



# EU actions to tackle Marine Litter from sea based sources

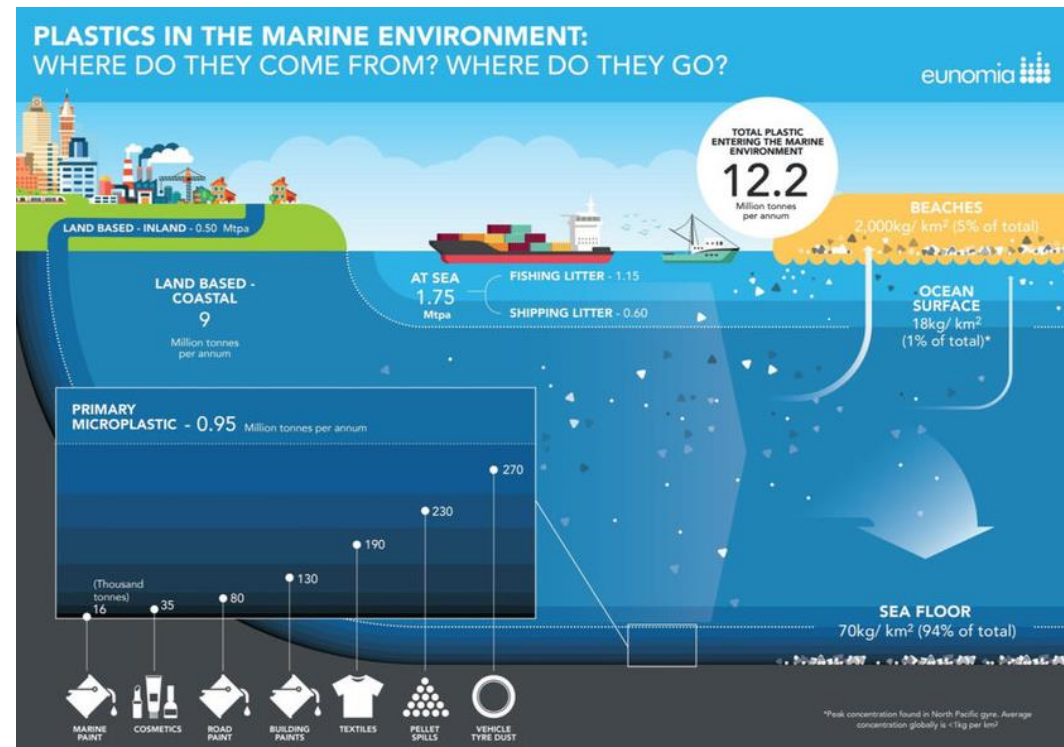
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knowledge and Investments*

DG for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries  
European Commission

# Marine pollution

1. **Eutrophication**  
(nutrient pollution)
2. **Contaminants**  
(pesticides, heavy metals)
3. **Underwater noise**  
(oil drilling)
4. **Ocean acidification**  
(atmosphere CO2 dissolving in ocean)
5. **Marine litter**  
(plastic, wood, metal etc)



## What DG MARE does

- 1) Contributes to implementation of EU rules (SUP and PRF directives, Fisheries Control regulation, MSFD)*
- 2) Supports fishing for litter schemes and funding of adjustment of port reception facilities under current and post-2020 EMFF*
- 3) Continuously improving marine litter data maps (EMODNET)*
- 4) Visualize marine litter data in EU Atlas of the Seas*
- 5) Supports allocation of research funding for marine litter projects where most needed*

# Directive on the reduction of the impact of certain plastic products on the environment

*Entered in force on 2 July 2019*

## ***Extended producer responsibility schemes***

- **for producers of fishing gear containing plastic**

## ***Member States to establish national minimum annual collection targets***

- **of waste fishing gear containing plastic for recycling**

## ***Monitor fishing gear***

- **placed on the market of the MS**
- **waste fishing gear collected**

*and report to the Commission*



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**WWF applauds European Commission plastics proposal**

