

A close-up, shallow depth-of-field photograph of a sandy beach. The foreground shows the texture of the sand, while the background is a blurred view of the ocean with gentle waves washing onto the shore. The overall tone is warm and natural.

**Society solutions to marine litter and  
fisheries sector waste –  
Fishing for Litter and Green Deal Approach**

*Kolcheti National Park, Georgia, 22 June 2019*

**Mike Mannaart, KIMO International Liaison Officer ([mmannaart@odijmond.nl](mailto:mmannaart@odijmond.nl))**

## KIMO, Municipalities for Sustainable Seas

- Local coastal communities' interests are of utmost importance (local villages, fisheries communities, ports and local entrepreneurs)
- A sound (coastal & marine) environment starts at local level!
- National or International governments do not always share the same interests with municipalities
- KIMO is an (environmental) association of (160) coastal municipalities, but no government as such, no company and no action group
- We are regarded to be a “neutral organisation” but try to work together with and link to all kind of organisations to achieve our goals: *a sustainable coastal and marine environment for local municipalities for now and in the future*

# KIMO Members

**82** members,  
**8** countries,  
**5 million**  
citizens



# What Does KIMO Do?

**Lobby** international conventions, industry, the EU and governments to take effective action on marine pollution and maritime safety

**Promote a collaborative approach** to the use and protection of coastal and maritime areas

**Lead by example** in improving the marine environment through projects, public engagement, collaborative working and sharing of best practice



# Legislation & Initiatives, we link to:

## **European:**

- EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive
- EU Port Reception Facilities Directive
- Circular Economy Package
- Plastics Strategy



# Legislation & Initiatives

## Regional:

- Regional Seas Conventions – OSPAR, HELCOM (This region: Bucharest Convention & Barcelona Convention)
- Nordic Council of Ministers
- Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR)
- International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)



# Fishing for Litter

A simple, effective initiative that aims to reduce marine litter through involvement of key stakeholders – the fishing industry, ports and harbours





## Objectives

- Reduce the amount of marine litter in the oceans through physical removal of litter
- Increase awareness amongst fishers and the fishing industry that it is not acceptable to throw litter overboard, targeting fishers' attitudes and behaviours
- Monitor the marine litter coming ashore
- Change waste management processes within the fishing industry
- Promote and facilitate recycling of the litter







# How does it work?

- Participation is voluntary
- Boats are issued with large hard-wearing bags
- Fishers collect marine litter caught in nets during normal fishing activity
- Bags are deposited on the quayside at the designated site
- Waste is removed and disposed of by a waste management company or local authority
- **No cost to the fishermen**







# Positive Features

- Organisation is simple, passive, voluntary and yet effective
- Raises awareness amongst fishers and the public
- Reduces the amount of litter in the marine environment
- Produces a 'feel good' factor for participants
- Positive press for the fishing industry





## Barriers

- Difficulties participating because of boat size, fishing practises and lack of FfL facilities in harbours
- Misuse of the FfL waste system
- Obstacles to raising awareness
- Limited resources







# Conclusion

KIMO's Fishing for Litter has established itself as the leading scheme for fishers to remove marine litter from the sea (DEFRA 2014)

FFL Scheme has been included now in:

