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Final Report

PROSFERO UNDERWATER CLEANUPS

Reference period 7/2020- 9/2020

19th October 2020

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Prosfero Campaign

"Prosfero" campaign is funded by Procter & Gamble and AB Vasilopoulos and implemented by iSea with the aim to achieve cleaner beaches and coasts. The 8th & 9th wave of "Prosfero" campaign includes 30 underwater cleanups actions during the period July-September 2020 in different areas through Greece with a focus on Eastern Macedonia and Thrace regions and Western Greece. This report refers to the activities already conducted in the context of the 8th and 9th wave of "Prosfero".

The coordination and organization of the actions began in July 2020 and the implementation of the actions took place from July to September 2020. The present report concerns the description of 30 actions of the 8th & 9th wave and 3 actions of the 7th wave which were postponed due to weather conditions.

Project Manager:

Anastasia Charitou

Environmental Organisation for the preservation of Aquatic Ecosystems, iSea

Project Assistant:

Zoi Milona

Environmental Organization for the Preservation of Aquatic Ecosystems, iSea

iSea
Environmental Organisation the
Preservation of the Aquatic Ecosystems
Kritis 12, 54645
info@isea.com.gr

www.isea.com.gr

Underwater cleanups

During July - September 2020, 30 underwater cleanups were implemented in the context of the 8th & 9th wave of Prosfero Campaign and 3 underwater cleanups in Thessaloniki in the context of th 7th wave. During the 8th wave 5 underwater cleanups were implemented in Kavala and 5 in Thrace. During the 9th wave 20 underwater clean-ups in the Ionian Coastline.

Every underwater cleanup was coordinated by 2 representatives of iSea. A diver was responsible for the coordination of the participant divers, the localization and the retrieval of marine litter. The other iSea representative was responsible for the coordination of the volunteers who were supporting the retrieval of the removed marine litter to the coast and recording them to data reporting forms.

Activities details

Activity code	Place
A1	Aretsou, Thessaloniki
A2	Epanomi, Thessaloniki
A3	Nautikos omilos, Thessaloniki
A4	Marina Karvali, Kavala
A5	Apovathra N. Peramos, Kavala
A6	Nea Hraklitsa, Kavala
A7	Perigiali, Kavala
A8	Kalamitsa, Kavala
A9	Keramoti, Nestos
A10	Fanari, Komotini
A11	Avdira, Avdira
A12	Maroneia,Maroneia
A13	Makri, Alexandroupoli
A14	Marina Patra, Patra
A15	Axaia, Axaia
A16	Ixthioskala Patra, Patra
A17	Antirio, Antirio
A18	Glifada, Fokidas
A19	Xiliadoy, Nafpaktos
A20	Naupaktos, Nafpaktos
A21	Mesologgi, Mesologgi
A22	Astakos, Aitolokarnania
A23	Mytikas, Mytika

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A24	Boynaki, Vonitsa
A25	Palairos, Palairos
A26	Kleopatra, Aktio
A27	Amfiloxia, Amfiloxia
A28	Igoymenitsa, Igoumenitsa
A29	Plataria, Plataria
A30	Sibota, Sibota, Patra
A31	Parga, Parga
A32	Prebeza, Preveza
A33	Leykada, Lefkada

Table 1: Activities details, during the 8th wave of "Prosfero" July - August 2020

Activity code	Date	Volunteers	Litter collected (KG)
A1	2020-07-10	13	20
A2	2020-07-12	6	400
A3	2020-07-20	12	270
A4	2020-07-24	5	170
A5	2020-07-25	3	315
A6	2020-07-25	6	510
A7	2020-07-26	10	700
A8	2020-07-26	5	435
A9	2020-08-07	9	675
A10	2020-08-08	8	590
A11	2020-08-08	8	670
A12	2020-08-09	6	900
A13	2020-08-09	4	615
Total			**6270**

Table 2:Table 1: Activities details, during the 9th wave of "Prosfero" August - September 2020

Activity code	Date	Volunteers	Litter collected (KG)
A14	2020-09-09	4	680
A15	2020-09-09	4	200
A16	2020-09-10	11	1000
A17	2020-09-10	5	300
A18	2020-09-11	9	2542
A19	2020-09-12	9	1782
A20	2020-09-12	5	250
A21	2020-09-13	5	250

