

HELCOM Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter

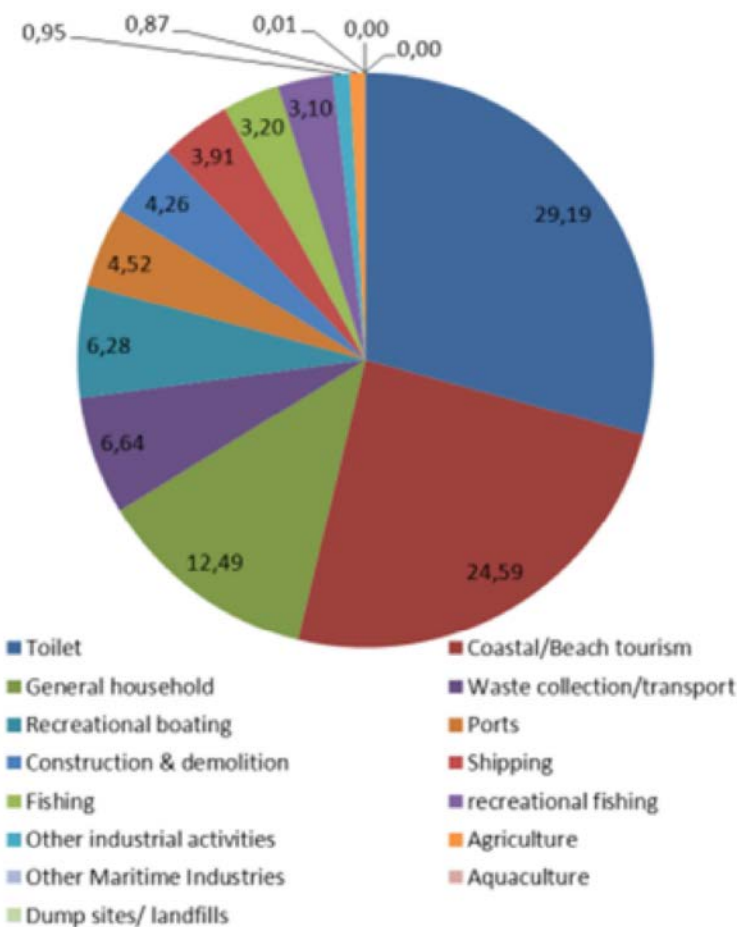
UBC Webinar Marine litter campaigns: good practices in UBC cities

21 January 2020

Regional instruments – Marine Litter Action Plans



Sources of ML in the BS



Probable ML sources in the BS (ARCADIS, 2013)

- ARCADIS (2013):
 - Household activities, including sanitary waste, waste collection and transport (48%)
 - Coastal-based tourism and recreation (25%)
 - Professional marine activities (e.g. fishing, shipping, port and maritime industries) (12%)
 - Recreational boating (6%)
- Ghost nets: 5.500 - 10.000 per year (WWF Poland, 2011)
- Microparticles from land-based sources (e.g. fibres and road traffic) (Noren&Magnusson 2010)

Structure of the RAP ML

- HELCOM Recommendation 36/1: Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter
- Annex to the Action Plan containing the list of actions:
 - 30 Regional actions – HELCOM Collective Actions
 - 27 National actions
- Both Regional and National actions are grouped in:
 - Land-based sources of marine litter - RL
 - Sea-based sources of marine litter - RS
 - Education and outreach on marine litter - RE
- Appendixes: reporting format in implementation of actions, on the effectiveness of the implemented actions and definition of terms

Action RL 15 ->

Establish an exchange platform for spreading experiences on good cleaning practices in beaches, **including cleaning beaches actions by local communities, riverbanks, pelagic and surface sea areas, ports, marinas and inland waterways, in cooperation with relevant fora.**

"Clean Beach Campaign"



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ХЕЛКОМ
Документы ХЕЛКОМ
Международные проекты
День Балтийского моря/Baltic Sea Day
Акция "Чистый берег" / CLEAN BEACH
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ГГУП "СФ Минерал" Региональная исполнительная организация-оператор по реализации программ, проектов и решений ХЕЛКОМ

Акция "Чистый берег" / CLEAN BEACH



Clean beach campaign -2018

Date: 12/05/2018

The Beach clean-up week takes a head start with simultaneous Clean Beach events in Finland ([Helsinki](#) and [Turku](#)) and Estonia ([Tallinn](#)) on 5th of May and continues with event in St. Petersburg, Russia, on 12th of May

[Program](#)
[Video](#)

Venue: "Tarkhovsky" beach, Kurortny district, St. Petersburg

Support by: Committee for Nature Use, Environmental Protection and Ecological Safety of St. Petersburg

In cooperation: with Helsinki, Turku and Tallinn.

