


The background of the slide is a photograph of a sandy beach with gentle waves washing onto the shore. The water is clear and blue, and the sand is a light tan color. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

Collection of lost fishing gear and passively fished waste

EU Workshop on Port Reception and Single Used Plastics, Brussels, 18 February, 2020

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Our organisation

 Over 80 members representing 160 local authorities and organisations in 8 countries – that's around 8 million citizens

 Belgium, Denmark, Faroe Islands, Germany, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden U.K.





Our Action Areas

- Marine Litter
- Maritime Safety & Pollution
- Dumping at Sea
- Nuclear Emissions and Transportation
- Pollution from the Oil and Gas Industry
- Hazardous Substances & Eutrophication

Collection of lost fishing gear and passively fished waste

How to remove ALDFG/ML from the environment?

- Prevention (is key, but outside of scope here)
- Collection from beaches
- Collection* at sea:
 - at the surface or in the water column
 - from the seafloor

**Collection can be actively or passively*



ALDFG/ML: collection from beaches



ALDFG/ML: water column and surface

Water column, e.g.

- Nets
- Bubble Barrier

Many surface measures, e.g. :

- Waste Shark/Sea Bin
- Ocean Clean Up
- Et cetera



ALDFG/ML: the seafloor

- Removal of nets/ML from shipwrecks by divers (e.g. Healthy Seas Initiative)
- Removal of nets and passively fished waste by fishing ships (Fishing for Litter, and quite a number of projects that copied the concept)



Fishing for Litter

- Could fishermen help cleaning the seas by collecting litter at sea?
- This question resulted in a pilot with 10 fishermen in three ports in 2001
- The scheme now operates internationally





Fishing for Litter Objectives

- Reduce marine litter from the marine environment through physical removal
- Raise awareness of social, economic and ecological impacts of marine litter among fishers and within the fishing industry
- Change waste management processes within the fishing industry



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From local to the international level:

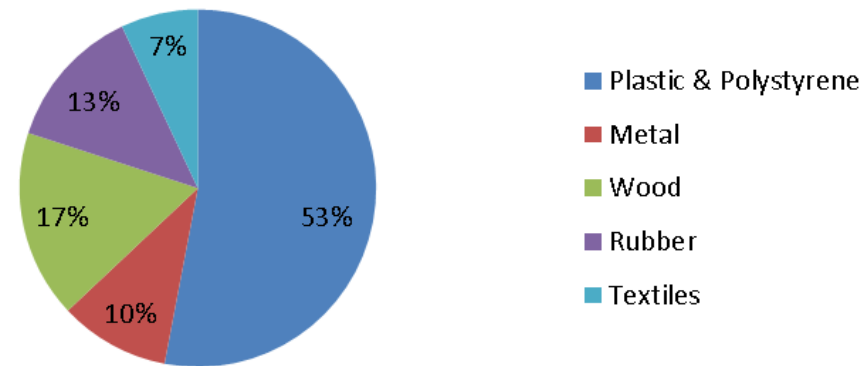
- Started in 2001-2 with 10 ships
- Nowadays: >8 countries, 60 ports, 700+ vessels, 5000+ tonnes of marine litter removed
- The initiative is now included as measure in:
 - OSPAR's Regional Action Plan (2016)
 - EU's Port Reception Facility Directive (FFL included now as "passively fished waste") (2019)



