.
- **Eolbleu**, a consortium formed with Plenitude, focuses on developing commercial-scale offshore wind farms as part of France's AO10 tender.

These projects illustrate Qair's end-to-end expertise, from pilot initiatives to large-scale commercial developments, and its commitment to **advancing floating wind energy in France and beyond**.

FROM HYD'OCC TO KATANES: THE FIRST RENEWABLE HYDROGEN MOLECULE SETS SAIL WITH ENERGY OBSERVER

Hyd'Occ, France's largest renewable hydrogen production facility, has successfully produced its first hydrogen molecule, confirming the operational readiness of its industrial installations and electrolysis equipment. This achievement marks a decisive step before the site's commercial commissioning and the gradual ramp-up to full production capacity. The first phase of the Hyd'Occ production unit, with a capacity of 20 MW and an annual output of 2,700 tons of renewable hydrogen, is scheduled to enter service in 2026, while a second phase will increase capacity to 40 MW, with an annual production of 5,400 tonnes of renewable hydrogen.

To mark the occasion, **Qair symbolically presented Energy Observer's crew with the first hydrogen molecule produced at Hyd'Occ**. The gesture highlights the convergence of innovation, real-world testing, and industrial-scale deployment. With Hyd'Occ's renewable hydrogen primarily targeting maritime and mobility applications, this moment also underscores the shared vision of advancing zero-emission transport through clean energy solutions.

The handover of this first molecule takes on special significance as **Energy Observer prepares to sail to Iceland—home to Qair's Katanes project, an 840 MW e-fuel facility in Grundartangi**. At full capacity, Katanes will produce up to 120,000 tons of renewable hydrogen or 700,000 tons of renewable ammonia annually, leveraging Iceland's abundant wind, geothermal, and hydropower resources. This symbolic journey of the first molecule from Hyd'Occ to Katanes embodies Qair's commitment to bridging innovative pilot projects with large-scale, sustainable energy infrastructure, accelerating the global transition to renewable hydrogen.

ABOUT HYD'OCC

Hyd'Occ is **France's largest renewable hydrogen production unit** and is operated by Qair in Port-La Nouvelle. This initiative is part of a comprehensive ecosystem that includes dedicated refuelling stations in Narbonne and Béziers.

Hyd'Occ is a winner of the French call for projects "Corridor H2", a Europe-wide initiative that aims to develop a series of hydrogen production and distribution capacities for mobility from the Iberian Peninsula to Northern Europe, coupled with the deployment of numerous heavy vehicles using hydrogen. This initiative is led by the Occitanie Region and backed by the European Investment Bank, and the European Commission.

HydOcc

A project led by

Financed by

OUR LATEST PRESS RELEASES

December 2025

Qair showcases innovative energy solutions as Energy Observer docks in Port-La Nouvelle

23 October 2025

Qair Accelerates Pan-African Energy Transition, Establishing Itself as a Renewables Key Player in Africa

17 September 2025

Qair in Greece: showcasing regional energy ambitions with Energy Observer

6 June 2025

Qair and Energy Observer continue their journey to scale up the vision of a clean, autonomous energy future

18 October 2024

Final Chapter of Energy Observer's Odyssey: a look back at a three-year partnership with Qair

16 November 2023

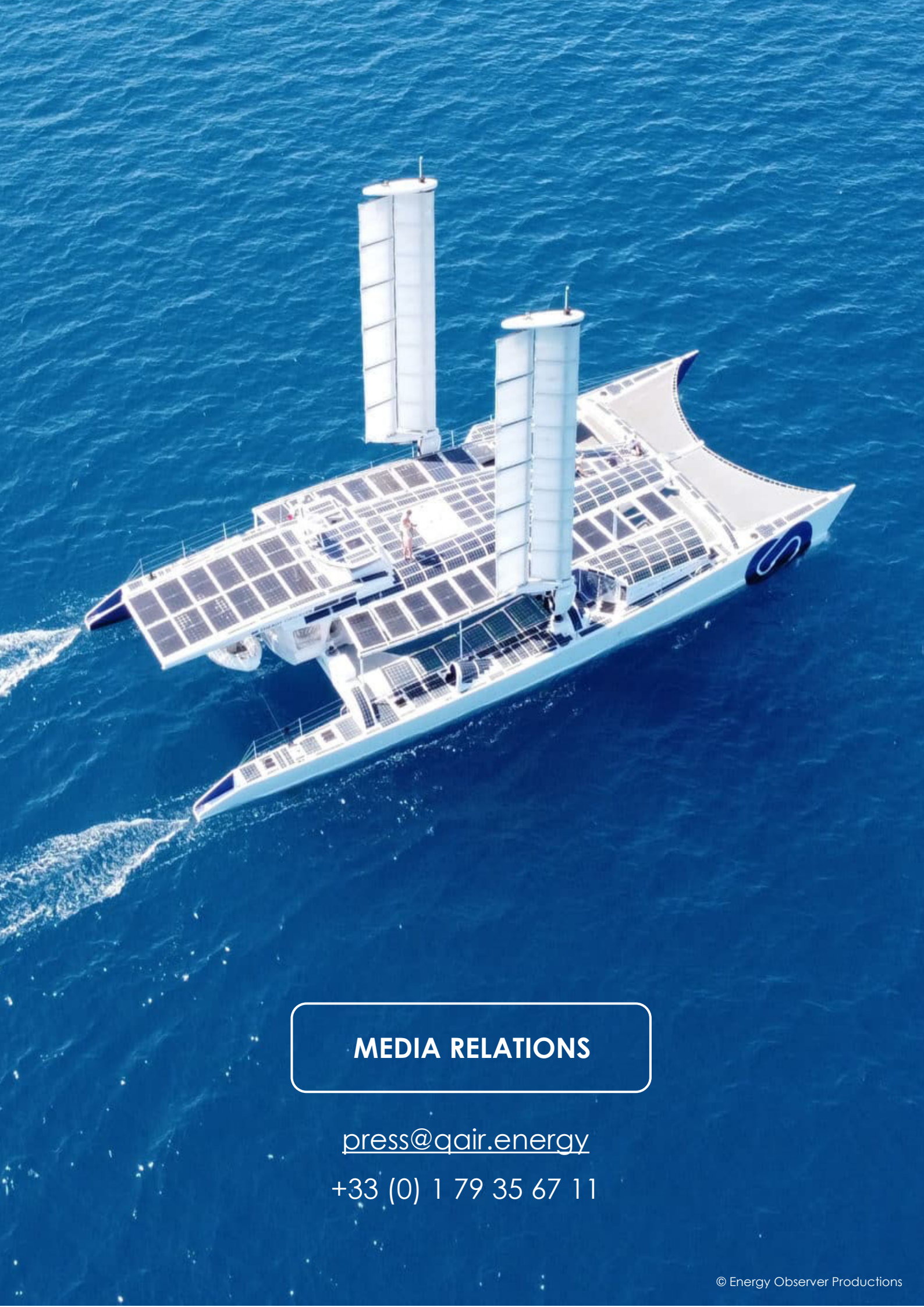
Qair welcomes Energy Observer in Fortaleza, Brazil, for the 83rd stopover of her Odyssey

4 April 2023

Indian Ocean: Qair signs first Seychellois floating solar Power Purchase Agreement onboard renewable energy and hydrogen powered vessel Energy Observer

4 February 2022

Qair becomes Official Partner of the Energy Observer Odyssey



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