ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT OF OCEAN INITIATIVES 2015

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So it's a pivotal moment for the campaign's evolution, and I take on Ocean Initiatives management with enthusiasm. For my part, I will tap into all my energies to take on this great challenge and make this campaign last through time while supporting its natural evolution. To do this, the team and I are already working on innovations (awareness-raising campaign formats, tools, content, and the size and message of projects) that we want to implement in 2016 which, little by little, will bring us closer to the Ocean Initiatives of tomorrow.

EDITORIAL

In 2015, the Ocean Initiatives (OI) celebrated their 20th anniversary. 20 years over the course of which dozens of thousands of citizens were mobilised around the world to fight against marine litter. The goal is to make citizens face this reality, face their behaviour, and face their relationship with consumption. The observation is certainly alarming, but the success of these last few years and the panel of solutions are available to us, to our society, are the levers that must continue to move us forward.

Across those 20 years, Surfrider went from sounding the alarm to being a real expert by improving the program, the educational tools and the knowledge on the issue. This knowledge inevitably involves a refined expertise on marine litter: its origins, circulation, types, etc. From now on, the OI must know how to give and receive key information that is complementary and necessary for behavioural change in the face of this problem, for the necessary legal evolution (see the ban on single-use plastic bags), for the evolution of production means, and the relationship with waste.

The OI only exist through citizen engagement, through your engagement, so that collectively we change policy. Its success is yours, but the challenges ahead can only be faced with you... again.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Ocean Initiatives team.

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2015

OCEAN INITIATIVES 2015 INCLUDED:

48 886
PARTICIPANTS

2034
M³ OF LITTER

10 185
BATHTUBS OF LITTER

1328,17
KM COVERED

31,5
MARATHONS

3
TIMES THE LONDON'S UNDERGROUND
402 km of track

1 272
SHOES

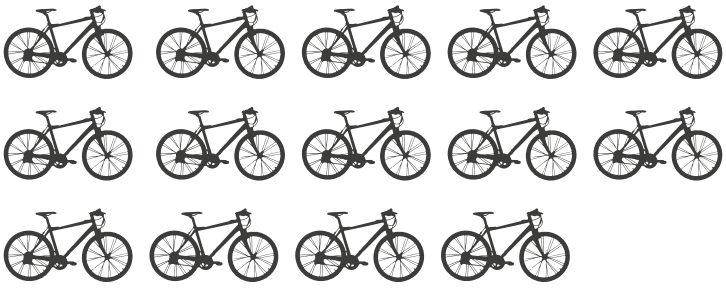
Enough shoes for all the football players in 2 World Cup championships, namelly 32 teams of 11 players.

DID YOU KNOW?

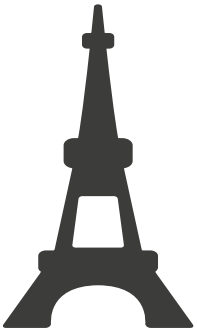
We found at least one shoe / sandal in one out of 2 collections.

8 460
CANS

If our organizers had recycled the cans found, they could have made 14 bikes, namely 670 cans per bike.

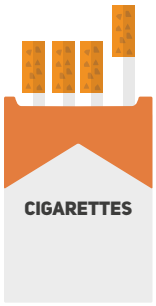


16 226
COTTON SWABS PLACED END TO END



3,5
TIMES THE HEIGHT OF THE EIFFEL TOWER

67 423
CIGARETTE BUTTS

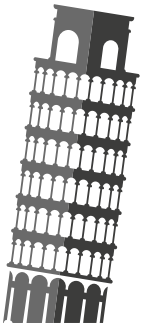


3 371
PACKS OF CIGARETTES

67 423 cigarettes, so 3371 packs have been thrown directly into the sea, and potentially 185,500 liters of water polluted.

552
TYRES PILED

130
METERS HIGH



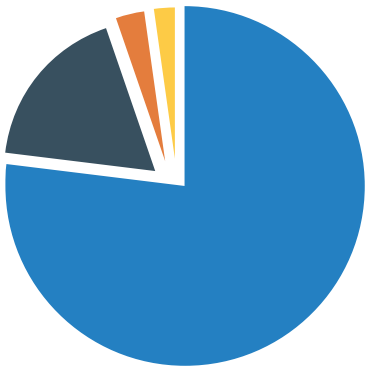
+2
THE HEIGHT OF THE LEANING TOWER OF PISA

DID YOU KNOW? European directive 1999/31/CE dated 26 April 1999 banned the dumping of used tyres. The majority of European countries (France, Spain, The Netherlands, Italy, Portugal, Belgium, Baltic Countries, Scandinavian countries...) have introduced the extended producer responsibility system. Therefore, the producer and the importer must ensure that used tyres are collected and handled by means of organizations. In most countries, our mechanics must take back used tyres free of charge. There's no reason to find them in nature!

01 GENERAL REPORT

* Numbers with an asterisk are based on the 576 reports filled out November 6th 2015, out of a total of 1184 collections by carrying out a weighting according to the type of the collection.

TYPES OF COLLECTION



- **BEACHES - 72,2%**
- **RIVERS - 17,25%**
- **LAKES - 3,28%**
- **SEABEDS - 1,95%**

COLLECTED LITTER

27 715*
bags of litter were collected by the participants

2 136,72 m³*
Total volume of litter collected

SENSITISED PEOPLE

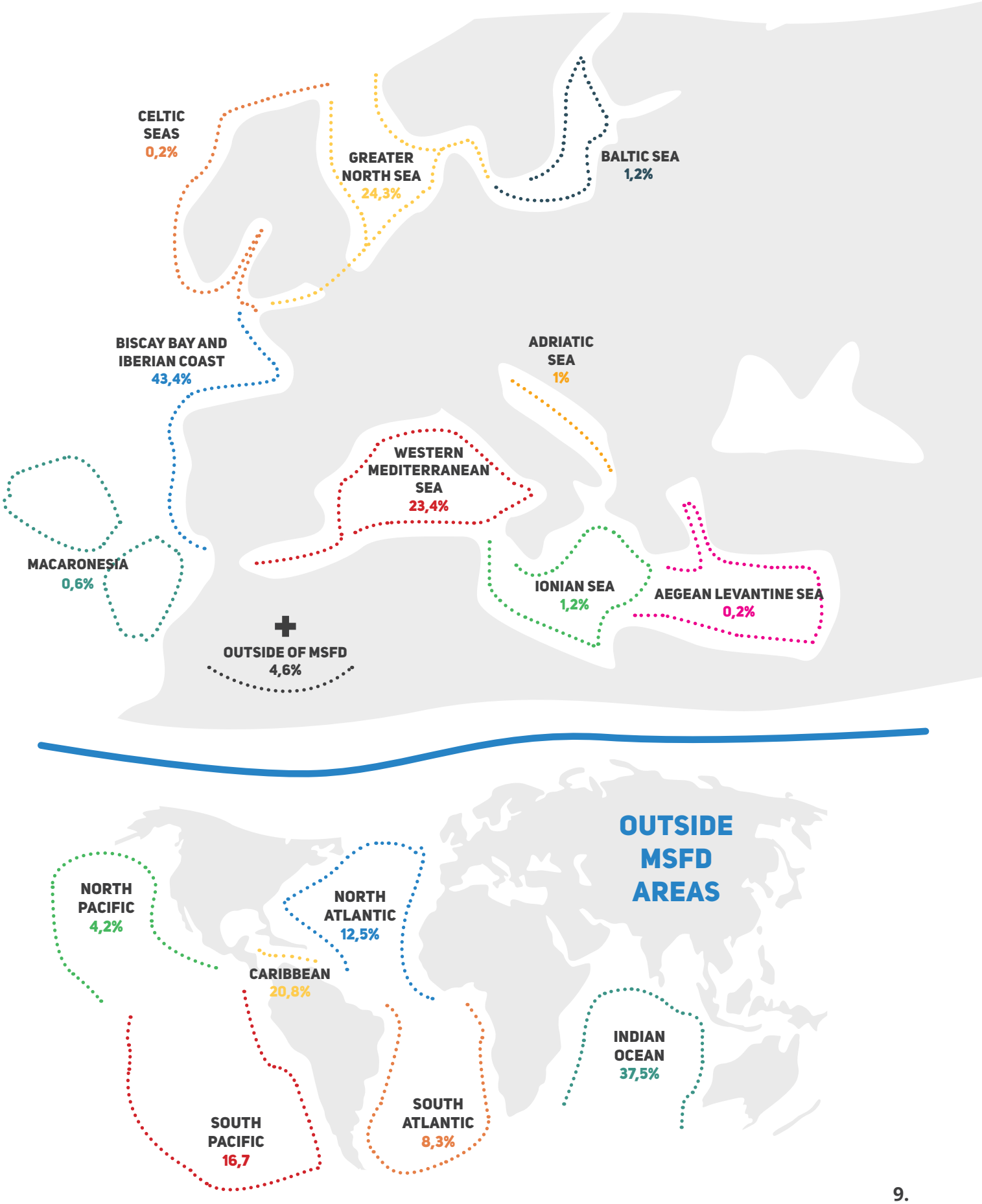
48 886*
people have been sensitised
19 445* of them were schoolchildren

COVERED AREA

1 328 172 m*
covered by the participants, so 1328,72 km

WHERE HAVE COLLECTIONS TAKEN PLACE?

