

AQUA-LIT Virtual Learning Lab

Barriers



Lack of data

We do not know the amount of waste that is produced by the sector.



Lack of awareness (especially farmers)

Lack of familiarization with the problem of marine litter from aquaculture.



Lack of collaboration between maritime sectors.



Lack of waste collection facilities

Some ports still don't have appropriate facilities for waste collection and management.



Reduced recycling infrastructures

Reduced number for recycling equipment from fisheries and aquaculture.



Monitoring of small items

Small gear such as elastics, tags, etc. are difficult to monitor when lost.



Mixed materials treatment

Difficulty in recycling equipment of different materials.



Lack of funds

Financial support needed for accessing more efficient and sustainable gear.



Not enough inspection

Competent authorities have difficulty in inspection.

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Solutions



Greater collaboration /synergies between maritime sectors (e.g. Fisheries and Aquaculture).

Personalized gear identification/tagging

Cross-border cooperation

Improving the traceability of the item produced.
Step-by-step organization in order to find out who is responsible for marine litter or lost gear.

Increased awareness of farmers (e.g. mussels' farmers).

Logbook and monitoring methodology for lost items.

Labelling programs
Inclusion marine litter criteria.



Regulation on non-degradable materials

Bans on some materials
A new approach in legislation for aquaculture sector, namely with bans (e.g. bans material like nylon).

Extended Producer Responsibility
Producer taxes to support gears' recycling system.



Rethink the materials

Pilot actions (e.g. awareness programs for farmers).

New technologies for litter monitoring and cleaning
(e.g. drones)

New solutions on downcycling material
which is not possible to recycle.



Pilot cases

New investment funds
e.g. European or national funds) to improve the monitoring of marine litter from the sector.