Every year, more than 1.8 million tonnes of plastic pollution ends up in our oceans of which the majority travels via rivers. It is The Great Bubble Barrier’s mission to stop plastic pollution in these waterways before it reaches our oceans. We clean the local waterways in your city or region to protect the global ecosystem from plastic pollution. While at the same time, we aim to raise awareness among the (local) community around this immense problem. Are you ready to take action? Get in contact.

THE TECHNOLOGY
The bubble curtain\(^1\) 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\(^2\) 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

OUR PROCESS
Intrigued and interested in joining our mission? This is what the process would look like:

1. **Preliminary Research Phase**
   - In this phase we assess the suitability of a specific location, the best strategic partners, permit requirements and indicate the total costs.
   - Duration: 3 months

2. **Realisation Phase**
   - In this phase we will make a final design based on our research and the permit requirements and we will install the Bubble Barrier.
   - Duration: 5/6 months

3. **Operational**
   - In this phase the Bubble Barrier is fully operational ready to make impact. This includes organizing a launch and executing a tailored communication plan fitted to the local community.
   - Depending on wish

4. **Maintenance**
   - The scheduled maintenance of the system can either be done by us or a certified third party.
   - 2/3 times per year

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. Currently, we are exploring possibilities at multiple locations in the EU.

Want to be part of the change? Get in touch today!

Reach out and discover the possibilities

Scan or click me

MORE INFORMATION

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Clients

- Gemeente Amsterdam
- Waterschap Amsterdam-Noord
- PWN