



Marine Litter and the MSFD

Plastic Busters MPAs capitalization event

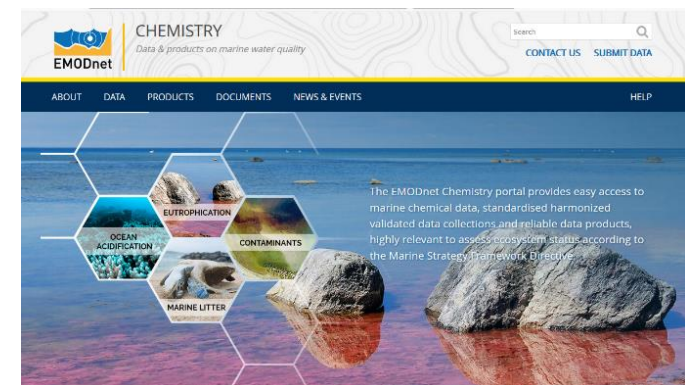
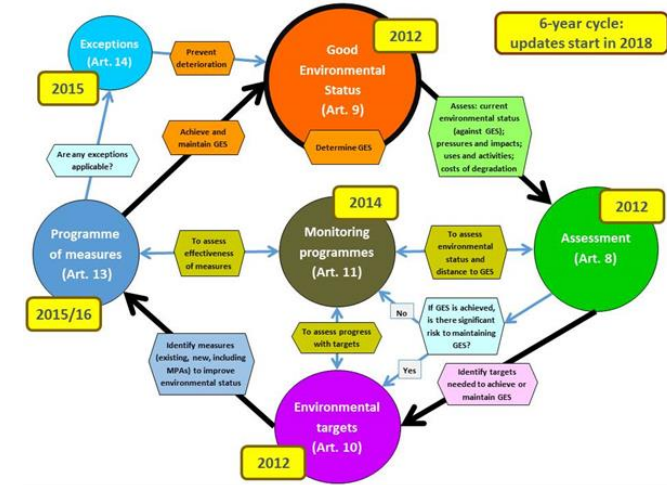
12.10.2021

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Marine Strategy Framework Directive

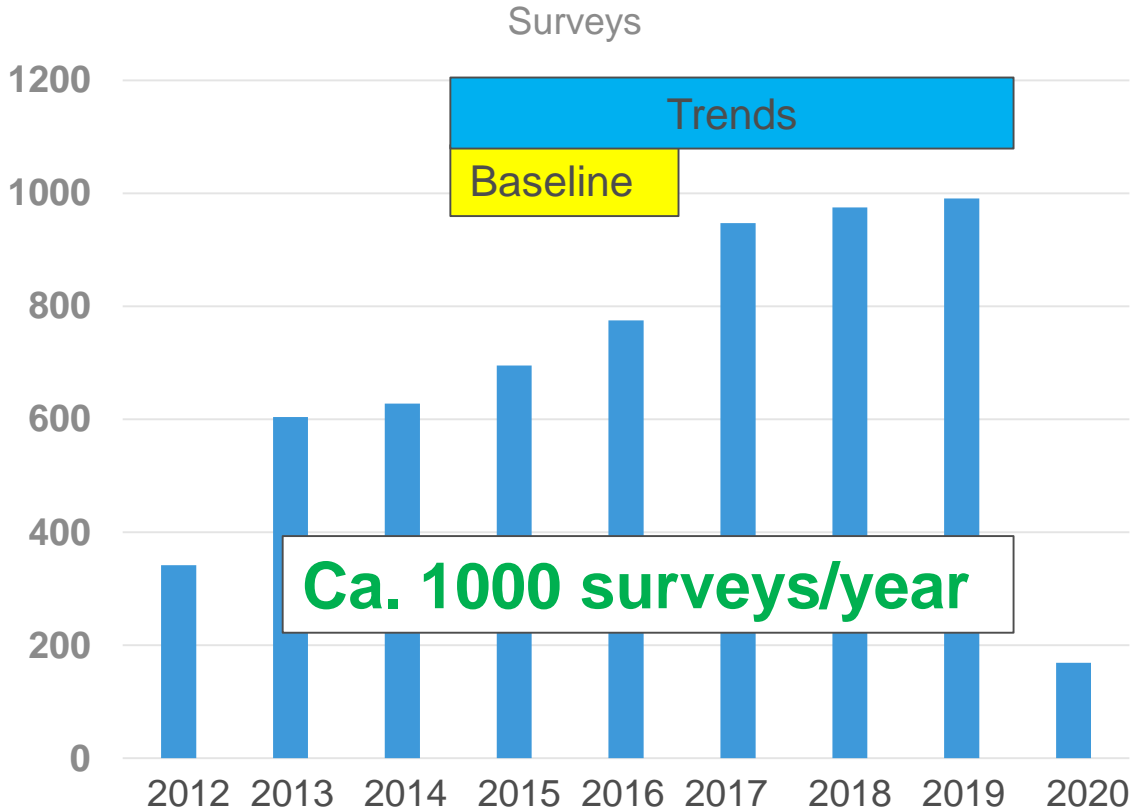
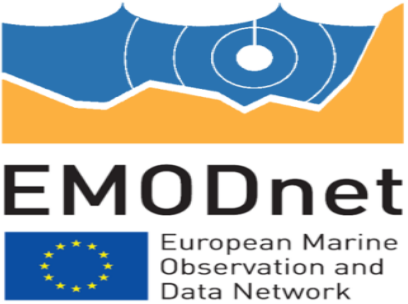
- Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC is the environmental pillar of the EU Maritime Policy (DG ENV)
- MSFD Descriptor 10: Properties and quantities of marine litter do not cause harm to the coastal and marine environment
- Close collaboration with neighbouring Regional Sea Conventions in shared Marine Basins and with EEA
- EMODnet as Data Portal for Data collection and management (DG MARE)
- MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter TG ML as forum for discussion, agreement and harmonization