To present the areas where the collections have taken place, we divided them into two groups: on the one hand, the large marine spaces in Europe such as those defined by the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and on the other hand the spaces outside Europe.



TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN MARINE AND FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENTS

In 2015 we asked Ocean Initiatives participants to take part in a large-scale participative science action in order to better understand the state of European and world coasts in terms of marine litter pollution. That is why we asked them to answer questions about their clean-up site and to quantify 31 types of litter categorised by material and use. This simplified quantification is based on the standardised European protocol. More than 376 organizers joined by 14 342 individuals participated in this exercise.

Total number of items collected in 376 collections: 322 516 quantified items.

PLASTIC

67 423
CIGARETTE BUTTS

10 385
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

10 988
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

14 744
BOTTLE CAPS

8 916
FOOD PACKAGING

25 693
PLASTIC BAGS

8 917
SWEETS PACKAGING

6 956
LOLLIPOP STICKS

1 936
MEDICAL WASTE

15 959
COTTON SWABS

1 830
HIGIENIC LITTER

22 341
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

41 830
PIECES OF PLASTIC

4 639
PLASTIC CUPS

3 217
PICNIC DISHES

5 382
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

10 578
FISHING CORDS

2 949
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

7 885
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

2 451
SHOTGUN SHELLS

532
TYRES

983
TOYS

1 843
LIGHTERS

607
BALLOONS

1 271
SHOES SANDALS

2 975
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

8 065
GLASS BOTTLES

15 669
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

8 184
CANS

4 330
PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

3 037
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

FOCUS ON MARINE ENVIRONMENT: BEACHES AND SEABED

TOP 10 OF COLLECTED LITTER

1. CIGARETTE BUTTS

2. PIECES OF PLASTIC

3. PLASTIC BAGS

4. PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

5 COTTON SWABS

6. BOTTLE CAPS

7. PIECES OF GLASS

8. FISHING CORDS

9. FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

10. BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

SOME DATA

44,4%

of the beaches examined are located close to a river or a stream

51,3%

of beaches are located near important navigation areas

91,3%

of beaches cleaned are highly frequented (tourist areas)

75,4%

of beaches are located immediately next to a town

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN MARINE ENVIRONMENT

Total number of items collected in 285 collections: 254 477 quantified items.

PLASTIC

53827
CIGARETTE BUTTS

7 782
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

6 970
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

12 838
BOTTLE CAPS

5 963
FOOD PACKAGING

17 708
PLASTIC BAGS

6 867
SWEETS PACKAGING

6 557
LOLLIPOP STICKS

1 553
MEDICAL WASTE

15 361
COTTON SWABS

1 432
HIGIENIC LITTER

16 906
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

33 780
PIECES OF PLASTIC

3 306
PLASTIC CUPS

2 130
PICNIC DISHES

5 066
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

10 338
FISHING CORDS

2 802
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

7 742
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

1 979
SHOTGUN SHELLS

288
TYRES

784
TOYS

1 518
LIGHTERS

468
BALLOONS

1 007
SHOES SANDALS

2 952
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

5 057
GLASS BOTTLES

12 037
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

5 280
CANS

2 700
PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

1 477
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

FOCUS ON FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENT: RIVERS AND LAKES

TOP 10 OF COLLECTED LITTER

1. CIGARETTE BUTTS

2. PIECES OF PLASTIC

3. PLASTIC BAGS

4. PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

5. BOTTLES < 0,5 L

6. GLASS BOTTLES

7. PIECES OF GLASS

8. FOOD PACKAGING

9. CANS

10. BOTTLES >OR = 0,5 L

SOME DATA

90%

of collection locations concerning rivers and streams are nearby an upstream village or town.

11%

of organizers have indicated the presence of illegal dumping on the banks of streams and lakes.

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENT

Total number of items collected in 90 collections : 68 041 quantified items.

PLASTIC

13 596
CIGARETTE BUTTS

2 603
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

4 018
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

1 906
BOTTLE CAPS

2 954
FOOD PACKAGING

7 985
PLASTIC BAGS

2 050
SWEETS PACKAGING

399
LOLLIPOP STICKS

383
MEDICAL WASTE

598
COTTON SWABS

398
HIGIENIC LITTER

5 435
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

8 050
PIECES OF PLASTIC

1 333
PLASTIC CUPS

1 087
PICNIC DISHES

316
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

240
FISHING CORDS

147
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

143
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

472
SHOTGUN SHELLS

244
TYRES

199
TOYS

325
LIGHTERS

139
BALLOONS

264
SHOES SANDALS

23
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

3 008
GLASS BOTTLES

3 632
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

2 904
CANS

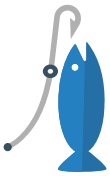
1 630
PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

1 560
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

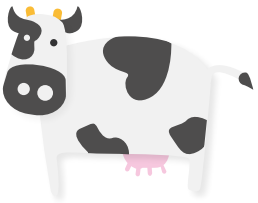
TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

Types of activities carried out on the streams where collections took place.



79%
of sites are in important fishing areas

65%
of sites are located near hunting areas



13%
are downstream from agricultural areas

36%
are downstream from industrial areas

20%
are in areas where water sports take place

7%
of sites are in leisure areas (picnic, walking, hiking trails)

ORIGIN OF THE LITTER

We have asked participants to tell us what, according to them, is the origin of the litter found on their actions. Several types of activities can take place on the same stream. The percentages are only given for information:

55%

For 55% of organizers, the litter found is directly left behind at the location of festive events (38%), during events, during activities on the water such as fishing (18%), or because the site is a hiking or tourist location (15%).

31%

For 31% of organizers, litter found comes from villages located upstream. It is thrown away in town and carried by wind or the wastewater network and run-off.

11%

For 11% of organizers, floods and/or flooding could explain the presence of litter at their site.

11%

For 11%, litter comes from routes located not far from streams.

5%

For 5% of organizers, litter found comes from water purification plants.

5%

For 5%, litter found is explained by the presence of agricultural activities upstream.

343 UNUSUAL OBJECTS

STREAMS AND OCEANS: THE LARGEST DUMP OF HUMAN ACTIVITY

343 large objects or unusual objects were found by the participants during the 2015 Ocean Initiatives.

