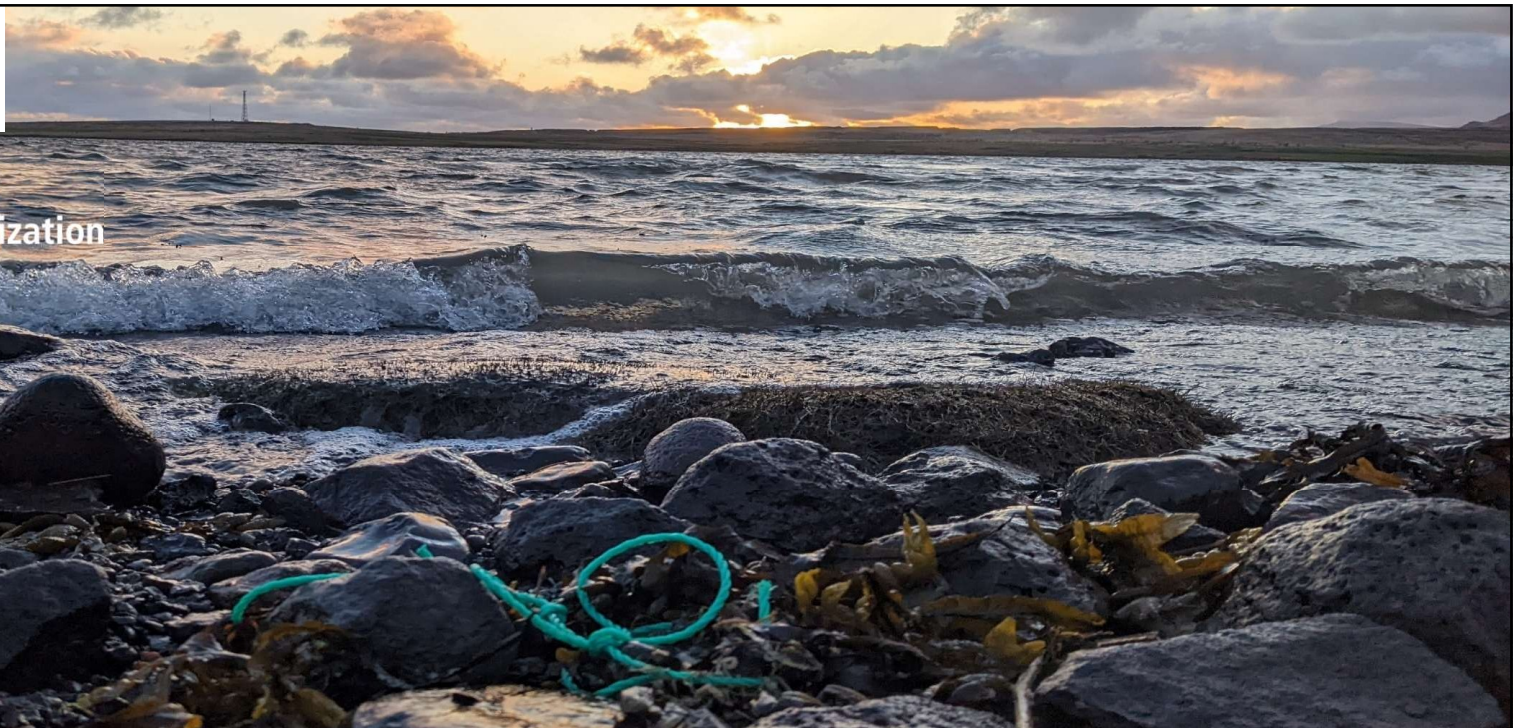




**MARINE & FRESHWATER
RESEARCH INSTITUTE**



**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**



Marking and Managing Fishing Gear:

Insights from Iceland and FAO

February 2025

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Outline

-  1 Manual for Marking Fishing Gear
-  2 The FAO Global ALDFG Survey – about the marking
-  3 The Value of Fishing Gear Marking for the Circular Economy
-  4 Levels of fishing gear marking
-  5 Iceland's Regulatory Framework for Marking Fishing Gear





Manual for Marking Fishing Gear

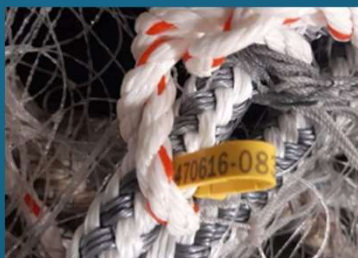
- Recommended Information on Marks

Date	Gear code
ESP	2022 FPO
3-BI-7-1234	
#4321	
Unique sequential number	

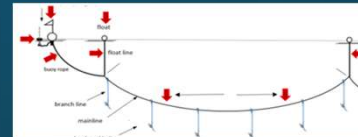
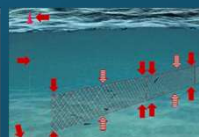
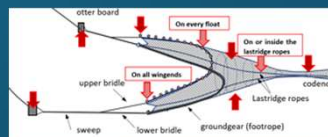
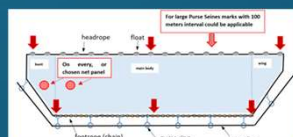
NOR M-07-AV	AUS Lucky	PRT Lic:123456
ISL IMO: 9192404	ZAF John Hook Cape Town	KOR +82 1234 1234
ISL fishcompany@fish.is		
NOR MMSI: 259215000		

