



A global network of dedicated, passionate, and creative problem solvers combating the flow of plastic waste from rivers to the ocean.

Supported by the Benioff Ocean Initiative at the University of California, Santa Barbara and The Coca-Cola Foundation, the Clean Currents Coalition is working to design and pilot new technologies to capture plastic waste in highly polluted rivers and catalyze policy-based, infrastructural, and societal change to reduce plastic inputs to rivers, and ultimately the ocean.

CAPTURE

ocean-bound plastic waste using innovative technologies

COLLECT data on type, volume, and patterns of plastic waste

REPURPOSE

and recycle collected plastic waste to close the loop on plastic production

ENGAGE

and educate local communities on plastic use and disposal

The Clean Currents Coalition teams work collaboratively towards a common goal to boost their collective success

Collaboration







and learn from experts

Booms & Nets

Booms and nets guide

plastic waste to a

collection point, often the

river bank or a trap, where

it can then be removed

Community Forum To empower teams to collaborate both directly and as a group

Quarterly Connects To discuss project-relevant To strengthen connections topics at virtual conferences

Technology

The diverse technologies are designed to be replicable and scalable, so that these solutions can be implemented around the world

Trash traps are mechanical devices placed in rivers that trap and remove plastic waste as it flows downstream

Traps



Concentrators & Conveyors Powered screen or belt systems concentrate and lift plastic waste out of the

water and onto shoreside collection areas

Emerging Technologies

Emerging technologies and onboard automated nonitoring systems bring innovative engineering techniques to plastic capture efforts





4,000,000 80%

Why Rivers?

of ocean plastics originate from land sources

metric tons of plastics enter the ocean from rivers every year

Up to

Equivalent to 5 adult male African elephant every hour

7.8 billion tons of plastics have been produced



Non-recycled and mismanaged plastic waste from different land sources finds its way to rivers, both directly from littering and indirectly from rain, wind, and storms



of all plastics have been recycled



Once they reach the ocean, plastics break into smaller and smaller pieces, and are distributed throughout the water column and around the world by currents



WILDCOAST COSTASALVAJE

LEANUP

COALITION PROJECTS



CHEMOLEX Greeneration SMART VILLAGES

Athi River, Kenya

The Athi River and its tributaries flow lazily through the plains of the Maasai Mara, the Tsavo, the valleys of Kenya, and eventually empty into the Indian Ocean. While these rivers give life to Kenya, they also receive large amounts of plastics, pollution, and waste from the 9 million residents of the Nairobi area. Chemolex and Smart Villages are

partnering to install 10 plastic capture devices along these rivers and are working with women's groups and local youth organizations to create the next generation of river keepers.

Citarum River, Indonesia

The Citarum River is the longest river in West Java, Indonesia, and provides water, electricity, and irrigation for over 25 million people. Sadly, it is also known as the "world's most polluted river" - in many places, the water can't be seen because the surface is covered entirely by waste. Greeneration Foundation is partnering with Riverrecycle, Waste4Change, and Deltares to install a plastic capture device in the Citarum River, recycle the captured plastics, compost organics, and turn non-recyclable plastics into fuel.

Kingston Harbour, Jamaica

Kingston Harbour, the 7th largest natural harbor in the world, lies within Hunts Bay on the shores of Kingston, Jamaica. Plastic waste from nearby urban centers accumulates in the harbor, damaging infrastructure and negatively affecting the mangrove and coral reef ecosystems. Here, the Ocean Cleanup is installing the 100% solar-powered Interceptor to capture and remove plastic waste, and they are joining forces with Recycling Partners of Jamaica to improve recycling infrastructure in the area.

Get Involved

Reduce Single-Use Plastics



Participate in **River or Beach** Clean-Ups

Support Local Legislation

Learn How You Can Support The Coalition At www.cleancurrentscoalition.org /get-involved

Lat Phrao Canal, Thailand

Over 1600 canals and waterways have been engineered through Bangkok to shorten the passage of the Chao Phraya River through the city. Lat Phrao Canal, a 1.5 km section of this network, flows through a densely populated community with approximately 120,400 residents. TerraCycle Global Foundation is operating two plastic capture devices in the canal, and with the Blue Carbon Society and Mahidol University, they are educating the local community on the issue of plastic pollution.

Juan Díaz River, Panama

The Juan Díaz River in Panama City flows through mudflats, mangroves, and areas of accelerated urbanization, emptying into Panama Bay. Plastic waste carried by the river harms these important ecosystems that provide protection for coastal communities, support biodiversity, buoy fishing and ecotourism industries, and sequester carbon. Marea Verde is installing a Trash Wheel to capture and remove waste from the river, and is engaging the community to reduce the amount of waste entering the watershed

mangrove and dry woods ecosystems before discharging in the Pacific Ocean. The river is an important source of water and natural heritage to some of the poorest communities in Ecuador. Ichthion Ltd. is installing their cutting-edge Azure river system to capture and remove plastic waste from the Portoviejo River while also launching a data-driven communications and outreach program focused on

Song Hong, Vietnam

The Song Hong, or Red River, draws its name from its reddish-brown, heavily silt-laden water. The river runs from North Vietnam to the South China Sea, supporting over 50 Vietnamese districts and 23 million people along the way Ocean Conservancy, in partnership with the Centre for Marinelife Conservation and Community Development, are working to remove plastic waste from the Song Hong, improve local waste management infrastructure, and energize support for marine debris directives.

Tijuana River, Mexico

The Tijuana River travels through the mountains and deserts of Mexico before becoming the Tijuana River Estuary as it reaches the Pacific Ocean at the U.S.-Mexico border. The estuary, made up of diverse and sensitive habitats, is home to 10 endangered species and is a critical stop for migratory birds. WILDCOAST is installing a plastic capture device - the "Brute Boom" - in the Tijuana River at Los Laureles Canyon to protect the estuary and keep the river clean for the thousands that rely on it for clean water

Portoviejo River, Ecuador

Ocean Conservancy

The Portoviejo River flows over 100 km through Ecuador's

awareness, education, and behavior related to plastic issues