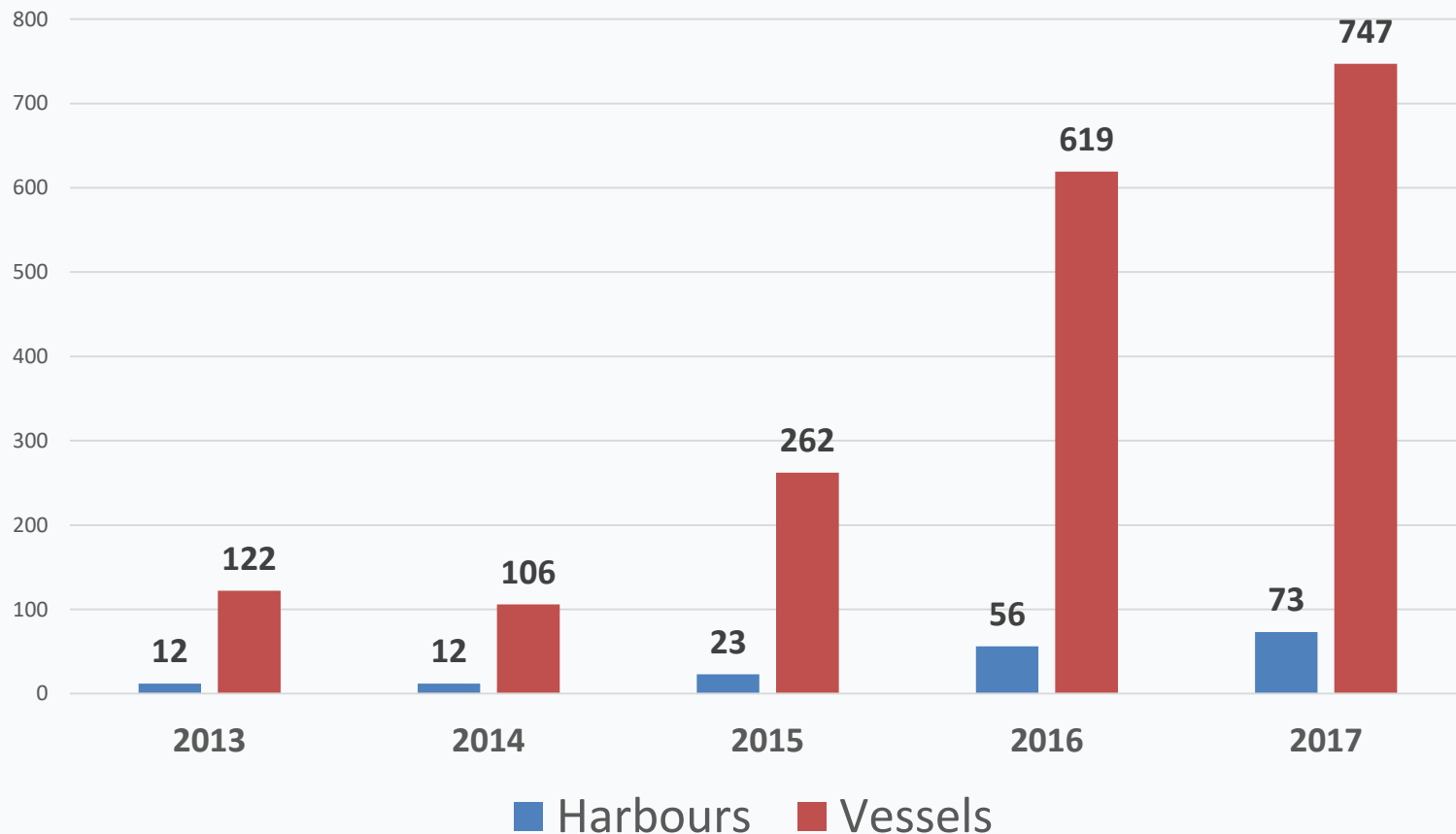
- OSPAR Regional Action Plan 2016
- EU Port Reception Facility Directive 2019