NOR M-07-AV	ITA 2020 GNS Lucky
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- Examples of Marks for Identification of Ownership



- Suggested Position of Marks for Different Gear Types



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Suppl. 2

VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON THE MARKING OF FISHING GEAR

Manual for the marking of fishing gear

<https://doi.org/10.4060/cc4251en>



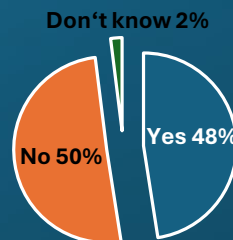
The FAO Global ALDFG Survey – about the marking

A survey conducted with 15 countries, and several are in the pipeline
40 surveys are done with 3885 fishers who have answered

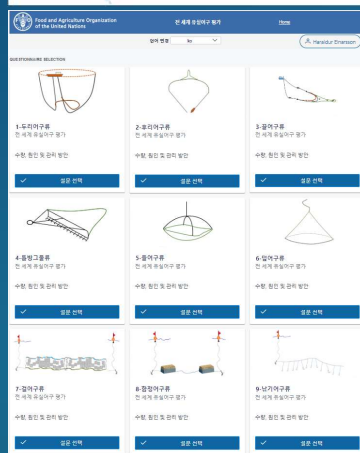
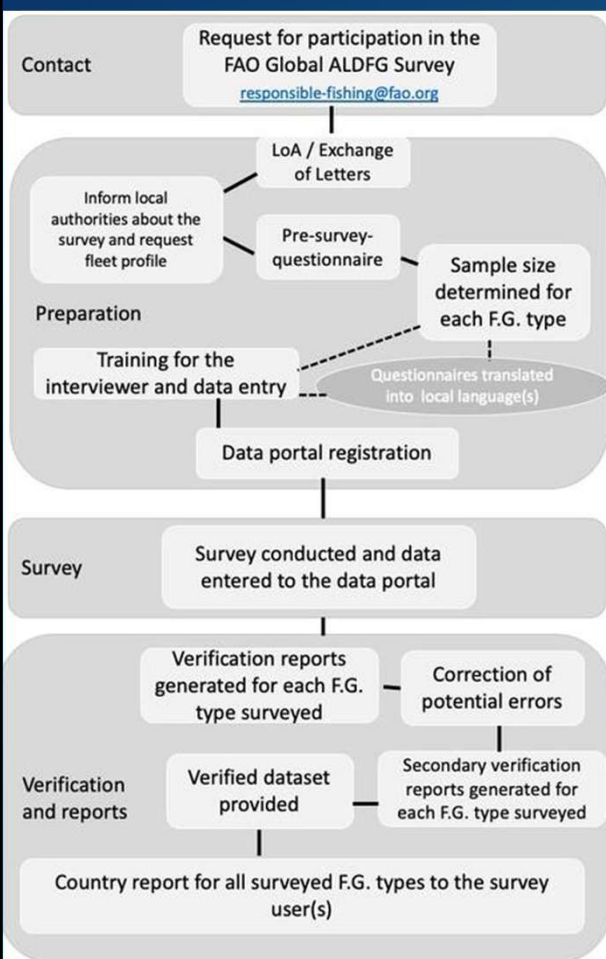
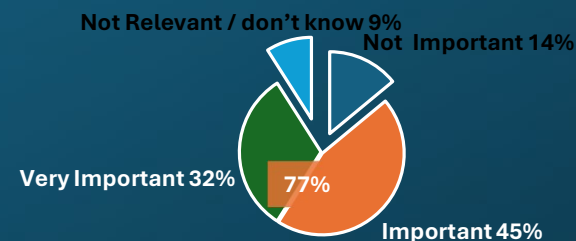
Translated as needed
 Standard questions across 9 identical questionnaires
 Differing only by fishing gear type
 Enables comparison of results between regions

The questions about marking!

Is the fishing gear in use marked in any way?



How important is marking fishing gear to avoiding ALDFG?



<https://www.fao.org/responsible-fishing/marking-of-fishing-gear/fao-global-aldfg-survey/en/>



The Circular Economy of Fishing Gear in Nordic Fisheries

the situation and challenges

Funded by AG-Fish
Project name: Live Cycle



We did collect information from stakeholders

Material can be tracked through the circular economy at most stages.

