

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

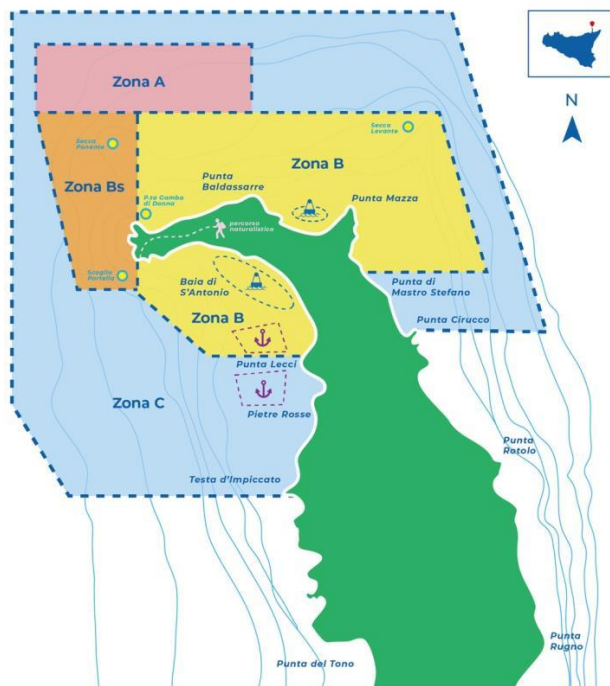


The Plastic Busters MPAs marine litter monitoring results and achievements at Capo Milazzo (Italy)

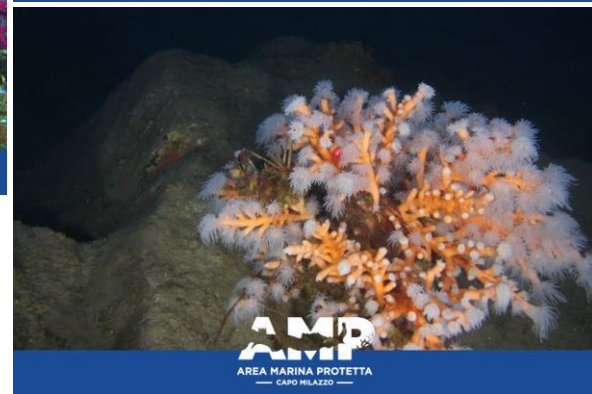
ISPRA – Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn (AP) – Università di
Siena – Consorzio AMP Capo Milazzo



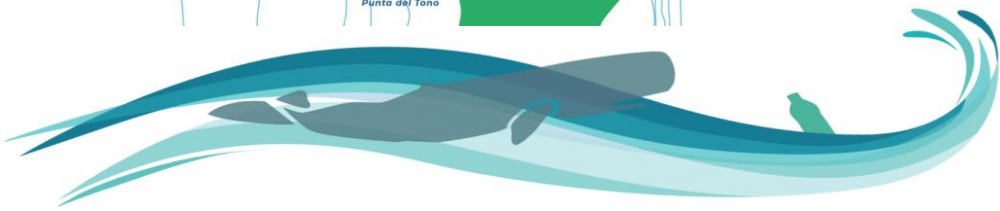
Capo Milazzo MPA



Established in 2018 to protect
274 hectares of sea



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Monitoring micro and macro litter

Beach litter

- Macrolitter → *Visual Census*
6 beach (4 inside MPA and 2 outside MPA)
- Microlitter → *sediment sampling*
9 samplers (30x30 cm; first 5 cm) for each beach

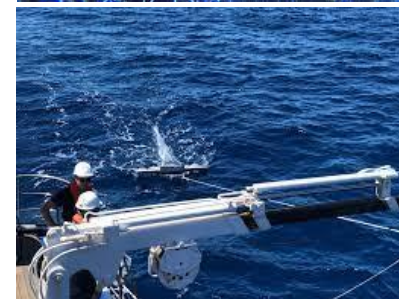
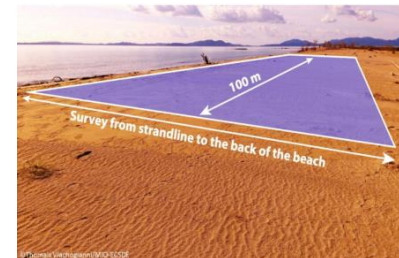
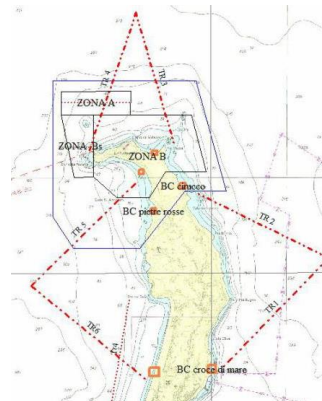
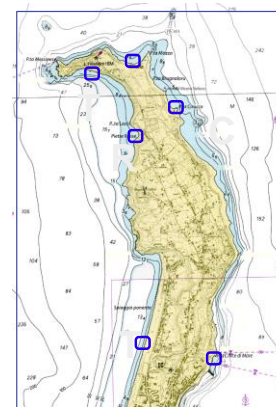
Seafloor

