

# Water and Environment Support

in the ENI Southern Neighbourhood region



## Water and Environment Support (WES) project: A regional facilitator for the promotion of EU policy on plastics and marine pollution

*Session 3: Regional and Mediterranean Policies and Programs  
on plastic pollution and Marine litter*

By **Michael Scoullas**, WES Team Leader

International TouMaLi Conference 2022  
10-11 October 2022, Alexandria



## WES at a glance



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**WES strives to address the country needs for creating the enabling environment and enhancing the capacities of stakeholders in the Partner Countries to tackle problems related to pollution prevention and water use efficiency.**

**Partner Countries:**

Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Libya, Palestine\* and Tunisia

**Project value:**

9.508.054 Euros

**Duration:**

May 2019 – November 2023 (54 months)



# Our Consortium



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**LDK Consultants Global EEIG (Leader)**



**Gopa Infra GmbH**



**Mediterranean Information Office for Environment,  
Culture and Sustainable Development  
(MIO-ECSDE)**



**MedWaves the UNEP/MAP Regional Activity  
Centre for SCP**



**Arab Network for  
Environment and Development (RAED)**



**Ramboll Denmark A/S**



**Association of Cities and Regions for  
Sustainable Resource Management (ACR+)**



**Royal HaskoningDHV**



**CIHEAM – Mediterranean Agronomic Institute  
of Bari (CIHEAM Bari)**



LDK Consultants Global EEIG

This Project is funded  
by the European Union





# WES Activities' Overview

Technical Assistance, Capacity Building, Enhancement of Enabling conditions,  
at:

## Regional level:

- Around **20 Regional Activities** on major water and environment issues such as **Trainings/Workshops, Study Visits** to European and Southern Mediterranean countries, **Webinars** and coached **Peer-to-Peer exchanges**.
- **+3 Regional Activities on plastic pollution** (environment)

## National Level:

- Around **4 National Activities** (2 on water and 2 on environment) **per Partner Country**
- **+ Activities on plastic pollution** (environment)
- **National WES Meetings:** collaboration platforms to assess progress, plan next steps, enhance synergies with other programs/ projects, etc.





# The policy framework for WES marine litter and plastics related actions



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EU Green Deal

New Agenda for the  
Mediterranean

Marine Strategy  
Framework  
Directive

EU Strategy for  
Plastics in the  
Circular Economy

Single-Use Plastics  
Directive

....



1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> UfM  
Ministerial on  
Environment and  
Climate Action

The UfM's 2030  
GreenerMed  
Agenda

*WES linked to Axis 1  
and 2: Green and  
Circular Economy/  
Pollution Prevention,  
Management,  
Removal*



COPs and 2-year  
Programmes of  
Work (PoW)  
Ecosystem Approach  
& IMAP  
Regional Plan for  
Marine Litter  
Management in  
the  
Mediterranean  
(revised)

*Direct contribution of  
WES to the Regional  
Guidelines on  
measures to phase  
out Single-Use Plastic  
items*



WES capitalises on previous successful EU funded regional projects :  
(Horizon 2020 CB/MEP; SWIM SM; SWIM-Horizon 2020 SM)



## SWIM-H2020 SM related activities

### National activities in Morocco, Algeria and Egypt

Training and technical assistance for the characterisation of marine and coastal litter on beaches.

Activities' results have been used to develop National Marine Litter Management Plans and to align with the Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management.

### Regional activities

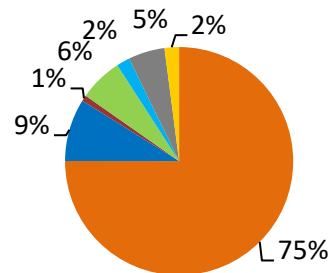
The project was centred on regional coherence, synergy and cooperation with all Mediterranean initiatives and projects in order to tackle the problem of marine litter (through P2P exchange and webinars)



