

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



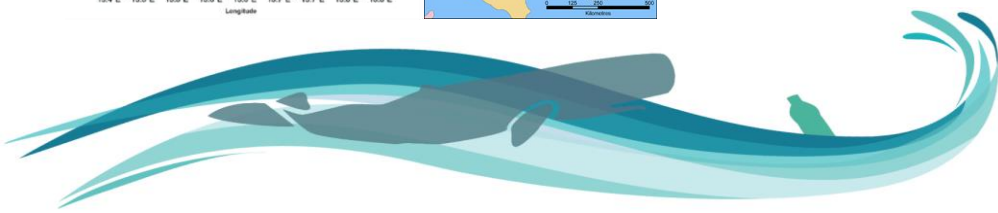
The Plastic Busters MPAs local experiences on marine litter prevention and mitigation at Strunjan Landscape Park

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THE LANDSCAPE PARK STRUNJAN

- Longest part of natural coast in the bay of Trieste
- Highest flysch cliffs on the Adriatic
- Only marine lagoon in Slovenia
- Northernmost Mediterranean salt pans where salt is produced in a traditional way on significant surface „petola“
- Very well preserved cultural landscape

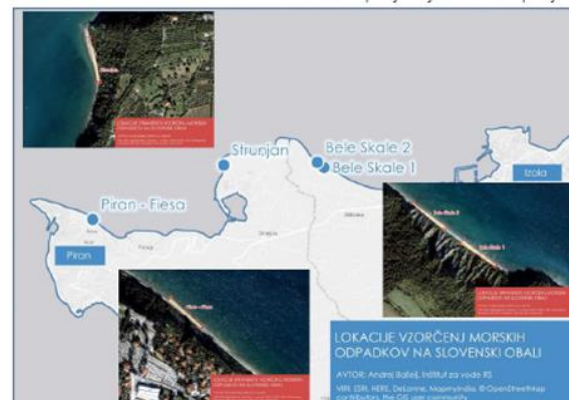


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THE MARINE LITTER PROBLEM IN LANDSCAPE PARK STRUNJAN | KEY FACTS & FIGURES



	Number	%
Cigarette butts and filters (G27)	15903	30,1
Glass or ceramic fragments > 2,5 cm (G208)	6334	12
Polystyrene pieces 2,5 cm < 50 cm (G82)	5904	11,2
Plastic pieces 2,5 > 50 cm (G79)	4937	9,3
Plastic bags, incl. pieces (G3)	2078	3,9
Food containers incl. fast food containers (G10)	1718	3,3
Mussel nets, Oyster nets (G45)	1534	2,9
Cotton bud sticks (G95)	1519	2,9
Plastic caps unidentified (G23)	757	1,4
Paper fragments (G156)	728	1,4



THE PARK'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS MARINE LITTER

Support the „straw free" initiative;
Promote the reduction of SUPs;
Promote the straw-free national campaign
'Living with the sea'

Setup scheme adopt-a-beach

Implement clean up campaigns
and removal actions



Krajski park
Debeli rtič
Parco naturale
Punta Grossa



THE PLASTIC BUSTERS MPAs DEMOS

SUPER CATERERS

- Reduce significantly and/or phasing out single-use plastics (SUPs)
- Coastal food and beverage outlets voluntarily register to a network and commit themselves to comply with a set of good environmental practices → SUPs free Snack Bars
- The 'SUPs-free Snack Bars' is a measure that has been identified as a priority action within the Marine Litter Action Plan of the Strunjan Landscape Park.

ADOPT A BEACH

- Encourage volunteers to 'adopt' beaches, clean them up and survey them throughout the year
- Collecting valuable marine litter data
- The "adopt-a-beach" is a measure that has been identified as a priority action within the Marine Litter Action Plan of the Strunjan Landscape Park