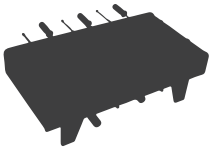
A CRUCIFIX

A FUNERAL URN

WATER PURIFIERS

BATTERIES DATING FROM THE 70'S

A WAFFLE IRON



A TABLE FOOTBALL

A WHEELCHAIR

AN IRONING BOARD

AN INDUSTRIAL VACUUM

A LAWNMOWER

A PLASTIC TOBOGAN

LET'S NOT FORGET THE ESSENTIALS

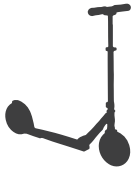
SEVEN REFRIGERATORS

ONE COOLER

FIVE WASHING MACHINES

THREE MACHINE DRUMS

TWO BYCICLE



THREE SCOOTERS

SIX BEDS AND BED BASES

FIVE TROLLEYS

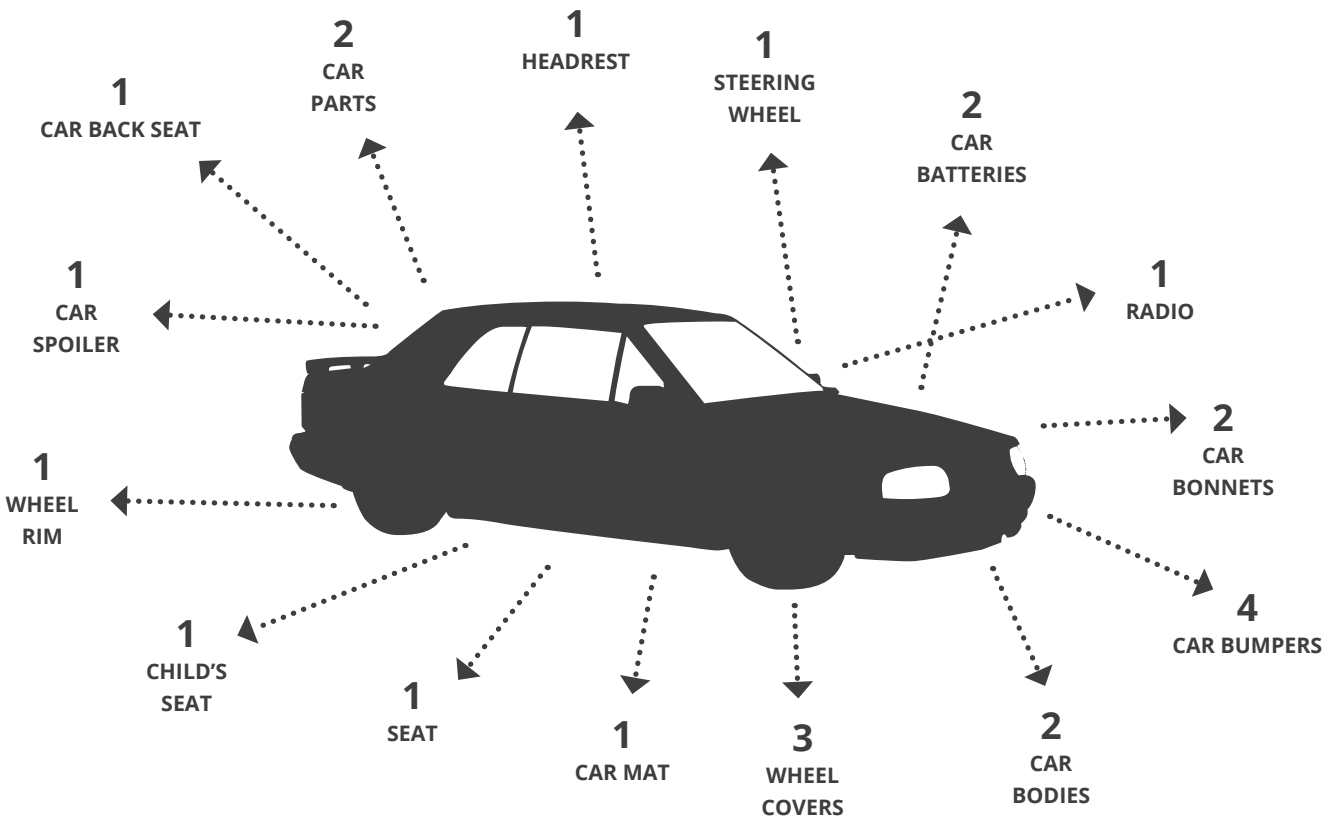
SIX CITY TRASH CANS

TWO TELEVISION SETS

SEVEN FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

IN 2015 THE CASE SHOWS

2 entire car bodies and 23 detached parts



But also...

3 SCOOTERS

1 MOTORCYCLE

6 SCOOTER PARTS

BEACHES, A BOAT CEMETERY

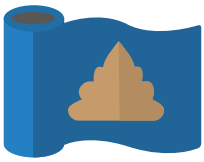
4 BOATS

6 ROWING BOATS

20 BOAT PARTS
masts, anchors, bilge pump, battery

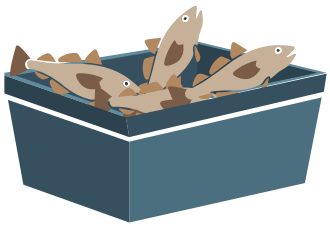
OTHER LITTER COLLECTED IN LARGE NUMBERS

Ocean Initiatives participants have told us about other types of litter that they found in their region in large number.



DOG WASTE BAG
All marine coasts

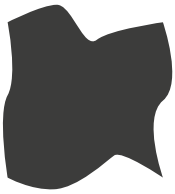
MERMAID'S TEARS AND POLYSTYRENE AND PLASTIC OF LESS THAN 2.5 CM
All marine coasts



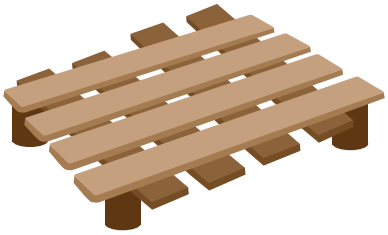
FISHING TRAPS AND CRATES
Bay of Biscay - Iberian coast and Channel - North Sea coasts

LITTER FROM WORK / CONSTRUCTION, ASBESTOS
Rivers, streams, and lakes

TOWELETTES
All marine coasts and all streams



PLASTIC FROM AGRICULTURE
Streams and lakes



PALLETS
All marine coasts

FIREWORKS
Beaches and rivers, all marine coasts

BARBECUE GRILLS

AND ALSO...

50

Nappies on a Tunisian beach

750

beer caps along the Seine river (Paris)

75%

More than 2/3 organizers found more than 75% plastic during their action.

02 REPORT BY SEA AREAS

WHERE HAVE COLLECTIONS TAKEN PLACE?

To present the areas where the collections have taken place, we divided them into two groups: on the one hand, the large marine spaces in Europe such as those defined by the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) and on the other hand the spaces outside Europe. Some information related to certain coastlines have not been presented because there was not enough data to process.

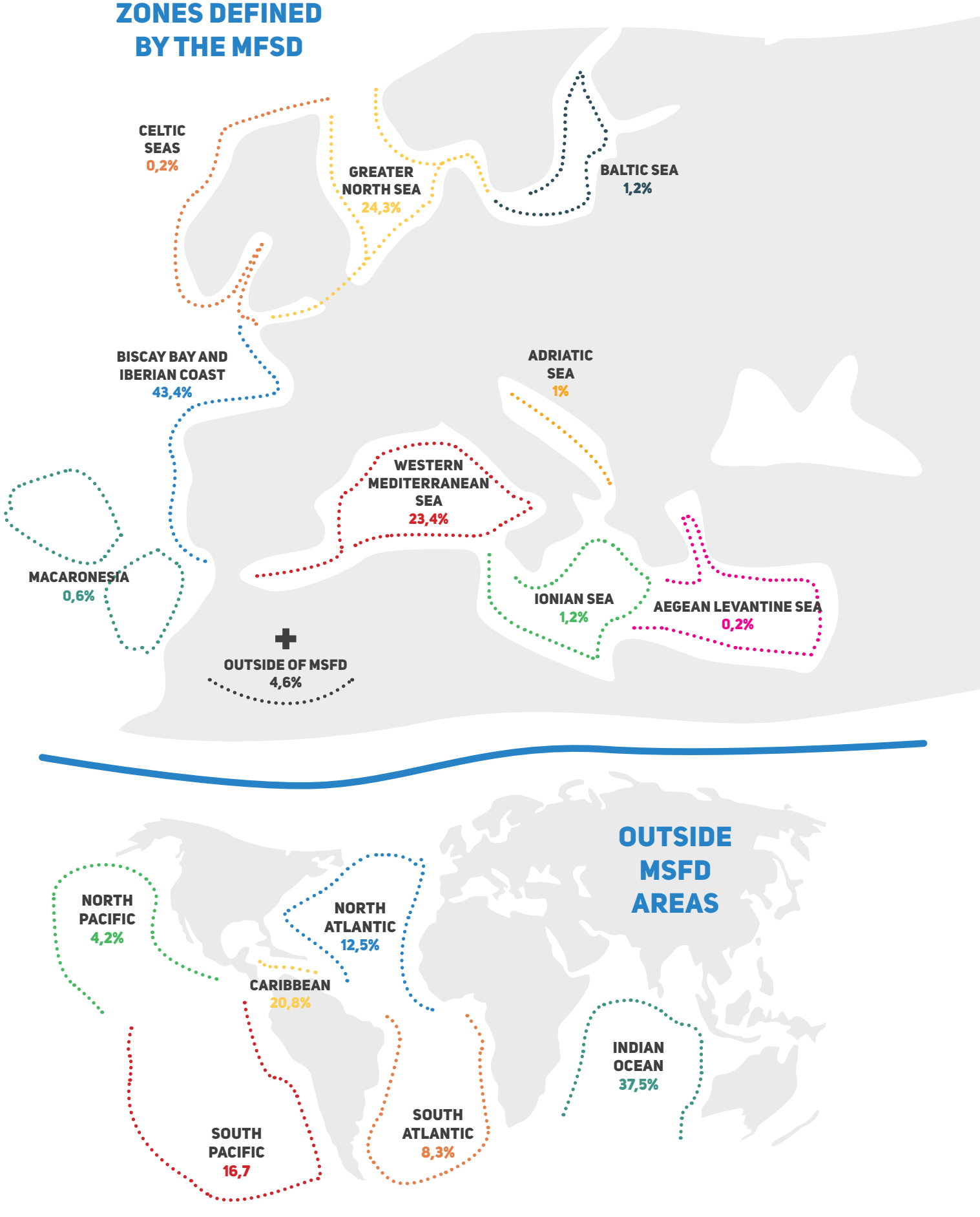
ZONES DEFINED BY THE MFSD

- **ADRIATIC SEA** (East coast of Italy, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania)
- **BALTIC SEA** (Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Sweden)
- **BAY OF BISCAY AND IBERIAN COAST** (France from Point Penmarch, and the Atlantic coasts of Spain and Portugal)
- **BLACK SEA** (Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine)
- **CELTIC SEAS** (Ireland, Wales, the west of England and Scotland)
- **NORTH SEA CHANNEL** (United Kingdom, the north of France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, the west of Germany, Norway, Sweden)
- **IONIAN SEA AND CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN** (Tunisia, Italy, Greece, Albania)
- **MACARONESIA** (archipelagos located west of Africa: Madeira Islands, Azores, and the Canary Islands)

OUTSIDE ZONES DEFINED BY THE MFSD

- **NORTH ATLANTIC**
- **WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN** (France, Spain, Italy, Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria)
- **CARIBBEAN AREA** (Guadeloupe, Martinique)
- **INDIAN OCEAN** (Mayotte, La Reunion, Madagascar, Mauritius Island)
- **SOUTH ATLANTIC** (Argentina, Brazil)

ZONES DEFINED BY THE MFSD



ADRIATIC SEA

EAST COST OF ITALY, SLOVENIA, CROATIA, BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO, ALBANIA

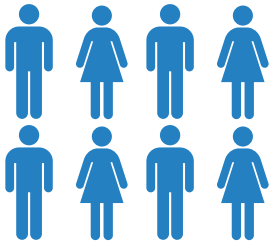
17% rate of return. 5 collections took place in the Adriatic Sea. A total of 29 awareness-raising campaigns on marine litter issue were carried out on the area for the Ocean Initiatives 2015.

