From Fragmentation to Impact:

Coordinated Pathways Towards a Unified Voice on Bycatch Reduction

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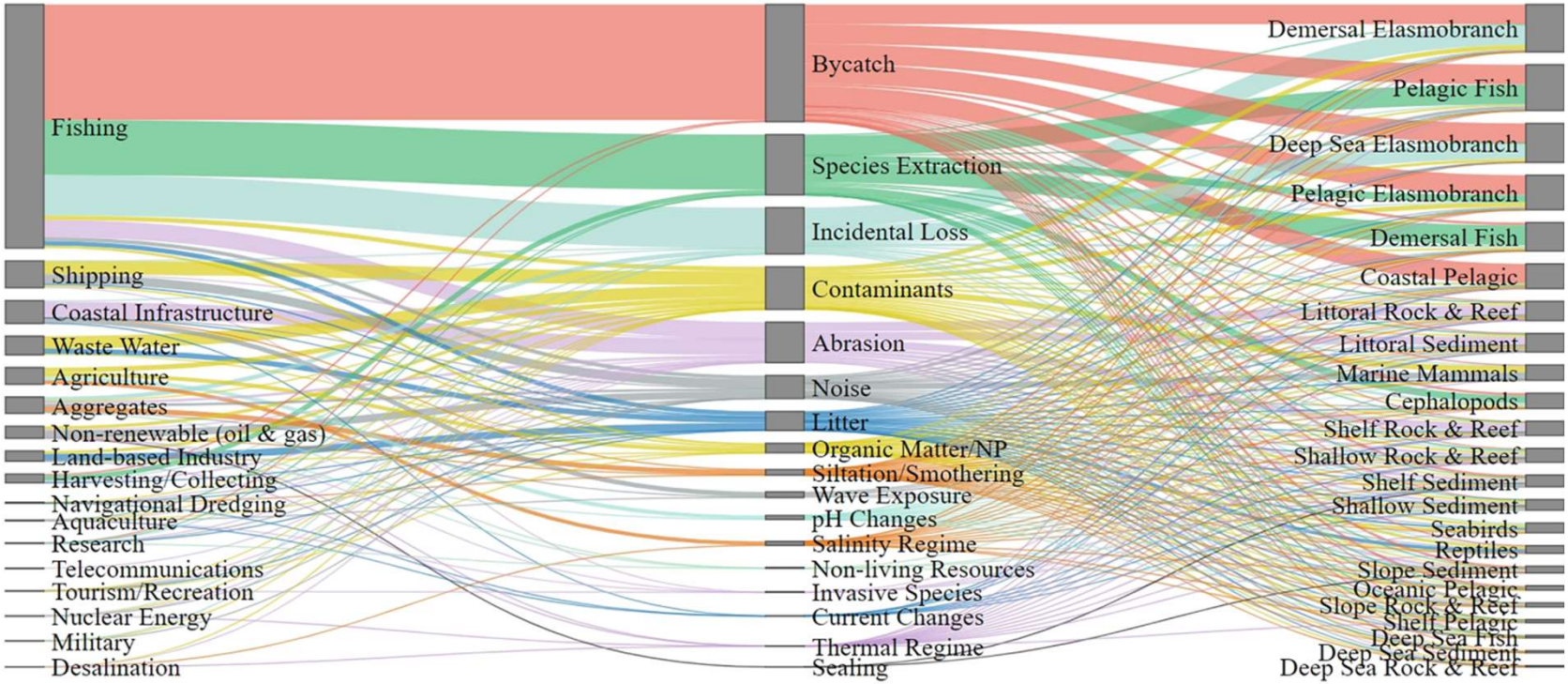
Bycatch reduction for Ocean Restoration



Marine Ecosystem Risk Assessment

South African marine ecosystem risk assessment Sankey diagram illustrating links among sectors (left), their associated pressures (middle) and the ecological components (right) that are impacted by these pressures. The width of the lines represent the Impact Risk (describing the exposure and severity of an interaction). Sectors, pressures and ecological components appear in descending order based on sum Impact Risk scores.

