

A quarterly newsletter of the MARLENA project

Common borders. Common solutions.

Втори отчетен период

MARLENA: Marine and River Litter Elimination New Approach
eMS Ref No: BSB - 139



Six partners from 5 different countries joint their resources and knowledge for implementation of the project MARLENA, funding by the European Union through ENI Black Sea Basin Cross Border Cooperation programme 2014 - 2020.



COMBATING
WATER
POLLUTION

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During the second implementation period, it was created an on-line platform for sharing positives and negatives about the state of the environment - rivers, beaches, tourist sites, forest areas, organizing volunteer cleaning actions and reflecting the attitude of owners / entrepreneurs from the tourism sector, industry and administration to environmental cleanness. The platform is available in five languages-Bulgarian,English, Turkish, Romanian and Ukrainian. The platform will have the following characteristics:

- An interactive map on the territory of the project partner countries;
- Publishing information about a polluted/clean place, uploading photos or organizing an event after creating an account;
- Motivating point system for active volunteers and site owners;
- Subscription to receive notifications of new shares / polluted / cleaned places / economies of selected region.

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A survey on existing policy and legislation, networks and cooperation initiative to reduce river and marine litter in Black sea region was conducted in all of the five participating regions (Bulgaria - PP2, Turkey, Romania, Moldova, Ukraine). The results of the survey were in the Analysis for each country participating in the project. The documents are in national language. They were translated in English and uploaded to the on-line platform www.marlenablacksea.eu



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Each one of the project partners was held one-day stakeholder informational meeting with the participation of representatives of all stakeholders (local and regional authorities, control institutions, branch organizations, universities, and business).

- Bulgaria - On 27th of February in Burgas
- Romania - On 28th of February in Galati
- Bulgaria - On 28th of February in Malko Tarnovo
- Moldova - On 22nd of March in Cahul District Cahul, Cahul municipality
- Turkey - On 26th of March in Igneada, Demirkoy
- Ukraine - On 28th of February in Odessa.



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Ecological Counseling Center is responsible for elaboration and design of a guide on water pollution: „Being a responsible citizen - Dedicated to youth, tourists and local communities” . The brochure contains articles and advices collected from various information sources, explaining the meaning of the waste, its effect - the pollution, causes, types of pollution (a special attention being given to the water pollution) and ways for youth, local communities and visitors to prevent it. This is a guideline for youth, local communities and visitors on how to understand the water pollution and how to behave responsibly about it.

Ecological Counseling Center Cahul, elaborated the guide in both English and Romanian languages, the partners have to translate in their national languages, and then ECC Cahul will print brochures for all the partners.



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WASTE THAT KILLS NATURE

What is waste?

Waste (or wastes) are unwanted or unusable materials. Waste is any substance which is discarded after primary use, or is worthless, defective and of no use.

Wastes are generated in our households, offices, schools, hospitals, and industries. No society is immune from day-to-day issues associated with waste disposal. A natural part of the life cycle, waste occurs when any organism returns substances to the environment. However, humans produce an additional flow of material residues that would overload the capacity of natural recycling processes, so these wastes must be managed in order to reduce their effect on our aesthetics, health, or the environment.



Liquid waste

Examples of liquid waste include wash from homes, liquids used for cleaning in industries and waste detergents.



Solid waste

Solid waste predominantly, is any garbage, refuse or rubbish that we make in our homes and other places. These include old car tires, old newspapers, broken furniture and even food waste.

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Impacts of Marine Litter

Marine litter is not only ugly - it can harm ocean ecosystems, wildlife, and humans. It can injure coral reefs and bottom dwelling species and entangle or drown ocean wildlife. Some marine animals ingest the litter and choke or starve. Medical waste (such as syringes), sharp objects, and large pieces of litter can pose a direct threat to humans. The economic impact of marine litter is thought to be significant.

IMPACTS OF MARINE DEBRIS



INGESTION

Animals mistakenly eat plastic and other debris.



ENTANGLEMENT & GHOSTFISHING

Marine life gets caught and killed in ghost nets, trapped in derelict gear, and entangled in plastic bands and other marine debris.



HABITAT DAMAGE

Heavy marine debris crushes sensitive habitat, such as coral reefs and sea grass.



NON-NATIVE SPECIES

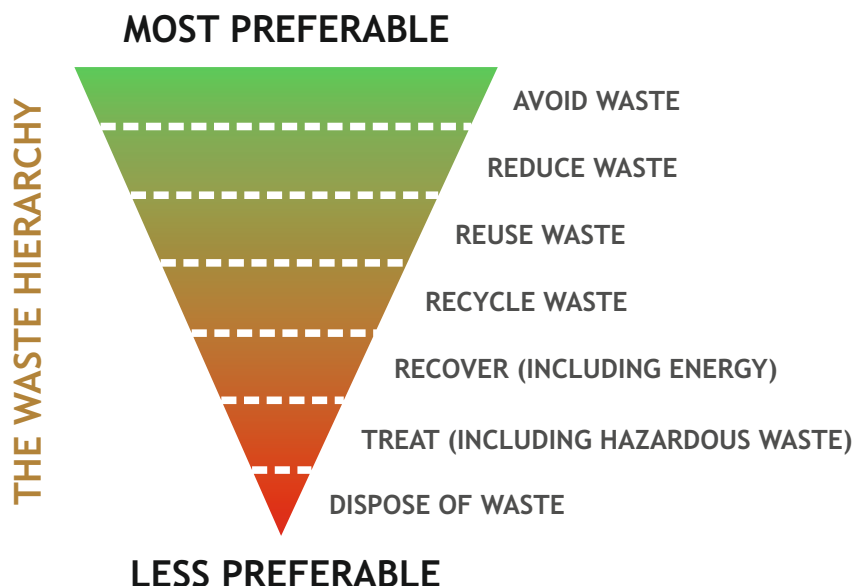
Marine debris transports alien and invasive species from one region to another.

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WHAT CAN YOU DO TO PREVENT WATER POLLUTION?

As citizens of a society we have a responsibility to manage our waste sustainably. While we should see to it that the government is stringent about their policies related to sewage treatment plants and methods, there are many things that we can carry out individually to prevent water pollution.



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What we plan to do

Next year we will elaborate and publish 'Responsible-citizenship' guidelines for children and students, tourists and visitors.

In summer we will start with River and sea-coast clean up informational campaigns in Moldova, Romania and Ukraine.

In summer in Bulgaria will be organized eco actions and international eco camp for youth and children

Local eco camps in Romania, Turkey, Ukraine and Moldova.
Malko Tarnovo Municipality will realize informational campaign.

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