

Development of a Second OSPAR Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP ML 2): Stakeholder Questionnaire Summary

Background

1. To support and inform the development of the second OSPAR Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (RAP 2), ICG-ML agreed a project plan which included provisions for a stakeholder survey. The online survey was designed by the RAP 2 Development Project Team¹ and set out the provisional areas being considered for action by OSPAR on the topic of marine litter, asking for stakeholders to comment on any gaps, or show support for certain areas over others. The survey opened on 7 July 2021 and ran for a period of 12 weeks (closing at the end of September 2021).

2. The online survey, which was open to all interested parties and individuals, was shared with ICG-ML members to disseminate further within their networks, it was also publicised on the OSPAR marine litter web pages.

Responses

3. A total of 48 responses were received from a mix of Non-governmental organisations (42%), Private sector (25%), Research institute / expert (13%), intergovernmental organisation (10%), government / national authority (6%) and regional or local government / authority (4%).

Support for OSPAR taking action on specific issues

4. Respondents were asked to vote for the themes they thought OSPAR should be working on under RAP 2, the themes presented were based on the initial concept theme areas identified by ICG-ML. **Figure 1** shows the percentage of respondents who supported OSPAR undertaking work under each identified themes, it should be noted that there was no further explanation of what should be covered under each theme than the text included in the graph below.

5. The most supported areas for action (over 60%) were, Fishing (including recreational fishing), Microplastics – land-based sources, microplastics – sea-based sources, reduction targets, and retrieval of ALDFG.

6. In addition to selecting from the predefined list of themes, respondents were asked which specific actions / issues OSPAR should consider in the second RAP and why, what other issues had been omitted from the ICG-ML defined themes, and how OSPAR could best cooperate with the responders' organisations. The responses are provided in full in **Table 1**². A summary of the key points raised by stakeholder is presented in the following sections.

¹ Germany, Netherlands and Belgium

² For those respondents who agreed for their responses to be published.

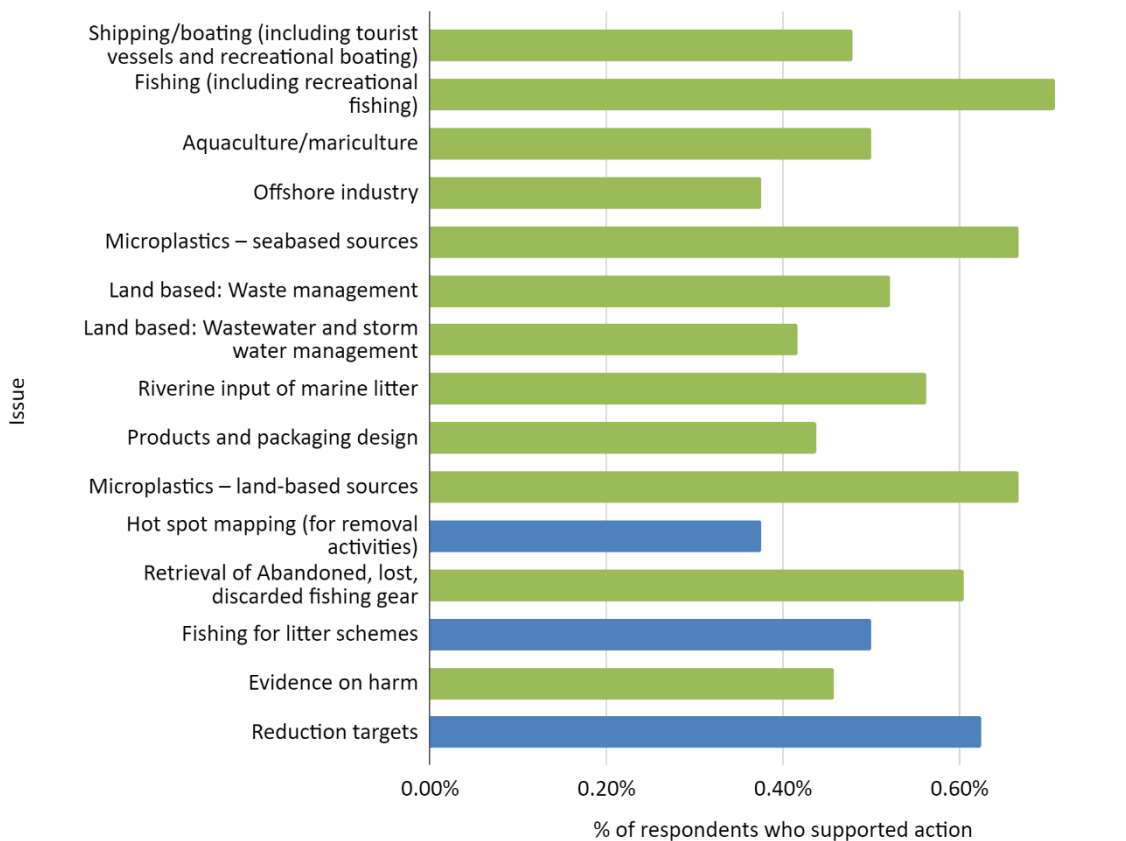


Figure 1 Percentage of respondents who supported OSPAR working on each theme
 Note: themes coloured in blue are those for which there is currently no specific task developed