Coordinated by: SC "Mineral" since 2014



Regional actions addressing education and outreach

- **Action RE1** - Develop **best practice** in relation to education programs highlighting the problem and including codes of practice → **Best practice developed by 2016;**
- **Action RE2** - **HELCOM website** to be updated periodically based on the input from CPs on **ML management activities** → **2015 initial information uploaded;**
- **Action RE2** - Develop a **communication strategy on the RAP** → **2015;**

National actions addressing education and outreach on marine litter

CODE	NATIONAL ACTIONS
NE1	Promote and undertake education activities on marine litter in synergy with existing initiatives in the field of sustainable development and in partnership with civil society (including activities related to prevention and promotion of sustainable consumption and production).
NE2	Identify and promote curricula for marine related education, including both professional seafarers and the recreational sector (e.g. diving and sailing schools), which develop awareness, understanding, and respect for the marine environment and secure commitment to responsible behavior at personal, local, national and global level.
NE3	Encourage participation in International, EU and National Marine Litter Cleanup Campaigns.
NE4	Promote the “Adopt a beach” system.
NE5	Raising public awareness, including for children and youths and consumer campaigns, on the occurrence, and prevention of marine litter (e.g. to use ashtrays in public areas inland and along the coast), including micro particles, taking into account existing materials (e.g. Marlisco Project) and accompanied by image campaigns addressing threats/impact to marine life from various harmful litter items, such as cigarette filters.
NE6	Enhance cooperation and coordination with global marine initiatives such as: – The UNEP’s Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (GPA-Marine); – Regional Seas Action Plans; – The Global Partnership on Waste Management (GPWM); and The Honolulu Commitment and the Honolulu Strategy on marine debris.

Recommends also to

- a) finalize, by mid-2016, common indicators and associated definition of GES related to ML for regional application in the years to follow;
- b) identify, by 2016 the way forward to establish coordinated monitoring programmes for the common ML indicators including data collection for regular assessment of the state of ML in the BS area;
- c) report on the implementation of actions for the first time in 2018.... and on the effectiveness of the implemented actions and achievement of corresponding targets where defined in 2020...;

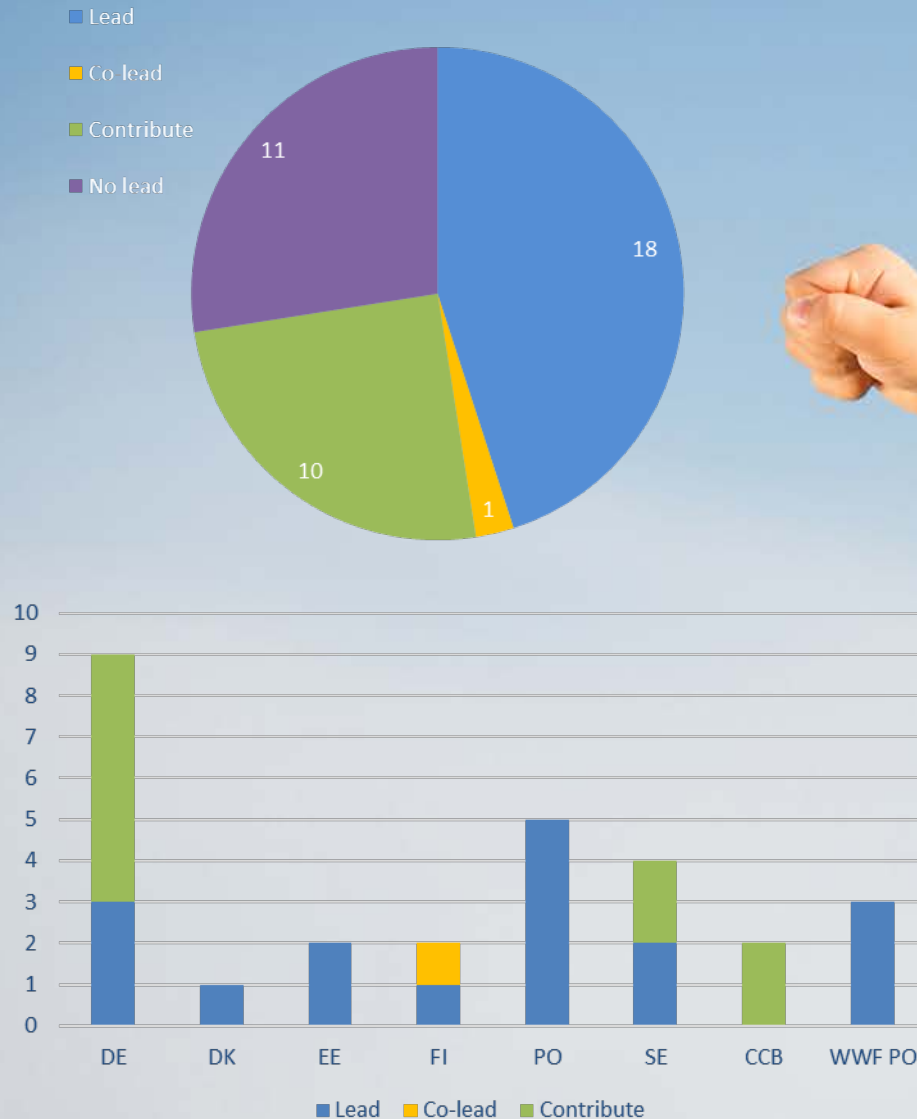
How is the RAP ML implemented?



