



FOODIMAR PROJECT

Environmental Aspects of By-product Valorisation



SUBMARINER Network



Established 2013



Not-for-profit



Located in Germany



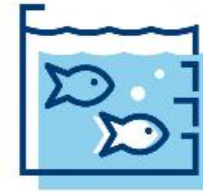
Innovative and sustainable use of marine resources



Protect the marine environment



Sustainable economic development



Fisheries & Aquaculture



Algae cultivation,
processing & products



Bivalve cultivation,
processing & products



Marine protected areas



Maritime spatial
planning



Ocean multi-use



Education & upskilling



Business support



Ocean governance

Contents

- Environmental impacts of improper by-product disposal
- Strategies for minimizing waste and maximizing resource recovery
- Successful by-product valorization projects
 - Introducing FOODIMAR
- Q&A and discussion

Environmental impacts of improper by-product disposal



- The seafood industry is globally significant, providing essential nutrition and livelihoods for billions of people.
- During processing, up to 50% of fish weight becomes by-products.
- Processing and production by-products
- Improper disposal can pose substantial environmental challenges.
- The lack of proper management leads to pollution, threatens ecosystems, and poses risks to human health.

Environmental impacts of improper by-product disposal

Impacts on water:

- Excess nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, causing eutrophication.
- Pathogens from fish waste.
- Chemical contaminants.

Biodiversity loss:

- Waste dumping can harm marine and terrestrial habitats
 - Altering habitat structure
 - Smothering benthic communities
 - Bioaccumulation of toxins



Environmental impacts of improper by-product disposal



Impacts on soil:

- Accumulation of fisheries waste in landfills.
- Soil quality
 - Altering soil pH, porosity, and water-holding capacity
 - Impacts on soil microbial enzymatic activities
- Heavy metals and other pollutants can persist in soil

Environmental impacts of improper by-product disposal



Impacts on air:

- Decomposition of fish waste releases gases such as ammonia and hydrogen sulfide.
- Exposure to these gases can lead to respiratory issues and other health problems.
- The breakdown of organic waste emits greenhouse gases, e.g., methane and carbon dioxide, contributing to climate change.

Strategies for minimizing waste and maximizing resource recovery

1. Waste minimization and proper sorting

Effective waste minimization starts with proper sorting and logistics of by-products.

Proper sorting:

- Implement on-site separation during processing to prevent contamination¹.

Efficient logistics:

- Maintain a cold chain to preserve by-product quality².



¹ Rustad, T., Storrø, I., & Slizyte, R. (2011). Possibilities for the utilization of marine by-products. *International Journal of Food Science & Technology*, 46.

² Arvanitoyannis, I.S. and Kassaveti, A., 2008. Fish industry waste: treatments, environmental impacts, current and potential uses. *International journal of food science & technology*, 43,726-745.

