



The Horizon 2020 Initiative

The “Horizon 2020 Initiative” was endorsed during an Environment Ministerial Conference held in Cairo in 2006 and is also a key initiative run under the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM). It aims to de-pollute the Mediterranean by the year 2020 by tackling the sources of pollution that account for around 80% of the overall pollution of the Mediterranean Sea: **municipal waste, urban wastewater and industrial pollution.**

The H2020 Initiative focuses on the following four pillars:

- Identification of *projects* to reduce the most significant sources of pollution.
- Identification of *capacity-building* measures to help neighboring countries strengthen national administrations and stakeholders in developing and applying environmental laws.
- Use of the EC’s *research* budget to develop greater knowledge of environmental issues relevant to the Mediterranean and ensure this is shared.
- Develop indicators to *monitor* progress.

H2020 has three components with a project currently running under each one: (i) **Investment** component with the Mediterranean Hot Spots Investment Programme – Project Preparation and Implementation Facility (MeHSIP-PPIF); (ii) **Capacity Building** component with H2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme; and (iii) **Review, Monitoring and Research** component with the ENPI Shared Environmental Information System (ENPI SEIS).

Partner countries

Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Tunisia, [Syria].

“Supporting the implementation of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean”

13-15 May, 2014, Athens, Greece

Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP)

The framework

The Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme (H2020 CB/MEP) is an EU funded project which runs under the H2020 Initiative and aims at enhancing the capacities to address pollution problems at institutional and society level.

Pollution in the Mediterranean is expected to be substantially reduced through the installation and proper functioning of major infrastructures (e.g. sewage treatment plants), of pollution reduction technologies in industries, etc. However, this won’t work if institutional and individual capacities are not in place. This is what the H2020 CB/MEP aims to enhance by operating within the existing and developing policy instruments, and supporting the implementation of the commitments undertaken in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy as well as other regional agreements such as the Barcelona Convention, while cooperating, coordinating and synergising with all relevant Mediterranean (EU and other) programmes.

Objectives

The main objective of the project is to address the problems of: low political priority given to the environment; insufficient integration of environment in the different sector policies (agriculture, tourism, transport or energy) and lack of inclusion of the different actors; insufficient capacities and resources at institutional and civil society level. This is achieved through capacity building and awareness raising activities and by promoting integration of environmental issues in other sectors policies.

During the first phase of the project (2009-2012), more than **1900 professionals** from ministries, local authorities, institutions, agencies, NGOs, industries, business organizations, chambers of commerce, universities and research institutes, as well as politicians, journalists, educators, etc. were trained in one or more of the eighty five (85) Horizon 2020 capacity building activities that took place. By October 2014, forty four more trainings will take place.

Partners

This project is implemented by the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) in consortium with the: Mediterranean Action Plan of the United Nations Environment Programme and its Regional Activity Centres and Programmes (UNEP/MAP and its RACs), National Waste Management Agency (ANGed)/ Regional Solid Waste Exchange of Information and Expertise Network in Mashreq and Maghreb Countries (SWEEPNet), Umweltbundesamt GmbH – Austrian Environment Agency (AEA), Lebanese Ministry of Energy and Water - the General Directorate of Hydraulic and Electrical Resources (LMoEW), Hellenic Ministry for Environment, Energy and Climate Change, UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education (UNESCO-IHE), Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), Arab Network for Environment and Development (RAED), WWF Mediterranean Programme Office (WWF MedPO), Association of Cities and Regions for Recycling and Sustainable Resource Management (ACR+), Arab Countries Water Utilities Association (ACWUA).



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Course Description

Introduction to the training course

The training course is organized within the collaborative framework of three EU funded projects: the ENPI Horizon 2020 CB/MEP, the IPA DeFishGear, the FP7 MARLISCO. It comes as a direct follow-up of the first training on the issue organized within H2020 CB/MEP in May 2012, in Gothenburg, where additional needs and gaps were identified.

