

## ***Impacts and good practices, ways to go further - CapiMed island community***

*Wednesday 9 November*

The meeting of 9 November organised by CapiMed was the final step of the capitalisation process. The event gathered the BeMed laureates having a project on Mediterranean islands. The introduction and objectives of the session were explained by Lucile Courtial from BeMed.

Two final publications were shared during this meeting.

Pedro Fernández from MedWaves, on behalf of the CapiMed team, presented the magazine "[Hope for the future: successful solutions for plastic pollution in Mediterranean islands by the BeMed-Islands community](#)". This publication brings together, in the form of interviews, examples of projects carried out by BeMed laureates on Mediterranean islands. These projects are structured around four themes: working with public authorities, engaging with the private sector to reduce plastic use, improving waste management infrastructure, and education and participatory science. In addition, this publication highlights the impact of the BeMed-Islands community as a whole, as well as the capitalization activities that have resulted.

Yaprak Arda from IUCN presented the "[Blue print for the Mediterranean](#)" which gathers best practices articulated around 7 themes, as well as differentiated roadmaps for public authorities, companies and associations.

The participants in the session expressed their satisfaction with these two publications, which allow them to highlight the activities and good practices they have developed. Members will support the dissemination of these reports.

Then, the CapiMed team presented the draft "[Frioul Declaration](#)". This declaration brings together the objectives on which the members of the community commit themselves to continue working. It is an approach to encourage the continuation of the work in community, beyond the capitalisation project, as well as to strengthen the communication of the final results.

The participants jointly revised the text of the Declaration, making corrections and clarifications. This version will be shared with the whole BeMed-Islands community and will be disseminated to all participants at the SMILO meeting day on 10 November.

# CapiMed commitments workshop

Thursday 10 November

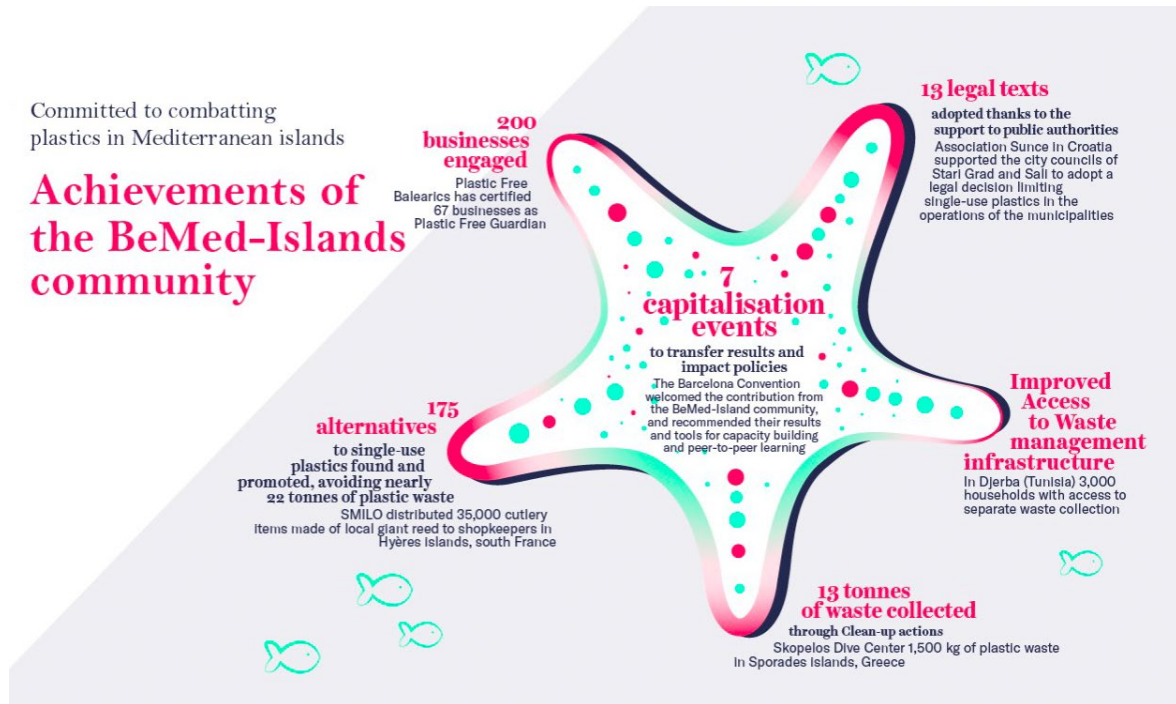
## Part 1 – Presentation of the BeMed island Community and its achievements.