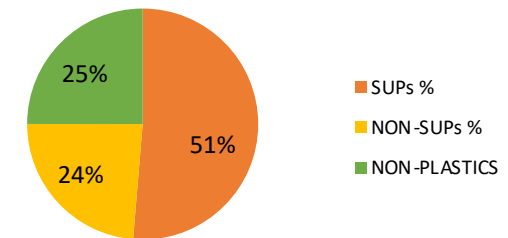
Synergy with the UfM-labelled Plastic Busters Initiative & the Interreg Med Plastic Busters MPAs; Marine Litter med I and II and other regional projects and processes

## A MARINE LITTER SUCCESS STORY | MONITORING PLASTIC POLLUTION ON THE ALGERIAN COASTLINE

A total of 111 beach transects were surveyed located in 9 coastal Wilayas, which extended over a distance of 11,900m and covered a surface area of 574,992 m<sup>2</sup>.



ARTIFICIAL POLYMER MATERIALS  
RUBBER  
CLOTH/TEXTILE  
PAPER/CARDBOARD  
PROCESSED/WORKED WOOD  
METAL  
GLASS/CERAMICS  
UNIDENTIFIED AND/OR CHEMICALS



# OVERVIEW OF THE WES ACTIVITIES in ALGERIA, MOROCCO, LEBANON

## Marine Litter Monitoring

Macrolitter surveys on the sea surface & the seafloor

Assessment of the amounts, types, composition and sources of marine litter

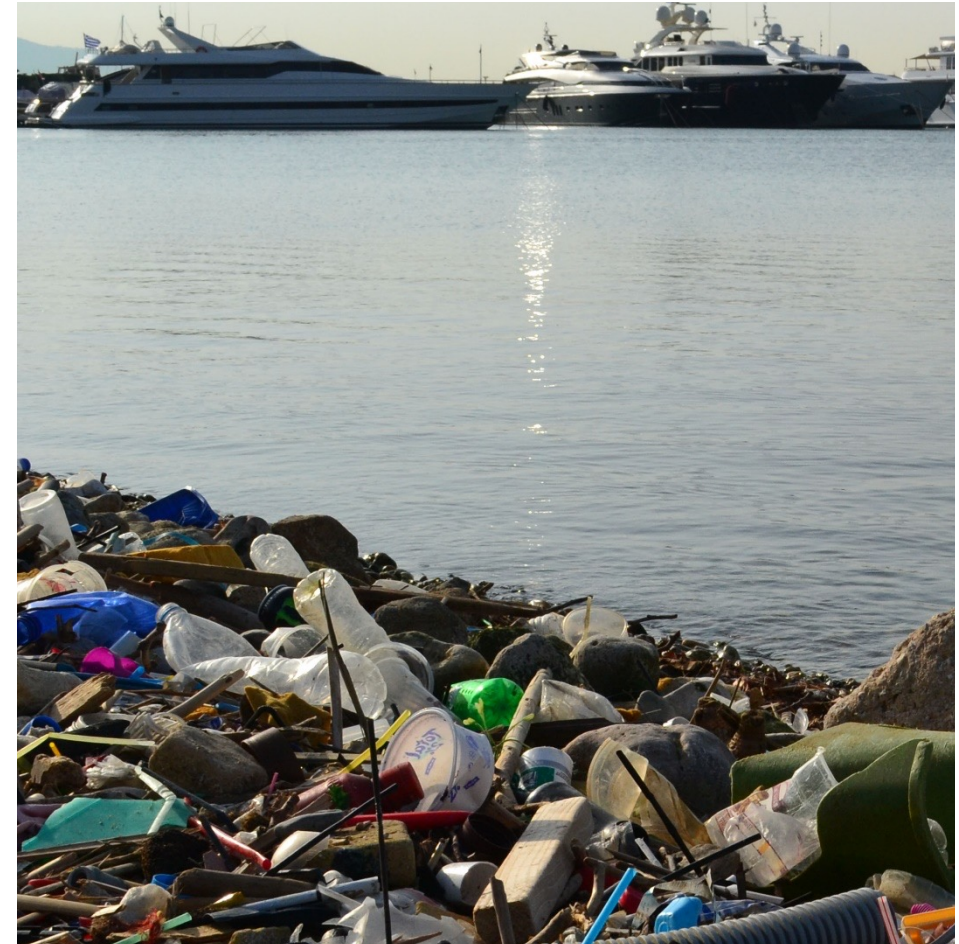
Identification of management options to feed into a marine litter action plan

