



Practices and procedures to mitigate gear loss- perspectives from fisheries

Sonja Elin Kleven Jakobsen

Senior Adviser

The Norwegian Fishermen's Association

Circular Ocean conference, Ålesund 19.april 2018





The Norwegian Fishermen Association:

- The Norwegian Fishermen Association is a union for Norwegian fishermen that works for the interest of the fishermen.
- Our members represents the Norwegian fishingfleet, from the small boats to the big wessels far out in the sea.
- Our role is to be a community builder, as we have been for generations. We are also working to promote employment and creation of values locally.



The fishermen's incentive to contribute to a clean ocean.

- Reputation as one of the main pollutor!
- Marketing value of this reputation is not good. We sell norwegian seafood branded as food from clean and cold oceans, but a look at what is found on shore and on the seabed tells us that the picture is not so perfect as we like to think.
- Lost fishing gear are lost Resources!
- Lost fishing gear is also ghost fishing!



The fishermen shows responsibility by making a decision called Clean Ocean.

- Landsmøtet is the highest authority in the Norwegian fishermen's association, and the body makes decisions on the principle cases for the fishermen that are members in our organization.
- They made a decision called clean ocean that addresses the marine litter from the fishing industry.
- The decision was made after recognizing that marine waste is a problem for both fishermen and the environment. Fishermen are the largest stakeholder in terms of clean sea, and we will also take our part of the responsibility for marine sedimentation.



Follow up on the decision Clean Ocean.

- Changing attitude! We applied for money from the environmental agency, and got 300.000 to use for working with changing attitude in the organization.
- Some actions will be easier to implement than others; for example reporting lost fishing gear to The Directorate of Fisheries.
- Making a plan to follow on the clean oceans decision for the board to approve. We are proposing several actions that we want to take. Two of the most important ones are attitude change and research.



Thank you for Your attention!

