



# CAPonLITTER

Interreg Europe

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## **Stakeholders Workshop**

**- Final Event of Phase 2 -**

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## 1. Introduction

CAPonLITTER is an Interreg Europe Project which aims at improving policies and practices that can help in preventing marine litter that results from coastal tourism and recreational activities. More specifically, the project will focus on key fractions of waste, such as plastic food and drink containers originating from beach facilities and recreational events, due to improper behaviour of consumers but also to lack of incentives and structures for prevention, collection and recycling of waste.

The Project consists of two phases:

- Phase 1, which started on 01 August 2019 and ended on 31 July 2022, having a total duration of 36 months (30 months + 6 months of extension, due to the pandemic situation)
- Phase 2, with a duration of 12 months, that started on 01 August 2022 and will end on 31 July 2023.

Phase 1 of CAPonLITTER focused heavily on the exchange of experience based on active participation methodologies, with a strong stakeholder involvement. This exchange of experience materialized at two different levels:

- Collection of challenges and good practices on a **national level**: with 4 Regional Stakeholder Workshops organized at each region.
- Presentation and discussion on a **European level**: with 7 Interregional Learning Events, organized one country at a time.

Both types of events counted with the presence of regional stakeholders, which accompanied the project during its entire duration.

The main goals achieved, and products obtained, as a result of the thorough exchange of experience that took place during Phase 1 of the project were:

- Elaboration of 7 Action Plans:
  - 1 Action Plan per country/region
  - With the goal of improving and/or influencing the political and financial instruments
  - With actions whose implementation will be monitored by the respective partners
  - With actions inspired by the exchange of experience (i.e.: by the different coastal good practices presented by the different partners, during the different events)
  - With actions elaborated in collaboration with the regional stakeholders
- Elaboration and publication of the CAPonLITTER Greenbook:
  - With a compilation of all tasks and accomplishments of the project, including the Action Plans developed by each region.

After the establishment of the Action Plans, Phase 2 focuses on the monitoring and reporting associated with the implementation of the actions of each regional Action Plan. Phase 2 concludes with a Final Event, which encompasses a Partner Meeting, as well as a Final Dissemination Event – the latter being a high-level political dissemination event. Both events took place, respectively, on 16 May and 17 May 2023, in Brussels.

In order to complement the knowledge gathered during Phase 2 of the CAPonLITTER Project, the Partners decided to include a final Stakeholders Workshop, prior to the Final Dissemination Event. The goal of this event was to analyse, in cooperation with the Project Partners, as well as their respective invited stakeholders, how to effectively anchor European Policy for Zero-Waste Coastal Communities at the local level – with the main goal of presenting the main results during the Final Dissemination Event.

This document presents the major goals, agenda, list of participants, and results obtained during the Final Stakeholders Workshop – as part of the supporting documents of the Partner Meeting to be submitted along with the Final Progress Report.

The methodology presented herein was already tested, to respond to similar objectives, on projects already organized by NOVA School of Science and Technology | FCT-NOVA.

Additional questions and concerns on this event can be sent directly to:

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## 2. Objectives of the Stakeholders Workshop

Following the monitoring of the implementation of the actions included in the Action Plan of each region, the question on how to effectively anchor European Policy for Zero-Waste Coastal Communities – including beaches, beach facilities, and coastal recreational events – at the local level.

Because of this, it was decided it would be interesting to organize a participatory session, where both partners and stakeholders discussed this topic together. The starting point of the collaborative session was, therefore, to try and answer the following questions, while focusing on the three main axis of the CAPonLITTER Project (zero-waste beaches and beach facilities, zero-waste coastal events, and zero-waste communities):

- Why does EU Policy not get implemented/operationalized at the local level?
- In the European Policy context, what is missing to fully implement/operationalize good coastal practices at the local level?

The main goal is, therefore, to obtain a set of recommendations to the European Commission for the anchorage of these good practices at the local level.

## 3. Participants and Room Organization

The Stakeholder Workshop was held in a small room, with a group work setting. In addition to the materials used, mentioned in the previous section, the room was equipped with computer, projector, projection screen, and cameras (to take pictures for reporting).

