



INVITATION



Introductory trip to large-scale integrated coastal aquaculture in China

May 14-20, 2013

BACKGROUND

Even if healthy but sharp competition occasionally causes friction between the Asian and European aquaculture industry, potential mutual benefits from cooperation between the Asian and European aquaculture sector prevail, ranging from exchange of ideas, formulation of joint research goals, development of common solutions to shared problems, harmonisation of policy and regulations, and - last but not least - opportunities for business cooperation in both directions. The ASEM Aquaculture Platform and EATIP's Asia Desk aim at facilitating such cooperation.

RATIONALE

Whereas monoculture is the classical approach in Western aquaculture, Asia and in particular China has a long tradition of integrated farming traditionally developed in combination with freshwater fish farming. Since a few decades, however, very extended coastal operations (pictures below) are being developed for the integrated farming of different species of fish, shellfish and seaweed. Such combinations of extractive aquaculture (seaweed, sea cucumber, different shellfish species) with marine fish farming ("fed" aquaculture) might have huge potential for coastal farming practices in Europe. It is the intention of this study visit to provide an opportunity for European business people and academics to get better acquainted with this unique but complex approach (from a biological, technological as well as socio-economic point of view) of a more sustainable practice of seafood production.

This visit will give European aquaculture representatives the opportunity to get a better insight in this type of Chinese aquaculture and will eventually facilitate further interaction between Chinese and European stakeholders. Furthermore this visit can allow the development of recommendations that can feed directly into the EU's ongoing formulation of research priorities and related funding for future Horizon 2020 research calls.



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TRIP DETAILS

Organizers: ChinaAquaFishNET (CAFnet), ASEM Aquaculture Platform and EATIP

Participants: 10 to 15 Europeans

Date: Tentatively **May 14-20, 2013**

Tentative programme:

- Tue 14/5: departure for Qingdao
- Wedn 15/5: arrival in Qingdao
 - Afternoon: introduction to the host CAFnet, briefing of the programme
- Thu 16/5: leave early to Sanggou Bay & Rongcheng
 - Noon: Visit land-based integrated farms and processing plants
- Fri 17/5: Visit of large offshore farms
- Sat 18/5: return to Qingdao
 - Noon: round table with Chinese experts (academic, industry, farmers, government sector, ...)
- Sun 19/5: morning – continue round table, finalize recommendations
- Mon 20/5: return flights



INTERESTED?

If you are interested to join this trip please send an email to torgeir@eatip.eu stating:

- your name and affiliation
- contact information