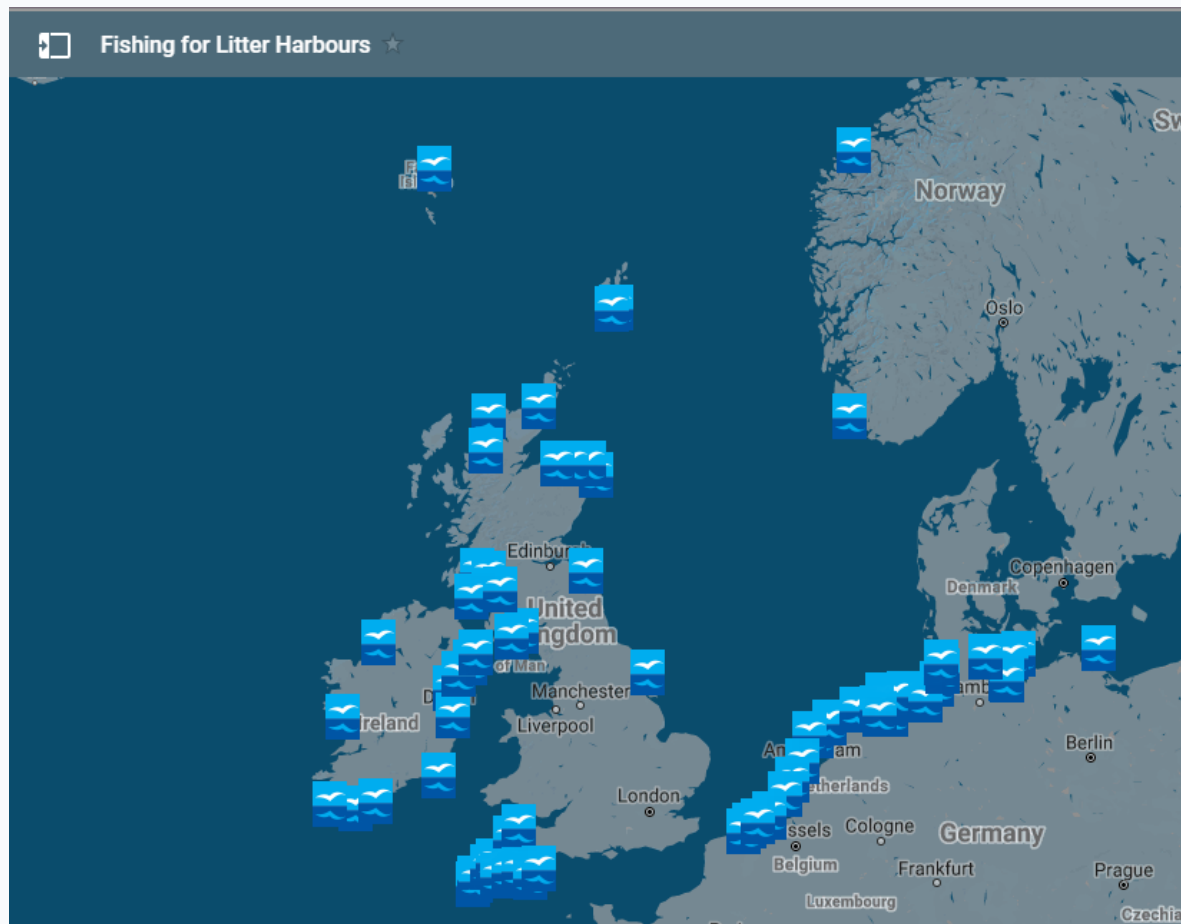
## FfL evolution

(data from OSPAR)





# Project networking



Fishing boats  
operate beyond  
national boundaries



# 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



[fishingforlitter.org](http://fishingforlitter.org)





# How does KIMO help?

- Expert advice on establishment of FfL
- Guidance to help set up pilot projects
- Setting up national FfL schemes
- Communication and promotional activities



[fishingforlitter.org](http://fishingforlitter.org)

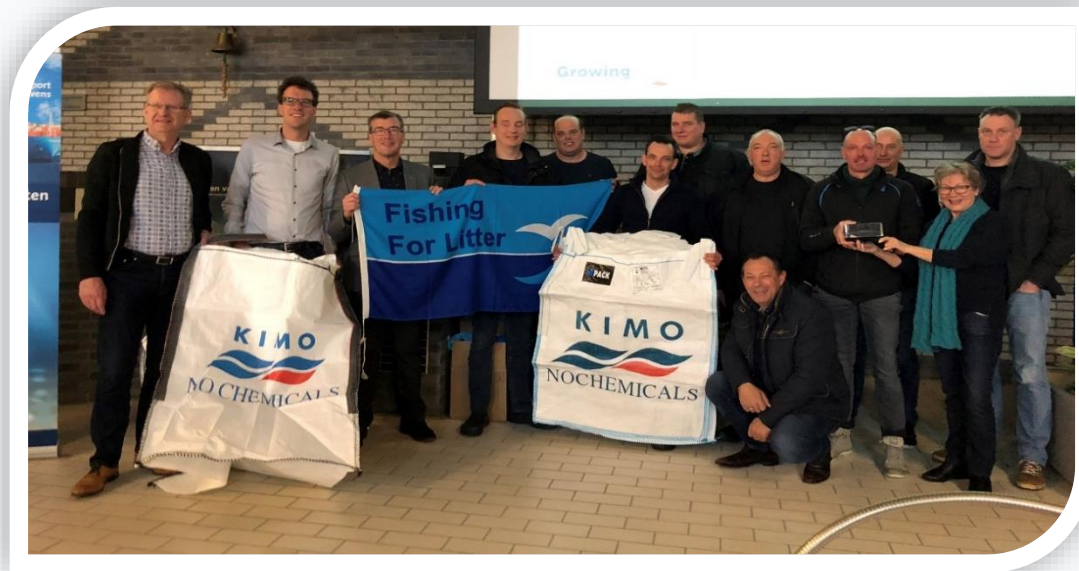


## Green Deals - a broader approach to address fisheries related waste management

- Traditional policy instruments:
  - Communication
  - Economic
  - Legal
- National governments define legislation, impose regulatory regimes, set up specialist agencies and allocate funds to address environmental issues.