- **Lead Country** approach on the regional actions within the RAP
- Facilitated by the HELCOM **Experts Network** on Marine Litter (EN-Marine Litter): ToR for the period 2019-2021 agreed in December 2018
- Followed up by HELCOM Working Group **PRESSURE**

Action RL 15 ->

Establish an exchange platform for spreading experiences on good cle
beaches, including cleaning beaches actions by local communities.... H





Monitoring and assessment

2021: Target year

HELCOM indicators related to marine litter

Work is on-going to develop 3 indicators:

- Beach litter
- Litter on the seafloor
- Microlitter in the water column

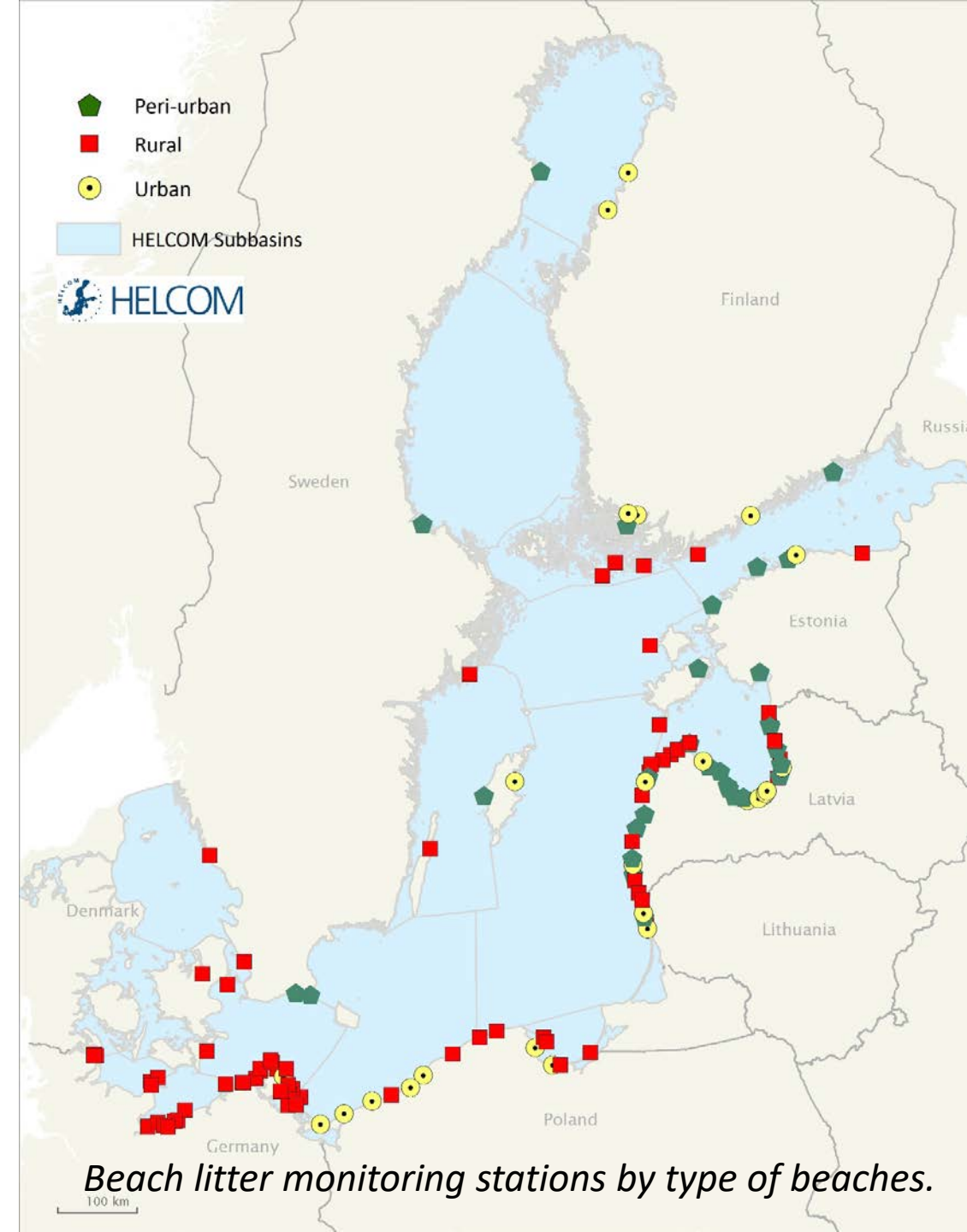
Marine litter threshold values?