- Macrolitter → *Visual Census*
2 transects (50 m x 4 m) at 5 and 10 m for each site

Floating

- Microlitter → *Manta trawl*
(Mouth opening: 60 x 15 cm ; Mesh size: 330 µm; Time: 30 min at 1.5 - 2 knots)
- Macrolitter → *Visual observation*
(Strip width: 6 m; Time: 30 min)

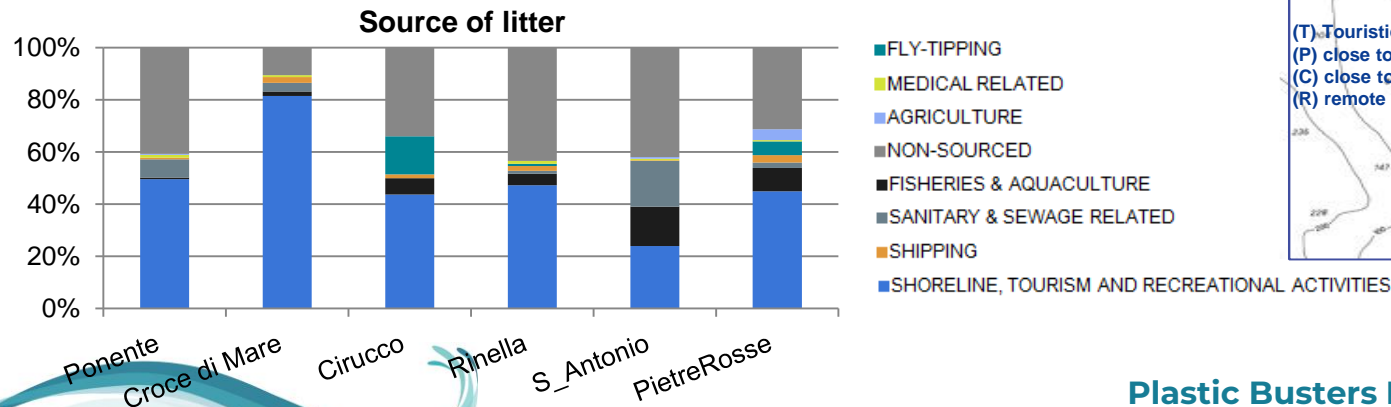
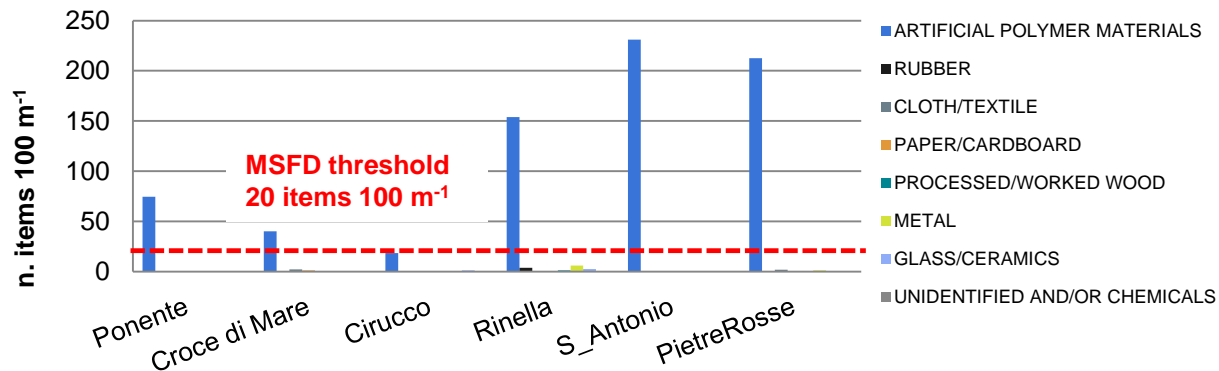
2020-2021



