



Promoting Circular Fishing Gears: A SEARCULAR Workshop

Key Information

Date: 10 June 2026
Time: 09:00 - 13:00

Venue: AZTI, Herrera Kaia - Portualdea,
z/n, 20110 Pasaia (Gipuzkoa), Spain

About the Workshop

Promoting Circular Fishing Gears: A SEARCULAR Workshop will provide a focused exchange space for representatives from the fishing sector, industry, policymakers, standardisation bodies, researchers, and others interested in the circular design of fishing gear. With sessions designed to support knowledge sharing, open dialogue and practical reflection we will discuss pathways to advance more circular, safe and scalable solutions for fishing gear, and support more sustainable fishing practices in Europe.

The Programme

The programme will address key topics such as the policy and regulatory framework shaping circularity in fishing gear, examples of solutions developed within SEARCULAR, the safety of new materials through biodegradation and toxicity considerations, the costs of innovation, and the main scientific, technical and administrative barriers that still limit uptake and scale-up.

Shared Objectives

We will develop and strengthen connections across initiatives working on similar challenges, helping to create synergies and encourage discussion on future pathways for reducing marine litter from fisheries through circular design.



Workshop Agenda

Time	Session
09:00 – 09:30	Keynote Circularity framework and regulatory context to guide industry on current and future circularity requirements.
09:30 – 11:00	SEARCULAR at a glance <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project solutions• Safety of new materials (biodegradation and toxicity)• Costs of innovation
11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
11:30 – 13:00	Panel Discussion Circular fishing gear, improving uptake, scale-up, and overcoming scientific, technical and administrative challenges.
13:00	Pintxos (light lunch)

About SEARCULAR

SEARCULAR is a research and innovation project working with industry to **reduce marine litter and microplastic generated by fishing gear**.

Tailored to the requirements of diverse fisheries, SEARCULAR has developed and tested **4 solutions to tackle marine plastics** from fishing gears at source, and ultimately, support sustainable fisheries and healthy marine environments for generations to come.



Dolly Ropes
from recycled
fishing nets



Biodegradable seine
ropes from
biodegradable plastic



Biodegradable
dFADs using
natural materials



Port-based facilities
for effective waste
management



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UK Research
and Innovation



SEARCULAR
Circular Solutions for Fishing Gears