

Public consultation on reducing marine litter: actions on single use plastics and fishing gear

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

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Introduction

Plastics are an important material in our economy and present in many aspects of our daily lives; but they also have relatively low rates of reuse and recycling and are prone to littering.

Plastics make up 85% of beach litter; single use items represent 61% and fishing related items 20% of these plastic items. The most found single-use plastics items in beach litter are cigarette butts, drinks bottles and their caps/lids, cotton bud sticks, sanitary towels (which are typically 90% plastic), bags, crisps packets and sweets wrappers, straws and stirrers, balloons and balloon sticks, food containers, cups and cup lids, and cutlery. Together these account for about three-quarters of such SUP litter.

Another issue of concern is plastic waste from the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, in particular from fishing gear that is lost by accident (for example due to weather conditions) or discarded when it is no longer fit for use.

The Commission's Plastic Strategy in early 2018 will address possible approaches to address other single-use plastic items and marine litter including lost or abandoned fishing gear. Follow-up proposals by the Commission will be considered in the near future on the basis of available data and analysis. This consultation is intended to contribute to developing this knowledge base and guide such future actions.

How to complete the questionnaire

- Section A contains questions designed to establish information about you as a respondent. Your answers here (and particularly to question 9) will define whether you are directed to Section B, Section C, or both.

- Section B asks for your positions on the issue of Marine Litter and Single Use Plastics.
- Section C is focused on abandoned and lost fishing gear, and some questions may require some more specialised knowledge.

The option of 'don't know' is available for all questions if you believe you are not in a position to answer. Questions marked with an asterisk (*) require an answer to be given. In general several answers are possible. Completing this questionnaire could take up to 30 minutes. Once you start filling in this questionnaire, the maximum time allowed by the system to complete is 90 minutes. Partial responses will not be saved. It is therefore recommended to download the full questionnaire as a PDF and prepare your answers in advance.

An eight week consultation period is foreseen. A synopsis report, with a summary of all consultation activities' results, will be published on the consultation page.

Your opinion matters to us. Thank you very much for taking the time to contribute to this consultation.

A. Personal information

* 1. In what capacity are you responding to this consultation?

- As an individual in a personal capacity
- As an individual in a professional capacity
- On behalf of an organisation, business or institution

* 2. Where are you based?

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta

- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom
- Other

If other (non-EU), please specify:

***3. Which category best describes you or the organisation you represent:**

- Industry or trade association
- Business
- Consumer association
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Trade union
- Regional Sea Convention
- Fisheries organisation
- Government or public authority
- Intergovernmental organisation
- Academic or research institute/educational institution
- European institution
- International body
- Other

If other, please specify:

4. If a business or industry association, please specify the sector (select one or more answers):

- Manufacturers
- Research and development
- Importers
- Retailers
- Food outlets & restaurants
- Wholesalers
- Large selling brand
- Collectors (plastic waste)
- Recyclers (plastic waste)
- Plastics converters
- Fisher

- Tourism
- Port authority
- Aquaculture sector
- Other

If other, please specify:

If you represent a private company, what size is it?

- Micro enterprises: fewer than 10 persons employed;
- Small enterprises: 10 to 49 persons employed;
- Medium-sized enterprises: 50 to 249 persons employed;
- Large enterprises: 250 or more persons employed.

If responding on behalf of an organisation/association/authority/company/body, please provide the name:

*** 5. Please indicate below if you want your contribution to remain anonymous**

Please note that contributions received from this survey, together with the identity of the contributor, will be published on the European Commission's website, unless the contributor objects to publication of the personal information.

- I give permission for my contribution to be published with my personal information: I consent the publication of all information in my contribution in whole or in part including my name or my organisation's name, and I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent publication.
- My contribution can be published provided that I remain anonymous: I consent to the publication of any information in my contribution in whole or in part (which may include quotes or opinions I express) provided that it is done anonymously. I declare that nothing within my response is unlawful or would infringe the rights of any third party in a manner that would prevent publication.

Please find below the Commission's guidelines regarding how your personal data is protected. Please note that regardless of the option chosen your answers may be subject to a request for public access to documents under Regulation (EC) No 1049 /2001. In such cases, the request will be assessed against the conditions set out in the Regulation and in accordance with applicable data protection rules.

Respondents should not include personal data in documents submitted in the context of the consultation if they opt for anonymous publication:

Privacy Statement

[Privacy_statement.doc](#)

*** 6. Is your organisation or institution registered on the EU Transparency Register?**

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

If yes, please provide your Register ID number:

Click below to view the EU Transparency Register:

<http://www.test.ec.europa.eu/transparencyregister/public/homePage.do?redir=false&locale=en>

*** 7. Please provide us with your full name:**

8. Please provide us with your email address:

*** 9. Please select the statement(s) that best apply to you.**

(Your choice(s) will define the parts of the survey that you have access to).