Specific actions for OSPAR’s consideration in the second RAP

7. The most commonly suggested issues (mentioned by 3 or more respondents) were:

- ALDFG (fishing gear design, retrieval, removal in MPAs, net cuttings, as a secondary source of microplastics, and to prevent bycatch)
- Increased understanding of the chemical impact of plastics and the associated health implications for marine life
- Offshore infrastructure, micro & macro plastic release, including use of EPS
- Pellet handling and classification
- Textile design and clothing manufacturing processes
- Efforts to address Single Use Plastics

8. The well supported issues (mentioned by more than one respondent) were:

- Education and awareness / communication tools
- Container loss
- Penalties for littering
- Better understanding on identification of sources of microplastics

9. Other topics mentioned for consideration included:

- Consideration of the impacts of marine plastics in relation to other pressures
- The use of geosynthetics as a source of marine litter
- Cruise ships as a source of marine litter
- Recreational fishing as a source of marine litter
- Expanding FFL initiative
- To address negative impacts of plastic along entire lifecycle
- End of Life vessels
- Impacts of grey water
- Impacts of antifouling paints
- Better understanding of sea floor composition / deep sea sinks
- Plastics / litter from agriculture
- Litter from aquaculture (including specifically cable ties)
- Effectiveness of biodegradable fishing gear

Specific issues to be considered in addition:

10. The following topics were suggested, that were not already included in the identified themes:

- The increasing popularity of artificial lawn / sports pitches
- Increased understanding of the chemical impact of plastics / use of PFAS (forever chemicals) in food packaging and the associated health implications for marine life
- Microplastics from EPS in maritime infrastructure
- Microplastic fibres released during textile production
- Taking a holistic approach to unintended consequences of certain waste treatment techniques (e.g. chemical recycling)
- When considering use of alternatives, this should also include non-material alternative, i.e. design for re-use

- pollution from cruise shipping
- better understanding of seafloor litter

Opportunities for collaboration

11. The following organisations proposed collaboration on the following issues:

- Issue of litter in freshwater lakes: Lake Mälaren Water Preservation Association
- Pellets: Fidra, Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
- Artificial pitches / turf: Fidra (www.fidra.org.uk/pitchin), KIMO International
- Plastic pollution and use of EPS in aquaculture: Fidra (<https://www.bestfishes.org.uk/>), KIMO International
- Chemical impacts of marine plastic pollution / use of PFAS (forever chemicals) in food packaging : Fidra (<https://www.fidra.org.uk/projects/chemical-pollution/>)
- Sources of microplastics : FFI, Aalborg University
- Microplastic fibres released during textile production: FFI
- Removal of intentionally added microplastics in consumer products: FFI
- Litter data collection: Coastwatch
- Hotspot mapping and litter deposition: Coastwatch
- Seafloor litter and deep sinks: Senckenberg
- Material use and risk assessment: Coastwatch
- General marine litter data and information: Greenpeace
- Harm to fisheries: NEAFC
- FFL / awareness for fishers: KIMO Denmark / KIMO international, Rederscentrale, NEAFC
- Container loss: KIMO Denmark / KIMO international, NEAFC
- Net cuttings: KIMO Denmark / KIMO international, Rederscentrale, NEAFC
- Design & recycling of fishing gear: Fiskareföreningen Norden, Rederscentrale, NRK (Dutch federation rubber and plastics industry), NEAFC, S-EnPol Company, Fishy Filaments Ltd
- Reduced plastic use: Norwegian Retailers' Environment Fund
- Product design and recyclability: Pure North Recycling
- Beach clean up: Västkuststiftelsen
- Development of riverine litter monitoring: Swedish University

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of Agricultural Sciences, Keep
Northern Ireland Beautiful

- Port reception facilities / litter
from ships: CNPMEM,
Cooperation Maritime

- Terrestrial waste management
and pathways: Pure North
Recycling, No Plastic In My Sea

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Table 1

Note: A number of detailed responses in Table 1 have been removed as the respondents did not consent to their responses being published, however the general summaries presented above are representative of all responses received, and this information has been anonymised.

