

Questionnaire: Perceptions about Marine Litter

1. General questions about marine litter (select one per row)

From 1 (not at all) to 5 (greatly) how concerned are you about marine litter and its impact?	1	2	3	4	5
What percentage of marine litter is made of plastic?	< 20%	20-40%	40-60%	60-80%	>80%
How many years does plastic take to degrade in the marine environment?	5	50	100	500	Never
Are you familiar with the term "microplastics"?	Yes	No			

2. Where does marine litter come from (which are its sources)? (select one per row)

	Strongly disagree			Strongly agree	
It is left on the beach by beach goers/tourists	1	2	3	4	5
It is left on the beach by users of coastal bars and restaurants	1	2	3	4	5
It is disposed of in the sea by fishermen (commercial and recreational)	1	2	3	4	5
It is disposed of in the sea by the shipping industry, offshore industries or other type of port industries	1	2	3	4	5
It is carried to the sea/coast by rivers/wind/sewage outflows	1	2	3	4	5

3. To what extent do the following causes contribute to marine litter? (select one per row)

	Not at all				Greatly
Inadequate waste management, leading to the release of material to the environment	1	2	3	4	5
Environmental legislation is not fully implemented	1	2	3	4	5
Lack of bins in public areas	1	2	3	4	5
Lack of awareness about the problems that marine litter causes	1	2	3	4	5
Culture (i.e. behaviour of individuals and businesses)	1	2	3	4	5

4. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about marine litter? (select one per row)

	Strongly Disagree			Strongly Agree	
It affects tourism and therefore the country's economy	1	2	3	4	5
It kills fish and other sea creatures	1	2	3	4	5
It poses risks to public health	1	2	3	4	5
It causes financial losses to the fishing industry	1	2	3	4	5

It is annoying to beach goers, including myself	1	2	3	4	5
It costs a lot to clean up	1	2	3	4	5
It is easily collected and recycled	1	2	3	4	5

5. Which of the following actions do you think are most effective in reducing marine litter? (select one per row)

	Least Effective			Most Effective	
Impose greater fines to polluters	1	2	3	4	5
Educate the public about the issue	1	2	3	4	5
Implement beach and sea cleanups	1	2	3	4	5
Use reusable, rather than single-use, products	1	2	3	4	5
Improve waste management facilities (recycling, recovery etc.)	1	2	3	4	5
Other (please state) _____	1	2	3	4	5

6. How responsible are the following organizations/groups for addressing the issue of marine litter? (select one per row)

	Not at all			Greatly	
Local authorities	1	2	3	4	5
National Government	1	2	3	4	5
Environmental organisations	1	2	3	4	5
The general public, including yourself	1	2	3	4	5
Teachers and educators	1	2	3	4	5

7. Please complete the following information about yourself (for statistical purposes only)

Gender: Male / Female **Age group:** 18 or below 19-24 25-35 36-50 51-65 65+

Occupation: _____

Education level: Primary Secondary University Postgraduate (MSc/PhD)

Nationality: _____