17.2.3 International Collaboration Data Gathering for SDG 2024/2025

The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) actively participates in international collaborations for gathering and measuring data related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). AASTMT engages in joint regional projects, international research agreements, and data-sharing frameworks with international partners.

AASTMT Participation in TouMaLi Project

1 May 2021 – 31 December 2026

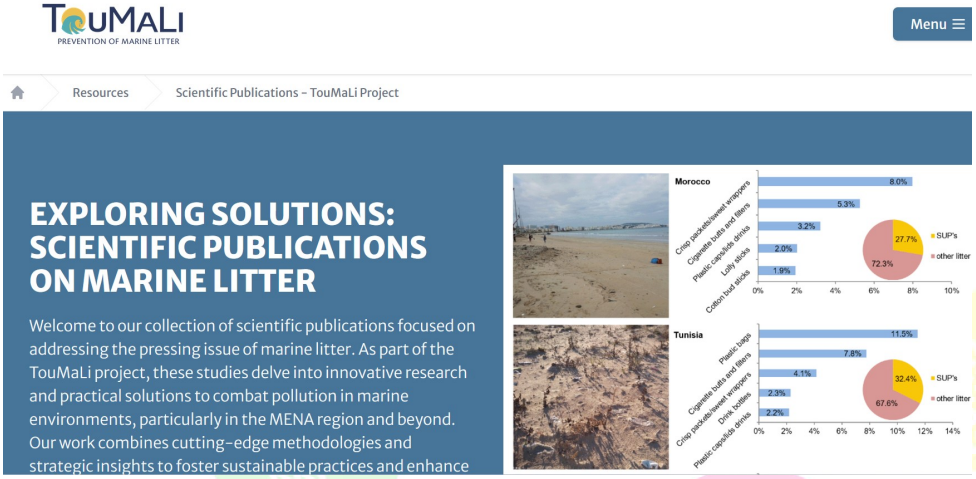
TouMaLi is an international research project designed to combat tourism-related marine litter and safeguard fragile marine ecosystems across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, with a primary focus on Morocco, Tunisia, and Egypt. The initiative is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment and supported by a diverse consortium of nine institutions, including universities, think tanks, and private organizations led by the University of Rostock and the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde. Within this framework, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) research team plays a key operational role by coordinating and implementing the local activities among partners, target groups, and actors in Egypt.

A core objective of TouMaLi is to significantly decrease beach pollution by analyzing the quantities, pathways, and primary sources of coastal debris in key tourism hotspots. To ensure long-term viability, the project develops comprehensive, sustainable waste management frameworks encompassing legal structures, financial mechanisms, technical innovations, and clear organizational responsibilities.

As an output of the project within the reporting period, AASTMT has contributed to the following published research work:

*Wiechert, J., Chaher, N. E. H., **Hassan, G.**, Nassour, A., & Nelles, M. (2025). Extended sector responsibility—The tourism sector as a driver for improved waste management in Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia. Recycling, 10(2), 29.*
AASTMT Participation in TouMaLi Project

*Haseler, M., Ben Abdallah, L., El Fels, L., El Hayany, B., Hassan, G., Escobar-Sánchez, G., Robbe, E., Miriam von Thenen, Loukili, A., **Abd El-Raouf, M.**, Mhiri, F., **Abdelwahed El-Bary, A.**, Schernewski, G., & Nassour, A. (2025). Assessment of beach litter pollution in Egypt, Tunisia, and Morocco: A study of macro and meso-litter on Mediterranean beaches. Environmental monitoring and assessment, 197(1), 123.*
AASTMT Participation in TouMaLi Project



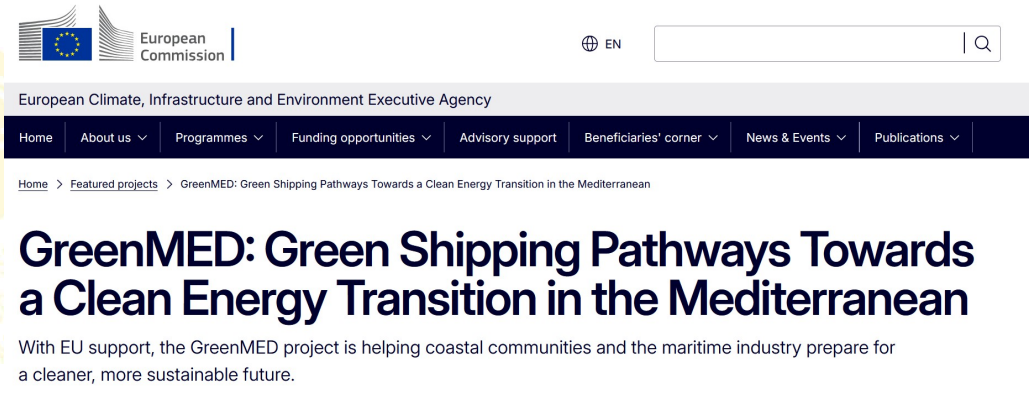
TouMaLi publications webpage:
Scientific publications of TouMaLi project

Green Shipping Pathways Towards a Clean Energy Transition in the Mediterranean

1 October 2023-31 December 2025

The Green Shipping Pathways Towards a Clean Energy Transition in the Mediterranean project (GreenMED) is an EU-funded initiative under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) designed to drive maritime decarbonization and clean energy adoption across Greece, Spain, Cyprus, and Egypt. The Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport (AASTMT) executes key research tasks for the consortium by considering regional ship energy demands, fuel supply chains, and the variety of emerging green shipping technologies. A central output of the project is the Mediterranean Sustainable Shipping Observatory (MSSO) [https://msso.blue/], a dedicated regional decarbonization hub that compiles data on shipping emissions, fuel consumption, port infrastructure, and energy supply—analyzing ship energy demand across more than 30 million recorded vessel movements. AASTMT directly feeds its regional data collection and North African operational datasets into the MSSO knowledge base to support these baseline assessments. A report on MSSO community building and engagement outlook was published on 30 September 2024:

MSSO community building and engagement outlook report



GreenMED: Green Shipping Pathways Towards a Clean Energy Transition in the Mediterranean on European Commission webpage