



C S R

Corporate
Social
Responsibility



Our knowledge makes the difference

Corporate social responsibility is what we do and who we are. Our work is steeped in social relevance. And so, of course, we have a sustainable and efficient approach to the resources that water and the subsurface supply. But we do even more.

Deltares works independently and ethically. That means that we keep out of the political debate but that we are prepared to contribute facts to that debate. Our integrity policy involves more than just complying with the laws of the Netherlands and other countries. As a result, when we work with sub-contractors, our integrity policy also applies to them.

Our Corporate Social Responsibility policy is anchored in our management systems. It goes without saying that we keep the environmental impact of our business operations to a minimum. We believe that the welfare, security and health of our employees are important. We do not work for profit. We are careful in how we use public resources, which provide a substantial proportion of the financing for our work. We conduct our business sensibly and efficiently.



We provide some examples here from 2015 of both projects and initiatives in our business operations and organisation that demonstrate how the CSR philosophy takes shape at Deltares.

Limiting the effects of plantations on peatlands in Indonesia



Through the Peatland Best Practice Management Project, Deltares is supporting Asian Pulp and Paper, the largest plantation company in Indonesia and one of the largest paper companies in the world. The company's past policies led to

large fires, carbon emissions, land subsidence and, ultimately, flooding. In addition to setting up studies and designs for better management methods to mitigate the effects, Deltares was also involved in ventures such as a major LiDAR survey to map out peat conditions (elevation, peat depth, land cover). We collaborate intensively with NGOs such as Greenpeace, and with government authorities. Deltares forms a bridge between these parties and delivers knowledge in the search for sustainable solutions.

Groundwater knowledge for children in New Orleans

We have been working with Groundwork New Orleans on a teaching programme to raise awareness among pupils at primary schools of the vulnerability of the subsurface and groundwater. Employees from local organisations partnering Deltares are also contributing by doing volunteer work. They found that hardly anything is known in the education system about the subsurface, and they asked Deltares to help with the establishment of a teaching programme. The programme includes a demonstration of groundwater boring and a permanent groundwater monitoring facility has been installed at the school.



Growing oyster mushrooms on coffee grounds

We have stopped throwing away coffee grounds and we started to use them in 2015 as a substrate for growing our own oyster mushrooms. Coffee grounds are a rich source of nutrients for mushrooms. Green Recycled Organics cultivates the oyster mushrooms on a substrate of coffee grounds, and the mushrooms are then served in our company restaurant. And ... they taste fantastic.



Next step towards clearing up ocean plastics

For the **Ocean Cleanup**, Deltares conducted the initial tests of the hundred-kilometre-long floating barrier to fish plastic out of the oceans. The barrier is now undergoing further improvements. Deltares has also carried out calculations with the aim of identifying the best place to retrieve the plastic. We were also a major partner in **CleanSea**, a large European research project that delivers information and tools to make European seas clean, healthy and productive. That project was completed successfully in 2015.

Sustainable office



One of our office buildings in Delft was due for thorough renovation. The overhaul used the latest technologies for insulation, climate control and sun blinds to create a highly sustainable office.