- Not available currently in HELCOM
- Proposal considered at the last EU meeting of the Expert Group on Strategic Coordination for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSCG) held in Nov. 2019: **13 litter items/100 m beach length**, based on the value achieved by the top 10 percent most clean EU beaches in the baseline data set in 2015-2016. **(final outcome of the meeting not released yet)**
- Discussion on threshold values neither for microliter nor seafloor litter has being initiated yet. However.....

Beach litter

- [Monitoring guidelines](#) in place
- [Monitoring sub-programme](#) in place:
 - Beaches monitored 3-4 times/year (if winter allows)
 - 100m length of the segment of the coastline to be sampled
 - Litter items, visible to the naked eye (lower size limit at about 0.5cm), are to be counted and recorded by type of material
 - Litter items should be identified using different coding list (the updated JRC 2013, OSPAR 2010 or MARLIN 2013).

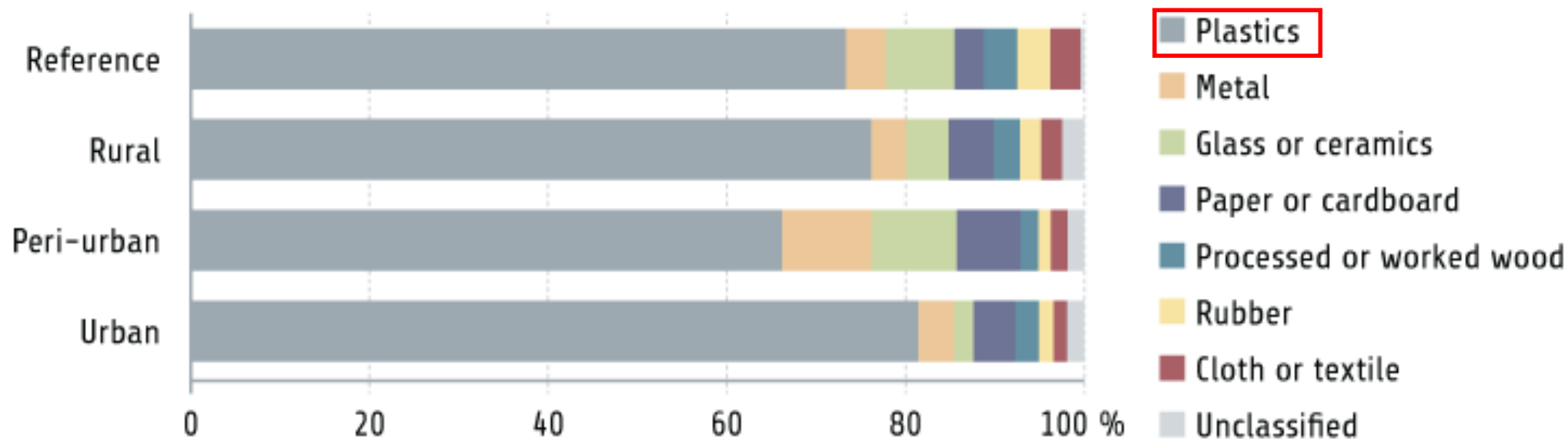
By HELCOM staff
Tuesday, January 21, 2020





