

# Public consultation on the establishment of a quantitative reduction headline target for marine litter

The aim of this consultation is to understand stakeholders' views on a range of actions and policies which could be undertaken in order to tackle the problem of marine litter. The results of the consultation will be used as one of the bases for formulating a Union-wide quantitative headline reduction target for marine litter. Please read the associated **background document** before responding to the questionnaire. Only a few of the questions are compulsory so please feel free to answer only those relevant to you.

Questions marked with an asterisk \* require an answer to be given.

## 1. Information about you

1.1. *Your full name:* \*

1.2. *Your contact email address:*

1.3. *I'm replying as a(n):*

\*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Interested individual/consumer      | <input type="radio"/> Local/regional authority |
| <input type="radio"/> Sectoral representative             | <input type="radio"/> National authority       |
| <input type="radio"/> Non-governmental organisation (NGO) | <input type="radio"/> International body       |
| <input type="radio"/> Other association                   | <input type="radio"/> Other                    |
| <input type="radio"/> Academic/scientist                  |  |



1.4. *If you are responding on behalf of a sector, please specify your area of activity:*

- Waste management
- Plastic producer/recyclers
- Fisheries
- Shipping
- Port authority
- Retail
- Tourism/recreation
- Other sector



1.5. *If you represent another sector please specify your area of activity:*



1.6. *If you selected "other", please specify in what capacity you are responding to the consultation:*



1.7. *If responding on behalf of an organisation/association/authority, please provide the name:*



1.8. *If responding on behalf of an organisation/association/authority, please specify all countries represented by your membership:*

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> AT - Austria        | <input type="checkbox"/> FI - Finland    | <input type="checkbox"/> NL - Netherlands    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BE - Belgium        | <input type="checkbox"/> FR - France     | <input type="checkbox"/> PL - Poland         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BG - Bulgaria       | <input type="checkbox"/> HR - Croatia    | <input type="checkbox"/> PT - Portugal       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CY - Cyprus         | <input type="checkbox"/> HU - Hungary    | <input type="checkbox"/> RO - Romania        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CZ - Czech Republic | <input type="checkbox"/> IE - Ireland    | <input type="checkbox"/> SE - Sweden         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DE - Germany        | <input type="checkbox"/> IT - Italy      | <input type="checkbox"/> SI - Slovenia       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DK - Denmark        | <input type="checkbox"/> LT - Lithuania  | <input type="checkbox"/> SK - Slovakia       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EE - Estonia        | <input type="checkbox"/> LU - Luxembourg | <input type="checkbox"/> UK - United Kingdom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EL - Greece         | <input type="checkbox"/> LV - Latvia     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ES - Spain          | <input type="checkbox"/> MT - Malta      |  |



1.9. *If another country is represented by your organisation, please specify the country/countries concerned.*

1.10. *How would you prefer your contribution to be published on the Commission website?\**

\*

- Under the name indicated (I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is under copyright restrictions that prevent publication)
- Anonymously (I consent to publication of all information in my contribution except my name/the name of my organisation and I declare that none of it is under copyright restrictions that prevent publication)
- Not at all - keep it confidential (The contribution will not be published, but will be used internally within the Commission)

1.11. *How well informed are you about marine litter?\**

\*

- Very well informed
- Fairly well informed
- Not very well informed
- Not at all informed

## 2. Questionnaire

**2.1. Assessment criteria:** *Throughout the questionnaire, you will be asked to assess various actions aimed at reducing the presence and impact of marine litter. What are the most relevant criteria when assessing such actions?*

Please assess the criteria below in terms of relevance on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being “not relevant at all”, and 5 being “very relevant”.

- a: 1
- b: 2
- c: 3
- d: 4
- e: 5
- f: Don't Know

	a	b	c	d	e	f
2.1.1. Feasibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.1.2. Cost	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.1.3. Effectiveness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.1.4. Transferability/replicability in different marine regions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.1.5. Impact on stakeholders	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.1.6. Respect for the polluter pays principle	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**2.2.** *Are there other relevant criteria which should be used when assessing actions aimed at reducing the presence and impact of marine litter? If so, please list these criteria:*

**2.3. Negative impacts:** Below you will find a list of potential negative impacts of marine litter. How problematic are these impacts?

