



HEALTHY  SEAS®
a journey from waste to wear

Activity & Communications Report 2022

Healthy Seas goes Global with Record Number of Activities

Thanks to the commitment and passion of our team, our partners and of the many volunteers we are proud to collaborate with, 2022 was an incredible year for Healthy Seas!

Through hard work, strategic synergies and creativity, we were able to achieve a truly global expansion of our activities. In the past year, Healthy Seas began operating in two new continents, North America and Asia with regular cleanups in Hong Kong, USA (West Coast) and South Korea. We also widened our educational scope, engaging more children than ever before through interactive learning activities, physical and digital games.

And while new is always exciting and necessary for the growth of an organization, we also focused much for our energy and resources to Ithaca, Greece, where we returned to continue cleaning up the surrounding sea from yet another abandoned fish farm. Our expertise in organizing such large-scale cleanups is becoming acknowledged more and more, and we as a team are more confident than ever that we can make even greater and longer lasting positive environmental impact on local, regional, and international level. That is our goal and commitment.



Veronika Mikos, Director

Mission Statement

Healthy Seas was founded in 2013 to tackle the ghost fishing phenomenon that is responsible for the needless death of marine animals. Through cleanups with volunteer divers and by working with stakeholders of the fishing sector toward marine litter prevention, Healthy Seas collects waste nets and ensures they become a valuable resource.

Nylon fishing nets are regenerated together with other nylon waste by Aquafil into ECONYL® yarn while the other types of plastics are also reused or recycled. Founded on the principles of circular economy, Healthy Seas champions the three pillars of sustainability and strives to make a positive and long-lasting impact to the marine environment, as well as the development of society, through education and awareness raising.



Total Figures

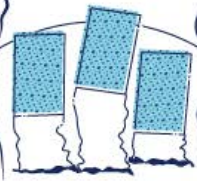
Since our founding in 2013, together with volunteer divers and fishing communities, we have collected

905 tons of fishing nets
and other marine litter

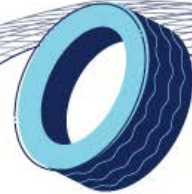
~ This amount is equivalent to ~



28 million
plastic bottles



4,5 billion
cigarette butts



129 thousand
car tires

2022 Activity Results



Healthy Seas Expands to USA and Asia



APRIL, 2022

Kicking off Activities in Los Angeles on a Hollywood Bang!

On April 28th, we carried out our first ghost net recovery project an hour off the coast of the city of Los Angeles, in California! What could

have been more fitting than cleaning a wreck that was blown in two pieces and sunk for the filming purposes of a Hollywood movie? That's the story of the USS Moody that in 1933 made its final plunge for the movie "Hell Below."

The divers descended to 150 ft (45 m) and despite bad visibility and a strong current, the well-trained team successfully recovered 300 lbs (135 kgs) of a mixture of tuna and squid nets during a single dive. The area is covered by kelp forests, one of the ocean's most diverse and productive ecosystems.



OCTOBER, 2022

South Korea welcomes Healthy Seas

In the Fall, we launched our collaboration with Ghost Diving Korea! The volunteer team will be operating all year round, removing ghost nets from the East Sea (Sea of Japan) where the visibility and temperature conditions make project planning and execution often as challenging as in the North Sea, where our work began.

The Ghost Diving Korea team was established in 2017 with 30 members enrolled in the organization and more than 100 activists constantly working towards environmental protection.



Return to Ithaca

In 2021, our record-breaking cleanup in Ithaca, Greece, resulted in 76 tons of marine litter being removed from seas and beaches in 8 days. This devastation was the result of a fish farm that was abandoned 10 years prior, wreaking havoc to the environment, community as well as maritime traffic.



© Dennis Gedaschke

It turns out that the same aquaculture was running another facility at another bay on the island, and instead of removing the nets, rings and floats when they ceased operations, the apparatus was sunk to the bottom of the sea. Unfortunately, this 'ghost farm' phenomenon is not an isolated incident.

