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Clean up the Caribbean !

In June, **Waste Free Oceans** started its Caribbean Roadshow, consisting in cleanups and educational projects in the Caribbean islands. The Roadshow's first stop is the Dominican Republic, where **Waste Free Oceans'** team first organized a cleanup with teenagers from the school **Hogar del Niño** on June 25th and managed to collect more than 70 waste bags, first provided by our partner **Papier-Mettler**.

Río Dulce



To our great surprise, Patricia Villegas and her son Orlando Jorge Villegas, spouse and son of Orlando Jorge Mera, former Minister of Environment and Natural Resources tragically assassinated on June 6th 2022, came to our cleanup to support our projects in the Dominican Republic and continue her husband and father's work.

In July, other cleanups will follow with volunteers as well as with the waste catching trawl.



Furthermore, we also visited multiple *cañadas*, which are small waterways that run behind houses and which are often filled with plastic waste. With the support of our partner, the fashionable brand producer **ECO Eyewear**, **Waste Free Oceans** is going to place its trash-catching trawl on one cañada for a few months to be able to collect multiple tons of plastic, which will eventually be sorted and recycled in the recycling plant Rizek Vidal Recyclers.



Upcoming projects

After the Dominican Republic, we will head towards Haiti, then Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, Guadeloupe, the ABC islands, and many others, notably with the support of our partners **Hansae** and **Blue Courses**.



HANSAE
fashion worldwide



Education being one of the main concerns of our organization, we had the chance, while our team was in the Dominican Republic, to be interviewed by the national Dominican Newspaper Listín Diario to explain our cleanup projects with Hogar del Niño as part of their program named "Week of Geography", whose purpose is to teach in schools the importance to protect the environment and natural resources.

This year, we will also finish our African Roadshow, starting with Tanzania with our partners **NAK Limited** and **The recycler** and ending with Egypt and Kenya with the support of **Dow**.



In addition, **Waste Free Oceans** is leading the Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Work Package for SURPASS, a project which has received the funding of the European Commission as part of Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme.

SURPASS, which stands for Safe-, sUstainable- and Recyclable-by design Polymeric systems (SSRbD) - A guidance towardS next generation of plasticS, is a 3,5-year program composed of a consortium of 13 partners whose goal is to lead the transitions towards more SSRbD polymeric materials in the three sectors representing 70% of the European plastic demand: packaging, building and transport.



Some of Our Products



WFO collaborated with our partner **Euro-Optics** to develop sunglasses and reading glasses made from collected rPET bottles.

We have also finally launched the suitcase, also made from rPET bottles, developed by our partner **Princess Traveller**.

Both are available on our website!

Past Events

On May 19, we have had the chance to hold a session at the two-day conference *A Circular Future with Plastics* during the European Plastic Converters (EuPC) Annual Meeting. The 2022 edition of the event took place at the prestigious Hotel Renaissance in Brussels. The **WFO** session had been moderated by **WFO** co-founder, Bernard Merckx, and addressed the following topics:

- ✓ Global Plastics Outlook: economic drivers, environmental impacts and policy options
- ✓ How to prevent plastic leakage into the oceans / Project STOP
- ✓ Occurrence, effects and risks of microplastics in Flemish surface waters
- ✓ Circular Fibres a success story: industry willingness to include Green Plastics in the circular design of products
- ✓ Market first: Schoeller Allibert creates beer crate from maritime plastic for AB InBev



How to support us

- ✓ Support us on our website: <https://www.wastefreeoceans.org/>, on our social media:



- ✓ Purchase one of our products on <https://www.wastefreeoceans.org/shop>
- ✓ Make a donation on <https://www.wastefreeoceans.org/donate>
- ✓ Let's organize a teambuilding cleanup together <https://bit.ly/3uDJgDU>
- ✓ Let's create a product together: [contact us](#)