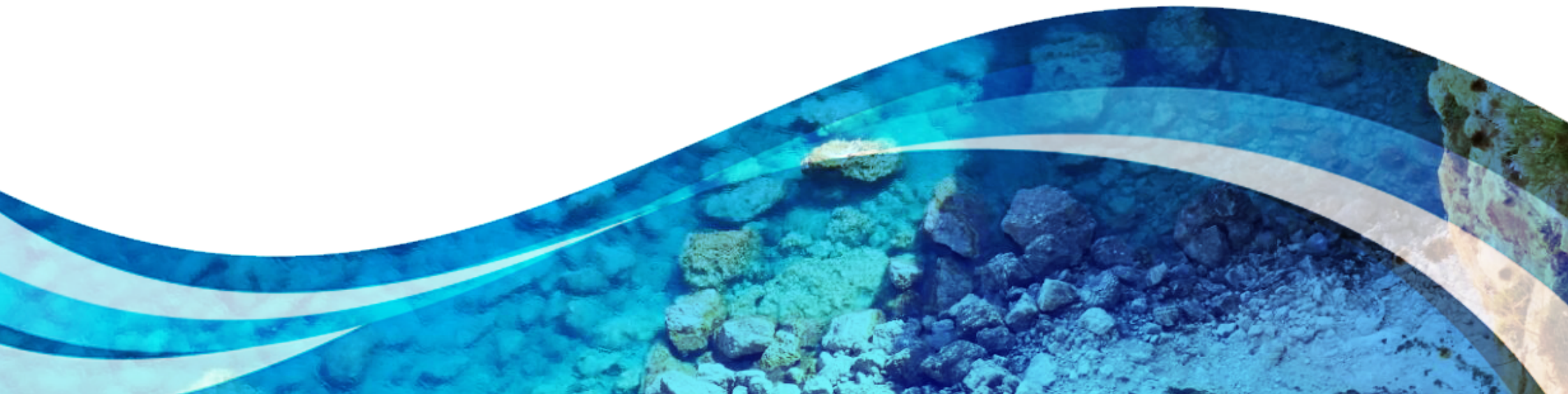




BlueMed Pilot Action For a plastic-free, healthy Mediterranean Sea

# Mapping of initiatives – National Hubs TUNISIA

[Extract from the DRAFT SUMMARY REPORT, BLUEMED Pilot: For a Plastic-free, Healthy Mediterranean Sea  
(Tuesday 12 March 2019, 9:00 – 17:00, Room: CDMA -1/44, Rue du Champ de Mars 21, Brussels, Belgium)]



## Tunisia

Tunisia is promoting activities that are included in the Implementation of a partnership program with associations and organizations of field volunteer campaigns and outreach activities related to Plastic waste management sector (ECO-LEF) and activities mainly based on 'waste fishing' and 'adopting a beach' concept in the regional framework MEDPOL. Tunisia is partner in the research projects as CLAIM, (that see the participation of other MED countries led by Greece) aimed at defining the status of plastic assessment at sea and implementing specific sustainable solution, or INDICIT that assess the develop a set of standardized tools for monitoring the impacts of litter on marine life (turtles, cetacean, shark, invertebrates). Several agencies and other foundations are also working to carry out large-scale awareness campaigns on the dangers generated by plastic.

### I. NATIONAL AGENCY FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT (ANGED): PLASTIC WASTE MANAGEMENT SECTOR: ECO-LEF

#### NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE CONTROL OF THE PHENOMENON OF POLLUTION GENERATED BY PLASTIC WASTE

##### OBJECTIVES:

- Contribute to the preservation of public cleanliness in cities, urban agglomerations, public spaces, roads and beaches;
- Encourage private sector interventions and the creation of small plastic collection companies
- Promote partnership with regional and local authorities to better control the phenomenon of pollution caused by plastic waste;
- Promote and encourage the recycling of collected materials;
- Sensitize the citizen in order to rationalize the use of packaging and plastic bags.

##### ✓ AXES OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY:

- Establishment of a paid collection system from April 2001;
- Organization of sorting and collection of plastic waste at the source;
- Creation of teams of workers to collect plastic packaging used
- Provide financial assistance to governorates and municipalities for the organization of collection campaigns for used plastic packaging;

- Implementation of an integral multi-axis awareness program;
- Implementation of a partnership program with associations and organizations for the organization of field volunteer campaigns and outreach activities.

➤ ☑ Plastic waste management sector: ECO-LEF

## **II. ACTIVITIES IN A REGIONAL FRAMEWORK: MEDPOL**

### **ACTIVITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FIRST PHASE OF IMAP (MARINE WASTE) IN THE FRAMEWORK OF MEDPOL TUNISIA**

On the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding between UNEP and ANPE on 18 April 2000, UNEP undertakes to cooperate with the ANPE in the framework of the National Program for the Monitoring of Pollution. Mediterranean MED POL to be realized at the Mediterranean coast of Tunisia.