Monitoring and assessment

Litter material categories on different beach types



Input to the regional monitoring of beach litter

Generalized results	Spring 2019	Autumn 2019
Total number of detected items	1252	1240
• Plastic	1028	863
• Rubber	31	10
• Textile	51	76
• Paper	11	10
• Wood	74	14
• Metal	6	24
• Glass	51	243
• Undefined	0	0





Monitoring and assessment



Rank	Urban beach	Peri-urban	Rural beach
1	Drinking related items such as cups, caps, lids (plastic)	Plastic and polystyrene pieces	Plastic and polystyrene pieces
2	Plastic and polystyrene pieces	Food related items such as wrappers, packets (plastic)	Food related items such as wrappers, packets (plastic)
3	Cigarette butts and remains.	Cigarette butts	Drinking related items such as cups, caps, lids (plastic)
4	Food related items such as wrappers, packets (plastic)	Drinking related items such as cups, caps, lids (plastic)	Plastic bags
5	Paper and cardboard items	Plastic bags	Bottles and containers (plastic)
6	Drinking related items such as bottle caps, pull tabs (metal)	Single-use cutlery and straws	String and ropes (plastic)
7	Plastic bags	Drinking related items such as bottle caps, pull tabs (metal)	Cigarette butts
8	Single-use cutlery and straws	Glass and ceramic fragments	Glass and ceramic fragments
9	Bottles and containers (plastic)	Foil wrappers and pieces of metal	Industrial packaging
10	Drinking related cans (metal)	String and ropes (plastic)	Processed wood and pieces of processed wood

By HELCOM staff
Tuesday, January 21, 2020

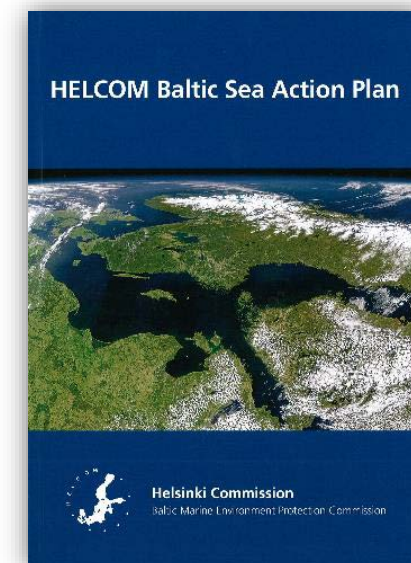


Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission



2021: Target year

- **Update of the RAP on Marine Litter in 2021**, if needed
- HELCOM 2018 Ministerial Declaration:
 - o **dedicated section to marine litter and circular economy**
 - o as a first priority, **achieve already agreed actions** with renewed efforts to make progress towards the goals of the current BSAP by 2021,
 - o in addition, **address new issues**, on the basis of the commitments made in this Declaration and further deliberations during the BSAP updating process,
 - o the updated BSAP should include **actions necessary for managing human activities** in such a way that the current HELCOM strategic goals can be achieved,
 - o the updated BSAP will at least **maintain the ambition level of agreed actions and objectives**.
- **New ecological objectives** e.g. for marine litter



Some remarks:

- Action RL15 of the HELCOM RAP ML is currently lacking leadership.
- Clean beach campaigns to large extent contribute to the implementation of the action RL 15.
- Clean beach campaigns could also give examples of good practices in waste collection and handling for local authorities.
- Clean beach campaigns are tools for the implementation of national measures related to education and outreach NE1, 3, 5 which are currently lacking implementation.
- Clean beach campaigns could contribute to regional monitoring and assessment of beach litter being performed taking into account HELCOM methodology.
- Leadership is required to coordinate the activity regionally, compile information and publish results (HELCOM or other dedicated website), including information on the best practices.

Thank you!

