Fit for the future: Atlantic and North Sea FLAG Seminar

Agenda

Day 1, 25th May (Tuesday)

10:00-11:00	**Opening Plenary** - Welcome & agenda, FARNET Support Unit (FSU) - Welcome by DG MARE, European Commission, Alenka Kampl - FLAGs Fit for the Future, FSU - FLAG work on the ground: an example from Brest, France (FLAG video)
11:00-11:15	*Coffee Break*
11:15-12:30	**Working Group 1 – Planning project selection** - Introductory example from France, Opale Coast FLAG - Introductory example from Spain, East Cantabria FLAG - Working group discussions in small groups
12:30-14:00	*Lunch Break*
14:00-15.15	**Working Group 2 - Animation and Stakeholder engagement** - Introductory presentation from Spain, Pontevedra FLAG - Working group discussions in small groups
15:15-15:30	*Coffee Break*
15:30-16:30	**Engaging with different marine-related stakeholders** - Offshore sector, Offshore Center Bornholm (DK), Lone Reppien - Environmental sector, Soldecoco & WWF (ES), Jorge Saez - Research sector: Politécnico de Leiria (PT), Sergio Leandro - Circular Economy sector, Fil&Fab (FR), Yann Louboutin

Day 2, 26th May (Wednesday)	
10:15 - 10:30	**Welcome** FARNET Support Unit (FSU)
10:30 - 12:00	**Working Group 3 – Result orientation and monitoring** - Introductory presentation from Ireland, North East FLAG - Working group discussions in small groups
12:00 -14:00	*Lunch Break*
14:00 - 14:30	**Atlantic and North Sea Initiatives** - BlueBio Alliance Portugal (Network of the marine bioresources value chain)*,* Raquel Gaião Silva, Advisor - INTERREG Atlantic Area Programme, Morgane Lesage, Director of the Joint Technical Secretariat
14:30 - 15:30	Thematic networking, cooperation and exchange in breakout rooms
15.30 -16:00	Concluding session

Thematic Focus Groups

Thursday 27th May

Renewable energies in the marine space (10:00 – 11:30)

What role can FLAGs play to ensure their local communities are well positioned and equipped to face a transition to renewable energy? As the European Commission supports a dramatic increase in the production of offshore renewables, how might local communities and especially fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders be affected? What are the challenges and what are the opportunities? Moreover, how might these sectors benefit from transitioning to the use of renewables themselves? These are the central questions that will be explored by FLAGs and other stakeholders in this focus group.

Algae opportunities (13:30 – 15:00)

In the context of the EU Green Deal, FLAGs in this focus group will discuss the opportunities linked to the harvesting, production and processing of algae in the Atlantic and North Sea basins, and its potential to contribute to local economies and food systems. In addition, we will explore the interest of FLAGs in working further on this subject in the future and challenges perceived to supporting projects related to algae in the local areas.

Friday 28th May

Tackling Marine Litter (10:00 – 11:30)

Since the first "Fishing for litter" initiatives started more than a decade ago, public awareness in coastal communities and public policies to tackle the waste problem in coastal waters have significantly gained ground. FLAGs are well placed to be part of the solutions at local level. This focus group will deal with the different stages of the process – from working with coastal fishers to collect waste to the latest developments around reuse and recycling.

Artisanal fishers in future FLAGs (13:30 – 15:00)

This session will focus on the challenges that small-scale coastal fisheries in the North Atlantic are facing, their impact on local communities and how CLLD can address them. Discussions will include FLAG representatives, scientific experts, fishers and other stakeholders. The session will cover how challenges (such as climate change, governance, renewable energy, blue growth and the circular economy) can be tackled through FLAGs and what role SSCF can play in them.