



Stop the Flood of Plastic

Panel Discussion

GSTC Global Conference

„Navigating the Way Forward in Sustainable Tourism“

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87% of Europeans are worried about the environmental impacts of plastics (Eurobarometer, November 2017)





- [illegible]

POLLUTION FROM PLASTICS - A THREAT TO NATURE AND SOCIETY

Since 2000, the plastics industry has produced as much plastic as all the preceding years combined. The production of virgin plastic has increased 200-fold since 1950, and has grown at a rate of 4 per cent a year since 2000³⁴. In 2016, the most recent year for which data is available, production reached 396 million metric tons. That is equivalent to 53 kilograms of plastic for each person on the planet. Production of plastic in 2016 resulted in approximately 2 billion metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions, which accounts for almost 6 per cent of the year's total global carbon dioxide emissions³⁵. If all predicted plastic production capacity is constructed, current production could increase by 40 per cent by 2030³⁶.

75%

OF ALL PLASTIC EVER PRODUCED IS WASTE

80%

OF OCEAN PLASTICS ARE ESTIMATED TO COME FROM LAND-BASED SOURCES.

1/3 OF PLASTIC

(100 MLN METRIC TONS)

AND 104 MLN METRIC TONS AT RISK OF LEAKAGE INTO NATURE IN 2030 IN BUSINESS AS USUAL SCENARIO

396 MILLION
METRIC TONS

IN 2016, PRODUCTION REACHED 396 MILLION METRIC TONS. THAT IS EQUIVALENT TO 53 KILOGRAMS OF PLASTIC FOR EACH PERSON ON THE PLANET

40%

INCREASE IN PLASTIC PRODUCTION BY 2030

HALF OF THE VIRGIN PLASTIC PRODUCED BETWEEN 1950 AND 2016 HAS OCCURRED SINCE 2000.

PROJECTED

Figure 1: Global plastic production from 1950 to 2030(e), in million metric tons

Source: Dalberg analysis, Jambeck & al (2017)



Global Emergency: Plastic Litter in the Sea

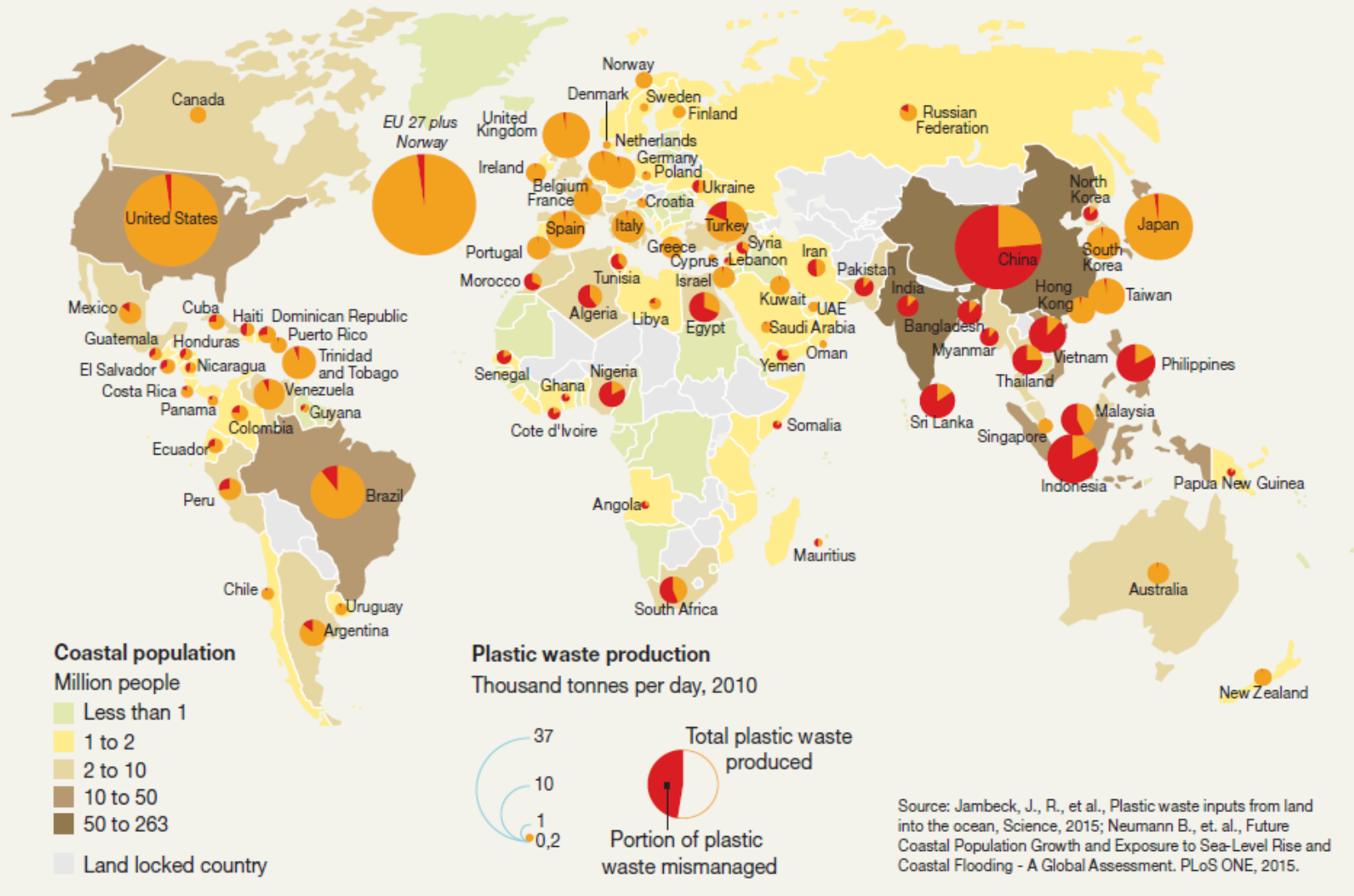
What happens to all this plastic waste?