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A22	2020-09-13	4	924
A23	2020-09-15	4	940
A24	2020-09-15	5	420
A25	2020-09-16	8	750
A26	2020-09-16	4	150
A27	2020-09-17	15	300
A28	2020-09-20	11	1042
A29	2020-09-20	5	308
A30	2020-09-21	4	286
A31	2020-09-21	4	1
A32	2020-09-22	11	650
A33	2020-09-23	13	35
Total			**12810**

Litter data:

The total number of the recorded litter types is 7, according to the protocol established and used by the participating organizations in the Cooperative Network for the Marine Environment (Plastic, Rubber, Fabric, Metal, Paper, Processed Wood and Glass items).
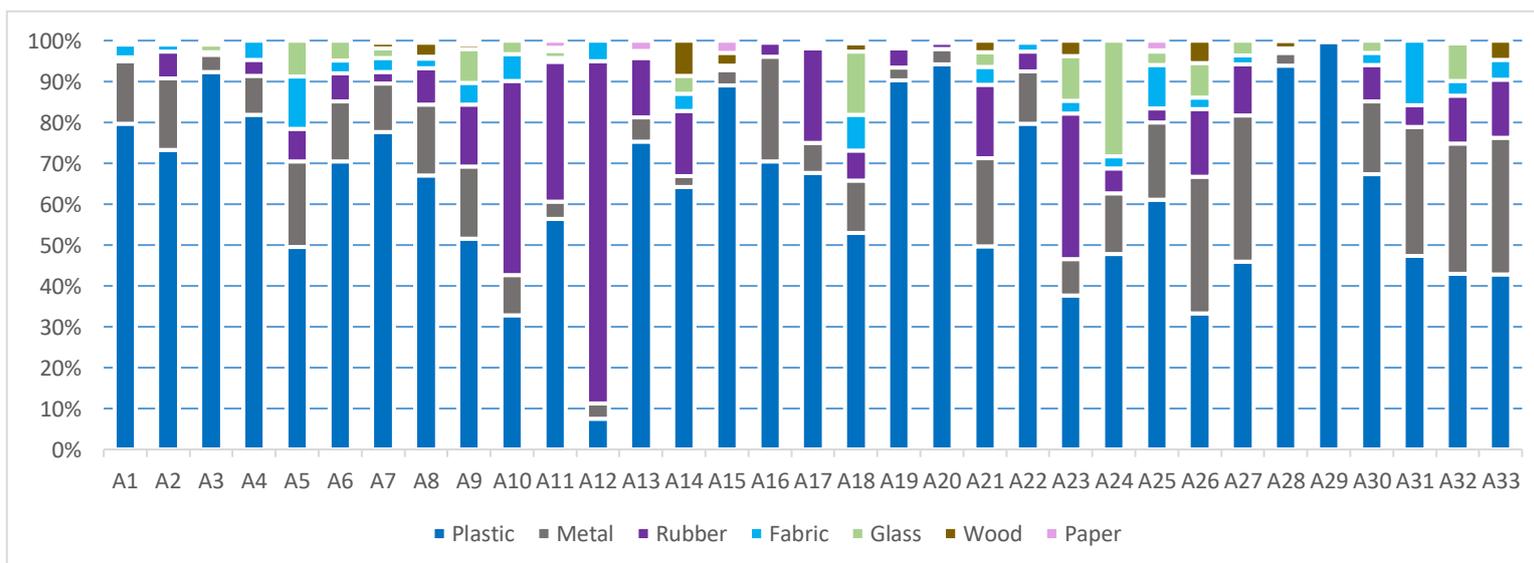

