

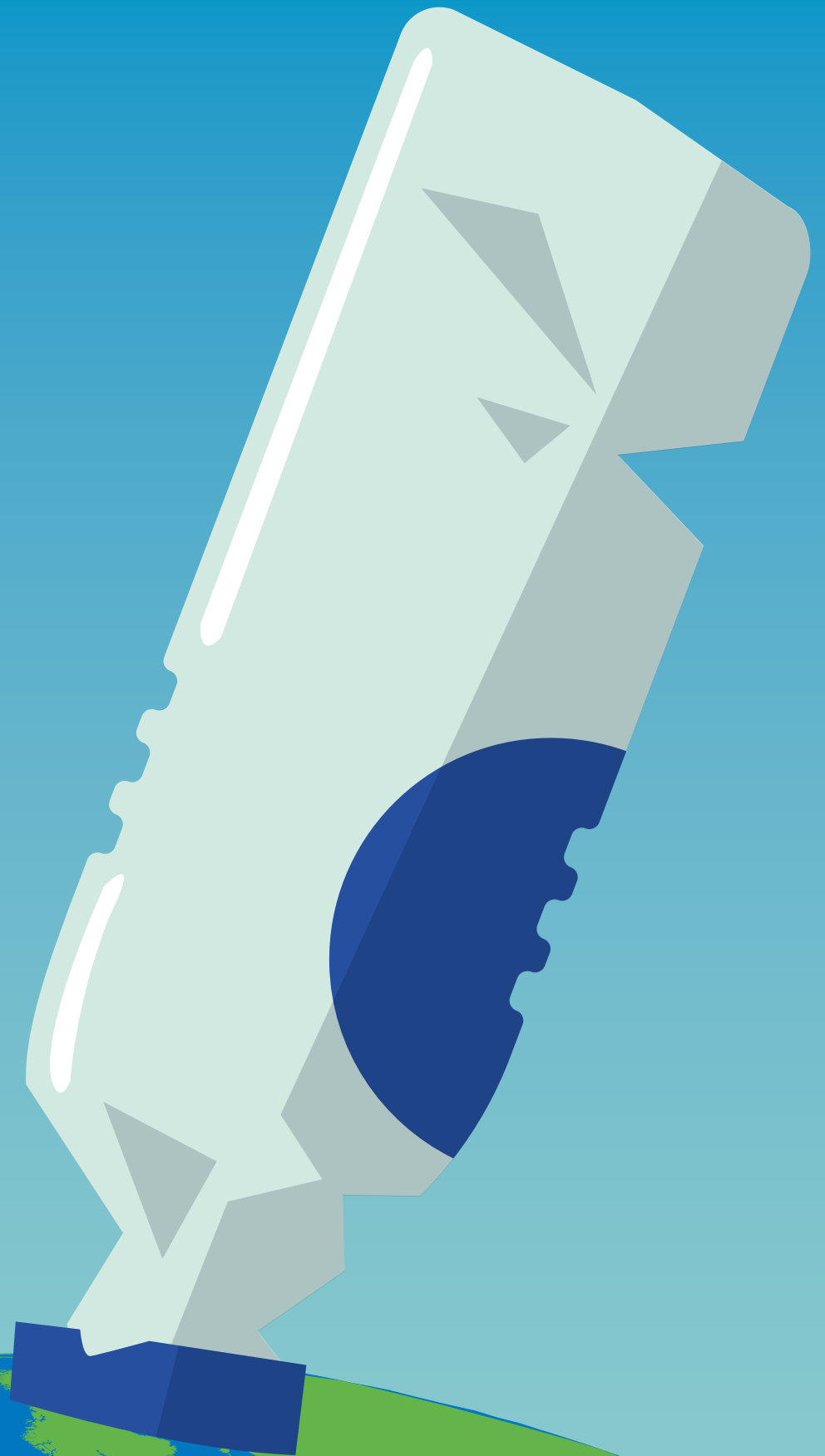
Buy a reusable water bottle ... and use it!
Say no to single use plastic! Think before you buy
Rethink, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

DID YOU KNOW?

