

FRANCE

ALIGNING FUNDER'S EXPECTATIONS WITH THE NEEDS OF FIELD ACTORS IN TERMS OF ACTION PRIORITIES



BEYOND PLASTIC MED - UNOC-3 SIDE-EVENT IN NICE

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In France, field actors priorities are in line with funder's priorities. All agreed that all actions should focus on **source reduction of plastic production and consumption**. Also, priority must be given to tackle single-use plastics and propose actions in line with regulatory frameworks.

REGULATIONS

Priorities for field actors:

Ban on single-use plastics and inclusion of a regulation on false good solutions.

Lobbying towards local, national and European decision-makers in order to reduce plastic production and use at source.



Priorities for funders:

Advocate and support actions with decision-makers to implement strong regulations that ban or reduce plastic production.

Support the implementation of existing plastic legislation.

Advice and good practices

1. Implement **advocacy actions** at national and local levels to encourage ambitious public policies for reducing production and toxicity.

Tips:

- Rely on existing data and highlight the impact on human health.
- Propose accurate communication adapted to the target audience, highlighting potential pitfalls.

Example of effective action:

Effective advocacy requires experience. Offering advocacy training to other organizations/actors and sharing tools can be a good way of strengthening advocacy in the Mediterranean.

2. Implementation of actions to **support the application of the law**

Example of an impactful action:

Include obligations to reduce plastic use in local action plans as a condition for obtaining permits from local authorities (e.g. authorisation to set up a beach bar is granted only if no single-use plastics are used). Beware of false solutions that appear good: prioritise reusables.

ACTIVITY WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Priorities for field actors:

Promote sustainable alternatives: avoid impact transfer (false good solutions).

Train actors in the agricultural sector about the issues of reducing plastic pollution through the exchange of best practices.



Priorities for funders:

Supporting the private sector in reducing plastic consumption.

Avoiding impact transfer: false solutions.

Find/help develop eco-environmental income-generating activities to replace polluting activities.

Advice and good practices

Advice:

- Focus on sectors with the highest use.
- Highlight the pitfalls of alternatives (e.g. biodegradable, bioplastic, etc.).
- Support, advise and challenge companies.

Interesting tool: participatory science: for the general public but also for the private sector via works councils.

RAISING AWARENESS

Priorities for field actors:

Supporting behavior change.

Priorities for funders:

Raising awareness on the plastic pollution risks for the health.

Raising public awareness: training, education to encourage plastic reduction.

Educating people about environmentally relevant and sustainable solutions.



Advice and good practices

Priority targets: **public authorities**, the **private sector** (see above), the general public and the schools.

General public:

Advice:

- Avoid sporadic actions
- Prioritize multi-actor campaigns on a regional scale, with coordinated actions.

Schools:

- Advice: Avoid sporadic actions. One-shots actions have no long-term impact.

Example of effective actions:

- Add a module into the teaching program of students.
- Train teacher trainers and build a training module that remains in place from one year to the next.
- Involve a school in monitoring a Marine Education Area (long-term monitoring).

Participatory science: an interesting tool for all target groups.

DATA COLLECTION:

Priorities for field actors:

Collect data to improve knowledge on plastic pollution, monitor it, and support awareness-raising actions.

Priorities for funders:

No priority mentioned.



Advice and good practices

Although this action did not emerge as a priority for the funders, the need to rely on data to implement actions was mentioned several times.



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