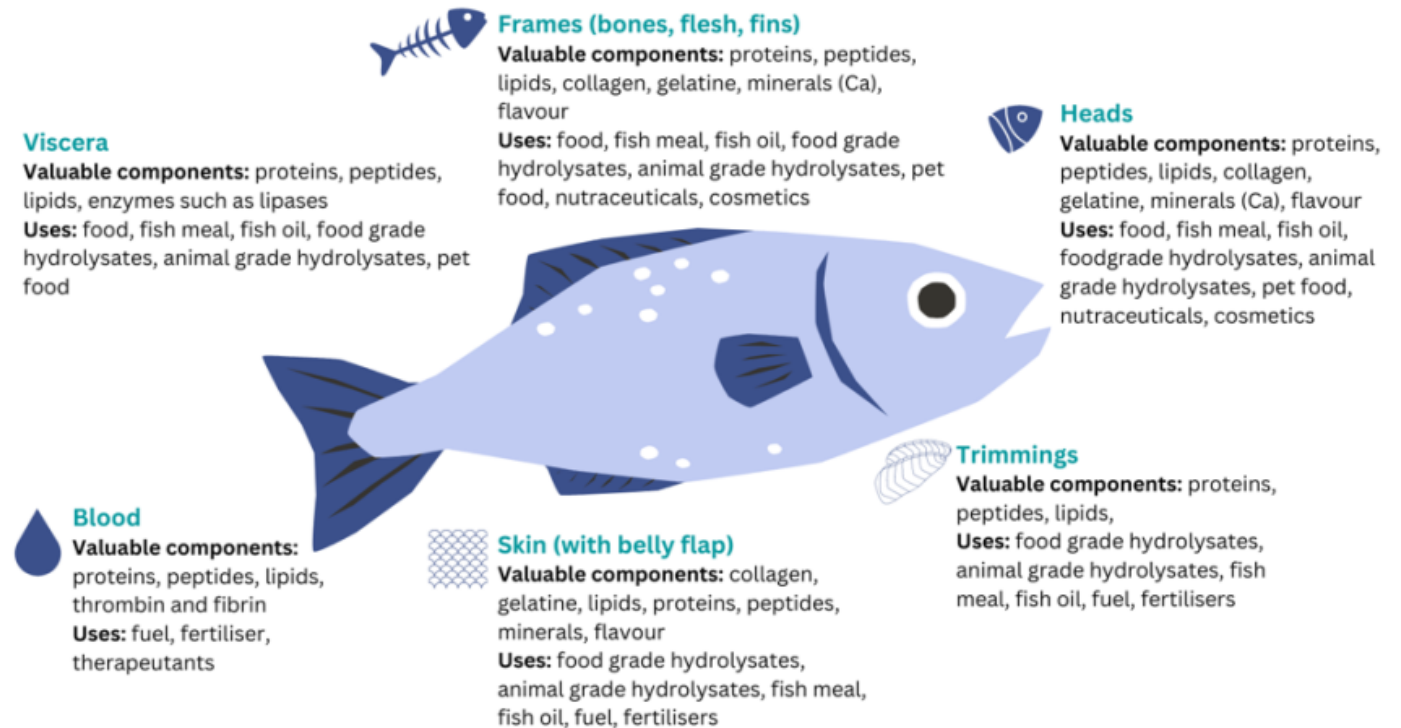
Strategies for minimizing waste and maximizing resource recovery

2. By-product valorization

Transforming side-streams into valuable products could reduce environmental impact and create economic opportunities.

- Valorization techniques (classical):
 - Production of fish meal and oil:
 - Extraction of bioactive compounds
 - Production of biogas
 - Fertilizers