### What is the BeMed islands community?

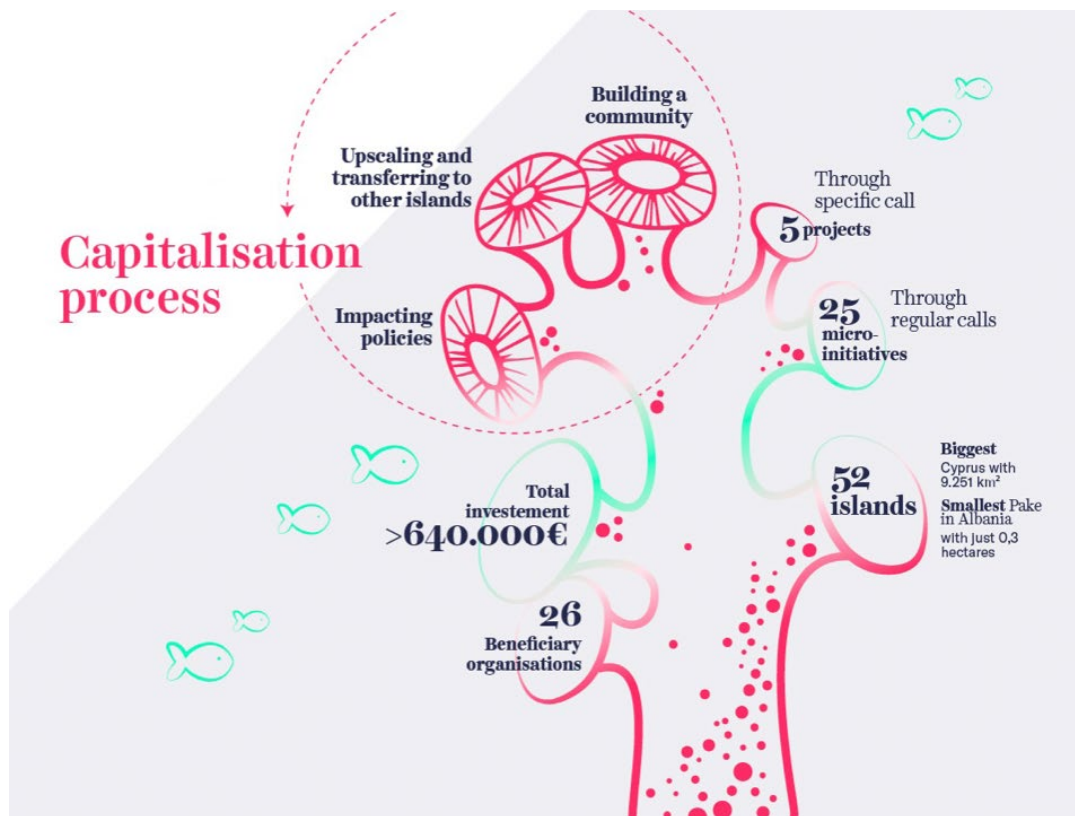
The BeMed call for projects in Mediterranean islands was launched in 2020 to support initiatives aiming at combating plastic pollution on Mediterranean islands. Indeed, these islands are particularly exposed to plastic pollution and waste management is a real challenge for these territories. However, these islands are also good territories for experimenting with new solutions. To reinforce the impact of supported projects and facilitate exchanges among them, the BeMed Islands community was created and coordinated by the CapiMed capitalization program. It gathers 30 projects located all around the Mediterranean Sea.



The support of these projects has allowed the involvement of many stakeholders and the implementation of solutions adapted to the local context, but also solutions that can be replicated in other territories.



The community spirit conveyed through this call for projects allowed the laureates to come together to present their projects, share their experiences and solutions, and even grow collaboration.



More information: <https://www.beyondplasticmed.org/en/the-call-for-projects-in-the-mediterranean-islands/>

To join the community: [click here](#)

## **Part 2 - Discussions**

Objectives: Exchange on current and future actions in islands in relation to the three main commitments made by the BeMed community:

1. Consolidate **the relation with key stakeholders**, particularly the private sector and public administrations.
2. **Scale-up or replicate** the initiatives to other islands/regions/countries through partnerships.
3. Participate in **policy-making**, from local to global level, to make sure the specificities of different islands are accommodated.

### *Group 1: Consolidate the relation with key stakeholders particularly the private sector and public administration.*

**Plastic Free Balearics project** (Save the Med & Ibiza Preservation): The next steps of the project are to scale up the certification to other regions and consolidate the relation with different stakeholders and industries in order to find and develop sustainable solutions to the single use plastics for which no alternatives exist to date.

*Inputs from the group:* The French regulation is now encouraging hotels to be more sustainable. Certifications could help hotels to keep or gain stars. There might be a momentum to implement the certification in many hotels in France.

**A shipping commitment against plastic pollution in the Mediterranean** (Isotech LTD): The next step for the project is to develop a core group of companies and stakeholders to do the follow up and make sure the action plan is being properly implemented. The project also aims to extend to other ports in the Mediterranean islands.