Skein L, Sink KJ, Majiedt PA, van der Bank MG, Smit KP and Shannon LJ (2022) Scoping an integrated ecosystem assessment for South Africa. Front. Mar. Sci. 9:975328. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2022.975328

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TRIAD for Sustainable Fisheries

Massimiliano Nannini (Liguria Region and City of Genova, Italy), European Ocean Days, Brussels, 04.03.2026:

"We have heard from so many projects, but we need to see how we can bring these together to foster impact".

With the **TRIAD** we already put this approach into practice through **clustering**, addressing in close collaboration the joint challenge to strengthen sustainable fisheries and protecting marine ecosystems!

Bearzotti, C., Brown, E., Gojani, N., Grigorov, I., Hasler-Sheetal, H., Kett, G., Kostner, N., Lopez, P., Manago, C., Pinto, I., Rusiecka, D., Sanders, R., & Trabut, E. (2024).

POLICY BRIEF on HorizonEU Project Clustering for Impact.

Mission Atlantic Policy Event on Megafauna, Horta, Azores.
Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18846944

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MarineGuardian

ECO-CATCH

SEA4FUTURE

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TRIAD for Sustainable Fisheries

MarineGuardian

ECO-CATCH

SEA4FUTURE

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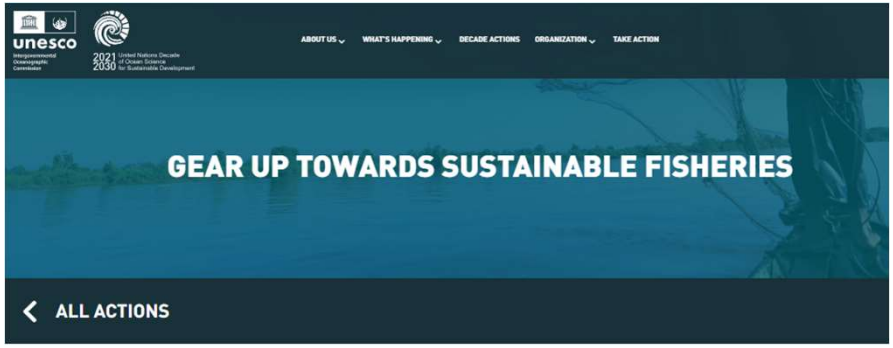
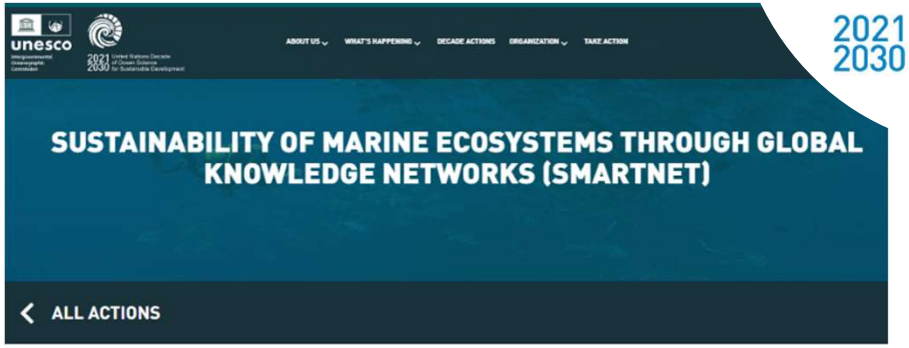
Clustering for Impact in Practice

2021 2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development





Lead institution:

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) – Denmark

GEAR-UP, aligned with the Ocean Decade Programme SMARTNET and the ICES Working Group on Innovative Gears and Instruments for Fisheries and Ecosystems (WGING), advances sustainable fisheries across three sea basins by building on the triad of EU-funded sister projects: ECO-CATCH (BANOS region), MarineGuardian (Atlantic and Arctic), and an upcoming Mediterranean project.