The training introduces the **Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean** and the corresponding measures and operational targets, so that partner countries will develop their capacities to implement the soon-to-be legally binding provisions of the Action Plan. The seminar is organized by the Mediterranean Information Office for Environment, Culture and Sustainable Development (MIO-ECSDE), UNEP/MAP-MEDPOL and ACR+.



Its duration is 2.5 days and it is combined with the **Mediterranean Conference on Combating Marine Litter in the Adriatic MacroRegion** (13 May 2014), organized within the framework of the IPA Adriatic project entitled "Derelict Fishing Gear Management System in the Adriatic Region (DeFishGear)". Furthermore, the training will be held under the auspices of Greek Presidency of the European Union and back-to-back with the UfM Ministerial on Environment and Climate Change. The training, apart from the DeFishGear project, will skillfully bring together another cutting edge marine litter project the FP7 project entitled "MARine Litter in Europe Seas (MARLISCO)". The language of the course is English and French.

Participants in this seminar (around 50) are from all H2020 Partner countries. This activity aims to develop capacities at regional level for the implementation of Horizon 2020 objectives and provide the opportunity to share relevant valuable experiences.

Target group

The capacity building activity is targeted to relevant regional, national and local authorities; private sector; NGOs, etc., who will be involved in the implementation of the different measures outlined in the Regional Action Plan.

More specifically it is targeted to:

- the national MEDPOL Focal Point (or his/her alternate)
- other high-level officials from the competent authorities dealing with coastal waste management
- Ministries of Environment, Shipping, etc.
- coastal municipalities
- port reception authorities
- Coast Guard
- NGOs experienced in marine litter issues
- private sector active in Corporate and Social Responsibility (plastics production, packaging industry, etc.)

The background level of the trainees is expected to be of **an intermediate/advanced level**.

Learning objectives

The main objective of the course is to deepen the trainees' understanding of the different measures outlined in the Regional Action Plan and develop their skills to take appropriate decisions and undertake the necessary action towards implementing them. The course will provide to the trainees a solid understanding of the implications of these measures (including economic and social aspects); information on global, EU, Mediterranean and national best practices, guidelines and tools needed for the prevention, reduction, removal and sustainable management of marine litter in the region.

Methodology and Structure

The workshop will be comprised of a balanced mix of presentations, small group simulation exercises and moderated discussion to foster an engaging learning experience. It is also intended to be participatory and interactive. A pre-assignment exercise will be carried out to assess the perceptions and attitudes of participants with regards to marine litter.





Learning outcomes of the training course

- An in-depth understanding of the current status of the marine litter problem in the Mediterranean;
- Knowledge and understanding of key issues (technical, environmental, economic, health, cultural and social) related to marine litter;
- Acquiring the necessary information on the different policies and initiatives at Mediterranean and EU level aiming to tackle marine litter;
- An in-depth understanding of the different measures outlined in the Regional Action Plan related to prevention, reduction, removal and sustainable management of marine litter, as well as their corresponding implications;
- Acquiring a holistic take on the issue of marine litter and a better understanding of the key role of different stakeholders in implementing different measures;
- Understanding of the links between global/regional/national marine litter management approaches e.g. the links between the MSFD and the EcAp process;
- Enhanced skills to contribute to the setting of realistic but yet ambitious targets related to marine litter with the Ecosystem Approach by MAP;
- Acquiring the necessary information related to cutting edge tools, best practices and lessons learned delivered by different Mediterranean and EU initiatives, such as MARLISCO, DeFishGear, etc., as well as national ones in order to replicate lessons learned at the national and local level.
- Enhanced knowledge on the major shortcomings, challenges and/or bottlenecks with regards to the implementation of the different marine litter measures within the national or local context.