LITTER COLLECTED

200
bags of litter were collected by the participants

6,3 m³
Total volume of litter collected

SENSITISED PEOPLE



225
people have been sensitised, schoolchildren and general public combined

AREA COVERED

2 610 m
travelled by the participants, so 2,6 km

TOP 5

5 512 were collected during 5 actions on beaches (Italy) over a distance of 2,610 meters.
Top 5 of most common waste found in the Adriatic sea according to the data provided by the organizers.

650
PLASTIC BAGS

700
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

640
PIECES OF PLASTIC

308
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

300
COTTON SWABS

TESTIMONIAL

THE PASSION FOR THE PROTECTION AND PRESERVATION OF OUR LAND

ALBERTO MICCADEI, MARINE PROTECTED AREA OF « TORRE DEL CERRANO » (ITALY)

« My name is Alberto Miccadei and I work for 3 years now as a guide for the Torre del Cerrano Marine Protected Area which stretches for 3 nautical miles off the Italian coastlines and for 7 km along the coastline. Its surface area is about 37 square km.

Each year, on March, we organize, in collaboration with the Marine Area Guides association and others local organizations, a waste collection operation on the beach and the dune located inside the area. The chosen site for the collection is particularly well conserved, concerning the dune as much as the vegetation, because it is a nesting area for the Charadrinus Alexandrinus (an endangered species of bird).
In spite of the difficult weather conditions, we kept motivated and, with our group of ten, we cleaned up a 400 meters area.

Our passion for the protection and the conservation of our territory was a key point for the success of the operation and allowed us to overcome the weather difficulties. Among the trashes we collected, we found a huge amount of plastic (bags, bottles and polystyrene) We also found several car tyres.

I would like to thank the president of the Torre del Cerrano Marine Area, who was by our side on every step for the organization of the day along with the Pineto and Silvi collectivities. »

BALTIC SEA

GERMANY, DENMARK, ESTONIA, FINLAND, LATVIA, LITHUANIA, POLAND, RUSSIA, SWEDEN

28% rate of return. 6 quantification operations took place in Germany, Latvia and Sweden). 5 took place on beaches (Germany and Sweden) and one on a river where the drainage basin flowed into the Baltic sea (Latvia). A total of 18 awareness-raising campaigns on marine litter issue were carried out on the area for the Ocean Initiatives 2015.

COLLECTED LITTER

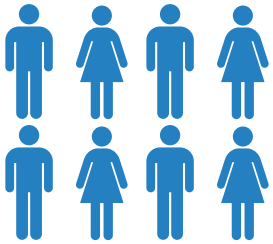
62

bags of litter were collected by the participants

19,63 m³

Total volume of litter collected

SENSITISED PEOPLE



133

people have been sensitised, schoolchildren and general public combined

COVERED AREA

8 050 m

covered by the participants, so 8 km

TOP 5

1 668 items were collected and quantified over a distance of 8050 meters.

Top 5 of most common waste found in the Baltic sea according to the data provided by our organizers.

1 025
PLASTIC BAGS

566
CIGARETTE BUTTS

131
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

73
FOOD PACKAGING

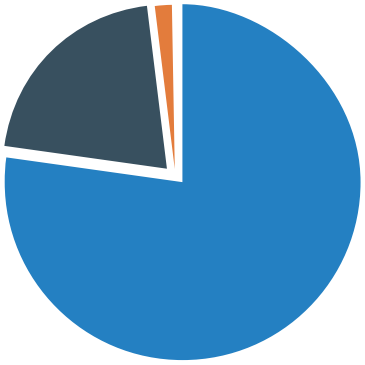
72
SWEETS PACKAGING

BAY OF BISCAY AND IBERIAN COAST

FRANCE STARTING FROM THE POINT OF PENMARCH, SPAIN, PORTUGAL, ATLANTIC COASTS

33,7% rate of return. 167 organizers carried out a quantification action on the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast. These actions took place in France (130 actions), Spain (31 actions) and Portugal (6 actions). A total of 496 awareness-raising campaigns on marine litter issue were carried out on the area for the Ocean Initiatives 2015.

TYPES OF COLLECTION



- **BEACHES - 77,25%**
- **RIVERS - 20,95%**
- **LAKES - 1,80%**

COLLECTED LITTER

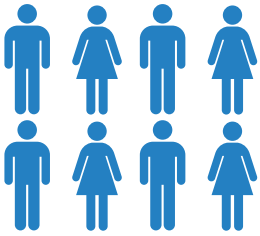
4 011

bags of litter were collected by the participants

268,58 m³

Total volume of litter collected

SENSITISED PEOPLE



4 990

people have been sensitised
1 995* of them were schoolchildren

COVERED AREA

209 130 m

covered by the participants, so 209 km

TOP 5

108 637 items were collected and quantified during 167 actions. Top 5 of most common waste found in the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast zone, according to the data provided by our organizers (lakes, rivers, beaches).

15 288
CIGARETTE BUTTS

14 528
PIECES OF PLASTIC

11 892
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

9 894
PLASTIC BAGS

6 482
FISHING CORDS

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN MARINE AND FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENT

108 637 items were collected and quantified during 167 actions carried out on the beaches, seabeds, rivers and lakes of the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast area, **over a distance of 209 130 meters, which represents a volume of 268,581 m³.**

PLASTIC

15 288
CIGARETTE BUTTS

2 245
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

4 154
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

4 698
BOTTLE CAPS

3 039
FOOD PACKAGING

9 894
PLASTIC BAGS

2 884
SWEETS PACKAGING

2 503
LOLLIPOP STICKS

899
MEDICAL WASTE

4 689
COTTON SWABS

737
HIGIENIC LITTER

11 892
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

14 528
PIECES OF PLASTIC

1 409
PLASTIC CUPS

417
PICNIC DISHES

1 023
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

6 482
FISHING CORDS

1 208
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

4 420
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

1 000
SHOTGUN SHELLS

200
TYRES

402
TOYS

652
LIGHTERS

347
BALLOONS

510
SHOES SANDALS

1 635
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

1 772
GLASS BOTTLES

5 707
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

1 992
CANS

1 197
PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

814
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN MARINE ENVIRONMENT

1 500 396 items were collected and quantified during 130 actions carried out on the beaches and seabeds of the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast area, **over a distance of 120 510 meters, which represents a volume of 154,611m³.** 2077 bags were collected during 130 actions : 24 actions in Spain, 100 in France, 6 in Portugal.

PLASTIC

11 600
CIGARETTE BUTTS

1 458
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

2 193
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

3 975
BOTTLE CAPS

2 231
FOOD PACKAGING

6 789
PLASTIC BAGS

2 298
SWEETS PACKAGING

2 423
LOLLIPOP STICKS

675
MEDICAL WASTE

4 649
COTTON SWABS

667
HIGIENIC LITTER

7 694
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

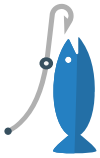
13 165
PIECES OF PLASTIC

1 038
PLASTIC CUPS

342
PICNIC DISHES

896
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

6 277
FISHING CORDS



1 131
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

4 336
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

799
SHOTGUN SHELLS

71
TYRES

294
TOYS

466
LIGHTERS

254
BALLOONS

383
SHOES SANDALS

1 657
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

871
GLASS BOTTLES

3 247
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

1 121
CANS

799
PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

409
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

SOME DATA

15%

of litter collected on the beaches are pieces of plastic between 2.5 and 50 cm for which the origin cannot be determined

5%

of litter collected on the beaches are cotton swabs

94%

of beaches where quantification actions took place are tourist beaches

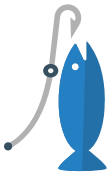
46%

of beaches where quantification actions took place are located near a town

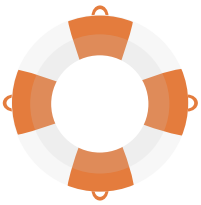
TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

The main activities carried out on the beaches and seabeds of the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coasts, according to the OI participants. Several types of activities can take place on the same area.

