

Super Seabin

On the job 24/7

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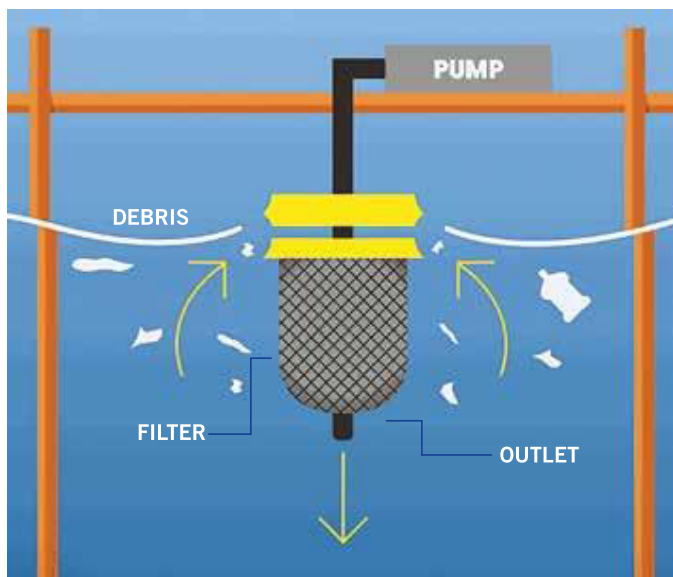
Hong Kong waters showcase a diversity of marine life, watercraft, and... plastics. Members are well acquainted with the frequently overwhelming amount of plastic pollution in the beaches, harbours, and waterways. What can we do? What can the club do?

Our Pick Up Plastic initiative is addressing this problem in several ways.

The Club's Sustainability Working Group is pursuing many active initiatives focused on tackling plastics pollution. However, one initiative is working 24/7 and just might be the most productive to date – the Seabin.

Australian co-founder Pete Ceglinski designed the Seabin to meet the increasing needs for a hands-off plastic collection system. Marinas were a good place to start given the reduced current, wave, and wind action. The Seabin is a stationary unit that sucks surface water through a collecting bin thereby trapping floating plastics and rubbish. The debris can then be sorted, recycled, and disposed of properly. In addition to visible plastics and rubbish, the bin can also filter some oils and pollutants.

Wärtsilä, the marine and energy lifecycle solutions company, donated a Seabin to the Club in 2019. The Club originally installed the bin at Kellett Island but found that the boat wakes and large amount of particulate matter adversely affected its performance. Marine Manager Alan Reid moved the bin to Shelter Cove where it performed effectively and has since remained by Kellett VI. This location funnels floating debris during southeasterlies where it collects on average 2.5KG of rubbish and recyclables per day. Debris is blown to the other side of the cove during northeasterlies where the Hebe Haven Seabin can work its magic.



Most recently, club member Reza Cockrell donated a second Seabin to the club. Reza and family have a history of sustainability – both at home and in business (check out the Malaysia-based Habitat Foundation). He had originally installed the bin in his AMC slip for proof of concept after coming across Seabin's Kickstarter campaign. Upon giving up the slip he reached out to the Sustainability Working Group for the donation. It was good timing for Alan Reid's team, and they were able to install Reza's Seabin in Shelter Cove where it is working in tandem with the original Seabin.

We encourage members to visit the Club's two Seabins at Shelter Cove. Even more importantly, we encourage members to actively pick-up floating plastics and debris both around the Club and when out on the water. Plastics pollution might appear to be unrelenting, but together we can make an impact one piece of plastic at a time. 🌐

For more information on the Seabin, visit seabinproject.com. For more information on the Habitat Foundation, visit habitatfoundation.org.my. If you want to donate a Seabin or have a comment or suggestion, please email sustainability@rhkyc.org.hk