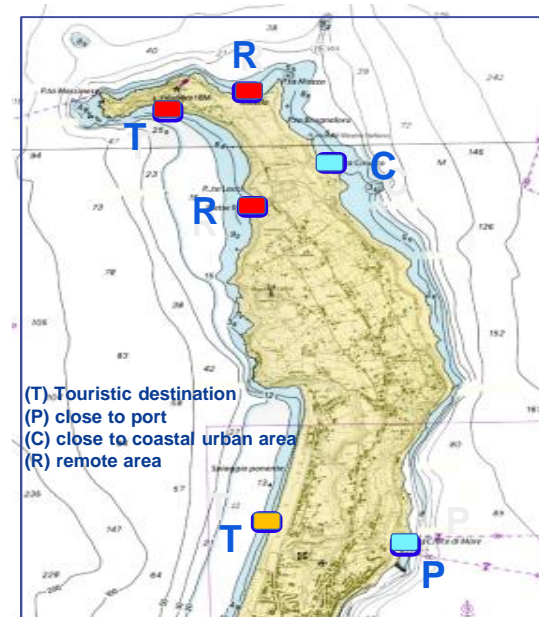
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Beach macro-litter



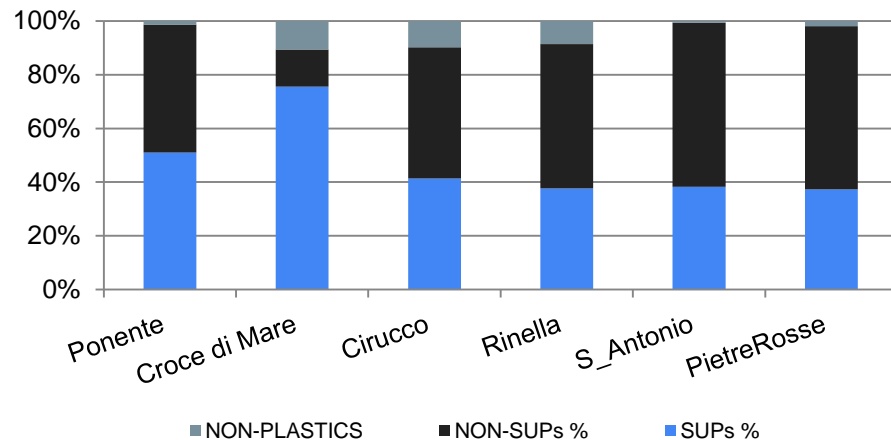
3 sampling seasons
(summer-spring- autumn)



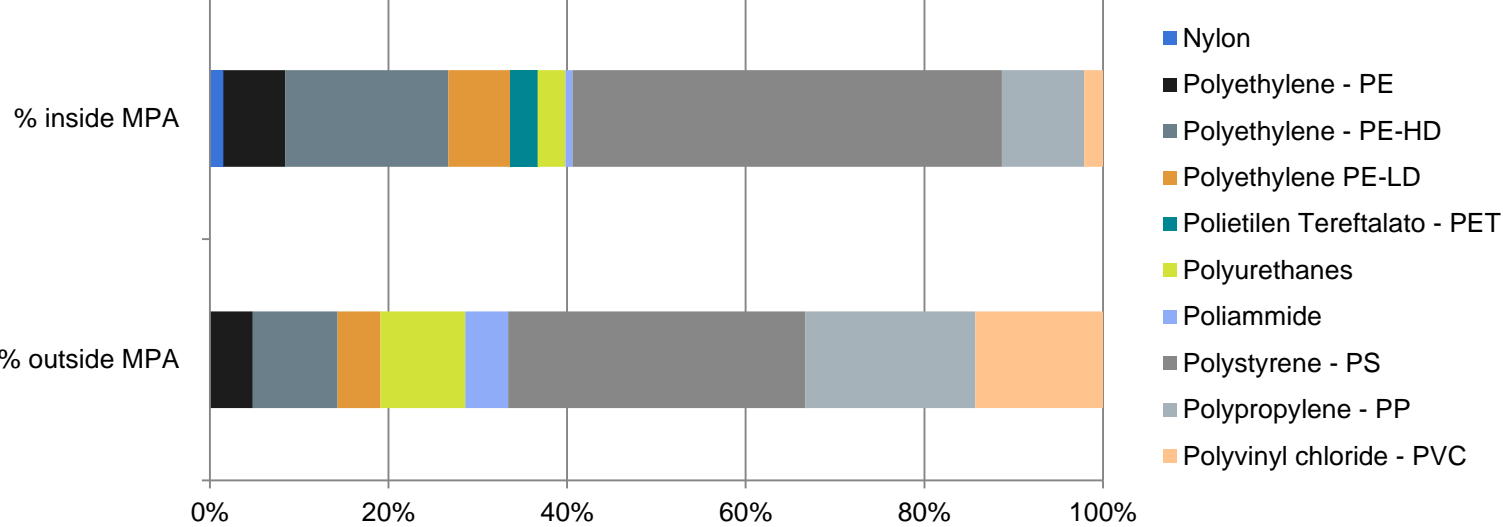
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Beach macro-litter - Top Ten

