RESOURCE PACK ON MARINE LITTER MITIGATION MEASURES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

CAP

















PEGIONE ALITÒNOMA DE SAPDIGN

Plastic Busters CAP

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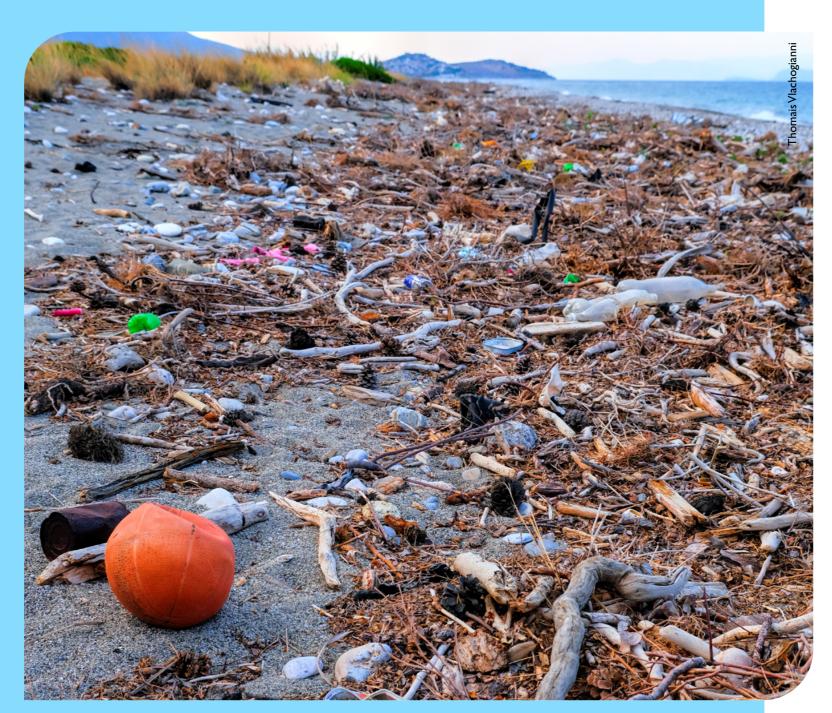
This document has been developed within the framework of the ENI CBC Plastic Busters CAP

The document reflects the authors' views and does not commit the donors.

Plastic Busters CAP in a nutshell

Marine litter is globally acknowledged asamajorsocietalchallengeofourtimes due to its significant environmental, economic, social, political and cultural implications. The Mediterranean Sea is one of the areas most affected by marine litter worldwide. Marine litter is found lying on the shores, as well as floating anywhere from the surface to the bottom of the sea. Even in pristine environments of the Mediterranean, such as coastal and marine protected areas, marine litter is building up, threatening habitats and species. Impacts vary from entanglement and ingestion, to bio-accumulation and bio-magnification of toxics released from litter items, facilitation of introduction of invasive species, damages to benthic habitats, etc.

The Plastic Busters CAP is an ENI CBC MED funded project aiming to facilitate decision-makers and stakeholders in effectively tackling the problem of marine litter by integrating EbM (Ecosystem-Based Management Approach) into ICZM (Integrated



Coastal Zone Management) planning towards good environmental status. The project entails actions that address the entire management cycle of marine litter, from monitoring and assessment to prevention and mitigation actions. The project in the long-term will contribute to enhancing ecosystem services via a reduced leakage of marine litter and marine plastic pollution in the Mediterranean Sea and reduced emissions of greenhouse gases by a wise-use and sustainable disposal of plastics.

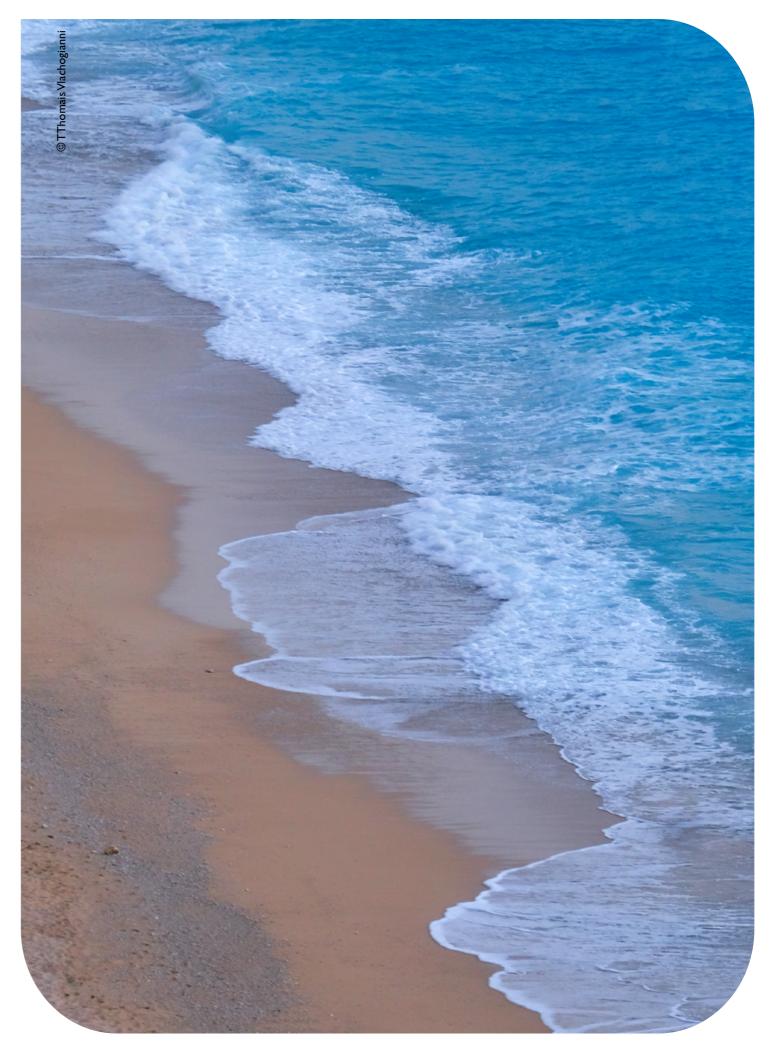
Plastic Busters CAP is a 24 monthlong project, with a total budget of €1.109.976,27 million and is cofunded by the European Union under the ENI CBC MED Programme 2014-2020. It brings together partners from 7 countries of the Mediterranean region, namely Egypt, Greece, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Spain and Tunisia.