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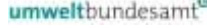
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Course schedule/ curriculum

Official opening event Venue: Central Building of the University of Athens			
12 May	Topic / Description	Duration	Speaker or Trainer
	Welcome addresses and opening remarks	18:00–18:30	Theodosios Pelegrinis , Rector of the University of Athens Ioannis Maniatis , Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change Janez Potočnik , EC Commissioner for Environment Maria Luisa Silva Mejias , Executive Secretary and Coordinator, UNEP/MAP Michael Scoulllos , H2020 CB/MEP Team Leader, Chairman of MIO-ECSD Andrej Krzan , DeFishGear Coordinator
	Combating marine litter in the Mediterranean: quick overview of key projects	18:30–19:00	Derelict Fishing Gear Management System in the Adriatic - Andrej Krzan , DeFishGear Coordinator (5min) Horizon 2020 Capacity Building/Mediterranean Environment Programme – Michael Scoulllos , H2020 CB/MEP Team Leader (5min) Marine Litter in European Seas: Social Awareness and Co-responsibility – Thomais Vlachogianni , MARLISCO Med Node Leader (5min) “Let’s Clean Up Europe” action – Francoise Bonnet , Secretary General, ACR+ (5min)
During the official opening event the MARLISCO exhibition on marine litter will be formally inaugurated by the high level officials attending (10 minutes including photo session)			
Cocktail reception & conference registration will follow directly after the above mentioned events at the Kostis Palamas building of the University of Athens at 48 Akadimias Ave, which is just across the street from the Central Building of the University of Athens, 30 Panepistimiou Ave.			

Conference schedule			
Venue: the Central Building of the University of Athens			
13 May	Topic / Description	Duration	Speaker or Trainer
Opening session	Welcome addresses and opening remarks	09:00–09:30	Andrej Krzan , DeFishGear Coordinator Michael Scoulllos , H2020 CB/MEP Team Leader & Chairman of MIO-ECSD Dionysia – Theodora Avgerinopoulou , President of the Special Permanent Committee on Environmental Protection of the Hellenic Parliament, President of COMPSUD (tbc) Konstantinos Triantis , Special Secretariat for Water, Ministry of Environment, Energy and Climate Change
Key note addresses	Marine litter in the Mediterranean: setting the scene <i>Presentations and interactive discussion</i>	09:30–10:15	Sources and impacts of marine litter in the Mediterranean - Galgani Francois , IFREMER, Chair of the MSFD Technical Group on Marine Litter (15min) Microplastics pollution: an emerging threat? – Peter Kershaw , Independent Environmental Scientist (15min)
Session 1	Key policies & frameworks to tackle marine litter in the Mediterranean <i>Presentations and interactive discussion</i>	10:15 -11:30	Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean & the Ecosystem Approach – Tatjana Hema , Programme Officer, UNEP/MAP MEDPOL (15min)