Another approach is to make use of the positive energy and initiatives in society

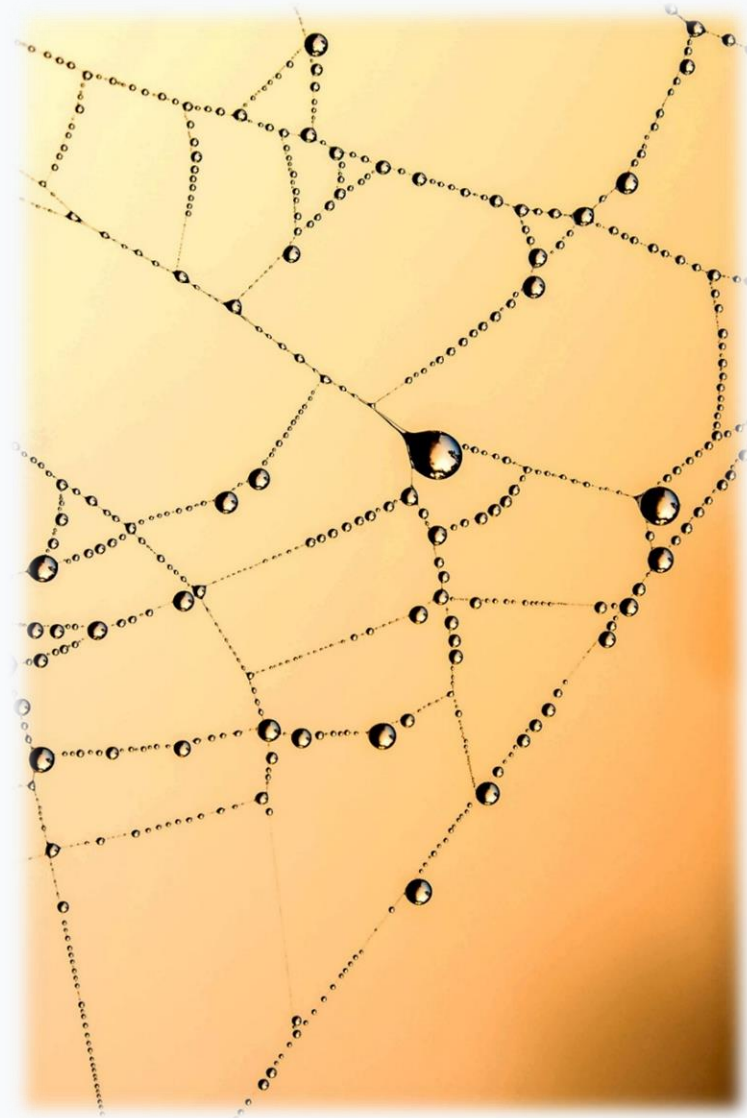


This involves a combination of communication and economic instruments with some legal actions and a will to work together

# Green Deals

## **A network management approach:**

Engage the stakeholders who are responsible for the environmental pressure and those that could help prevent or resolve the pressure, making them part of an Environmental Policy Cycle





## Green Deals



- An essential aspect of this approach is that there is shared ownership
- The stakeholders are the owners of the initiative and therefore responsible for its outcome
- A small group of frontrunners can create a transition in society - awareness and the will to take responsibility are key elements.

# Fisheries for a Clean Sea

## Some results:

- Improved collection of fisheries-related waste in ports including:
  - ghost nets
  - dolly rope
  - galley waste
  - oily waste



# Waste storage and recycling

What do ports do with waste?

How do recyclers operate:  
energy conversion, downcycling,  
recycling or upcycling...





 @kimoint

 @kimointl

 kimo-  
international

# Thank you!



[kimointernational.org](http://kimointernational.org)