

## Together stronger

*We're inviting new members to join the BeMed Community of Practice, to scale up our collective efforts to fight Mediterranean plastic pollution.*

### ? What is a Community of Practice?

A Community of Practice is a group of people with a shared interest who come together to better attain their individual and collective goals. The BeMed Community of Practice has been created to increase the collective impact of organisations committed to tackling plastic pollution in the Mediterranean.

### ? What does our Community of Practice do?

Our Community of Practice links individual outfits engaged in the fight against plastic pollution into a specialist network. It encourages dialogue and stimulates learning. It enables members to bring together resources and experiences, capturing and spreading existing knowledge and generating new ideas.

### ? Why do we need it?

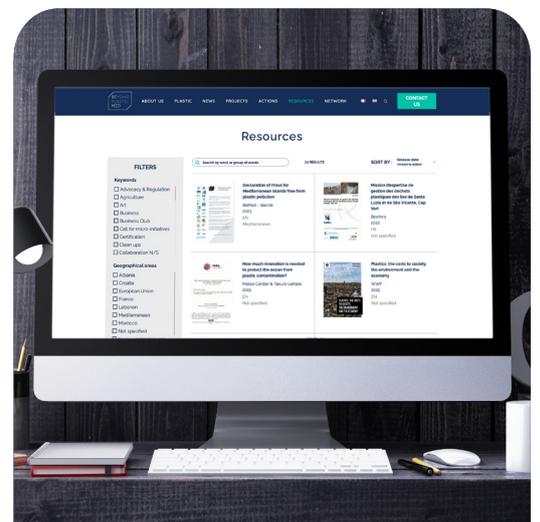
There are many different organisations across the Mediterranean working to combat plastic pollution, but their collective impact will be stronger with a mechanism through which they can effectively connect and collaborate. That's what this Community of Practice provides.

### ? How often does the Community of Practice meet up?

We hold four meetings a year for the Community as a whole. Three of these meetings take place virtually, while one is at a high-profile regional event to give members the opportunity for face-to-face contact with colleagues. Members are also encouraged to meet up independently – in fact, some have already begun their own collaborations.

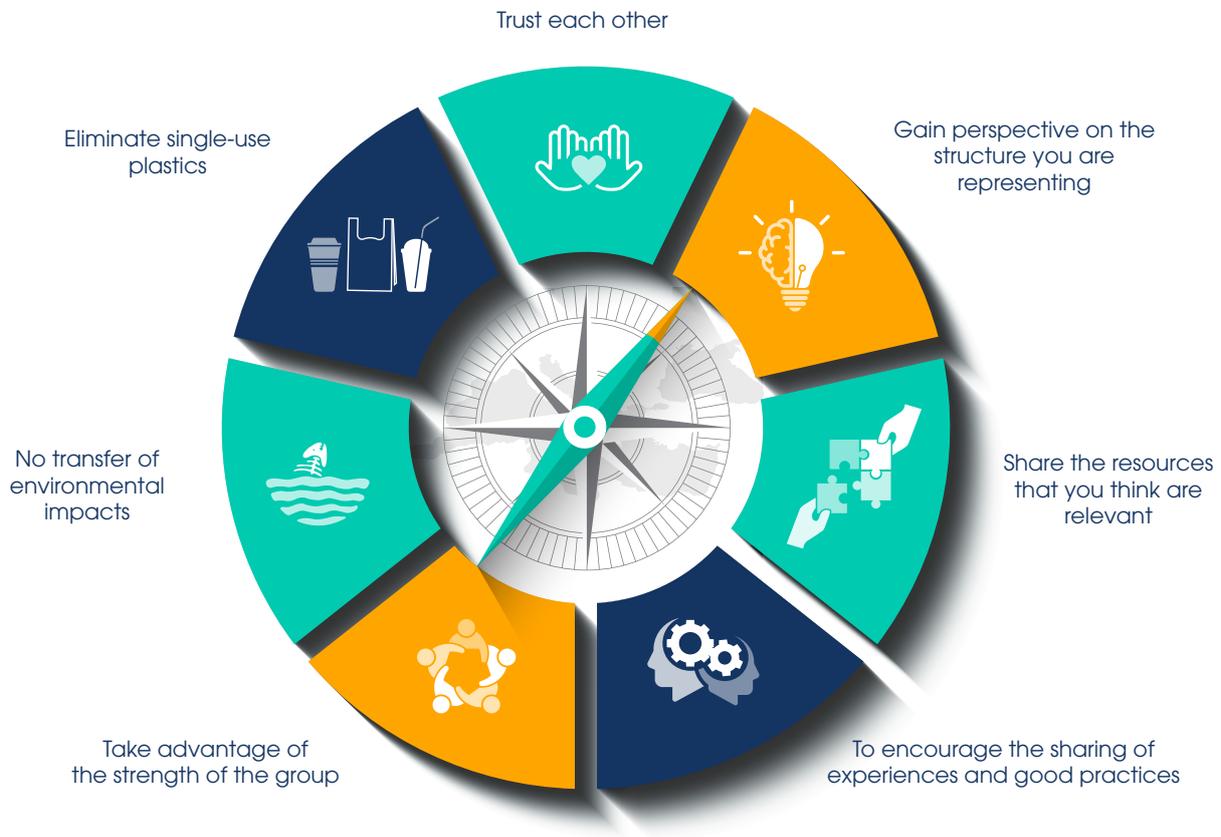
### ? What does the Community of Practice expect from its members?