There was a total of 23 participants, which were divided into four work groups (Figure 1):

- Group 1: 6 persons
- Group 2: 7 persons
- Group 3: 5 persons
- Group 4: 5 persons

Each group encompassed, at least, one project partner member.



Figure 1. Work Groups during the Stakeholders Workshop

## 4. Agenda of the Workshop

The Stakeholders Workshop had an approximate duration of 2 hours, having started at 14:30 and ended on 16:30. The workshop consisted of three main group dynamics.

Before the activities started, the Lead Partner made a short presentation on the goals and functioning of the session.



Figure 2. Stakeholders Workshop

The detailed agenda of the event, as well as the necessary materials can be found below:

### **PHASE 1 (14:30-15:25)**

#### **14:30-14:55 – Phase 1: Brainstorming Activity**

Participants were invited to reflect on the question “What are the main difficulties to operationalize/implement the European policies at the local level?”, in groups, and register their ideas on post-its (one idea per post-it). Groups were asked to define a spokesperson, so they could present their main results.

Necessary materials: Worksheet 1 + Post its + Pens

Duration: 25 minutes



Figure 3. Post-its Activity

### **14:55-15:25 – Phase 1: Presentation of Results and Cloud Structuring**

After completing the exercise, the moderator (LP1: FCT-NOVA team member) started by asking one of the groups to state one of the identified ideas/answers and collected the Post-it with its name.

The moderator then asked if any other groups have any similar ideas that could be grouped with this one, then collecting all the similar ideas identified by the various groups, grouping them in the panel (ideas were only grouped if all participants agreed; if any of them considered that it was not quite the same thing, it should remain separated in another category). The same procedure was repeated until all the ideas/answers identified by the groups are collected.

After grouping all the ideas, “clouds” were formed for each set and a “title” was assigned that reflects the central idea.

Necessary materials: Blackboard/White scoreboard lined with paper/ Magic chart + sticky tape/ bostik

Duration: 30 minutes



Figure 4. Collection of Post-its for Cloud Structuring

### **PHASE 2 (15:25-16:10)**

#### **15:25-15:45 – Phase 2: Brainstorming Activity**

Participants reflected on the question “What do you, as local actors, need for the success of the European Policies at the local level?”, within the same groups they have formed in the beginning.

During this exercise, no post-its were used, and the groups only wrote their answers on the Worksheet.

Necessary materials: Worksheet 1 + Pens

Duration: 20 minutes

#### **15:45-16:05 – Phase 2: Reflection on previous questions based on concrete examples**

The reflection carried out by participants was based on specific actions proposed in the Action Plans of the different regions. These examples were used as illustration of what must change – considering the questions answered in the previous exercises (both in Phases 1 and 2).



Necessary materials: Worksheet 2 + Pens

Duration: 20 minutes

### **PHASE 3 (16:05-16:30)**

#### **16:10-16:30 – Phase 3: Brainstorming Activity**

Participants were asked to mention the most important guidelines that needed to be transmitted to the European Commission (“What are the main guidelines, in order to inform the European Union/Commission?”).

After completing the exercise, the elected spokesperson in each group made a short presentation on the of the results.

Necessary materials: Worksheet 2 + Pens

Duration: 15 minutes (exercise) + 10 minutes (presentation)



Figure 5. Stakeholders Workshop

## 5. Results

As stated in the previous section, the Stakeholders Workshop was divided into three main phases.

