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Action Plan to Reduce Plastic Pollution in the Municipality of Sali for the Period 2021 – 2026



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EDITORS: Tea Kuzmičić Rosandić, Blanka Rakuljić,
Gabrijela Medunić-Orlić, Jona Petešić

AUTOR: Marijan Galović

GRAPHIC DESIGN: Maja Golem

This Action Plan includes measures and activities to be implemented in order to achieve short- and long-term objectives with the purpose of limiting plastic leakage into the environment, as well as plastic pollution of the sea. Over time, plastic objects are reduced to tiny plastic particles smaller than five millimeters – microplastics, which when found in the sea or sediment, represent an almost invisible but dangerous form of pollution. Due to the mass use of plastics, microplastics have become ubiquitous part of the marine environment. Various toxic substances accumulate on its surface, while fish and other marine organisms, especially bivalve molluscs, can take it for food. Microplastics thus enter the food chain, that includes humans, too. Globally, the largest source of plastic that we bring into the body is water – both bottled and tapped. There are significant regional differences in the amount of microplastics present in the environment, with twice as many plastic particles found in water in the USA and India, then in Europe and Indonesia. Salt, beer and molluscs have been identified as foods that contain the highest amount of plastic particles. Research results show that the problem of plastic pollution is universal and directly affects people, which is why the Municipality of Sali decided to introduce appropriate measures and activities to prevent plastics from entering the environment and the food chain.

In order to achieve the goals of this Action Plan, the Municipality of Sali must fully embrace the models of circular economy. The Action Plan proposes measures and activities to reduce the use of unnecessary single-use plastics, promotes alternatives to plastic products designs and ensures the implementation of improvements in plastic waste management processes.

The action plan consists of three thematic units:

1. *Reducing the total amount of produced and disposed plastic waste, establishing a system that supports circular economy and remediation of existing pollution* – prescribing the objectives and activities to be carried out at the Municipality level in order to reduce waste volumes to minimum legally determined rates
2. *Creating examples of good practice in reducing waste generation and its reuse* – defining the goals and activities that need to be implemented within the Municipality Sali and its institutions to become fully plastic free, thus being an example of good practice not only in the Republic of Croatia, but also in a wider region
3. *Education and communication with the public* – an activity that fully supports the implementation of the previous two units, with the aim of increasing the environmental awareness of citizens and ensure long-term support for the Action Plan to Reduce Plastic Pollution in the Municipality of Sali for the period 2021 – 2026.

The action plan was developed as part of the project For Plastic-Free Croatian Islands implemented by the Association for Nature, Environment and Sustainable Development Sunce from Split and partners Green Action (FoE Croatia), Municipality Sali (Dugi Otok), and City of Stari Grad (Hvar Island). The project is funded by The Beyond Med Association (BeMed).

The entire Action Plan and its implementation should be transparent and accessible to the public.



1. REDUCING THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF PRODUCED AND DISPOSED PLASTIC WASTE, ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM THAT SUPPORTS CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND REMEDIATION OF EXISTING POLLUTION