Capacity building for targeted professionals and for **informed decision-makers** on **how to properly monitor marine macrolitter** and on **operationalizing best practice marine litter measures**

**2022: Regional activity** on understanding better **microplastics** and identifying how to address the issue (3 webinars, 60 trainees)



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# Regional Training on Phasing out Single Use Plastics

48 trainees and several observers from  
11 countries (8 PCs + Albania, Montenegro and Turkey)



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The problematic  
of Single-Use  
Plastics

**13<sup>th</sup> JAN 2021**



Responses to  
Single-Use  
Plastics

**28<sup>th</sup> JAN 2021**



Feasibility and  
impact of  
measures in the  
Mediterranean

**11<sup>th</sup> FEB 2021**



Implementation of  
measures and  
Regional  
Guidelines

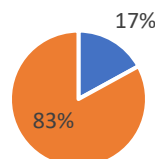
**25<sup>th</sup> FEB 2021**

Gender (all participants)



■ Women ■ Men

Trainees age



■ Trainees <= 30 ■ Trainees > 30

14 Peers participated in a  
parallel and interconnected  
**Peer-to-Peer process**





# OVERVIEW OF THE WES ACTIVITIES IN **LEBANON**, **JORDAN** AND **MOROCCO**

## Single Use Plastics (SUPs)



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Definition of the baseline situation (production and consumption) for selected SUPs

Identification of priorities and recommendations for policy measures for the reduction of SUPs

Support the Ministries of Environment in the development of specific policies to take action to reduce SUP

Also activities on Extended Producers Responsibility (EPR) applied to selected SUPs items (Morocco and Egypt)

Green banking and support to green investment opportunities to curb plastic waste in Jordan

### Other related regional activities:

Awareness raising and Education for Sustainable Development: training of trainers on campaigns for sustainable consumption (3 webinars, 61 trainees from 12 countries) (**2021**)



## WES' EXPECTED IMPACT TOWARDS ADDRESSING MARINE LITTER AND SUPs



1

**Comprehensive diagnosis of the marine litter and SUPs problem** (data from more compartments, further consolidation of existing data, etc.)

2

**Proposed targeted marine litter prevention and mitigation measures**

3

**Enhanced capacity of Ministries of Environment** to respond to the challenges posed by **plastic pollution /waste, with emphasis on SUPs**

4

**Trained and mobilized core set of professionals** on aspects related to the entire management cycle of marine litter

5

**Contribution to the upgrading of the national legislation addressing marine litter**

6

**Proposed nationwide strategy for the gradual ban of SUPs** (Lebanon, Jordan)

# ON-LINE 'REPOSITORY' OF BEST PRACTICES IN ACHIEVING WASTE REDUCTION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



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prevention

re-use

recycling

collection

no littering

other

- As part of the **WES** project, a regional activity took place throughout 2021 resulting in the **identification of 20 Mediterranean best practice and the development of a dedicated website 'repository' to promote circular economy and waste reduction across the municipal waste management chain in the Mediterranean.**
- Contribution to the **UfM's 2030GreenerMed Agenda** and very specifically to the launching of a Flagship Initiative of **UNEP/MAP's Mediterranean Strategy for Sustainable Development (MSSD 2016-2025).**
- **WES, UNEP/MAP, UfM** and the Circle of Mediterranean Parliamentarians for Sustainable Development (**COMPSUD**) launched this collective effort **to set the MSSD 2016-2025 Flagship Initiative 3.4.5 into motion.**
- **The EU through the WES project, and the UfM have co-funded the development of this website:**  
WES consortium members (MIO-ECSDE, ACR+ and LDK Consultants) have contributed in the development of the content, while the UfM contracted the web developers ENT Environment & Management | Fundació ENT for the design and development of the website.