51%
of beach are nautical activity areas (swimming, kite surfing, surfing, sailing, paddle boarding, diving...)



48%
of beaches are located near professional hunting areas



29%
of beaches are located near sailing areas

23%
of beaches are located near shellfish aquaculture areas

17%
of beaches are located near port activity areas

TESTIMONIAL

CLEAN-UP AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AT ZURRIOLA BEACH

PATRIS SURF, SAN SEBASTIÁN (SPAIN)

« PATRIS is a year-old organization with a unifying and youthful spirit that seeks to show all aspects involving surf practice in San Sebastian. We work on the sport and healthy life habits on an individual and group level, along with respect and care for the environment and the integration of at-risk groups throughout Gipuzkoa.

Surfing as a sport and leisure activity has experienced a growing popularity in our city of San Sebastian. That's why sections of the population with difficulty accessing this activity have been identified; such as minors, the handicapped, and persons at risk of exclusion. The goal of PARTIS SURF is to offer this sport and entertaining activity without barriers, minimising material and economic obstacles in order to implement the project with the greatest accessibility.

Our monthly clean-ups on Zurriola beach have to main aims, as try to both open the eyes of our young members and children from other schools and show them a somewhat uncomfortable reality. It's not until you roll up your sleeves and get to work on a cleanup project that you realize the amount of garbage we generate as humans. It's a way of raising the awareness of our youngest citizens, teaching them that it's just as easy to throw something away in the trash as it is on the beach, and that our passion for surfing requires that we take care to ensure the beach is always in a proper state.

Here during these clean-ups, for example, the little ones realize the amount of waste produced by tobacco use, sweets, and drinks... and all the waste produced by mass consumption. In this way we also try to raise awareness about living a healthy, active life punctuate by dynamic activities. »

TESTIMONIAL

SHELLFISH FARMERS PROTECTING THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER QUALITY

SOUTHERN BRITTANY REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR SHELLFISH FARMING, BRITTANY (FRANCE)

« The Southern Brittany Regional Committee for Shellfish Farming has organized 8 different clean-ups via Surfrider Foundation. We focus in particular on the protection of the marine environment and the water quality, which shellfish farming directly relies on. The professionals are therefore sensitive to these problems of pollution, and they wished to act more extensively this year by proposing 8 dates in the same period (the same period as collections carried out in previous years, organized by professionals, but without any links between the different sectors).

During these clean-ups, we found many plastics, such as bottles, caps, plastic food packaging, polystyrene, etc. We also found many paper products: paper food packaging, tissues as well as many cigarette butts, shotgun cartridges etc.

The sites on which we carried out the collections are marine areas (beaches, estuaries etc.). Numerous shellfish farmers came.

The Southern Brittany Regional Committee for Shellfish Farming wish to perpetuate these activities, and will therefore renew these actions in 2016. The objective is to increase the general public's awareness of the need to preserve the marine environment and understand that everyone can act. »

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENT

1 972 bags were collected during 39 quantification actions carried out on the rivers and lakes of the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast area, **over a distance of 91 320 meters, which represents a volume of 116,67 m³.**

PLASTIC

3 688
CIGARETTE BUTTS

787
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

1 961
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

723
BOTTLE CAPS

808
FOOD PACKAGING

3 105
PLASTIC BAGS

586
SWEETS PACKAGING

80
LOLLIPOP STICKS

224
MEDICAL WASTE

40
COTTON SWABS

70
HIGIENIC LITTER

4 198
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

1 363
PIECES OF PLASTIC

371
PLASTIC CUPS

75
PICNIC DISHES

127
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

205
FISHING CORDS

77
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

84
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

201
SHOTGUN SHELLS

129
TYRES

108
TOYS

186
LIGHTERS

93
BALLOONS

127
SHOES SANDALS

12
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

901
GLASS BOTTLES

2 460
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

871
CANS

398
PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

410
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

SOME DATA

17%

of litter collected from rivers and lakes in the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast region are pieces of polystyrene

10%

of litter collected from rivers and lakes in the Bay of Biscay and Iberian Coast region are pieces of glass

80%

of rivers and lakes monitored by our organizers are fishing areas

52,5%

of sites where collection actions were carried out are downstream from industrial zones

15%

Up to 15 tyres found during one action on the Adour

ORIGIN OF THE LITTER

We asked the organizers to explain, according to them, the origin of the waste found. The origin of waste can be multiple and the organizers have identified several causes that might explain the accumulation of waste in the area of study. The percentages are given as an indication:

52%

of individuals interviewed think that the litter they found is directly left behind on the banks of streams (fishing, festivities, picnics, hiking)

32%

of the people questioned think that the waste they found comes from one or several communities upstream

TESTIMONIAL

KAYAKERS PROTECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

LE VAL DES CHÂTEAUX BOATING CENTER, SAINT DYÉ SUR LOIRE (FRANCE)

« Le Val des Châteaux Canoë Kayak is a sport association located in Saint Dyé sur Loire (41) created 12 years ago along the Loire.

We work in partnership with the Maison de la Loire du Loir-et-Cher. Here schoolchildren and individuals are welcomed in order to raise the awareness of different audiences with regards to education and the environment (fauna, flora, selective sorting, etc.) As kayakers, we are users of this natural environment that must be preserved. It's totally normal that our youngest members and adults are conscious of the effects pollution has on their navigation areas.

Every year in March, the MDL 41 organizes «Agissons pour une Loire propre» (Let's act for a clean Loire) with litter collections amongst schoolchildren and individuals. A dozen towns are brought together. Following communication on social networks and in our little town, we have been able to bring together around thirty people. Also thanks to participation from the Marins du Port de Chambord, participants were transported in a traditional boat from the Loire to the islands and collected the largest waste. We also had a dozen people in canoes in order to move towards sandbanks or banks that were inaccessible on foot.

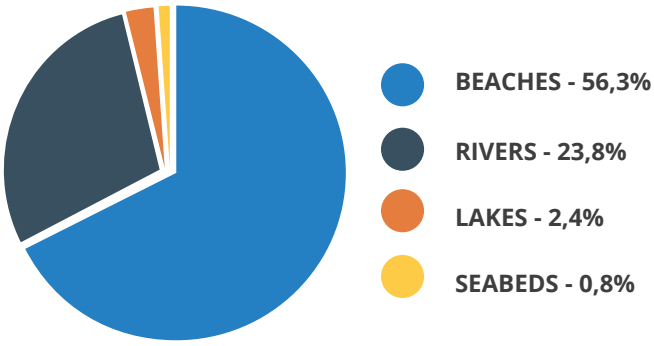
Be it during the Ocean Initiatives, or throughout the year, we mainly collect plastic or glass bottles, towelettes, and sanitary pads, but also a lot of shotgun shells. Sorting was carried out at the end morning in order to fill out the report, and then it was taken to the waste collection centre. To my great surprise, we didn't collect any tyres »

NORTH SEA CHANNEL

UNITED KINGDOM, NORTH OF FRANCE, BELGIUM, HOLLAND, DENMARK, WEST GERMANY, NORWAY, SWEDEN

40,15% rate of return. 104 organizers carried out a quantification action on the North Sea Channel. These actions took place in France (86 actions), Belgium (9 actions), Germany (5 actions) Netherlands (3 actions) and Sweden (1 collections). A total of 259 awareness-raising campaigns on marine litter issue were carried out on the area for the Ocean Initiatives 2015.

TYPES OF COLLECTION



COLLECTED LITTER

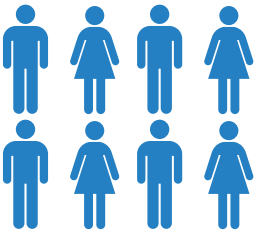
1 502

bags of litter were collected by the participants

103,275 m³

Total volume of litter collected

SENSITISED PEOPLE



3 312

people have been sensitised
1 548* of them were schoolchildren

COVERED AREA

133 790 m

covered by the participants, so 133,79 km

TOP 5

50 102 items were collected and quantified during 104 actions over a distance of 133 790 meters which represents a volume of 103,75m³. Top 5 of most common waste found in the North Sea Channel zone, according to the data provided by our organizers (lakes, rivers, beaches).