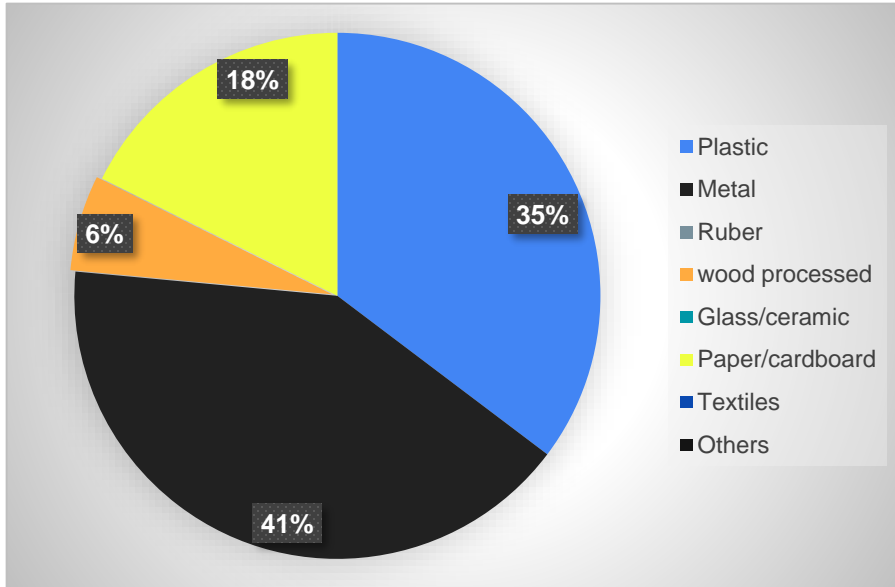
Rank	G-code	Beach macrolitter category	%
1	G21	<u>Plastic caps/lids from drinks</u>	28.1
2	G79	<u>Plastic pieces 2.5 cm > < 50cm</u>	26.2
3	G22	Plastic caps/lids from chemicals, detergents (non-food)	9.1
4	G8	Drink bottles >0.5l	6.6
5	G82	Polystyrene pieces 2.5 cm > < 50cm	6.1
6	G27	Cigarette butts and filters	4.0
7	G7	Drink bottles ≤0.5l	2.8
8	G26	Cigarette lighters	2.8
9	G10	Food containers incl. fast food containers	2.3
10	G70	Shotgun cartridges	2.1



Beach micro-litter polymers



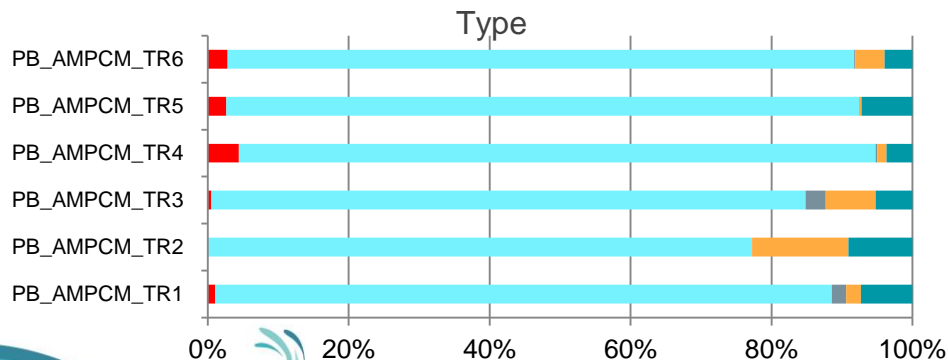
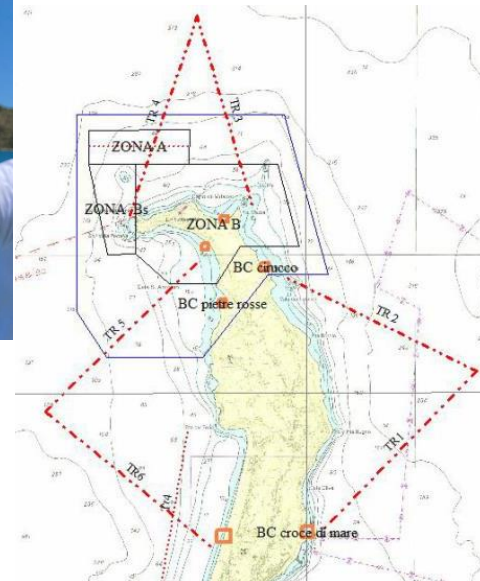
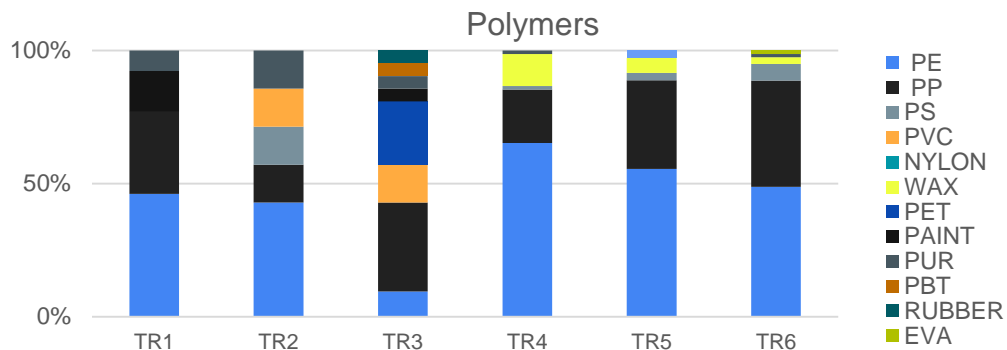
Seafloor macro litter