GEAR-UP co-designs and tests innovative, climate-resilient fishing gears with fishers, industry, local/Indigenous groups, policy makers and other stakeholders to reduce bycatch, protect sensitive species, and support ecosystem health.

The project emphasizes capacity building for Early Career Ocean Professionals and all stakeholders, specially from Island States (incl. from Cyprus to Macaronesia up to Newfoundland, Greenland, and the Faroe Islands); and promotes open data sharing and international collaboration to achieve the Ocean Decade's vision of sustainable, resilient marine ecosystems and communities.

Lead institution:

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) & The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) – Denmark

SMARTNET will establish a global knowledge network (GKN) for ocean science by strengthening and expanding the collaboration of ICES/PICES and partner organizations.

It will support and leverage ICES/PICES member countries' activities related to the Ocean Decade, by emphasizing areas of mutual research interest including climate change, fisheries and ecosystem-based management, social, ecological and environmental dynamics of marine systems, coastal communities and human dimensions, and communication and capacity development.

It also incorporates strategies to facilitate the Ocean Decade's cross-cutting inclusivity themes relating to gender equality, early career engagement, and involvement of indigenous communities and developing nations in the planning and implementation of joint activities.

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ECO-CATCH

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GEAR UP TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

Lead institution:

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) – Denmark

2021 2030 United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

GEAR-UP, aligned with the Ocean Decade Programme SMARTNET and the ICES Working Group on Innovative Gears and Instruments for Fisheries and Ecosystems (WGING), advances sustainable fisheries across three sea basins by building on the triad of EU-funded sister projects: ECO-CATCH (BANOS region), MarineGuardian (Atlantic and Arctic), and an upcoming Mediterranean project.

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SUSTAINABILITY OF MARINE ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS (SMARTNET)