The backbone of Plastic Busters CAP is the Interreg Med Plastic Busters MPAs; both projects deploy the multidisciplinary strategy and common framework of action developed within the Plastic Busters Initiative led by the University of Siena and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network Mediterranean. This initiative frames the priority actions needed to tackle marine litter in the Mediterranean and was labelled under the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) in 2016, capturing the political support of 43 Euro-Mediterranean countries.

Reading guide

This resource pack has been developed within the framework of the ENI CBC Plastic Busters CAP project. It features selected key training materials and resources on the issue of marine litter mitigation that give shape and form to the foundation of the knowledge transferring and capitalization actions of the Plastic Busters CAP project aiming to enhance capacities and skills of stakeholders on the implementation of marine litter mitigation measures.





Key terms definitions

Within this resource package the following terms and definitions are used:

Marine litter

Marine litter is defined as any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material discarded, disposed of or abandoned in the marine and coastal environment..

Mesolitter Litter items from 5 mm to 25 mm in the longest dimension.

Macrolitter

Litter items larger than 25 mm in the longest dimension, with no set upper limit.

Microlitter

Litter items smaller than 5 mm in the longest dimension, with no set lower limit.



The policy context

The main policy and legislative frameworks for specific actions against marine litter at Mediterranean, European, EuroMediterranean and global levels are briefly presented below

At global level

The UN Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity. Sustainable Development Goal 14 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is dedicated to marine pollution and marine litter as it sets to "By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, particularly from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution".

The 2021-2030 UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

The United Nations has proclaimed a Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) to support efforts to reverse the cycle of decline in ocean health and gather ocean stakeholders worldwide behind a common framework that will ensure ocean science can fully support countries in creating improved conditions for sustainable development of the Ocean.



The UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Post-2020 **Global Biodiversity Framework**

The CBD Convention urges parties "to develop and implement measures, policies and instruments to prevent the discard, disposal, loss or abandonment of any persistent, manufactured or processed solid material in the marine and coastal environment" (Decision of 2016 XIII/10 on addressing impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal biodiversity, points 6 and 8). A post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will be adopted at the conference that will take place in Kunming, China, in August 2022.

MARPOL Convention - Annex V "Prevention of Pollution by Garbage from Ships"

Annex V related to controlling and preventing pollution from garbage, meaning pollution from solid waste, including plastic waste.





The main objectives of this regional plan are to prevent and reduce to the minimum marine litter pollution in the Mediterranean and its impact on ecosystem services, habitats, species, public health, and safety; it also aims to remove to the extent possible already existent marine litter; and to enhance knowledge on marine litter.

The EcAp process seeks to reach the ultimate objective of achieving Good Environmental Status (GES) in the Mediterranean Sea. To this end, contracting parties have agreed to protect and restore the structure and function of marine and coastal ecosystems thus also protecting biodiversity, in order to achieve and maintain good ecological status and allow for their sustainable use. In addition, they have committed to prevent, reduce and manage the vulnerability of the sea and the coasts from risks induced by human activities and natural events. The ecological objective 10 of ECAP addresses marine litter.

Barcelona Convention Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the **Mediterranean Sea (IMAP)**

A key achievement for the Mediterranean region for quantitative, integrated analysis of the status of the marine and coastal environment based on common regional indicators, targets, and Good Environmental Status descriptions - EO 10: Marine litter: Marine and coastal litter do not adversely affect the coastal and marine environment.

objective of achieving Good Environmental Status (GES) in the Mediterranean Sea

At Mediterranean & EuroMediterranean level

Barcelona Convention Regional Plan on the Management of Marine Litter in the Mediterranean.

