



AQUAMED

The future of aquaculture research in the Mediterranean region

The Challenge

The rapid development of Mediterranean aquaculture is increasingly confronted with a set of difficulties such as inadequate production systems, competitiveness and interaction with other users of a limited natural resource.

Aquaculture development in the Mediterranean countries is characterised by a wide range of consumer preferences, and diverse levels of maturity in respect to research and development structures and capacities. Coastal zones are of strategic importance to the EU. Many European citizens live, holiday, and work in these areas. They are a major source of our food and raw materials. They provide a vital function for the transport and trade industries, and they feature some of our most valuable habitats. Consequently, a strategy for a sustainable development of the activity based on a sound knowledge base has to be implemented using a flexible and concerted approach. The aquaculture industry is ready and willing to address the major challenges of coastal zone integration, environmental considerations, and inaccurate perceptions of product quality.

Project Objective

AQUAMED will make a real contribution to **strengthening the links between the major research organisations and key stakeholders** across the whole Mediterranean region by setting up a **Multi-stakeholder platform**. The platform will work to **promote innovative research and focus on the most relevant issues needed to sustain Mediterranean aquaculture**. It will also **strengthen Mediterranean partnership (EU and non-EU countries)** in developing common projects and plan for the challenges Mediterranean aquaculture face now and in the future based on the principle of “**mutual benefit**”.

Key Points

- Significant data collection will take place in order to identify and map key stakeholders, national research policy, physical human resource infrastructure, funding programmes, national and international projects and the interactions with the production sector.
- Creation of a comprehensive interactive database of Mediterranean Aquaculture Research visualising all the data collected during the project.
- Identification of countries confronted by similar challenges, constraints and opportunities. Through the newly created platform stakeholders will work together to try and identify joint research



Aquainnova

www.eatip.eu

EATiP Thematic Area of Relevance

TA1: Product Quality, Consumer Safety and Health

TA2: Technology and Systems

TA3: Managing the Biological Lifecycle

TA4: Sustainable Feed Production

TA5: Integration with the Environment

TA6: Knowledge Management

TA7: Aquatic Animal Health and Welfare

TA8: Socio-Economics and Management

Key Words

Aquaculture, Mediterranean Region, Multi-Stakeholder Platform

Project Information

Contract number:

244999

Contract type:

Coordination (or networking) actions

Research area:

KBBE - Consolidate alliances with the Mediterranean in the field of aquaculture

Duration:

36 months (01/06/2010 – 31/05/2013)

Coordinator:

Antoine DOSDAT
IFREMER, 155, rue Jean-Jacques
Rousseau 92138 Issy-les-Moulineaux
Cedex, FRANCE

Tel:

+33 1 46 48 22 56

Email:

adosdat@ifremer.fr

Project website:

www.aquamedproject.net



Updated: May 2010

programming to try and address such challenges.

- Development of methodology to help the platform to select “sustainability indicators” to aid in prioritising and designing research and monitoring the sustainability of the sector in the Mediterranean.
- Development of the terms of reference and definition of the multi-stakeholder platform as methodology that can be extrapolated to other Regions.

Key New Knowledge Expected

- Comprehensive overview and mapping (database) of aquaculture governance, infrastructure and RTD activities across Mediterranean countries.
- Identification of synergies, common challenges and capacity gaps across countries and condition for mutual benefit.
- Identification of the indicators that will aid research design and be used to ensure the sustainability of the aquaculture sector in the Mediterranean Region.
- Development of the terms of reference for the Mediterranean multi-stakeholder platform, recruitment of members and establishment of a sustainable platform for the future.

Outputs will be promoted through workshops, websites, journal and press articles.

Potential Impacts



RTD

- Improved interaction within and between different stakeholders groups (EC and non-EC), RTD-RTD, RTD-Industry, Industry-Industry around the Mediterranean.
- An established platform of stakeholders working together to identify industry needs and areas for collaboration for mutual benefit.
- A database including all relevant information related to the aquaculture sector in the Mediterranean Region.
- A methodology to evaluate the impact of the projects developed in the Mediterranean region on the sustainability of the aquaculture sector using selected sustainability indicators.



Policy

- Improvement in the coordination of research, optimisation of expenditure and reduction in repetition.

Related Publications/Projects

ASEM Aquaculture Platform (FP6), CONSENSUS (FP6), FEUFAR (FP6), SARNISSA (FP7)