Contracting Party / Country	Organisation	Organisation Type	What specific actions do you recommend that OSPAR consider and why?	What else do you think should be included in the new RAP?	On what issues should OSPAR cooperate with your organisation in particular?
France	Association Nature Libre	Non-governmental organisation	No free text response provided	No free text response provided	No free text response provided
United Kingdom	Fidra	Non-governmental organisation	<p>Tackle pellet and other microplastic loss at sea by calling for urgent IMO hazard code changes for transport of microplastic. Such labelling of pellet transports will ensure appropriate handling and position of containers at sea and effective emergency protocols to limit the extent of damage should a container loss occur at sea. It will also set a precedent for the wider handling of pellets throughout the industry. This would complement the work carried out already on pellets handled across supply chains and have the potential to be a major impact on global pellet pollution.</p> <p>To help address the chemical pollution caused by marine litter the RAP should include action to share best on tackling marine pollutants. OSPAR should work together to follow the example set by pioneering OSPAR members such as Denmark in restricting PFAS in food packaging, and Norway in taking steps to ban microplastic infill on sports pitches. OSPAR should show leadership by supporting the development of legislation that limits marine litter and the chemicals components of marine litter that make it so harmful to our shared seas.</p>	<p>The loss of microplastic from artificial sports pitches should be included under work to tackle land-based sources of litter. This is a major source of environmental pollution with particular relevance to countries on the North Sea where artificial pitches are very popular. There is also significant potential for knowledge-sharing across countries as certain OSPAR nations (Norway, Sweden) have been leading the way in developing solutions and trialling alternatives to microplastic infill.</p> <p>Our Pitch In project, developed in partnership with KIMO International, provides resources to help anyone who owns, manages or uses pitches to tackle microplastic: www.fidra.org.uk/pitchin. We also have a detailed briefing about the impacts of microplastic from pitches available online: https://www.fidra.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Fidra-Microplastic-loss-from-artificial-3G-pitches_v4-.pdf</p> <p>The Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter should recognise that marine litter poses a chemical as well as physical threat to ecosystems and work to address these pollutants. For example, microplastic from artificial sports pitches contains heavy metals including zinc, paper and board food packaging contain persistent chemicals, PFAS and receipts are a source of endocrine disrupting chemicals, bisphenols, all of which are known marine pollutants. While the overarching aim should remain to reduce the volume of marine litter, by tackling the chemical content of consumer items, we reduce the impact that marine litter has on the environment. This may be</p>	<p>Plastic pellets: Fidra have been working on plastic pellet pollution since 2013 through our citizen science project The Great Nurdle Hunt and parallel solutions work. We have been involved in developing OSPAR's recommendations on supply chain accreditation and would be delighted to assist with any further steps or other work on pellets such as investigating options of IMO classification. www.nurdlehunt.org.uk</p> <p>Artificial Pitches: Fidra has been working in partnership with KIMO International to raise awareness of microplastic pollution from 3G pitches. We have been working across Scotland to encourage action on this topic as well as learning from our partners in Europe about existing initiatives. www.fidra.org.uk/pitchin</p> <p>Aquaculture: Fidra's Best Fishes project is working on improving transparency across salmon farming by calling for creation of publicly accessible sustainability information through online dashboards. The project has also examined plastic pollution in aquaculture, particularly the use of polystyrene fish boxes and investigated alternative materials. https://www.bestfishes.org.uk/</p> <p>Chemical Contaminants: Fidra works on a number of specific projects addressing chemical pollution, as well as having a broader interest in chemical policy, ensuring national frameworks for safe and effective chemical management to minimise environmental harm. Specific issues addressed by Fidra include the use of PFAS (forever chemicals) in food packaging, including in alternatives to single-use</p>

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				<p>achieved by linking the practical action of marine litter work more closely with the monitoring already carried out by OSPAR's hazardous substances work area.</p>	<p>plastics, as well as bisphenols in till receipts. As highlighted in our previous responses, there is a clear link between these chemical pollutants, waste management and the impacts of marine litter. Ffidra colleagues would be happy to discuss further our work and links between these pollution problems. For more information visit: https://www.fidra.org.uk/projects/chemical-pollution/</p>
United Kingdom	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)	Non-governmental organisation	<p>The OSPAR Regional Action Plan for Marine Litter (RAP-ML) plays a critical role in driving forward pollution prevention initiatives for the benefit of the health and functioning of the marine environment and the biodiversity dependent upon it. Fauna & Flora International (FFI) is pleased to see a broad and holistic approach being taken by the diversity of proposed themes included in the new RAP ML. Based on the existing evidence of harm to biodiversity and considering the volumes of plastic, particularly, that are estimated to enter the environment annually from a wide variety of sources, FFI believes that the implementation of practical action that prevents pollution at source, effectively removing the threat to marine biodiversity, should be prioritised over remedial clean-up activities. While we recognise there is a need to restore the health of ocean environments and that ultimately removal of accumulated litter and pollution will be required, we believe that the most effective solution – stopping pollution at source – requires collaborative, concerted effort to design practicable solutions that are implemented in a timely fashion, scalable and coordinated in nature and the OSPAR contracted parties are well placed to deliver this.</p> <p>Based on existing evidence, FFI, an international biodiversity conservation organisation, has taken the precautionary approach in its established marine plastics programme of work and prioritised upstream interventions that effectively reduce sources of marine plastic pollution such as the loss of plastic pellets in supply</p>	<p>In addition to specific sources of microplastic pollution within the proposed themes in the new RAP ML (e.g. pellets, tyres, marine paints), FFI thinks that the following issues should be addressed:</p> <p>We would like to see better awareness of the issue of microplastic pollution from expanded polystyrene (EPS) maritime infrastructure such as floating pontoons and marina walkways. Where poorly maintained and managed, these structures have been found to be a significant yet under-represented (secondary) source of marine microplastic pollution (see scoping report here: https://www.fauna-flora.org/news/breaking-ocean-polystyrene-pollution-global-scale). EPS is an inherently toxic material with propensity to fragment readily in the environment under UV exposure and as a result of wind and wave action, yet maritime applications are broad and it is used for floats, buoys, fish boxes, pontoons, vessel insulation and onshore support blocks for boats. We understand that the use of microplastics in marine paints is being explored within the theme of "Microplastics-Land Base Sources" as both a primary emission (introduction in paint) and secondary emission (loss to environment during maintenance and wear and tear). From scoping work undertaken last year, FFI believes that EPS used in maritime infrastructure is also a significant secondary source of microplastics and we recommend that this topic is incorporated into the work of the technical working groups developing innovative solutions that prevent microplastic pollution from maritime infrastructure.</p>	<p>FFI is a UK-based international biodiversity conservation organisation working on terrestrial and marine biodiversity conservation challenges. As a result, the organisation is actively engaged with many of the themes OSPAR is interested in. Of particular relevance for the OSPAR RAP-ML is FFI's well-established Marine Plastics programme which focuses on addressing and preventing multiple sources of macro- and microplastic pollution at land and at sea. FFI's approach to tackling plastic pollution focuses on upstream solutions through improved policies and practices which ultimately prevent pollution at source. We aim to achieve this through collaborative engagement with a range of stakeholders including businesses, policymakers, academic institutions and civil society groups.</p> <p>Notable outcomes of our work on microplastics to date include: a focus on the unsustainable use of microplastic ingredients in personal care products which informed and ultimately led to the UK ban on microbead use in rinse off personal care products; and sustained action on tackling pellet loss in supply chains which has led to widespread acceptance that a supply chain approach to eliminating losses was the most effective solution and ultimately, to the publication of the world's first performance-based pellet handling standard (PAS 510) which is fully auditable, developed by an expert multi-stakeholder steering committee and is applicable to the whole plastic value chain.</p> <p>FFI's Marine Plastics work forms part of its</p>

