



# Barcelona Convention Policy Advances on Marine Litter

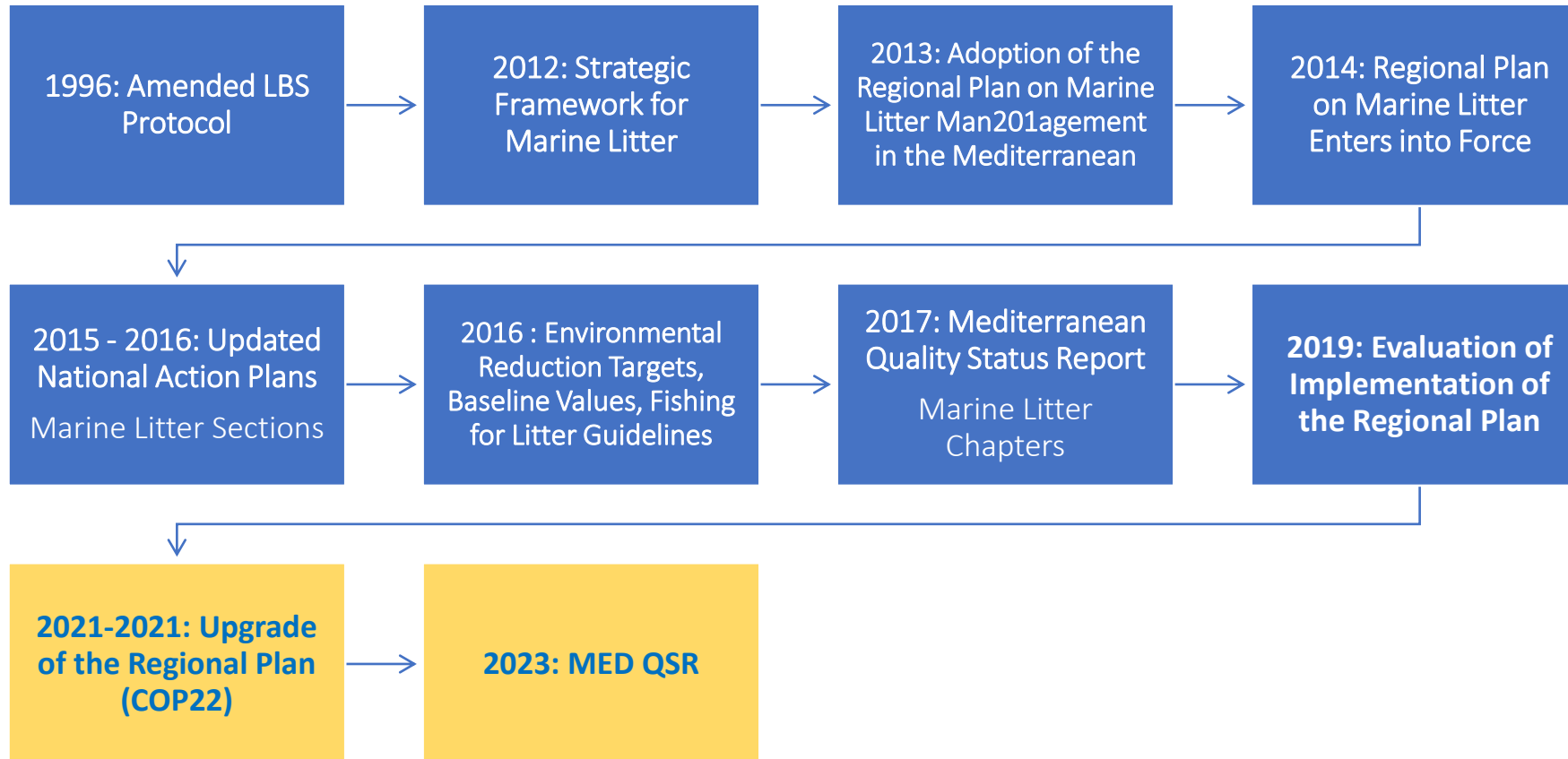
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**Mediterranean  
Action Plan**  
Barcelona  
Convention

PLASTIC BUSTERS MPAs Capitalization Event  
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# MAP/Barcelona Convention and Marine Litter



