

Turning the tide on marine litter in the Mediterranean



A Plastic-free healthy Mediterranean Sea: operationalizing the BLUEMED R&I Pilot Action
Venice, 20 January 2020

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UN Environment/Mediterranean Action Plan, Barcelona Convention

The UN Environment/MAP - Barcelona Convention



Albania



Algeria



Bosnia
Herzegovina



Croatia



Cyprus



Egypt



France



Greece



Israel



Italy



Lebanon



Libya



Malta



Monaco



Montenegro



Morocco



Slovenia



Spain



Syria



Tunisia

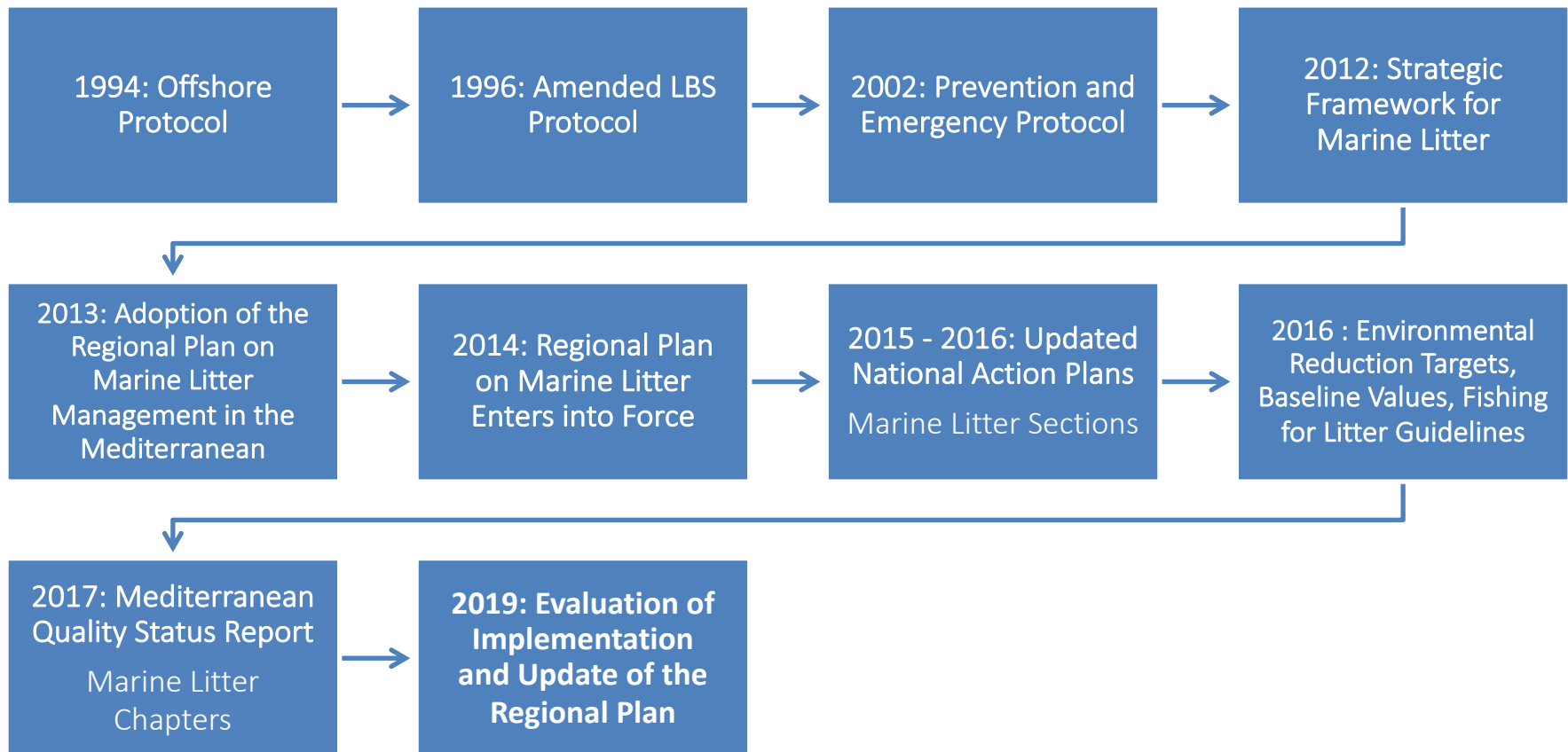


Turkey

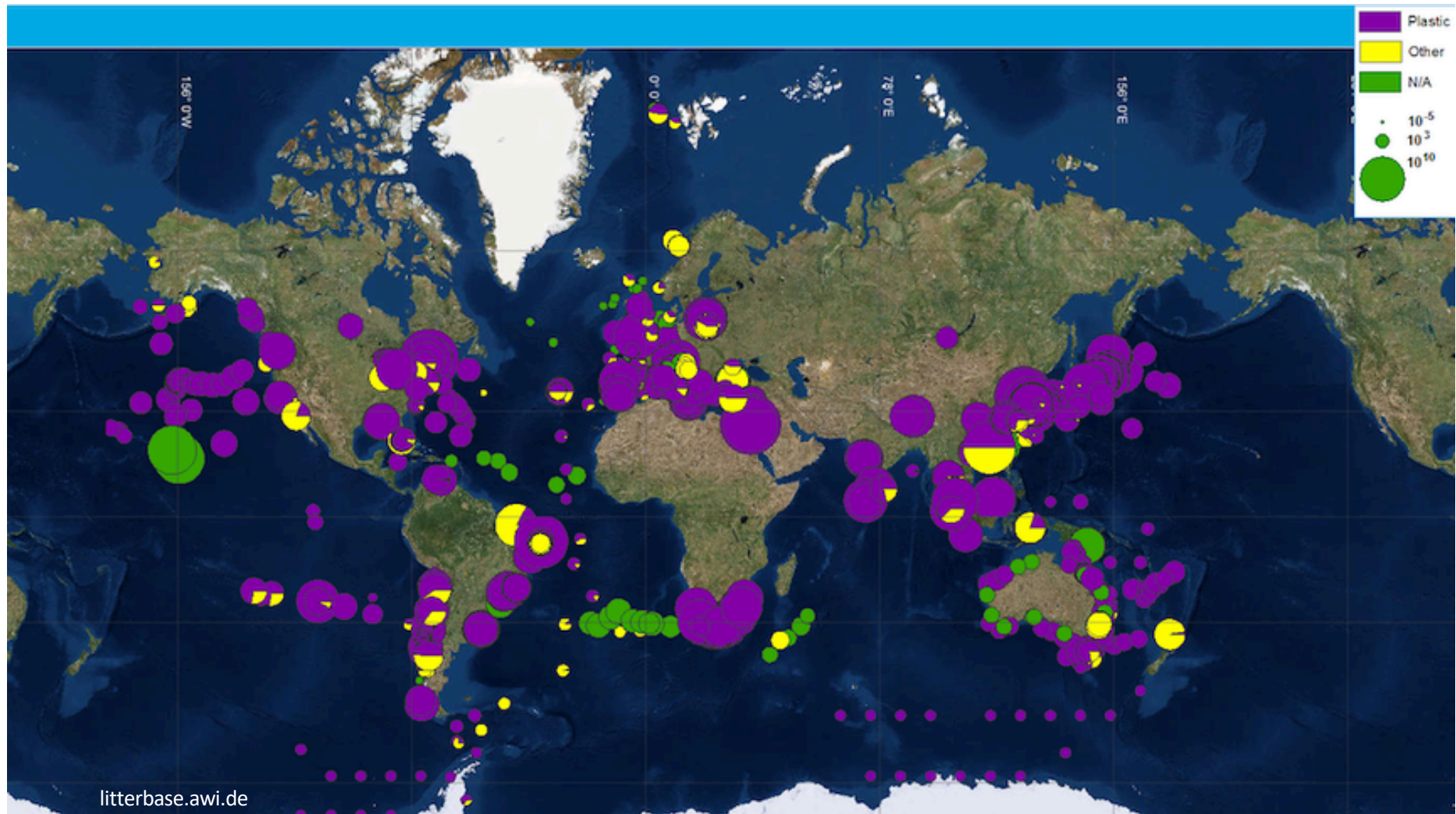


The European
Union

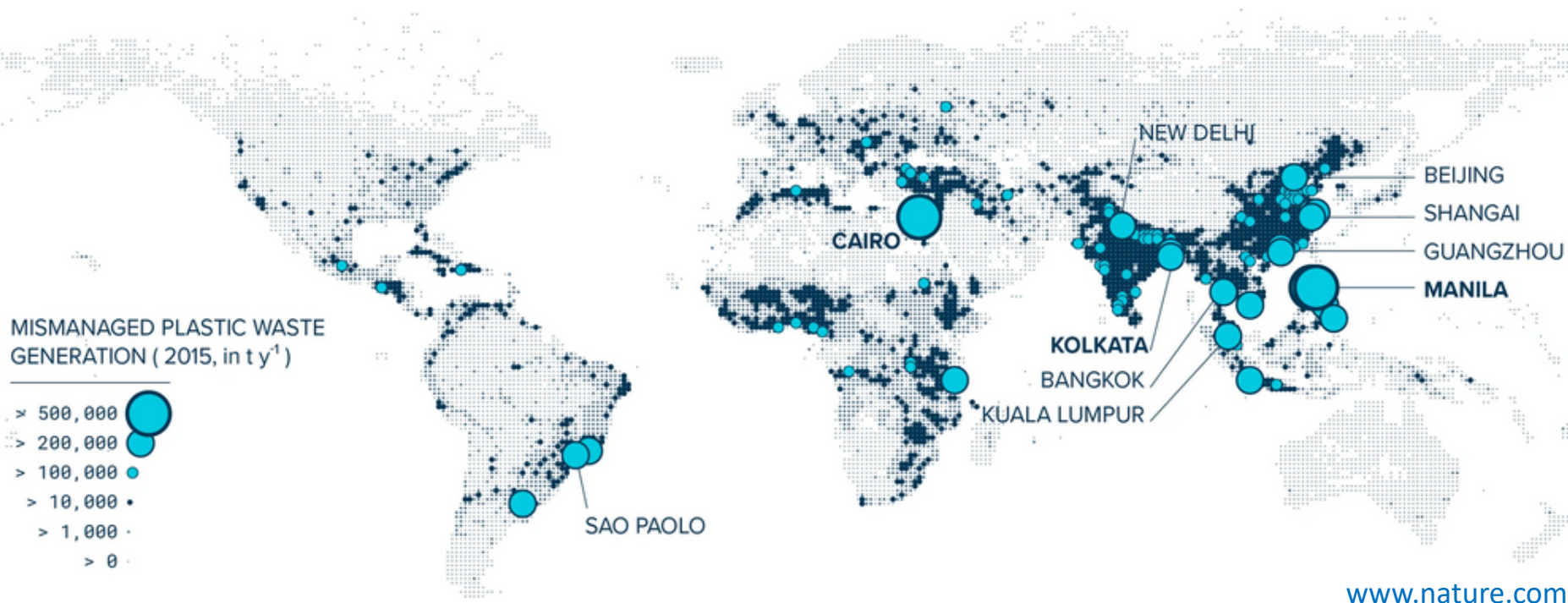
MAP/Barcelona Convention and Marine Litter



