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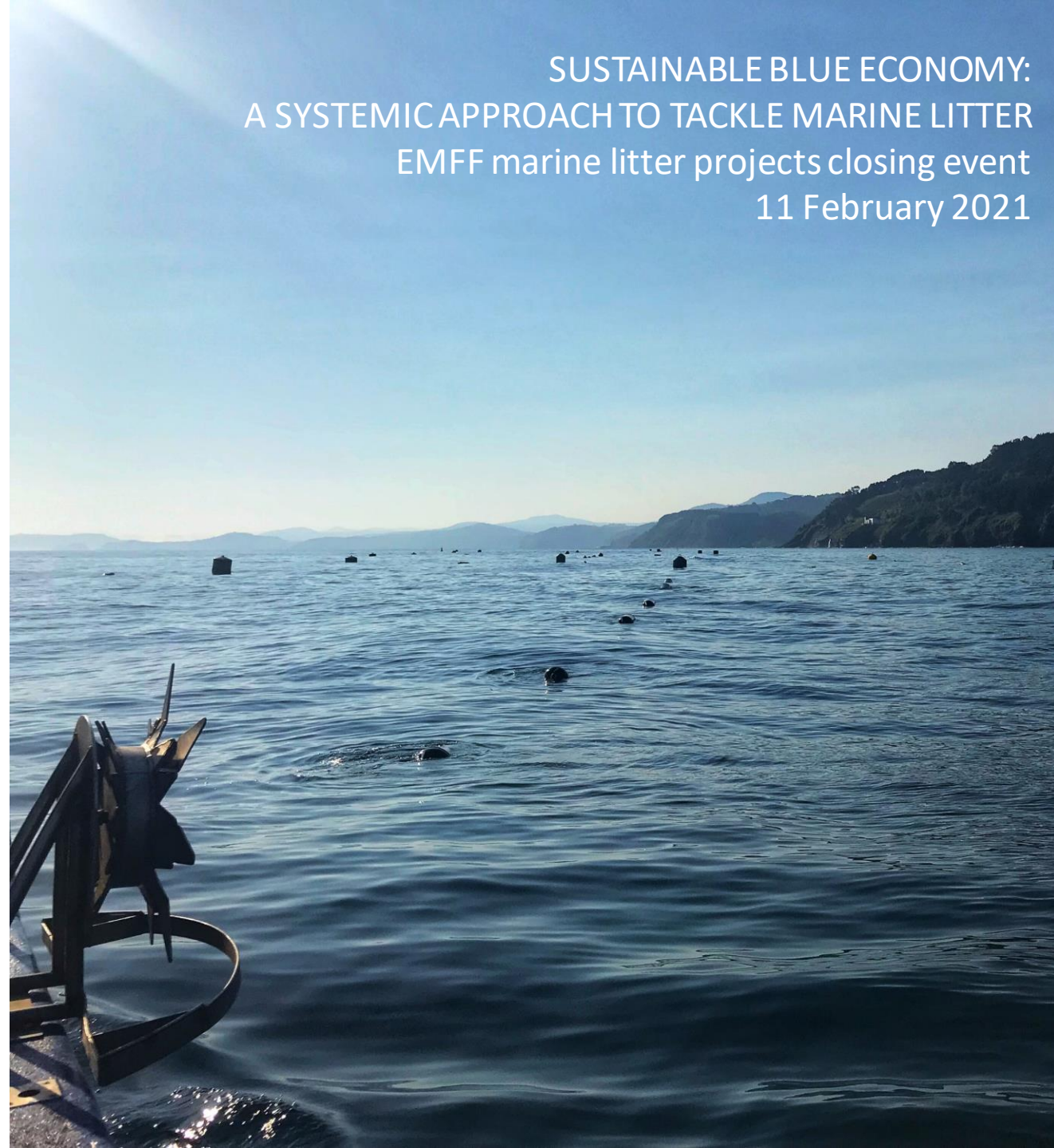
CREATING NEW LIFE
for discarded fishing and
aquaculture gears to
prevent marine litter
generation

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#BLUENET_EUproject

SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY:
A SYSTEMIC APPROACH TO TACKLE MARINE LITTER
EMFF marine litter projects closing event
11 February 2021





BLUENET

Creating a new life for abandoned, lost or discarded fishing and aquaculture gears to prevent marine litter generation



Spain + Italy (testing location: SE Bay of Biscay)



01/01/2019 – 31/12/2020 + 6 months



688.364 € (80% co-funded by the EU)



- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | AZTI (Coordinator) (SP) | Research centre |
| 2. | GAIKER (SP) | Research centre |
| 3. | Itsaskorda (SP) | SME |
| 4. | Next Technology Tecnotessile (IT) | Research centre |



EASME/EMFF/2017/1.2.1.12/S2 – MARINE LITTER
Sustainable Blue Economy

COORDINATOR



MEMBER OF
BASQUE RESEARCH
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE

BENEFICIARIES



MEMBER OF
BASQUE RESEARCH
& TECHNOLOGY ALLIANCE



TECNOTESSILE
SOCIETÀ NAZIONALE DI RICERCA R. L.

