Impact summary

5/10/2025

Supports

GOOCEAN

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225

seagrass shoots planted

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1

eco block(s) adopted

in harbor breakwater

Als pionier in elektrische mobiliteit speelt BMW een cruciale rol in het verminderen van CO_2-uitstoot en het versnellen van de transitie naar duurzame mobiliteit.

BMW De Mey - Verhelst draagt actief bij aan een groenere toekomst met innovatieve productlanceringen en een sterke focus op bewustwording. De samenwerking met Go Ocean onderstreept hun toewijding aan biodiversiteit en het herstel van mariene ecosystemen, met als doel de oceanen te beschermen en CO_2-uitstoot verder terug te dringen.

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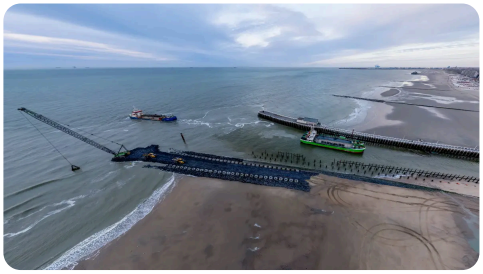
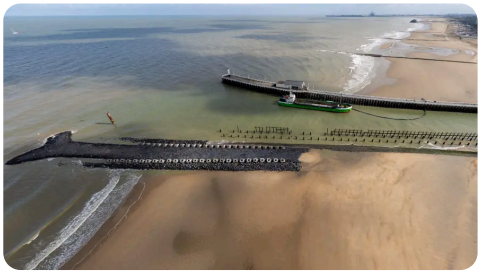
Enhancing biodiversity in the Blankenberge harbor

Blankenberge, Belgium

1 eco block(s) adopted

The biodiversity in the North Sea is under threat due to overfishing, pollution, and habitat destruction. Intensive fishing practices have depleted fish stocks and damaged the seabed. Pollution from agricul- tural runoff and industrial activities has led to water quality degradation. Additionally, infrastructure projects disrupt marine habitats, further impacting marine life. We need to rethink how infrastructure projects are carried out, making them more in harmony with nature. The project: Our collaborative effort with Deme Group & Artes and the client MDK (Maritime Services and Coast Agency), aims to transform Blankenberge's harbor breakwater into a model of sustainable, nature-inclusive infrastructure. The new breakwater will be built not only with the traditional concrete Haro blocks but also with 40 ECOncrete Haro blocks. These eco blocks meet marine-grade concrete standards and are designed to promote ecological responsibility by fostering marine life. The application of ECOncrete supports a diverse range of marine species, improves water quality, and sequesters carbon. ECOncrete can store 300 grams of CO2 per square meter annually. For a 1 km seawall, this is equivalent to planting 100 adult trees each year. The technology transforms marine concrete into habitable surfaces, promoting the growth of calcific organisms such as oysters, tubeworms, and corals, which filter water, and absorb carbon dioxide. The goal of Go Ocean is to gain support for 40 eco blocks. The installation is scheduled for early 2025. If successful, the project will be expanded for large-scale application. Monitoring plan: To ensure the ecological benefits are realized and documented, we develop a comprehensive monitoring plan. The monitoring scope includes: • Diversity Indices: We will measure biodiversity, species richness, and species abundance between the ECOncrete HARO units and the traditional concrete blocks. • Successional Stages: Differences in biogenic buildup and successional stages will be recorded. • Biological Accumulation: We will assess the biological productivity and ecological value of the breakwater. Nice to know: because the eco blocks can be customized with numbers and company logos, we can provide transparency, personal ecological monitoring, and unique branding opportunities.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Seagrass transplantation area, 2026

98 seagrass shoots planted

Seagrasses are the only flowering plants that can live underwater. Just like plants on the land, they have leaves, stems, roots, and photosynthetic activity. The plants' long but strong leaves form dense meadows under the sea. Loch Craignish in Scotland has 10 small seagrass meadows and there are 80 hectares of mud where we think seagrass can be restored. With this seagrass meadow restoration project, in cooperation with Seawilding, we are trying to rebuild damaged seagrass meadows and expand the meadows already existing. This is vital, because just like the coral reefs and rainforests of the tropics, these underwater gardens are full of life, hosting many animals of different shapes, colors, and sizes. By trying multiple methodologies of planting, we are trying to figure out which method is most efficient and successful. These methods include direct seed injection, seed scattering, sod transplants, hessian bags, and rhizome planting.

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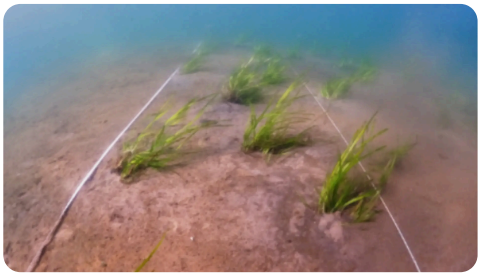
Seagrass transplantation area, March - July 2025

127 seagrass shoots planted

With the help of 47 incredible volunteers from the UK, Europe, and beyond, our local team in Scotland transplanted 20,000 shoots over a five-week sprint this spring, potentially creating 2,600 m² of new seagrass meadow. That's a 300% increase from last year's efforts. They're growing, literally and figuratively. In 2024, we often planted bundles of 10 shoots at 2 bundles per square metre. This year, we switched it up: 1 bundle per square metre, and half of those only had 5 shoots. If this lower-density method works, it could quadruple our restoration capacity. We also kicked things off six weeks ahead of schedule this year, planting 2,000 shoots in late March. We're testing if we can extend the planting season to gain more flexibility and free up time for oyster restoration later in the summer. Until now, all transplanting has happened next to existing seagrass meadows. But this year, we went bold: we planted in two areas where eDNA analysis suggested seagrass used to grow: - A site in Loch Craignish capped with land-quarried sand (see more on Van Oord below) - A completely new site in Loch Beag, just next door



Care for communities

At Go Ocean, we don't just restore ocean ecosystems. We engage in much more, such as ensuring sustainable support for local communities. We do so by using the UN Sustainable Development Goals, which serve as a blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and in the future. Depending on the region and the project, you'll be supporting different SDGs.