Valuable components and fish by-products uses



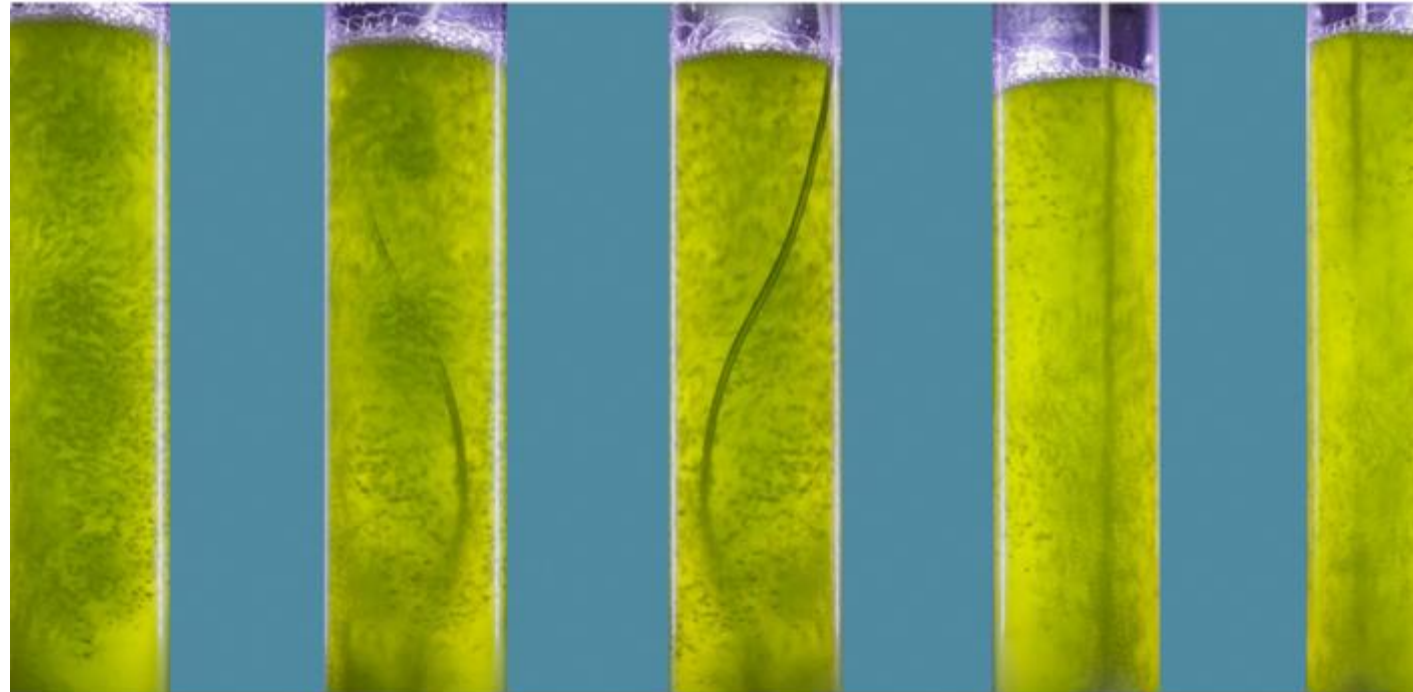
Source: Stevens, et.al. 2018

Strategies for minimizing waste and maximizing resource recovery

2.1 By-product valorization

Transforming by-products from systems into valuable products could reduce environmental impact and create economic opportunities.

- **Wastewater:**
 - Irrigation
 - Microalgae
 - Aquaponics
- **Sludge**
 - Fertilisers
 - Growth Media



Strategies for minimizing waste and maximizing resource recovery

3. Use of green technologies

Adopting green technologies enhances efficiency and reduces the environmental footprint of by-product management.

- Anaerobic digestion;
- Enzymatic hydrolysis;
- Membrane filtration;
- Supercritical fluid extraction.



Strategies for minimizing waste and maximizing resource recovery

4. Sustainability assessment of valorization methods

Evaluating the **environmental, social, and economic** impacts ensures the sustainability of by-product valorization techniques.

Environmental assessment:

- Measures environmental impacts from production to disposal.
- Identifies opportunities to reduce impacts and resource use.

Social assessment:

- Assesses effects on local employment and health.
- Ensures fair labor practices and community benefits.

Economic assessment:

- Evaluates the financial viability of technologies.
- Considers initial investment, operational costs, and potential revenues.



Strategies for minimizing waste and maximizing resource recovery



5. Stakeholder engagement

Active participation from all stakeholders enhances the effectiveness of sustainable practices in the by-product management/valorization.

Key Stakeholders:

- Industry players: fishermen, processors, distributors.
- Government and regulators: policy development and enforcement.
- Local communities: addressing social impacts and benefits.
- Researchers and NGOs: providing expertise and promoting best practices.

Some strategies:

- Involve stakeholders in planning and implementation.
- Share information openly to build trust.
- Offer training and resources to support sustainable practices.

Seafood Side Stream Valorization Projects



sustainable climate-Friendly quality fOOD

Ingredients from Marine side-stReams

Partners: 6

Countries: Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark,
Turkey & Belgium

Sea basins: North, Baltic & Mediterranean

Budget: € 1,580,812

Duration: 36 Months (1 May 2024 – 30 April 2027)