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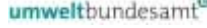
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			<p>The Marine Strategy Framework Directive and other EU policies to combat marine litter - <i>Nigel Smith</i>, Programme Officer, Marine Environment and Water Industry, DG Environment (15min)</p> <p>MSFD & Blue Growth in Greece: synergies and challenges - <i>Athanasios Tsikliras</i>, MSCG Member, Advisor to the Special Secretariat for Water, Greece (15min)</p> <p>MSFD & Regional Action Plan implementation in Slovenia: synergies and challenges – <i>Štefan Trdan & Monika Peterlin</i>, Head of the Marine Dpt, Institute for water of the Republic of Slovenia (15min)</p>
Coffee break		11:30–11:45	
Session 2	<p>Coordinated and harmonized actions to combat marine litter in the Adriatic Sea: a sub-regional experience as strategic input to regional efforts</p> <p><i>Presentations and interactive discussion</i></p>	11:45–13:00	<p>The IPA Adriatic DeFishGear project: overview - <i>Andrej Krzan</i>, DeFishGear Coordinator (15min)</p> <p>Marine litter (macro & micro) assessment in the Adriatic Sea: paving the way for harmonized monitoring to facilitate effective decision making – <i>Thomas Vlachogianni</i>, Programme Officer, MIO-ECSD & <i>Andreja Palatinus</i>, IWRS (30min)</p> <p>Setting up a ‘Derelict Fishing Gear’ and ‘Fishing for Litter’ management system in the Adriatic Sea: challenges and lessons learned – <i>Paolo Pelusi</i>, President, Mediterranean Consortium (15min)</p>
Lunch break		13:00–14:00	
Session 3	<p>Key initiatives to tackle marine litter in the Mediterranean and beyond: from prevention and reduction to removal and recycling actions</p> <p><i>Presentations and interactive discussion</i></p>	14:00-15:30	<p>The EU LIFE+ EWWR project: a pan-European initiative to promote sustainable resource and waste management - <i>Françoise Bonnet</i>, Secretary General, ACR+ (15min)</p> <p>MARLISCO’s collection of best practices to tackle marine litter - <i>Demetra Orthodoxou</i>, ISOTECH Ltd, MARLISCO Cyprus Project Manager (15min)</p> <p>Bottom-up approach to pinpoint local sources & pathways of marine litter and parameters to help define strategies for measures - <i>Pedro Fernandez</i>, EUCC Mediterranean Centre (15min)</p> <p>Embracing opportunities for recycling marine litter for the production of High Quality Products: the Healthy Seas, a journey from waste to yarn and textiles - <i>Edi Kraus</i>, General Manager, Julon (15min)</p> <p>The BioClean project: Biotechnological solutions for the degradation of synthetic polymeric materials - <i>Noura Raddadi</i>, Dpt of Civil, Chemical, Environmental & Materials Engineering, University of Bologna (15min)</p>
Coffee break and poster session		15:30–16:00	
Session 4	<p>Putting marine litter related preventive and remedial <i>measures</i> in practice: identification and prioritisation of needs and gaps</p> <p><i>Roundtable discussions</i></p>	16:00–17:15	<p><i>Designated countries/stakeholders speed presentations (20-30min group work & 3-5min speed presentations)</i></p>
Closing session	Conclusions & closing remarks	17:15-17:30	<i>Andrej Krzan & H2020 CB/MEP (30 min)</i>



Workshop schedule			
14 May	Topic / Description	Duration	Speaker or Trainer
Session 5	Implementing prevention measures to tackle marine litter: experiences and lessons learned <i>Presentation, exercise and interactive discussion</i>	09:30 -11:15	Putting circular economy into practice - Françoise Bonnet, ACR+ <i>(presentation, exercise, feedback session, discussion)</i>
Coffee break		11:15–11:30	
Session 6	Implementing prevention measures to tackle marine litter: experiences and lessons learned (continued) <i>Presentations and interactive discussion</i>	11:30–13:15	Plastics industry contribution to the establishment of procedures and manufacturing methodologies to minimize the decomposition of plastics – Ralph Schneider, Plastics Europe (20min) Extended Producer Responsibility as a tool for improved product design, waste prevention & recycling and clean-up campaigns – Françoise Bonnet ACR+ (20min) Measures to enhance the collection systems for post consumer & beverage packaging prioritizing their recycling – Jelena Trinic, Packaging & Packaging Waste Manager, Coca-Cola Hellenic Bottling Company (30min.) Incentive based fee system for ship-generated waste – Peter Van den dries, Project Officer & Senior Policy Advisor, Flemish Waste Agency (20min)
Lunch break		13:15–14:15	
Session 7	Implementing prevention measures to tackle marine litter: the issue of plastic bags <i>Presentations and interactive discussion</i>	14:15-15:30	The Irish ‘plastic bag levy’: a mechanism to reduce marine litter? - Tom Doyle, Coastal & Marine Research Centre, University College Cork, Ireland (20min) Plastics bags consumption reduction into practice – Alfred Vara, Head of Prevention Dpt, Catalan Waste Agency (20min) Plastic bags – policies and practices to reduce consumption – Françoise Bonnet, ACR+, (20min)
Coffee break		15:30–15:45	
Session 8	Brainstorming on the most effective and the most implementable measures (actions) to tackle marine litter <i>Exercise and interactive discussion</i>	15:45–17:00	Facilitators: <i>Michael Scoullas, H2020 CB/MEP</i> <i>Tom Doyle, Coastal & Marine Research Centre</i> <i>Françoise Bonnet, ACR+</i> <i>Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSD</i>
Wrap up session	Conclusions/wrap up	17:00-17:30	<i>Michael Scoullas</i> <i>Françoise Bonnet</i>