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			<p>chains and stopping the unsustainable use of plastic ingredients in personal care products (please see final section of consultation response for more details of our programme of work).</p> <p>Within the themes proposed in the new OSPAR RAP ML, we would like to see further specific action on the handling of plastic pellets. The outcome of Action 52 from the last RAP ML, which advocates for a supply chain approach to preventing loss through the use of standards and certification schemes, was a landmark decision in the last RAP period. Now, as the recommended action nears formal ministerial adoption, we recommend the new RAP has a strong focus on implementing that recommendation across all contracting parties within clear timelines. In July 2021, the British Standard Institute (BSi) published a freely available Publicly Available Specification (PAS) – a fast-track standardisation document – to promote the safe handling of pellets to prevent losses to the environment. This risk-based standard is internationally applicable, fully auditable and accessible for all actors in the plastic supply chain and as such, is available to support the contracting parties in their implementation of the recommended action on pellets.</p> <p>In recent years, there has been increased coverage of catastrophic pellet pollution events linked to shipping disasters – for example, at the Port of Durban in 2017, in the Wadden Islands in 2019 and most recently in Sri Lanka in 2021. It is estimated that a combined 146 tonnes of pellets entered the marine environment from these three incidences alone – the impact of which has been significant and widespread. To complement the recommended action on pellets throughout the manufacturing chain, we would like to see OSPAR’s focus extend to more stringent requirements governing the handling and transport of pellets (and microplastics generally) at sea to ensure that the persistent, polluting nature of plastic pellets is formally recognised through</p>	<p>In addition to the discussion on microplastic fibres from clothing being trapped in waste water and sewage sludge within this RAP, we would encourage OSPAR to include action for prevention of the generation of microplastic fibres, through innovation in textile design and garment manufacture. Attention should also be focused on loss from the manufacturing process itself, identifying high-risk processes at different stages of production and the generation of appropriate source-reduction best practices wherever practicable.</p>	<p>global marine programme which, in addition to tackling wider threats to marine species and habitats (such as plastic pollution, destructive fishing practices and deep-sea mining), focuses on safeguarding marine species, habitats and livelihoods through effective protection and management of marine ecosystems; and aims to support lasting change by strengthening the ability of people around the world to protect their local marine environments.</p> <p>Our current microplastic focal areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preventing loss of plastic pellets from global supply chains; - Assessing manufacturing processes for the risk of loss of microplastic fibres during textile production; - Pollution risk from EPS-based maritime infrastructure; and - Ensuring removal of intentionally added microplastic ingredients in consumer products. <p>FFI is well regarded in the field of marine plastics for its technical knowledge, established network and achievements to date and is a member of a number of international networks and fora aimed at tackling marine plastic pollution including the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) and the United Nations Environment Programmes’ Global Partnership on Marine Litter (UNEP-GPML) amongst others.</p>
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			<p>appropriate classification (e.g. IMO IMDG codes; MARPOL Annexes III, V), clearer labelling requirements and more stringent handling protocols that would prevent widespread persistent pollution events in the wake of chronic losses associated with shipping disasters. We also recommend that internationally recognised disaster response protocols are established and recommended for adoption by contracting parties to prevent catastrophic pollution events in the wake of (pellet) container losses and shipping disasters.</p> <p>We would like to see intervention on Abandoned, Lost, Discarded fishing Gear (ALDFGs) expanded from retrieval (as described in the theme) in order to prioritise innovation that prevents generation of ALDFGs, and takes into account ALDFGs as a secondary source of microplastic fibre pollution. Specific actions should further support design innovation that reduces propensity for loss and entanglement whilst ensuring safety of life at sea; reviews material use to reduce potential for any fishing gear to become a primary or secondary source of microplastic pollution (e.g. assess gear – active or lost - for potential to shed microplastic fibres or fragment – see EPS information in next section); and which improves access to effective recycling of end of life gear to support a transition to more circular economies.</p>		
Ireland	Coastwatch	Non-governmental organisation	<p>Additionally to the v good work being done we suggest a few actions from A - data use/management to B phase out of problematic plastics like polystyrene from all uses which may end up in water, start with ban on use in water like polystyrene mooring blocks and C more direct public involvement projects where bottom up ideas are encouraged and supported and then rolled out. We have some examples drawn up in workshops with inshore fishermen and other estuarine stakeholders as estuaries are continuing to be litter traps where the focus on clean ups needs to progress to preventative and more targeted clean ups. I am happy to share more on all of the</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A mandatory material use assessment before new objects are introduced or at least funded. For example we are finding 1000s of cable ties around some sites where oyster aquaculture on trestles is carried out. If that farm was not eligible for grant aid if using those single use cable ties they would switch to reusable stainless steel hooks tomorrow. 2. More incentives for having a clean shore (more detail on request) 3. An idea and demo exchange for the public with idea certificates. The pride of having that and being acknowledged as the one who came up with an idea which works would make a huge difference to many 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Extra litter data collection citizen science Coastwatch work 2. GIS litter deposition and hot spot mapping 3. Effective follow up action when waste and litter sources are identified 4. Furthering the material use and risk assessment and economic and legal instrument goal so that we prevent marine litter problems arising due to either addition of plastics to new products without litter risk assessment (as was the case of microbeads) and minimise the repurposing of products for marine use as in the case of cable ties for closing Melton oyster grow bags.