The Ecosystem Approach (EcAp)

Barcelona Convention Post-2020 Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Region (Post-2020 SAPBIO)

The Post-2020 SAPBIO is designed to be action-oriented and made of activities tailored towards realistic objectives that countries could reasonably achieve. The Post-2020 SAPBIO includes the Post-2020 Regional Strategy for Marine and Coastal Protected Areas (MCPAs) and other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) in the Mediterranean, and adopted the 30x30 target to achieve 30% protection coverage by 2030.

Union for the Mediterranean 2030GreenerMed Agenda (Thematic Axis 2)

2030GreenerMed is a joint flagship agenda, adopted by the 42 UfM Member Countries, that supports the implementation of the 2nd Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change. The UfM 2030GreenerMed Agenda provides a regional structured framework that, based on the coordination of existing and future programmes and projects, creates political, operational and financial convergence around the following priority axes of cooperation: 1) Support the transition towards a green, circular and socially inclusive economy, based on sustainable consumption and production practices and nature-based solutions; 2) Prevent and reduce pollution on land, air, and sea; and 3) Protect, preserve, manage, and restore natural resources in the Mediterranean region within an integrated ecosystem approach, including terrestrial, marine, and coastal dimensions.

> With this 2014 Declaration, the 42 UfM countries agreed to take action to advance cooperation and alignment on environment and climate change across the region



At Mediterranean & EuroMediterranean level With this 2014 Declaration, the 42 UfM countries agreed to take action to advance cooperation and alignment on environment and climate change across the region. The Declaration set the basis for the transition of the Mediterranean region towards a green and low emissions economy providing real opportunities for preserving natural resources, job creation, improvement of the quality of life for all, meaning an overall sustainable future. The ministerial declaration called for joint action on three interlinked axes of work: 1) depollution; 2) pollution prevention (through sustainable consumption and production as well as resource efficiency); and 3) climate change.



UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Action adopted in 2021

Within the renewed political commitment to the transition towards green, circular and socially inclusive economy, this Declaration highlights that the protection, restoration and sustainable management of biodiversity must be an essential part of immediate action with near and mid-term targets, to be coherent with longer-term strategies for the protection of human health and well-being

The UfM Ministerial Declaration on Environment and Climate Change adopted in 2014

Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)

The first EU legal instrument to explicitly address marine litter, it required "Good Environmental Status" for marine litter to be achieved by 2020, i.e. that "properties and quantities of marine litter do not cause harm to the coastal and marine environment". Assessment of the status, target setting, monitoring, reporting, and implementation of marine litter and microlitter measures are carried out following relevant MSFD provisions, and have been further specified within a Decision by the European Commission (2017/848/EU).

EU Action Plan: «Towards Zero Pollution for Air, Water and Soil»

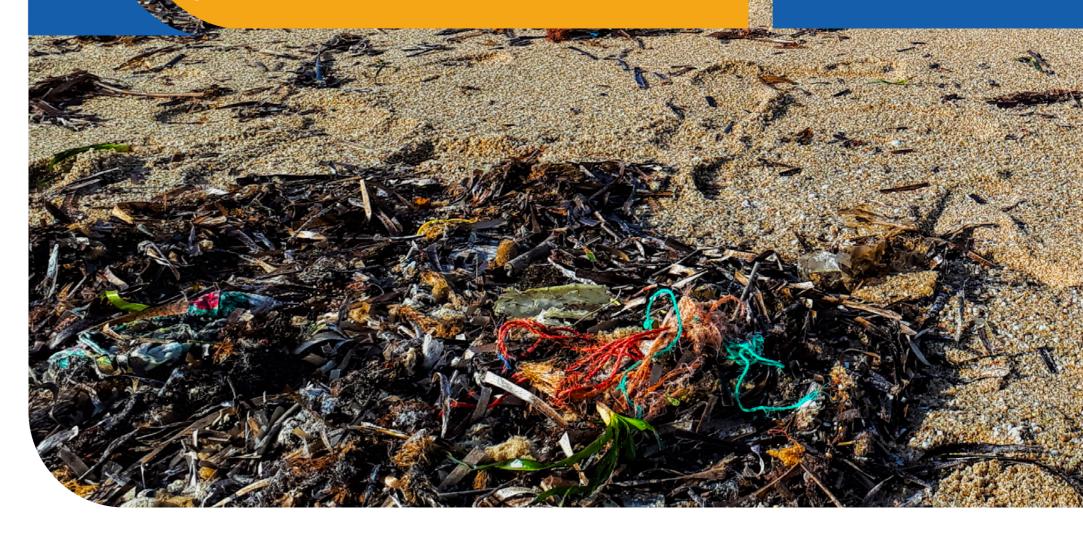
The 2021 Zero Pollution Action Plan, a key deliverable of the European Green Deal, puts forth key targets to speed up reducing pollution at source. Target 5 addresses water quality improvement by reducing waste; by 2030, the EU should reduce by 50% plastic litter at sea and 30% microplastics released into the environment. Furthermore, the significant reduction of waste generation and by 50% residual municipal waste is aimed at.

