



## Monitoring and Elimination of Bycatch of Endangered and Conserved Species in the NE and High Seas Atlantic Region



### THE CHALLENGE

Bycatch—the unintentional capture of sensitive marine species in fisheries—remains a major driver of biodiversity loss in European seas. Protected, Endangered and Threatened Species (PETS) such as seabirds, marine mammals, sea turtles, and elasmobranchs are particularly at risk.

Despite decades of scientific research and policy frameworks, progress continues to be hindered by significant data gaps, limited monitoring tools, and variable implementation of mitigation measures.

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Engage with key stakeholder groups.
- Improve knowledge on the distribution of PETS in our seas and how they interact with fishing activities.
- Evaluate the specific risks posed by fisheries bycatch to PETS.
- Advance next-generation monitoring solutions, and develop smarter, more effective monitoring technologies.
- Design optimal monitoring programmes for PETS, and accelerate EU monitoring efforts.
- Develop state-of-the-art bycatch mitigation solutions.
- Create decision-support tools that help reduce bycatch and protect marine life while supporting sustainable fisheries.

### AT A GLANCE

**PROGRAMME & FUNDER:** Horizon Europe, European Union

**TYPE OF ACTION:** Research and Innovation Action

**CALL TOPIC:** HORIZON-CL6-2023-BIODIV-01; Understanding and reducing bycatch of protected species

**DURATION:** 54 months; January 2024 – June 2028

**COORDINATOR:** Marine Institute

**CONSORTIUM:** 21 partners from 9 countries

**TOTAL BUDGET:** €8.8 million

**CASE STUDIES:** 7 areas across the North East Atlantic



# Explore our New Digital Platform to contribute to smarter, more sustainable fisheries

## Why Get Involved?

This is your space to speak up, share insights, and learn from others. Whether you work in the fishing industry, work with an NGO, are a policymaker, scientist, or a concerned citizen – your voice matters.

We're bringing together people from all backgrounds to talk about what really matters in bycatch reduction. Share your knowledge, ask questions, and help discover the best solutions – together.

## What the Platform Offers

- Lively discussion spaces focused on real-world issues
- Information on the latest ideas and tools to reduce bycatch
- Resources that support practical decision-making
- Options to participate openly or anonymously



## Register

Let's work together to shape a better future for our oceans. **Scan the QR code** to join now. Be heard. Be part of the solution.

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