- You are an interested citizen with a general interest in marine litter and single use plastics
- You have specific knowledge and/or interest about single use plastics
- You have specific knowledge and/or interest about marine litter including fishing gear and/or aquaculture.

B. Questionnaire on Marine Litter and Single Use Plastics

The problems caused by marine litter and single-use plastics

1. What importance do you give to the following issues and impacts linked to marine litter and single use plastics?

	Very important	Quite important	Less important	Not important
* Loss of valuable resources through wasteful use and disposal	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Harm to animal welfare (ingestion, entanglement etc)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Human health risks (microplastics in water and food, toxicity)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Impact on ecosystem services [1]	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Impacts on fisheries and aquaculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Impacts on shipping and ports	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Impacts on coastal communities and tourism	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Clean up costs of litter	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Aesthetic impact of litter	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

[1] For example flood protection, provision of food, materials and energy, recreational, cultural and touristic use, science and education

Other (please specify):

The importance of action

*** 2a. Please indicate whether you think action to address the amount of Single Use Plastic in the environment is:**

- Not necessary
- Necessary but not urgent
- Necessary and urgent
- No opinion

*** 2b. Please indicate whether you think action to address the amount of marine litter (including fishing gear) in the seas and on beaches is:**

- Not necessary
- Necessary but not urgent
- Necessary and urgent
- No opinion

Where action should be taken

3. Who do you think has an important role in taking any further action for reducing leakage of single use plastic into the (marine) environment?

	Very important	Fairly important	Important	Slightly important	Not at all important	No opinion
* European Union	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Member States (countries)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Local and Regional authorities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other international bodies	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* NGOs	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Individuals	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Private Sector	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If "other" please specify

*** 4. To what extent do you consider that there needs to be further responses at European level?**

- There should be no new measures at the European level – this should be dealt with at the local or national level.
- There should be certain measures at the European level - for example ensuring shared objectives, a level playing field and respect of single market and competition rules – but these should also encourage, frame and complement further measures at the local or national level.
- The problem should be dealt with largely at the European level.
- The EU should support mandatory instruments at global level.
- No opinion
- Other

If "other", please specify

How much action?

5. The Commission identified the types of plastic litter most commonly found on beaches. For each type, and for fishing gear, to what extent do you agree that action should be taken to reduce their presence in the environment?

	Weak case for action	Moderate case for action	Strong case for action	No opinion
* Cigarette butts with filters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Drinks bottles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Caps and lids	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Cotton bud sticks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Sanitary towels[1]	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Crisps packets and sweets wrappers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Light weight shopping bags	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Straws	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Balloons and balloon sticks	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Food containers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* Cups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Cutlery	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Fishing related items	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

if "Other" please specify

[1] nappies, wet wipes and panty-liners typically contain about 90% plastic polymers.

6. Whilst some measures may have no costs attached to them, or even lead to financial savings in the medium term, other measures could have costs.

- Action to address marine litter should not lead to additional costs for consumers.
- I am willing to pay a little more for alternative measures that would result in reducing marine litter.
- (producers only) My company would accept that initiatives to reduce marine litter may involve changes in the purchase price of single use plastic products.
- (producers only) My company would accept that initiatives to reduce marine litter may involve further producer obligations or charges in relation to single use plastic products.
- No opinion

7. In your opinion, which types of actions against marine litter should be supported with public funds?

- Recovery of lost fishing gear.
- Recovery of marine litter found in fishing nets during normal fishing activities ("passive fishing for litter")
- Active "fishing for litter"
- Beach cleaning actions
- Regular quantification of marine and beach litter
- Other

What kind of action?

(at sub EU level)

10. What, if anything, do you think should be done to promote a switch from single use drinks cups to re-usable cups for drinks consumed "on-the-go" (outside of the home or restaurants and food outlets)?

- Direct measures (such as restrictions or charges)
- Awareness raising measures that encourage people to carry their own reusable cups
- Reductions for people that bring their own cups to restaurants and food outlets
- Non of the above
- No opinion

11. Would you support policies which phased out disposable non-biodegradable plastic tableware (such as cups, plates, cutlery and stirrers) in favour of those made with more biodegradable materials or reusable alternatives?