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			<p>above. As example now will just expand on A: Re A DATA USE AND MANAGEMENT - include a wider sweep of available litter data than at present. Why? Because - the sample size and focus on beaches with 100m seasonal sweeps is useful but too limited. Ireland has over 7000 km of shore and 4 x 100m sample sites. - the present OSPAR site selection focussed on beaches introduces a bias towards consumer waste. While that will help track SUP directive implementation its less useful for other waste sources. - present OSPAR marine litter monitoring underestimates agri and aquaculture waste. In the annual Coastwatch autumn shore survey see www.coastwatch.org all shore types are included and we can track both the changing waste aura around certain activities like aquaculture and hot spots created by tides/currents and storms. This then helps focus attention on where and what action is needed. Coastwatch marine litter data is INSPIRE directive compliant and we would love to see it used. There is more from other sources too but the Coastwatch data set is the longest running one over 3 decades with around 500 survey sites of 500 m length per autumn survey.</p>	<p>citizens who would never go after a patent or have the network to roll out something which works locally and could work with small adjustments in similar situation in any OSPAR country.</p>	
SE	Zephyr Vind AB	Private sector	No free text response provided	No free text response provided	No free text response provided
GB	Greenpeace	Non-governmental organisation	<p>What specific actions do you recommend that OSPAR consider and why? 1) to align with the recent Ministerial Declaration (https://conferencemarinelitterplasticpollution.org/documents/) in terms of aim: to address all negative impacts of plastic along its whole life cycle 2) To maximize (within its scope of mandate) OSPAR's potential to achieve this aim, by prioritizing upstream prevention and reduction of production and consumption of unessential plastic (in particular unessential single use plastics) and hazardous additives. Because a reduction in plastic production and consumption is 'the most attractive solution from an environmental, economic, and social perspective' (Pew (2020) Breaking the Plastic Wave). It offers the</p>	<p>1) to highlight the workstream of waste prevention before going to the workstream of waste management 2) to take a precautionary principle and a holistic approach towards certain controversial waste treatment proposals (e.g. chemical recycling) which is polluting and capital intensive which therefore could direct limited resources away from more efficient solutions (e.g. upstream source reduction) 3) to highlight the workstream of evaluation of if plastic products are essential before going to the workstream of product design and production; and as REACH, such burden of justification could be put on producers 4) when talking about alternatives, OSPAR should highlight they include not only material alternatives to plastics, but more</p>	<p>we would be happy to contribute data and information and perspectives as and when the opportunity arises</p>