Pillars



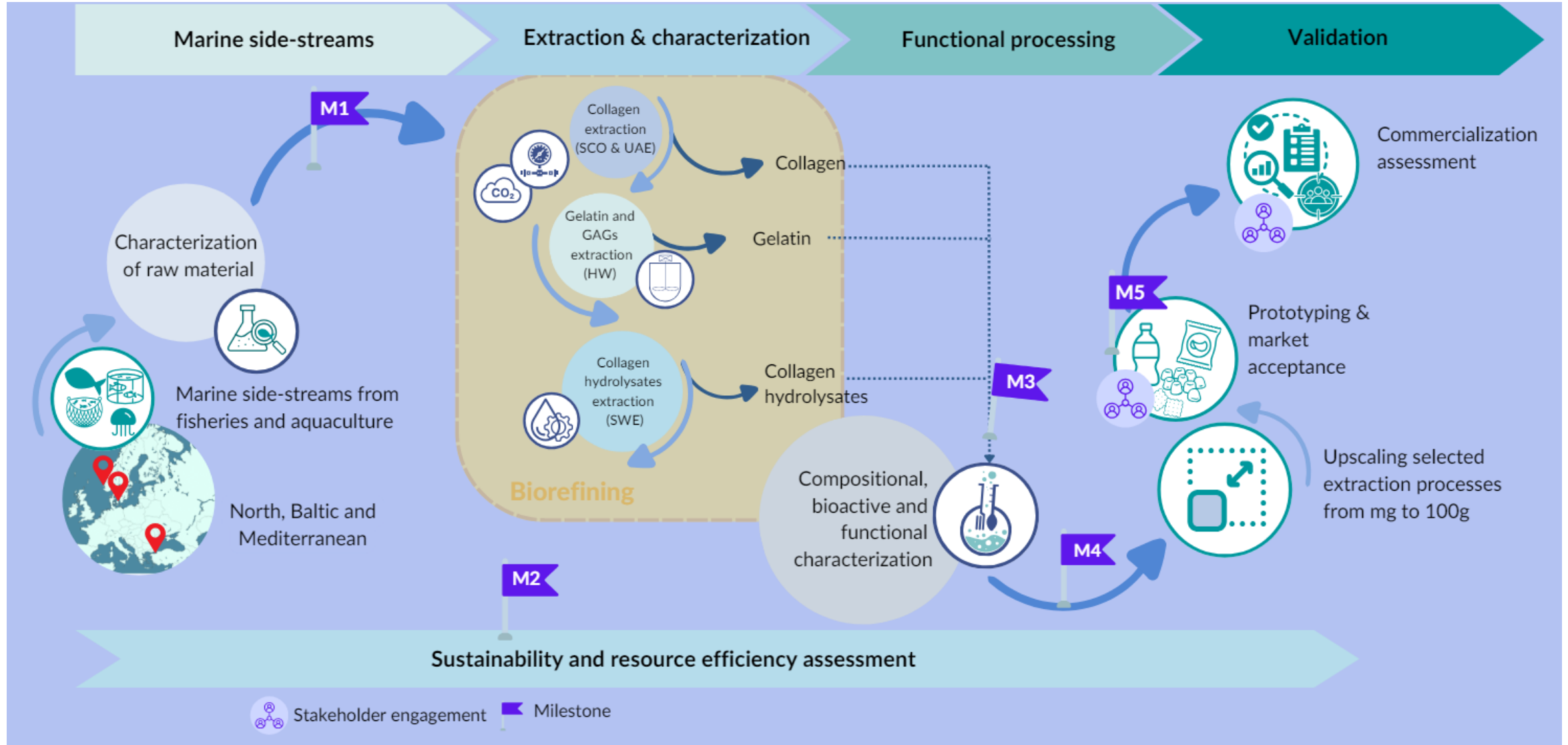
Maximize the utilization of seafood side-streams and by-catch to reduce food loss



Raise the value of seafood side-streams by transforming them into high-value products



Promote capacity building and the development of business models



SCO: Supercritical CO₂; UAE: Ultrasound-Assisted Extraction; HW: How water; SWE: Subcritical Extraction

Pilots

-  Pilot
-  Functionality testing & product development
-  Characterization & processing of marine biomass
-  Market assessment & commercialization
-  Sustainability & resource efficiency assessment
-  Engagement & transferability



Sustainability in FOODIMAR

Evaluate the positive and negative environmental, economic, and social impacts, as well as the resource efficiency of the FOODIMAR proposed value chains



Life Cycle Assessment (LCA)
Life Cycle Costing (LCC)
Social-LCA



Compare current valorisation pathways with FOODIMAR scenarios



Resource Efficiency Study to identify critical points for optimising processes

Extraction Methods

Conventional Methods

- Hydrolysis
- Chemical Extraction
- Thermal Treatments

Benefits

- Well established
- Extensive knowledge-base
- Scaled-up

Challenges/Drawbacks

- Off-flavour
- High Energy Consumption
- Chemical Usage
- Lower quality

FOODIMAR Methods

- Ultrasound Assisted
- Subcritical Water
- Supercritical CO₂
- Hot Water

Benefits

- High yield
- Less/No chemical usage
- Shorter extraction times
- Better quality

Challenges/Drawbacks

- Expensive
- Difficult to scale-up



Seafood Side Stream Valorization Projects



Optimal utilisation of seafood side-streams through the design of new holistic process lines

<https://www.waseabi.eu/>

BBI JU Project

May 2019 – October 2023 (Completed)

€3,197,397.00

Preservation of underutilised fish biomasses for improved quality, stability and utilisation