Measures and activities	Responsible Partner	Deadline	Results/outputs
OBJECTIVE 1.1) Reduce the amount of disposed of plastic waste by 10% at the level of the Municipality within one year from the adoption of the Plan			
Act. 1.1.1) Implementation of waste collection and managment system which provides the greatest impact in terms of quantities and quality of separately collected plastics	Municipality of Sali and Mulić d.o.o.	2022	new or updated Waste Management Plan and its implementation in accordance with the Waste Management Act, including the proper collection and management of all types of waste
Act. 1.1.2) Implementation of a door-to-door separate waste collection system	Mulić d.o.o	2022	smanjena količina plastičnog otpada odloženog u miješanom komunalnom otpadu u općini za 10 % u odnosu na referentnu 2021. godinu
Descriptiton: aiming to develop a Waste Management Plan that can yield significant results within a shorter period of time, the implementation of a door-to-door system in all settlements of the Municipality Sali, is envisaged. The system consists of allocating special containers for collecting plastic and paper to all users of the waste collection service. Logistically, separate collection of waste will be organized by small vehicles alongside included re-collection of collected waste at the site to optimize the costs of collecting and transporting separately collected waste. In addition to the infrastructure and the organization of transportation, it is necessary to educate and inform the inhabitants of the settlements about the changes in the waste collection system, as well as to disseminate the waste collection schedule. It is recommended to monitor the amount of waste collected separately and delivered for recovery, in order to calculate the efficiency of the system itself. The characteristics of the system being introduced, are described in the Analysis of the Current State of use of Disposable Plastics in the Municipality Sali. The implementation of the system has been monitored, from the beginning, by a municipal warden who acts preventively and educationally, and if necessary, and in the case of frequent recurrences of irregularities, can fine inappropriate disposal of waste. The results of the implementation of the first phase of the system introduction will be considered in the modeling and design of the waste management system within the new Waste Management Plan and the implementation of a separate collection of biodegradable waste in the following phases. In order to achieve the objective of reducing the amount of disposed plastic waste, it is necessary to collect 14,95 tons separately by the end of 2022.			

Measures and activities	Responsible Partner	Deadline	Results/outputs
OBJECTIVE 1.2) Reduce the amount of plastic in landfilled municipal waste by 55% at the Municipal level by 2025			
Act.1.2.1.) Comply with the requirements of Directive (EU) 2019/904 of the European Parliament and the Council from June 5th 2019 on reducing the environmental impact of certain plastic products	Municipality of Sali	2025	new or updated Waste Management Plan and its implementation in accordance with the Waste Management Act, including the proper collection and management of all types of waste
Act. 1.2.2) Continuous improvement of existing waste management models	Mulić d.o.o.	2025	report on the implementation of the Waste Management Plan and implementation of recommendations
Descripton: a new waste management system based on the Waste Management Plan, developed under objective 1.1 is introduced. The implementation of the Plan is analyzed annually and recommendations are issued to improve the model with the necessary changes and additions to the waste management system. Reduction of the amount of disposed plastic waste is verified by the e-onto system, i.e. the accompanying sheets. The amount of disposed plastic is expected to decrease by 136.95 tons per year.			

Measures and activities	Responsible Partner	Deadline	Results/outputs
OBJECTIVE 1.3) Ensure the conditions for the successful application of reuse priorities and sustainable management of alternative plastic substitutes (compostable and recyclable plastics)			
Act 1.3.1) Introduction of separate collection of biowaste and its composting, i.e., ensuring an adequate system of collection and management of alternative materials (compostable and biodegradable plastics)	Municipality of Sali and Mulić d.o.o.	2023	new or updated Waste Management Plan and its implementation in accordance with the Waste Management Act, including the proper collection and management of all types of waste
Act. 1.3.2) Design, preparation for financing, and development of the Reuse Center in cooperation with civil society organizations	Municipality of Sali and Mulić d.o.o.	2026	building design documentation and financing project prepared (feasibility study with option analysis); Centre developed At least one civil society organization is involved in the project.
Act. 1.3.3) Developing a project for the promotion of stores without packaging and co-financing programs	Municipality of Sali	2022	developed a project at the Municipal level for co-financing projects for the reduction of packaging waste by economic entities
Descripton: by the legal obligations for separate collection of biodegradable waste, the Municipality of Sali introduces a separate collection of biodegradable waste and/or allows citizens to compost waste at the place of origin. By the technological and economic conditions, the Municipality of Sali will manage all separately collected waste in the legally prescribed manner. Reuse Center and promotion of stores without packaging is planned in order to reduce the amount of plastic waste in general (waste prevention measures).			

