

Mediterranean

[View published](#)[New draft](#)[Moderate](#)[Translate](#)[Book access](#)

Plastic Waste Free Islands Med project

Section: *Mediterranean*

Revision state: *Published*

Most recent revision: *Yes*

Actions: *Unpublish this revision*

The Plastic Waste Free Islands Med project is part of IUCN's global programme "Close the Plastic Tap".



Read our latest publications & resources

**Plastic Waste Free Islands in the Mediterranean -
Envisioning solutions to plastic pollution**



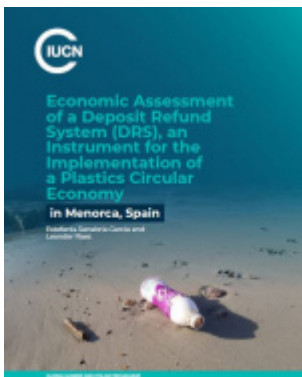
This Layman-style report presents the main results and learnings of the 3 years of implementation of the Plastic Waste Free Islands Med project



Economic assessment of abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) in the fishery sector of The Republic of Cyprus

The main objective of this piece of research is to carry out an economic assessment of an instrument to reinforce the implementation of the plastics

circular economy (CE) in the waste management sector in Cyprus.



Economic Assessment of a Deposit Refund System (DRS), an Instrument for the Implementation of a Plastics Circular Economy in Menorca, Spain

The main objective of this piece of research is to carry out an economic assessment of an instrument to reinforce the implementation of the plastics circular economy (CE) in the waste management sector in Menorca.



Action Plan to prevent plastic waste in the Republic of Cyprus 2030

In order to tackle existing and future challenges of plastic waste generation and leakage into the environment, the three sectors need to tackle existing issues through the introduction of more circular strategies for plastic materials. This report outlines an Action Plan for the tourism, fisheries and waste management sectors, which can serve as a clear way forward for Cyprus to avoid and reduce plastic waste generation and leakage into the environment.

Policy and Legal Recommendations in the Republic of Cyprus



These recommendations are the result of carrying out a plastic hotspot assessment and a consultation with the stakeholders in Cyprus.



Plan de acción para la reducción de la contaminación por plásticos en Menorca 2030

Para hacer frente a los retos actuales y futuros de la generación de residuos plásticos y de sus fugas al medio ambiente, es necesario que los tres sectores mencionados conozcan y actúen para frenar las fugas de plástico de su actividad. Este documento pretende ser una guía para la definición de

estrategias en dichos sectores con el objetivo de reducir la contaminación por plástico en Menorca.

Policy and Legal Recommendations in Menorca



These recommendations are the result of carrying out a plastic hotspot assessment and a consultation with the stakeholders in Menorca.

Assessment of legal, policy and institutional frameworks in the islands of Menorca and Cyprus



Governing plastic waste management in Menorca

Assessment of legal, policy and institutional frameworks



INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE
Foundation
Office of Marine
Policy



Governing plastic waste management in the Republic of Cyprus

Assessment of legal, policy and institutional frameworks



INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF NATURE
Foundation
Office of Marine
Policy

BACKGROUND

Over 10 million tons of plastic waste enters the ocean every year. This has major adverse impacts on the health

of ocean ecosystems, the integrity of food supplies, and livelihoods. The plastic waste's issue has its cause in a multitude of factors, including but not limited to: unsustainable behaviour patterns, inexistent or unenforced legislation, inefficient waste management systems and unknown leakage sources, among other reasons.

Islands are uniquely vulnerable to a whole swathe of environmental issues, one of which is marine litter. Tourism, economic growth, increased population, urbanisation, and a change in production materials and methods have led to a consumption patterns demanding increased use of resources including plastics, and waste generation on islands. It is important to note that the impact of drifting plastic waste from the mainland has led the input of plastic waste on islands to be disproportionate to their own consumption of plastics.

MAIN OBJECTIVE

The Plastic Waste Free Islands Med project is part of a broader IUCN's "Close the Plastic Tap" programme. The purpose of this initiative is to demonstrate effective, quantifiable solutions to addressing plastic leakage from islands. Key stakeholders from governments, private sector and civil society, united in a vibrant learning and leadership network, will co-generate and demonstrate demand-responsive solutions to plastic waste incorporating policy, business operations, and citizen behaviour changes. Evidence and lessons will be packaged into a scalable 'blueprint' for use beyond the initial two target islands. Key regional bodies will be equipped with the blueprint and supported to identify further opportunities to grow its application. The two selected islands for the Mediterranean basin are Menorca and Cyprus.

The new Marine Plastic Hotspotting Methodology, co-developed with consultancy Quantis/EA and UN Environment, will be tested during the project in the target islands Cyprus and Menorca in order to assess plastic leakage distribution, abundance, types, sources, pathways and sinks. This

methodology will be able to identify plastic leakage hotspots (product/process/place) and provide evidence-based guidance on which to take informed actions.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Improved knowledge of waste generation in the two target islands, Menorca and Cyprus, and policy recommendations to reduce plastic waste generation and enhance disposal
2. Enhanced adoption of plastic leakage reduction measures by tourism, fisheries and waste management sectors and value chain development
3. Development of Plastic Waste Free Island blueprint and endorsement by regional bodies

IUCN'S ROLE

IUCN-Med will coordinate the local partners in Cyprus and Menorca to test the methodology and identify **plastic leakage hotspots**, which will help prioritize interventions in the plastic leakage reduction efforts.

The project will also feature a **socio-economic analysis**, which will assess costs and benefits of current plastic flows and will model cost and benefits of potential future scenarios; and a **policy analysis**, which will assess current policy frameworks and provide options for priorities identified through the hotspots and economic modelling.

Based on the results of the Plastic Hotspot Analysis, a proof-of-concept for at least one commercially viable product made of locally sourced plastic waste will be developed. Finally, tourism, fisheries and waste management sectors' information and experience in reducing leakage will feed into an **Island-specific Action Plan**.

PARTNERSHIP

For each target island, IUCN-Med identified and selected a local consortium of implementing partners, with the aim of fostering the cooperation among the local key actors. The project involves: the *Cyprus Sustainable Tourism Initiative (CSTI)*, the NGO *Together Cyprus*, and the *Socio-Environmental Observatory of Menorca (OBSAM)*.

DONOR

Didier and Martine Primat Foundation

DURATION

Downloads

-  Economic assessment of abandoned, lost and otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) in the fishery sector of The Republic of Cyprus
-  Plastic Waste Free Islands Med final report
-  Action Plan to prevent plastic waste in the Republic of Cyprus by 2030
-  Plan de acción para la reducción de la contaminación por plásticos en Menorca hasta 2030
-  Policy and Legal Recommendations in the Republic of Cyprus
-  Policy and legal Recommendations in Menorca
-  Economic Assessment of a Deposit Refund System (DRS), an Instrument for the Implementation of a Plastics Circular Economy in Menorca, Spain
-  Plastic Waste Free Islands in the Mediterranean Factsheet
-  Governing plastic waste management in Menorca
-  Governing plastic waste management in Cyprus

Links

"Close the Plastic Tap" Programme

PescArt Menorca: Pilot project for the reuse of fishing nets by artisans from Menorca