



## Good practices in Italy

3/2018

**Title:** Goletta dei Laghi  
**Owner:** Legambiente Onlus  
**Start date:** 2005  
**Contact:** <https://www.legambiente.it/golettadeilaghi/>

### Description:

Goletta dei Laghi is an ecologist campaign run by Legambiente Onlus about the monitoring of pollution in Italian lakes. Legambiente is the most widespread Italian environmental organization operating on the whole country.

Goletta is a boat from which a team of expert in the field monitor different spots reporting their conditions and whether they are critical for health and environmental protection issue. The boat has crossed some Italian lakes for a month reporting criticality, but also virtuous examples of sustainable management of resources.

This project has been lasting for 14 years now as a sort of branch of an older one named Goletta Verde, which does the same monitoring in Italian seas. What affects the most our lakes is concreting, untreated discharges, water abstraction, waste crisis, loss of biodiversity and lack of care for the territorial system as a whole.

The mismanagement of urban waste is the main cause of pollution in lakes as well as on the shores. As a matter of fact food packaging constitutes 63% of the recovered material. Then lighters, cigarette packets and cigarette ends are the undisputed protagonist on banks and shores. The bad conditions of the purifying system are an issue, too.

The scientific experts monitoring the Italian waters analyse the samples they take, spreading the results in real time. The judgment on the quality of the water bodies is obtained from the microbiological analysis of the samples.

In Goletta dei Laghi, as well as in Goletta Verde, active citizenship has a fundamental role. As a matter of fact people can help the team of experts informing about any violation case or any substance of concern.

For what concerns materials, plastics is the most widespread. For this reason, during the project Goletta Verde Legambiente has also been working on monitoring microplastics in lakes together with ENEA, which is a National Agency operating to integrate policies on competitiveness and sustainability.