

BLACK SEA STORIES

Presented by the Black Sea Assistance Mechanism

Empowering citizens to reduce marine litter in the Black Sea

European Neighbourhood Instrument – Cross-Border Cooperation:

Raising Public Awareness and Reducing Marine Litter for Protection of the Black Sea Ecosystem (LitOUTer)

Tackling marine litter has been on the agenda for many years, including in the Black Sea region. And while various initiatives have addressed scientific, legal and political aspects of this multifaceted challenge, much work remains to be done to find tangible, shared solutions. For this reason, a current project is pursuing a bottom-up approach to craft country-specific awareness raising strategies.

Focused on reaching groups that can achieve the most impact, LitOUTer set about assessing public knowledge of marine litter impacts via surveys. This in turn informed the creation of targeted educational and training activities such as workshops for citizens on how to produce fertilizer from kitchen waste to reduce plastic bag usage in households. The LitOUTer team has also produced a varied series of materials that demonstrate marine litter's environmental and health impacts, from trainings and field studies, to cartoons and toys. Key to these efforts is the project's 'litter movement model', which shows how an item of litter travels from its source to its final location, thus using the latest geospatial technology to make analysis of litter distribution and accumulation accessible to the general public.

As the project's activities conclude it promises to deliver important lessons on mobilising local stakeholders on this key environmental challenge across the Black Sea (CMA Goal 1), while complementing the regional and national activities of the Black Sea Commission and CMA countries on marine litter reduction plans.

KEY INFO

Total budget:
€ 929,318

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European Union

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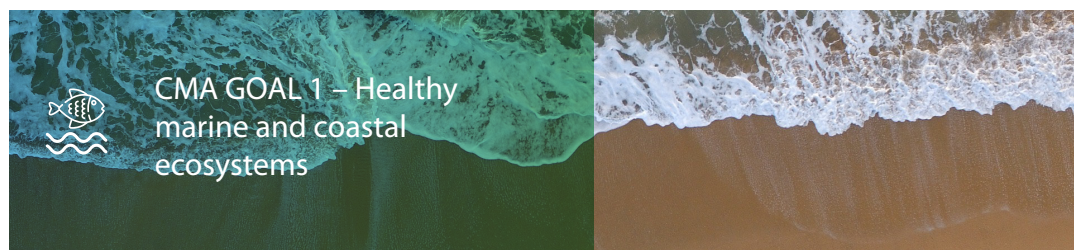
 litouterproject.eu

Facebook: [@litouterprojecteu](https://www.facebook.com/litouterprojecteu)

YouTube: [LitOUTer Project](https://www.youtube.com/LitOUTerProject)

COUNTRIES & PARTNERS INVOLVED

-  Karadeniz Technical University Marine Science Faculty (Turkey)
-  International Business and Economic Development Center (Georgia)
-  Mare Nostrum (Romania)
-  Institute of Oceanology, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (Bulgaria)
-  National Institute for Marine Research and Development "Grigore Antipa" (Romania)
-  Black Sea NGO Network (Bulgaria)



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