Directive (EU) 2019/904 on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment (SUP Directive)

Where sustainable alternatives are easily available and affordable, single-use plastic products cannot be placed on the markets of EU Member States. Different measures are being applied to different products. For other single-use plastic products, the EU focuses on reducing consumption, introducing design requirements, labelling requirements, and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) schemes. Regulation on fishing gear is also included.



The 2021 Zero Pollution Action Plan, a key deliverable of the European Green Deal, puts forth key targets to speed up reducing pollution at source



At European level

Directive (EU) 2018/851 amending **Directive 2008/98/EC on waste** (Waste Framework Directive)

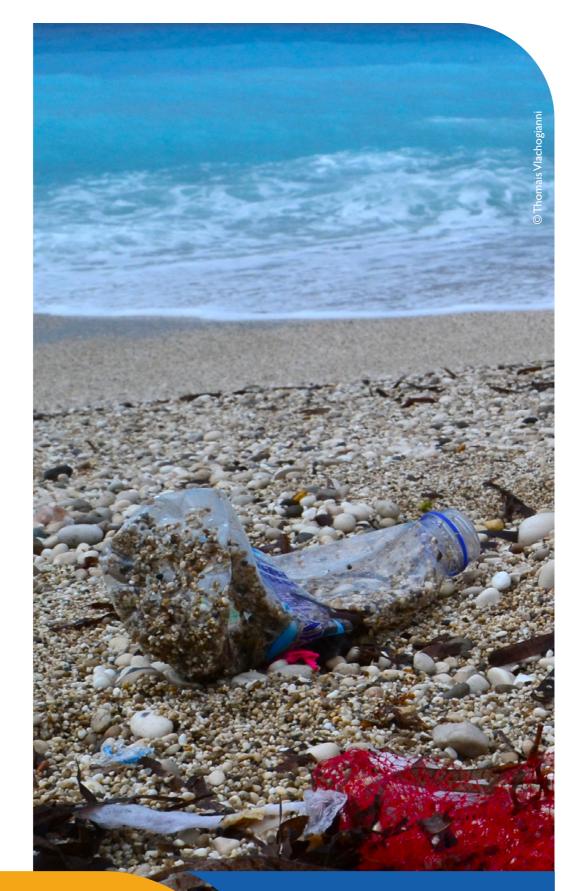
Amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste. The latest amendment contains updated measures to protect the environment and human health by preventing or reducing the generation of waste, the adverse impacts of the generation and management of waste and by reducing overall impacts of resource use and improving the efficiency of such use, which are crucial for the transition to a circular economy and for guaranteeing the EU's long-term competitiveness.

Directive (EU) 2018/852 amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste (Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive)

Amending Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste. The latest amendment contains updated measures to prevent the production of packaging waste and promote the reuse, recycling and other forms of recovering packaging waste. It also sets specific targets for recycling by 2025 and 2030.

European Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

Pillar 1: Legally protect at least 30% of the EU's land area and 30% of its seas. Strictly protect at least a third of the EU's protected areas - representing 10% of the EU land and 10% of the EU sea. Effectively manage all protected areas, defining clear conservation objectives and measures and monitoring them appropriately.



Pillar 1: Legally protect at least 30% of the EU's land area and 30% of its seas. Strictly protect at least a third of the EU's protected areas - representing 10% of the EU land and 10% of the EU sea

At European level

It regulates the discharges of waste from ships by improving the availability and use of adequate port reception facilities and the delivery of waste, including derelict fishing gear from the fishing sector. The directive further targets "fished waste" (waste collected in nets during fishing operations).

It requires the Member States to take measures such as national reduction targets and/or economic instruments (e.g. fees, taxes) and marketing restrictions (bans).



Directive (EU) 2019/883 on port reception facilities for the delivery of waste from ships

Directive (EU) 2015/720 amending Directive 94/62/EC as regards reducing the consumption of lightweight plastic carrier bags (Plastic Bags Directive)



The Plastic Busters MPAs e-learning module on how to operationalize marine litter prevention & mitigation measures

This self-paced e-learning module is designed specifically for the busy practitioner, conservationist, researcher, professional and student working for litter-free coasts and seas. By following this module, participants will learn how to how to contribute to a joint response to address the urgent marine litter threat in the Mediterranean. Participants will gain a deeper understanding and acquire new knowledge and skills related to the design, implementation and monitoring of the following best practice marine litter measures:

- Setting up a single-use plastics free network of coastal food and beverage outlets
- Establishing the adopt-a-beach scheme
- Setting up a reusable cup system
- Establishing a derelict fishing gear management scheme









This resource has been developed within the framework of the Interreg Med Plastic Busters MPAs project.

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

for operationalizing marine litter prevention and mitigation measures

THE INTERREG MED PLASTIC BUSTERS MPAS PROJECT

The Plastic Busters MPAs step-bystep guide for operationalizing marine litter prevention and mitigation measures

• Resource link



This resource has been developed within the framework of the Interreg Med Plastic Busters MPAs project.