# Mediterranean Response

## Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean (COP 18, Decision IG.21/7)

integration measures reduction prevention removal  
disposal assessment monitoring research science  
guidelines cooperation assistance awareness  
education stakeholders civil society reporting



# Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

## Achievements

- Development and implementation of National Monitoring Programmes
- Effect of ML on Biota: development of IMAP Cand. Indicator 24
- Assessment Criteria: ML Baseline and Threshold Values (BV-TV) for IMAP Common Indicators
- 19 National Action Plans (NAPs)/ Programmes of Measures (PoMs)
- Banning of single-use plastic bags in 17 Mediterranean Countries (Regulations/National Laws including total and partial bans, taxes/levies)
- Phase-out SUB items & ML Guidelines
- Recycling: Legislations and Policies in 8 Mediterranean Countries
- More than 20 Marine Litter Pilots in 9 (non-EU) Countries
- Regional Cooperation Platform - Civil Society & NGO Involvement & Industry
- Mediterranean Node on Marine Litter

# Updated Marine Litter Regional Plan (2021)

- Mandate given by COP 21 (Naples, Italy, 2-5 December 2019) to **upgrade the MLRP** towards submission to COP 22 (Antalya, Turkey, December 2021)
- **Key principles and measures to be addressed** by the Regional Plan:
  - ✓ Phase out single use plastic items;
  - ✓ Set targets for plastic recycling and other waste items;
  - ✓ Introduce environmental taxes,;
  - ✓ Promote new technologies for the removal of marine litter;
  - ✓ Strengthen sanctions in case of non-compliance;
  - ✓ Include in the SPAMIs measures to combat marine litter;
  - ✓ Reduce packaging;
  - ✓ Promote voluntary agreements with industry;
  - ✓ Strengthen measures related to SCP programmes
  - ✓ Introduce a concrete measure on microplastics reduction

# Main Processes and Milestones towards the 2023 MED QSR

- ✓ **Negotiation and agreement on the scales of monitoring**, assessment and reporting at regional (and as appropriate sub regional) level
- ✓ Development of **methodological tools and assessment criteria for integrated assessment of GES**
- ✓ **Full implementation of national IMAPs** throughout the Mediterranean
- ✓ **Operationalization of IMAP Info System**
- ✓ **Development and implementation of Monitoring Protocols and Data Quality Assurance and Quality Control for IMAP Common Indicators**
- ✓ **Technical assistance and support to CPs** to address knowledge gaps and enhance national capacities
- ✓ **Outreach and partnerships**; and communication and visibility strategy
- ✓ Effective **regional cooperation and coordination**

# Monitoring and Assessment: Issues and Solutions

## **Reliable assessment of the state of marine environment:**

- Integrated GES assessment based on trends in long time series of quality assured data and new/updated thresholds
- The practical GES assessment method(s) to address cumulative stressors and provide their interrelation with state of marine environment
- Build knowledge to address new mandatory Priority and Emerging Contaminants

## **Reliable and cost-effective monitoring of the state of marine environment**

- Optimal monitoring practices nationally and sub-regionally applicable
- Continuously improve capacities of national IMAP relevant counterparts

## **Quality Assurance and Quality Control Schemes applied on national data processing and reporting**

## **Data Management and Information Portal**

# IMAP EO10 Marine Litter: Progress & Developments

- ✓ **National IMAPs in place:** IMAP Implementation 2020-2023, including joint monitoring (integrated implementation of IMAP)
- ✓ **IMAP Guidance Factsheets** for all IMAP EO10 (Marine Litter) Common Indicators
- ✓ **Data Standards and Data Dictionaries**
- ✓ **Monitoring Protocols:** floating microplastics is the latest one; under development intercalibration exercise, full set of protocols for all IMAP EO10 CIs during 2022-2023 biennium
- ✓ **IMAP InfoSystem Modules** (beach macro, seafloor macro, floating micro)
- ✓ **Updated list for beach marine litter items** (COVID-19)
- ✓ **Updated BV and proposal for TV for IMAP EO10 CI22 and CI23**
- ✓ **IMAP Candidate Indicator:** regional operational strategy, protocols, trainings, development and pilot testing of national monitoring programmes
- ✓ **CORMON Marine Litter supplemented by OWG-ML**
- ✓ **Marine Litter Hotspot Areas** – fisheries related items on the spotlight



# Thank you



Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinating Unit  
Barcelona Convention Secretariat



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