Marine Litter – A Global Concern



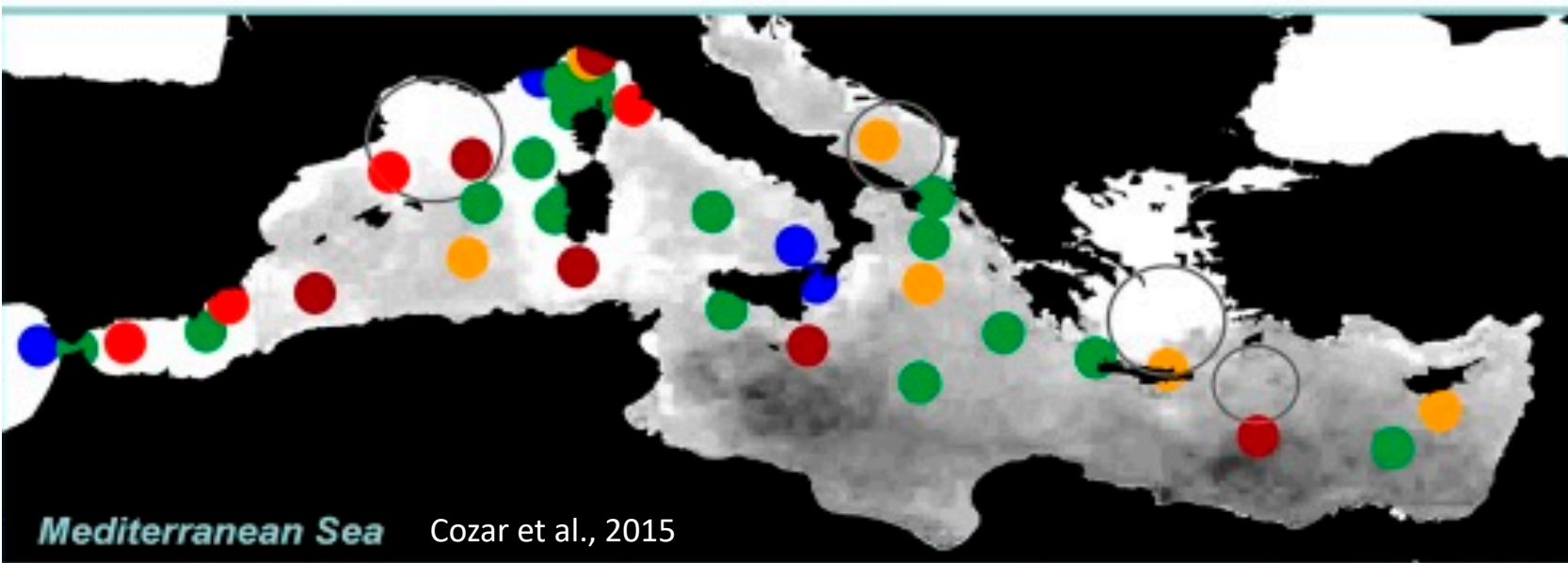
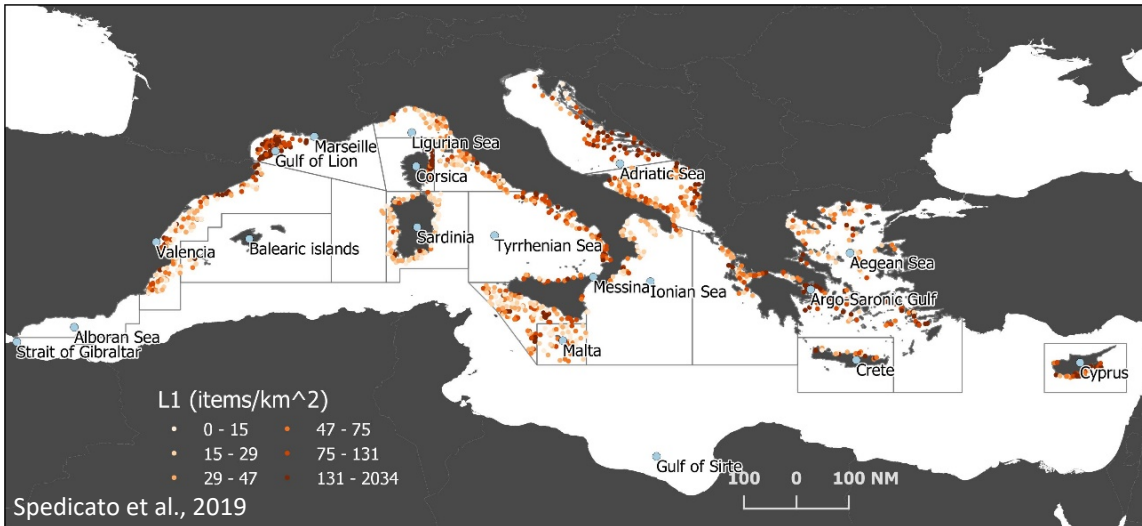
Marine Litter – Poor Waste Management Practices