# RESULTS AT A GLANCE



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prevention

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other



- **20 best practices** that cover various aspects of **circular economy prevention, re-use, and recycling;**



- The cases are a **mix of practices** mostly from the **eight WES partner countries** (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia) **with a few from EU Mediterranean** countries;



- Themes addressed different **aspects**: the involvement of citizens for waste reduction and source separation, collection systems, the relation with human health and informal sector, and **instruments**: awareness raising, economic instruments, legal requirements, incentives, EPR schemes, etc.



- **20 Individual fact sheets on each of the good practices** have been edited in English and French downloadable in pdf (out of 59 identified case studies).



- **The repository (<https://bestpractices-waste-med.net>)** offers the opportunity **for new practices to be added** for future enrichment and expansion.







prevention re-use recycling collection no littering other



The inclusion of the informal sector in the Oum Azza Landfill: the Attawafouk cooperative

recycling



Single-use ban by the Government

prevention



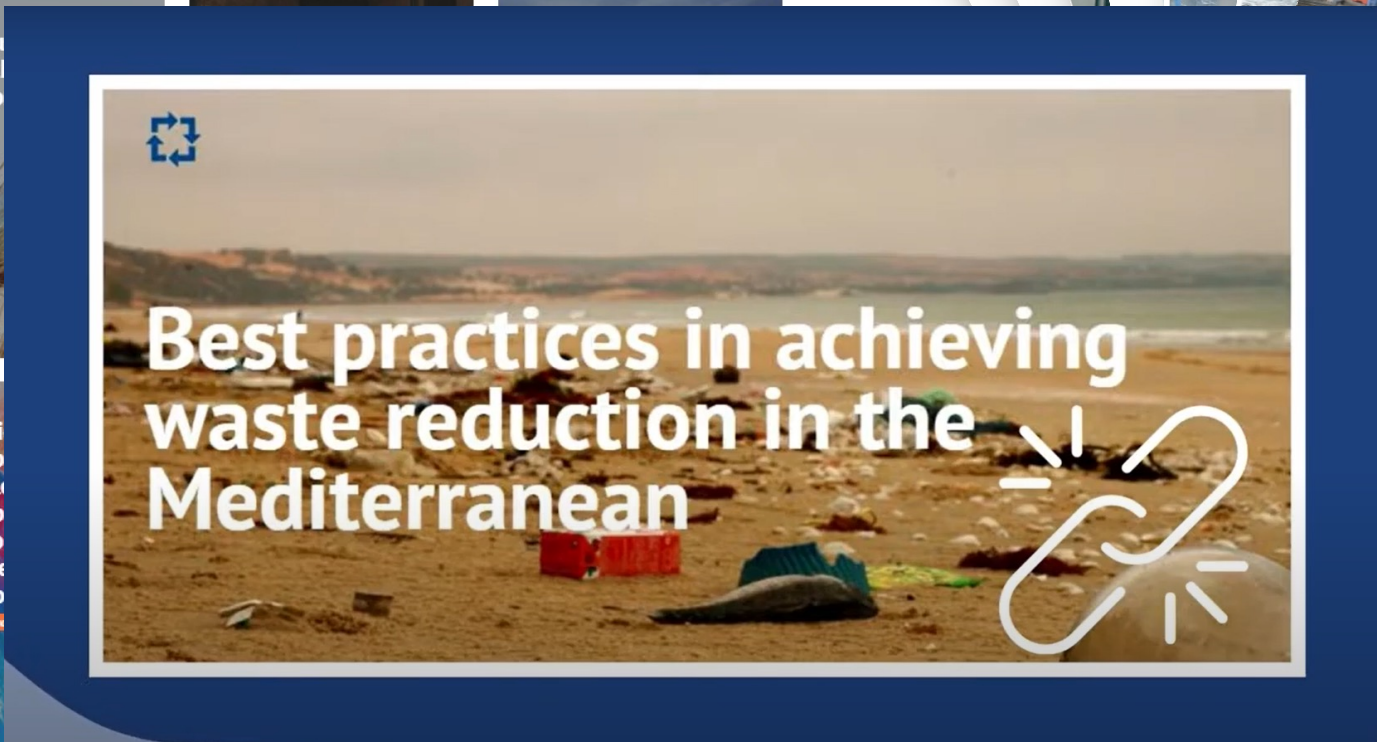
Eco-Lef: a national system for the recovery and recycling of post-consumer packaging that focuses on plastic waste