*Inputs from the group:* The group emphasized the need for a global and united work, maybe through a certification. Audits onboard also need to be conducted.

*Dumping sites:* Many dumping sites are close to the sea which lead to a lot of waste leakage directly in the Mediterranean. A global effort to locate the sites needs to be done. A collaborative work with all stakeholders also needs to be implemented to find solutions to reduce the production of waste.

*Marseille:* A list of all actions happening on environmental protection is being made, namely regarding waste management.

### *Group 2: Scale-up or replicate the initiatives to other islands/regions/countries through partnerships.*

**Zero plastic in the îles d'Or and réplication in the Mediterranean** (SMILO) : This BeMed-supported project had two components: the development of a network of committed traders, using an alternative to single-use plastic cutlery (SUP) on the Golden Islands (Porquerolles, Port-Cros, Le Levant) and the replication of the same approach on Kerkennah Island. It is essential to take into account the local context when replicating a project. These solutions are only relevant if the raw material for the alternatives is local. With a view to replicating the project on a larger scale, SMILO is exploring the possibility of producing a guide for retailers who wish to commit themselves to reducing SUPs through local alternatives.

*Feedback from the group:* Participants raised the point that Provence cane could be considered an invasive species in some ecosystems and that this is an interesting opportunity.

[Zero plastic in the îles d'Or and réplication in the Mediterranean](#) (*Jeunes Science Kerkennah*): The raw material available on the island of Kerkennah is the waste from the exploitation of the date palm. The association is developing a local biodegradable cup produced from this waste as an alternative to the PUU. It is currently being tested in a guest house on the island. If the results are conclusive, it is planned to install a local production unit. Following exchanges with other BeMed Islands projects, such as [Save the Med & Ibiza Preservation](#), the porters wish to explore the possibility of a certification system for traders who would use their alternatives.

*City of Marseille:* The City benefits from the results of collections and characterisations carried out by various associations on the Frioul. The City would therefore be interested in creating a database to centralise all the data. This action could be carried out by the Metropolis.

*Synchronicity:* A project underway with Citéo concerning the convergence of methodologies for characterising the waste from sewer drains in the city of Marseille. The objective is to standardise the methodology to be used, to identify the data to be collected and to define an analysis protocol so that they can be used and compared.

*Regional Nature Agency of Split-Dalmatia County:* A European project has established a common protocol for collecting plastic waste. It has been used in the Pakleni Islands. A point of vigilance remains, however, as the protocol cannot be applied in all geographical contexts (large/small beaches, diffuse/concentrated waste, etc.). Actions carried out that can be shared and/or replicated:

- Clean-up actions with divers
- Future implementation of a system for collecting waste from boaters, by boat
- Recycling test of plastic materials collected on the beaches, which will be replicated on Pakleni if the result is positive.

Future actions: Share existing protocols to study and quantify microplastics.

*City of Cannes (Sainte-Marguerite Island):* They wish to replicate the selective sorting system on several islands. However, the lack of space is an obstacle to the implementation of this system. A solution was put forward during the discussions: the installation of floating storage structures. Moreover, the participants underlined the interest of these exchanges to face this type of challenge.

*Calanques national park:* The park coordinates the collection of plastic macro-waste organised by different organisations and directs it to priority locations. However, the collection and characterisation protocols are not homogeneous. The only common data is the volume of waste collected.

Future action: Standardise collection/characterisation methods.

## **Conclusion**

- The replication of projects that have developed alternatives to plastic must start by involving the largest number of tourism stakeholders on the island: as is the case for Kerkennah and Frioul.
- Replication is then possible in areas where the raw material is available: Provence cane or date palm.
- If the replication of projects can and should be adapted to the local context, one should not set too strict limits. For example, the replication of an island project can take place on the coasts.
- The homogenisation of collection protocols/characterisation of waste found in the environment would allow for the comparison of data between islands and between organisations.

*Group 3: Participate in policy-making, from local to global level, to make sure the specificities of different islands are accommodated.*

[CorSeaCare Mission](#) (Mare vivu): The association was able to initiate discussions with municipalities through the mission, but also to provide its expertise on texts related to waste management in Corsica.

[PlastiStop](#) (Association Jlij pour l'Environnement Marin): This project allowed the association to work alongside the municipality of Houmt Souk, as well as the National Waste Management Agency. This partnership has resulted in the installation of collection equipment in strategic points of the island, as well as a decision on waste management by the municipality of Mellita.

IUCN is currently finalising the Regional Islands Strategy and Action Plan. Once it's published, they intend to reach out key stakeholders, including in the EU and in the Mediterranean, trying to allocate roles to each one. An important issue identified is the lack of a clear public authority responsible for Mediterranean islands.