Fishing for Litter: types of litter



Breakdown of litter by type
FFL project in period 2011-16





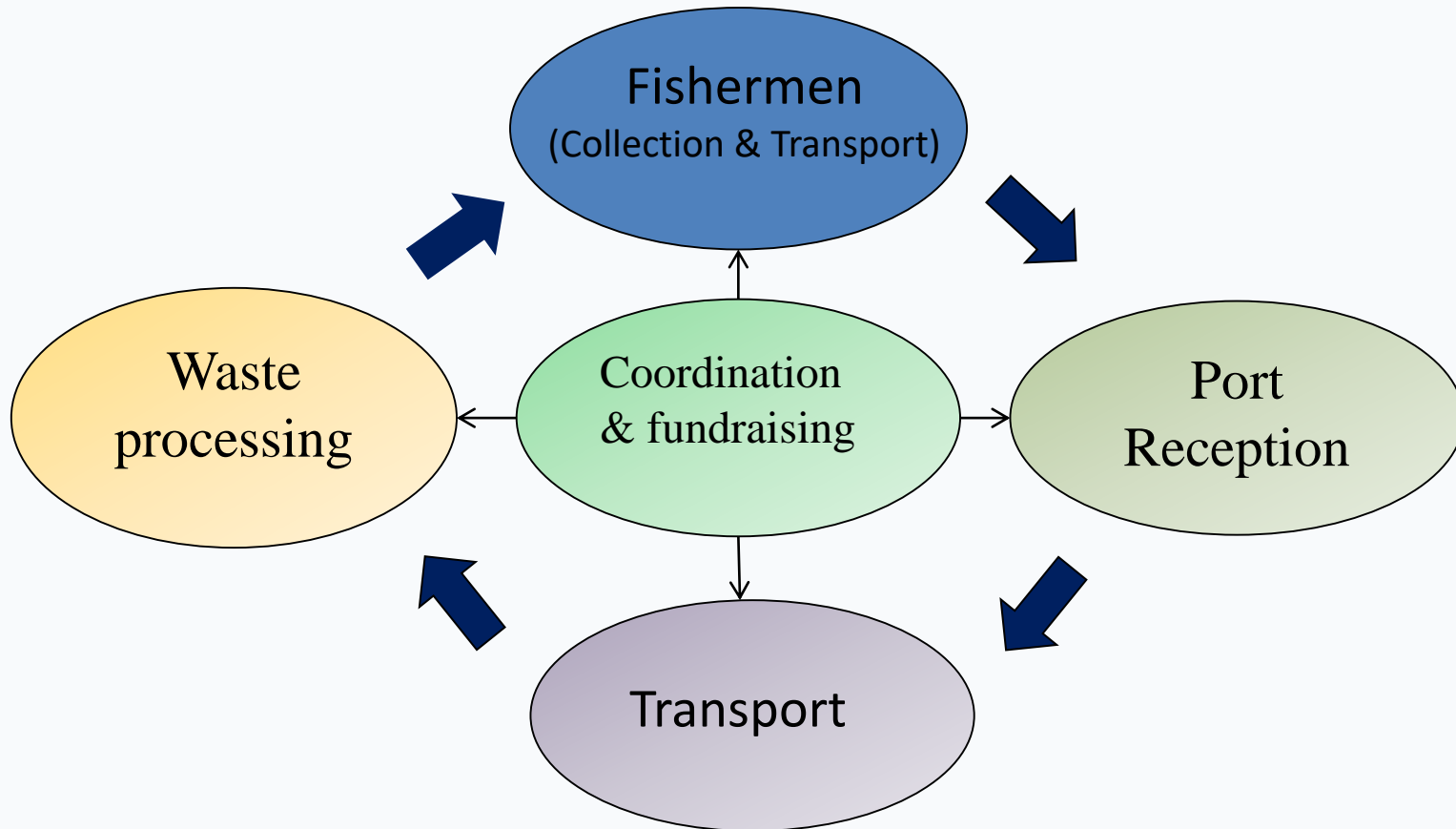
What's needed?

- Positive attitude with the fishing communities
- Fishers that actively participate
- Support from fisheries ports for storage of waste
- Project Coordinator / Fundraiser
- Sufficient funds



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FFL's organisational aspects: tasks



FFL's cultural aspects

- Formal vs. Informal
- More personal or in groups
- Democratic approach or more hierarchical



FFL's fishing vessels determine

- Fishing techniques applied
- Storage capacity available
- Level of education of crews



Waste storage and recycling

- Storage in ports - networking facilitates economies of scale
- Identify opportunities to use waste for energy conversion, downcycling, recycling , upcycling



Approach of ALDFG/waste nets

- ALDFG/waste nets and part of nets are collected and partially segregated (especially when waste prevention schemes apply e.g. Green Deals)
- The type of processing is determined by the waste collector (many involved)
- Some collectors apply “energy conversion” (incineration)



ALDFG/waste nets (2)