Measures and activities	Responsible Partner	Deadline	Results/outputs
OBJECTIVE 1.4) Reducing the amount of waste in environment			
Act. 1.4.1) Organizing the identification, marking and mapping systems of illegal landfills	JLS (municipal warden)	2022	all necessary work orders adopted within the Municipal Service for the Implementation of the Constitution of Identification, Marking and Mapping of Illegal Landfills database created for all identified illegal landfills
Act. 1.4.2) Organizing a system for reporting illegal landfills by citizens	JLS (municipal warden)	2022	system for reporting illegal landfill sites via computers and smartphones established and instructions for citizens published
Act. 1.4.3) Remediation of illegal landfills	JLS (municipal warden)	continuously	all identified illegal landfills remedied
Act. 1.4.4) Remediation of the Dočić landfill	Municipality of Sali	2026	landfill completely remedied
Act. 1.4.5) Organization of an annual clean-up of the sea bed, beaches and/or terrestrial environment	Municipality of Sali, civil society organizations	continuously	conducted an annual cleaning campaign at least four locations and published the results of the campaign on the official website of the Municipality of Sali and in the media at least two press releases sent on an annual basis (action announcement and action results) at least one report of the actions published on the official website of the Municipality at least one invitation for participation sent to citizens, associations and other relevant stakeholders
Act. 1.4.6) Ensuring control over locations where illegal dumping occurs systematically	Municipality of Sali	continuously	all necessary work orders for continuous monitoring of identified landfills issued (communal warden who will regularly visit the locations) the report on continuous monitoring of illegal waste disposal sites is submitted as part of the regular report on the implementation of the Waste Management Plan video surveillance set up, use of new technologies and technical solutions such as video-linking by unmanned aerial vehicle (drone and similar)

Act. 1.4.7) Application of technical and operational measures to reduce the amount of waste ending up in the environment	Mulić d.o.o.	continuously	replacement of worn-out and damaged containers in the city (torn lids and similar)
Act. 1.4.8) Ensuring the location of the landfill	Municipality of Sali and Mulić d.o.o.	continuously	fenced-off key locations to prevent illegal dumping
Act. 1.4.9) Encouraging and/or participating in research efforts related to microparticles and nanoparticles pollution	Municipality of Sali	2024	data on environmental pollution with microparticles and nanoparticles of plastics collected and published

Descripton: waste present in the environment (including plastic waste) is a result of intentional or unintentional actions, carried out by an individual, who discards waste directly into nature or disposes of waste into a waste management system with inadequate infrastructure which does not prevent waste to leak into the environment via atmospheric or weather conditions. In addition to implementing important measures with regard to identification, remediation and cleaning of illegal landfills and locations polluted by waste, the Municipality of will invest efforts for mitigation of illegal waste disposal and replacement of inadequate containers and coverage of landfills with the purpose of preventing waste leakage into the environment via wind and rain. In order to classify the effects of waste on the environment, data on microparticles and nanoparticles of plastics will be collected and published.

Monitoring the implementation of the Plan and evaluating the results of the project	Association Sunce Split and Municipality of Sali	2022	<p>continuous filling in of the monitoring protocol prepared and submitted to the Municipality Sali by Association Sunce Split, in accordance with the activities and deadlines specified in this Action Plan (minimum three completed protocols until the end of the project)</p> <p>online evaluation workshop held at the very end of the project with key stakeholders (short narrative report with proposals for improving the implementation of the Action Plan prepared as a results of the workshop)</p>
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2. CREATING EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE IN REDUCING WASTE GENERATION AND REUSING IT