Figure 1: *Collected litter per action and type, expressed as percentage (%).*

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The findings of the underwater cleanups, as evidenced by the analysis of the data collected in the 33 actions, are presented in Figure 1. The most common litter type in most of the actions is plastic with a rate exceeding 50% except for 8 cleanups where items of local interest exceeding the usual percentages. More specifically, in A10, A12 the furthest most abundant item was vehicle tires (rubber category) that are used as floaters in the ports, but during the winter they get untied from the severe waves and end up at the bottom of the port. In the case of the Ionian Sea, metal parts and bulk items were more common than in other areas. In Cleopatras marina (A26) the sea floor was relatively clean as the area in managed by a private company. In Thessaloniki, most of the items belonged to plastic litter exceeding 70%, possibly because the areas of interest (A1-A3) are particularly urban. The ten most common litter items during the 33 underwater cleanups are shown in the Figure 3.
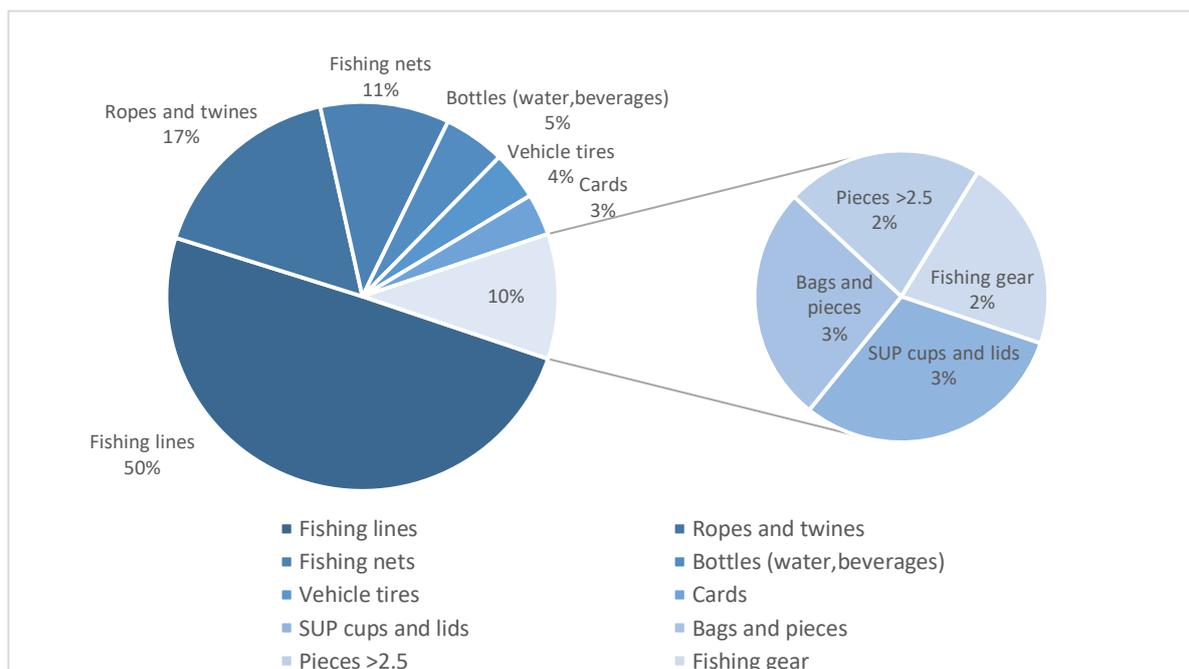

Figure 2: Ten most common collected items, expressed as percentage (%).

From the total amount of litter removed in the context of 33 underwater cleanups, the highest number of them was fishing lines. Most of them were removed from fishing ports and areas with small scale fishing and leisure activities. For the same reason the second most abundant item found was ropes and twines which are also related to fishing activities. As expected from previous sea floor marine litter data, Single Used Plastics are also included in the most common marine litter removed.

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The highest amount of the fishing gear was found in the cleanups conducted in Kavala and Thrace and can be explained by the fishing activities taking place in these areas, being the main use of these ports.

In the Ionian coastline many of the ports are used as marinas. Interestingly though, the percentage of metal litter items was very high and metal building materials were collected in every cleanup. Also, ropes and twines, fishing line and fishing nets, were very common among the litter items. Although the main activity in the areas is perceived to be tourism, items such plastic bottles and SUP caps and their lids follow in number, still maintaining a high percentage. After each cleanup, the protocol was also applied in order to collect information about the sea bottom that was cleaned. According to the D10C2 index of the Marine Strategic Framework Directive (MSFD), an average of 0,9 item/m^2 was found in the areas. The high average of items/m^2 can be explained by the fact that the cleanups aim to remove marine litter from burdened areas and ports which does not represent the broader sea floor picture of the areas.

