



What is TouMaLi ?

TouMaLi stands for Preventing **T**ourism **M**arine **L**itter. TouMaLi aims to develop and establish sustainable solutions for waste management in the tourism sector in North Africa to protect marine ecosystems, leading to economic, but also fundamental health, environmental and social improvements.

The project is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment and Nuclear Safety (BMU) and led by the University of Rostock and the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde (IOW).

A consortium of nine different institutions, consisting of academia, think tanks and private entities will address the challenges posed by tourism-related marine debris through the TouMaLi project.

One of the main project goals is to decrease tourism-related beach pollution in the project region. Therefore, the project investigates the quantities and main sources of marine litter in tourism destinations and will provide sustainable solutions considering the development of a legal framework, organizational structures, financial tools and technical approaches in the TouMaLi countries. Clear roles and responsibilities, availability of funds and decision makers' knowledge are the main factors when introducing such solutions. The tourism sector, both private and public, will be involved and integrated into the strategies developed. Tourists represent a significant income source and the main industry players should consider their responsibilities to keep the coastal areas attractive for tourists, to safeguard the stability of their businesses. Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities will ensure that positive impacts extend beyond the duration and the target region of the TouMaLi project.

The context

Despite the existence of international strategies to combat plastic pollution in countries such as Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt, waste generation continues to increase, especially in the touristic areas. For example, tourists in Tunisia consume up to three times as much solid waste per capita per day (2.6 kg) as locals (0.6-1.0 kg). While tourists are likely unaware of the significant impact they are having on the environment, the tourism sector in the MENA region suffers from reduced revenues due to increasing environmental pollution.



Work Packages



WP VI: Dissemination, awareness raising & capacity building

Impact and cooperation in partner countries

A medium to long-term reduction of litter emissions to the coastal and marine environment is ensured by increased awareness of the marine litter problem, mitigation measures and implementing waste management strategies. This will positively affect the protection of important ecosystems, marine protected areas and endangered species and improve the attractiveness of local tourist destinations.

By implementing marine litter monitoring approaches and strengthening the monitoring capacities of local institutions, the project establishes the basis for a

long-term assessment of the abundance and distribution of marine litter. Next to the economic achievements, the project will contribute to preserving existing jobs as well as creating new ones and improving the health of the population as well as the marine environment and connected ecosystems.

Additionally, the project will assess protective social and environmental standards, as well as risks and impacts. This includes ensuring resource efficiency by reducing the need for raw materials, protecting biodiversity and cultural heritage as well as working conditions and occupational safety.



Join TouMaLi – Let's work on this together! PREVENTION OF MARINE LITTER



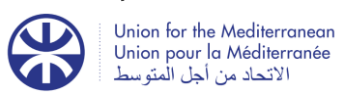
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Contact: info-toumali@uni-rostock.de

Website: toumali.org