Unsustainable life cycle | Towards a circular economy model

Marine Litter in the Mediterranean

1. Accumulation Areas



Marine Litter in the Mediterranean

2. Impact on Biota and on Socio-Economic



IMAR/Azores

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Mediterranean Response

Regional Plan on Marine Litter
Management
in the Mediterranean

Mediterranean Response

Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

integration measures reduction prevention removal
disposal assessment monitoring research science
guidelines cooperation assistance awareness
education stakeholders civil society reporting

Regional Plan on Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean

Achievements

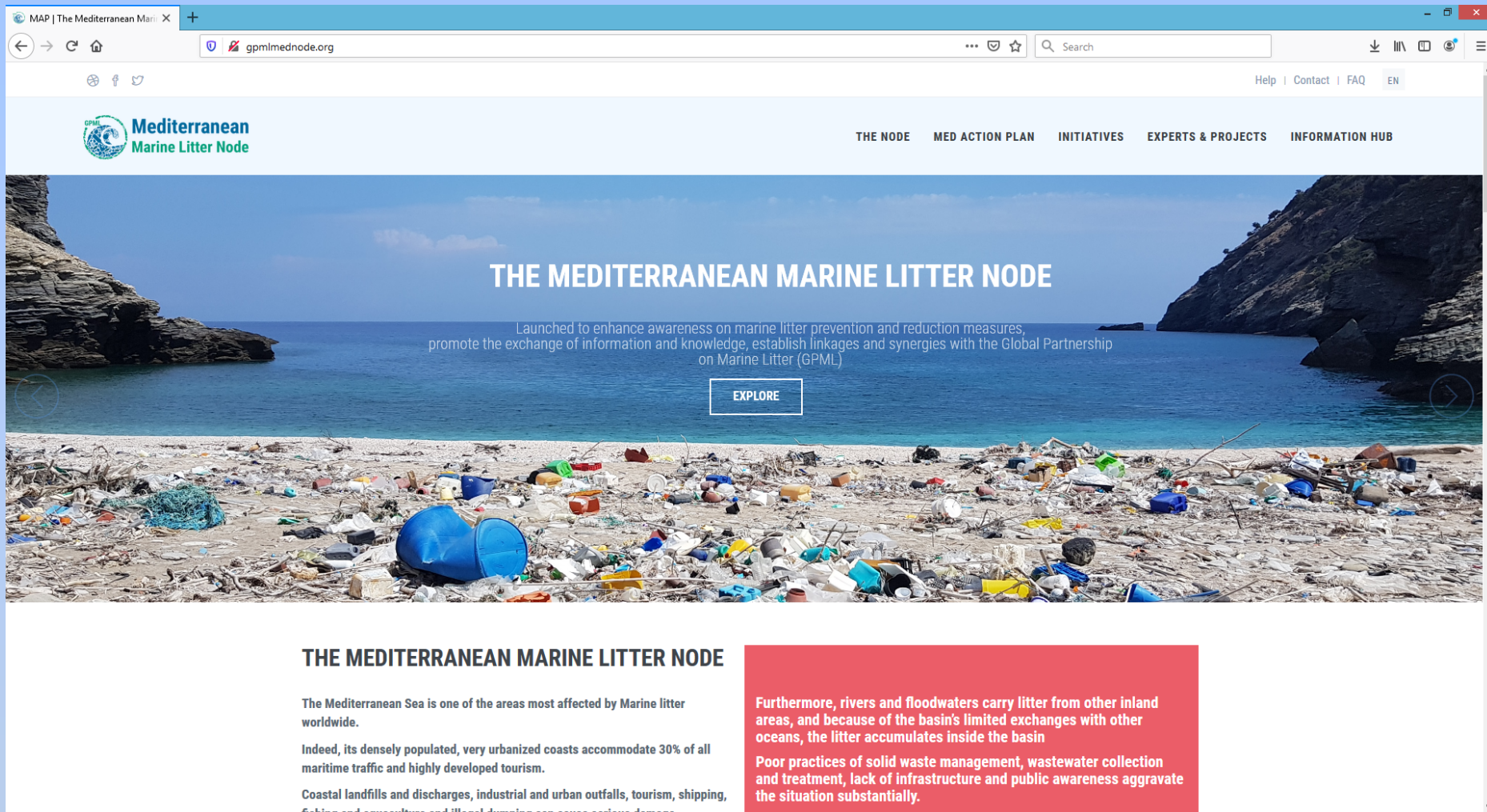
- Development and Implementation of National Monitoring Programmes (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Egypt, Lebanon, Libya, Montenegro, Morocco, Tunisia)
- 19 National Action Plans/Programmes of Measures addressing marine litter;
- Banning of single-use plastic bags in 17 Mediterranean Countries (Regulations/National Laws including total and partial bans, taxes/levies);
- 8 Mediterranean Countries – Legislations and Policies for Recycling;
- More than 20 Marine Litter Pilots in 9 Countries;
- Civil Society & NGO Involvement

