



# Marine litter in a European context

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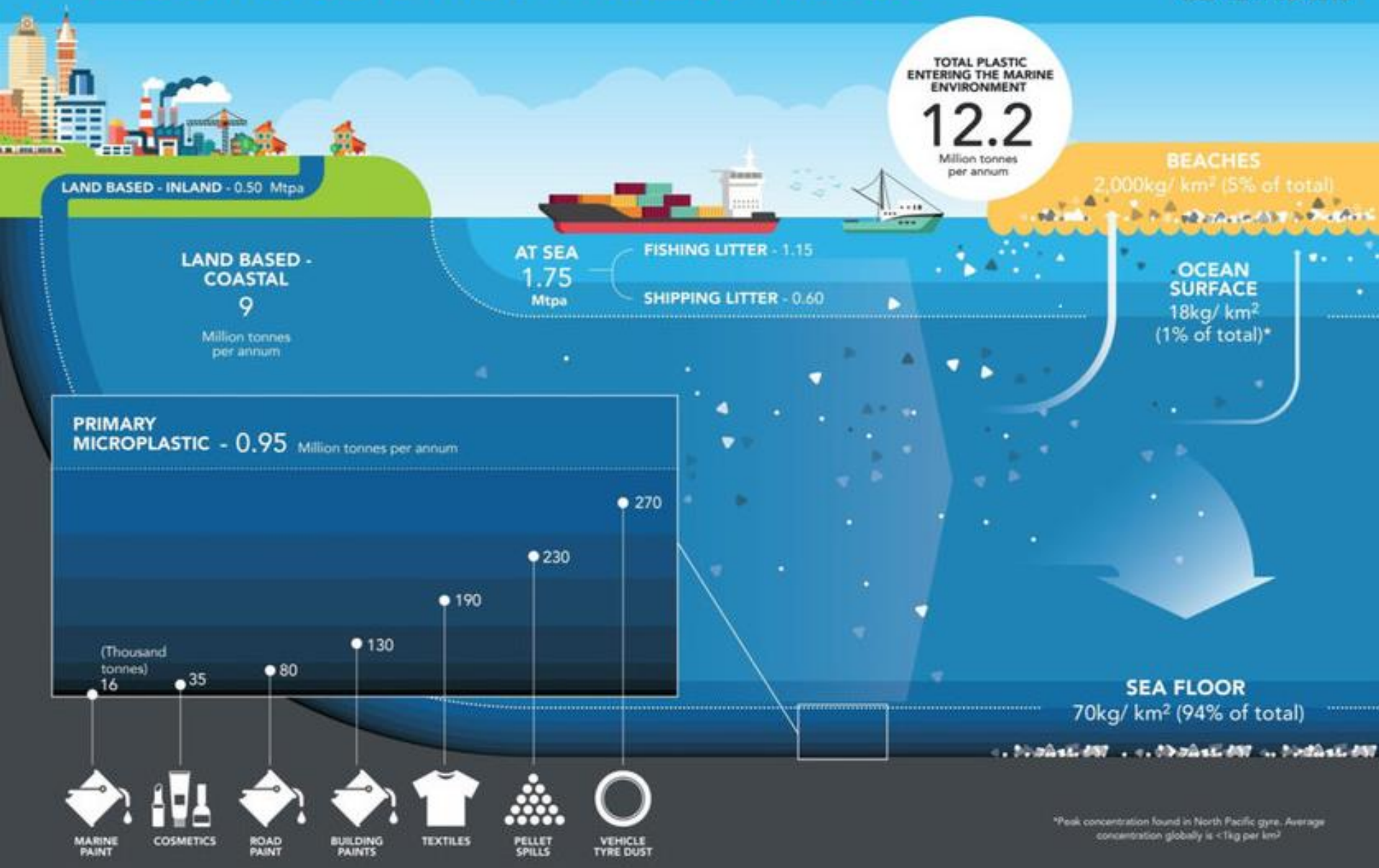
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# Marine debris is everyone's problem



# PLASTICS IN THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT: WHERE DO THEY COME FROM? WHERE DO THEY GO?



## EMODnet seafloor litter data MSFD region aggregated distribution of litter categories (2011-2017)\*

\*Different sampling devices were used in the two regions (North East Atlantic Ocean and Baltic Sea).  
GOV trawl gear type is the most used in the North East Atlantic Ocean



# Directive on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment

*Extended producer responsibility*

- **for fishing gear containing plastic**

*National minimum annual collection rate*

- **of waste fishing gear containing plastic for recycling.**

*Monitor fishing gear*

- **containing plastic placed on the market of the MS**
- **waste containing plastic collected**
- **report to the Commission**

*Text agreed by  
Council and  
Parliament*



## **Standard for circular design of fishing gear**

COM shall request CEN to develop harmonized standards relating to circular design of fishing gear to encourage re-use and to facilitate recyclability at the end of life

Meeting with plastics producers and fisheries ACs

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/en/node/4296>



## Port Reception Facilities directive (under revision)

### Requirements:

- MS should set up adequate port reception facilities
- requirement on all ships, including fishing vessels and recreational craft, to deliver all their waste before departure
- introduction of **100 % indirect fee**
- **passively fished waste** included in the scope

EPR schemes for fishing gear should support the proposed indirect fee system – help avoid any increase in the fee and ensure a right of delivery.