The discussion followed with a reflection on the limitations of clean up actions when it comes to impacting policies, there is not a translation into prevention actions that would avoid the need for clean ups. In this regard, public authorities-islands confront the lack of competences to act on prevention in relation to production and consumption of products. Alternatively, more focus could be put in preventions awareness campaigns, even jointly at regional level, following the example of the European Week for Waste Reduction (EWWR).

Finally, it was discussed the importance for NGO to follow closely and lobby on the ongoing EU developments in relation to single-use plastics, including the requirements of deposit-refund schemes, reusable options and minimum recycled content in products.

## *Resources and publications available*

**Hope for the future: successful solutions for plastic pollution in the Mediterranean islands:** A final document has been published, highlighting the results of the projects and gathering the tools that have been developed.

**Blueprint for the Mediterranean** : A document that gathers best practices articulated around 7 themes, as well as differentiated roadmaps for public authorities, companies, and associations.

**The Frioul declaration:** A commitment was made from the BeMed island community to keep working for Mediterranean islands free from plastic pollution. The document will be published on [BeMed's website](#).

<b>RESOURCES</b>	
<b>Policy-making and legal texts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Albanian Strategy and Action Plan</a></u></b> : This strategy and Action Plan sets out a vision, aims and objectives for the protection of Albanian island from the plastic pollution and their waste management.</li> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Action Plan to Reduce Plastic Pollution in the Municipality of Sali for the Period 2021 – 2026</a></u></b> : This Action Plan includes measures and activities to be implemented 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.</li> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Action plan to reduce plastic pollution in the municipality of Stari Grad for the period 2021 – 2026:</a></u></b> This Action Plan includes measures and activities to be implemented by the municipality of Stari Grad (Croatia) 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.</li> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Decision City of Stari Grad:</a></u></b> Measures taken by the municipality of Stari Grad to reduce the use of single-use plastic (SUP) products and to improve waste management in adequation with the 5-year Action plan.</li> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Decision City of Sali :</a></u></b> Measures taken by the municipality of Sali to reduce the use of single-use plastic products and to improve waste management in line with the 5-year action plan.</li> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Mellita municipality's circular on waste collection:</a></u></b> Circular from the municipality informing about the days and locations for separate collection</li> </ul>
<b>Alternatives to single-use plastic products and engagement with businesses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Guide to honest alternatives to single-use plastics</a></u></b> : This graphic guide is designed to inform in a synthetic, attractive, clear and above all practical way companies in the hospitality industry about the existing alternatives to single-use plastic.</li> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Zero plastic on the islands of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region:</a></u></b> The “Zero Plastic on the Islands of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur Region” project, financed by the Southern Region and coordinated by the SMILO (Small Islands Organisation) association, aims to accompany the shopkeepers of the islands of Porquerolles and Levant in the substitution of single-use plastic containers with more sustainable alternatives.</li> <li>• <b><u><a href="#">Video about alternatives and their promotion on the Hyères Islands, South of France:</a></u></b></li> </ul>

	<p>Cutlery kit, straws, ice cream spoons, and stirrers, born from the collaboration between SMILO, the designer Antoine Boudin, a producer of giant reed, the islands' shopkeepers, the National Park of Port-Cros and Esprit Parc national brand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u><b>Cruise ships against plastic pollution in the Mediterranean : A good practice guide:</b></u></a> This Guide includes effective and easily applicable practices that can be implemented both by ship management companies and seafarers to ensure that waste on board is minimised.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Education and awareness-raising</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u><b>BEMED Educational Resource Pack – Clean Seas by Eco-Schools Malta:</b></u></a> It includes lessons for students of all ages and abilities covering various subjects and providing cross-curricular links.</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u><b>#ZeroPlastic awareness material by iSea:</b></u></a> The campaign focuses on two directions, to inform the public about the problem of plastic pollution by presenting real images of the effects of plastics on marine organisms. The second focuses on proposals for the replacement of disposable plastics and the reduction of microplastics, promoting a zero waste lifestyle.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Capitalisation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#"><u><b>Policy brief December 2021 COP22 of the Barcelona Convention and marine litter: Contribution from BeMed-Islands':</b></u></a> From Policy to Actions: Policy brief by BeMed Islands on how particular projects and action respond to commitments of the upgraded Marine Litter Regional Plan, discussed during COP22 Med</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u><b>Technical sessions for the BeMed community:</b></u></a> Webinars addressing various themes through the lens of islands.</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u><b>Video-testimonies by end beneficiaries :</b></u></a> Find out about many projects to fight plastic pollution on Mediterranean islands.</li> <li>• <a href="#"><u><b>Capitalisation workshop at MARLICE :</b></u></a> The objective of the roundtable session on 19 May 2022 is to come back together to check achievements and solutions to mitigate its impacts on our marine biodiversity and health, with a focus on coastal areas and islands.</li> </ul>