The background of the slide features several thin, curved lines in shades of grey and blue, creating a sense of movement and depth. These lines are primarily located on the left and right sides of the slide, framing the central content.

Common Approaches Marine Litter Best Practices

- Identification of key reduction and prevention measures;
- Focusing on marine litter prevention and reduction – tackling priority marine litter items;
- Pilots Project Implementation;
- Guidelines ensuring Coherent and Consistent Implementation;
- Expand in geographical scale and impact;
- Multi Stakeholder Participation, Civil Society, Research – Academia;
- Regional Meetings (2018 and 2019) for exchange of best practices and lessons learnt;
- Communication and Awareness Raising

Mediterranean Marine Litter Node




With the valuable support from **UNEP/GPA** and **GPML**



Marine Litter Challenges

- Involvement of Plastic Industry;
- Sustainable Procurement Policies and Voluntary Agreements;
- National Policies for Priority Single-Use Plastic Items;
- Fisheries Sector vs Marine Litter;
- Closure of Illegal Dump Sites;
- Additional Guidelines Addressing Prevention and Reduction Guidelines;
- Enhance Science-Policy Interface;
- Strengthening ownership of initiatives



Conclusions & Future Work



- ✓ Strengthening National Implementation of the Regional Plan
- ✓ Upgrade the Regional Plan with additional measures (MPAs, Circular Economy) and a focus on microplastics
- ✓ Engagement of Plastic Industry and Private Sector
- ✓ Maximizing Synergies with Global Actions (GPA, G7, G20, etc.)
- ✓ Effective implementation of IMAP (Marine Litter Cluster) → updated marine assessments
- ✓ Enhance regional cooperation → expansion of the Regional Cooperation Platform
- ✓ Local Level: pilot implementation, involvement of civil society and local authorities

Marine Litter: towards the 2020-2021 biennia



BARCELONA
CONVENTION
COP 21
2-5 DECEMBER 2019
NAPLES, ITALY

- Core theme of COP21
- Ministerial Declaration
- Decision on Regional Marine Litter Guidelines;
- Decision to Upgrade the Regional Plan: microplastics
- Series of Side Events on Marine Litter

Thank you



Mediterranean Action Plan Coordinating Unit
Barcelona Convention Secretariat



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