



NEWS RELEASE

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SWIM-H2020 SM Training on the Assessment of Marine Litter in Algeria “Characterization of marine and coastal litter on 14 coastal wilaya and support for the development of a national management plan for coastal waste and marine litter.”

Another successful Training on how to properly monitor Marine Litter was organized by the EU-funded SWIM-Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism, on 7-8 November 2017 in Algiers, Algeria, following a similar one held last month in Morocco.

The participants of this 2-day Workshop were introduced to the theme of marine and coastal litter, its sources and impacts, key issues (technical, environmental, economic, health, cultural and social) related to marine litter, to improve knowledge on the quantities, types and sources of marine litter on fourteen (14) coastal wilaya in Algeria.

They were also informed on how to strengthen capacity, monitor marine litter at beach level in a harmonized manner, increase awareness of marine litter and management options, as well as the main legislative framework to combat marine litter, namely the Barcelona Convention Regional Plan for Marine Litter Management in the Mediterranean.

The results of this Training will be decisive in the choice of sampling sites for the monitoring of marine litter on the Algerian coast and in the implementation of pilot surveys for monitoring marine litter. Furthermore, first discussions on the elements of a National Action Plan on the management of Marine Litter took place.

More than 40 officials of the Ministry of Environment, as well as representatives of other Ministries, Local Authorities, NGOs, Research Institutes and Academia were successfully trained to contribute to the depollution of the Algerian coast.

The participants gained an overview of the ‘best’ available techniques and methodologies for monitoring marine litter in the coastal and marine environment. Most importantly, they had the opportunity to get acquainted step-by-step with the methodology for monitoring marine macro-litter on beaches and gain hands-on experience on how to perform beach litter surveys and interpret the results.

The participants carried out marine litter pilot surveys on a beach near Algiers. More surveys are expected to be carried out before the end of the project.

Throughout the workshop emphasis was given to the practical implementation of the three marine litter indicators adopted within the Barcelona Convention Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme of the Mediterranean Sea and Coast and Related Assessment Criteria (IMAP – Decision IG.22/7).

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Sustainable Water Integrated Management and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism
Working for a Sustainable Mediterranean, Caring for our Future.

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The civil society component of SWIM-H2020 SM is facilitated by the UfM labelled BlueGreen project and network.

SWIM and Horizon 2020 Support Mechanism Project

The **SWIM-H2020 SM EU-funded Project** aims to contribute to the sustainable use of scarce water resources and properly manage municipal waste, industrial emissions and waste water, and therefore enhance, directly and indirectly, resilience to climate variability and change in the entire region with emphasis on the countries of North Africa and the Middle East (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, [Syria] and Tunisia).

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