



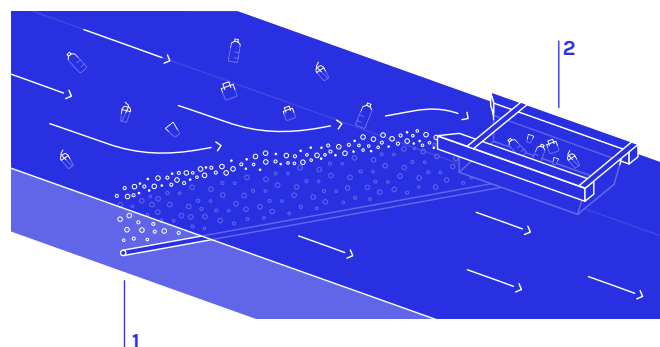
# THE GREAT BUBBLE BARRIER®

A smart solution to plastic pollution

Every year, more than 8 million tons of plastic pollution ends up in our oceans of which 60-80% originates from rivers. Plastic does not biodegrade and causes great harm to the environment. Marine life gets entangled in plastics, vessels get damaged and microplastics form a health hazard for the smallest to the largest organisms. The Great Bubble Barrier has developed a technology which can intercept plastic pollution in rivers before it reaches the ocean: the Bubble Barrier, a bubble curtain with a catchment system.

## THE TECHNOLOGY

The bubble curtain<sup>1</sup> is created by pumping air through a perforated tube on the bottom of the waterway. This bubble curtain creates an upward current which directs the plastics to the surface. By placing the bubble curtain diagonally in the river, we make use of the natural flow of the river. This way, the plastic waste will be directed to the side and into our catchment system<sup>2</sup> at the riverbank, where it will be retained and removed from the water. The Bubble Barrier is a unique sustainable system which:



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Allows fish to pass.



Does not hinder ship traffic



Covers the entire width and depth of the waterway

## OUR MISSION

The Great Bubble Barrier catches plastic in rivers, monitors the catch and raises awareness about plastic pollution. We are offering a solution that reduces the amount of plastics that end up in our oceans. Our goal is to clean the local waterways in your city or region and to protect the global ecosystem from plastic pollution. We aim to achieve this through four main pillars:

- Catching plastic pollution in waterways with our Bubble Barriers.
- Monitoring the amount of plastic in the waterways to help develop new policies.
- Connecting the Bubble Barrier to a circular economy with local partners.
- Increasing awareness among the public to prevent aquatic pollution.



## PROJECTS & RESULTS

The Great Bubble Barrier was founded in early 2017. The first proof of concept was conducted in Berlin with a Bubble Barrier of a length of 10 meters. The Bubble Barrier was then extensively tested in the water laboratory of Deltares. During our first pilot in November 2017, a 180 meters long Bubble Barrier in the river IJssel showed that the Bubble Barrier was capable of catching 86% of the test material. After this successful pilot, The Great Bubble Barrier joined a research project to assess the impact of the Bubble Barrier on microplastics with a size of 0.02 to 0.5 mm in Wervershoof. The first long-term Bubble Barrier in the world was placed in November 2019 in Amsterdam.

## CLIENTS



## REACH & AWARENESS

The Great Bubble Barrier has appeared in several (inter)national media and has been highlighted as an innovative product, among others, by The Guardian, National Geographic, Forbes, World Economic Forum, Associated Press, El País, TV France, Tagesschau, Xinhua, RTL, NOS and De Volkskrant. Media attention helps The Great Bubble Barrier and their partners to increase their reach and awareness on plastic pollution.

## MORE INFORMATION

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