



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 curtain¹ 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 system² at the riverbank, where it will be retained and removed from the water. The Bubble Barrier is a unique sustainable system which:



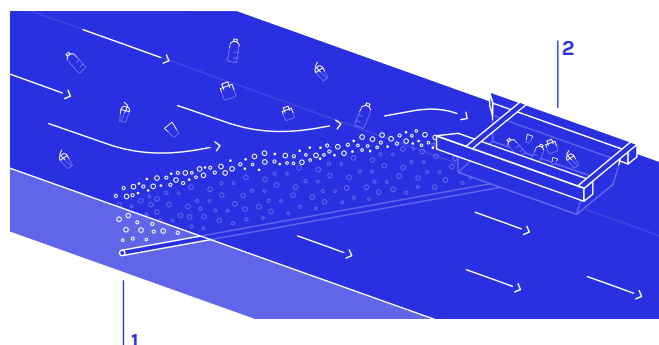
Allows fish to pass



Does not hinder ship traffic



Covers the entire width and depth of the waterway



[MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE BUBBLE BARRIER >>](#)

OUR MISSION

The mission of The Great Bubble Barrier is to stop plastic pollution in rivers and canals before it reaches our oceans. We clean the local waterways in your city or region to protect the global ecosystem from plastic pollution. We aim to achieve this through four main pillars:

- We use our Bubble Barriers to remove plastic from waterways.
- We ensure sustainable processing of the catch with our project partners.
- We monitor the amount of plastic in waterways to support development of policy and additional measures.
- We raise awareness about plastic 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 with 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. The first long-term Bubble Barrier in the world was placed in November 2019 in Amsterdam. In 2022 three new long-term Bubble Barriers will be implemented, one of which is part of an EU Consortium.

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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