Measures and activities	Responsible Partner	Deadline	Results/outputs
OBJECTIVE 2.1) Limit the use of single-use plastics only to essential and irreplaceable products within Municipality Sali and institutions and companies (co)owned by the Municipality			
Act. 2.1.1) Development of internal Waste Management Plans for all companies and institutions of the Municipality of Sali	Municipality of Sali	2022	Waste Management Program developed and internal results on reducing the amount of mixed municipal waste for all companies and institutions of the Municipality of Sali
Act. 2.1.2) Preparation and adoption of the Decision on reducing the Use of Single-Use Plastics for all companies and institutions of the Municipality of Sali	Municipality of Sali	September of 2021	adopted and published a special Decision on reducing the use of single-use plastics for all companies and institutions of the Municipality of Sali all relevant stakeholders notified via official letter
Act. 2.1.3) Reject on use of all unnecessary disposable plastic products (plastic cups and disposable bags), the same applies to all Municipal institutions and public companies	Municipality of Sali	2024	full implementation of the Decision on reducing the use of single-use plastics for all companies and institutions of the Municipality of Sali
Act. 2.1.4) Creating a database of alternative and available solutions, i.e., active market research and publication of results	Municipality of Sali	2021	database of available alternatives/solutions created and published on the websites of the Municipality and the utility company continuous base replenishment mechanism provided
Descripton: the Municipality of Sali will limit the use of single-use plastic only to essential and irreplaceable products and will encourage the use of alternative products for those products that are not necessarily prohibited (the prohibition on the placing in the market is not applicable to plastic cups and very lightweight plastic bags that preserve product hygiene) within its institutions and public companies.			

Measures and activities	Responsible Partner	Deadline	Results/outputs
OBJECTIVE 2.2) Limit the use of single-use plastics only to essential and irreplaceable products for public events (co)organized or (co)financed by the Municipality Sali			
Act. 2.2.1) Prepare and adopt a Decision on reducing the use of single-Use plastics for public events (co) organized or (co)financed by the Municipality Sali	Municipality of Sali	2021	decision on reducing the use of single use plastics for public events (co) organized or (co)financed by the Municipality Sali adopted and published all relevant stakeholders notified via official letter mechanism for the inclusion of the Decision in the procurement process, conclusion of new contracts, organization of events and other activities covered by the Decision provided
Descripton: Municipality of Sali will use products that can be used multiple times or made of paper or compostable plastic in all public events by the end of 2021. The same rules will apply to other events held in public areas and premises owned by the Municipality of Sali.			





3. EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE PUBLIC

Measures and activities	Responsible Partner	Deadline	Results/outputs
OBJECTIVE 3.1) Raising citizens' awareness of the harmfulness of plastics in nature and the possibilities for reducing plastics in everyday use			
Act. 3.1.1) Development of a Communication Plan aimed at informing the public and key stakeholders about the project and post project activities, i.e., the harmfulness of plastics in nature and the possibilities for reducing plastics in everyday use	Municipality of Sali and Mulić d.o.o.	September of 2021	Communication Plan for Plastic-free Municipality Sali and the harmfulness of plastics in nature and possibilities for reducing plastics in everyday use for a period of two years following the adoption of the Action Plan
Act. 3.1.2) Cooperation with all involved public and private sector stakeholders	Municipality of Sali	continuously	at least one annual meeting/conference on the implementation of the Action Plan and the topic of the harmfulness of plastics in nature and the possibilities of reducing plastics in everyday use organized
Act. 3.1.3) Informing the citizens about all key changes in waste management in the Municipality of Sali with information on the harmfulness of plastics in nature and the possibilities of reducing plastic in everyday use	Municipality of Sali and Mulić d.o.o.	continuously	at least once a month, for a period of two years following the adoption of the Action Plan, provide information to citizens about changes in the waste management system, on the proper classification of waste, the harmfulness of plastics for nature, the possibilities of reducing plastics in everyday use and all key project milestones (leaflets, radio advertisements, posters, websites, social networks, etc.)
Act. 3.1.4) Involvement of citizens, associations and other relevant stakeholders in clean-up actions of the seafloor, beaches and/or land environment	Municipality of Sali	continuously	invitations for participation to citizens, associations and other relevant stakeholders when organizing clean-up actions sent
<p>Descripton: this goal represents the involvement of the general public within the project. Systematic education, information and active involvement of the public in every step can achieve quality cooperation and better and more detailed implementation of the activities themselves. In this sense, it will be necessary to devise several educational packages specific for each step, which are interconnected and that can be used over a longer period of time.</p> <p>Target groups should include kindergartens, schools, the hospitality, and tourism sector, the economic sector, public authorities and utilities, and the general public.</p>			

Municipality of Sali, Mayor Zoran Morović