MSFD Coastline (Beach) Litter Data

Data from > 300 Beaches across EU

Data collection with EMODnet	
2012-2020	7715 surveys (100 m linear coastline)



Output from Beach Litter data compilation

- Top Marine Beach Litter items on EU beaches

Input to development of **DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/904** on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment.

- Baselines 2015/2016

Enabling an overview and comparable baselines in Regions and across EU, being the basis for Threshold development.

- Threshold development (20 Litter items/100 m coastline)

Enabling Assessments by EU Member States to work towards Good Environmental Status.

Reports available on the TG Marine Litter website:

https://mcc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/main/dev.py?N=41&O=434&titre_chap=TG%20Litter



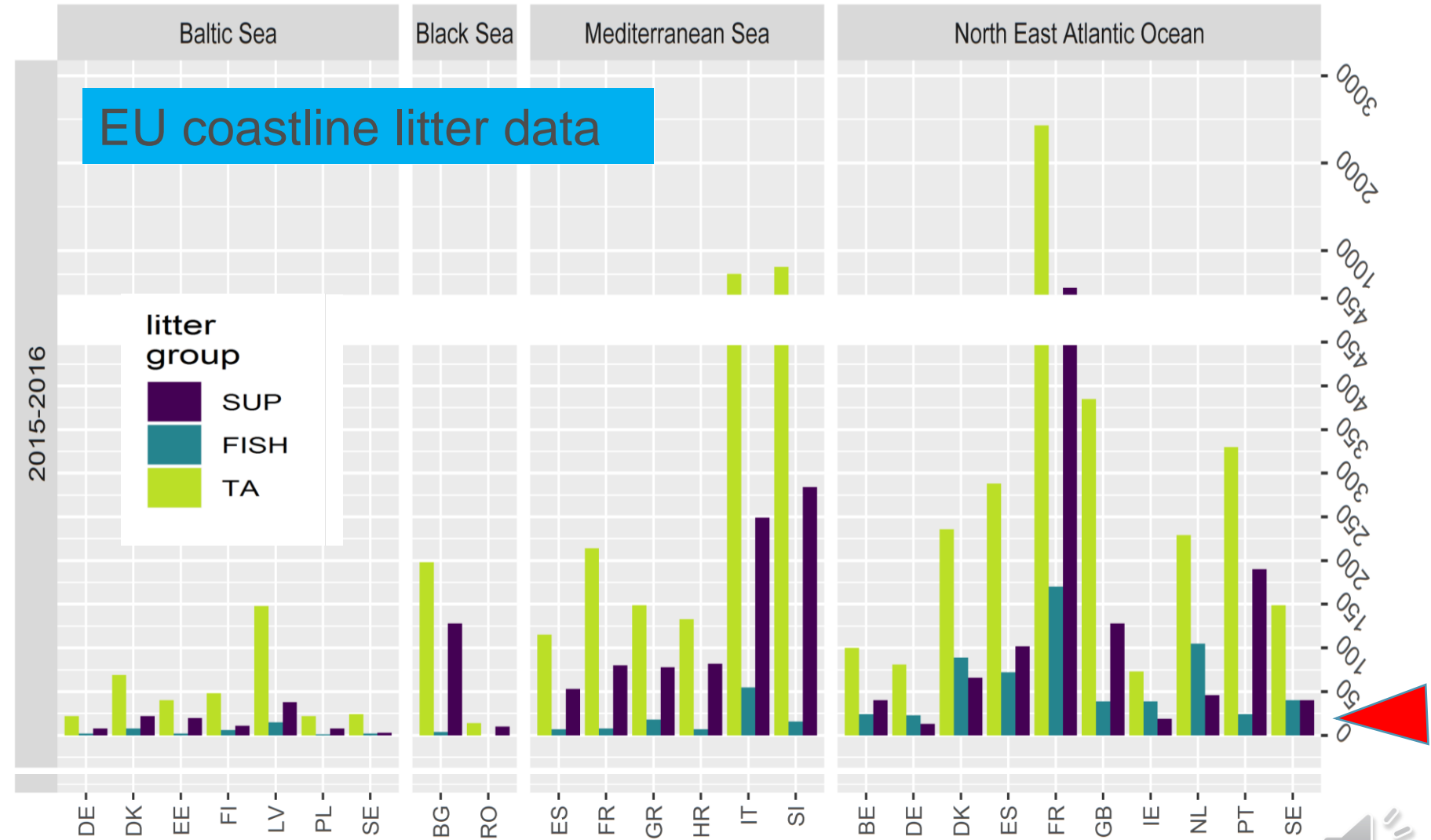
EU Beach Litter Baseline + Threshold Value

