
STICHTING THE OCEAN CLEANUP POLICY PLAN

(IN DUTCH BELEIDSPPLAN)



THE OCEAN[®]
CLEANUP



THE OCEAN CLEANUP'S **MISSION** IS TO DEVELOP AND SCALE TECHNOLOGIES TO RID THE OCEANS OF PLASTIC

OBJECTIVES

The by-laws (in Dutch: statuten) of Stichting The Ocean Cleanup specify the following objectives:

- a. to develop and apply technologies (directly as well as indirectly) to remove – on a large scale – plastic pollution from the oceans;
- b. to develop and apply technologies (directly as well as indirectly) to remove plastic pollution from waste streams to prevent it from reaching the oceans;
- c. to increase social awareness of plastic pollution in the marine environment and other acts which in the broadest sense relate or may be conducive to the aforementioned objectives.

WHY DO THE OCEANS NEED TO BE CLEANED?

Marine plastic debris has been reported to have an impact on over 900 marine wildlife species[1]. The Ocean Cleanup has found that the Great Pacific Garbage Patch (GPGP), the largest of the five plastic accumulation zones ('gyres') in the world's oceans, has roughly 180 times more plastic than biomass at its surface[2].

The Ocean Cleanup estimates the mass of the plastic in the GPGP to be approximately 100,000 tons, which is 4-16 times more than previous calculations[3]. The plastics were also found to harbor a plethora of potentially invasive coastal species[4] and to have pollutants at levels that may be high enough to harm organisms ingesting them. Once plastic and associated pollutants enter the marine food web, there is a possibility that they will contaminate the human food chain as well. Additionally, yearly economic costs due to marine plastic are estimated to be between 6-19 billion US dollars[5].

Even if every country stops all sources of plastic from entering the ocean, plastic pollution in the five gyres would

continue to persist. Over time, plastic in the gyres fragments into small, dangerous microplastics, only exacerbating the problem. Although the mass of plastic in the gyres is relatively low (several hundred thousand tons) compared to the global annual plastic emissions into the ocean (millions of tons) [6], its longevity may significantly impact ocean ecosystems [7].

As there is no particular State or entity responsible for the plastic pollution in the oceans, there is a lack of proper environmental stewardship when it comes to cleaning up plastic pollution in the oceans and the problem has long been seen as 'impossible' to solve. The Ocean Cleanup strives to change this status quo.



ACTIVITIES OF THE FOUNDATION

The Ocean Cleanup focuses on four core activities: 1) leading research efforts on the plastic pollution problem; 2) clean-up of existing, or ‘legacy’, plastic in the oceans; 3) intercepting the inflow of new plastic in the oceans from rivers; and 4) valorizing the ocean plastic catch.

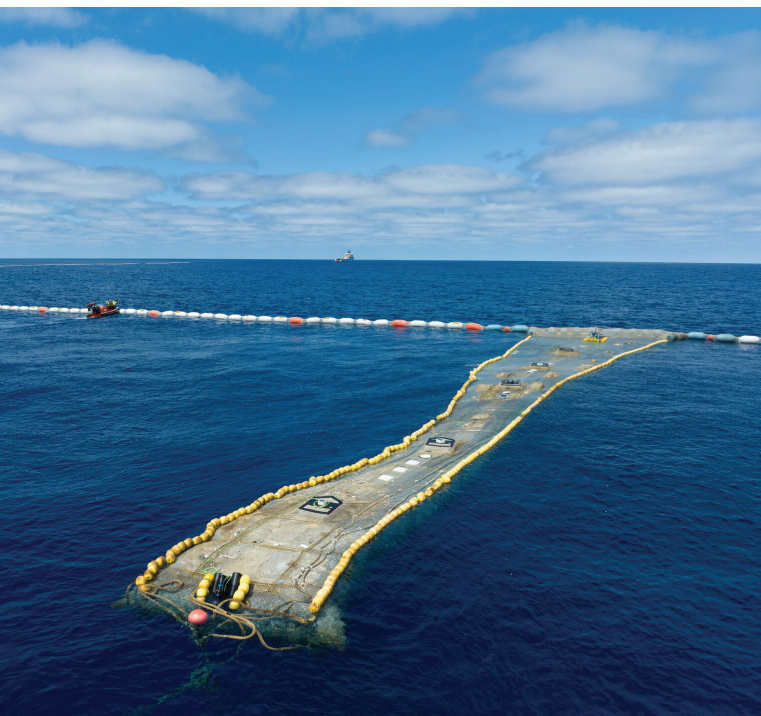
Research

In order to solve a problem, it is crucial first to understand it. Therefore, our research activities are the forefront of our deployments. Through our research, we are able to map out the physical properties of plastic pollution in the GPGP as well as the sources of plastic entering the ocean and quantify its environmental impacts. We regularly publish our findings in peer-reviewed scientific journals. They can also be found on our website at <https://theoceancleanup.com/scientific-publications/>.