9 208
CIGARETTE BUTTS

4 127
PIECES OF GLASS

3 793
PLASTIC BAGS

2 985
BOTTLE CAPS

2 815
FISHING CORDS

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN MARINE ENVIRONMENT

936 bags were collected during 70 quantification actions carried out on the beaches and seabeds of the North Sea Channel coast (1 in Germany, 1 in Belgium, 66 in France, 3 in Netherlands and 1 in Sweden), **over a distance of 53820 meters, which represents a volume of 62,94 m³. A total of 31 274 items were quantified.**

PLASTIC

2 604 CIGARETTE BUTTS

531 BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

836 BOTTLES < 0,5 L

2 279 BOTTLE CAPS

1 099 FOOD PACKAGING

2 096 PLASTIC BAGS

1 716 SWEETS PACKAGING

1 211 LOLLIPOP STICKS

134 MEDICAL WASTE

1 433 COTTON SWABS

165 HIGIENIC LITTER

2 151 PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

1 798 PIECES OF PLASTIC

395 PLASTIC CUPS

147 PICNIC DISHES

233 STRAWS STIR-STICKS

2 808 FISHING CORDS

606 FISHING LINES/HOOKS

1 765 FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

631 SHOTGUN SHELLS

49 TYRES

82 TOYS

331 LIGHTERS

115 BALLOONS

135 SHOES SANDALS

567 SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

467 GLASS BOTTLES

3 642 PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

497 CANS

526 PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

225 CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

SOME DATA

11%

of litter collected on beaches and seabeds in the North Sea Channel area are fragmented pieces of plastic

8%

of litter collected on beaches and seabeds are waste associated with fishing (cords, ropes of less than 1 cm in diameter)

73%

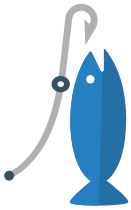
of participants consider that the North Sea Channel coast is an important navigation region

89%

of beaches where quantification actions took place are heavily used for tourism

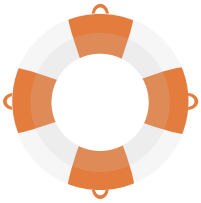
TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

The main activities carried out on the beaches and seabeds of the North Sea Channel coast, according to OI participants. Several types of activities can take place on the same area.



53%

of beaches where collection actions were carried out are located near fishing areas: 92% professional fishing, 8% leisure fishing including shellfish gathering



46%

of organizers monitored sites close to sailing areas

19%

of beaches are located near shellfish aquaculture areas

25%

of beaches are located near port activity areas (including the port of Calais)

TESTIMONIAL

«HISSEZ EAU» : THE MARITIME CARAVAN OF BRITTANY

MARIE AMÉLIE NÉOLLIER, BRITANNY (FRANCE)

« Aboard old sailing ships of Breton heritage, we stopped at 7 Breton ports in June 2015 with a single goal: sharing the experience with actors in the Breton region regarding the fight against marine litter pollution.

Involving sailing heritage in marine environment protection, with Belem as our ambassador from Saint Malo to Belle île by sea, passing through Brest and Paimpol, we were able to meet and exchange ideas with more than 5,000 people. At port or on board, the sailors, our 42 regional partners, and us were able to share themes specific to the regions. There are 7 themes that have been declined, such as the treatment of waste, nautical eco-design, usage, and litter, or even the specific case of litter of the islands (management of household waste and the impact of container spills).

These actions are also part of the long-term running of Surfrider, which has been able to accompany the traditional sailors who are the subject of maritime pollution, and will continue to do so, so that they are able to raise awareness of the public they welcome aboard throughout the year, who themselves become prescribers of sea education. »

TESTIMONIAL

THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT MAKES UP 75% OF THE PLANET

MÉLANIE DUHAMEL, SOMME (FRANCE)

« I organized this initiative because I am a great environmentalist in general, and the marine environment equally affects me because I surf and I kite board etc. The marine environment makes up 75% of the planet! I have 3 children, I want them to learn what respect is, respect for nature. It's for them… It's for nature…

We have collected all types of litter, bottle caps, shoe soles, fishing line (lots of this!), vast quantities of plastic! The beach was particularly in need of a clean during the freak flooding, lots of scum, quite sticky!! I also found some syringes as well, which for a small beach in Somme I found shocking.

It was a very good, sunny day! There are more and more of us each year and it's great to watch more and more people feeling concerned for the environment. »

TESTIMONIAL

VOLUNTEERS COMMITTED WITH ASN BANK

IRENE DE JONG, TER HEIJDE (NETHERLANDS)

« We organized four volunteers days within our organization (the ASN Bank). We are a sustainable bank and focus on climate, biodiversity and human rights. For our volunteer's day, we try to cover one of these themes. The area where the beach cleanup takes place is called the Zandmotor. It's an artificial beach (made by humans). We have had three days cleaning the Zandmotor. The main difficulty we faced was the weather, but the quantity of trashes was very low the 2nd and 3rd day. We found mostly plastics. »

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENT

566 bags were collected during 33 quantification actions carried out on the rivers and lakes of the North Sea Channel coast (4 in Germany, 8 in Belgium and 21 in France), **over a distance of 79 970 meters, which represents a volume of 40,335 m³. A total of 18 828 items were quantified.**

PLASTIC

6 604
CIGARETTE BUTTS

862
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

1 172
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

706
BOTTLE CAPS

1 102
FOOD PACKAGING

1 697
PLASTIC BAGS

770
SWEETS PACKAGING

131
LOLLIPOP STICKS

30
MEDICAL WASTE

79
COTTON SWABS

245
HIGIENIC LITTER

480
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

494
PIECES OF PLASTIC

267
PLASTIC CUPS

131
PICNIC DISHES

68
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

7
FISHING CORDS

56
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

21
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

54
SHOTGUN SHELLS

38
TYRES

40
TOYS

88
LIGHTERS

38
BALLOONS

78
SHOES SANDALS

11
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

1 287
GLASS BOTTLES

485
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

1 323
CANS

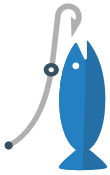
394
PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

70
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

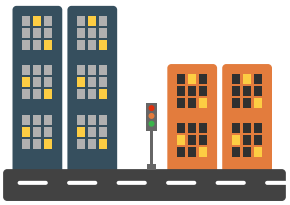
Types of activities on the rivers and lakes which were held the actions. Several types of activities can take place on the same stream.



72%
of the rivers and lakes monitored by our organizers are fishing areas

67%
of the rivers and lakes monitored by our organizers are areas where a lot of hunting occurs

39%
of the organizers consider that the drainage basins of rivers (Seine, Rhine, Escaut) where collection programs were carried out have heavy industrial activity



88%
of locations were found downstream from a town or were in the town

ORIGIN OF THE LITTER

We asked the organizers to explain, according to them, the origin of the waste found. The origin of waste can be multiple and the organizers have identified several causes that might explain the accumulation of waste in the area of study. The percentages are given as an indication:

66%
of individuals interviewed think that litter found is directly left behind on the banks of streams (fishing, festivities, picnics, hiking)

23%
of the people questioned think that the waste they found comes from one or several communities upstream

SOME DATA

36%

of litter collected on river banks are cigarette butts

9%

of litter collected on river banks are plastic bags

6%

of litter collected on river banks are glass bottles, plastic bottles larger than 50 cl, and plastic bottle tops

IONIAN SEA AND CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN

TUNISIA, ITALY, GREECE, ALBANIA

20% rate of return. 4 quantification operations took place in Italy, 2 actions on beaches, 2 actions on rivers and lakes (one of them on seabed). A total of 20 awareness-raising campaigns on marine litter issue were carried out on the area for the Ocean Initiatives 2015.

COLLECTED LITTER

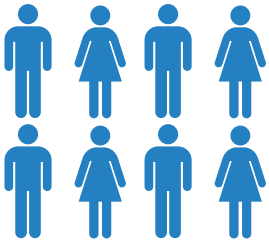
712

bags of litter were collected by the participants

79,94 m³

Total volume of litter collected

SENSITISED PEOPLE



802

people have been sensitised, schoolchildren and general public combined

COVERED AREA

14 350 m

covered by the participants, so 14,35 km.

TOP 5

13 537 items were collected and quantified over a distance of 14 350 meters, so 79,94m³ of litter. Top 5 of most common waste found in the Ionian sea and Mediterranean central coast, according to our organizers.

2 010
CIGARETTE BUTTS

1 980
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

1 051
PICNIC DISHES

865
PIECES OF GLASS

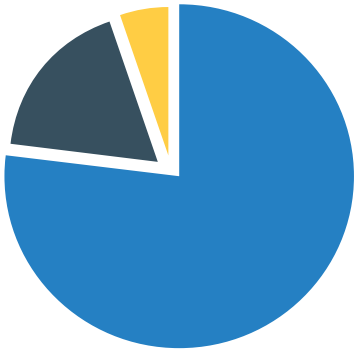
816
PLASTIC BAGS

WESTERN MEDITERRANEAN

FRANCE, SPAIN, ITALY, MOROCCO, TUNISIA, ALGERIA

29% rate of return. 78 organizers carried out a quantification action on the Western Mediterranean coast: in Algeria (1), Spain (10), France (47), Italy (19) et Tunisia (1). A total of 268 awareness-raising campaigns on marine litter issue were carried out on the area for the Ocean Initiatives 2015.