TRIAD for Sustainable Fisheries

MarineGuardian

PESTEL/ Theory of Change

C. Manago

ECO-CATCH

Narratives of Impact

Ivo Grigorov

SEA4FUTURE

Resources Valorisation /
Sustainable Value Chains

Sara Granchinho

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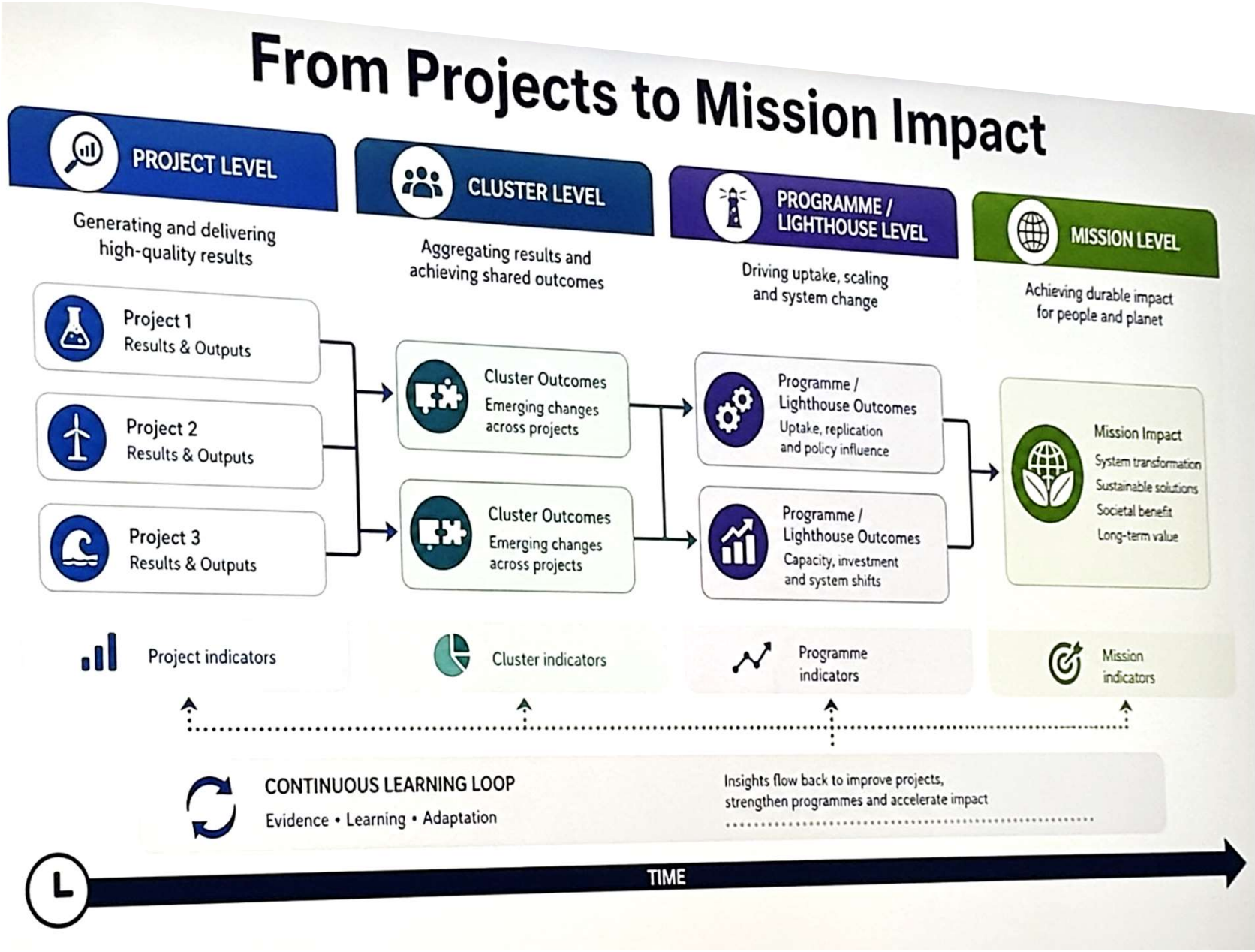
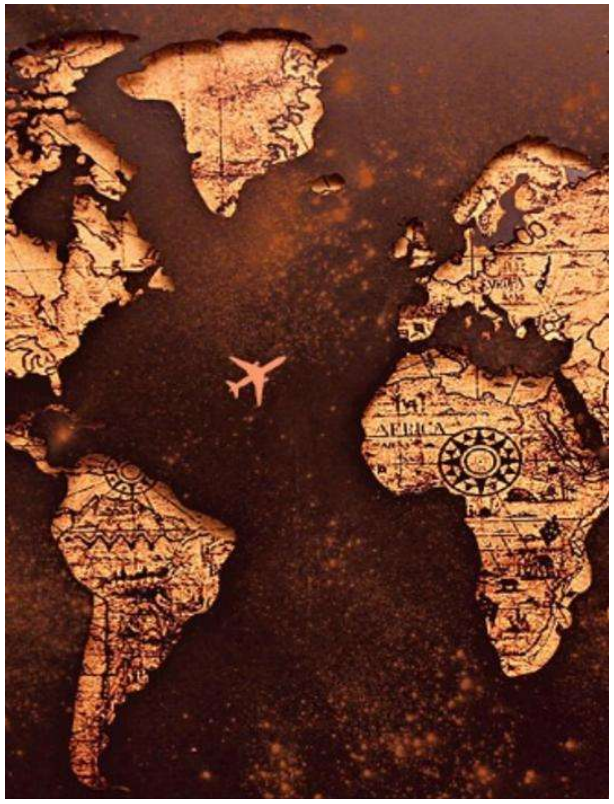
MarineGuardian