- Yes, even if there were a small price increase
- Yes, but only if there were no price increase
- No
- No opinion

12. For some sectors there are rules that require companies responsible for the impacts of their products after sale ("extended producer responsibility"). Should cigarette companies contribute financially to the costs of clearing up cigarette butts?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

Similarly, should producers of sanitary items contribute financially to the costs of clearing up sanitary towels?

- Yes
- No
- No opinion

What kind of action?

(at EU level)

13. How effective do you think the following measures would be in reducing plastic pollution in particular in the marine environment?

	Very effective	Effective	Slightly effective	Not effective at all	I don't know
* Maintaining status quo:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* No new EU measures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* More effort to change the behaviours that cause litter, for example awareness campaigns about littering and additional information on packaging	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Voluntary measures by businesses: such as using biodegradable alternatives to plastic	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Stronger enforcement of existing EU laws on waste collection, recycling, extended producer responsibility schemes etc,	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*New EU measures: For example, reduction targets for Single Use Plastics (following the example of the targets for reduced use of plastic bags)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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If you think other EU measures would be relevant, please specify them:

Compulsory international standards for type of product (e.g. plastic bags)
 New measures should include the ban/restriction of certain materials for certain applications (such as in France regarding cutlery)

14. Single use plastic products are diverse and will require diverse approaches to effectively reduce their environmental impacts. We have divided them below into three categories. For each product please indicate the approach(es) you consider as appropriate (effective, proportionate, economically efficient and socially acceptable).

A. Packaging items covered by existing legislation and already captured today in separate waste collection schemes

	Deposit return schemes	Reduction target for use	Minimum design requirements (incl. delivery models)	Don't know/ No opinion
* Drinks bottles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Light weight shopping bags	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

B. Items that could be replaced by more sustainable alternatives

	Legislative requirement to better design or produce from materials with lower life cycle impact	Reduction target for use	Minimum design requirements (incl. delivery models)	Don't know/ No opinion
* Food containers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Crisps packets and sweets wrappers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* Caps and lids	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Cups	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Cotton buds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Cutlery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Straws and stirrers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C. Items not fully covered by existing legislation for which there is no obvious proportionate alternative

	Extended Producer Responsibility schemes	Legislative requirement to produce from materials with lower impact	Minimum design requirements (incl. delivery models)	Don't know/ No opinion
* Cigarette butts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Sanitary towels	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
* Balloons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

15. If you can provide useful data sources or indicators regarding the economic, social and environmental impacts of single use plastics, or the costs and impacts of production, please provide upload files here.

The maximum file size is 1 MB

... or provide a link here

C. Questionnaire on Marine Litter and Fishing Gear

***1. Which seas do you base your answers on (more than one answer allowed)**

- Adriatic Sea
- Bay of Biscay and the Iberian Coast
- Caribbean Sea
- Macaronesia (waters surrounding the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands)
- Aegean-Levantine Sea
- Black Sea
- North Sea
- Antarctic
- Celtic Sea
- Pacific
- Arctic
- English Channel
- Western Mediterranean
- Atlantic Ocean
- Indian Ocean
- Baltic Sea
- Ionian and the Central Mediterranean
- Don't know
- Other

Which other sea? (optional question)

And which port or ports? (optional question)

Importance of the problem

***2. Please indicate whether you think action to address the amount of fishing gear in the seas and on beaches is:**

- Not necessary
- Necessary but not urgent
- Urgent

No opinion

3. Who do you think has an important role in taking any further action for reducing leakage of fishing gear into the (marine) environment?

	Very important	Fairly important	Important	Slightly important	Not at all important	No opinion
* European Union	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Member States (countries)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Local and regional authorities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Other international bodies	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* NGOs	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Fishers	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Fisheries organisations	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
* Private Sector	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. How much gear is lost or discarded per year?

A. From your experience, how much fishing gear is lost at sea per year?

(percentage on a vessel of that gear)

	None	Hardly any	Some	Most	All	Don't know
Gill nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Trawl nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Seine nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lines and cords	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lobster/crab pots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If "other", please specify

If you have more precise numbers for lost gear please provide them here

B. From your experience, how much fishing gear is discarded at sea per year?

(per vessel)

	None	Hardly any	Some	Most	All	Don't know
Gill nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Trawl nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Seine nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Lines and cords	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lobster/crab pots	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If "other", please specify

If you have more precise numbers for discarded gear please provide them here

C. From your experience, what is the average replacement rate of such gear per year?

(per vessel)

	None	Hardly any	Some	Most	All	Don't know
Gill nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
Trawl nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
Seine nets	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
Lines and cords	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
Lobster/crab pots	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>				
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>				

If you identified any of the contributions as "Important" or "Very important", please indicate which type of gear is typically responsible for this contribution.