Together with Ghost Diving and many other partners and with the support of Hyundai Motor Europe, we organised a clean-up project from March until June with the help of local fishers and volunteer divers focusing on 14 different locations around the island, including the ghost farm but also the harbour of Vathy. In total, about 23,500 kg of waste were removed of which, 18,500 kg were nets and 5,000 kg other types of marine litter, including several hundred meters of gill nets and long lines.



© Dennis Gedaschke

To raise awareness within the local community, we organised a public awareness event at the main square that included the screening of a short documentary about the efforts of 2021 and an impressive photography exhibition. Education programmes and activities throughout the day were attended by approximately 180 children, meaning to say by almost all children living on the island.



© Cor Kuyvenhoven

Project partners





Cleanups

6 regions = 1 goal

We work in regions important for biodiversity and tourism, seas that are heavily fished and at the same time hold shipwrecks and other objects where waste fishing nets tend to accumulate.

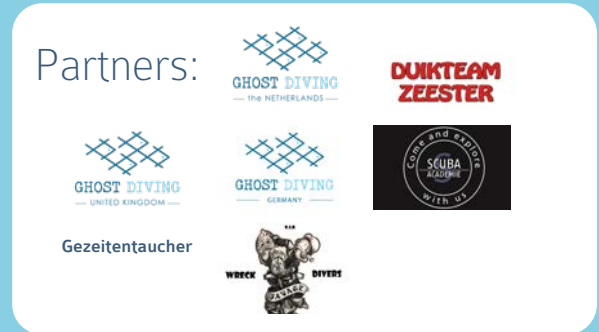
In 2022 we expanded to 2 new continents and welcomed Ghost Diving Hong Kong, Ghost Diving Korea and Ghost Diving USA to our partners.

In total, over 350 volunteer divers were active 188 days of the year demonstrating their enormous commitment to cleaning up the seas from ghost fishing gear.



North Sea

Partners:



Mediterranean Sea

Partners:




Adriatic Sea

Partners:





Red Sea

Partners:



**SCUBA
SEEKERS**



Baltic Sea

Partner:



Pacific Ocean

Partners:





Awareness Raising & Education

Healthy Seas champions the three pillars of sustainability and strives to make a positive and long-lasting impact to the marine environment, through education and awareness raising. In 2022, working alongside esteemed partners, we were proud to see our educational programmes reach more children and adults in 12 countries: the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, Spain, France, the UK, Ireland, Greece, Poland, Slovenia, Croatia, and Korea.

Healthy Seas Virtual Reality Experience

Utilising state-of-the-art technology, the Healthy Seas Virtual Reality Experience puts users in the fins of the Ghost Diving volunteers, on a mission to remove ghost nets from one of the biggest WWII submarines, sunken in the Ionian Sea, in Greece.

Our VR experience has proven to be a very engaging public awareness tool for all ages and during 2022 it became the highlight of many school visits and various prestigious awareness raising events in 7 countries around the world.





‘Circularity is our Opportunity’: New education programme launches in Slovenia

Together with our founding partner Aquafil, we launched our partnership with Ekošola in Slovenia.

Eco-Schools is an internationally established programme of integrated environmental education and training, aimed at promoting and increasing awareness of sustainable

development among children, pupils and students through their active involvement in the local community and beyond. For our first activities, we carried out an in-depth workshop on circular economy and we visited an elementary school and a high school introducing 78 students to the programme. Since 2013, we have been visiting schools in many countries in Europe to educate students on marine pollution and sustainability. This, however, is a first of its kind programme since it involved training teachers in order for them to become multipliers of knowledge and help educate thousands of students in Slovenia.

Launching Education Programmes in Croatia

After years of working in Croatia carrying out underwater cleanups and prevention activities with fishers, the time finally came to launch regular education programmes in schools throughout the country. We couldn't be happier to be cooperating with ghost diver and underwater explorer, Velimir Vrzić, in this new endeavour.





Healthy Seas Surface Squad

The Surface Support Squad is a volunteer group formed in 2021 following training sessions with DWS staff who wanted to become ambassadors and take action with us to protect the seas and oceans!