Find more info here

This document captures the collective experience of the Plastic Busters MPAs demonstration actions and provides comprehensive guidelines for operationalizing selected marine litter prevention and mitigation measures. The guidelines depict the methodological steps for setting up and implementing each featured measure and provide a step-by-step guide and a blueprint for a joint urgent response to the lurking marine litter threat in Mediterranean MPAs.

The Plastic Busters MPAs showcases on how to prevent and mitigate marine litter in Mediterranean MPAs. Synthesis report

Marine litter prevention and mitigation actions lay at the heart of the Interreg Med Plastic Busters MPAs project. Working for and from the perspective of an MPA manager, Plastic Busters MPAs sought to offer concrete solutions to prevent and mitigate the impacts of marine litter by showcasing marine litter measures in 9 Mediterranean MPAs. The collective experience of the pilot actions is captured within this document that provides an overview of the main lines of action, the achieved results and the lessons learned from the tested marine litter prevention and mitigation measures.





• Resource link



This resource has been developed within the framework of the Interreg Med Plastic Busters MPAs project.

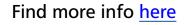
The ACT4LITTER list of showcases of marine litter prevention and mitigation measures

This list features more than 100 promising measures to effectively tackle the issue of marine litter.





This resource has been developed within the framework of the Interreg Med ACT4LITTER project.







The AQUA-LIT aquaculture related marine litter toolbox

This toolbox provides innovative ideas and methodologies to prevent marine litter originating from aquaculture related activities, ensure that better monitoring schemes are put in place, and provide a methodological approach for the removal and recycling aquaculture

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This resource has been developed within the framework of the EU funded AQUA-LIT project.

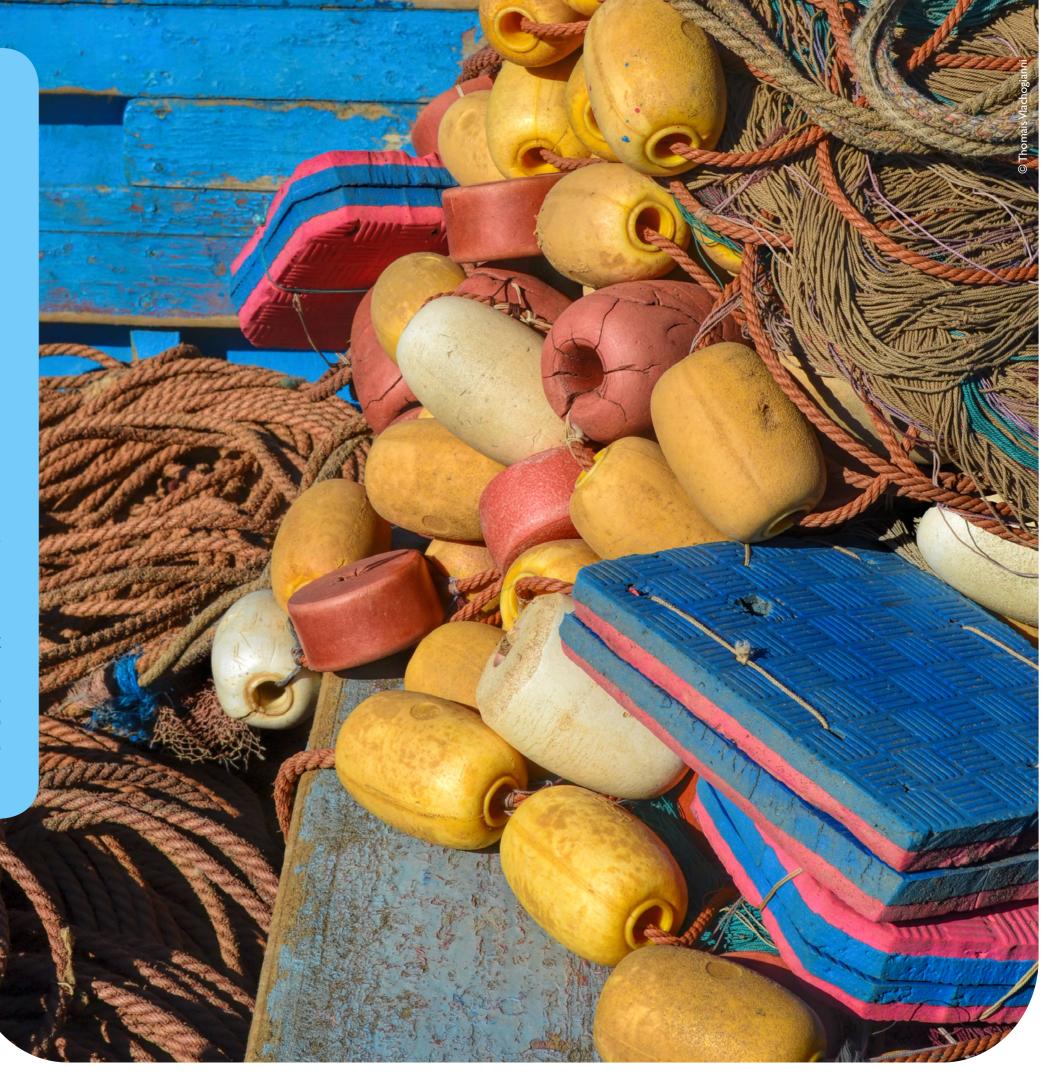
The BlueMed e-training course on understanding and acting for a healthy plastic free Mediterranean Sea

