



Get started in Responsible Research and Innovation

Pollution by human pressure with a special focus on marine litter



MARINA Project

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Marine litter

Marine litter is an actual problem occurring in all seas and coasts around the world and is mainly resulting from land-based activities. The purpose of the workshop organized by Mare Nostrum was to discuss what actions should be taken by the community in order to reduce marine litter.

29 participants from different stakeholder groups expressed their opinion in this participative workshop:



Responsible Research and Innovation

Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) engages and brings together all stakeholders, creates dialogue and facilitates knowledge-sharing. It ensures the sustainable use of natural resources and makes sure that the needs of citizens and society are integrated into research and innovation. Participants put forth proposals of collective solutions based on the six RRI dimensions:



Workshop Outcomes

The triggering question "What actions should be taken by the community in order to reduce marine litter?" was the question that broke the official barriers and started the discussions.

Responsible Research & Innovation Actions



Priorities

- Identifying and monitoring pollution sources;
- Providing the infrastructure and innovative technologies for selective waste collection (land, marine);
- Involving the local beaches administrations, volunteers and authorities.



Economic challenges

- Volunteering actions (low costs);
- Updating legislation for economic traders (medium costs);
- Monitoring of polluting sources (e.g. ships), over-monitoring (high costs).



Feasibility challenges

- Volunteering actions and environmental education in schools;
- Waste management; infrastructure for waste collection and collection points, with applying concrete methods for waste selective collection;
- Development of new technologies, monitoring, identifying and treating polluting sources.



Target stakeholder groups



Actions suggested by the participants

Method Used: WORLD CAFÉ - a method for engaging groups, both within organizations and in the public sphere, that should offer an antidote to the fast-paced fragmentation and lack of connection in today's world. It is founded on the assumption that people have the capacity to work together, no matter who they are. (<http://actioncatalogue.eu/search>)

The MARINA Project is funded by the EU Programme Horizon 2020. 14 partners across Europe are joining forces for a period of 36 months to bring together stakeholders around marine issues and societal challenges and propose RRI driven roadmaps of actions to respond to them.

45 workshops on marine issues in the European Union



- Marine biotechnologies
- Climate change
- Deep-sea mining
- Tourism and coastal cities
- Renewable energy
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- Sea transportation
- Pollution caused by human, land and sea pressures

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