

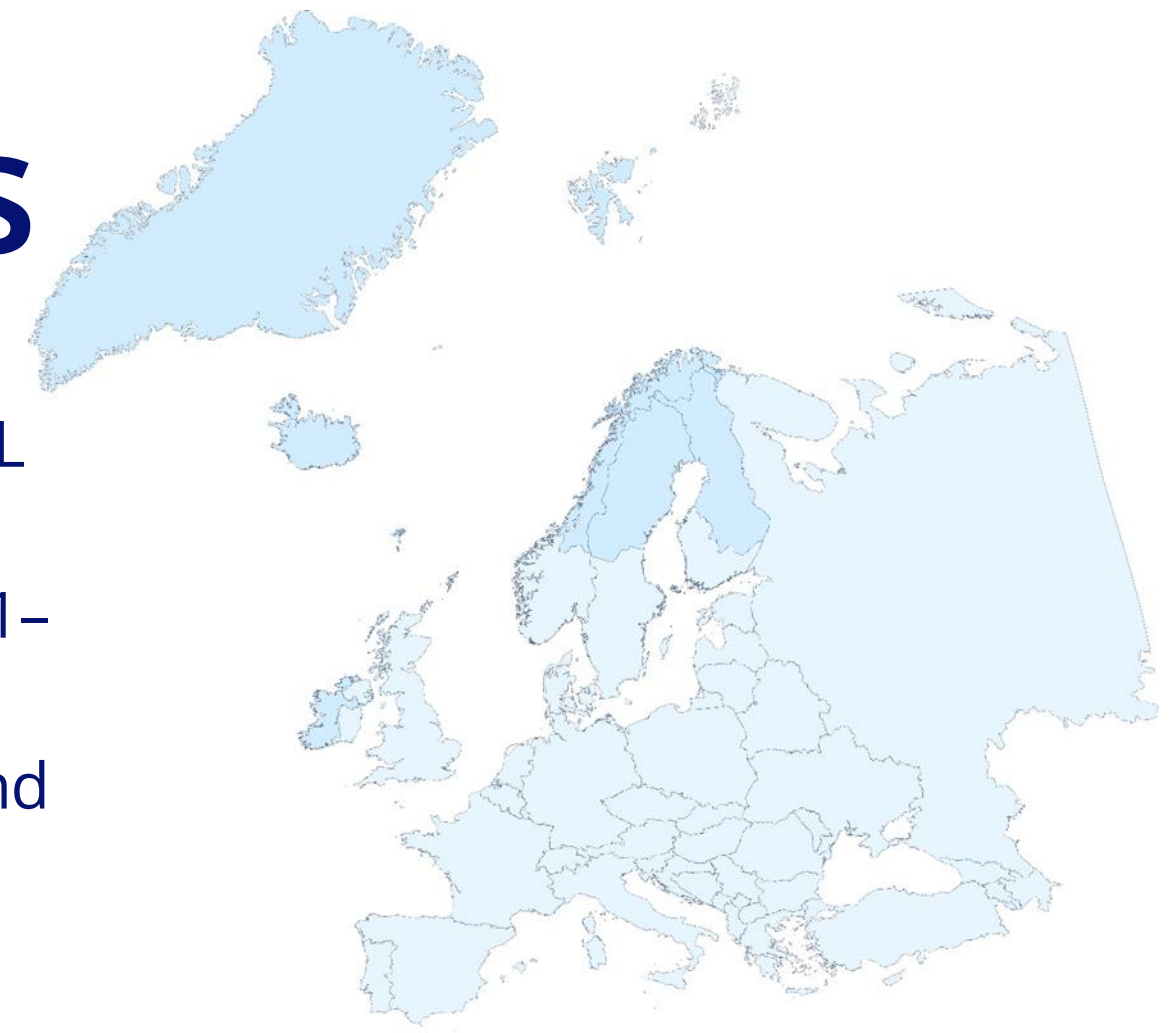
# Marine plastic pollution and fishing gear

- Iceland – collection and recycling scheme for end-of-life fishing gear since 2006
- ⇒ The fishing sector will take care of its own waste
- Two Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPA) projects addressing marine plastic pollution - *Circular Ocean* (2015–2018) and *Blue Circular Economy* (2018–2021)
- Sweden – national collection scheme for end-of-life fishing gear in 2018
- ⇒ Supported by the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management
- ⇒ Collected gear sorted at Sotenäs Marine Recycling Center on the West Coast of Sweden, materials sent to recycling or incineration
- SUPD (2019/904/EC) - Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) to be applied to plastics containing fishing gear

# Extended producer responsibility (EPR) and fishing gear

- EPR – producer is responsible for the product after it becomes waste
  - ⇒ Usually includes a take-back scheme, but it takes time to build this
  - ⇒ Challenges with different kind of waste segments, e.g., packaging vs. electronics, especially in separation of materials and recycling
- Fishing gear – many different types, contain different kinds of materials – various plastics, metals, rubber, etc.
- Packaging, tires - bulk products with steady material flows unlike with fishing gear
- How to implement EPR for fishing gear in northern, sparsely populated regions with long distances?

# CIRCNETS – Blue Circular Nets



- Overall aim: To support collection, treatment and recycling of EOL fishing gear
- Funded by Northern Periphery and Arctic (NPA) Programme 2021–2027
- Programme priority 2.3 - Promoting the transition to a circular and resource efficient economy
- Implementation period: 1/2023–12/2025
- Budget: 1.5 MEUR
- Partners from FIN, SWE, NOR, IRE and ICE
- WP1: Analysis of fishing gear volumes and collection responsibilities & practices in NPA ports
- WP2: NPA Marine plastic mitigation model (collection, treatment, reuse)
- WP3: Implementation of EPR for EOL fishing gear in NPA countries

# Five partner countries, five different starting points

## **Role and importance of the fishing and aquaculture sector varies a lot**

- Commercial fishing, aquaculture and recreational fishing

## **Is fishing gear waste collected now?**

- There is national or local collection schemes, but in some countries, this is only now started because of the EPR

## **What happens to collected gear?**

- There are collectors, who send the gear abroad to be (sorted and) recycled
- There is recycling companies, who receive gear intact or as sorted materials, which are recycled to be used in new products

⇒ EPR will change this situation, how to get ready for that?