Please assess these impacts on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being “not problematic” and 5 being “very problematic”.

- a: 1
- b: 2
- c: 3
- d: 4
- e: 5
- f: Don't Know

	a	b	c	d	e	f
2.3.1. Entanglement of marine species in discarded fishing gear, ropes and other litter	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.2. Ingestion of litter by birds, fish and other species	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.3. Health risk for humans due to consumption of affected seafood	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.4. Spreading of invasive species	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.5. Negative impacts on coastal tourism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.6. Damage to (fishing) vessels	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.3.7. Costs associated with beach clean up	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2.4. Are there other relevant negative impacts of marine litter which should be considered? If so, please list these impacts:

**2.5. Consumers:** Below you will find a list of actions which could be undertaken by consumers with a view to reducing the presence and impact of marine litter.

Please assess these actions on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being “not recommended” and 5 being “strongly recommended”.

- a: 1
- b: 2
- c: 3
- d: 4
- e: 5
- f: Don't Know

	a	b	c	d	e	f
2.5.1. Reject single use plastic bags and bottles and use re-usable alternatives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.5.2. Drink tap water instead of bottled water/other bottled beverages	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.5.3. Give greater consideration to the packaging used when making purchasing choices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.5.4. Separate waste at home and participate in systems for separate collection and deposit refund systems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.5.5. Avoid littering (either on the beach, at sea or elsewhere)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.5.6. Avoid flushing sanitary waste down the toilet	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.5.7. Participate in organised clean-ups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2.6. Are there other actions which could be undertaken by consumers to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:



2.7.11. Ensure enforcement of existing public littering rules



2.7.12. Ensure adequate availability of public litter bins



2.7.13. Take action to ensure regulatory compliance of landfills and eradicate illegal dumpsites



2.7.14. Cooperate with tourist sector, waste managers and retailers



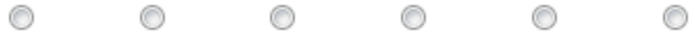
2.7.15. Exchange best practices with other municipalities



2.7.16. Develop initiatives to promote the circular economy, diverting waste from landfill to recycling or energy recovery



2.7.17. Cooperate in initiatives to promote fishermen as 'guardians of the sea', including monitoring and fishing for litter activities (collecting litter in large bags while fishing)



2.8. Are there other actions which could be undertaken by local/sub-national authorities to reduce marine litter?  
If so, please list these actions:



2.9. Which (if any) of the possible actions for local/sub-national authorities mentioned above are also of relevance for national authorities?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invest in research and monitoring activities to identify the types and sources of marine litter                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Organise clean-up events  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Map existing relevant measures already being implemented and analyse gaps to be filled                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure enforcement of existing public littering rules   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Establish action plans and/or targets for marine litter prevention and clean-up initiatives                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure adequate availability of public litter bins  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Implement awareness-raising campaigns on the sources and impacts of marine litter  | <input type="checkbox"/> Take action to ensure regulatory compliance of landfills and eradicate illegal dumpsites  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Develop initiatives to encourage/incentivise source separation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperate with tourist sector, waste managers and retailers   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Develop initiatives to encourage/incentivise consumption of tap water  | <input type="checkbox"/> Exchange best practices with other municipalities   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Install public water dispensers  | <input type="checkbox"/> Develop initiatives to promote the circular economy, diverting waste from landfill to recycling or energy recovery  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Introduce (seasonal) bans on plastic bags in coastal cities, and/or bans on plastic bottles during beach events and concerts | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooperate in initiatives to promote fishermen as 'guardians of the sea', including monitoring and fishing for litter activities (collecting litter in large bags while fishing) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Avoid plastic packaging in public procurement  |  |



2.11. Are there other actions which could be undertaken by national authorities to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:

**2.12. EU policymakers:** *Below you will find a list of actions which could be undertaken by EU policymakers with a view to reducing the presence and impact of marine litter.*

Please assess these actions on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being “not recommended” and 5 being “strongly recommended”.

