

The **presence of marine litter** is an environmental concern. Marine litter was included in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC MSFD) requiring that: **“Properties and quantities of marine litter do not cause harm to the coastal and marine environment”**. Recent EU projects highlighted that plastic is **the most dominant waste** in the marine environment. Various studies demonstrates that microplastics can be uptaken and **accumulated** by living organisms. Moreover, some pollutants related to microplastic can be accumulated and transported along the **food chain**. Nevertheless, **knowledge** about the origin, abundance and distribution of microplastics in marine systems **is still limited**.

The project will improve the use of **innovative technologies** and approaches against plastic marine litter. Micro and macro plastics data will be collected along **coastal and marine areas** of Croatia and Italy. **Alert systems** and **marine drones** will be developed together with potential **recycling systems and methodologies** for plastic waste found in such environments. Potential effects on **human health** will also be investigated.

The project results will be:

- analysis of the **state of the art** on environmental and climatological data;
- characterization of issues related to **waste management**;
- characterization of the Micro and Macro Plastic (MP) **sources** (cosmetics, bottles, wastewater, etc.);
- analysis of MP **occurrence** in **water, sediment** and in **shellfish**;
- definition of **best practices** for assessment and management of MP;
- development of a sensor platform to be installed on boats or **marine drones**;
- potential scenarios forecasting of **MP accumulation areas** after storms or river overflows;
- Early Warning System** and GIS database for MP forecasted accumulation areas;
- human **health risk assessment**;
- recycling** methodologies.

Project data



PROJECT DURATION
01/01/2019-30/06/2021



ERDF
2.106.844,00 Euro



TOTAL BUDGET
2.478.640,00 Euro

Partnership



www.italy-croatia.eu/netformplastic

Contacts



European Regional Development Fund



NET4mPLASTIC

New Technologies for macro and
Microplastic Detection and
Analysis in the Adriatic Basin

*New technologies against
plastic marine pollution*