collection recycling



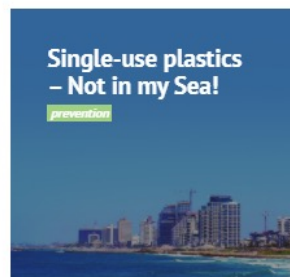
Prevention of plastic bottles on single-use plastic bottles the Zero Initiative Morocco

prevention



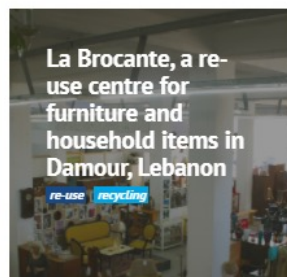
A local NGO implementing an integrated waste management system in the cities of Hurghada and Marsa Alam, Egypt

recycling



Single-use plastics – Not in my Sea!

prevention



La Brocante, a re-use centre for furniture and household items in Damour, Lebanon

re-use recycling



Community composting to manage 100% of biowaste in a rural area of Spain

recycling



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



The URM Secretariat is co-funded by the EUROPEAN UNION



Sweden  
Sverige



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This project is funded by the European Union



UN  
environment  
programme



Mediterranean  
Action Plan  
Barcelona  
Convention

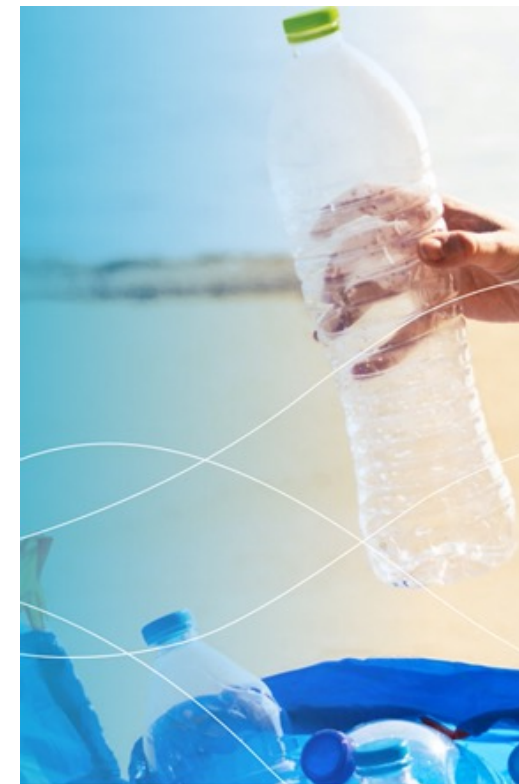


## WES **NEW** ACTIVITIES ON THE REDUCTION OF PLASTIC POLLUTION

To be carried out at national level, but with the potential to be shared with practically all PCs (also through other on-going regional activities of relevance e.g. P2P).

### **National activities**

1. on a road map to effectively recycle plastic polymers (Israel)
2. on a compendium on EPR system for plastics in Lebanon and Palestine
3. on “model” approaches of separate collection and recycling for further replication in Lebanon & Palestine
4. on political and legal measures for the reduction and prohibition of certain types of single-use plastic packaging (Tunisia)
5. on solving some persistent separate collection problems identified (Algeria)
6. for the preparation of public awareness campaigns material (on plastic pollution management)





# WES NEW ACTIVITIES ON THE REDUCTION OF PLASTIC POLLUTION

## 2 Regional activities

- SUPs-free coastal and marine protected areas
- Enhancing the Number of Responsible Tourism and Recreation Related Businesses in Coastal Areas

## Mediterranean Champions

Launching of a “call for interest” on specific interventions and targets. If the target is successfully met, recognize them as **“Champion in plastic pollution reduction”**.

This could be extended to collaborating administrations, so as to lead to some kind of **“Achievement Certification”** allowing for visibility and political value, *vis-a-vis* their constituencies, possibly helping them with donors as well.



For more information:



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