TYPES OF COLLECTION



- **BEACHES - 76,9%**
- **RIVERS - 17,9%**
- **SEABEDS - 5,1%**

COLLECTED LITTER

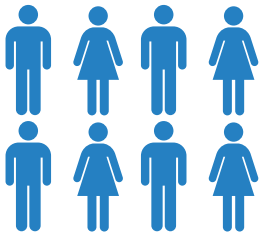
2 364

bags of litter were collected by the participants

163,322 m³

Total volume of litter collected

SENSITISED PEOPLE



2 802

people have been sensitised
1 299 of them were schoolchildren

COVERED AREA

71 937 m

covered by the participants, so 71,94 km.

TOP 5

112 392 items were collected during 78 actions. Top 5 of most common waste found in the West Mediterranean coast, according to the data provided by our organizers (lakes, rivers, beaches).

25 942
CIGARETTE BUTTS

22 391
PIECES OF PLASTIC

8 583
COTTON SWABS

7 549
PLASTIC BAGS

5 548
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN MARINE ENVIRONMENT

97 210 items were collected and quantified during 64 actions on beaches and seabeds of the West Mediterranean coast (1 in Algeria, 10 in Spain, 34 in France and 19 in Italy), **over a distance of 47 787 meters, which represents a volume of 131,762 m³.**

PLASTIC

24 903
CIGARETTE BUTTS

2 782
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

2 956
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

4 158
BOTTLE CAPS

1 902
FOOD PACKAGING

4 946
PLASTIC BAGS

2 055
SWEETS PACKAGING

2 223
LOLLIPOP STICKS

569
MEDICAL WASTE

8 545
COTTON SWABS

467
HIGIENIC LITTER

5 386
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

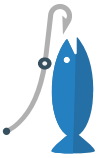
16 959
PIECES OF PLASTIC

1 240
PLASTIC CUPS

1 057
PICNIC DISHES

2 767
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

793
FISHING CORDS



699
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

1 154
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

541
SHOTGUN SHELLS

105
TYRES

173
TOYS

493
LIGHTERS

54
BALLOONS

257
SHOES SANDALS

474
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

1 643
GLASS BOTTLES

4 024
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

2 656
CANS

646
PIECES OF IRON

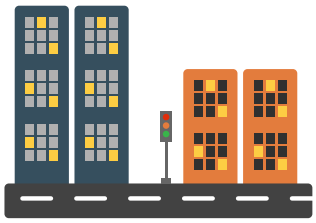
CLOTH

583
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

ORIGIN OF THE LITTER

We have asked participants to tell us what, according to them, is the origin of the litter found during their actions. Several types of activities can take place on the same stream. The percentages are only given for information:

92%
of beaches and seabeds where quantification action took place are tourist beaches

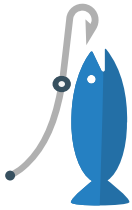


86%
of beaches and seabeds where quantification action took place were located near a town

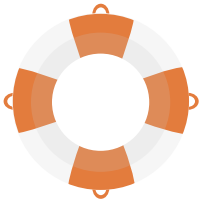
61%
of beaches and seabeds were near the mouth of a river / outlet

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

Types of activities on beaches and seabeds which were held the actions. Several types of activities can take place on the same stream.



45%
of beaches where collection actions were carried out are located near fishing areas



37,5%
of organizers monitored sites close to sailing areas

25%
of beaches are located near port activity areas

TYPES OF LITTER

25%
of litter collected were cigarette butts

17,1%
were fragmented plastic between 2.5 and 50 cm

8,67%
were cotton swabs

TESTIMONIAL

M'IMPORTA

ALESSANDRO BELLOTTI, IMPERIA (ITALY)

« M'importa project (which is part of the Monesi Young association) started in 2013 in order to educate the entourage and supporters of the association (127 people). In 2014 our action was part of a larger project including thematic nights during winter, raising awareness in colleges and high schools, organizing screenings of the film "Trashed". The project finished on May 18th, 2014 with the second edition of the free beaches cleaning day of Imperia.

In 2015 the project was extended by carrying out an awareness campaign including the participation of Mr. Enrico Rossano at Imperia and a set of citizen-encounters. We also attended an educational stand in the local market with and took part in the free beaches cleaning day. We relied on the participation of the scouts (220 people).

We believe in the soundness of this event because it enables all the involved volunteers to understand how plastic and waste in general have become part of our daily life. This is the only way to drive a real societal change, behavioral change and understand the concept of the single-use product. We note that some people who are not sensitive to environmental issues, don't look for information. If they knew the reality, they could change their habits »

TOTAL VOLUME OF COLLECTED LITTER IN FLUVIAL ENVIRONMENT

15 182 items were collected and quantified during 14 actions on the river banks and lakes of of the West Mediterranean coast (13 in France, 1 in Tunisia), **over a distance of 22 650 meters, which represents a volume of 30,21 m³.**

PLASTIC

1 039
CIGARETTE BUTTS

485
BOTTLES > OR = 0,5 L

543
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

235
BOTTLE CAPS

293
FOOD PACKAGING

2 603
PLASTIC BAGS

499
SWEETS PACKAGING

58
LOLLIPOP STICKS

11
MEDICAL WASTE

38
COTTON SWABS

44
HIGIENIC LITTER

202
PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

5 432
PIECES OF PLASTIC

330
PLASTIC CUPS

242
PICNIC DISHES

43
STRAWS STIR-STICKS

22
FISHING CORDS

13
FISHING LINES/HOOKS

35
FISHING INTERTWINED ROPES

155
SHOTGUN SHELLS

62
TYRES

27
TOYS

38
LIGHTERS

7
BALLOONS

48
SHOES SANDALS

0
SHELFISH AQUACULTURE

GLASS

698
GLASS BOTTLES

331
PIECES OF GLASS

METAL

662
CANS

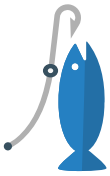
432
PIECES OF IRON

CLOTH

555
CLOTHING TEA TOWELS

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

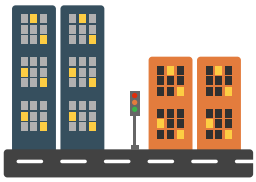
Kind of activities held on the watercourses where the collections are carried out. Several types of activities can take place on the same stream.



100%
of the rivers and lakes monitored by our organizers are fishing areas

14%
of the rivers and lakes monitored by our organizers are areas where hunting occurs

21,43%
of organizers consider that the drainage basins of rivers (Argens, Huveaune, Rhone, Gard) where collection programs were carried out have heavy industrial activity



100%
of clean-up locations were found downstream from a town or were in the town

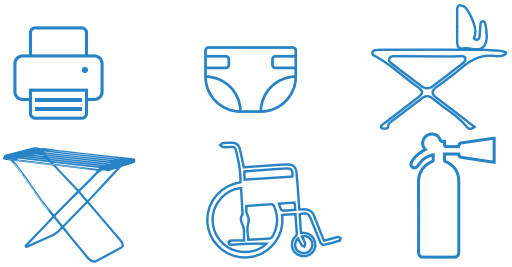
TYPES OF LITTER

35,7%
of litter collected are pieces of plastic between 2.5 and 50 cm

15,89%
of litter collected are plastic bags

8,79%
of litter collected are cigarette butts

During an action organized by the Sainte Thérèse school on the Turdine and Brévenne (Hône), participants found a printer, a changing table, an ironing board, a clothes horse, a wheelchair, and a fire extinguisher



ORIGIN OF THE LITTER

We have asked participants to tell us what, according to them, is the origin of the litter found on their actions. Several types of activities can take place on the same stream. The percentages are only given for information:

64,29%
of individuals interviewed think that litter found is directly left behind on the banks of streams (fishing, festivities, picnics, hiking)

35,71%
of the people questioned think that the waste they found comes from one or several communities upstream

21,43%
attribute the presence of litter on banks to floods and inundations

LAKE GENEVA FOCUS

The lake Geneva is crossed by the Rhone from East to West, a river that flows into the Mediterranean sea.

6
quantification actions took place in Switzerland on the banks of Lake Geneva

9
bags were collected on 3 different beaches

2 285
pieces of litter were collected by organizers

TOP 5

The top 5 pieces of litter found on the banks of Lake Geneva are:

CIGARETTE BUTTS

36,24%
of litter found on the banks of Lake Geneva

PIECES OF PLASTIC

28,80%
of litter found on the banks of Lake Geneva

COTTON SWABS

6,15%
of litter found on the banks of Lake Geneva

PIECES OF POLYSTYRENE

5,25%
of litter found on the banks of Lake Geneva

BOTTLE CAPS

3,34%
of litter found on the banks of Lake Geneva

INDIAN OCEAN

MADAGASCAR, MAURITIUS, REUNION ISLAND

33% rate of return. 8 organizers carried out a quantification action on the Indian Ocean zone. The collection took place on Madagascar, Mauritius and Reunion Island. A total of 24 awareness-raising campaigns on marine litter issue were carried out on the area for the Ocean Initiatives 2015

COLLECTED LITTER

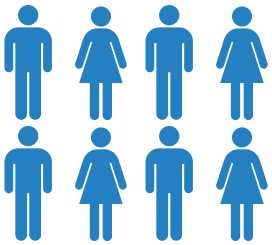
156

bags of litter were collected by the participants

11,25 m³

Total volume of litter collected

SENSITISED PEOPLE



242

people have been sensitised, schoolchildren and general public combined

COVERED AREA

5 270 m

covered by the participants, so 5 km

TOP 5

9 117 items were collected and quantified over a distance of 5 270 meters, so 11,25 m³ of litter.