- Mixed plastic compounds have been partially send to Plastix in Denmark
- Polyamide parts of nets have been send to Aquafil (Healthy Seas Initiative)
- Dolly Rope (Polyethylene) return scheme for recycling (Bek & Verburg Waste Collectors)





Fishing for Litter Hub

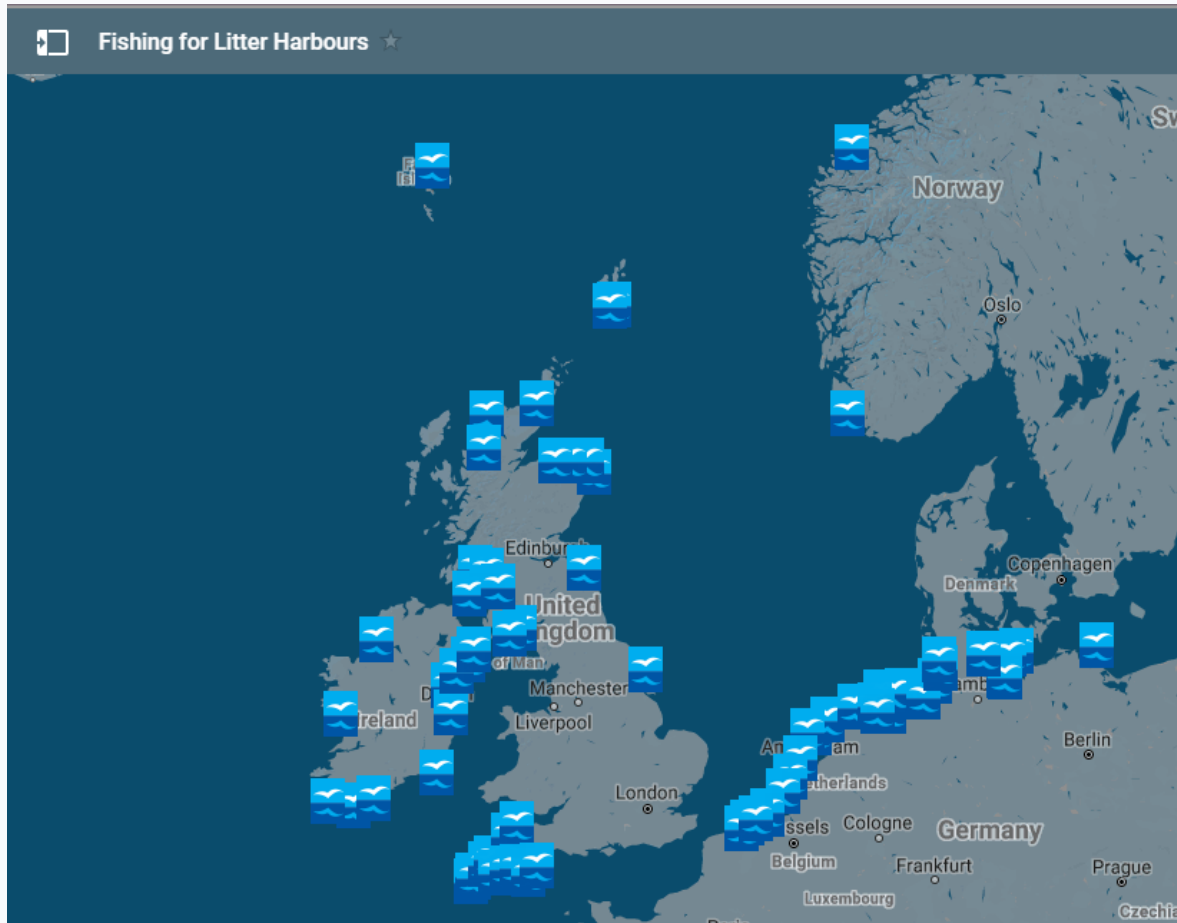
- A centralised, coordinated resource for all FfL projects
- A platform for joint working and the dissemination of best practice
- A tool for implementing and expanding the initiative
- A forum to optimise economies of scale



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Linking projects



- Fishing boats operate beyond national boundaries
- FFL waste to be delivered at any participating port
- Hub aims to bring together data on all projects!

 @kimoint

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Thank you!



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