Maps of the areas were created to show the similarity in litter types proportions:
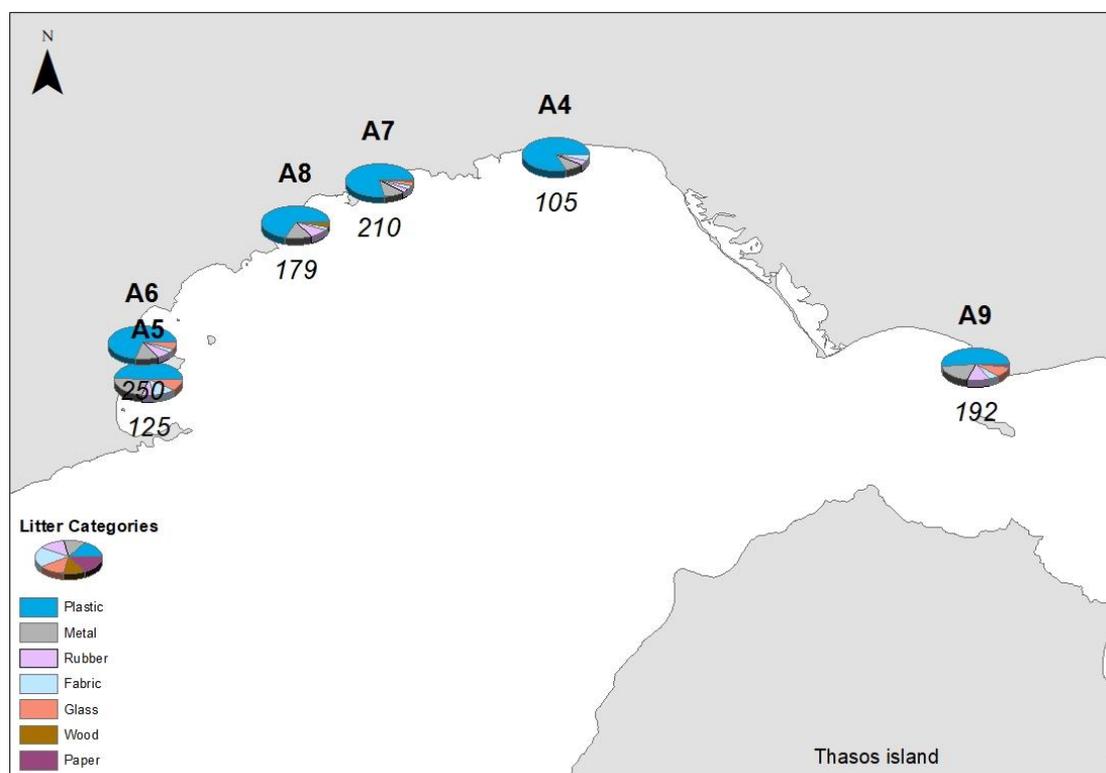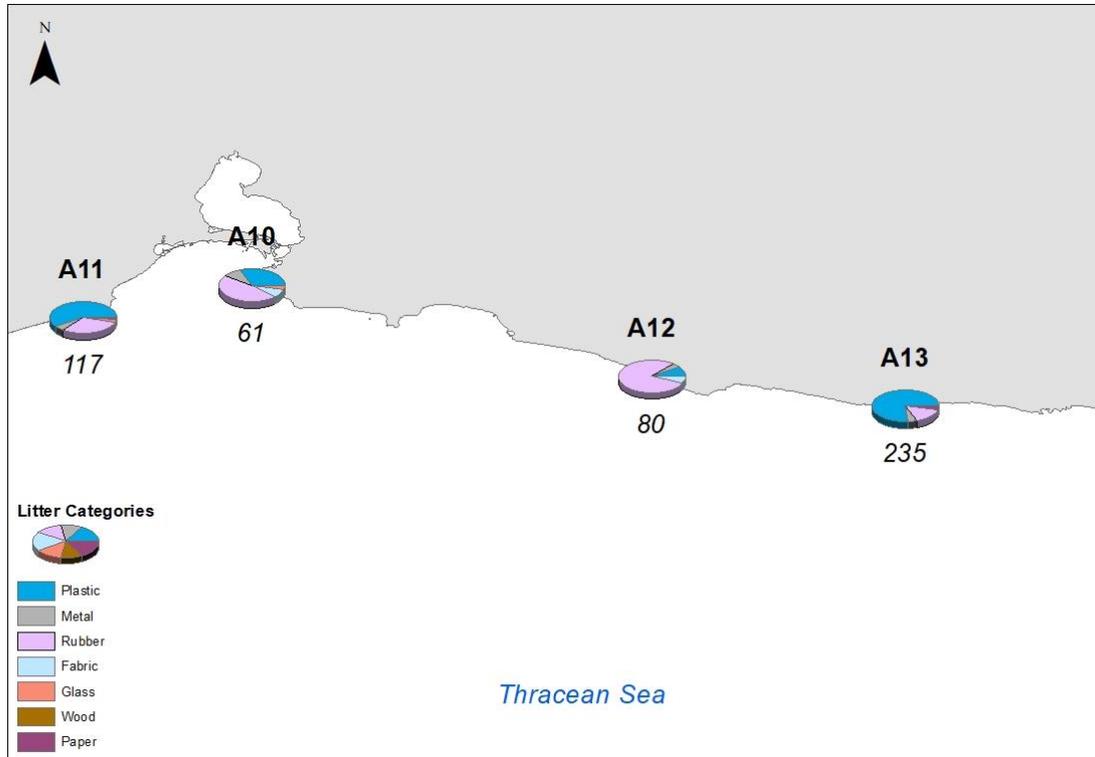