Phase 1 focused on answering the question "What are the main difficulties to operationalize/implement the European policies at the local level?". Contrary to the remaining exercises, the results of the Phase 1 are grouped into the different clouds (thematic groups) – rather than being group according to the different work groups. The resulting "cloud" is represented on F, and the written results are stated on

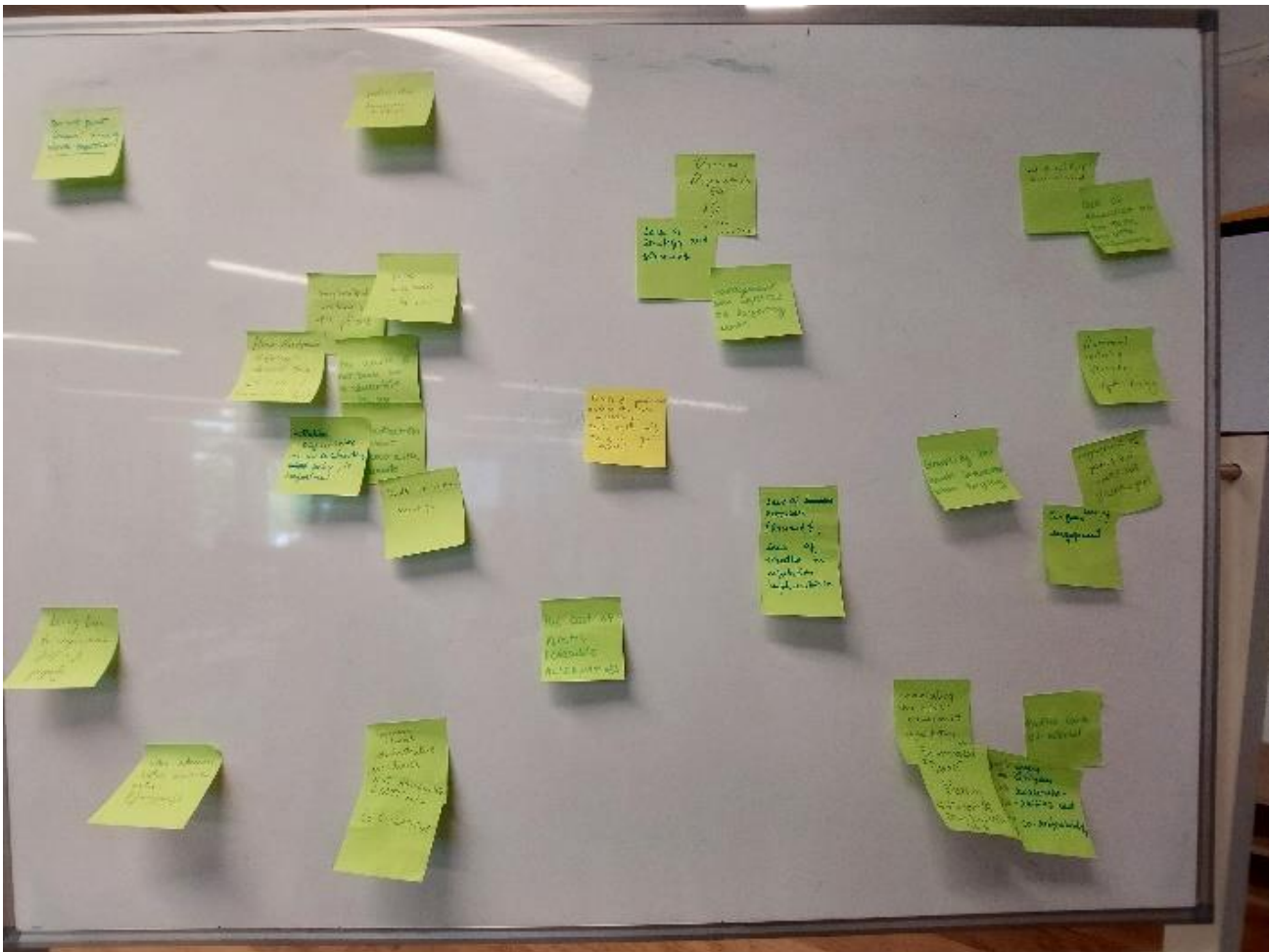


Figure 6. Post-its "cloud"