During 2022, its members were active all over Europe by organizing school programmes, beach cleanups and even raising awareness about Healthy Seas...while sailing! We are grateful for their support!

In 2022, DWS employees in the USA were also trained by our team to join the Surface Support Squad. We look forward to working with them!



a o i f e®





Prevention

Now cooperating with 1250 fishers and fish farmers

Engaging the fishing sector in prevention activities is an important part of curing the ghost fishing problem.

Ghost nets can be detrimental to marine wildlife and ecosystems. They put pressure on the maritime industry, impair navigation safety and can deteriorate beach quality.

Ghost nets are a major issue of concern also for fishers:

- They place significant costs on them because of lost fishing time and damage to their active nets.
- They keep fishing uncontrollably and lead to unnecessary catch of fish stocks: a financial loss for both fishers and the fishing industry.



The Netherlands

We are proud to cooperate with the fishers of Den Oever that joined Healthy Seas at our very start in 2013. To this day, they continue being great ambassadors for clean and healthy seas in the Netherlands.

Partners:  CIV. DEN OEVER U.A.
www.civ.nl info@civ.nl
+31(0)227-512144

 **Bek & Verburg**
Collecting and handling shipping waste
Trading / Maritime waste specialists

 **KIMO**

Greece & Italy

In 2022, thanks to our partnership with Diopas S.A. and Enaleia, we continued taking nets from fish farms and fishers to facilitate their recycling.

The central collection points in Lavrio and Thessaloniki are receiving end-of-life nets as well as ghost nets from 4 fish farms, 29 ports and 230 fishing vessels from all over Greece.

Partners:



Enaleia is also working in Italy, collecting end-of-life nets as well as ghost nets from fishers based in the harbours of Ancona, Rimini, Cattolica and Cesenatica.



Croatia

Since 2020, we have been collecting old nets from 2 fisher communities in the northern part of Croatia: Plomin and Krnica.

Seventy percent (70%) of the nets are trawlers and the rest are gill nets, made of nylon and perfect for regeneration.



Contributing to positive social impact in Greece

Thanks to our partner Enaleia, unemployed young people in Greece are educated about sustainable fisheries and fishing tourism. In the framework of our cooperation, they are taught about responsible handling of waste fishing nets, recycling and circular economy.



Events, Talks and Exhibitions

Healthy Seas was part of the following events

- UNITAR CIFAL Jeju's 18th Youth Workshop (8 & 23/2/2022)
- Diving Safety Conference The Netherlands (25/3/2022)
- Blue Economy: Investing to Protect our Seas (30/3/2022)
- BIT - BORSA Internazionale Del Turismo Milan, Italy (11/4/2022)
- 2nd Aquaculture Congress Athens, Greece (15-16/4/2022)



- We Drive Solar, Utrecht The Netherlands (21/4/2022)
- Return to Ithaca public event Greece (23/5/2022)
- World Environment Day Marina Flisvos, Greece (4-5/6/2022)
- World Ocean Day (8/6/2022)
- 36th edition of the International Sailing Race Corfu, Greece (12-14/6/2022)
- Biodiversity Forum 2022 (26/6/2022)



- UN Ocean Conference
Lisbon, Portugal (27/6 - 1/7/2022)
- GGGI Side Event “Public-Private Partnerships to Share Knowledge and Resources for Impactful Solutions to Address Marine Pollution” (28/6/2022)
- Gdynia Design Days
Poland (2-10/7/2022)
- International Coastal Cleanup Day
(17/9/2022)
- Milan Fashion Week 2022
(20-26/9/2022)



- Climate Change and I, SNFCC
Athens, Greece (24-25/9/2022)
- EU Researcher’s Night
(30/09/2022)
- 14th Greek Small Islands Conference
Ithaca, Greece (30/9 - 2/10/2022)
- FAO Webinar on Fishing Gear Recycling
(10-11/10/2022)
- Farad Group Luxembourg Charity
Gala Evening
Luxembourg (13/10/2022)
- Sustainable Ocean Summit in Barcelona
(17-18/10/2022)

Communication Highlights



In 2022 we launched a podcast series, The Healthy Seas Podcast! This interview-style show will feature individuals who are doing all they can for healthier seas and oceans, from above and below the waves. Hosted by podcast veteran, Crystal DiMiceli, each episode will be 20-40 minutes in length. It will leave the listeners feeling optimistic about what's being done to protect this vital source of life and empowered with ideas on how they, themselves, can help.