- Only 63 per cent of waste is collected in a regulated manner and deposited mainly in landfills, while only about 15 per cent is recycled
- Due to waste mismanagement, one-third of plastic waste is estimated to have entered nature as land, freshwater or marine pollution
- There are currently about 150 million tonnes of plastic in the seas and oceans – another eight million tonnes are added every year

**8 million
tonnes
every year**



Plastic waste produced and mismanaged



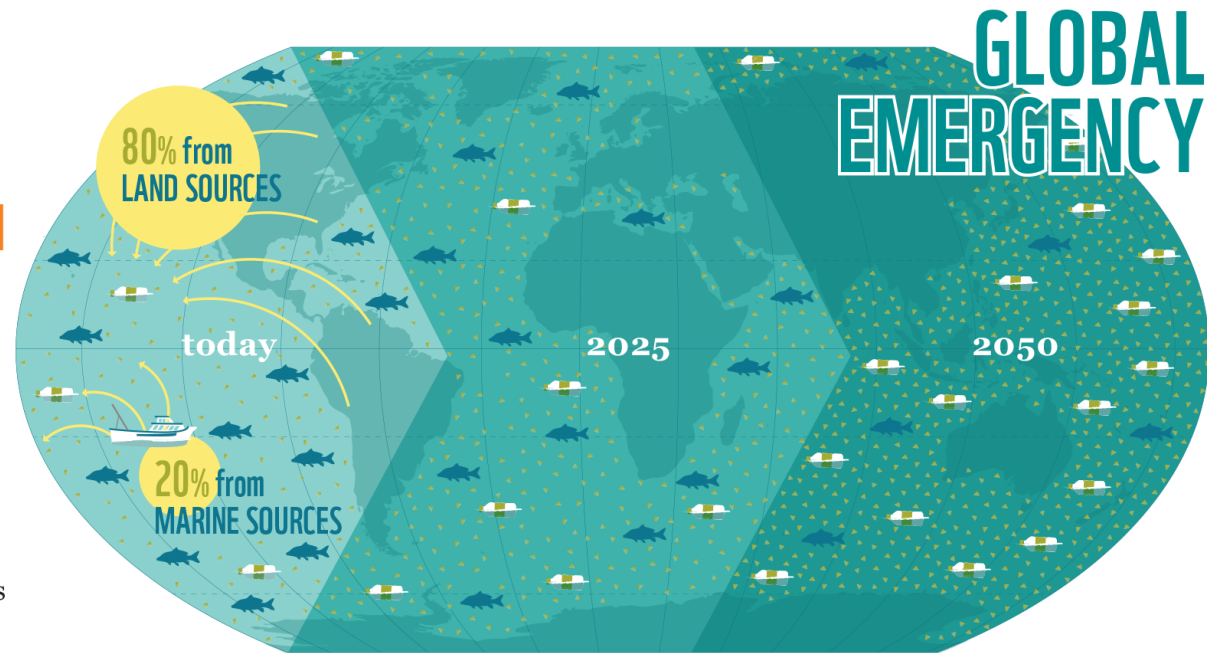


Global Emergency: Plastic Litter in the Sea

PLASTIC WASTE IN THE OCEAN

microplastics

macroplastics



over 150 million tonnes
PLASTICS



1 tonne
PLASTICS

for every

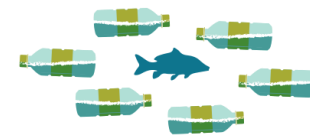
3 tonnes
FISH



PLASTICS

more than

FISH