average density **0.7 items per 100 m²**



Floating micro litter



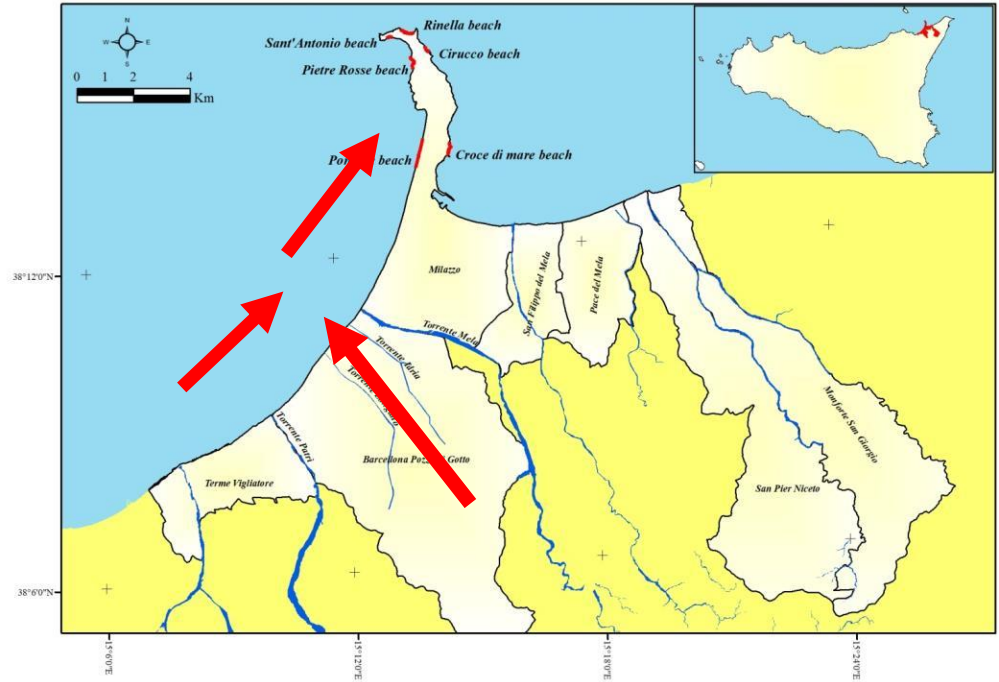
2190 items



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Source of litter

- Litter come from streams and littoral coastal transport
- Illegal disposal of waste



Actions implemented

2020-2021

- Beach cleaning campaigns by volunteers of MPA
- Extraordinary beach cleaning campaigns organized by the municipal administration

2.7 tons of litter
5 clean beach events

1 tons of litter
cleaning days



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Actions implemented

- **The River Contract** (act of shared commitment by public and private entities interested in various ways in waterways (and in the hydrographic systems connected to them, such as aquifers, coasts, wetlands, etc.)
Target: identification of a common vision and methods of work and action to pursue environmental requalification and sustainable socio-economic regeneration of the river



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Mitigation actions

- Awareness raising campaigns
- Removal abandoned or lost fishing gear
- Improving solid waste management systems and practices



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Thank you!

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www.plasticbustersmpas.interreg-med.eu



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