



DEMONSTRATION

BLUENET proposes a self-sustaining programme that envisages the **involvement of key stakeholders** through direct contact and workshops (port authorities, fishing associations, aquaculture producers, and waste managers).

As a demonstrating activity, **5 fishing vessels** (1 trawlers, 2 purse seiners, 2 artisanal vessels), and **4 fishing ports** will be equipped with fishing gears collection bins. Recovered gears will be upcycled by recycling and using them as raw recycled materials for manufacturing new fishing and aquaculture gears, closing the loop on the **circular economy**. The targeted polymers are Polyamide, Polypropylene, Polyethylene.



REPLICABILITY

Once the system is working, an additional workshop will be held with stakeholders from **Aquitaine, Galicia and Mediterranean** provinces to showcase how the ALDFG management can be implemented locally, within a **circular economy** context and to facilitate the replication elsewhere.

CONSORTIUM

The BLUENET consortium brings together partners of the **Basque Country** (AZTI, GAIKER, ITSASKORDA) and **Italy** (NTT). It is a well-balanced group with complementary skills and expertise that covers the whole added value supply chain of the project as well as the planned working actions and tasks.

The project is coordinated by **AZTI** a Research Institution that meets leading view of the main challenges associated to the blue marine economy.

The rest of the partnership is composed of **GAIKER & NTT** (Research institutions) and **ITSASKORDA** a relevant SME, which provide the complementary skills to design and implement the proposed recycling scheme to reduce marine litter in a cost-effective way by providing a second life to the materials obtained for marine aquaculture textile products.

COORDINATOR



PARTNERS



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CREATING A NEW LIFE

for abandoned, lost or discarded fishing and aquaculture gears to prevent marine litter generation.



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Duration:

Start 01/01/2019
End 31/12/2020

4.6-12.7
million tonnes
of marine litter are added
every year to our seas and
oceans.

THE PROJECT

BLUENET aims at reducing, by the end of 2020, the marine litter from sea-based sources and from the SE **Bay of Biscay** by **20-40 %**.

The sources to be investigated are **aquaculture and fisheries**, and the amount and harmfulness of marine litter produced by their Abandoned, Lost or Discarded Fishing Gears (ALDFG).

ALDFG represent around
1.000.000
tonnes of all marine litter

HOW



PROMOTING

the proactivity of the sectors in combating marine litter, through ocean literacy.



PREVENTING

the intentional and unintentional disposal of nets and ropes at the sea.



FACILITATING

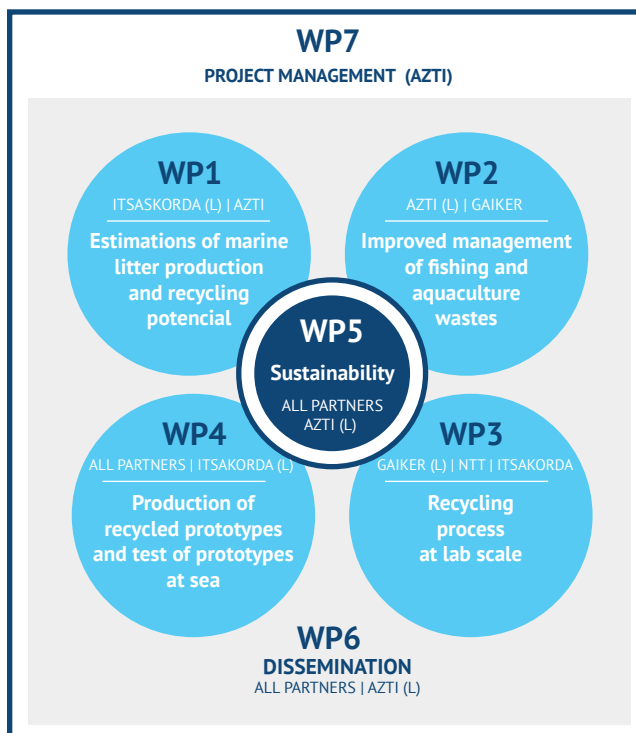
the recovery of nets and ropes to fishers and aquaculture operators.



UPCYCLING

them by recycling and using them as raw recycled materials for manufacturing new fishing and aquaculture gears.

ACTIONS



**“Locally wasted,
locally recovered.”**

EXPECTED RESULTS: SOCIETY

- **Selective collection** and management of 1 t of marine litter in gears.
- **Integrated training activities** at 3 marine colleges (new professional skills).
- **1 programme established** to facilitate the collection and management of marine litter generated by fishing and aquaculture.

EXPECTED RESULTS: ECONOMY

- Creation of **2 new green jobs**.
- Increased **technological innovation** to incorporate secondary raw materials in gear-making.
- Improved **cost-effective solutions** or products out of marine litter by rope manufacturers and providers exportable to the European market and aquaculture sector.
- **Boosting the circular economy** as new business models by generating new technology and production processes by plastic recycling companies to answer the marine litter challenge locally.

EXPECTED RESULTS: ENVIRONMENT

- **20-40% reduction on the marine litter** creation from sea-based sources at the SE Bay of Biscay.
- At least, a **5% reduction on environmental impacts** associated to gear making.
- **Increased recycling rates** of plastic on gear making.