Clustering for Impact in Practice

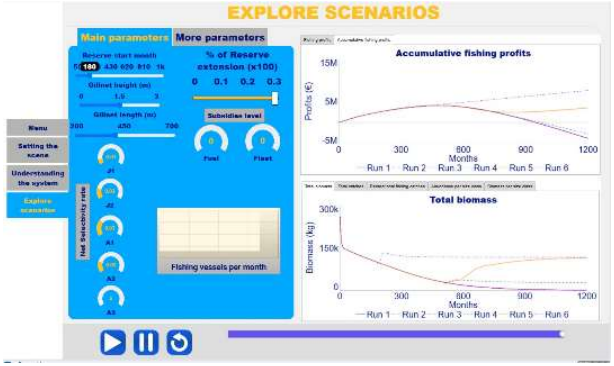
Clustering for Impact in Practice

Impact Maximisation Tools



SINGLE SPECIES FISHERY MODEL DECISION SUPPORT TOOL

Subsidies, MPA's, fishing effort and more



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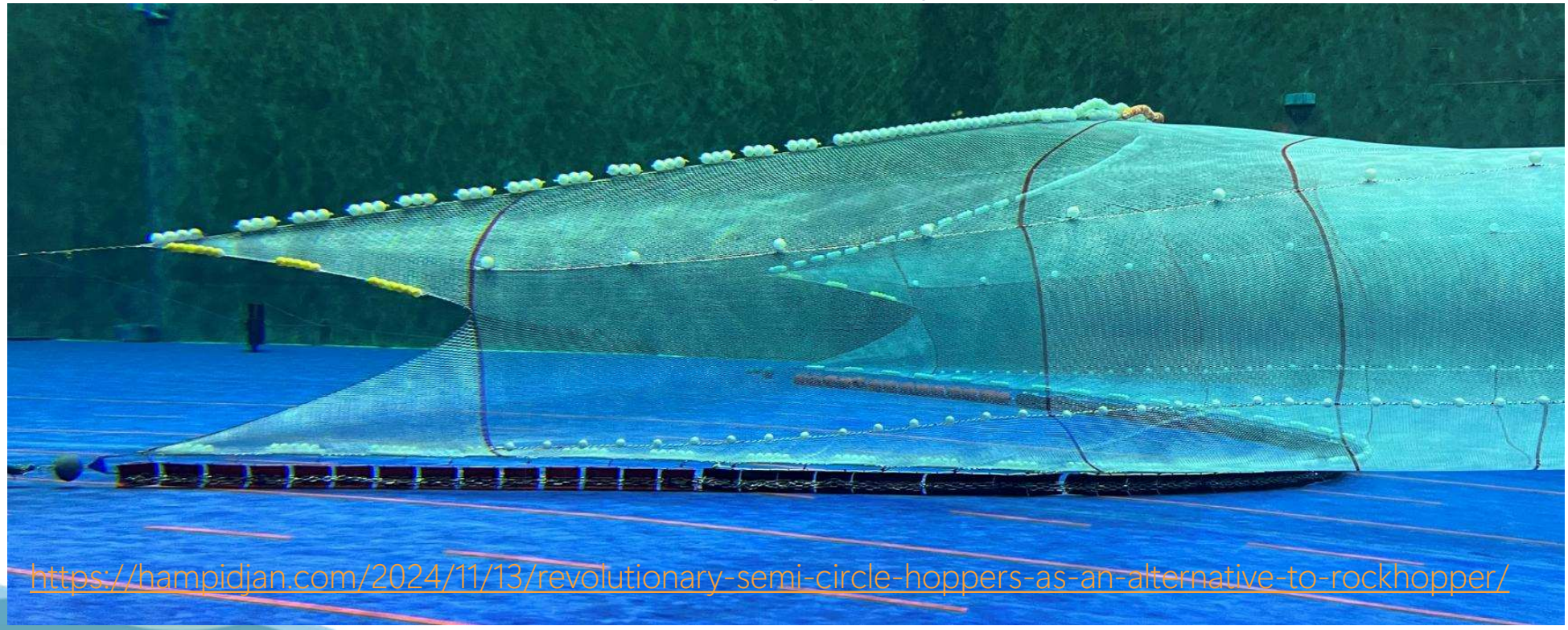
Success Stories

