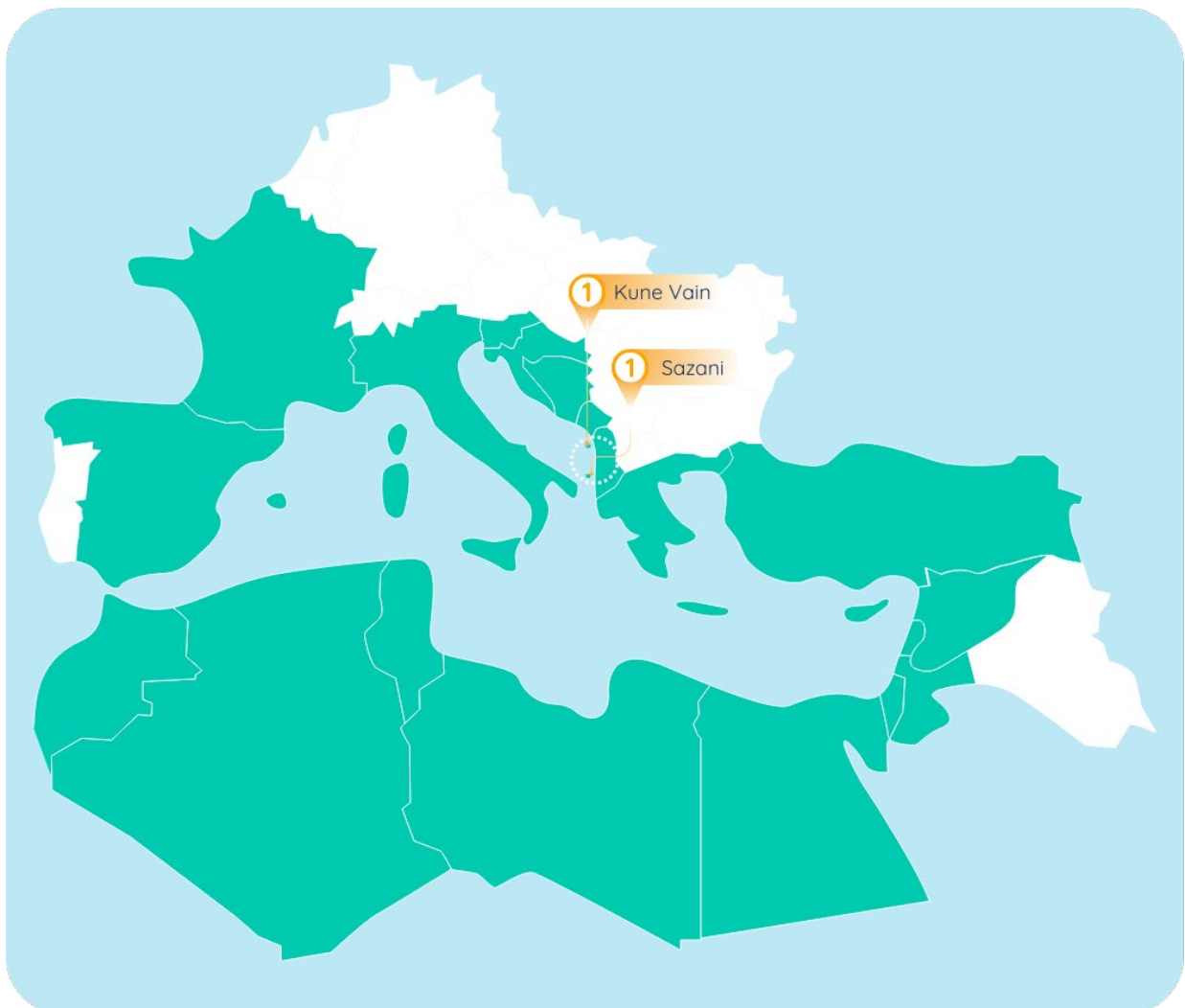


BeMed supports 2 new projects in the Albanian islands

In May 2024, the Beyond Plastic Med (BeMed) association launched its 2nd call for projects dedicated to the Mediterranean islands, to support local initiatives in the fight against plastic pollution. Today, BeMed is delighted to announce the 7 laureate projects, led by local stakeholders across 6 Mediterranean countries.

Mediterranean islands such as Sazani and Kune Vain are particularly hard hit by the problem of plastic waste. These fragile territories are subject to major leaks of waste into the marine environment, but they also offer an ideal testing ground for new solutions. BeMed wants to strengthen current initiatives and support projects with a measurable impact on reducing plastic pollution.



In 2020, BeMed supported the Albanian project "Together for zero plastic in Albanian Islands" run by the Royal Albanian Foundation (RAF). This project aimed to reduce plastic pollution on Albanian islands in collaboration with six municipalities and various local partners. Key achievements include :

- Creation of solid partnerships: Collaboration with municipalities, the Ministry of Tourism and the Environment.
- Clean-up: Six major clean-up campaigns and various local initiatives.
- Raising awareness: Large-scale awareness campaigns and distribution of educational material to tourists.
- Waste management: Implementation of transport of plastic waste to the mainland and development of a waste management plan.
- Legislative action: Support for the ban on plastic bags in Albania.
- Student involvement: Competition on reducing plastic pollution with the University of Tirana.
- Sustainable alternatives: Replacing plastic beach furniture with wooden and willow alternatives.

In 2024, under the new call for projects, 2 Albanian projects were selected:

- Milieu Kontakt and ETMI, "Marine litter prevention in Sazani and Kune Vain Islands", [Albania](#)

Reducing plastic waste on the Sazani and Kune Vain islands through awareness-raising actions, supporting the HoReCa sector and drawing up a roadmap for action involving local stakeholders.

- Flag Pine, "Towards a plastic-free Karaburun-Sazan Marine Protected Area", [Albania](#)

Raising awareness and implementing pilot actions to reduce the use of single-use plastics in the Karaburun-Sazan marine protected area and the Bay of Vlora.

In addition to the financial support granted, the selected projects will participate in the CapiMed-Islands programme, which aims to :

- COLLABORATION between islands and projects
- TRANSFER approaches, results and lessons learned to other islands
- IMPROVE the visibility of projects

This programme is funded by BeMed and coordinated by MedWaves and SMILO.

The Beyond Plastic Med (BeMed) association

BeMed was founded in 2015, on the initiative of the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, in partnership with the MAVA Foundation, Surfrider Europe Foundation, the Tara Océan Foundation and the IUCN.

For nearly 10 years, its aim has been to combat plastic pollution in the Mediterranean Sea by working alongside stakeholders on the ground.

For more information: <https://www.beyondplasticmed.org/en/homepage/>

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Our supports:

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The BeMed association is sheltered by the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

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