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Call for proposal 2019 Strategic

## MARLESS (MARine Litter cross-border awareN ESS and innovation actions)

Priority Axis: Environment and cultural heritage; Specific objective: 3.3 - Improve the environmental quality conditions of the sea and coastal area by use of sustainable and innovative technologies and approaches

### D.6.7.6 – Toolbox on material in the aquaculture industry

AT 6.7

WP 6

Version: FINAL  
Distribution: PUBLIC  
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## PROJECT MARLESS

<b>Work Package:</b>	WP6
<b>Activity:</b>	AT 6.7 Toolbox
<b>WP Leader:</b>	PP6 University of Bologna
<b>Deliverable:</b>	D.6.7.6 – Toolbox on material in the aquaculture industry

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*If needed:*

DISCLAIMER : ----- reflects the project MARLESS views; the IT-HR Programme authorities are not liable for any use that may be made of the information contained therein.

## CONTENT:

### **ToolBox:**

*Pilot Actions to prevent, recover, process marine litter  
-Activity 6.7-*

*WP6 aims to demonstrate the feasibility of several new technologies in the field of prevention, recovery and treatment of marine litter. The activity in question will produce Tool boxes for stakeholders aimed at boosting the transferability of WP main outputs.  
Please, complete with the following information requested:*

### **1. INTRODUCTION:**

#### *1.1 Brief description of the activity performed*

Aquaculture practices today represent an important source of marine pollution linked to the dispersion of waste at sea (marine litter). There is an urgent need to mitigate their impact on the marine ecosystem. The activity 6.6 of the MARLESS project included the design of a survey aimed to strategic stakeholders to define the common perception on marine litter issues and role of aquaculture industry on marine litter. The collected data were used in a report with suggestions from other experimental activities and bibliography knowledge, to increase the sustainability of the sector.

#### *1.2 Goals achieved*

Collection of suggestions provided by the interviews as possible solutions to mitigate marine litter.

Definition of the common perception on marine litter issues and role of aquaculture industry in them.

Identification and evaluation of success stories, gaps and obstacles in using new methods and materials in aquaculture to reduce marine litter.

2. **DELIVERABLE METHODOLOGY:** *(first briefly describe what was done, then some tips for the replication of the action – suggestions are reported below)*

The University of Bologna (Unibo) designed of a complete survey targeting strategic stakeholders in finfish and mollusks farming industry as farmers, net producers, mass-market retailers, consumers, to provide an accurate picture of the common awareness of marine litter. Then Unibo team, from the Department of Veterinary Medical Sciences, distributed the survey to important companies and stakeholders during the *AquaFarm* event, an international conference exhibition on aquaculture, algaculture and fishing industry, held in Pordenone (Italy) in February 2023. The collected answers' data were gathered in a report. Here, bibliography information and practical examples, from the staff search experience, about new methods and material experiment in the aquaculture industry were added as recommendations for reducing the impact of the sector on marine litter.

2.1 **WHERE:** *Deliverable location description (the location can affect the effectiveness of the action? What about the seasonality?)*

This action could be taken in any region that has a substantial aquaculture activity to be targeted in order to improve its sustainability.

Seasonality is not important because the interviewed stakeholders, farmers have shown a continuous and particular willingness to involve in this kind of projects, also to adopt new solutions to make aquaculture more sustainable.

2.2 **WHO:** *Experts Involved (Which background do you need to perform well the action? What's the minimum team?)*

A person who knows the local situation of aquaculture farmers, their contacts, is sufficient to carry out the action, in order to reach them out and released the proper questions in a survey. It would be useful to have a person involved in the world of research of this sector, and involved in projects that make him/her aware of other actions in which sustainable solutions, materials and alternative methods are tested.

**2.3 HOW: Description of the activity realized (specific technology are needed? And the timing needed?)**

No particular technology is required for this action.  
 In the administration of a survey, it could be better to use the mixed form of printed sheets and/or pdf online, face to face or by mail. To obtain an adequate number of answers in a short time, it is good to take advantage of participation in events, such as educational workshops, where the world of aquaculture is gathering, and you can learn about news in the sector.

**2.4 Outputs achieved vs Outputs expected**

Results achieved correspond to expected results: Survey on perception of stakeholders on the role of aquaculture on marine litter; Recommendations for reducing the impact of aquaculture sector on marine litter

**2.5 SWOT ANALYSIS**

Describe, with the support of the SWOT analysis scheme, how the performed action can be improved

	<b>Helpful</b>	<b>Harmful</b>
<b>Internal Origin</b>	<b>STRENGTH:</b> Farmers willingness and great collaboration to involve in this kind of projects.	<b>WEAKNESS:</b> Get contacts with as many farmers as possible
<b>External Origin</b>	<b>OPPORTUNITIES:</b> Disseminate the report with the suggestions that could be used in potential strategies and policies to improve the awareness of marine litter.	<b>THREATS:</b> Lack of common management of marine litter and high price of the new methods and material suggested

### 3. CONCLUSION / SUMMARY:

*main achievement of the pilot action (after this pilot, can be set a new baseline for new studies?  
What can be done to continue this pilot actions?*

The suggestions provided by the interviews and the examples of possible solutions, collected in the action's report, could be used to design potential strategies and policies to improve the awareness of marine litter and sustain initiatives in finfish and mollusk supply chain. Several dissemination events can be organized to make actors aware of these solutions to reduce the impact of aquaculture sector on marine litter.

4. **TRANSFERABILITY:** *please describe how the experience gained in these pilot actions will allow to define a set of procedures / best-practices for the usage of the selected technologies in the context of the Adriatic sea*

The deliverable itself of the action 6.6 suggest procedures/best-practices of several technologies for a more sustainable Adriatic aquaculture.

### 5. MEDIA

*If available please add photos and link of videos*

None