Plastic waste – toxic for the environment and for tourism

- The Mediterranean countries produce 24 million tonnes of plastic waste a year
- Only 72 per cent waste is disposed of properly: The rest is not collected or it is disposed of illegally
- This unregulated disposal of plastic waste is the main source of plastic in the environment
- In the Med, the annual figure is around 570,000 tonnes - equivalent to 33,800 plastic bottles thrown into the sea – every minute



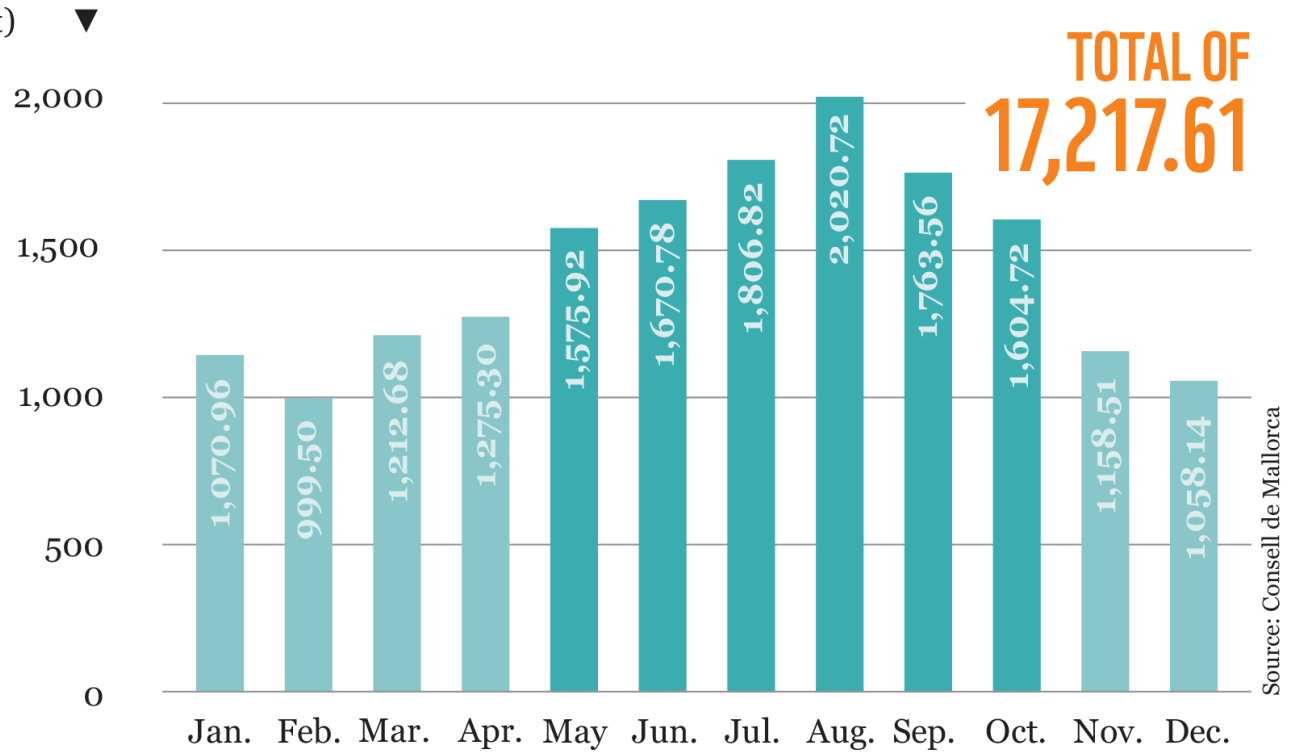


- 200 million people who spend their holidays on the coasts of the Mediterranean countries
- Every summer, the seasonal amount of waste in the region of the Mediterranean Sea increases
by as much as 30 per cent
- Financial damage for the tourism business 268 Million EUR/year



