



NETTAG+ Final Event

Vila do Conde & Póvoa de Varzim (Portugal)

- Agenda -



2021 United Nations Decade
2030 of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Activity endorsed by the UN Ocean Decade



Agenda

Scientific Workshop (14 April 2026)

Venue: Auditório Municipal de Vila do Conde

10:00 | WELCOME COFFEE & REGISTRATION

10:30 | OPENING SESSION

- Board of CIIMAR
- NETTAG+ Coordinator

11:00 | KEYNOTE SPEAKER

- Professor Mike Elliott (University of Hull)

11:30 | PANEL 1 – PREVENT SOLUTIONS (1h30)

- Free LitterAt project - Marisa Fernández (CETMAR)
- Participation of fishers in the NETTAG+ project - Stefania Campogianni (WWF Med)
- Litter Management at Ports - Cristina Pita (University of Aveiro)
- Fisher Reward Program - Gill Ainsworth (University of Santiago Compostela)

PANEL 1 DISCUSSION

13:00 | LUNCH BREAK

14:30 | PANEL 2 – AVOID SOLUTIONS (1h30)

- SEARCULAR project - Oihane Cabezas (AZTI)
- Acoustic technology to reduce gear loss and bycatch - Jeff Neasham (UNEW)
- IRIS - autonomous location and recovery - Alfredo Martins (INESC TEC)

PANEL 2 DISCUSSION

16:00 | PANEL 3 – MITIGATE SOLUTIONS (1h30)

- SeaClear2.0 project - Stefan Sosnowski (TUM)
- New tools for ALDFG detection - Alfredo Martins (INESC TEC)
- Potential of fishing gear to release MPs and hazardous agents - Sabrina Rodrigues (CIIMAR)

PANEL 3 DISCUSSION

17:30 | CLOSING & SOCIAL GATHERING

NETTAG+ Final Event

The NETTAG+ project's Final Event will take place in Vila do Conde and Póvoa de Varzim, in northwest Portugal, on 14-15 of April 2026. The event will be organised as a two-day programme combining a scientific workshop with a stakeholder-oriented demonstration day. Its objective is to disseminate and demonstrate the social and technological solutions developed within NETTAG+ to address the adverse impacts of litter originating from fisheries, while also fostering exchange and dialogue among key stakeholder groups. The event will bring together managers, policymakers, representatives of the fisheries sector, the scientific community, and a broader audience, as well as other EU-funded and related initiatives working on similar challenges, with the aim of sharing experiences, building synergies, strengthening networks, and contributing to a lasting legacy beyond the project's lifetime.

14 April | Scientific Workshop

Location: Auditório Municipal de Vila do Conde, Portugal

Address: Praça da República, 4480-754 Vila do Conde

The first day will consist of a one-day scientific workshop structured around the three NETTAG+ solution pillars – PREVENT, AVOID, and MITIGATE. The workshop is primarily aimed at researchers, policymakers, and representatives of EU-funded and related projects addressing marine litter and fisheries-related impacts. Each session will combine presentations of NETTAG+ results with contributions from at least one external project, with the objective of fostering synergies, exchanging lessons learned, and discussing future pathways for the prevention and mitigation of marine litter from fisheries.

15 April | Demonstration of NETTAG+ solutions

Location: APMSHM headquarters, Portugal

Address: Zona Portuária - Molhe Norte Apart. 142, 4494-909 Póvoa de Varzim

The second day will be a stakeholder-oriented demonstration event focused on disseminating NETTAG+ outputs to a broad audience, including fisheries organisations, public authorities, policymakers, NGOs, and other relevant actors. Key activities will include at-sea demonstrations of NETTAG+ technological solutions, such as the MyGearTag system and associated robotic technologies developed to locate and recover fishing gear in case of loss, as well as technologies for detecting and mapping ALDFG (Abandoned, Lost or otherwise Discarded Fishing Gear). Complementary on-land activities will showcase additional project outputs, including educational video games, the NETTAG+ virtual reality experience, policy briefs, and project videos. These activities are designed to enable direct interaction with project results and to facilitate dialogue between project partners and stakeholders.

Demonstration of NETTAG+ solutions (15 April 2026)

Venue: APMSHM (Zona Portuária - Molhe Norte Apart. 142, 4494-909 Póvoa de Varzim)

10:00 | WELCOME COFFEE & REGISTRATION

OPENING SESSION

NETTAG+ project

PROJECT DEMONSTRATIONS

LIVE DEMONSTRATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS - onboard a fishing vessel

13:00 | LUNCH BREAK