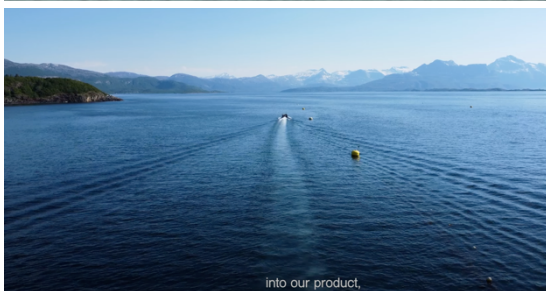


Expedition Fund Trip Report 2024

Documentary Film Project in Sandhornøy, Norway

This summer, I had the unique opportunity to travel to Sandhornøy, a remote island near Bodø, Norway, to film my dissertation documentary, *Seas of Change*. The film follows five young innovators that have devoted their lives to kelp farming. Kelpinor, which began as a student start-up, has grown into a climate action company dedicated to large-scale cultivation of kelp. Their close friendship, shared passion for the environment, and commitment to sustainable practices drive them forward to reach their long-term mission: phasing out the use of wild-harvested seaweed for agricultural purposes, through sustainable aquaculture.

The Expedition Fund supported two essential trips to Sandhornøy, making both pre-production and final filming possible. On my first trip, I captured foundational footage, got to know the Kelpinor team, and conducted initial interviews. The second trip focused on detailed filming of the kelp harvesting process.



Challenges and Growth

The expedition brought several challenges, from unpredictable weather and the logistics of solo filmmaking to the complexities of traveling to such a remote location. These obstacles, which I navigated independently, strengthened my resilience, adaptability, and problem-solving skills – traits essential for any filmmaker.

This project also broadened my understanding of sustainability and storytelling. Kelpinor's work represents a ground-breaking approach to sustainable

practices, showing how kelp farming can transform agriculture and reduce environmental impact. Capturing their dedication and witnessing their impact first-hand was both inspiring and educational.

Summary

This expedition was invaluable not only for the quality of my film but also for my growth as a filmmaker. I am deeply grateful for the support provided through the Queen Mary University's Expedition Fund, making this trip possible and enabling a lasting impact on my development as a filmmaker.