The BeMed Community of Practice has no formal rules or regulations, and no member is under any obligation to attend meetings or contribute resources – although we welcome and encourage input in all aspects of our activities. Our only requirement for all members is to bring a positive and openminded attitude, and be committed to working with likeminded organisations to achieve our common purpose.



### ? What resources does the BeMed Community of Practice offer its members?

We host an **online library** of specialist plastics-related resources, searchable by keyword, geographical area and language. This diverse material ranges from scientific reports and best practice guides to data collection methodologies and project summaries. The library is growing all the time, with content coming from both the BeMed team and from members of our Community of Practice. We also send out a regular news digest focused on the latest topics that community members want to explore, and maintain a **directory of contacts** for general use.



## How can our Community of Practice help you?



### SHARE

No one can solve the plastic pollution issue on their own: we need to support each other. Our members share best practices and good ideas, tools and resources, contacts and other useful information, and lessons from the field.



### LEARN

As plastic pollution grows, our responses must become better informed and stronger. Learning from our collective experiences, our members strive to improve methods and procedures, to find new ways of working, to solve problems, to increase knowledge.



### COOPERATE

Our members have varied specialisms, and the Community of Practice opens up a range of opportunities for joining forces to increase our capabilities. With our different strengths and skillsets we can reach out for help, create new partnerships, develop collaborative projects, identify fresh strategies.



### COORDINATE

The size of the challenge we face means there's no room for inefficiency. By working intelligently with each other we can maximise our overall impact. We can identify synergies, reduce duplication, and scale up successful projects on a regional scale.

BEYOND  
PLASTIC  
MED

The Beyond Plastic Med Initiative – BeMed – was created in 2015 by a group of NGOs: the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, the TARA Ocean Foundation, MAVA Foundation, Surfrider Foundation Europe, and the IUCN. Its mission is threefold: to support and develop a network of Mediterranean stakeholders committed to curbing plastic pollution; to facilitate the implementation of effective and sustainable solutions; and to encourage the sharing of experience and best practices.

## Join us

The BeMed Community of Practice is free to join. If you'd like to find out more about being part of it, or alternatively if you'd like to discuss how BeMed may be able to support your organisation's projects, please get in touch.

### Community:

Celine Renouard | [crenouard@beyondplasticmed.org](mailto:crenouard@beyondplasticmed.org)

### Projects:

Claire Richard | [crichard@beyondplasticmed.org](mailto:crichard@beyondplasticmed.org)