<https://profius-project.com/>

BlueBio Cofund

Nov 2021 – Nov 2024

€1,550,000.00

Seafood Side Stream Valorization Projects

ImPrESsIVE

Improved Processing to Enhance Seafood Sidestream
Valorization and Exploration



Improved Processing to Enhance Seafood
Sidestream Valorisation and Exploration

BlueBio Cofund

Nov 2022 – Nov 2025

Biotechnologies For Human Health and Blue
Growth

<https://bythosproject.eu/>

Interreg (Italia-Malta)

Jun 2018 – May 2021 (Complete)

€2,371,592.00

Seafood Side Stream Valorization Projects

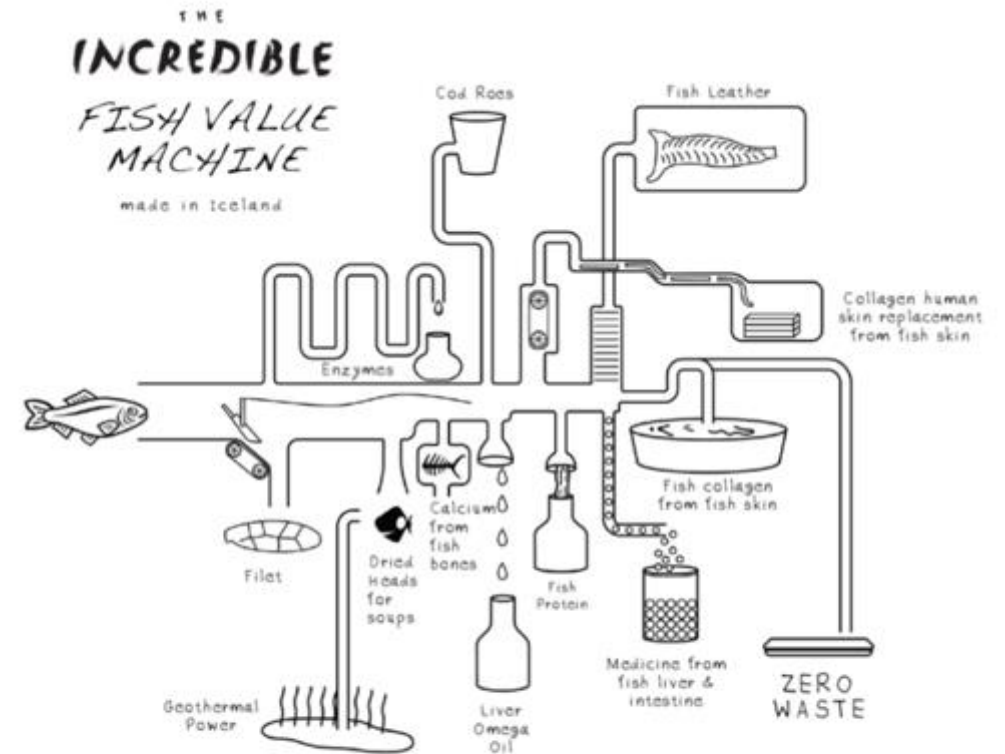


100 %
fish

100% Fish (Cluster Initiative)

<https://sjavarklasinn.is/en/iceland-ocean-cluster/100-fish/>

In Iceland, the industry has reached 80% usage of white fish. Companies within the Icelandic Ocean Cluster develop supplements, proteins, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and other high-value products from different parts of the fish.



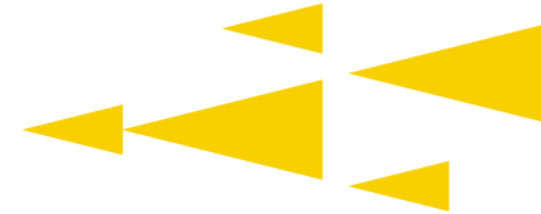
100% fish

Seafood Side Stream Valorization Projects

FOODIMAR Sister Projects (SBEP)

Started early 2024

- **BLUEWAYSE** – BLUE WAY to a Sustainable Europe
- **RE-BLUE** – Resource efficient blue food production from small underutilized pelagic fish species
- **SEAREFINERY** – Improved Valorisation of Marine Sources and Processing Waste for Resource Efficient Blue Food/ Feed and Environmentally Sustainable Materials Development
- **Waste2Taste** – From waste to taste: exploring innovative food applications of postharvest fish losses



**Sustainable Blue
Economy Partnership**

Thank you



GET IN TOUCH



FOODIMAR



FOODIMAR



www.foodimar.eu



fr@submariner-network.eu
erasmo.cadenamartinez@ugent.be