Figure 3: Litter types in Kavala cleanups

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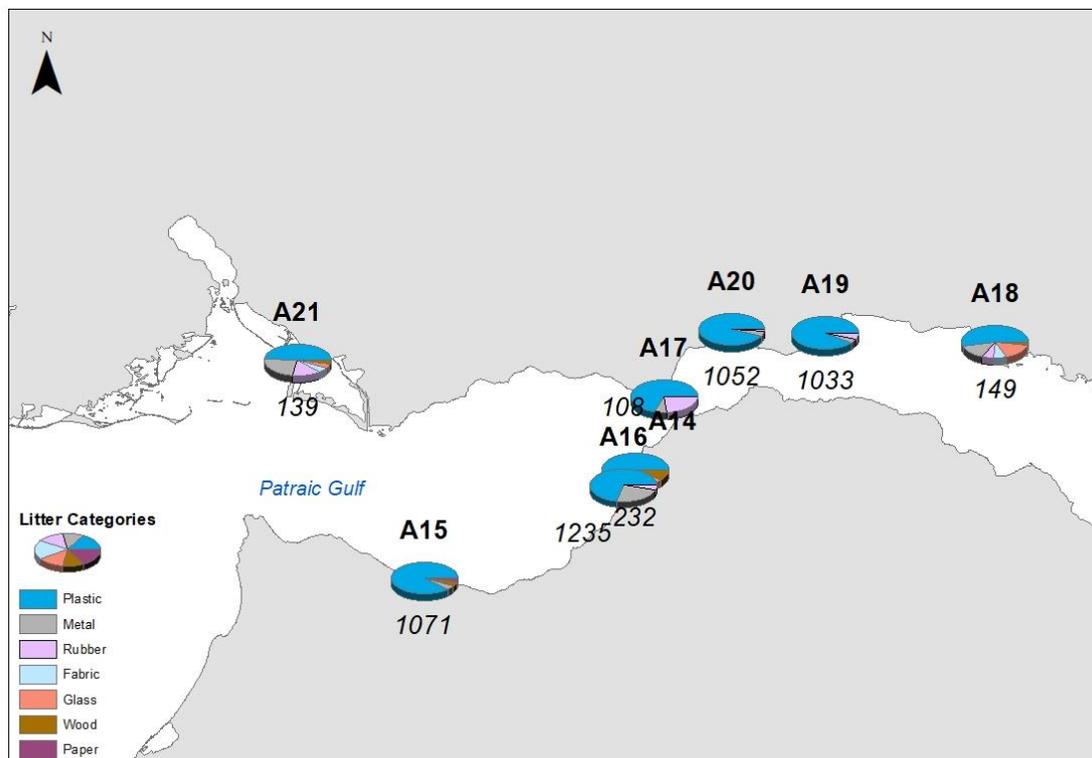Preservation of the Aquatic Ecosystems
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Figure 4: Litter types in Thrace cleanups