# Standard for circular design of fishing gear

1. Study – existing challenges, solutions, practices, technologies, gear classifications, gear designs etc. WS – to validate findings, to get collective intelligence. Project End: August 2020
2. Based on study results, MARE will ask by end of 2020 GROW to submit stand request to CEN (already in 2020 Union WP for EU standardization)
3. CEN - expert group to develop standard – at least 2 years

## Why standard:

- To encourage re-use
- To facilitate recyclability at the end of life
- To potentially use in fee modulations

## ***Implementing acts on reporting format and methodology***

*(1) For reporting of fishing gear placed on the market and waste fishing gear collected (Art. 13(4) of the SUP Directive);*

*(2) For reporting of passively fished waste collected (Art. 8(7) of the PRF Directive)*

*Study will help to propose harmonized rules for the calculation, verification and reporting of data considering existing reporting mechanisms, taxonomies, formats and communication technology*

*Deadline for the adoption of Implementing act is 3rd July 2020.*

# Revised Port Reception Facilities Directive

*Goal: enhance the availability and use of port reception waste facilities.*

*Entered in force:  
27 June 2019*

- **MS should set up adequate port reception facilities**
- **Introduction of 100% indirect fee**
- **All ships must deliver their waste before departure (incl.: passively fished waste)**



*EPR schemes for fishing gear included in the SUP directive should support the proposed 100% indirect fee system and help to avoid any increase in the fee and ensure a right of delivery.*

# Revision of Fisheries Control Regulation

***Aims to extend gear marking requirement and to improve retrieval and reporting of lost gear***

*Under consideration by Council and Parliament*

*Reporting lost gear*

- **Electronic logbooks for all categories of vessels**

*Retrieval of lost gear*

- **removal of derogation to vessels < 12m to carry on board the necessary equipment**

*Marking of gear*

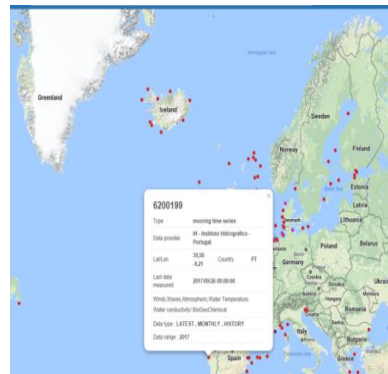
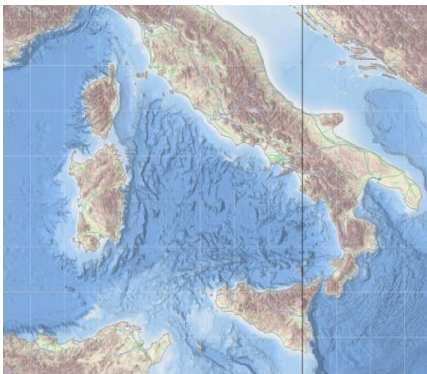
- **extended to recreational fisheries**





# MARINE LITTER IN EMODnet

- Collect, aggregate, standardize, quality check data develops new services to share information and products incl. display services/maps
- Expanded to marine litter in March 2017:
  - Beach litter (nets, bottles etc.)
  - Seabed litter (i.e. litter collected by fish trawl surveys)
  - Micro litter (microplastics)