LISTEN ON



Apple Podcasts



Spotify

The Who, What, and Why Behind Our Organisation

How to Make Black Friday Planet-Friendly

Nets, divers, action! Marine conservation in Los Angeles

Mediterranean Life Under Siege

Lobster Pot Recovery After Storm Arwen

Our project, 'Return to Ithaca', part of a Discovery Channel series on circular economy

The episode is hosted by York Hovest, an environmental activist who has spent the last few years accompanying organisations that oppose the destruction of the oceans as part of his 'Heroes of the Sea' project. Hovest speaks to Veronika Mikos, Director of Healthy Seas, and Pascal van Erp, Founder of Ghost Diving and Lead Diver of Healthy Seas, about the 'Return to Ithaca' project, the process of cleaning the ocean and its environment, and the problems caused by lost or abandoned fishing nets.



Going Circular

[Watch here](#)





Healthy Seas attends the UN World Ocean Conference 2022

The second UN Ocean Conference took place June 27-July 1 in Lisbon, Portugal. The last time ocean protectors had gathered was five years ago in New York. Our ambassador, Gelareh Darabi, represented Healthy Seas there to meet, exchange and report from behind the scenes.

Six outcomes that we found especially interesting:

- The Europea Commission announced 50 voluntary contributions worth EUR 7 billion, including EUR 1 billion to protect high seas biodiversity.
- Co-Chair Lawrence Hanson, from Canada, highlighted actions on ghost gear.
- Oman noted the creation of 13 MPAs.
- Argentina highlighted a draft law to manage plastic packaging production.
- The Russian Federation and Brazil supported a legally-binding agreement on plastic pollution.
- Panama shared goals to make the Panama Canal carbon neutral by 2030.

Over all we've noticed a strong emphasis on ghost gear and its prevention throughout the entire conference!



Earthshot Nominator

Healthy Seas was invited by The Royal Foundation to be an official nominator for The Earthshot Prize, a global prize for the environment led by Prince William and Sir David Attenborough.

They are engaging a diverse and credible group of not-for-profit and academic organisations from across the world, who will be critical in enabling them to achieve the 'Earthshot' goals for 2030.

Online Presence



Significant Press

Over 25 tons of waste raised from Greek island
REUTERS



Volunteer divers clear tons of dangerous 'ghost nets' from the Greek coastline
EURONEWS.GREEN



Magyarok segítettek egy görögországi öböl megtisztításában
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC



FÖLD

Magyarok segítettek egy görögországi öböl megtisztításában

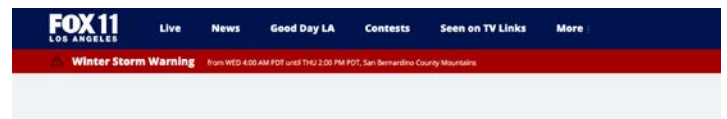
2022.06.08. | NG |

#GÖRÖGORSZÁG #HALÁLPAT

Ithaka partjait és a környező tengert egy elhagyott halgazdaság hulladékai szennyezik.