Figure 5: Litter types in Patraic Gulf Cleanups

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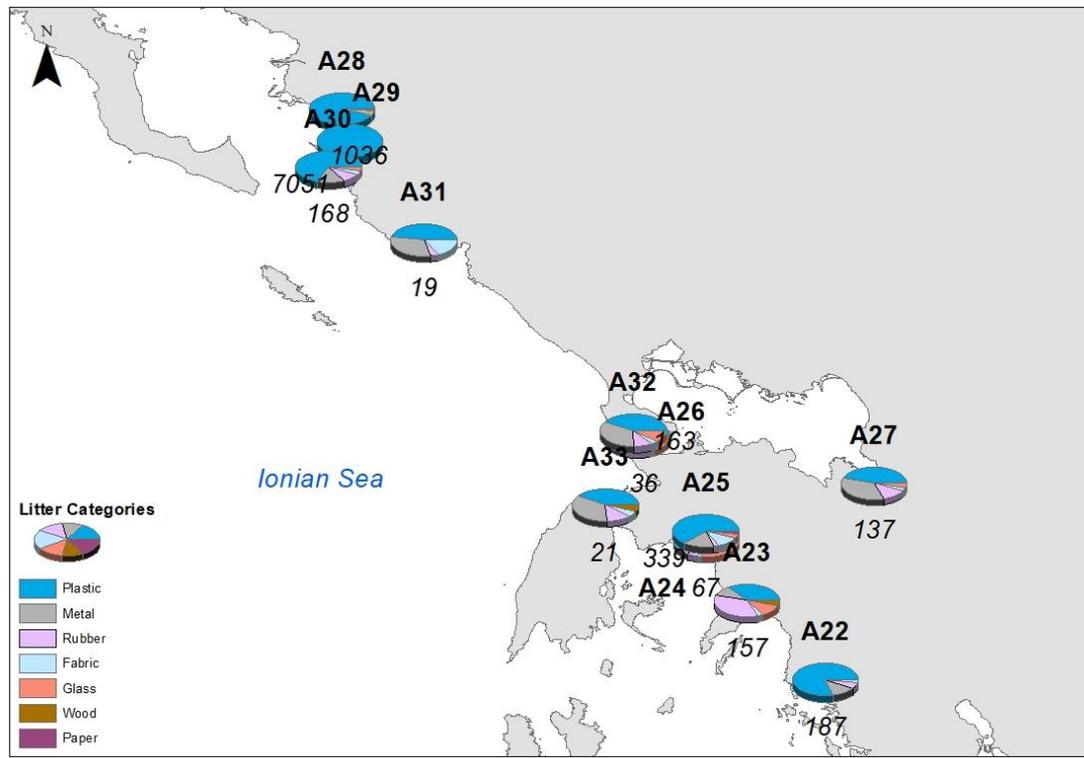info@isea.com.gr

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Figure 6: Litter types by % in North Ionian Sea cleanups

General details

In the context of 33 underwater cleanups implemented in the context of "Prosfero" Campaign a total number of 103 different volunteers contributed to the activities and the removal of marine litter from the sea floor, mainly helping the divers to lift the litter to the port docks. The volunteers included, apart from iSea members, local representatives from tourism businesses and volunteering teams, from civil protection groups to cultural associations. In total, 12 different divers participated in these underwater cleanups. 5 of them belonged to iSea's trained diving team and 7 of them were individual volunteers and representatives of diving centers who participated in cleanups implemented near their area of living.

A total amount of more than 19 tons of litter were collected from the seafloor of East Macedonia and Thrace and the Ionian Coastline. Among the items removed from the seabed extraordinary things were included like Municipality Litter Bins, several strolls, bicycles, road plates, boats and a drone.