Mallorca, Spain is drawing in waste

Municipal solid
plastic waste (t) ▼





Mallorca: Radical Change of Course with a new law to combat the flood of plastic

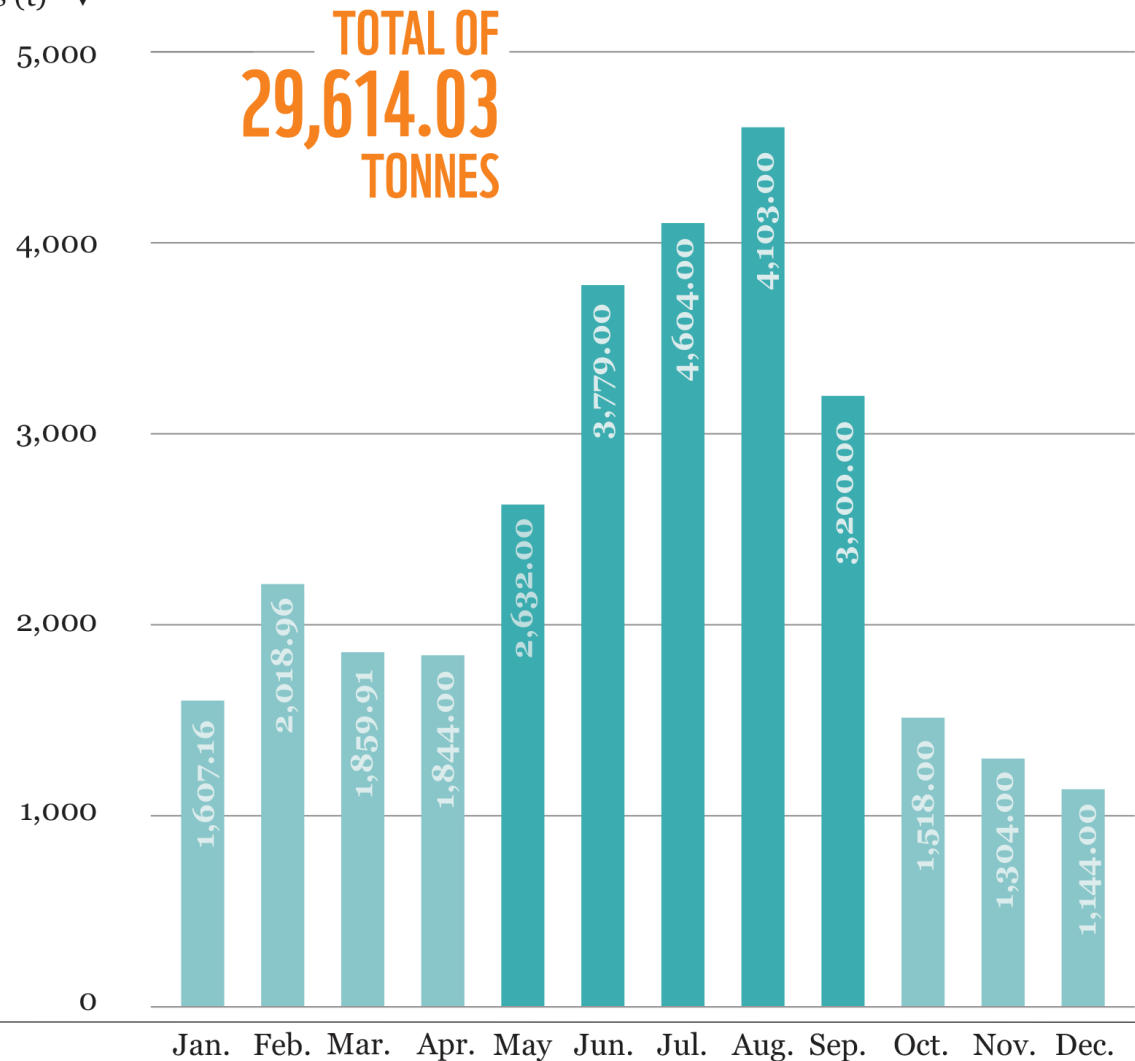
- » *Lightweight plastic bags*
- » *Plastic dishes (coated disposable trays, plates, cutlery, drinking cups)*
- » *Drinking straws*
- » *Disposable razors*
- » *Disposable lighters*
- » *Cotton swabs*
- » *Lollipop sticks*
- » *Disposable wipes*
- » *Single-use capsules for coffee*
- » *Disposable toners and cartridges*





Zakynthos, Greece cannot cope with the waste left behind by tourists

Tonnes (t) ▼



Source: Local Action Plan for Waste Management



All the plastic that is reduced – will not end up in the sea





Wrong strategy: Substitution instead of reduction

- **Products made from natural renewable raw materials**
- **Plastics that are supposed to be biodegradable**

do not solve the waste problems and pollution.

There is often insufficient knowledge about the actual impacts of these materials on nature and the environment



Our goal: zero plastic leakage into the sea by 2030





Five star holidays means waste free landscape, clean beaches and healthy oceans

...and not plastic wrapped amenities





Thank you!

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