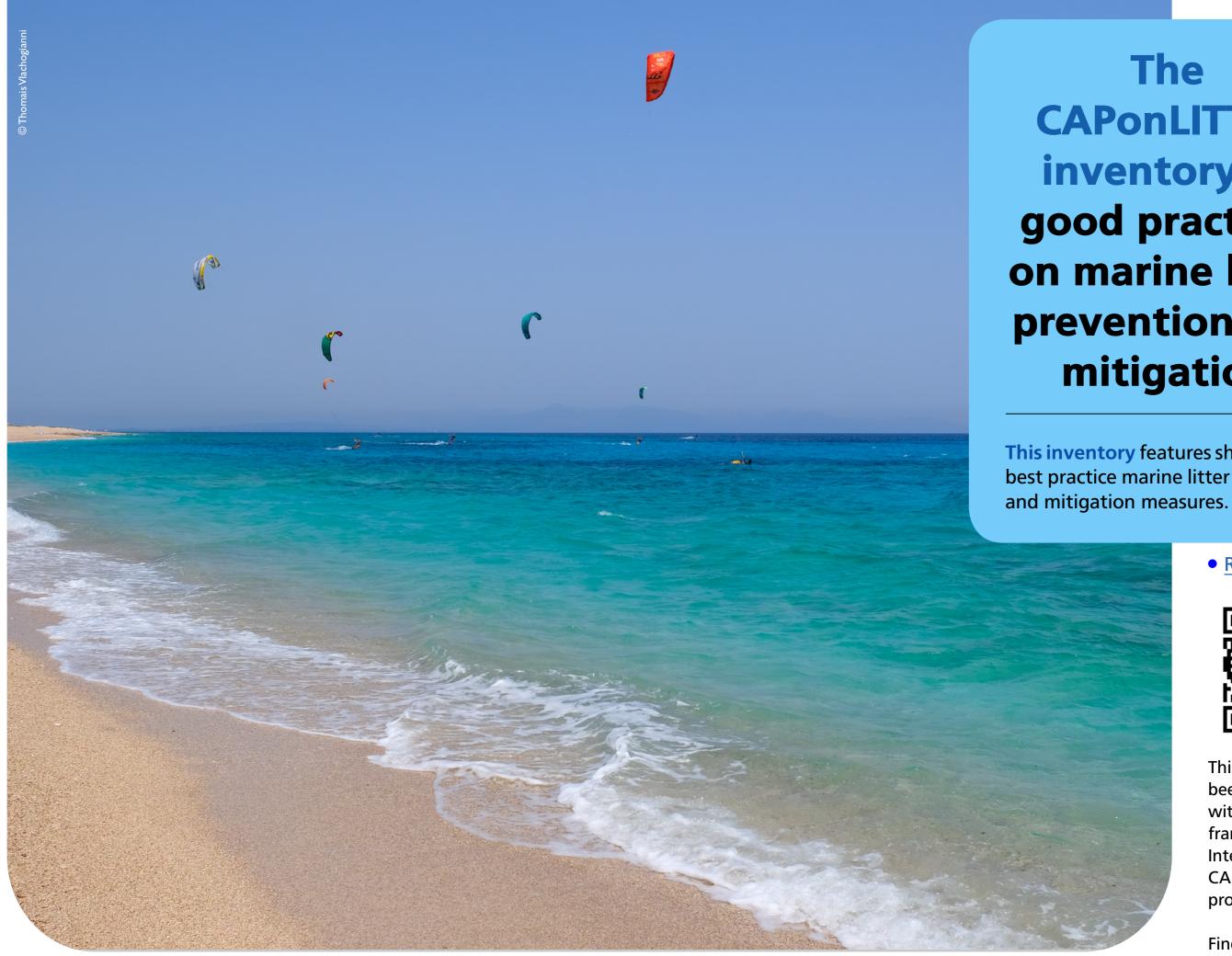
This course brings together experts working on marine litter and the blue-economy in order to share knowledge, showcase best practices and suggest methods enabling more sustainable blue jobs in the framework of the circular economy strategy, taking into due consideration education for sustainable development and citizen science.

• <u>Resource link</u>



This resource has been developed within the framework of the BlueMed Pilot initiative.





The **CAPonLITTER** inventory of good practices on marine litter prevention and mitigation

This inventory features showcases of best practice marine litter prevention

• Resource link



This resource has been developed within the framework of the Interreg Europe CAPonLITTER project.