- **China - the world's largest recyclable materials importer - has decided to ban the importing of plastics from European countries. This policy came into effect on 1 January.**
- **In China took 95% of Ireland's plastic waste in 2016.**
- **Around 22 million plastic bottles are purchased in Ireland each week - and, if laid end to end, would reach Boston in Massachusetts. That's roughly 5 bottles per person per week.**
- **The ocean is expected to contain 1 tonne of plastic for every 3 tonnes of fish by 2025, and by 2050, more plastics than fish by weight.**
- **About 8 million tonnes of plastic are thrown into the ocean annually**
- **The likelihood of coral becoming diseased increases from 4% to 89% after coming in contact with marine plastic. Coral reefs are home to more than 25% of marine life.**



 **An Taisce**



An Roinn Tithíochta,
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil
Department of Housing,
Planning and Local Government

CLEANCOASTS.ORG



Fáilte Ireland
National Tourism Development Authority

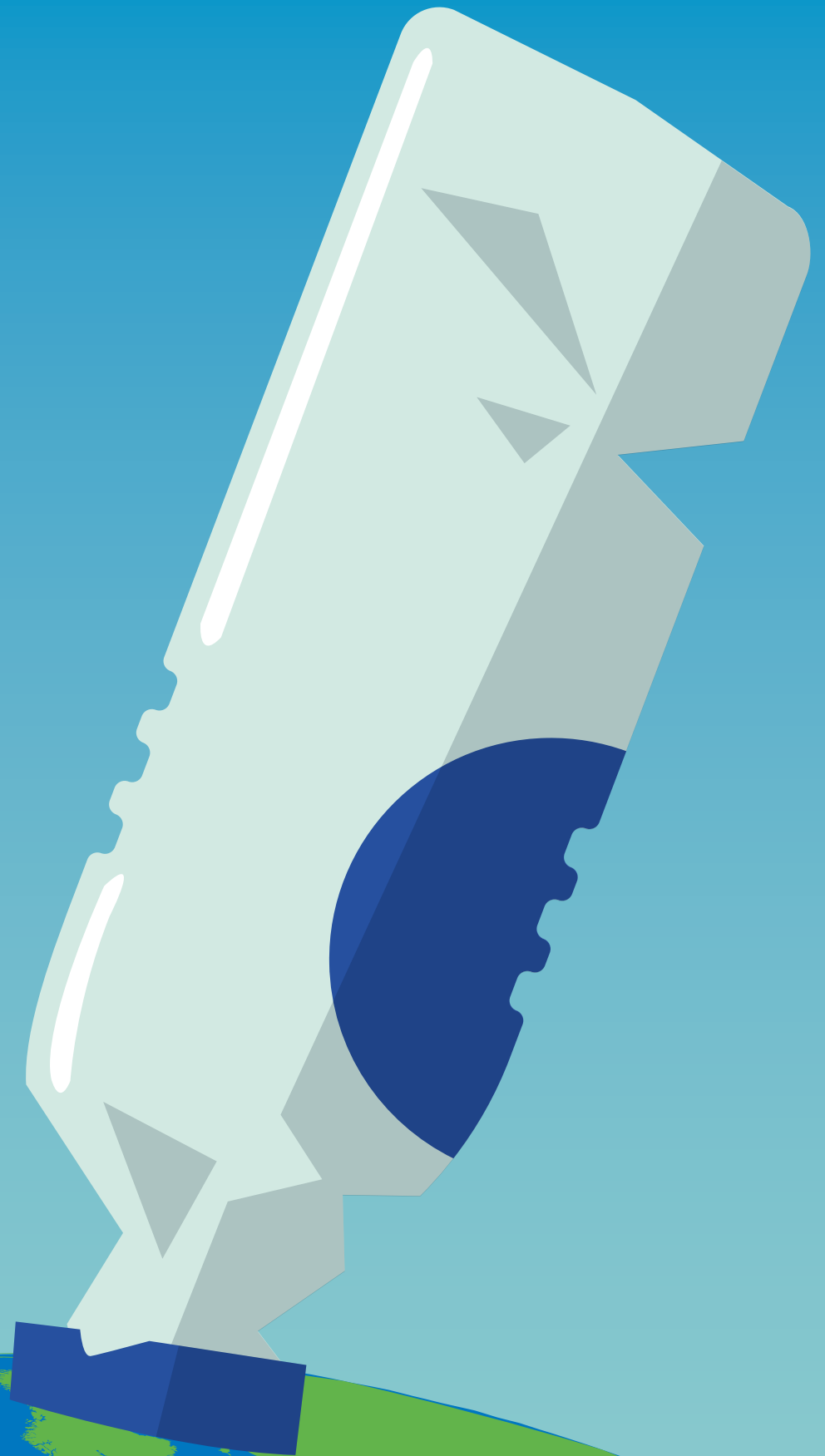
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DID YOU KNOW?

- The average time for a plastic bottle to break down is at least 450 years, however it will break down to microplastics and never fully disappear.
- Our plastic waste has created a gigantic “plastic soup” in the Pacific of up to 15 million square kilometres - almost the size of Russia.
- Over the next 10 years, the plastic soup could double in size. At this speed, the plastic grows as much as 8 football fields every second.
- In the plastic soup there are 60 pounds of plastic at the ocean surface to everyone pound of plankton.
- Over the last ten years we have produced more plastic than during the whole of the last century.
- One million sea birds and 100,000 marine mammals are killed annually from plastic in our oceans.



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