Aquac. Ongrowing rope

Aquaculture Holding rope

Fishing PO trawling net

Fishing PA purse seine net

LONGLINES AT SEA

<https://www.bluenetproject.eu/bluenet-video-goes-online/>

MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS



1. Longline ropes for mussel aquaculture manufactured from recycled discarded fishing nets

- Provide alternative designs for F&A gears, promoting **sustainable designs**
- Test the suitability of the **inclusion of recycled materials** in net and rope-making designs (at lab-scale and at sea)

Locally discarded, locally recovered

2. Establish the Fishing for Litter initiative in the Basque Country (SP)

Involving: 150 fishers // 24 vessels // 3 ports

Producing: 1 Regional management plan for marine litter

3. Engagement with local “future professionals”

Marine college students + University students

- 80 students
- 1 Scientific paper in collaboration

MAIN CHALLENGE S

Problem solving
& lessons
learned



FISHING FOR LITTER

- No collaboration with waste managers
- Few engagement of fishers



No collaboration

- Tight communication with Port Dept. of the Basque Government - Weekly photo reporting
- *Directive Port Rec. Facilities*

Few engagement from fishers

- Joining their trips and doing characterization onboard
- **Designing with fishers** the procedure to store the litter onboard and in port
- **Incentives**: t-shirts, hats



LONGLINE TESTS at SEA

- Series of heavy weather conditions at sea
- Loss of mussels



Bad Weather

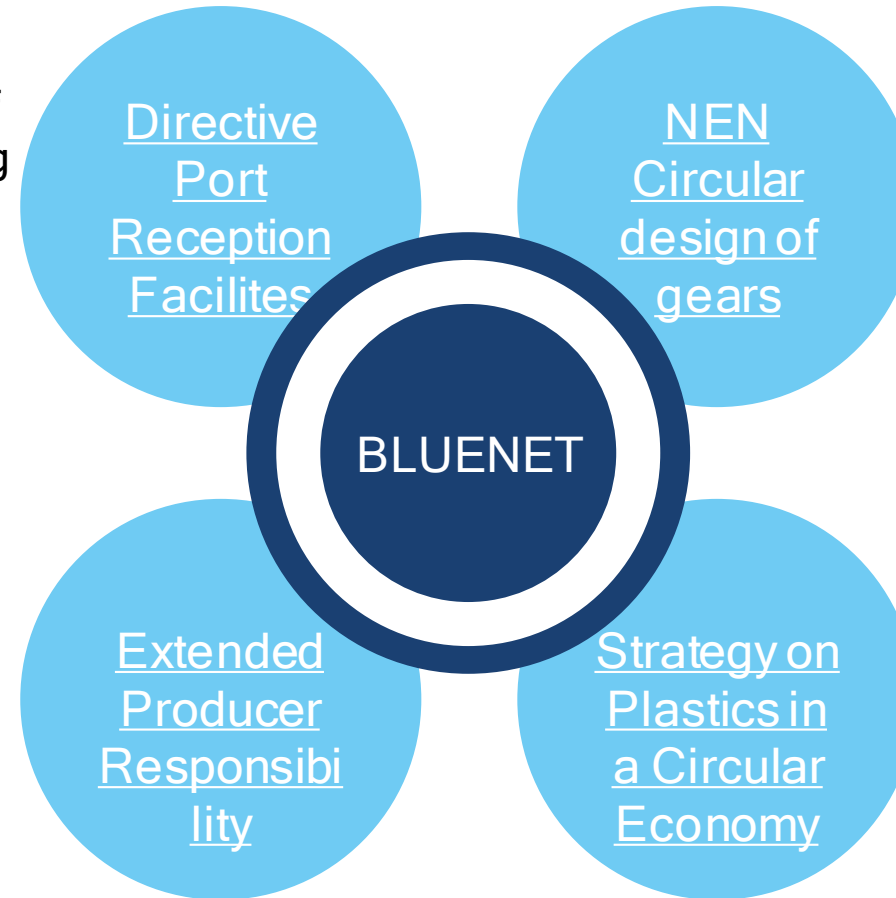
- New batch of ropes launched in a protected raft
- **Collaboration with local aquaculture site manager**

Loss of mussels

- Ropes were cleaned and re-seeded
- Inclusion of a protected mesh to avoid mussel loss

CONTRIBUTI ON TO EU POLICIES

Feedback (2 pager)
recommendations for
the implementation of
the directive regarding
to Fishing for Litter



Participation of
the process and
feedback on the
lessons learned

Feedback on the
lessons learned
to incorporate
recycled
materials into
rope
manufacturing

Scientific papers (2) related to the stakeholders viewpoint on the recycling potential of aquaculture gears and use of recycled materials within aquaculture as a way to reduce its contribution of marine litter



Thank you very much
for your time

If you have any questions, contact us at:

 <https://www.bluenetproject.eu/>

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