



## Good practices in Hungary

1/2018

**Title:** Plastic Cup  
**Owner:** Filmjungle.hu  
**Start date:** 2013  
**Contact:** <https://petkupa.hu/eng/>

### Description:

Plastic Cup is an initiative to fight the pollution, first of all plastic pollution of rivers. Since the first event, it is organized on a yearly basis, so in 2018, the 6<sup>th</sup> Plastic Cup took place.

The key to the success of Plastic Cup is that it's able to transform a difficult and dangerous exercise, like collecting trash, into a fun and inspiring team building exercise, into the adventure of a lifetime.

Participants are required to register by the given deadline, to have their application approved by the organisers, and to read and sign the terms and conditions of participation. Those participants who want to build a boat as well, this can only be launched if approved by the authorities according to the specifications issued by the Plastic Cup ship boat building expert.

The first two activities of the Cup are waste collecting and boat building. Both are preceded by an obligatory orientation session. The next stage is the actual boat race, which lasts several days. The winner is the boat that collects the most point (that is, bottle caps) during the race. The prize is the Plastic Cup, which is made exclusively from recycled PET bottles, some of which were collected from the Tisza.

This Cup is primarily about collecting waste, and only secondarily about speed and agility. Its main goal is to get participants to contribute to the cleaning of the Tisza as much as possible. The crew of the boats do their best to collect as much waste from the river as they can, by all possible means. They take the waste aboard and take it to the next stop, where it is handed over to the organisers, and its quantity is officially measured by the PET Master. Extra caps are awarded for waste that the crew was able to incorporate into their boat, thus making sure that it reaches its aim propelled by renewable energy.

Volunteers are the engine of Plastic Cup. All the organizers and helpers devote a lot of time and energy to the common mission, which is to clean up our life-giving river, which has shaped our culture, our home and our climate for millennia.

Aside from the annual PET Cup race and trash collection, filmjungle.eu have also started a systematic survey and location of the severely polluted areas.

They felt like we needed to know the enemy better to effectively combat it. Trash monitoring is done by volunteers, who use a mobile phone app, **TrashOut**. This is publicly available, which makes handling locations and amounts easier and more coordinated. Throughout the year, trash-collection expeditions and teambuilding exercises are organized. Anyone can join the team "PET CUP" to enter trash amounts into the system.