

October - December 2023 — www.wastefreeoceans.com

WELCOME BACK TO WFO'S NEWSLETTER

Summary of what we dive into for this last 2023 newsletter!

Ongoing Projects

- **TANZANIA** - Continuation of the clean-up with the Recycler!
- **GERMANY - CLEAN-UP**
- **FRANCE - CLEAN-UP**

Ocean News

- **COP28:** World leaders agree to transition away from fossil fuels
- **Corporate Due Diligence**



Events

- **PLASTIC WASTE FREE WORLD-** WFO participation
- **SURPASS** - Update on our European Project

PLASTIC WASTE FREE WORLD

CONFERENCE & EXPO

EUROPE

What's next?

- More barriers will be installed in Tanzania
- New clean-up locations - stay tuned!

Ongoing Projects



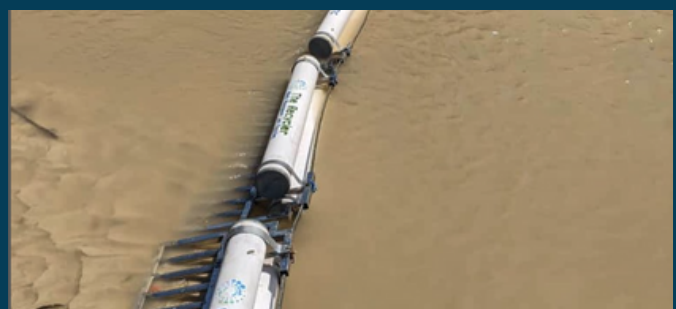
TANZANIA

There it is, in early December, WFO and the Recyclers installed the first of their waste catching barriers in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania! With the rain season in full swing, our first barrier has come just in time to catch waste in the Mlalakuwa River. This river location has been studied by the World Bank and receives a large portion of waste from the informal settlements upstream. Moreover, the waste material empties out on to a public beach used by many Tanzanians - Mbezi Beach.

The aim of these barriers is (1) to reduce the amount of waste heading to the ocean, (2) recycle it at the Recyclers' facilities and (3) monitor and develop data on the waste accumulated. All of the material collected will then be sorted where possible for recycling and processing.

All items that are not recyclable will either be used for co-processing or be sent to the landfill. This information will be compiled in a monthly report. The waste can also be carried to the nearby islands of Bongoyo and Mbudya which is a major tourist spot for Dar es Salaam. The bridge area also provides easy access to set up the traps, monitor them and clean them - with road access.

The Recycler offers professional waste management and recycling solutions for waste streams in Tanzania. They are specialized in separating all kinds of recyclable waste in order to process and trade to domestic and international markets. The company has also set up recycling collection points throughout the city and is researching large-scale bio-gas, waste to energy, insect-derived protein and informal collection networks.



Events



COLOGNE (DE)

Waste Free Oceans, in collaboration with our partner Der Grüne Punkt – Duales System Deutschland GmbH, organized a cleanup in Cologne for the International Day of Climate Action on October 24th, 2023. Our dedicated team, together with the passionate crew from Der Grüne Punkt – Duales System Deutschland GmbH, tackled everything from small food packaging to more substantial items like soccer balls and shoes. However, our main focus was plastic packaging and the ever-so-prevalent fast-food packaging. This cleanup wasn't just about picking up trash; it was about sending a powerful message to the world. We firmly believe that raising awareness on a larger scale is the first step towards a cleaner, healthier planet.

We are thrilled to share that this cleanup was nothing short of a massive success! Together, we made an impact, one piece of litter at a time. A heartfelt thank you to the fantastic team at Der Grüne Punkt – Duales System Deutschland GmbH for their support and dedication. Our collaboration is a testament to the remarkable change we can bring when we work together! A big thanks to our partner Euro Optics B.V. for the sunglasses and to PAPIER-METTLER UK Limited for the recycled plastic bags.

HOSSEGOR (FR)

The south-west of France is often synonymous with surf, long beaches and great weather... however, even these areas are often subject to polluted beaches and dunes! At the end of October, Waste Free Oceans collaborated with our partners SVR, a French cosmetics company to clean up the dunes of the 'Plage des culs nus' (the beach of the naked butts) in Hossegor.

Together with their team and three influencers: Marcel Gitard, Charlotte Lemay and Manon Lanza, we cleaned the dune, collecting over 60 kg in waste! Objects ranged from plastic bottles and sunscreen protectors, to fishing gear, metal cans and.... Money! You can check out how this all went down on our Instagram page here!