Threshold Value

20 macro litter items /100 m linear coastline

Next:

- Developing intermediate targets
- Modelling transboundary litter transport

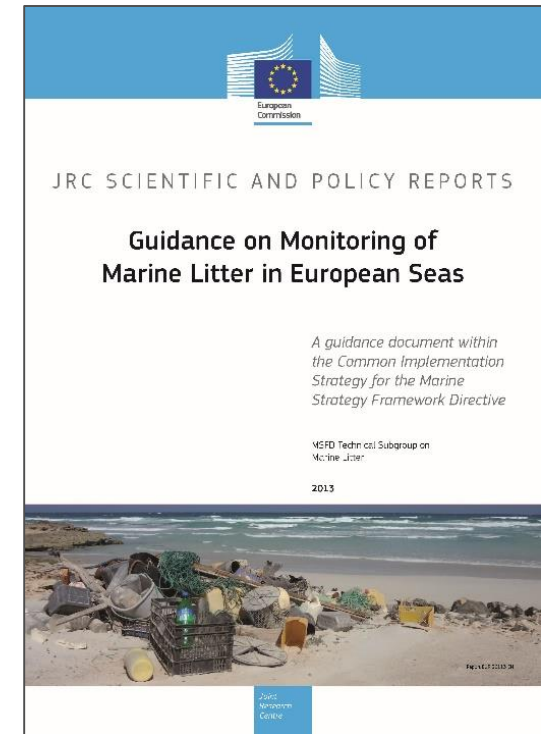


Guidance for Monitoring of Marine Litter - Update 2021

Continuous development of litter monitoring approaches based on research results and experiences in data acquisition.

Harmonisation of strategies and methodologies to improve the comparability of data.

- Beach (Coastline) Litter; Based on data compilations
- Floating Marine Macro Litter: FMML Background report
- Seafloor Macro Litter: „The Quest for Seafloor Litter“, Canals et al. 2020
- Microlitter: MSFD Position Paper (in preparation)
- Litter ingestion and entanglement

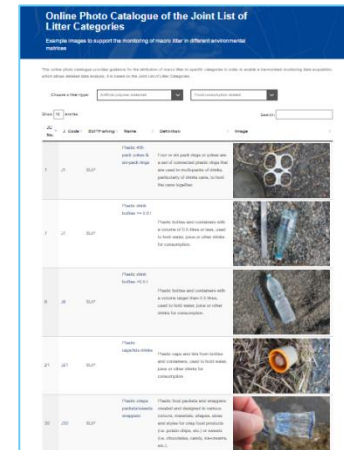
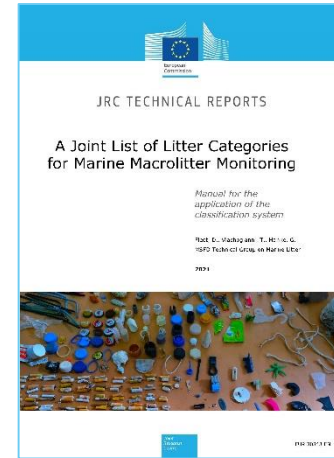