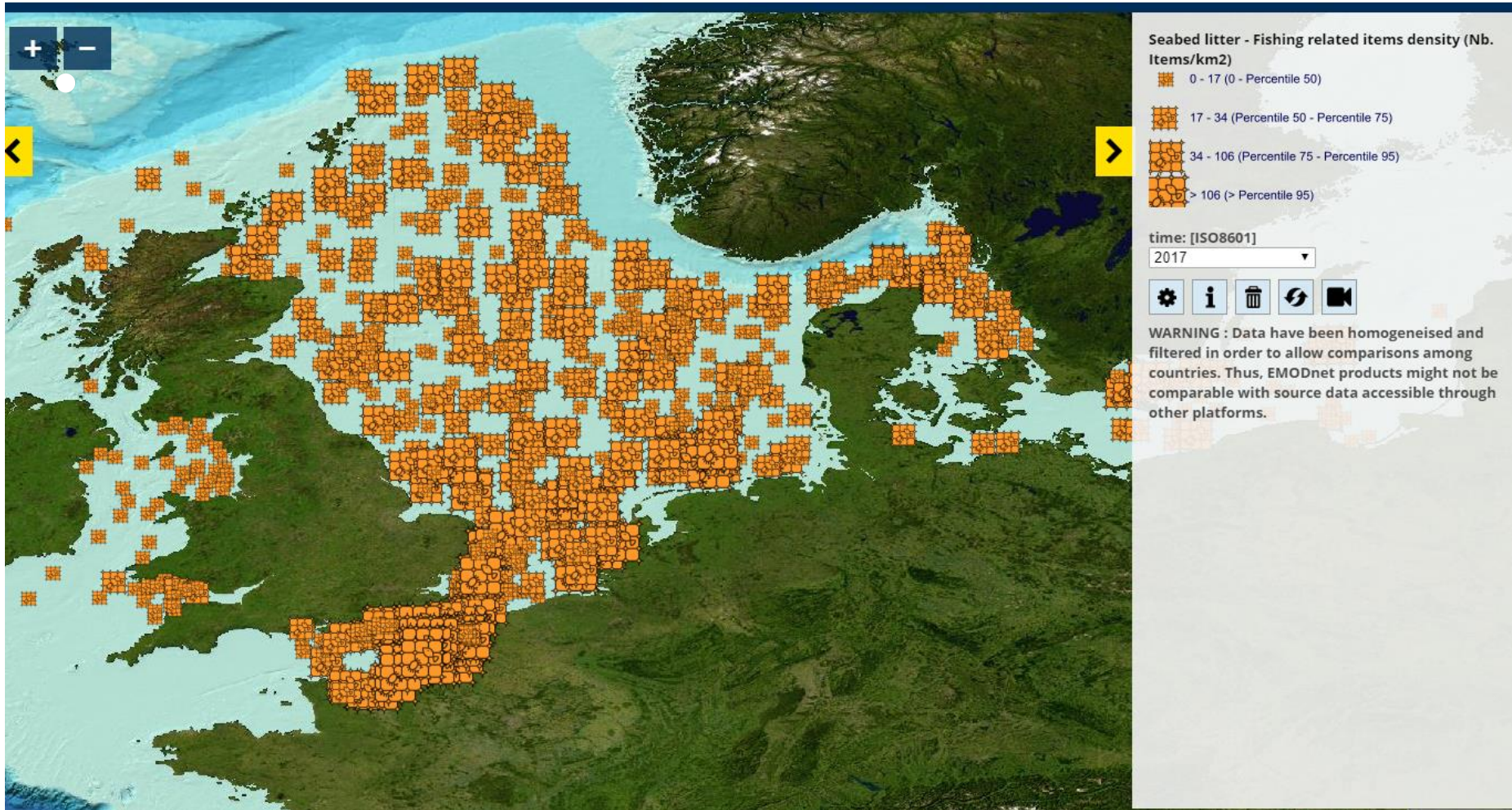




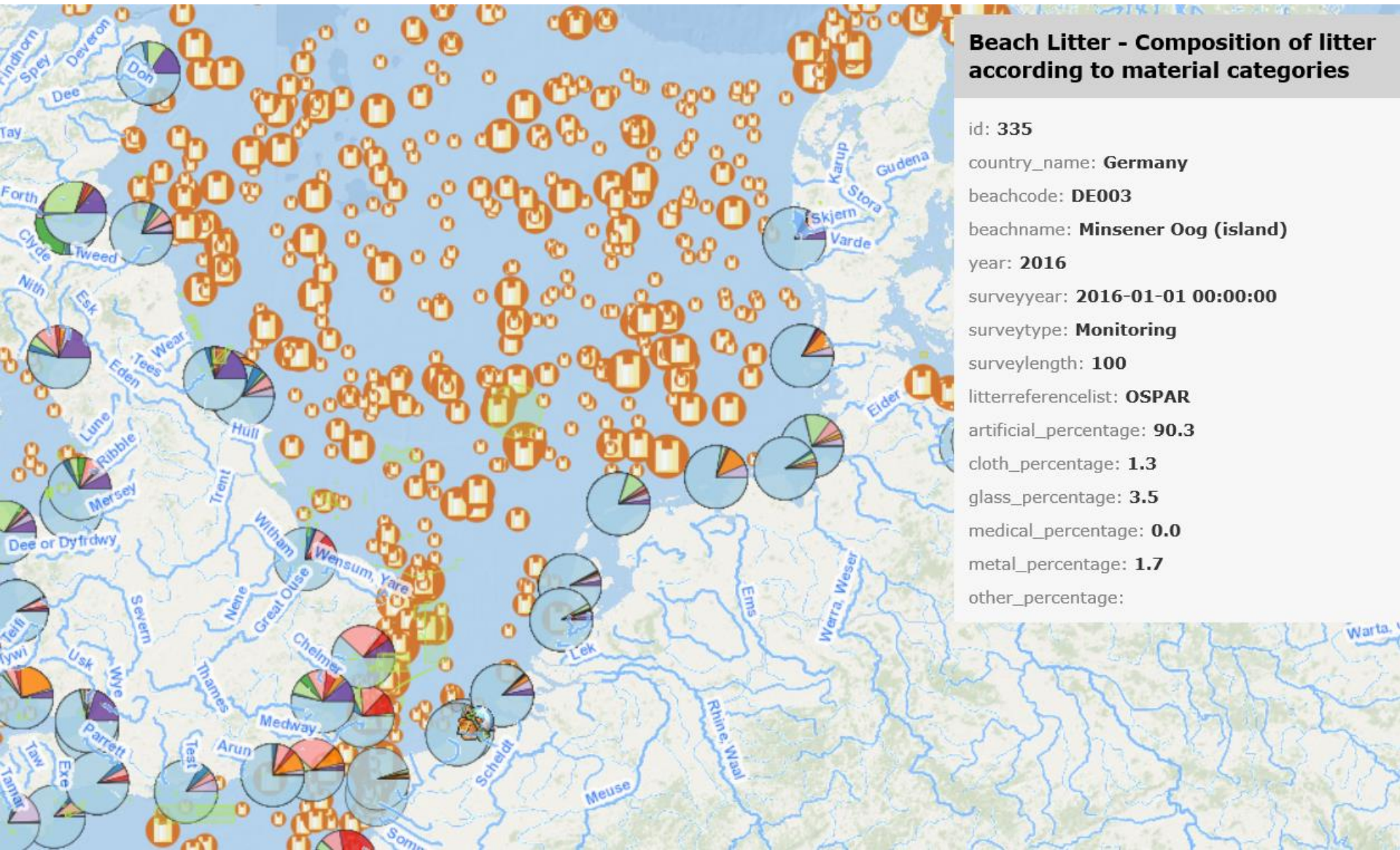
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# Seabed litter - Fishing related items density (Nb. Items/km<sup>2</sup>)



# European Atlas of the Seas



## Beach Litter - Composition of litter according to material categories

id: 335

country\_name: **Germany**

beachcode: **DE003**

beachname: **Minsener Oog (island)**

year: **2016**

surveyyear: **2016-01-01 00:00:00**

surveytype: **Monitoring**

surveylength: **100**

litterreferencelist: **OSPAR**

artificial\_percentage: **90.3**

cloth\_percentage: **1.3**

glass\_percentage: **3.5**

medical\_percentage: **0.0**

metal\_percentage: **1.7**

other\_percentage:

# EMFF (shared management) – fishing for litter

*2014-2020*

- **7 coastal Member States have contributed to the collection of lost fishing gear**
- **€22 Mio EUR allocated from EMFF**
- **€5 Mio spent by MS (22% from allocated)**
- **163 operations**

*2021-2027 Commission proposal*

- **financial support for the collection of lost fishing gear and marine litter from the sea**
- **investments in ports to provide adequate reception facilities for such recovered material**