DEMOS IN A NUTSHELL

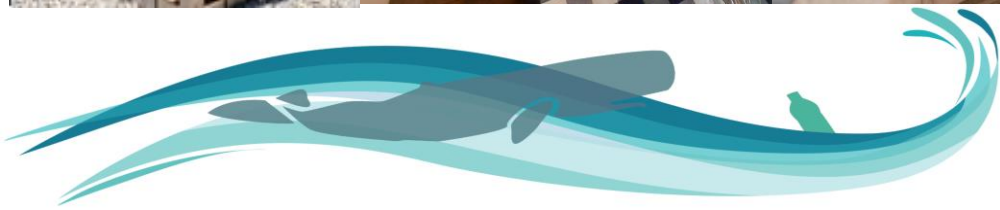
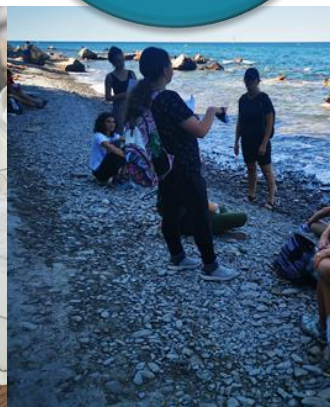
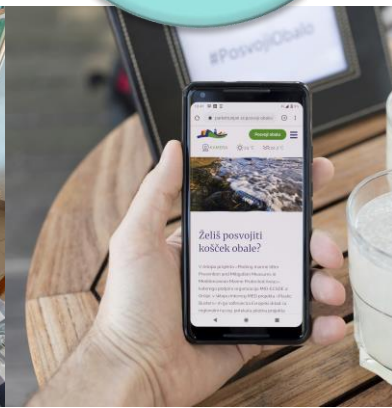
Raise of
public
awareness

Promotion
of
prevention
actions

Web
platform

Participatory
science
actions

Sculpture
and
„nudging“
bins



THE ADOPT-A-BEACH DEMO & ITS IMPACT

Plastic Busters MPAs demos in Strunjan, Slovenia: 400 stakeholders engaged in concrete actions to combat marine plastic pollution

- **Partners:** Public Institute Strunjan Landscape Park, MIO-ECSDE, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia, Zavod TRI NIT



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THE ADOPT-A-BEACH DEMO & ITS IMPACT

- More than 350 students and educators have been directly involved in awareness raising and participatory science activities
- Eight fit-for-purpose marine litter datasets were generated via beach litter survey campaigns
- One of the main highlights of the overall action was the installation of bins 'nudging' smokers to use them for their cigarette butts as well as the installation of a sculpture to capture the attention of the local communities and visitors of the Park



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THE SUPer CATERER DEMO

- Some 30 business representatives were reached and engaged via a workshop: "SUPer CATERER – how to reduce the usage of single-use plastics in the catering business“
- So far six catering businesses have been implementing the guidelines on reducing the use of single-use plastics
- One of them has already been awarded with the ‘SUPer caterer’ certificate + 2 are in line



Replicating actions in Landscape park Debeli rtič

- **Aim:** Reduce significantly and/or phase out single-use plastics (SUPs) in catering businesses in MPA Debeli rtič.
- There was signed an agreement with Municipality of Ankaran which manage three beach bars inside MPA Debeli rtič.
- Action plan for Marine litter was implemented



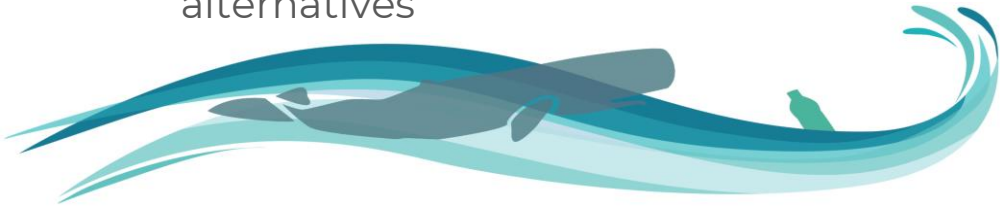
CHALLENGES & LESSONS LEARNED

SUPer caterers

- Covid 19
- Finding suitable (cheap) alternatives – price is still an obstacle
- Proper timing (seasonality of the beach bars)
- Implementing reusable cup system (legal obstacles)
- Implementing proper promotional activities – acceptable for caterers
- Engaged/maintaining collaboration/getting numbers
- Getting funds for adopting alternatives

Adopt a beach

- Covid 19
- Tidal regime (inaccessible parts at high tide)
- Find safe parts under cliffs
- Collecting data according to protocols
- Motivation and guidance for group



NEXT STEPS & CONCLUDING REMARKS

SUPer caterers

Establish a platform where caterers could connect and exchange good practices



Adopt a beach

Find potential adopters and convince them on the importance of monitoring according to protocols.



Solid pillars for further actions.



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Thank you!

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