Table 1. Phase 1 Results

# Cloud	Post-its
1	Communicating the needs re. environment -> marketing/ common sense
1	Environmental “ocean”-literacy -> UN Decade of Ocean science for SD
1	People’s lack of interest
1	Importance of the policies not identified by society – Awareness – raising / literacy
1	Need of Citizen awareness – raising and co-responsability
2	Lack of Citizens engagement
2	Engagement of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Political level</li> <li>- Societal level</li> </ul> (build the gap)
3	Simplify the waste separation when recycling
4	Harmonized collection x separation system missing
5	Lack of education on the topic and little adherence
5	Lack of political commitment
6	Lack of expertise in regulation implementation
6	Lack of resources (human and financial)
7	The cost of plastic disposable alternatives
8	Improve I speed! Administrative procedures
8	Hot harmonized national legislation
9	A Sort of punitive measures are necessary. That will help to gain “good habits”
10	Management and logistics of recycling waste
10	Unclear responsibilities EU -> MV-> Municipalities
10	Lack of strategy and managing
11	Intra-Administrative Communication (hierarquies)
12	Missing data to implement JNP -D properly
13	Involve the decision makers
14	Do not point finger! Need to work together!
15	Raise awareness - Information
15	Better education- Training
15	Difficulties in understanding why is important?
15	Demonstration of what happens with waste
15	The waste is not seen as a valuable thing
15	Mores background information delivered from EU (Set of harmonized info)
15	Complicated wording of Policies

During Phase 2, the participants tried to find answers to the question “What do you, as local actors, need for the success of the European Policies at the local level?”. The results, by group, can be found on

Table 2. Phase 2 Results (part 1)

Group	Answers
1	D-> Financial benefits for companies, Associated to a good practices certification
1	Better distribution of recycling equipment's for businesses
1	A serious commitment from waste management entities, in terms of terms of logistics, collecting infrastructures.
1	A effective communication comparing that shows people the positive and negative effects of the waste management
1	Improve the effectiveness of public services, for example, waste collection, clean streets, etc
2	Shared tool for diagnosis + analyses
2	Co-construction of an action Plan
2	Ocean x Environmental literacy tailored to profiles (society, technical,
2	Broad participation + involvement: ownership + problem / Barriers
2	Transparency of process
2	Economy justice / Balance: SMES need to be supported and Polluter-pays (Pay attention to)
2	Priority "Plastics Pollutions" in aquadas, budgets, ...
2	Resolve administrative procedures: Simplify + Speed-up
3	Real political will and engagement at local level
3	Involvement of citizens and local organizations in decision making and implementation process
3	Opens access to information as a citizen (eg. Internet) More and open info. Frequent communication
3	Responsibility form decision makers regarding the importance of the process
3	Education at all levels (inclusive in school curricular)
4	More Capacities (Stuffs): Teach, enforcement of rules
4	Charging responsibilities on the political level: Thing get started, pat not finished (at least 4 years needed)
4	Clear and precise instructions / guidelines to implement policies
4	Capacity building (Training / Knowledge for local actors / policies)
4	More Funding for technical logistics
4	Better Cooperation between citizens and local actors: Voluntary programs, regular clean-ups (Beaches, drivers)
4	"Adapt a beach" – Programmes or similar or incentives

The results of the second part of Phase 2, which use some of the proposed action as illustration of what must change, are represented in the following tables.

Table 3. Phase 2 Results (part 2) - Group 1

<b>Action name:</b> Ocean Spirit – Zero Waste Festival (desportivo; musica; sustentabilidade)				
<b>To which component does this action contribute to:</b>				
	Zero Waste Communities	x	Zero Waste Events	Zero Waste Beaches
<b>What must change:</b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Choose operators by ecological Practices</li> <li>- Improve the way people transit to the festival</li> <li>- Use more sustainable and organic materials for the tents structures             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To improving rewording measures</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Support local economy by promoting their products and services</li> <li>- Invite local people to teach how to cook local dishes based on seasonal products.</li> </ul>				