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Communication plan

Due to Covid-19 pandemic and in order to avoid crowd gathering in the context of "Prosfero", call for volunteers and activities announcing posts were not published. The activities were implemented mainly by iSea diving team, members and volunteers. The details of the project were published in iSea's website including the communication materials produced during the previous steps of the project, its updated results, as well as the timeline and the areas of the forthcoming underwater cleanups. The posts with the highest reach in our social media accounts are presented below:

f Facebook

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August 8 · 🌐

Στο πλαίσιο του προγράμματος 💧💧#Προσφέρω (https://www.ab.gr/PG-prosfero), μιας κοινής προσπάθειας της Procter & Gamble και της AB Βασιλόπουλος για καθαρότερες ελληνικές θάλασσες και ακτές 💧💧, οι δράσεις #υποβρύχιων καθαρισμών για την απομάκρυνση των #απορριμμάτων συνεχίζονται από ακόμη περισσότερες περιοχές της #Ελλάδας!!!

Κατά το τρίμερο καθαρισμών που πραγματοποιήθηκε στην #Καβάλα και περιλάμβανε συνολικά 5 υποβρύχιους καθαρισμούς απομακρύνθηκαν συνολικά περισσότεροι από 2 τόνοι #απορριμμάτων.

Από τα απορρίμματα που απομακρύνθηκαν από τον #βυθό, έκπληξη προκάλεσε μία λεκάνη αλιευτικού σκάφους και μία #βάρκα, καθώς και ο όγκος από #ελαστικά οχημάτων, #παγίδες χταποδιών, #σχοινιά και #πλαστικά αντικείμενα μια χρήσης τα οποία ζυγίστηκαν και καταγράφηκαν.

Ευχαριστούμε θερμά τον Δήμος Καβάλας - Municipality of Kavala, το #Λιμεναρχείο Καβάλας, τον Δήμος Παγγαίου για την άψογη φιλοξενία και την Επομεα Θεσσαλονίκης για υποστήριξή της!!

Οι δράσεις συνεχίζονται σε ακόμη περισσότερες περιοχές τις #Θράκης. #allazoumesinithies

79,129 People Reached

1,307 Reactions, Comments & Shares ⓘ

13,498 Post Clicks

10,532 Photo Views | **37** Link Clicks | **2,929** Other Clicks ⓘ

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Instagram

isea_org 🐳50 #υποβρύχιους καθαρισμούς σε όλη την Ελλάδα πραγματοποίησε η iSea αυτήν τη χρονιά στο πλαίσιο του προγράμματος #Προσφέρω (https://www.ab.gr/PG-prosfero), μιας κοινής προσπάθειας της Procter & Gamble και της ΑΒ Βασιλόπουλος για καθαρότερες ελληνικές θάλασσες και ακτές!!!

Περισσότεροι από 🌍22 τόνοι #απορριμμάτων απομακρύνθηκαν και:

24 Δήμοι και Δημοτικές Ενότητες
15 Λιμενικές Αρχές
20 εθελοντικές ομάδες και φορείς
8 καταδυτικά κέντρα

ένωσαν τις δυνάμεις τους σε 📍 #Θεσσαλονίκη, 📍#Αττική, 📍#Βόλο, 📍#Πήλιο, 📍#Καβάλα, 📍#Ξάνθη, 📍#Κομοτηνή, 📍#Αλεξανδρούπολη, 📍#Ηγουμενίτσα, 📍#Ναύπακτο, 📍#Μεσολόγγι, 📍#Πρέβεζα, 📍#Λευκάδα, 📍#Αστακό, 📍#Μύτικα, 📍#Βόνιτσα, 📍#Αμφιλοχία, 📍#Πάργα, 📍#Σύβοτα και 📍#Πάτρα.

#allazoumesinithies με τη συμμετοχή και την υποστήριξή σας!

Βρείτε περισσότερες πληροφορίες για το πρόγραμμα και τα αποτελέσματά του εδώ: https://bit.ly/30fPyu4

Post Performance

♡ 97   💬 5   🔖 0

Interactions

3

Actions taken from this post

Profile Visits   3

Discovery

593

Accounts reached

9% weren't following you

Follows	--
Reach	593
Impressions	763
From Home	693
From Hashtags	33
From Profile	31
From Other	6

Twitter

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Prosfero

11 more tones of litter were removed during the journey of #Prosfero project #underwater_cleanups from #Patra to #Igoumenitsa!

Small and larger items, including a tone of #fishing_nets and hundreds of #SUPs, were collected.

Impressions	4,988
Total engagements	119
Media engagements	55
Detail expands	31
Likes	19
Retweets	9
Profile clicks	5