- a: 1
- b: 2
- c: 3
- d: 4
- e: 5
- f: Don't Know





2.15. Are there other actions which could be undertaken by NGOs to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:







2.19. Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the retail sector to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:

**2.20. Tourism/recreational sector:** *Below you will find a list of actions which could be undertaken by the tourism/recreational sector with a view to reducing the presence and impact of marine litter.*

Please assess these actions on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being “not recommended” and 5 being “strongly recommended”.

- a: 1
- b: 2
- c: 3
- d: 4
- e: 5
- f: Don't Know





2.23. Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the waste management sector to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:

**2.24. Fisheries sector:** *Below you will find a list of actions which could be undertaken by the fisheries sector with a view to reducing the presence and impact of marine litter.*

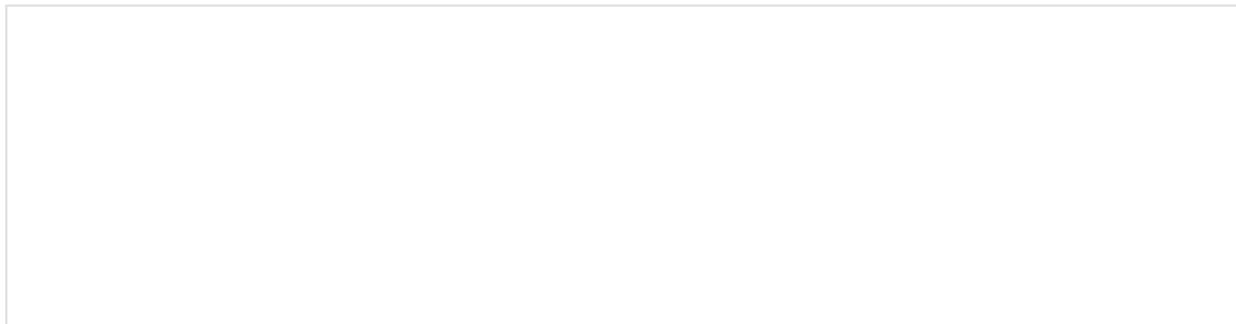
Please assess these actions on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being “not recommended” and 5 being “strongly recommended”.

- a: 1
- b: 2
- c: 3
- d: 4
- e: 5
- f: Don't Know

	a	b	c
2.24.1. Train crew members on waste regulation and practices on board ships	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.24.2. Cooperate in initiatives to promote fisheries professionals as 'Guardians of the Sea', including monitoring and fishing for litter activities (collecting litter in large bags while fishing)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
 For more information on the Guardians of the Sea initiative, see: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs_fisheries/contracts_and_funding/calls_for_proposals/2013_09/index_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/maritimeaffairs_fisheries/contracts_and_funding/calls_for_proposals/2013_09/index_en.htm</a>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.24.3. Cooperate in special trips to collect litter form identified hot spots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.24.4. Retrieve abandoned or lost fishing gear	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.24.5. Notify authorities about lost fishing gear	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2.24.6. Ensure adequate waste separation, minimisation and management on board ships, including adequate storage space for garbage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



2.27. Are there other actions which could be undertaken by the shipping sector to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin grey border, intended for the user to list actions to reduce marine litter. The box is positioned below the question text and is currently blank.



2.29. Are there other actions which could be undertaken by port authorities to reduce marine litter? If so, please list these actions:

2.30. If you have any additional comments, please provide them in the box below (max. 1000 characters).

(maximum 1000 characters)

## Useful links

Commission Staff Working Document on Marine Litter (SWD(2012) 365 final):  
[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/marine/pdf/SWD\\_2012\\_365.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/marine/pdf/SWD_2012_365.pdf)