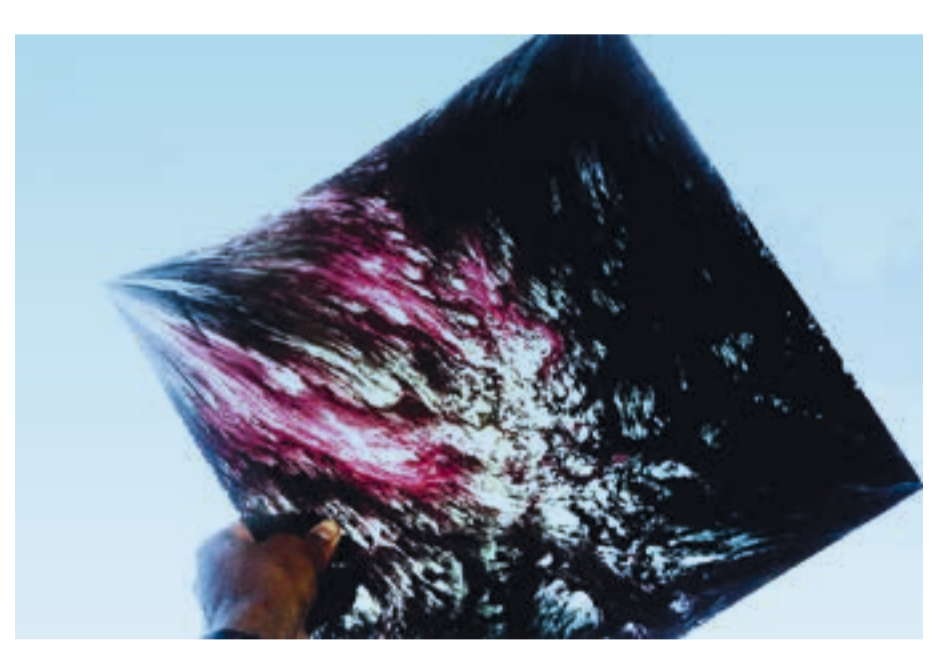


## Recycling used fishing nets

# Fil&Fab

**A French start-up is tackling harbour waste by turning used fishing nets into a raw material for making new plastic products.**



Old fishing nets in France are typically sent to a landfill, incinerated or shipped abroad for recycling. Former design stu-

dents, Théo, Thibaut and Yann, decided to work on a more eco-friendly and local solution. Their aim was to give a new purpose to what had previously been harbour waste.

They began setting up a local recycling chain for old fishing nets, launching their own start-up, Fil&Fab. The company works with partners to collect old fishing nets in Brest and with support from their local FLAG, the company has set up an industrial production line that transforms nylon fishing nets into plastic for new products.

The nets are first dismantled by people from a nearby social integration association. These “cleaned” nets are then crushed and turned into pellets made of 100% nylon. These are then made into plastic sheets with a technique developed by Fil&Fab and used to develop products that respect the values of ethical and sustainable design. After a successful pilot phase, Fil&Fab expects to recycle and sell 100 tonnes of discarded fishing net in the next two years, a quarter of the regional deposit.

### FRANCE

#### BREST FLAG



Stand 12

### RESULTS

- ▶ One company created
- ▶ Three full-time jobs created
- ▶ 4 tonnes of fishing nets processed in year 1

**Total project cost:** €175 350

FLAG (inc. EMFF): €140 280

Beneficiary: €35 070

#### Project Promoter

Fil&Fab

Théo Desprez

<https://fil-et-fab.fr/>

“Our goal is to offer a Breton product that is based on a local plastic resource while promoting a forgotten waste.”

Théo Desprez, Fil&Fab