In accordance with Article 10 of the Regional Plan on Marine Litter, provides for the implementation of two pilot projects: one on 'waste fishing' and the other 'adopting a beach' concept.

➤ Adopt a beach:

- i. Undertake periodic cleaning actions on the beaches near the mouths of the river, as the case may be;
- ii. Design and conduct awareness-raising campaigns at the local level regarding marine litter cleaning (plastic and other) in beaches and their importance, as well as the effects of marine litter on the marine and coastal environment;
- iii. Implement a marine litter monitoring plan on the selected beaches, collecting information on the types, quantities, weight and sources of recorded marine litter;
- iv. Periodically record marine litter inputs on beaches, including marine litter from rivers;
- v. Report monitoring data collected to MED POL and national authorities;

- Waste management using the guidelines adopted by CoP 19 (IG.22 / 10):
- i. Select the pilot project area and engage fishermen to collect marine litter;
  - ii. Prepare awareness materials to promote good practices for "waste fishing";

## **III. RESEARCH PROGRAMS**

The EU-funded CLAIM H2020 R & I project "Cleaning Marine Litter by Developing and Applying Innovative Methods in European Seas" aims at the prevention and in situ management of visible and invisible marine litter through the development of new technologies and redefined methodological approaches to innovate in the way of cleaning our seas.

The project will propel 5 innovative marine cleaning technologies, preventing waste from entering the sea from two main sources: wastewater treatment plants and river mouths. Immediately after an efficient pre-filtration system has sorted and collected waste, a photocatalytic "nanocoating" device will degrade microplastics in wastewater treatment plants. When installed on ships, a small-scale heat treatment device (pyrolizer) will be used to turn collected waste into energy, fueling ships and heating harbors. At river mouths, an innovative floating ramp will collect and monitor visible waste, while a network of FerryBox CLAIM systems will operate on vessels in the Baltic, Western and Eastern Mediterranean equipped with an automated water withdrawal device. and a passive filtering system.

From a scientific point of view, CLAIM will develop innovative modeling tools to evaluate and create information maps on visible and invisible marine plastic pollution at basin and regional levels (Gulf of Saronikos, Gulf of Lyon, Ligurian Sea, Gulf of Gabes and the Baltic Sea).

An ecosystem approach will guide the project in assessing the potential benefits of proposed waste cleanup methods for ecosystem services and human resources.

The CLAIM consortium includes 19 partners from 14 countries in the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea. The partners represent SMEs, research institutes and universities, experts in the field of waste in prototype development, models, characterization of waste, environmental impact assessment, socio-economic aspects, economic recovery, the revival of marketing and scientific communication. Tunisia represented by the INSTM (Institute of Marine Science and Technology) actively participates.

#### IV. **OTHER RESEARCH PROJECTS**

Even if large projects could not be identified, we have identified at least three research actions dealing with the problem of plastics. One supported by the national research system and the other developed under the ENI-CBC initiative of the European Union. The INDICIT project described below is one.

- **INDICIT 2017-2019 project (<https://indicit-europa.eu>):**

Marine debris impacts marine organisms in all the seas and oceans of the world. The INDICIT project is part of a collaborative approach of Europe and regional maritime conventions, to improve the state of marine ecosystems and restore them. Supported by the European Union, this project aims to develop a common approach for monitoring the ingestion of marine debris by marine turtles and to identify cetacean, shark and invertebrate species that may be "useful indicators" especially for entanglement and ingestion of micro-debris.

INDICIT focuses on the MSFD 10 ("Marine Litter"), which aims to maintain or recover the good environmental status (GES) of the marine environment in terms of marine litter. The main objective is to develop a set of standardized tools for monitoring the impacts of litter on marine life.

Seven countries are involved in this European project including Tunisia and ten partners including INSTM.

The project runs through 20 stranding networks and 20 sea turtle rescue and care centers.

**V. AWARENESS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

Several agencies and other foundations are working to carry out large-scale awareness campaigns on the dangers generated by plastic. It is in this context that the Tunis Science City recently organized (21 December 2018) an open day called "STOP POLLUTION PLASTIQUE". The program of the day is attached.

Heinrich Boll Foundation: Concerned with the amount of unmanageable plastic pollution everywhere in Tunisia, the Heinrich Boll Foundation organized a Breakfast Talk with the newly elected representatives and the representatives of the national environmental protection agencies as part of the exhibition ' 'The sea .... final destination!' Which took place at the Palais Kheireddine during the month of October 2018

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