Oceans

Developing technologies to catch ocean plastic in accumulation zones like the North Pacific sub-tropical gyre is at the core of our activities. With our iterative approach, we have learned the best way to deploy our technologies in the GPGP. In 2018 we deployed our first System 001, followed by System 001/B in 2019 and System 002 in 2021. With the insights we gained from these deployments, we gradually transitioned into System 03 which is nearly three times the size of System 002 and capable of capturing much larger quantities of plastic at a lower cost per kilogram. These iterations demonstrated that The Ocean Cleanup’s system can successfully and consistently harvest plastic. The completion of the test- and validation campaign in 2024 will allow us to progress to the next phase of our cleanup: optimizing our system and expanding to a full fleet of systems to clean the entire GPGP.

To ensure cost and system efficiency, we continue looking for ways to improve the technology. We take a precautionary approach with the potential environmental impact of the cleanup and monitor this closely during testing and development, while taking special care during scaling up to the next level. If needed, we will adapt the design and operations to have minimal adverse side effects on the surrounding environment.



Rivers

Next to cleaning up the plastic already in the oceans, we must prevent the inflow of new plastic. Rivers are the primary source of plastic pollution flowing into the oceans – they are the arteries that carry waste from land to the ocean. Our research found that 1000 rivers are responsible for roughly 80% of the pollution.[6]

In October 2019 we presented our program for rivers via the public introduction of the first Interceptor Solution: the Interceptor Original – a river cleanup technology that halts plastic pollution before it reaches the ocean by utilizing river currents and solar energy – that The Ocean Cleanup had been developing since 2015.

Over the last years more Interceptor Solutions have been added to the portfolio to intercept plastic efficiently before it reaches the ocean.

We have deployed Interceptor Solutions in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Dominican Republic, the US, Vietnam, Jamaica and Guatemala and aim to deploy many more Interceptor Solutions in polluting rivers around the world over the coming years.

Responsible Waste Management

Our job is only done once the extracted waste is handled responsibly by following our Responsible Waste Management (RWM) guidelines.

For Rivers, the waste management in the projects is the responsibility of the local Interceptor owners and/or operators, who follow the RWM guidelines to implement waste management solutions, supported by The Ocean Cleanup. We are developing revenue models to support the local partners to ensure financial sustainability of river waste management.

We also aim to monetize the collected ocean plastic catch to generate revenue streams for our ocean cleanup operations. We recycle part of the ocean plastic so it can be repurposed into (co-)branded products by product partners, guaranteeing its origin to industry and consumers by certifying its origin and integrity under a Chain of Custody standard. Our first proof of concept of this funding model led to the launch of The Ocean Cleanup® sunglasses in 2020.



COMMUNICATIONS

Through traditional and social media, including our website, we regularly report on the details of our activities. By continuously expanding our engaged community of followers, we aim to add value to our brand and registered tradenames and increase our credibility and convincing power in the public space to support funding efforts and enable recruitment of the best talent.



FINANCING ACTIVITIES

The income of Stichting The Ocean Cleanup is mainly generated through monetary and in-kind donations from the foundation's philanthropic and corporate donors. There has been a one-off campaign in selling consumer products utilizing plastic extracted from the GPGP and transformed into sunglasses in 2020. We will continue to seek partners who may co-produce consumer products utilizing our recycled materials.

Since its inception, The Ocean Cleanup has raised over 200M EUR. This amount includes donations that have already been received, as well as donations that have been contractually committed to be received in future years from our donors. Our financial governance ensures a budget is prepared annually to allocate the available funds as well as the forecasted funds to be received in the coming year in line with the approved project plans and goals set by the management board of the Stichting. We note we also commit to multi-year projects in relation to which funds will be reserved and restricted for future costs on such projects. Excess unrestricted funds will remain in the bank, to be allocated to future projects as approved by the management board.

In the coming year[s], The Ocean Cleanup will be working to scale-up all of its activities. As a result, our annual activities and where and how our funds are allocated may vary. The direct costs of the Oceans and Rivers

programs combined on average make up about 70-75% of the allocation of funding annually. At least the next 10% is allocated to other key departments such as Research, Catch Management, Environmental & Social Affairs and Quality, and Health & Safety. These departments deliver expert knowledge which may be externally published but also contribute to our organizational development that allows our core Oceans and Rivers programs to operate more efficiently and effectively, whilst managing known risks associated with our operations. The next largest component of our budget consists of our enabling functions (Legal, P&O, Finance, IT, Supply Chain), which provide direct support to the projects within the core departments, and continually streamline and develop controls and processes to support the general organization.

Below is the 2024 budget presented by departments, as approved by our Supervisory Board on 21 December 2023. We continue to work on developing a longer term budget for the next 3 years and will publish as and when approved.

