

AT A GLANCE

TITLE:
IMPACT PROJECT

CONSORTIUM:
3 partners

COORDINATOR:
Malta Council for Science & Technology

DURATION:
01 January 2021- 31 December 2021

TOTAL COST:
€ 27,050

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION:
€ 20,925

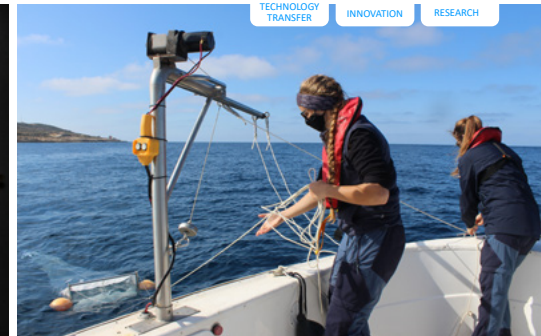


Identifying Microplastic Hotspots in the Maltese Waters

IMPACT PARTNERS

- 1 Malta Council for Science & Technology (Malta)
- 2 AquaBioTech Limited (Malta)
- 3 Zibel (Malta)

Identifying Microplastic Hotspots in the Maltese Waters - IMPACT (GA: PRD 002) is supported under the PARADISE Call for Start-up Actions 2020-Malta Council for Science and Technology.



IMPACT

IMPACT aims to identify microplastic hotspots around the Maltese waters, along with characterising this pollutant. Impacts of plastic debris have been divided into three main categories: social damage, economical damage, and ecological damage. Locally, only a few studies attempted to explain specific aspects of microplastics, clearly showing that there are many knowledge gaps about the implications of microplastics on the local environment. Therefore, IMPACT will serve to better understand the distribution and potential impact of microplastics and provide some insight on the types of industries that could be targeted for transformation in their practices. IMPACT aims to develop a monitoring protocol which could be adopted by various stakeholders. Since these studies have never been carried out using this technique, the project will act as a pilot for affirming a standard monitoring protocol.

- Sampling protocol
- Microplastic hotspots in the Maltese waters
- Plastic pollution awareness



Objectives of IMPACT

- To quantify and characterize microplastics in Maltese waters
- To compile a map of microplastic hotspots in the coastal waters around the Maltese islands
- To disseminate information and raise awareness about microplastics around Malta
- To develop a sampling protocol



AT A GLANCE

TYPE:

Research SME

LOCATION:

Mosta, MALTA G. C.

CAPABILITIES:

R&D / Consultancy / Engineering

EXPERTISE:

Aquaculture / Marine Research
Blue Growth / Aquatic Environment



Who We Are

AquaBioTech Group is an international consulting, engineering and R&D company with over 20 years of experience in aquaculture, fisheries and other aquatic sciences. Located in the center of the Mediterranean on the island of Malta, although operating globally with clients and projects in over fifty-five countries.

The vast majority of the organisation's work is related to the marine or aquatic environment, encompassing aquaculture developments, market research/intelligence through project feasibility assessments, finance acquisition, project management, technology sourcing, technical support and training.



Our Role in the IMPACT Project

AquaBioTech Groups' tasks within the IMPACT project include:

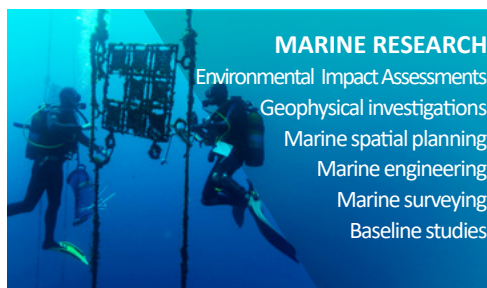
- Define the transect surveys all around Malta
- Collect the samples using a manta net
- Build an infographic map of microplastic hotspots
- Raise awareness about plastic pollution
- Communication and dissemination activities

Our Research Activities



AQUACULTURE R&D

Fish & shellfish hatchery technology
Health & disease prevention
Nutraceutical development
new species development
Aquatic nutrition research
Production techniques



MARINE RESEARCH

Environmental Impact Assessments
Geophysical investigations
Marine spatial planning
Marine engineering
Marine surveying
Baseline studies



WATER TECHNOLOGIES R&D

Recirculation Aquaculture Systems
Aquaponics
Wastewater treatment
Energy efficiency
Sustainability
Innovation

AquaBioTech Group

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