MarineGuardian: semi-circular spreading gear by HAMPIÐJAN



https://hampidjan.com/2024/11/13/revolutionary-semi-circle-hoppers-as-an-alternative-to-rockhopper/

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Success Stories

ECO-CATCH: KingGrid by THÜNEN

https://www.thuenen.de/en/institutes/baltic-sea-fisheries/fields-of-activity/research/fisheries-and-survey-technology/neues-sortiergitter-zur-beifangreduktion-in-der-krabbenfischere

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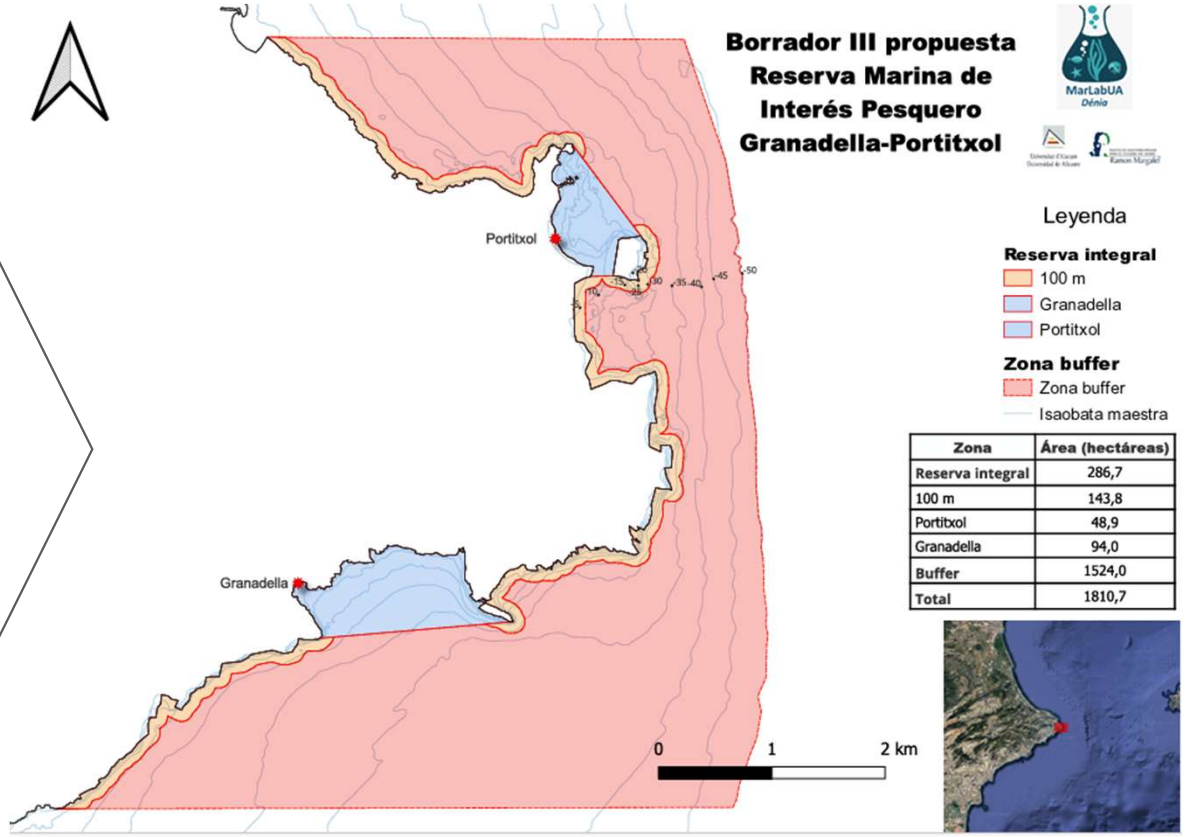
Success Stories