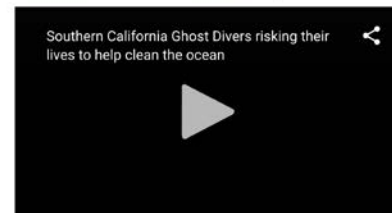


Southern California divers risking their lives to help clean the ocean
FOX11 Los Angeles



Southern California divers risking their lives to help clean the ocean

By Christina Gonzalez | Published May 11, 2022 | WWD Nature | FOX 11 |



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Les 20 marques de maillots de bain les plus cools du printemps
VOGUE

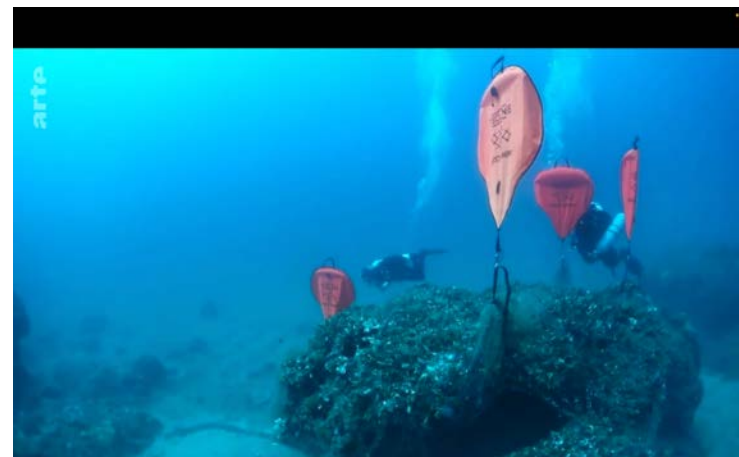


Les 20 marques de maillots de bain les plus cool du printemps

Revenez pour les parties girls, renouvelées des années 90s en fibres de vintage... Ces 20 marques de maillots de bain salifèrent la saison, tout en faisant le pari d'une mode plus engagée inspirée des voyages, du vintage ou de l'effacement des festivals.

PAR MÉLOÏSE SALESSEY
11 mai 2022

Espagne: lutter contre la pêche fantôme
ARTE TV



Neteja solidària a la platja Mar Menuda de Tossa
DIARI DE GIRONA

Diari de Girona

PÀGINES: 15
AVE: 339 €
ÀREA: 134 CM² - 12%

DIFFUSIÓ: 3718
OTS: 30000
SECCIÓ: LOCAL

17 Junio, 2022



L'activitat es va centrar en la recollida de xarxes de pesca.

Neteja solidària a la platja Mar Menuda de Tossa

Hier fischen sie die Auto-Fußmatten der Zukunft
ABGEFAHREN

ABGEFAHREN

Hier fischen sie die Auto-Fußmatten der Zukunft

Die Kfz-Branche will nachhaltiger werden. So entstehen aus alten Fischernetzen neue Teppiche

Die Kfz-Branche will nachhaltiger werden. So entstehen aus alten Fischernetzen neue Teppiche

Hier fischen sie die Auto-Fußmatten der Zukunft

Neuere Autos haben oft spezielle Features. In modernen elektrischer Pedale ist die Stütze für den Fuß...
Die Kfz-Branche will nachhaltiger werden. So entstehen aus alten Fischernetzen neue Teppiche

Volunteer divers to pull fishing gear debris off San Pedro coastline
CBS LOS ANGELES

Volunteer divers to pull fishing gear debris off San Pedro coastline

START

Nonprofit works with divers to take nets off wreck site in San Pedro
EYE WITNESS NEWS

Nonprofit works with divers to take nets off wreck site in San Pedro

Community Journalist

Butler Jr.'s parents reflect on son's title game win with San Diego St

Man visits all 12 Disney theme parks in just 12 days

New England transit project will require businesses to relocate

LA County provides assistance to flood-impacted by Hurricane tornado

Dalla plastica recuperata in mare «nascono» gli interni delle auto
MOTOR1.COM

motor1.com

La salvaguardia degli oceani è un tema oggi molto importante per tutti, aziende comprese. Una ricerca italiana da sempre al vertice del mondo dedicato per trasportare in tutto il mondo componenti per assemblaggi o prodotti finali, con molti sempre più sostenibili.

Ma alla plastica

Perché chi conosce bene il mare lo sa, un carico pesante può restare tale per diversi anni, una volta isolato all'interno delle grandi navi.

