





REDUCING PLASTIC WASTE IN MARINE ENVIRONMENTS

SZ REDA







- Non-profit organization for the public benefit, based in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria
- Established in 1995 with over 70 successfully implemented projects;
- Support for local and regional governments for sustainable development and creation of a favorable business environment;
- Encouraging and promotion of entrepreneurship and SMEs, boosting national and foreign investment;



PLASTECO

- Supporting EU regions to curb plastics waste and littering
- Co-financed by INTERREG EUROPE
- Total budget 1,610,258.00 euros
- Duration August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2023
- The project is within the scope of thematic objective "Environment and resource efficiency"
- SZ REDA communication manager of the project



A3.5 STUDY VISIT ON AQUATIC PLASTICS LITTER CLEAN-UP PRACTICES AND EFFORTS







Microplastics sampling activity

Microplastics sampling activity on the beach and visit of the Latvian Institute of Aquatic Ecology: scientists of the Institute demonstrated how samples from sediments, water and sand are extracted for examination for microplastics contamination

Sample analysis

various methods and devices used for detecting the type of plastics, possible sources, and other key metrics of microplastics. Participants had the chance to analyse the samples gathered on the beach.



HOW GARBAGE GETS INTO THE WATER?





Fishing

Military and research training

Shipping

Aquacult ure Landed directly in the sea

Transport mechanisms:

Wind

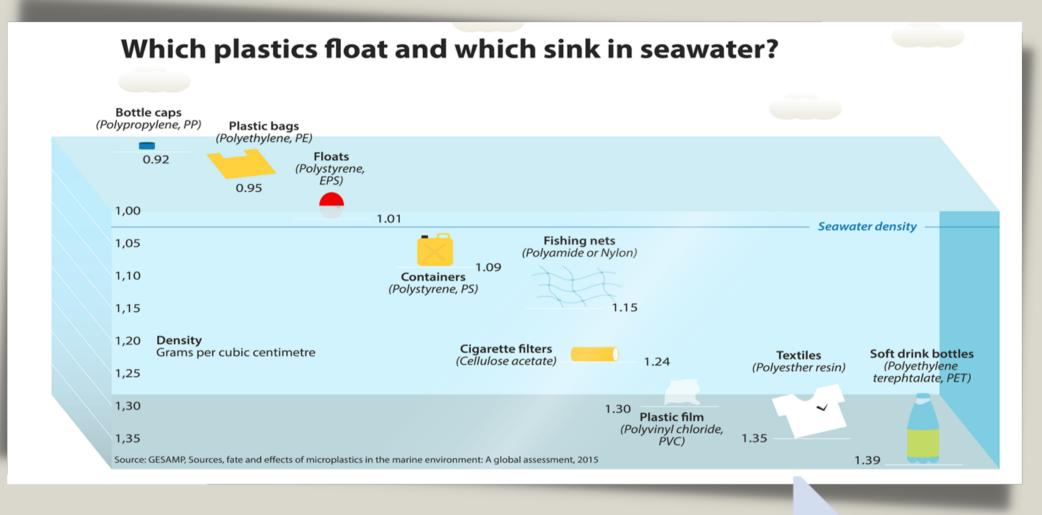
Waves

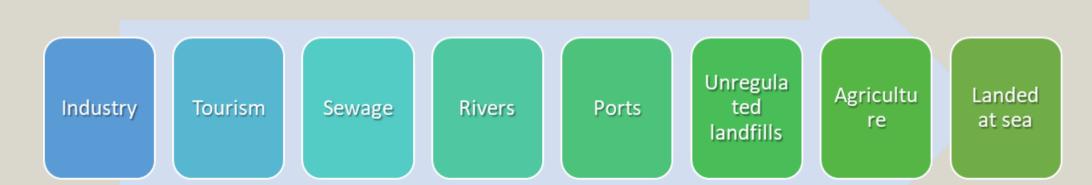
Sea currents

Marine organisms

Tides

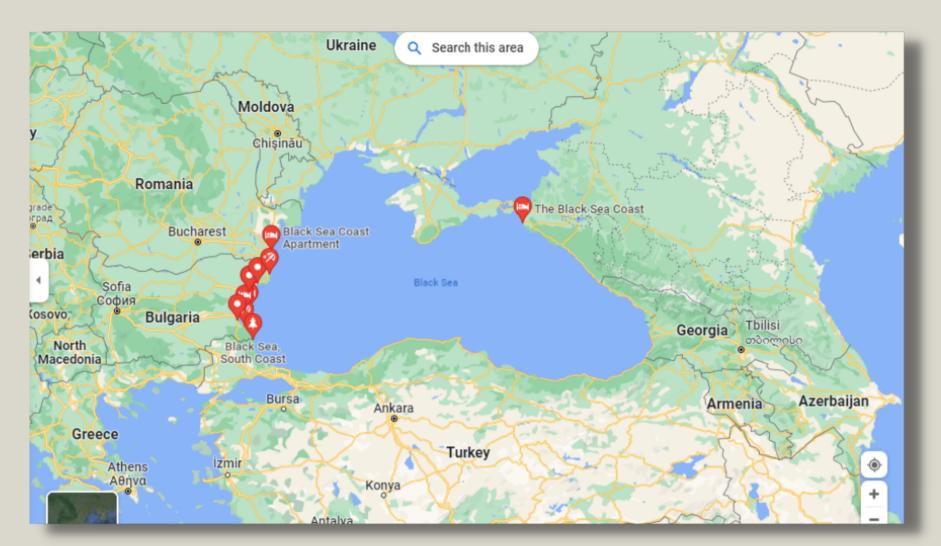
Rivers





PLASTIC MARINE LITTERING

- In July 2020, the first "plastic island" was discovered in Black Sea.
- There are 429,000 microplastic particles per square kilometer in the Black Sea
- The Danube alone transports 11.6 billion macroplastics (> 5mm / 532.4 tons) and 2170 billion microplastics (<5mm / 1533 tons) per year!
- 4.2 tons of plastic flow into the Black Sea per day from the Danube alone







MEASURES







Prevantive (insitutional initiative)



The Blue Label: Initiative by the Burgas municipality that distinguishes dining and entertainment places that do not offer single-use plastic products

Prevantive (insitutional initiative)



Green City: one stop shop for green services of Burgas municipality Support of separate waste collection and recycling; recycling bin mapping; New life for old furniture

Corrective (private initiatives)



Less Plastic Bulgaria: blog offering information related to environmental pollution and leading an environmentally friendly lifestyle. It initiates also coastal clean up events, gathering hundreds of people

Corrective (private initiatives)



WIND2WIN organizes annual cleaning of beaches along the Bulgarian Black Sea coast with the aim of prevention and engagement of public attention. This is one way for people to face the scale of the problem firsthand and take action to improve the environment.



European Union

Development Fund



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Natural and cultural heritage in coastal regions workshop