Sea4Future



Zona	Área (hectáreas)
Reserva integral	286,7
100 m	143,8
Portitxol	48,9
Granadella	94,0
Buffer	1524,0
Total	1810,7

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#EMD2026

EMD
EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY

Limassol
21-22 May
2026

Gear to Governance: Sustainable Fish Value-Chain

22 May – Day 2, 15:05-16:20

Maria Hadjimichael, CMMI, MrGoodFish3.0
Antonello Sala, CNR, DecarbonyT
Petri Suuronen, ISCG, EcoCatch
Jónas R. Viðarsson, MATIS, MarineGuardian

Caecilia Managò, ICES, WGING

ICES
International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
CIEM
Conseil International pour l'Exploration de la Mer

WGING Co-Chair
Julia Calderwood, Marine Institute, MarineBeacon
Julia.Calderwood@Marine.ie

Legal and regulatory influences

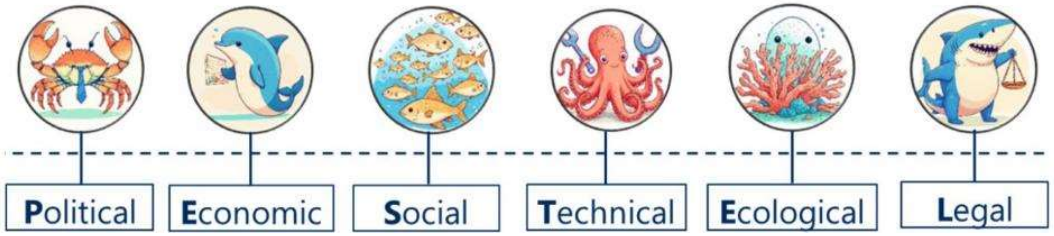
EMD
EUROPEAN MARITIME DAY
Limassol
21-22 May
2026

Friday, 22 May 2026 | 15:05 - 16:20

WS20: Gear to Governance: Sustainable Fish Value-Chain

In-person | Carob Mill- Berengaria Hall | Parallel workshops

- Food security (blue biotechnology, aquaculture, fisheries, algae, biodiversity etc.)
- **PESTEL Analysis** though an **Interactive Carousel Method**



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Join us, to overcome regulatory barriers

http//www.smartsurvey.co.uk/t/WMUR7D/

POLICY BRIEF

From Gear to Governance: Cross-Value-Chain Perspectives on the External Factors Driving Sustainable Fisheries, informing the Technical Measures Regulation

Insights from the European Maritime Day 2026 Workshop *Gear to Governance: Sustainable Fish Value-Chain*

Hadjimichael, Maria[1], Manago, Caecilia[2], Sala, Antonello[3], Suuronen Petri[4], Viðarsson, Jonas[5],

Executive Summary

Delivering sustainable fisheries requires more than technological innovation. While advances in fishing gears, digital technologies, fuel efficiency and consumer information are essential, their successful uptake depends on a broader set of political, economic, social, technological, environmental and legal (PESTEL) factors.

The European Maritime Day 2026 workshop *Gear to Governance: Sustainable Fish Value-Chain* brought together four Horizon Europe projects, ECO-CATCH, MarineGuardian, DecarbonyT and Mr.GoodFish3.0, alongside researchers, policymakers, fishers and stakeholders from across European sea basins.

Through an interactive PESTEL-based workshop, participants explored the external factors influencing the adoption and impact of innovations throughout the fisheries value chain.

The discussions highlighted that sustainability outcomes are driven not only by innovations themselves, but by the wider conditions under which they are developed, adopted and implemented. Economic viability, healthy fish stocks, stakeholder engagement, adaptive governance and informed consumer choices emerged as common themes across all discussions.

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Clustering for Impact in Practice

REDUCE · CIBBRINA · Marine Beacon · ECO-CATCH · Life PROMETHEUS · MarineGuardian · SEA4FUTURE

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON BYCATCH OF MARINE MEGAFAUNA

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA, SPAIN 12-15 OCTOBER 2027

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