Joint List of Litter Categories

A practical guidance for harmonised macrolitter monitoring

- „a bottle is bottle and a bag is a bag...“, no „rocket science“, but crucial to have one (!) agreed approach, compatible between regions
- A hierarchical list for unambiguous identification of macro litter (enabling links with measures) developed by TG Marine Litter with RSCs
- Coding system (letter code + J-codes) and explanations/guidance for the implementation
- Material, Use, 3 Level Item Categories
- A photo guide enhances common understanding across language barriers

<https://mcc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/main/photocatalogue.py?N=41&O=457&cat=all>



9. The Joint List (J-CODE list)

Type Code	J-Code	G-Code	Name	Definition
ch_m_01	J216	G216	unidentified generally dark-coloured off-like chemicals (i.e. no chemical analysis carried out)	Unidentified generally dark-coloured off-like chemicals (i.e., no chemical analysis carried out)
ch_m_02	J217	G217	unidentified generally light-coloured paraffin-like chemicals (i.e. no chemical analysis carried out)	Unidentified generally light-coloured paraffin-like chemicals (i.e., no chemical analysis carried out)
ch_m_03	J218	G218	unidentified chemicals (i.e. no chemical analysis carried out)	Any unidentified chemicals (i.e., no chemical analysis carried out)
cl_d_01	J137	G137	clothing	Any type of clothes and garments made of natural or artificial polymer material.
cl_d_02	J138	G138	shoes & sandals made of leather and/or textile	Various types of footwear such as shoes and sandals made of leather and/or textile.
cl_m_01	J141	G141	cloth textile carpet & furnishing	Thick woven fabric used for covering the floor or other fabric used for furniture, fittings, and other decorative household accessories such as curtains.
cl_m_02	J140	G140	hessian sack/packaging	Sacks and other packaging items made of a strong, coarse fabric from hemp or jute (jute/sisal).
cl_m_03	J143	G143	nails, screws	A heavy durable cloth made of cotton, hemp, or jute, used for sails, tents, etc.
cl_m_04	J145	G145	other textiles	Other textile items, including pieces of cloth, rags, etc. that are unrecognizable, as well as other identifiable cloth textile items, which do not fit in any other category of this list.
cl_m_05	J139	G139	cloth textile backpacks & textile bags	Textile receptacles with an opening at the top, shoulder straps or a handle, used for carrying things.
bu	J215	G215	bricks, roof tiles	All types of bricks, roof tiles and roof tiles.
bc_c_01	J204	G204	glass and ceramic construction materials (bricks, tiles, cement)	Any glass and ceramic material which is used for construction (e.g. bricks, roof tiles, floor tiles, bricks, cement, etc.)
bc_c_02	J203	G203	glass and ceramic tableware (plates/bowls/glasses)	Glass or ceramic dishes or cutlery used for serving or eating (e.g. plates, cups, glassware, serving dishes and other useful for practical or decorative purposes).
bc_f_01	J207	G207	ceramic or glass octopus pots	Pots made of pottery, weighted with coral and typically having 4 legs. Octopus seeking refuge in the pot.
bc_m_bck_bot	J200	G200	glass bottles	Glass or ceramic containers with a narrow neck, used for storing or serving of other liquids. Includes pieces of glass that can be identified as bottles.
bc_m_bck_jar	J201	G201	glass jars	Wide-mouthed cylindrical containers made of glass or ceramic, usually used for storing food. Includes pieces of glass that can be identified as jars.

Next: example Microlitter baselines

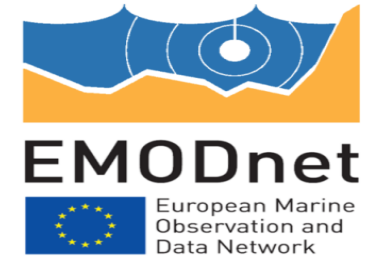
Survey on available marine microlitter data in EU is concluded

- Matrices: Beach, Floating, Seafloor, Biota; Temporal scope 2012 - 2020

Marine Microlitter data in EU 2012 - 2020

Beach Microlitter	680
Floating Microlitter	2540
Sediment Microlitter	550
Biota Microlitter	6448

- Next step started: Collection of floating microlitter data in TG ML through EMODnet with the National Oceanographic Data Centres
- Data will be scrutinized, checked and provide baselines of microlitter in the marine environment



Outlook

Development of

- **Baselines**
- **Thresholds**
- **Trends**

Linking monitoring with measures !

Zero Pollution

- **Zero Pollution Action Plan (adopted on 20.5.2021)**
- **improving water quality by reducing waste, plastic litter at sea (by 50%) and microplastics released into the environment (by 30%)**

Quantitative evidence is needed to implement effective measures towards Good Status of the EU and neighbouring seas!



Many thanks for your attention!