Table 4. Phase 2 Results (part 2) - Group 2

<b>Action name:</b> Elimination of common SUP items with environmentally acceptable alternatives					
<b>To which component does this action contribute to:</b>					
x	Zero Waste Communities	x	Zero Waste Events	x	Zero Waste Beaches
<b>What must change:</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Finance research and development of alternatives and circular economy             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sharing results of EU level</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Creation of EU-label for identification of honest alternatives</li> <li>- EU Label must identify region alternative production / near by products.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identification of honest alternatives</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Financial help for the transition in the private and public sectors, at least at the beginning</li> <li>- Europe financial coherence (Invest in real good alternatives, and stop financing polluting projects).</li> </ul>					

Table 5. Phase 2 Results (part 2) - Group 3

<b>Action name:</b> Blue Bag					
<b>To which component does this action contribute to:</b>					
x	Zero Waste Communities		Zero Waste Events	x	Zero Waste Beaches
<b>What must change:</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bag should not be made of plastic, should be of degradable material             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Exchange of 1 bag full litter by drink as an incentive</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The bags should be available all year round and be distributed by beaches/ water sports schools</li> </ul>					

Table 6. Phase 2 Results (part 2) - Group 4

<b>Action name:</b> Less Waste Event					
<b>To which component does this action contribute to:</b>					
	Zero Waste Communities	x	Zero Waste Events		Zero Waste Beaches
<b>What must change:</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Standardised system served by the organizers</li> <li>- Wasting stations (or using hotel infrastructure)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water stations (tab wates)</li> <li>- Separate collections of waste</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Entrance fee includes dishes (glass, plate etc)</li> </ul>					

The third, and last phase of the workshop, intended to answer the question “What are the main guidelines to inform the European Union?”. The results obtained, per group, are represented on

Group	Answers
1	Extra Taxes on single use waste like Plastics
1	Decrease tax value on organic and sustainable products
2	Create x enforce de pollutes pays principle for SUP
2	Disseminate tool to share content /Studies/ reference/ data
2	Align x Enforce of use of indicators to measure progress (must support local data collection!)
2	Enforce local data to remain disaggregated + publicly accessible
2	Methodologies to assess + monitor local initiatives in harmonised way across Europe to enable comparisons
2	Provision of accessible finance/ capital to support waste reduction measures, public + private actors
3	Simplification of regulations
3	Terminology harmonization and simplification
3	Less time consuming procedures
3	Less bureaucracy (too much documentation)
3	Financial pressure related to bureaucracy
4	To Establish communication between policy makers and local level
4	To provide precise guidelines for the implementation of the policies
4	To set baselines and operational targets
4	Evaluation of measures
4	To provide alternatives before/ along side with the

Since the Final Dissemination Event, open for the public, took place the following day, the obtained results were summarized, and a short presentation was made to share the outcomes of the participatory session. The summary of the results presented during the high-level dissemination event, divided by each of the main questions, was:

- What are the **main difficulties to operationalize/implement** the European Policies **at the local level**?
  - **Engagement** of Political and Societal levels - overcome the gap
  - Need of Citizen **awareness** raising and **co-responsibility**
  - **Education /Capacitation**
  - Lack of **strategy** and **management**
  - **Unclear responsibilities** EU -> Municipalities
  - Lack of **Intra-Administrative Communication**
  - Lack of **expertise in regulation** implementation
  - **Cost** of plastic disposable alternatives
- What do you, as **local actors, need** for the **success** of the **European Policies** at the **local level**?
  - **Communication**
  - **Co-construction** of actions plans
  - **Transparency** of the process

- **Simplification** of the **administrative process**
- **Environmental education and literacy**
- **Promove engagement** and **co-responsibilities**
- **Cooperation**
- **Policy briefing** – some highlights
  - **Engagement of Political and Societal levels** – overcome the gap
  - **Capacity building** (Training / Knowledge for local actors / Policies)
  - **Bureaucracy** – simplify regulations and diminish time consuming procedures
  - **Monitoring and Evaluating** – align and enforce the use of indicators to measure progress
  - **Taxes**
    - Create and enforce the **polluters pays principle**
    - Combat the **single use plastics**
    - **Diminish taxes** for **organic waste** and **sustainable products**
  - **Sharing/Cooperating** – built a disseminating tool to share relevant contents/studies/references/data