# Revision of Fisheries Control Regulation

## *Reporting lost gear*

- **Electronic logbooks for all categories of vessels.**

*Under consideration by Council and Parliament*

## *Retrieval*

- **removal of derogation to vessels < 12m to carry on board the necessary equipment**

## *Marking of gear*

- **extended to recreational fisheries.**





# MARINE LITTER IN EMODnet

- EMODnet collects, aggregates, standardizes, quality checks data and develops new services to share information and products incl. display services/maps
- Expanded to marine litter in March 2017 EMODnet:
  - Beach litter (nets, bottles etc.)
  - Seafloor litter (i.e. litter collected by fish trawl surveys)
  - Micro litter (microplastics)
- Databases based on existing approaches:
  - INSPIRE standards
  - Beach litter - OSPAR-MCS
  - Seafloor litter - ICES-DATRAS



**EMODnet**

 European Marine  
Observation and  
Data Network



# ***Marine litter: EU response***

- EU funds
  - Policy analysis (Eunomia study)
  - Feasibility of technologies (Litterdrone project)
  - Research (CleanSea, Marelitt projects)
- Collecting and spreading best practices e.g. EU Switchmed project collected 25 innovative solutions to combat plastic litter in Med Sea

# ***Marine litter: EU response***

*H2020 GHOST project video – a problem*

[http://lifevideos.eu/videos/?id=LIFE12\\_BIO\\_IT\\_000556\\_01\\_EN\\_WASTE.mp4](http://lifevideos.eu/videos/?id=LIFE12_BIO_IT_000556_01_EN_WASTE.mp4)

*H2020 GHOST project video – solutions*

[http://lifevideos.eu/videos/?id=LIFE12\\_BIO\\_IT\\_000556\\_02\\_EN\\_WASTE.mp4](http://lifevideos.eu/videos/?id=LIFE12_BIO_IT_000556_02_EN_WASTE.mp4)

# European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

*2014-2020*

- **14 coastal Member States committed to the collection of lost fishing gear.**
- **108 operations by 2023.**
- **€50 million, of which more than €30 million from the Fund.**

*2021-2027 Commission proposal*

- **financial support for the collection of lost fishing gear and marine litter from the sea**
- **investments in ports to provide adequate reception facilities for such recovered material**

# EMFF Blue economy call 2017 (direct management)

## Fighting marine litter

Project	Short description	Countries
<a href="#"><u>marGnet: Mapping and recycling of marine litter and Ghost nets on the sea-floor</u></a>	marGnet will set up and test multi-level solutions to monitor, map, prevent, remove and recycle marine litter from sea-based sources present on the seafloor.	Italy and Croatia
<a href="#"><u>BLUNET: Creating new life for discarded fishing and aquaculture gears to prevent marine litter generation</u></a>	BLUNET will set up a programme for recycling abandoned, lost or discarded fishing and aquaculture gear: recovering gear from the sea and using it as raw material to manufacture new gear.	Spain and Italy
<a href="#"><u>NetTag: Tagging fishing gears and enhancing on board best-practices to promote waste free fisheries</u></a>	NetTag will develop and test new technologies (acoustic device and robotic recovery system) to reduce lost gears and organise awareness-raising activities on marine litter for fishermen.	Portugal, UK and Spain
<a href="#"><u>OCEANETS: Technological approaches for circular economy solutions in terms of prevention, recover, re-use and recycle of fishing gears to obtain added-value products in the textile industry</u></a>	OCEANETS will develop an ICT tool to prevent fishing gear loss and optimise the recycling technologies to produce high-quality fabrics from plastic nets.	Spain and Czech Republic
<a href="#"><u>AQUA-LIT: Preventive Measures for Averting the Discarding of Litter in the Marine Environment from the Aquaculture Industry</u></a>	AQUA-LIT will develop a toolbox of innovative ideas and methodologies to prevent marine littering from aquaculture activities and to remove litter from aquaculture facilities.	Hungary, Portugal, Belgium, Spain and France

# Fishermen – part of the solution

*"Fishermen are extremely involved in such innovative initiatives to prevent, recover, reuse and recycle of fishing gears. As an example, thanks to their partnership with KIMO, over 500 fishing vessels landed 2500 tonnes of waste from the sea between 2011-2016 which will no longer be affecting the marine environment"*

Europêche , 21/03/2018





European  
Commission

*Thank You!*