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			biggest reduction in plastic pollution, often represents a net savings, and provides the highest mitigation opportunity in GHG emissions. (UNEP (2020) Addressing Single-Use Plastic Products Pollution using a Life Cycle Approach – Summary for Decision makers; Pew (2020) Breaking the Plastic Wave) 3) To contribute to other plastic relevant processes for this shared aim e.g. the negotiation of a plastic treaty under UNEA, so that the coordination between OSPAR and other mechanisms on addressing plastic pollution could be improved, gaps could be filled, and actions are not duplicated.	importantly non-material alternatives like business model change e.g. delivery system, refilling and reuse etc. Pew's study revealed that 'Designing products for reuse is preferable to simple substitution with another single-use material'. (Pew (2020) Breaking the Plastic Wave) 5) for bio-based and biodegradable plastics: suggest to add evaluation through a holistic approach including e.g. the risks to climate change, land use change, tendency to easier fragmentation in ocean and circular economy, if either of them are promoted prematurely.	
Sweden	Miniäventyr i Bohuslän	Private sector	Reduce plastic waste	Stop overfishing	Marine littering
DK	KIMO Denmark	Regional or local government/ authority	Support research/ projects that measure inputs of litter from landbased sources to rivers from wateroutflow from draining populated areas and from overflow from water treatment facilities. There are many items that could originate from these sources and this could be an increasing challenge due to climate change with more precipitation and overburdened infrastructure, with water washing litter and other materials to the sea.	Focus on awareness towards European fishers about littering (using port reception facilities), correct collection and disposal of net cuttings, reporting and retrieval of lost nets - promoting and expanding positive stories among fishers and the general public such as implementation of fishing for litter schemes. More information about the state of pollution from cruise shipping and if this needs to be a focus area.	Fishing for litter, net cuttings, awareness campaigns for fishers, lost containers
Belgium	Rederscentrale	Private sector	Make sure that the whole industry is covered by the action plan and not only the activities at sea but also the suppliers and the processing industry.	a broad communication campaign that points out to the general public that the marine industry is working on marine litter.	Items based on the fishing industry. F.e. fishing gear, fishing for litter, household waste on board, ...
Sweden	Naturskyddsför eningen	Non-governmental organisation	No free text response provided	No free text response provided	No free text response provided
Sverige	Fiskareförening en Norden	Private sector	Retrieval of Abandoned, lost, discarded fishing gear. Design for recycling and reuse of fishing gear. Collection Scheme for fishing gear. Fiskerituren Project in Sweden with FF Norden, Keep Sweden tidy and Batskroten	Information of Marine litter and plastics. Survey of the situation sea bottoms. Here we know to little!!	Design and reuse of fishing gear
Sweden	Naturskyddsför eningen	Non-governmental organisation	No free text response provided	No free text response provided	No free text response provided
SE	Damina AB	Private sector	No free text response provided	No free text response provided	No free text response provided
Sweden, non-profit organisation/foundation	Västkoststiftelsen	Non-governmental organisation	Reduction of single-use items to reduce littering. Fine for littering including cigarette buds which should be actively controlled to	No free text response provided	Beach cleaning map Facilitation of beach cleaning in small municipalities Collaboration between several

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			reduce littering. Exchange of experiences and successful projects between regions and between countries.		municipalities Organisation of clean-ups
NL, Dutch Federation rubber and plastics industry	NRK, Dutch federation rubber and plastics industry	Non-governmental organisation	penalty's on littering easy and free of charge access to harbour disposal of (sorted) waste scientific data on all waste in sea, no besides plastics, glass, metal, paper, stone (=full overview)	No free text response provided	recycling of harbour disposed plastic waste scientific data
Sweden	Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Research institute/ expert	I think Ospar should work to force member states to have monitoring of litter occurrences on land and to identify hot spot areas. Ospar should also work to implement rules on how much litter may be found on land. It is a fact that there often are litter on the streets, parks and squares in our cities and this litter can be transported into the sea and rivers. Litter is also found around waste management plants of different sizes and also here there should be monitoring of amounts of litter arounde these areas. Ospar should work harder to force memberstates to make it easy for people to get rid of their waste. Bins for waste should be frequently occurring where people move, however this is a cost for each memberstate. Ospar should probably also work harder to ensure that each operation/plant/company really ensures that their activities do not produce makro litter. I think it is important with monitoring on land and identification of hot spots because when the litter reaches the sea it is very difficult to monitor and remove.	Maybe some of the actions in the old RAP needs to continue because they did not reach their goal? Huge amounts of litter end up in certain European coastal areas. As litter get transported by currents between countries maybe Ospar could work to set in place a money fund where countries can apply for money for beach cleaning. Such cleaning is good for the North Sea as litter that ends up on beaches can reenter the water with storms and high water and be transported to new areas.	We have a good contact with the Swedish agency for marine and water management regarding monitoring of litter on the seafloor. Probably other parts of our organisation could be involved regarding development of monitoring on land and/or rivers.
HELCOM	Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission	Intergovernmental organisation	Bearing in mind that the OSPAR Intermediate Assessment for beach litter in 2017 showed that "plastics comprise over 90% of items in some areas", one suggestion would be to design a set of actions addressing land-based as well as sea-based sources of single use plastics items.	Considerations to riverine inputs, since it is an issue which has not been sufficiently addressed, nor in terms of monitoring, nor in mitigation measures.	Topics for cooperation between HELCOM and OSPAR have been identified through a regular informal cooperation on the implementation of our respective Regional Action Plans on Marine Litter initiated already in 2015. These could be summarised as follows: single use plastics; alignment of monitoring and assessment components, in particular for microplastics; riverine inputs; and abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG).
France	CNPMEM	Private sector	Nous aimerions que les outils de communication créés au niveau européen concernant la gestion des infrastructures portuaires ou des déchets liés à la pêche (modification des pratiques ou des outils	Dans la mesure où toutes les actions liées à la pêche présentes dans le plan actuel n'ont pas pu être menées et optimisées, il serait plus judicieux de ne pas ajouter de nouvelles actions pour ce secteur dans ce	Nous aimerions qu'OSPAR collabore avec le CNPMEM sur les actions liées à la pêche telles que la gestion des déchets provenant ou récupérés par les navires et des installations de réception portuaires, de