Events

SURPASS PROJECT



WFO remains dedicated to its integral role in the European-funded project, SURPASS. This initiative is centered on the exploration of novel technologies designed to enhance the safety, sustainability, and recyclability of polymeric materials in the building, transport, and packaging sectors.

The most recent consortium meeting was held in Oyonnax (France) in early December where we assessed the progress of the project with the various partners. As leaders of Work Package (WP6), WFO elaborated on the progress in communication and dissemination activities as well as the upcoming activities for 2024. For those interested in this European-funded project, we invite you to explore our website and social media!

PLASTIC WASTE FREE WORLD

Mid-November, our team attended the Plastic Waste Free World Conference in Cologne to showcase the work we do!

We shared our booth with our friends from Der Grüne Punkt.

During two days we exposed some of our work, ranging from our clean-up operations to the products we develop with our partners from ocean-bound waste such as Petjes World ocean friends plushies, eyewear from Euro-Optics, and ocean-bound ropes from Plastix!

We were also delighted to attend the panel discussion on “Creating a Sustainability Strategy with Circular Economy and Decarbonization at its Core” with the participation of Britta Wyss Bisang, Global Sustainability Director at Schoeller Alibert. It is always a pleasure to see one of our partners in the Panel!

Other interesting discussions were attended by some of our other partners and coalitions, such as the Prevent Waste Alliance intervention on Extended Producer Responsibility Schemes (EPR).



Ocean News

COP28: World leaders reach an agreement to transition away from fossil fuels



World leaders have reached a new agreement to tackle climate change at a big UN meeting in Dubai. COP28 was the 28th annual United Nations climate meeting where governments prepare and try to limit climate change. Here is an overview of the actions undertaken:

For the first time, countries agreed on the need to “transition away from fossil fuels in the energy systems” and while that call is welcome, the text does not call for a fossil fuel phase out or phase down. It reinforced the 1.5C goal and recognised it would require 43% emissions cut by 2030 and 60% by 2035 relative to 2019 levels. It implies a major increase in targets and policies when countries submit new commitments in 2025.

Countries backed a call for global renewable energy to be tripled and the rate of energy efficiency improvements doubled by 2030. A statement that global emissions should peak by 2025 was dropped. China, among others, objected to this despite evidence it may be on track to peak its own emissions by then.

Little progress was made on climate adaptation and finance, which the deal acknowledges will need trillions of dollars in support. A loss and damage fund to help the most vulnerable repair the damage from climate breakdown was operationalised – a major step forward – but significant work remains to build its capacity.

The agreement has been welcomed by the European Union and the United States as a strong message to the world. Fierce resistance to the deal had come from Saudi Arabia, India, China Nigeria and some other countries that see fossil fuels as a way to build their prosperity. Nevertheless, the agreement also received strong critiques from environmental organizations and small island states, especially due to the failure to truly phase out fossil fuel and the loopholes it includes.



Ocean News

EU LEADERS AGREE ON EU CORPORATE DUE DILIGENCE LAW



The European Parliament (EP) and European Council agreed on the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) after long negotiations. Proposed by the European Commission in February 2022, the legislation aims to hold big companies responsible for violations of human rights and environmental standards in their value chains. As such it represents a pivotal moment in shaping how companies navigate their environmental and human rights responsibilities.

While the EP pushed for legislation that would include the financial sector, this demand has been watered down. The compromise now excludes the core business (lending and investment activities) of financial actors. They will still be required to present and put into effect climate plans, just like companies are now required to do following the agreement.

The CSDDD is limited in scope. It will only apply to companies with more than 500 employees and a worldwide annual turnover of more than €150 million. For some sectors such as textiles, agriculture, or the trade of mineral resources, the threshold is lower: companies with over 350 employees and with a turnover of more than €40 million will fall under the scope of the directive.

The law is expected to have effects outside the EU as all companies in the EU market are targeted with the CSDDD, even if their headquarters are outside the EU. This is of course part of the intended purpose of this directive.



Lara Wolters, rapporteur on corporate sustainability due diligence directive - Euractiv

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Thanks For Reading Us & Stay Tuned

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



You can find us on LinkedIn as well as Instagram.

Follow the latest news on our [website](#) in the section "on-going projects"

interested in organising clean-ups or other activities?

Do not hesitate to reach out to serena.barthoux@wastefreeoceans.org for more information.



HAPPY

holidays

WFO TEAM WISHES YOU
A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW YEAR!