If you have more precise figures and / or information about marine litter from aquaculture please provide them here.

D. From your experience, how important is the contribution to marine litter of the following types of aquaculture?

	Very important	Important	Slightly important	Not important at all	Don't know
Marine cages	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Lagoons/ Valliculture	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Off- bottom shellfish (rafts, longlines)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

On - bottom shellfish (inter-tidal)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
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If "other", please specify

If you have more precise numbers for aquaculture gear lost please provide them here

On what information do you base your answer? (more than one answer is allowed)

- Items found in fishing nets
- items brought ashore from fishing boats
- Video surveys
- Trawl surveys
- Scientific publications
- Other

If other, please specify

5. In your opinion, which measures would help reducing lost or discarded gear?

- Incentives to bring fished up litter and end-of-life gear ashore
- Incentives/Funding of retrieval action
- Better collection and sorting facilities on vessels and at ports
- Better marking/identification
- Better retrieval equipment
- Better enforcement of existing rules
- A map of hotspots and snagging sites
- Don't know
- Other

If other, please specify



Reporting lost gear

6. What proportion of lost gear is reported?

- All
- Most
- Some
- Hardly any
- Do not know

Retrieving lost gear

7. From your experience what proportion of gear lost at sea is retrieved?

- All
- Most
- Some
- Hardly any
- Do not know

8. Which measures would make gear retrieval more successful?

- Incentives to bring fished up litter and end-of-life gear ashore
- Incentives/funding of retrieval action
- Better collection and sorting facilities on vessels and at ports
- Better marking/identification
- Better retrieval equipment
- Better enforcement of existing rules
- Better knowledge of hotspots and snagging sites
- Better knowledge of effective retrieval methods
- Don't know
- Other

If other, please specify

9. In your opinion, which types of actions against marine litter should be supported with public funds?

- Recovery of lost fishing gear (general)
- Recovery of lost fishing gear (after prior identification of hot spots)
- Recovery of lost fishing gear (only in marine protected areas)
- Recovery of marine litter found in fishing nets during normal fishing activities ("passive fishing for litter")
- Recovery of marine litter using fishing nets ("active fishing for litter")
- Regular surveys for quantification of lost fishing gear
- Databases on concentrations of abandoned, lost or otherwise discarded fishing gear (ALDFG), to facilitate later recovery
- Recovery of fishing gear and marine litter washed up on beaches
- Other

If other, please specify

Lost gear brought ashore and end-of life gear

10. The proposal for a revised Port Reception Facilities (PRF) Directive foresees the introduction of a 100% indirect fee for waste from fishing vessels (including "passively" fished waste) and the separate collection and handling of this waste in ports. What additional targeted measures are needed to support the management of gear brought ashore and/or end of life gear?

- Extended producer responsibility scheme including levy on gear
- Deposit return schemes: levy on fishers
- Public funds
- Don't know
- Other

If other, please specify

11. Is there any sorting of waste at the port (in line with EU waste legislation, and as envisaged in the Port Reception Facilities proposal)?

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

12. What proportion of discarded or end of life gear is recycled in your country or sea area? And, according to your opinion, what proportion could be recycled?

	over 50%	25-50%	less than 25%	None	Don't know
Gear currently recycled	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Gear potentially recycled	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

To your knowledge, which kind of gear/material are currently recycled?

13. Which measures could potentially increase recycling rates?

- Introduction of EPR or bring back schemes
- Investment in recycling facilities
- Change in material (specify)
- Management of transport of gear from ports to waste management/recycling facilities
- Don't know
- Other

If change in material, please specify

If other, please specify

Other measures to reduce plastic waste from fishing gears

14. Is preparation for re-use undertaken in your country or sea area?

- Yes, routinely,
- Yes, occasionally
- No, none
- I don't know

15. Which items have the best potential for substitution of plastics with other material?

- Fish aggregating devices (FADs)
- Dolly ropes
- Buoys
- Cords/Lines

Please specify and provide examples of other items that might have such potential

Further Comments

Please use this space to add further comments, explanations and suggestions (for example concerning possible other measures that would help reducing marine litter from sea based activities, improve reporting of lost gear or increase recycling rates).

Regarding the allocation of public funds to passive FfL and retrieval of ghost nets, they should not be direct monetary payments but economic incentives such as tax exception.

If you can provide useful data sources or indicators regarding the economic, social and environmental impacts of lost fishing gear, or the costs and impacts of retrieval, please provide upload files here.

The maximum file size is 1 MB

... or provide a link here

Contact

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