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			destinés à réduire ou recycler les déchets, pêche passive aux déchets marins, etc.) soient dupliqués, traduits et transmis aux différents Etats membres et qu'une collaboration puisse être menée avec les organismes professionnels et les établissements scolaires d'enseignement (centre de formation maritime, lycée, etc.) afin de développer la partie éducation du plan régional.	nouveau plan. Il pourrait ainsi être décidé de conserver les actions et les renforcer dans le prochain plan.	l'éducation et de la sensibilisation afin d'observer des changements de comportement et les actions de nettoyage et d'élimination des déchets.
France	Cooperation Maritime	Private sector	Nous aimerions que les outils de communication créés concernant les sujets pêche (déchets, pratiques, etc...) soient dupliqués, traduits et transmis aux différents états membre et qu'une collaboration puisse être menée avec les organismes professionnels des pays ainsi qu'avec les établissements scolaires (centres formation maritime et lycées maritimes).	Dans la mesure où les actions liées à la pêche n'ont pas pu toutes être menées et optimisées, il serait plus judicieux de ne pas ajouter de nouvelles actions pour ce secteur.	Nous aimerions qu'OSPAR collabore avec notre organisme sur les actions liées à la pêche, les déchets provenant des navires et des installations de réception portuaires liées à l'activité de pêche, l'éducation et la sensibilisation ainsi que les changements de comportement des acteurs de la pêche et la gestion des déchets à terre spécifique à la pêche.
UK Greenpeace International (Observer)	Greenpeace International	Non- governmental organisation	An equivalent to the long-standing cessation target for discharges, emissions and losses of hazardous substances, applied to plastics (including micro plastics), supported by more specific measures/collaborative arrangements (primarily focused upstream) to address key point and diffuse sources. Further work to identify and, as far as possible, eliminate such discharges, emissions and losses from the offshore sector and to document and address the problem associated with other sea-based sources of marine plastics, including a focus on grey water from shipping, antifouling coatings and the disposal or abandonment of fibre-reinforced plastic vessels.	Expanding focus on documenting the extend and trends of the problem with regard to a selection of indicator plastic pollutants, where possible through engagement with and help in coordination of national or regional data collection systems, citizen science projects, etc. Greater sharing of experiences with measures that address plastic pollution at source. Support for developing global treaty on plastics, to ensure that it is as strong and source-focused as possible.	Greenpeace International will continue to provide to OSPAR whatever information of relevance it can
UK	GRID-Arendal	Intergovernmental organisation	actions addressing sea based sources of marine litter	detailed implementation plan	action plan development and harmonisation
United Kingdom	University of Oxford	Research institute/ expert	Focus on litter prevention activities ;	investigate the relative risk of litter compared with other stressors	No free text response provided
Iceland	Pure North Recycling	Private sector	No free text response provided	No free text response provided	Product design and recyclability - ways of keeping consumer plastics within waste management boundaries and securing transparent and certified pathways for plastic waste
France	No Plastic In My Sea	Non-governmental organisation	Preventing waste in the environment and moreover preventing waste	Precise vision of the timing/ agenda of risks and solutions in the ten following years	Involve in preventing waste actions and advocacy
UK - IGO	NEAFC	Intergovernmental organisation	No free text response provided	No free text response provided	waste related to fishing activities; harm from marine litter to fisheries.

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NO but intergovernmental organisation	NAMMCO	Intergovernmental organisation	Sensibilising about lost gears and necessity to increase action to prevent and mitigate, because of by-catch and entanglement issues.	Sensibilisation to land-spoured plastic pollution and what can individuals do	Eventually on a common sensibilisation campaign
Based in UK	KIMO International	Non-governmental organisation	Expanding Fishing for Litter because it is one of the most effective schemes for marine litter removal; collection and recycling of end of life nets; collection and recycling of derelict fishing gear; addressing issues of marine litter from lost/spilled containers due to the long term consequences and high degree of pollution and harm to marine life; fines and sanctions for polluters, environmental liability - making the polluter pay for spills and damage of any type; implementation and monitoring of PRF Directive to encourage responsible behaviour by shipping and fishing industry; bans on single use items not covered under the SUP Directive - balloons, shotgun wads, confetti; bans on microplastics in cosmetics/beauty products; regulations on artificial turf as it is a primary source of microplastic emission; use of biomed in waste water treatment as it is an emitter of microplastics and plastic waste; riverine litter as rivers are the primary pathway to marine litter; litter from shipping - since the IMO will not adequately address this; litter from fishing activities, in particular net cuttings and sustainability education for fishers.	The objectives must be SMART and meaningful....words like 'encourage' and 'promote' cannot be quantified. Targets should be set and milestones specified. Through the RAP, signatories to the OSPAR Convention should be held to account for the mitigation of polluting activities.	Fishing for litter; end of life nets, net cuttings, lost containers, artificial turf, balloon bans, waste from fishing and aquaculture.
France	Ministry of Ecological Transition	Government/national authority	OSPAR should consider adopting an action to prevent fishing gears loss and ensure their localisation, as well as their possible retrieval from the sea. Abandoned, Lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG) represent an important threat to marine biodiversity, for instance leading to species entanglement. It could also be a source of macroplastic and microplastic pollution. As a consequence, we recommend that the RAP ML gives rise to the development of best practices to prevent, localize and retrieve ALDFG, with a priority in marine protected areas. This work should be carried in link with the work undergoing at the IMO. Likewise, container loss continue to create a threat to the marine environment and generate an important pollution: work at	Microplastics is also a major and complex source of marine pollution which needs to be better assessed to find appropriate reduction and mitigation measures, together with appropriate actors and sectors (agriculture, industry, etc). Together with the necessity of an evidence base on harm, better knowledge of the impact of plastic litter on health is needed.	The French Ministry of Ecology is actively working with national experts and academics to develop methodologies aiming at evaluating riverine inputs of marine litter. Harmonization at the OSPAR level would make this work more efficient. France has also been a lead for the action 48 regarding the evaluation of the harm caused by some items (balloons, cotton buds, shotgun wads, cigarettes filters and butts) to the marine environment. France is currently working with NGOs to tackle marine pollution from shotgun wads and geosynthetics and propose recommendations to reduce their impacts. An inclusion of these items in the OSPAR RAP would facilitate and strengthen national work. France had led the recommendation on