Find more info <u>here</u>

The COMMON IT marine litter platform

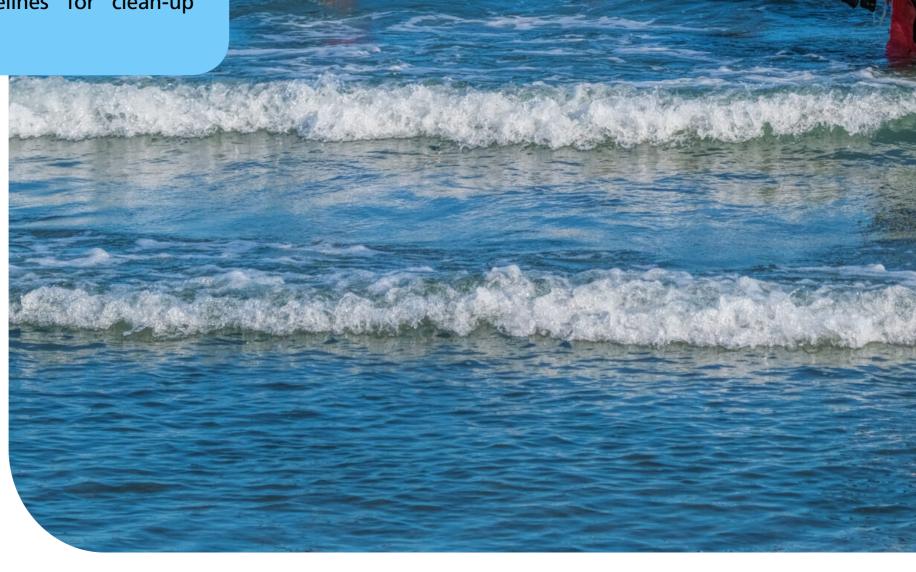
This platform features valuable resources for addressing the issue of marine litter, such as a manual for citizen science, awareness raising materials, guidelines for clean-up actions, etc.



• <u>Resource link</u>



This resource has been developed within the framework of the ENI CBC COMMON project.





The MARELITT blueprint for derelict fishing gear

This document presents tested bestpractice methodologies for the search and retrieval of abandoned, lost or discarded fishing gear at sea; the processing of retrieved derelict fishing gear in harbours; waste management and recycling options for derelict fishing gear, as well as prevention methods against gear loss.



