



Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

Stakeholder Conference on the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean
Naples, Italy, 29-30 November 2017

Julien LE TELLIER
UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention Secretariat

Regional Actions to Combat Marine Litter



Global Partnership on Marine Litter



Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean



Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter for the Baltic Area



Marine Litter Regional Action Plan for the North-East Atlantic



Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management for the wider Caribbean



Pacific Regional Integrated Waste Management and Pollution Control Strategy



Regional Plan on Marine Litter for the Northwest Pacific



Guidelines on the application of fishing gear marking



Monitoring and managing abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear and ghost fishing

The Mediterranean Response to Combat Marine Litter

- The first ever legally binding **Regional Plan on Marine Litter**, to prevent and reduce the adverse effects of marine litter
- Programmes of measures; implementation timetable and guidelines; regional assessment; baseline values and environmental reduction targets;
- **Regional Cooperation Platform on Marine Litter** consisting of >25 regional and international partners with mandates and activities contributing to the environmentally sound management of marine litter;
- **Regional Action Plan on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP AP)**;
- Basin-wide **Marine Litter Monitoring in the framework of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme for the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and related Assessment Criteria (IMAP)**.



Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management - Principles

- ✓ **Integration:** ML Management shall be part of the Solid Waste Management and other relevant strategies;
- ✓ **Prevention:** ML management measures should aim at preventing ML generation at source;
- ✓ **Precaution:** prevent environmental degradation in cases where ML threats are serious or irreversible damage;
- ✓ **Polluter-pays:** costs of pollution prevention, control and reduction measures are to be borne by the polluter;
- ✓ **Ecosystem-based approach:** the full effects of ML on marine and coastal ecosystem, habitats and species should be taken into account;
- ✓ **Public participation and stakeholder involvement;**
- ✓ **Sustainable Consumption and Production.**

The EU-funded Marine Litter MED Project (1/3)

EU-funded, 1.4m €, 3 years project

Objectives:

- **To support the Secretariat and Southern Mediterranean countries to implement key common measures** provided for in the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean;
- **To support the updated of National Action Plans to achieve GES** in synergy and coherence with the implementation of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and H2020 initiative
- **To contribute to the region wide Marine Litter reduction targets** as approved by COP 19 of the Barcelona Convention and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



Conclusions

- **Improve national waste management systems:**
 - Improve reuse and recycling,
 - Reduce waste generation (SCP),
 - Limit marine litter entering the sea from sewage and storm waters,
 - Reduce disposable single-use plastic items;
- **Removal of marine litter:** special priority is given to the identification of hot-spots and accumulation areas along with the application of practices to remove existing marine litter (e.g. FfL);
- **Marine litter from Sea-based Sources:** implementation of MARPOL Annex V, along with the fishing gear marking and incentives to fishermen to minimize the loss of fishing gear;
- **Education and Outreach:** Specific training and education for a large number of sectors, voluntary clean-up campaigns, data banks for marine litter available to the large public and TV and radio programmes.



Mediterranean Action Plan
Barcelona Convention



Thank you

Julien LE TELLIER, PhD
UN Environment/MAP
Julien.Letellier@unep.org

www.unepmap.org