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			<p>OSPAR as well as at the IMO needs to be strengthened.</p> <p>OSPAR should deepen and strengthen its existing action regarding pellet loss. It is also a major threat for the marine environment that must be addressed. We recommend that Contracting Parties collaborate under OSPAR to review a set of effective measures which can effectively monitor and prevent the loss of pellets at sea. Clean-up options and programmes should also be explored to mitigate the effects of this pollution.</p> <p>Specific attention should also be given to the reduction / restriction of the use of single use plastics which are found in the environment but are not included in the SUPs directive, as well as to the build evidence of harm to the marine environment. We recommend that the updated RAP ML support measures to reduce and restrict the use of non-essential SUPs such as balloons, packagings, shotgun wads while securing EU cooperation.</p> <p>Furthermore, emerging items have an impact on the environment: that is the case for instance for geosynthetics which are used in natural environments and degrade into microplastics. An action should be designed to tackle these new items.</p> <p>Finally, emphasis should be put on riverine inputs of marine litter. As 80 % of marine litter comes from land-based sources, it is necessary to better evaluate and understand the contribution of riverine inputs in marine pollution. Therefore, we recommend to create a reliable methodology to assess riverine inputs of marine litter.</p>		<p>plastic pellets: the work needs to be continued to harmonize its implementation among contracting parties. Finally, ghost gears and container losses need to be particularly tackled. Work is ongoing on these subjects at the IMO and the work of OSPAR could comfort the negotiations led by Contracting Parties.</p>
South Korea	S-EnPol Company	Private sector	Biodegradable fishing gear	recycle fishing gear	Circular design of fishing gear
Germany	German Sailing Association	Non-governmental organisation	No free text response provided	Müllvermeidungsstrategien	Sportschiffahrt
Northern Ireland (United	Keep Northern Ireland	Non-governmental	I think that there needs to be helpful schemes in place to help reduce the	Nothing outside of what I have already ticked in the previous section. I think it	Currently Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful collects data on the marine litter on 12

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Kingdom)	Beautiful	organisation	amount of fishing litter that enters our oceans. For example we record hundreds of heavy duty gloves from fisherman on our beaches every quarter this would be a good area to invest in to try and reduce the amount that enters our seas.	needs to be broad in its coverage of topics but needs to focus on some areas to help actually make a difference.	beaches as part of OSPAR on behalf of DAERA. It would be good to cooperate further with work such as recording the amount of litter that is entering rivers that will eventually reach our seas.
france	DRIEAT	Regional or local government/ authority	il est particulièrement important de s'intéresser aux microplastiques et à leurs origines, car sont absorbés par les êtres vivants et impactent l'ensemble de la chaîne alimentaire.	une meilleure connaissance des impacts de la pêche de loisir en mer(saumons en particulier) permettrait une meilleure approche de la conservation des espèces amphihalines.	No free text response provided
UK	Fishy Filaments Ltd	Private sector	Production of up to date evidence bases taking into account both spatial density and measurement of harm potentials. Differentiation of and links between ecotoxicity and economic impacts, especially of microplastics derived from textiles and transported by water, vs macro-litter such as wind-blown films and bottles, should allow much needed non-partisan policy direction and investment into adequate mitigation. OSPAR's convening power could be better leveraged independently of political structures and targeted funding for academic research has a power that transcends political cycles. An approach similar to that of the IPCC; whereby academic output across a broad range of relevant themes is collated and overarching conclusions made, might be appropriate to a long term approach.	Specific field surveys of previously identified marine litter types, filling in data gaps and providing increased resolution in and around hot spots. Consider a specific citizen science survey/outreach function to take advantage of networks such as the UK's 2minutebeachclean, whose ability to provide continuous data sets using local surveyors would seem to be a major gap in timeseries data.	Innovation in addressing fishing industry wastes and systems to prevent leakage of end-of-life gear into the environment. Innovation/exploration into regional collaboration into fishing gear design for reduced loss and increased recycling Innovation in processing and management of retrieved 'ghost gear'
Denmark	Aalborg University	Research institute/ expert	No free text response provided	No free text response provided	Microplastics
Denmark	Aarhus University	Research institute/ expert	Litter items that are more or less deliberately ending up in the marine environment due to their design and usages e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mass balloons, - plastic parts in fireworks, - shotgun cartridges and shells, - dolly rope, - paint flakes from maintenance on ships at sea, - paraffin from flushed ship tanks or offshore pipes, - abandoned fishing gear - cigarette butts etc 	Recommendation to monitoring, and also to gather data on the national responses	No free text response provided