Hyundai ed Healthy Seas che coppia

la Repubblica

Hyundai ed Healthy Seas che coppia

Activity Results for the first half of 2022

311 items collected

4 activities

23.5 tonnes of waste collected

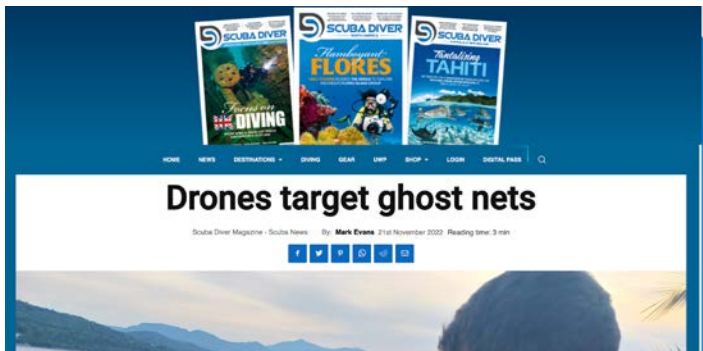
34 divers involved

Hyundai e Healthy Seas hanno iniziato a maggio le attività del 2022, portando a termine iniziative di pulizia del mare, programmi di educazione per bambini e comunità locali in Grecia, Croazia, Slovenia, Spagna e Regno Unito. Risultato tangibile di questo lavoro sono le oltre 23,5 tonnellate di rifiuti marini recuperate, che Aquati, partner fondatore di Healthy Seas, che ripuliva insieme ad altri rifiuti di nylon, nel fusto GCONY1, utilizzato nei tappeti di KONO S e KONO G.

Hyundai ed Healthy Seas per un'economia circolare
MOTORI



Drone target ghost nets
SCUBA DIVER MAG



Nonprofit works with divers to take nets off wreck site in San Pedro
EYEWITNESS NEWS



COMMUNITY JOURNALIST

Nonprofit works with divers to take nets off wreck site in San Pedro

Healthy Seas estimates about 640,000 tons of fishing gear is either lost or abandoned in the water each year.

By Jaysba Fotol Tuesday, May 3, 2022



Hyundai Italia e Healthy Seas per educare alla economia circolare
QUOTIDIANO NAZIONALE - QN MOTORI



Mar d'auto
FOCUS



Dopo Itaca, il progetto approda sulle coste della Croazia
LIFEGATE

LIFEGATE

Dopo Itaca, il progetto approda sulle coste della Croazia

Una collaborazione, destinata a proseguire anche per il 2022, che a oggi ha già reso possibile un'importante attività di pulizia lungo le coste di Itaca, l'isola greca del mare Ionio, con il recupero, oltre che di numerose reti da pesca abbandonate in un ex alto mare ionico, anche di oltre 70 tonnellate di rifiuti vari (plastica, corde di nylon, fucili e altri). Su altro, il rapporto tra Hyundai ed Healthy Seas si è ulteriormente sviluppato con attività simili in altre aree marine, l'ultima in ordine di tempo lungo le coste della Croazia, secondo il fatto l'impegno del marchio automobilistico per una mobilità sempre più sostenibile, alla protezione degli ecosistemi marini e, come risultato, all'economia circolare.





Crime Government Business Education Hollywood Life OC Weather



Healthy Seas Brings International Marine Protection Effort to San Pedro

by Contributing Editor
April 27, 2022



Wie Pascal fischernetze zu fussmatten macht AUTOBILD



REPORT
WIE PASCAL FISCHERNETZE ZU FUSSMATTEN MACHT

Der 46-jährige ist Taucher der Umweltschutzorganisation Healthy Seas, gemeinsam mit anderen Tauchern hat er seit Ende des Jahres 2021 ein Projekt gestartet, um die Meeresverschmutzung zu bekämpfen. Er hat sich auf die Idee gemacht, alte Fischernetze zu sammeln und daraus Fußmatten zu machen. Diese sind nicht nur umweltfreundlich, sondern auch noch sehr bequem. Er hat sich dazu entschieden, die Netze zu sammeln und daraus Fußmatten zu machen. Diese sind nicht nur umweltfreundlich, sondern auch noch sehr bequem. Er hat sich dazu entschieden, die Netze zu sammeln und daraus Fußmatten zu machen.