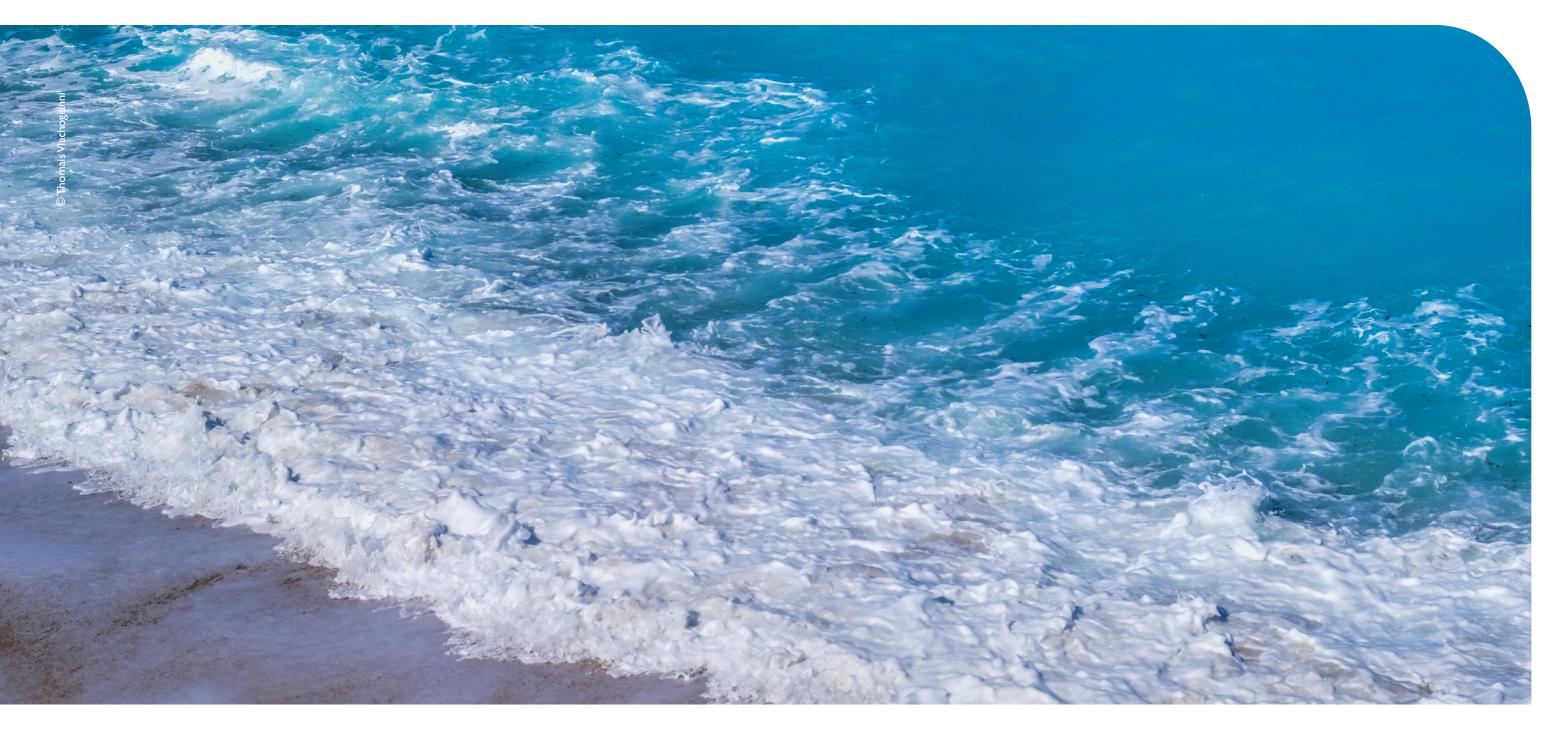


• <u>Resource link</u>



This resource has been developed within the framework of the Interreg Baltic MARELITT project.

Find more info <u>here</u>





The MARLISCO marine litter educational material

The educational material "Know Feel Act! To Stop Marine Litter" aims to inform, sensitise and enable European teachers and students to take action to tackle the problem of litter in our seas and coasts.



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frame

Find more info here

• <u>Resource link</u>

This resource has been developed within the framework of the FP7 MARLISCO project.

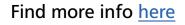
The MARLISCO guide to influencing behavioural change

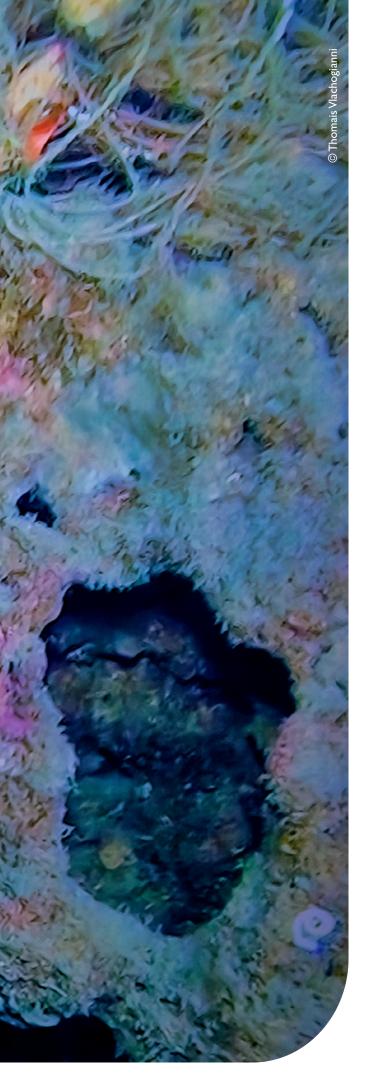
This document provides a guide to communicating with stakeholders about the issue of marine litter and influencing behavioural change. It draws on large scale stakeholder surveys conducted within the MARLISCO project across Europe, specific attempts to influence attitudinal and behavioural change with a number of stakeholder groups, and invaluable feedback collected throughout the stakeholder engagement process in order to inform future efforts to communicate with stakeholders and to influence behavioural change.

• <u>Resource link</u>



This resource has been developed within the framework of the FP7 MARLISCO project.







The UNEP/MAP adopt-a-beach guidelines

These guidelines aim to assist the Contracting Parties of the Barcelona Convention to reduce marine litter on beaches along the Mediterranean coastline with the active involvement of civil society and the wider public.

• Resource link



This resource has been developed within the framework of the EU-funded MARINE LITTER MED project.

Find more info <u>here</u>

The UNEP/MAP fishing for litter guidelines

This document aims to provide technical guidance on the mechanism to remove litter from the sea in an environmentally friendly manner ensuring negative impacts on marine environment and ecosystems are avoided, and to provide guidance on the process of involving the stakeholders responsible for the implementation and coordination of fishing for litter practices.

• Resource link



This resource has been developed by UNEP/MAP.





The WES online repository with waste prevention **best practices**

This online repository aims to promote waste reduction and circular economy across the waste management chain in the Mediterranean region. The cases included were selected out of many from different countries of the region via a stakeholder consultation to identify best practices. They are of varying scale and type from which a lot can be learned and that could inspire more actions to substantially reduce waste generation by 2030 through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.



• Resource link



This resource has been developed within the framework of WES.

Find more info here $\overset{\nabla}{\sim}$

Acronyms

САР	Capitalization
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
D10	Descriptor 10
EbM	Ecosystem-Based Management Approach
EC	European Commission
ENI CBC	European Neighbourhood Instrument Cross-Border Cooperation
EU	European Union
GES	Good Environmental Status
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
ΙΜΑΡ	Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme
MPAs	Marine Protected Areas
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
MSFD TGML	Marine Strategy Framework Directive Technical Group on Marine Litter
SUP	Single-Use Plastic
UfM	Union for the Mediterranean
UN	United Nations
UNEP/MAP	United Nations Environment Programme/Mediterranean Action Plan

Find out more about the Plastic Busters CAP actions here TTER FREE MF



For a litter FREE Mediterranean



















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