

Working to protect our  
marine and coastal  
environment



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K I M O



# What is KIMO?



- ▶ An independent environmental organisation driven by the collective opinions and ambitions of its local authority members
- ▶ Founded in 1990 by local authorities with a shared concern for the state of the marine environment and the desire to act together to do something about it



# 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 of FfL

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



# How does FfL 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



# Successes of FfL

- ▶ Scheme is associated with positive press for fishers
- ▶ Fishers that are part of the scheme reported that they no longer throw things overboard but bring their waste back to land for disposal
- ▶ Produces a 'feel good' factor for participants
- ▶ Encourages entrepreneurship/ business opportunities to address valorisation of marine waste – recover, recycle, re-use



# Challenges – lessons from FfL

- ▶ Obstacles to raising awareness - pre-conceptions, accessing relevant populations
- ▶ Participation in voluntary schemes is associated with greater educational benefits and likely to promote long-term pro-environmental behaviours – resource needed to run schemes
- ▶ Communicating successes within industry and the public to reinforce these effects – pressure on limited resources
- ▶ Inclusion of marine environmental awareness and sustainability education within the syllabus of marine educational academies could help

# Thank you!



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