Top 5 of most common waste found in the Indian Ocean zone, according to our organizers.

7 040
CIGARETTE BUTTS

374
PLASTIC BAGS

335
SWEETS PACKAGING

202
BOTTLES < 0,5 L

189
BOTTLE CAPS

SOUTH ATLANTIC

TESTIMONIAL

BAN BEACH GARBAGE

MARTA VISSER, ITACOATIARA (BRAZIL)

« I am a biologist and I give time as a volunteer for the protection of the environment. As a native of Rio de Janeiro and daughter of a Dutch man, I am passionate about the ocean and I feel directly concerned by the protection of the marine environment. I regularly go to the Itacoatiara beach (each week-end) and I organize four times a year some waste collection and environmental education actions. Close to Itacoatiara beach, one can observe the stream of Guanabara Bay which is polluted by the sewage and the industrial effluents. However, the biggest problem remains the people who frequent the site, especially in summer, and leave their wastes on the sand.

Itacoatiara's beach is surrounded with two cliffs: Andorinhas on the right and Costão on the left. The beach is very famous for its natural beauty and especially for its 800 meters long stretch of sand, for the Restinga's luxurious vegetation and for its bathing waters. Located in Niterói, in the state of Rio de Janeiro, Itacoatiara is 20 km away from Niteroi's downtown. It is a residential neighborhood, in the middle of an Environmental Preservation Area, with one only road access by the road of Francisco da Cruz Nunes, which gives the district special security conditions. Brazil is a country where the government does not care about the environment. TYou have only got to look what happened to the BHBillinton's dam in the state of Minas Gerais. This dam burst wiped out the entire biome of Rio Doce and flowed into the sea in the State of Espirito Santo. Then, it has polluted and exterminated the entire coastline along this state. »

NORTH ATLANTIC

TESTIMONIAL

CANS AND PLASTIC BOTTLES, THE MAIN PROBLEMS

YASSINE BELHOUARI, LALLA FATNA BEACH (MOROCCO)

« I use to organize some Ocean Initiatives in collaboration with Surfrider and Ocean Conservancy. I am a surf photographer who love the ocean and all what is connected to it. Lalla Fatna beach is my favorite beach and I spend a lot of time there. We organize some clean-ups in this beach for a long time now in order to make people aware of the environmental issues.

We have one big issue here: cans and plastic bottles. Indeed, we have a kind of tradition calls «Let's have a drink at Lallafatna Beach!». People just come and spend the sunset or the evening here leaving their trashes behind them. It is the only place where Safi people come when they need some freedom, nature and peacefulness.

Facing this issue, there is one sollution to my mind: a deposit-refund system. However, I can't do it alone. I need lawers and people by my side. Beverage industries shouldn't produce some plastic bottles as long as there is no deposit-refund system. During the beach clean-ups, we didn't find any deposit bottles and I know that if we had this kind of system, there wouldn't be plastic bottles on the beach anymore because some people would come to collect it in order to make money.»

03 BIO CARRIERS

Since 2010, Surfrider noticed the presence of an important number of plastic wheels, called biocarriers, on the beaches and banks of streams in France. These biocarriers are used as bacteria support during the biological treatment phase of the collective and industrial waste water plants. The proliferation of these plastic washers in the marine environment and on the coastlines increases the amount of pollution from aquatic waste. In order to fight this specific source of plastic pollution, Surfrider investigates, aiming at better understanding the process, identifying the producers and users, searching for the origins of this waste but also in order to to prevent efficiently the pollution of aquatic environments.

During the 2015 edition of the Ocean Initiatives, 5,447 biocarriers were found on the beaches, lakes and rivers over the course of 117 collection programs (every area and shape combined). Biocarriers were found on 22.6% of collection programs.

More than 87% of biocarriers reported by our organizers were found on the beaches of the Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast. 10% were reported in the Western Mediterranean. However, it is in the Western Mediterranean that models 14 and 15 have been found in greatest number (48%). These models correspond to the models used in two water purification plants where waste is made in Lake Geneva and a tributary of the Rhone, which experienced difficulties in 2012.

DETAIL OF THE BIOCARRIERS BY SHAPE

You can protest all year long and help us stop the dispersion of biocarriers in the environment.
http://www.gardiensdelacote.com/temoignage-medias-filtrants/

TYPE OF BIOCARRIER

SHAPE	Adriatic Sea	North Atlantic	Ionian Sea	Bay of Biscay Iberian Coast	Western Mediterranean	Lake Geneva	North Sea Channel
1.	0	0	10	492	56	0	3
2.	10	0	0	883	162	0	3
3.	0	0	0	545	22	0	0
4.	0	0	0	1 575	30	0	15
5.	0	0	3	468	37	0	0
6.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	0	0	0	469	34	0	0
8.	0	0	0	50	0	0	0
9.	0	0	6	4	1	0	0
10.	0	0	1	42	2	0	2
11.	0	0	0	10	8	0	0
12.	0	0	0	58	25	0	0
13.	0	0	0	6	0	0	10
14.	0	10	2	93	121	14	10
15.	0	5	9	55	73	7	2
16.	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
TOTAL	10	15	31	4 752	573	21	45

04 MARINE LITTERWATCH

In 2015, Surfrider partnered with the **European Environment Agency** in order to share the data collected during the beach clean-ups organized as part of the Ocean Initiatives and for feeding a European database. It is essential that the institutes/associations working on the means to fight the proliferation of marine litter understand the situation on the ground and look at the exact same data for proposing adapted measures able to fight that scourge.

Moreover, this year, the Ocean Initiatives' organizers who are more experimented or keen to invest more time in the data collection and in the information reporting, had the opportunity to take part in an marine litter quantification operation in accordance with the European harmonized protocol (developed by the expert group as part of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)) through the Marine Litter Watch application.

The MSFD that aims to reach a good ecological state of the European marine waters by the end of 2020, requires the Member States to implement a monitoring program concerning the marine litter and to take appropriate measures on the basis of national environmental objectives, to fight that scourge. The citizen initiatives (as the Ocean Initiatives) constitute a support to the monitoring programs and the measures implemented by the Member States in order to reach the good ecological state. Marine Litter Watch provides a platform for the organizers willing to contribute to make seas a cleaner and healthier place.

A dozen of organizers took part in this European adventure. We will repeat the experience in 2016 and, with the help of the European Environment Agency and of the 20 other communities already engaged in the Marine Litter Watch program, we want to encourage more and more the citizens to take part in the fight against marine litters. You can check the Marine Litter Watch's data by clicking on this link: **http://www.eea.europa.eu/themes/coast_sea/marine-litterwatch/data-and-results/access-data-and-see-results.**

Off
HDR Off
VIDEO
PHOTO
SQUARE

05 COMPLEMENTARY MONITORING NETWORK

FOR MARINE LITTER ON EUROPEAN COASTLINES

Thanks to the support of Suez, Surfrider launched in 2015 a standardized monitoring network for marine litter, based on the harmonized European protocol “monitoring marine litter in European seas” and the “Marine Litter Watch” mobile phone app. The idea is to set up a volunteer complementary monitoring network of marine litter on beaches across Europe to support Member states in the implementation of the MSFD monitoring program. It currently works on 6 beaches (3 in France and 3 in Spain) that have been chosen according to several factors, in particular the pressures from which the sites could suffer from (upstream cities, beaches nearby watercourses or industrial areas ...). They are monitored at least 4 times a year to consider the seasonal variations and thus, estimate the spatial and temporal evolution of marine litter.

Setting up a standardized and harmonized monitoring helps to better evaluate the pressure induced by litter and identify the accumulation areas. Moreover, determining the nature as well as the quantity of litter allows to better target the human activities causing the pollution and, thus, to define preventive actions to carry out against marine litter: encouraging behavioral change, raising awareness among citizens on waste issues, building greater knowledge on their scope of action, guiding the claims towards a revision of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive’s environmental objectives in 2018.

The 2015 Ocean Initiatives allowed us to identify organizers groups willing to get more involved and take part in the monitoring of their beaches throughout Europe on a regular basis and therefore play a role in the complementary monitoring of these beaches.

Surfrider will disseminate the information obtained through these monitoring operations to the institutions responsible for the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive in European member states.

OCEAN INITIATIVES

Ocean Initiatives is a program aiming at reducing marine litter at the source. Through local collection actions around rivers, lakes, oceans and sea beds, Surfrider's main objective is to support a societal change. The data collected during these actions enables a situational analysis, leading to an adaptation of the European regulatory framework.

www.oceaninitiatives.org