Departments	€ Mils	% of total budget excl. contingency
P Ocean	22.7	45%
E Rivers	12.4	25%
R Research	1.9	4%
T ESA	1.0	2%
V Catch	2.4	5%
Q QSH	0.3	1%
F Funding	1.0	2%
G GPA	0.3	1%
C Comms	1.5	3%
Enabling functions	5.5	11%
M Management	1.2	2%
Contingency	0.7	
Total	51.0	

PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANIZATION

Stichting The Ocean Cleanup is a foundation based in the Netherlands and is qualified by the Dutch tax authorities as a Public Benefit Organization (in Dutch: Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling or ANBI for short).

Being qualified as a Public Benefit Organization (PBO) has tax advantages for The Ocean Cleanup and Dutch citizens donating to the Stichting and requires that the organization meets several conditions to maintain this qualification. Apart from focusing on the general good, PBOs must be transparent about their policies and formal organizational issues, and adhere to reasonable checks and balances, costs, and remuneration. The Ocean Cleanup follows these standards by having the following practices in place:

Stichting The Ocean Cleanup has a two-tier governance structure: two statutory directors (CEO and the second statutory director), supported by and part of a Management Team, charged with all executive management; and an independent Supervisory Board, responsible for overseeing the statutory directors, being a sounding board, and appointing the statutory directors. Significant decisions and resolutions of the statutory directors are subject to the approval of the Supervisory Board, such as

the adoption and amendment of the Foundation's Policy Plan and the budget, as well as the approval of major (>250K EUR) contracts.

Members of the Supervisory Board are not entitled to remuneration and may ask for reimbursement of reasonable (travel) costs incurred while active for the Foundation. The remuneration policy for all staff takes into account that all income comes from donations, and the policy can be characterized as below- market rates remuneration, in particular for the highest-paid positions. Intrinsic motivation to work on this ambitious and meaningful mission is the primary factor driving people to join The Ocean Cleanup.

The Ocean Cleanup draws up the annual accounts within five months of the end of the year and publishes the annual report, which includes the annual accounts, the auditors' opinion, the management and activity report, and the report of the Supervisory Board, on the website no later than July 1 every year.



OTHER INFORMATION

The Ocean Cleanup is a tradename for Stichting The Ocean Cleanup, a Dutch based foundation registered in Rotterdam (the Netherlands) and its affiliates.

Chamber of Commerce number:	57262632
Dutch tax file number (RSIN):	852506429
Address:	Coolsingel 6, 3011 AD Rotterdam
Web address:	theoceancleanup.com
Contact address:	theoceancleanup.com/contact

CEO and Founder:	Boyan Slat
Second statutory director:	Stacey Santoso

The Management Team:	Boyan Slat (Chief Executive Officer) Stacey Santoso (Chief Financial Officer) Joël Jansen (Director Oceans) Alice Collins (interim Head of Rivers) Julian Searle (Chief Development Officer)
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The Ocean Cleanup Legal Director :	Letícia Passos
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The **Supervisory Board** currently consists of: Bert Bruggeman – Chairman
Jaska de Bakker
Chris van de Vorm
Erik Oostwegel
And Feike Sijbesma is Sr. Advisor to the Supervisory Board

The Ocean Cleanup also carries out work in the following legal entities:

The Ocean Cleanup Technologies B.V.
The Ocean Cleanup Operations B.V.
The Ocean Cleanup Interception B.V.
The Ocean Cleanup Projects B.V.
The Ocean Cleanup Guatemala S.A.

All these entities are 100% (in)direct subsidiaries of Stichting The Ocean Cleanup, and are based and registered in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, with the exception of The Ocean Cleanup Guatemala S.A. based and registered in Guatemala.

APPENDIX

- 1.) Kühn, S. and van Franeker, J.A. (2020): "Quantitative overview of marine debris ingested by marine megafauna", Marine Pollution Bulletin, 151 (110858).
- 2.) Chen, Q. et. al. (2017): "Pollutants in Plastics within the North Pacific Subtropical Gyre", Environmental Science & Technology, 52 (2), pp. 446-456.
- 3.) Lebreton, L. et. al. (2018): "Evidence that the Great Pacific Garbage Patch is Rapidly Accumulating Plastic", Scientific Reports, 8 (4666).
- 4.) Haram, L.E. et al. (2023): "Extent and reproduction of coastal species on plastic debris in the North Pacific Subtropical Gyre", Nature Ecology & Evolution 7, pp. 687–697.
- 5.) Deloitte (2019): "The Price Tag of Plastic Pollution". <https://www2.deloitte.com/nl/nl/pages/strategy-analytics-and-ma/articles/the-price-tag-of-plastic-pollution.html> [Retrieved at 11.12.2019].
- 6.) Lourens J. J. et al. (2021): "More than 1000 rivers account for 80% of global riverine plastic emissions into the ocean", Science Advances, 7 (18).
- 7.) Richon et al. (2023): "Legacy oceanic plastic pollution must be addressed to mitigate possible long-term ecological impacts", Microplastics and Nanoplastics, 3 (25).

This document was last edited on 28 May, 2024.