
THE OCEAN CLEANUP FOUNDATION POLICY PLAN

(IN DUTCH: BELEIDSPLAN)



THE OCEAN CLEANUP'S MISSION IS TO DEVELOP ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES TO RID THE OCEANS OF PLASTIC.

OBJECTIVES

The bylaws (in Dutch: statuten) of 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 the pollution of the marine environment by plastic; and other acts which in the broadest sense relate or may be conducive to the aforesaid objectives.

WHY DO THE OCEANS HAVE TO BE CLEANED?

Marine debris, out of which 80% is plastic, has been reported to have an impact on 600 marine wildlife species^{[1][2]}. The Ocean Cleanup has found that the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, the area of highest concentration of plastic in the world's ocean, has roughly 180 times more plastic than biomass at its surface^[3]. The plastics were also found to have pollutants at levels that may be high enough to harm organisms ingesting them. These pollutants enter the food chain – a food chain that includes humans. There are financial repercussions to this problem as well; plastic pollution causes 13 billion USD worth of damages to economies every year^[4].

Even if every country were to completely close the source of plastic entering the ocean, the five ocean garbage patches would continue to persist. Plastic in the patches fragment into small, dangerous microplastics over time, only exacerbating the problem. Even though, by mass, the plastic in the gyres is relatively small (several hundred thousand tons) compared to the global annual plastic input (millions of tons), its longevity has a significant impact on the ocean ecosystem.

The plastic pollution in the gyres has no legal or logical problem owner and the problem has long been seen as “impossible” to solve. The Ocean Cleanup strives to change this status quo.

FOUNDATION POLICY PLAN

ACTIVITIES OF THE FOUNDATION

In order to solve a problem, it is crucial to understand it first. Hence, we conduct research, amongst others, to map the physical properties of the plastic pollution in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Results have been and will be published in scientific journals – and they are listed on our website at www.theoceancleanup.com/scientific-publications.

Developing advanced technologies to catch the plastic in an effective, efficient and environmentally friendly way is the core of our activities. The key philosophy for The Ocean Cleanup is to work with nature, let the ocean do the work for us and to turn problems into solutions. This means that our cleanup systems are passive - moving with the currents instead of active propulsion. By following the same currents as the plastic, we can ensure a higher capture efficiency.

We believe in iterative development. We test fast and often, and we test to learn, not to prove ourselves right. This means that we don't spend years engineering – we deploy as soon as possible and learn in the field. The first system need not be the same system at the end of the phase, compared to how it started out. And cleanup system number 60 will likely not be the same as the first production system.

To ensure cost and system efficiency, we continue looking for ways to make the system better and cheaper along the way. We also take the precautionary approach when it comes to the possible environmental impact of the cleanup and monitor this closely during testing and development.

Through traditional and social media, including our website, we report regularly on the details of our activities. The Ocean Cleanup is currently focused on bringing our technology from concept to reality.

FINANCING THE ACTIVITIES

The Ocean Cleanup has been fortunate to attract many supporters. Initially, in 2013 and 2014, thousands of donors provided crucial support of the Feasibility Study and the start of our growing activities in 2015.

In 2015 and subsequent years, major donors, private as well as corporate, came on board. In 2016 we recorded financial support from the Dutch Government. At the end of 2017, The Ocean Cleanup has cumulatively collected more than 30 million euros in donations. The funding received since inception has enabled The Ocean Cleanup to carry out the research and development that has brought them to starting the cleanup by deploying the first system mid-2018. Any excess funds are not invested, but remain on hold for future use. The financing of the scale-up will be coordinated during 2018 and 2019.

FOUNDATION POLICY PLAN

PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANISATION

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

Being qualified as a Public Benefit Organisation has tax advantages, also for Dutch citizens donating to The Ocean Cleanup, and requires that the organisation meets several conditions to maintain this qualification. Apart from focusing on the general good, PBO's must be transparent about their policy and formal organisational issues, and must adhere to reasonable checks and balances, costs and remuneration. The Ocean Cleanup adheres to these standards by having the following practices in place:

The Ocean Cleanup has a two-tier governance structure: a CEO who leads the Management Board, charged with all executive management; and an independent Supervisory Board, responsible for three roles: supervising the activities and executive managers, being a sounding board and being the employer to the CEO. Major decisions and resolutions of the Management Board are subject to approval of the Supervisory Board, such as the adoption and amendment of the foundation plan and of the budget, major (>50K) money transfers, outlays and investments.

Members of the Supervisory Board are not entitled to any remuneration and may ask for reimbursement of reasonable (travel) costs incurred while active for the foundation.

The remuneration policy for the Management Board and employees takes into account that all income comes from donations, and the policy can be characterised as below market rates remuneration, in particular for the highest paid positions. Intrinsic motivation to work on this ambitious and meaningful mission is the major 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, including the annual accounts, the auditors' opinion, the management and activity report and the report of the Supervisory Board, on the website - the latest on July 1 of any year. Even though the Management Board draws up an annual budget, the character of the activities implies that the Management and Supervisory Board both reconsider the budget regularly, along with the development of projects.

FOUNDATION POLICY PLAN

OTHER INFORMATION

The Ocean Cleanup is registered in Delft (the Netherlands), as “Stichting The Ocean Cleanup” (in English: The Ocean Cleanup Foundation)

Chamber of Commerce number: 57262632

Duch tax file number (RSIN): NL8525.06.429B01

Address: Martinus Nijhofflaan 2 (18th floor), 2624 ES Delft

Web address: www.theoceancleanup.com

Contact address: www.theoceancleanup.com/contact

The Management Board currently has three members:

CEO and Founder: **Boyan Slat**

COO: **Lonneke Holierhoek**

CFO: **Jos Huijbregts**

The Supervisory Board currently has four members:

Chris van de Vorm - Communications

Evert Greup - Funding and finance

Frederik Gerner - Technology and R&D

Rutger Arisz - Organization and business development

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.

All these entities are based and registered in Delft, the Netherlands and are 100% subsidiaries of the Stichting The Ocean Cleanup.

APPENDIX

1. Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel—GEF (2012): “Impacts of Marine Debris on Biodiversity: Current Status and Potential Solutions”, Montreal, Technical Series No. 67, p. 61.
2. Jambeck, J. et al (2015): “Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean”, Science 13: 347 (6223), pp. 768-771.
3. Qinqin, C. et. al. (2018): “Pollutants in Plastics within the North Pacific Subtropical Gyre”, Environmental Science & Technology, 52 (2), pp. 446-456
4. UN News Centre (2014): “Plastic waste causes \$13 billion in annual damage to marine ecosystems, says UN agency”. Source: <http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=48113#.WmH5AKjibid> [Retrieved at 19.1.2018]