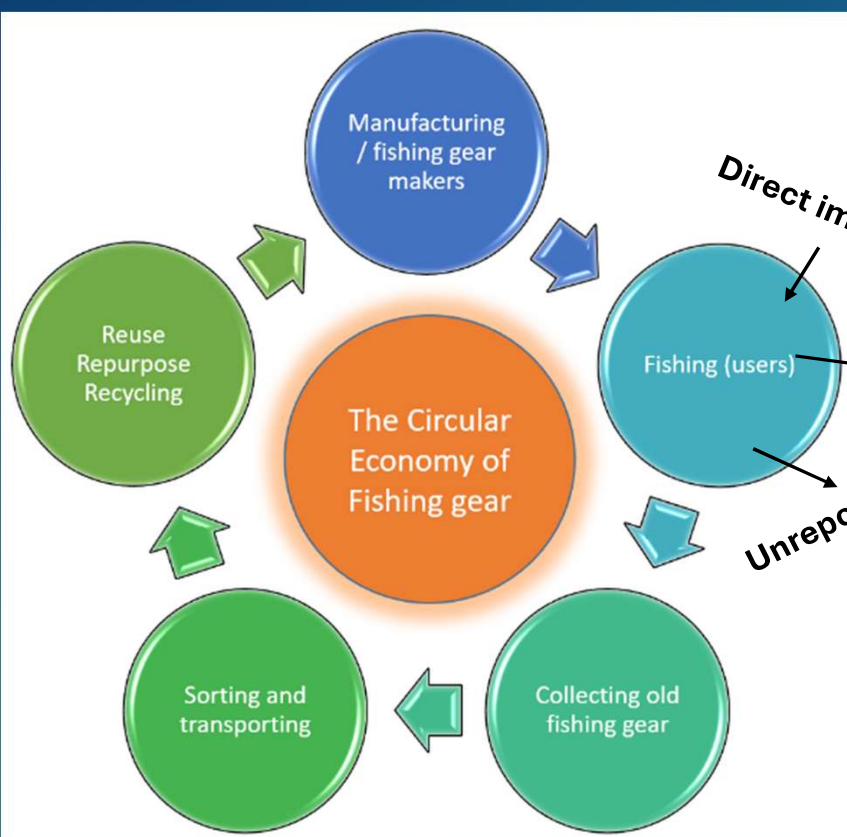
However!:

An unknown amount of material is entering the circular economy and leaking out as unreported ALDFG and disposal.
From the fishery

The first recommendation from this work is:

Improve gear traceability

- **Implement Marking System**
- **Mandatory Registration System**





Levels of fishing gear marking

First level: Passive regulations

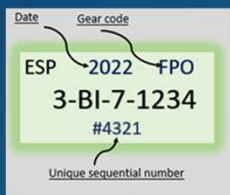
- Require traceable marking but do not specify how or what must be written on tags. Still no knowledge about the magnitude of fishing gear in use.

Second level: Guiding regulations

- Establish standards for tag design and label text, along with registering fishing gear in use.

Third level: Comprehensive registration system

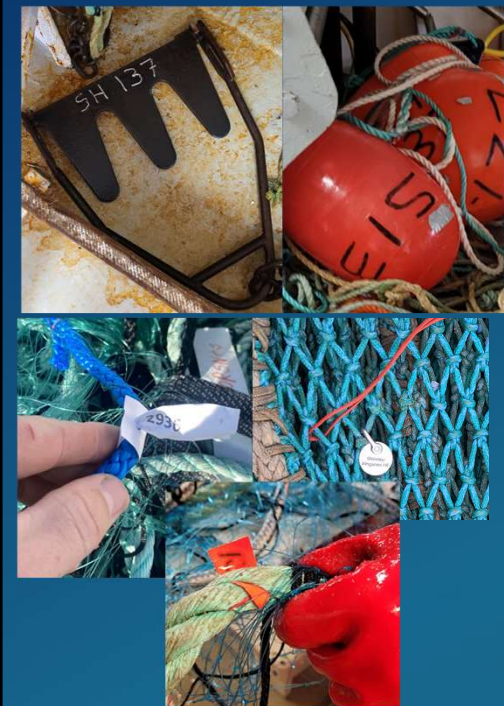
- Tracks all fishing gear in use at any time, including materials used for End-of-Life Fishing Gear (EOLFG) recycling.



More Cars Than Fishing Gear Globally?



Iceland's Regulatory Framework for Marking Fishing Gear



- Before regulations, it was common practice to mark gillnets
 - Styrofoam floats were stamped, and concrete sinkers bore gravel lettering
- It has been mandatory for decades to mark gillnet locations in the gadoid fishery
 - Only surface markings and anchors were required
 - It was mandatory to report lost gillnets to the Coastguard, with including all required information
- A new regulation mandating the marking of all fishing gear in use was launched in 2020
 - The vessel's registration number or IMO must be used
 - Not all types of fishing gear are mentioned in the text which may suggest that some are excluded
 - It is now mandatory to report all lost fishing gear to the Coastguard and Directorate of Fisheries --- and into the logbook

Very few reports
over decades!

Reports remain scarce
only a handful are
delivered!

This remains a passive regulation for marking fishing gear, with weak incentives to report lost gear

No regular surveys for cleaning up lost fishing gear at fishing grounds are conducted in Iceland



Marking fishing gear is a cheap and easy method to fight against ALDFG



Thank You

any questions?