Workshop schedule			
15 May	Topic / Description	Duration	Speaker or Trainer
Session 9	Brainstorming on regional-wide headline reduction target (quantitative) & operational targets for marine litter in the Mediterranean <i>Breakout session and presentations in plenary (~ 60min)</i>	09:00 -11:30	<p>Facilitators: Michael Scoullos, H2020 CB/MEP Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE Françoise Bonnet, ACR+</p> <p>Facilitators: Michael Scoullos, H2020 CB/MEP</p>
	Conceptual mapping as a facilitating process of management <i>Breakout session and presentations in plenary (~ 60min)</i>		
Coffee break		11:30–12:00	
Session 10	Presentation of the pre-assignment outcome, evaluation of the course, closing remarks and certificates award	12:00–13:00	<p>Michael Scoullos and Emad Adly, H2020 CB/MEP Tatjana Hema , UNEP/MAP-MEDPOL Thomais Vlachogianni, MIO-ECSDE Françoise Bonnet, ACR+</p>





Further info on the course exercises

Session 8

Brainstorming exercise on the most effective and the most implementable measures (actions) to tackle marine litter

Brainstorming on possible ACTIONS to tackle marine litter

Each group has to come up with one or more specific ACTIONS/MEASURES (max. 3) to solve the marine litter issue and then share them with the rest of the participants. Each group will write down the title for their ACTION (e.g. introduction of a Plastic Bag Levy, OR introduction of marine litter education course into primary schools, etc.) and then on the back of the sheet explain their ACTION in more detail. A well defined but short title should be made if possible (e.g. Plastic Bag Levy not 'place a 25 cents levy on all shopping bags')! (The supporting team will organise these actions into a list that will be voted on later).

Secret ballot on the most effective and most implementable ACTIONS

Participants will have to (as individuals and no longer as a team) to select from the list (all participants will be given an A4 sheet with the list of solutions presented by team a, b, c etc.) what **in their opinion** is a) the most **effective** measure (action) at reducing marine litter and b) **in their opinion** what is the most **implementable** measure (action) for reducing marine litter? 3 actions can be listed, with first preference first and second preference second, etc.

Session 9

Brainstorming exercise on a regional-wide headline reduction target (quantitative) & operational targets for marine litter in the Mediterranean

Brainstorming on region-wide headline reduction target for marine litter

Each group has to come up with one or two potential quantitative marine litter reduction targets that could be adopted at a regional level. The proposed quantitative environmental targets will be listed and participants will be asked to argue whether the achievement of such a target is feasible or not in their respective countries and whether there is an added value of establishing such a target at a region-wide level.

An example of such a target could be "the reduction of marine litter abundance on the coastline by 50% by 2020".

Brainstorming on operational targets to tackle marine litter relating to concrete implementation measures to support their achievement

Environmental targets vs operational targets: environmental targets are mirroring the desired state of the marine environment in terms of occurrence of marine litter, while operational targets are somehow the tools to support the achievement of the environmental targets set. Operational targets can be set to assess the effectiveness of measures and/or link measures to sources.

As an example, in relation to the above mentioned environmental target, a more specific target could be "the reduction of the number of cigarette butts found on beaches by X%" (given the fact that smoking related litter items account for 45% of the TOP 12 marine litter items found on Mediterranean beaches). Potential operational targets could be the following: (a) the reduction of smokers in the general population by Y%; (b) the reduction of smokers among beachgoers by Y%; (c) the more effective collection of cigarette butts from the coast, etc. The measures to address the aforementioned operational and environmental targets could be the implementation of awareness raising campaigns or banning smoking on beaches, or the improvement of waste collection schemes, etc.

Within this framework each group has to come up with operational targets related to the previously discussed environmental targets and then link these with relevant measures (either the ones from Session 8 or the ones listed in the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean).

