

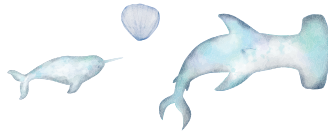


Have you already experienced plastic waste in the environment, on the beach or even in the water?

Marine litter is a growing global threat to marine animals and ecosystems, fisheries, tourism and ultimately our health. **About 60 to 90%** of it consists of plastics and much comes from single-use plastic packaging and products, such as straws and plastic bags. After their use, they often land in the environment and leak into waterways such as rivers, and finally the ocean.

5-13
million tons
of plastic waste

AFFECT OVER
800 SPECIES



In total, **5 to 13 million tons** of plastic waste find their way into the world's oceans every year. It is estimated that marine litter **affects over 800 species** in marine and coastal environments.

Over time, plastic waste in the ocean decomposes into very small pieces, so called microplastics. These are of particular concern due to their potential toxicity and size, entering food chains and drinking water.

What are reasons for marine litter ?

Worldwide, the amounts of single-use plastic packaging and products we consume **keep growing**.

Packaging waste is **not yet effectively enough** collected, sorted, and recycled.

BUT WE CAN TAKE ACTION AND RETHINK



Do you even need all the plastic products? **Refuse** and **Reduce** the amount of plastic in your daily life. Say no to plastic bags in supermarkets, plastic straws in your drink or plastic cutlery when ordering takeaway food. Choose products without packaging, with less packaging or with packaging made of natural materials.



Reuse products as much as possible. Take your own reusable options with you, such as cloth bags for the supermarket, Pinto for your lunch or coffee cups at the café.



Repair before throwing products away. Check if they can be repaired or repurposed. And if you don't want them anymore, maybe you can give them away to others?



Recycle: Make sure to dispose and segregate your waste properly, according to the different waste types. Your contribution at home is very important to create a functioning recycling system.

Altogether, reducing and avoiding plastics can make a big contribution to reduce plastic waste and marine litter and achieve a circular economy, in which materials and resources are returned back and used again for as long as possible.