Die Netze werden in einem Boot gesammelt und dann in einem anderen Boot zu Fußmatten verarbeitet. Die Netze werden in einem Boot gesammelt und dann in einem anderen Boot zu Fußmatten verarbeitet. Die Netze werden in einem Boot gesammelt und dann in einem anderen Boot zu Fußmatten verarbeitet.



España Medios Investigación Opinión Clima Migración Estilos Deportes Tecnología
Técnicos Economía Motor Sostenibilidad ESDiario TV Mundo C. Valenciana Andalucía



Hyundai nos recuerda la importancia de proteger los océanos

La captación de mujeres por RRSS es una realidad. Ayúdanos a erradicarla.
Denuncia.

Les filets de pêche abandonnés, une pollution à la dérive LA PROVENCE

e 13^e édition pour Marché italien

Les temps forts de ce gala marquent : mercredi 13 novembre à 19h, ouverture du village italien et, du 14 au 16, spectacle de ballets. Jeudi 13 novembre à 19h30, inauguration officielle de Marché. Samedi 14 novembre à 19h, concert des Violons et Flûtes italiennes au théâtre de la Ville. Le samedi 14 novembre à 19h30, concert de la Chorale de la Ville de Paris. Le dimanche 15 novembre à 19h, concert de la Chorale de la Ville de Paris. Le dimanche 15 novembre à 19h30, concert de la Chorale de la Ville de Paris.



Les filets de pêche abandonnés sont une pollution à la dérive. Ils sont dangereux pour la faune et la flore marines. Ils sont également dangereux pour les pêcheurs. Ils sont également dangereux pour les pêcheurs. Ils sont également dangereux pour les pêcheurs.

L'economia circolare di Hyundai nella docu-serie di Warner Bros. Discovery BRANDNEWS



L'ECONOMIA CIRCOLARE DI HYUNDAI NELLA DOCU-SERIE DI WARNER BROS. DISCOVERY



Going circular.