# Building an engaged R&I community

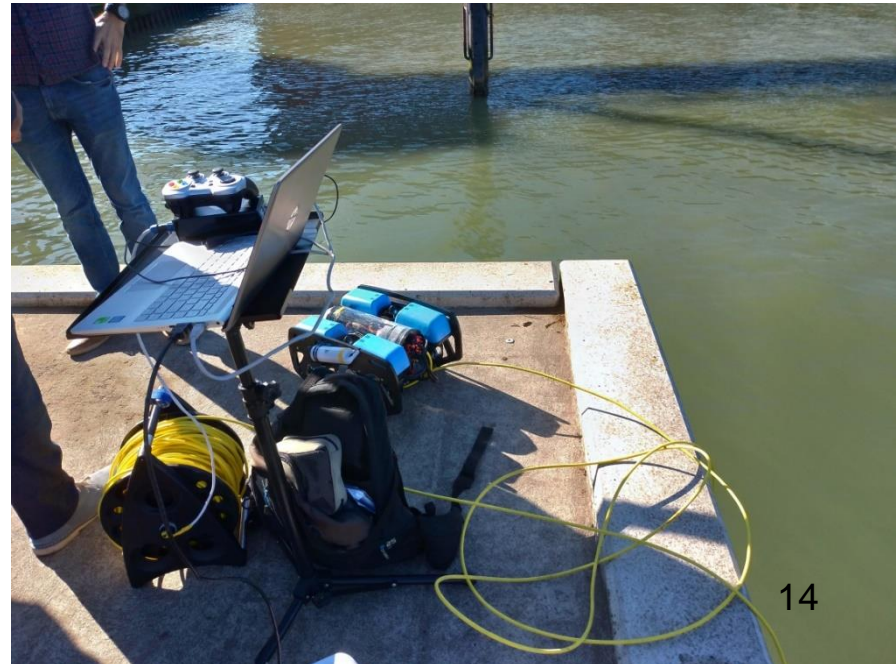
## EMFF Blue economy call 2017 (EMFF direct management)

### Fighting marine litter

Project	Short description	Countries
<a href="#">marGnet: Mapping and recycling of marine litter and Ghost nets on the sea-floor</a>	marGnet will set up and test multi-level solutions to monitor, map, prevent, remove and recycle marine litter from sea-based sources present on the seafloor.	Italy and Croatia
<a href="#">BLUENET: Creating new life for discarded fishing and aquaculture gears to prevent marine litter generation</a>	BLUENET will set up a programme for recycling abandoned, lost or discarded fishing and aquaculture gear: recovering gear from the sea and using it as raw material to manufacture new gear.	Spain and Italy
<a href="#">NetTag: Tagging fishing gears and enhancing on board best-practices to promote waste free fisheries</a>	NetTag will develop and test new technologies (acoustic device and robotic recovery system) to reduce lost gears and organise awareness-raising activities on marine litter for fishermen.	Portugal, UK and Spain
<a href="#">OCEANETS: Technological approaches for circular economy solutions in terms of prevention, recover, re-use and recycle of fishing gears to obtain added-value products in the textile industry</a>	OCEANETS will develop an ICT tool to prevent fishing gear loss and optimise the recycling technologies to produce high-quality fabrics from plastic nets.	Spain and Czech Republic
<a href="#">AQUA-LIT: Preventive Measures for Averting the Discarding of Litter in the Marine Environment from the Aquaculture Industry</a>	AQUA-LIT will develop a toolbox of innovative ideas and methodologies to prevent marine littering from aquaculture activities and to remove litter from aquaculture facilities.	Hungary, Portugal, Belgium, Spain and France

# Building an engaged R&I community

- H2020 & Horizon Europe,
- EU Life,
- EU Interreg,
- EU EcoInnovation etc.



# Fishermen are part of the solution

*"Fishermen are extremely involved in such innovative initiatives to prevent, recover, reuse and recycle of fishing gears. As an example, thanks to their partnership with KIMO, over 500 fishing vessels landed 2500 tonnes of waste from the sea between 2011-2016 which will no longer be affecting the marine environment"*

*Europêche, 21/03/2018*





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*Thank You!*