



# Litter ingestion by dead and live sea turtles in the Atlantic and the Mediterranean French waters

## Lesson for the implementation of the indicator “Debris ingested by sea turtles”

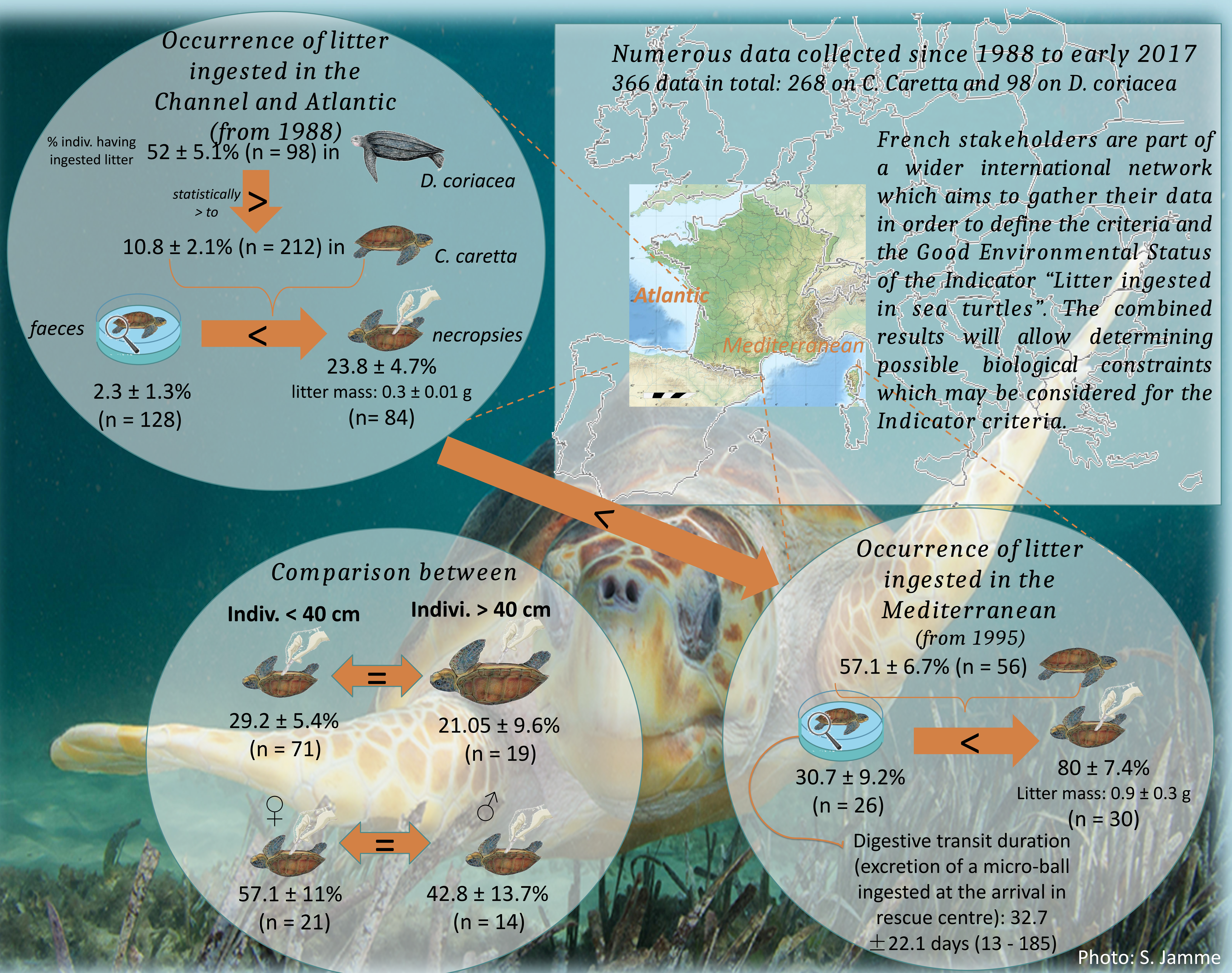
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Due to their propensity to ingest marine litter and to their extended distribution, sea turtles were proposed since 2013, as a relevant indicator of litter impact caused by ingestion, for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) (European Commission), the Barcelona convention (Mediterranean Sea; UNEP Mediterranean Action Plan), and more recently (2016), for the OSPAR Regional Sea Convention (European South Atlantic; Region IV)

### A collaborative work

French rescue centres, stranding networks and research and veterinary laboratories work collaboratively since decades in order to assess the ingestion of anthropogenic debris by the loggerhead *Caretta caretta* and the leatherback *Dermochelys coriacea* turtles in the Atlantic, Channel and the Mediterranean metropolitan French facades. Both necropsies of dead individuals and observations from live individuals’ faeces in rescue centres are considered.



### Acknowledgement

We are highly grateful to the many volunteers who support us in the collection of sea turtles. We also thank C. Lefebvre (CestMed), J. Martin (CEFE) and E. Meheust (Aq. La Rochelle) for their help us in recording the data, as well as the French Agency of Biodiversity for financial support.

### References

Galgani et al., 2013. MSFD guidelines; Dell’Amico & Gambaiani, 2013. Report, 53 p.; Darmon et al., 2014. Report, 23 p.

