



EFFECTS OF MARINE LITTER ON MEDITERRANEAN MARINE LIFE

The IMAP Candidate Indicator 24

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**INTEGRATED MONITORING
AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAMME
OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
SEA AND COAST
AND RELATED
ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
(IMAP)**

Adopted in COP 19, Athens, Greece

IMAP is a key achievement for the Mediterranean region, which will enable for the first time a quantitative, integrated analysis of the state of the marine and coastal environment, covering pollution and marine litter, biodiversity, non-indigenous species, coast, and hydrography, based on common regional indicators, targets and Good Environmental Status (GES) descriptions.





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IMAP integrated monitoring:

The IMAP monitoring requirements focus on, based on agreed common indicators, parameters that are indicative of the state of the environment, the prevailing anthropogenic pressures and their impacts, and the progress towards the good environmental status (ecological objectives and targets). The monitoring is carried out in such a way that an assessment with adequate confidence and precision is achieved.





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IMAP integrated assessment:

The IMAP assessment products, produced by the UN Environment/MAP Secretariat, including the Common Indicator Assessment Fact Sheets, and the planned integrated assessments (2017 Status Quality Report, 2019 State of Environment and Development Report, 2023 State of Environment Report).



MARINE LITTER (EO10):

Marine litter monitoring of IMAP is based on the Regional Plan on Marine Litter management (Decision IG. 20/10) and on the following agreed common and candidate indicators:

COMMON INDICATOR 22: Trends in the amount of litter washed ashore and/or deposited on coastlines (EO10);

COMMON INDICATOR 23: Trends in the amount of litter in the water column including microplastics and on the seafloor (EO10);

CANDIDATE INDICATOR 24: Trends in the amount of litter ingested by or entangling marine organisms focusing on selected mammals, marine birds, and marine turtles (EO10).



Marine Litter MED Project

- Make a proposal for and recommend the most representative specie(s) to assess the amounts of marine litter ingested by or entangling marine organisms in order to improve knowledge on experimental/candidate indicator 24;
- Develop a specific Protocol on monitoring the amount of litter ingested by or entangling the selected species to harmonize methods and data collection;
- Capacity building on monitoring of sea turtles (Regional/sub-regional meetings);
- Assess available data to propose GES Targets with regards to the amounts of litter ingested by or entangling the sea turtles.



Marine Litter MED Project

- Develop an operational strategy for monitoring the amounts of litter ingested by or entangling sea turtles and a capacity building plan of activities;
- Create and improve a Mediterranean network of institutions on monitoring and exchange of good practices.



Thank you!