Hyundai: la pulizia degli oceani con il partner Healthy Seas MOTORIONLINE



Hyundai: la pulizia degli oceani con il partner Healthy Seas

Il Flauto Eco™ è stato utilizzato sulla linea 5

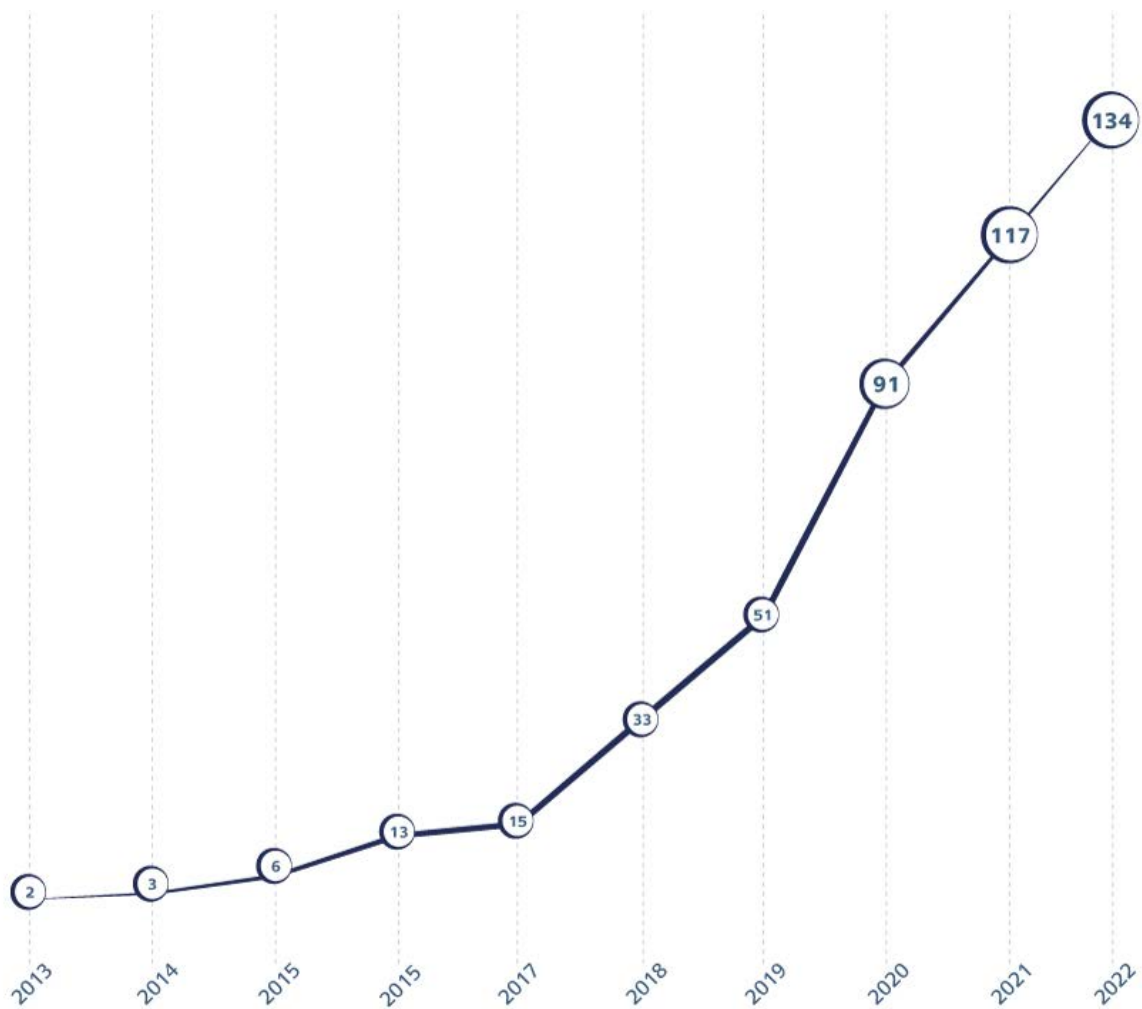


Proteggere la partnership tra Hyundai e Healthy Seas, per la pulizia degli oceani, la nostra attività è stata realizzata nella grande palina della nostra sede di Roma, realizzata in modo integrato per promuovere la sostenibilità e la qualità. Questa è stata realizzata per commemorare l'operazione in 14 località del nostro paese.



Our Partners

We are Growing!



Founding Partners



Associate Partner Members



Associate Partner Donors



Supporting Partners



Supporting Partners



BOWER.



OH OY SWIM

LANIUS

girlfriend collective



KA KAIRA ACTIVE

MARBLE SWIMWEAR



Harley Roman

MAARI
PORTO CERVO

selvaggi

RE-ATHLETE

SAGE LAROCK for the sea
SUSTAINABLE LUXURY / MADE IN USA



FISCH



SUMMERLOVE
swimwears



indigo sage

KORU
swimwear

LUDDOVICA GUALTIERI
swimwear



re.wild

SoSo Swim
sustainable swimwear



VALENTINA VASILATOU
swimwear

ZANCOBEL



PACIFIC FASHION



LOOP



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PLAASH



NUDE ATTITUDE

MOCESTIC



M:O:O:V



NōaGE



STRINGSS



MOANATEA

Gldn Gal



OCEAN MATS

MUZE



New Partners

Supporting Partners

Atlantic Mats	MOANATEA
Bekeen	Mocean
Camsea Swimwear	MUZE Paris
Dashel	New Weave
Green Little Heart	Sacksea
I am Darko	Stringgs
J-Min Collections	Valentina Atelier
Kahm Sustainable Swimwear	Yenti
Metaswim	

**You can be next.
Join our journey!**





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Thank you for your attention!

www.healthyseas.org

