

First regenerative ocean farm bringing communities together in Wales

âr-y-Môr is Wales' first regenerative ocean farm growing a multitrophic seaweed and shellfish farm which began in 2019 and was founded by seven family members.

Their two main aims are to improve the coastal environment through increased biodiversity and reduction of acidity levels in the water; as well as improving local well-being through creating job opportunities and providing a secure and sustainable food source. And they have adopted the method of zero-input farming, which means they don't use fertiliser, pesticides or fresh water.

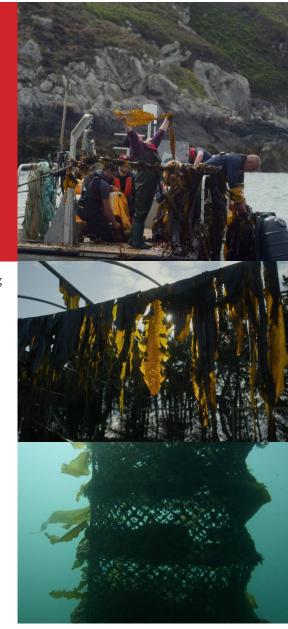
A community benefit society, Câr-y-Môr's 250+ members have equal ownership of the business. The objective isn't profit but empowering a community to find each other again and improve on an environmental and social scale. The community is an incredible network of different individuals. They work in local schools through educational outreach to local fisherman and even as far afield as London and Europe. To date, they have 14 full-time and year-round employees with regular volunteers also involved.

Câr-y-Môr recently received a grant to enable it to build a seaweed refinery, enabling the refinement of seaweed into fibres used in bioplastics and as a bio stimulant (to replace synthetic fertilisers). Seaweed offers an incredible circular life.

Ultimately, we are turning to nature to be the healer in the current environmental and social crisis by bringing community back together again.

Câr-y-Môr reminds us that "everything we put on the land ends up in the ocean, and everything we need on the land needs to come from the ocean so it is obvious that we should be using a product from the ocean to support what we do on the land." The organisation has looked at the relationship between agriculture and aquaculture, rather than playing the two off each other.





Photographs: Arthur Neumeier