



PREVENTION AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The Implementation of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter in the Mediterranean

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Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

- The first ever legally binding Regional Plan on Marine Litter;
- Providing for a set of programmes of measures;
- Implementation timetables;
- Aiming to prevent and reduce the adverse effects of marine litter on the marine and coastal environment;
- It includes innovative and traditional measures of a policy, regulatory and technical nature, addressing different aspects of marine litter prevention and management from land and sea based sources.



Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean - Objectives

- (a) **Prevent and reduce** to the minimum marine litter pollution in the Mediterranean and its impact on ecosystem services, habitats, species in particular the endangered species, public health and safety;
- (b) **Remove** to the extent possible already existent marine litter by using environmentally respectful methods;
- (c) Enhance knowledge on marine litter; and
- (d) Achieve that the management of marine litter in the Mediterranean is performed in accordance with accepted international standards and approaches as well as those of relevant regional organizations and as appropriate in harmony with programmes and measures applied in other seas.



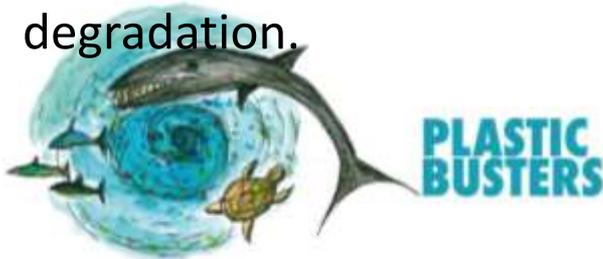
Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean - Principles

Prevention by virtue of which any marine litter management measure should aim at addressing the prevention of marine litter generation at the source;

Precautionary principle by virtue of which where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation;

Polluter-pays principle by virtue of which the costs of pollution prevention, control and reduction measures are to be borne by the polluter, with due regard to the public interest.

Sustainable Consumption and Production by virtue of which current unsustainable patterns of consumption and production must be transformed to sustainable ones that decouple human development from environmental degradation.



Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

Prevention of Marine Litter: Article 9

Land-based Sources:

- Base urban solid waste management on reduction at source applying waste hierarchy (by 2025);
- implement adequate waste reducing/reusing/recycling measures in order to reduce the fraction of plastic packaging waste that goes to landfill or incineration without energy recovery (by 2019);
- ... and by 2017 apply: EPR, SCP, Voluntary Agreements with Retailers, Fiscal and Economic Instruments to reduce plastic bags, polystyrene boxes fishing sector, beverage packaging, plastic industry minimize decomposition.



Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

Prevention of Marine Litter: Article 9

Land-based Sources:

- Establish as appropriate adequate urban sewer, waste water treatment plants, and waste management systems to prevent run-off and riverine input of marine litter (by 2025).

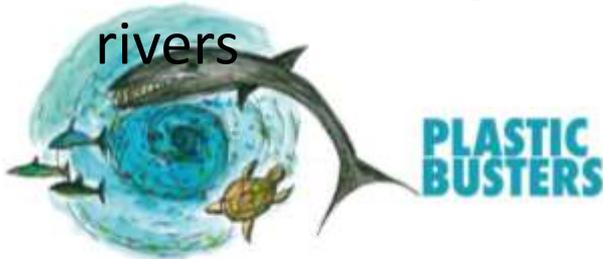


Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

Prevention of Marine Litter: Article 9

Sea-based Sources:

- Port reception facilities;
- “Fishing for Litter” and “Adopt-a-beach” environmentally sound practices;
- Fishing Gear Marking to indicate ownership;
- Prevent any marine littering from dredging activities;
- Close to the extent possible the existing illegal dumping sites on land;
- Enforcement measures to combat dumping, including littering on the beach, illegal sewage disposal in the sea, the coastal zone and rivers



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Removing existing marine litter and its environmentally sound disposal: Article 10

- National Marine Litter Cleanup Campaigns on a regular basis;
- International Coastal Cleanup Campaigns and Programmes;
- Apply “Adopt-a-Beach” or similar practices and enhance public participation role with regard to marine litter management;
- Apply “Fishing-for-Litter” in an environmentally sound manner, based on agreed guidelines and best practice;
- Charge reasonable costs for the use of port reception facilities or, when applicable apply No-Special-Fee system.



“Marine Litter MED” assisting the implementation of the Regional Plan

- EU-funded, 1.4m €, 3yrs project;
- National pilots are planned for “Fishing for Litter” and “Adopt-a-beach”;
- National pilots in developing the regulatory framework for banning of single-use plastic bags and also promote EPR;
- Port reception facilities: application of reasonable cost and where applicable no-special-fee system in EU ports;



Italian Cooperation Agreement IMELS & UN Environment/MAPP

- National pilots are planned for “Fishing for Litter” and “Adopt-a-beach”;
- National pilots in developing the regulatory framework for banning of single-use plastic bags and also promote EPR;
- Networking element, exchange of best practices, similar experiences, regional sub-regional level.



Plastic Buster for a Mediterranean Free from Litter

Prevention and Mitigations Elements

WP3 Activities:

Demonstration projects showcasing action to prevent, reduce, and remove marine litter based on the measures provided in Art. 9 and 10 of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter:

- Single-use plastic bag reduction;
- Deposit refund systems for beverage packaging;
- Fishing-for-Litter (recovery of ghost nets and management);
- Circular economy approach: turning marine litter to products;
- No-special-fee system;
- Bioremediation and biodegradation process on plastics.



Plastic Buster for a Mediterranean Free from Litter

Prevention and Mitigations Elements

WP4 Activities:

Implementation of the Regional Plan at National, sub-Regional and Regional Level:

- a. Undertake a comprehensive assessment of the status of implementation of the Regional Plan;
- b. Produce a package of updated measures to fully tackle marine litter;
- c. Use the common GIS platform to support the integration and the analysis of all monitoring data to support the identification of “hot-spot” areas and orient future reduction measures;
- d. Involvement and cooperation of stakeholders.



Thank you!

