

Plastic Busters MPAs Final Conference
Athens, 12-13 April 2022



From policy to concrete actions

Ignasi Mateo, The Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable
Consumption and Production (SCP/RAC)





Who we are and what we do?

- SCP/RAC is a Regional Centre of UNEP/MAP which works to establish more sustainable and toxic-free consumption and production patterns.
- The Centre supports UNEP/MAP-Barcelona Convention and its Southern Mediterranean Contracting Parties to implement key common measures provided in the **Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean**, and the National Action Plans to achieve Good Environmental Status (GES).
- SCP/RAC is legally hosted by the Catalan Waste Agency and is based in Barcelona.



UNEP/MAP system and marine litter



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



SPARAC
Specially
Protected Areas

MEDPOL
Programme for
the Assessment
and Control of
Marine Pollution

PAP/RAC
implement the
ICZM Protocol
and MSSD

SCP/RAC

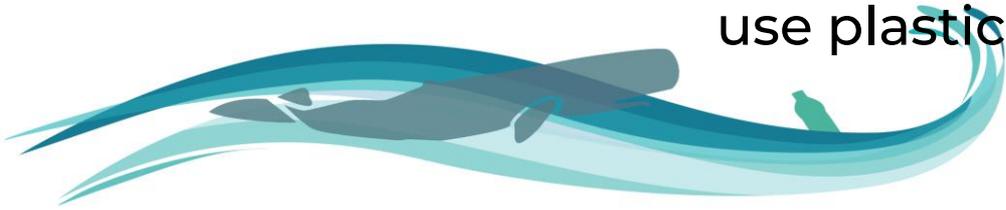
Plan Bleu
Studies and
scenarios for the
future

REMPEC
Regional Marine
Pollution
Emergency
Response Centre
for the Med Sea

Info RAC
Information and
communication



Prevention of land-based sources of pollution, particularly single-use plastic products



Interreg
Mediterranean



PLASTIC BUSTERS
MPAs

How SCP/RAC supports the prevention of land-based sources of pollution, particularly SUP products?

Policy framework

Capacity building

**Supporting
National Policy
framework
addressing SUP
products**

**Raise citizens'
awareness and
enable consumers
informed choice**

**Green entrepreneurs
and businesses**

**Implement and scale
up existing solutions
and good practices**



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MPAs

Synergies between the Barcelona Convention and PB MPAs project

How we can link PB MPAs knowledge with the Barcelona Convention community?

A policy brief will include key messages and recommendations through concrete pilot measures implemented examples.

Policy recommendations
in order to move forward
towards GES for
D10 in Med MPAs

Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

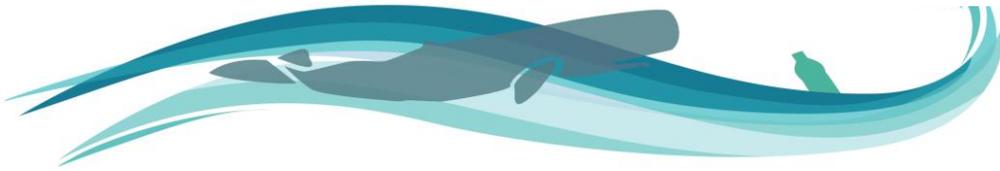
Part I – General provisions

ARTICLE 1 Rationale for the Regional Plan

Marine litter may have significant implications for the marine and coastal environment at global level. These impacts are environmental, economic, health and safety and cultural, rooted in our prevailing production and consumption patterns. The problem originates mostly from land-based activities and sea-based activities, as well as lack of governmental financial resources, general lack of understanding of the public's co-responsibility, and the optimisation of the application of legal enforcement systems could limit pollution.

2. The rationale for the preparation of this Regional Plan is to improve the quality of the marine and coastal environment in accordance with the provisions of the LBS Protocol and to achieve the goals set by the decisions of the 17th meeting of the Contracting Parties in 2012, Decision IG.20/4: "Implementing MAP ecosystem approach roadmap: Mediterranean Ecological and Operational Objectives, Indicators and Timetable for implementing the ecosystem approach roadmap" and Decision IG.20/10: "Adoption of the Strategic Framework for Marine Litter management," at the considerable lower cost than with the no action scenario.

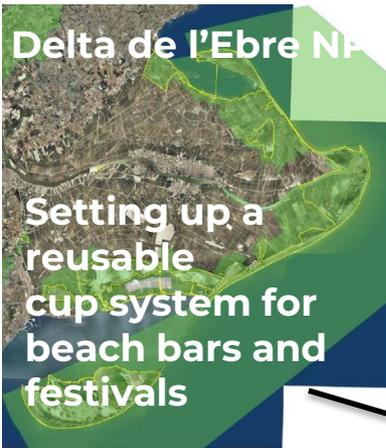
Inspire Contracting
parties in taking
further actions at
national level



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Delta de l'Ebre NP
August-October 2021

Oh My God!



How to make the measure sustainable?

Take adequate measures to increase the cup reuse:

- Include the reusable cups scheme as mandatory in concessions and permits = template document developed & shared with municipalities.
- Ban/phase out of SUP in beach bars and festivals = include this measure in specific articles of the regulatory laws of the Natural Park.
- Formal engagement with businesses located in MPAs to promote SUPs-free commitments = become a plastic free NP or a plastic free beach bar.
- Labelling = implementation of a certificate for responsible beach bar initiative, engaging businesses and awarding them with a plastic free-certificate.



Cabo de Gata-Níjar
NP
August-October 2021

Oh My God!



How to make the measure sustainable?

How to maintain the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) implemented in the NP?



- Engage a broader type of participating businesses to include a wider range of high attendance venues, particularly those selling cans and SUP beverage.
- A major involvement of participating municipalities & their local communication channels to increase local users of the scheme.
- Assure budget from NP for maintenance of the machines and cover the logistics costs.



SOLASTALGIA?

Solastalgia ([/ˌsɒləˈstældʒə/](#)) is a [neologism](#), formed by the combination of the Latin words *sōlācium* (comfort) and the Greek root *-algia* (pain, suffering, grief), that describes a form of emotional or existential distress caused by environmental change.



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Thank you!

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