



**Programme: FP7 Cooperation
Theme 2 Food, Agriculture, Fisheries and Biotechnologies**

Deliverable 32

Project flyer/brochure

Project Acronym : AQUAINNOVA

Project title : Supporting governance and multi-stakeholder participation in aquaculture research and innovation

Grant agreement number : 245238 – FP7-KBBE-2009-3

Project coordinator : European Aquaculture Technology & Innovation Platform



Deliverable 32 is the project flyer/brochure.

Find hereafter the project brochure developed for Aquainnova.

What is EATIP?

EATIP is an international non-profit association dedicated to developing, supporting and promoting aquaculture in Europe, aiming to:

- *Establish a strong relationship between aquaculture and the consumer*
- *Assure the sustainability of the sector*
- *Consolidate the role of aquaculture in society*

Who are the members?

EATIP is composed of associations and federations, companies, public authorities, RTD institutes or universities and financial institutions, of European or international origin, that have a declared and professional interest in the sustainable development of European aquaculture.

Members of the EATIP

- *Commercial Companies*
- *Research Community*
- *Representative Organisations*
- *International Organisations*
- *Civil Society*

EATIP and its members are committed to openness and transparency within this innovative multi-stakeholder initiative and recognise that EATIP will develop and adapt with the accomplishment of its tasks and objectives. EATIP provides a unique opportunity for all who are involved in European aquaculture to help shape its future, through a participative consensual approach and dialogue with the different players within the sector.

How does EATIP operate?

EATIP is structured with 8 Thematic Areas (TAs) of interest, each of which contributes to the following tasks:

- *Identify and define priorities for research and development in the aquaculture value-chain*
- *Play a key role in ensuring an adequate focus of funding on areas of RTDi that have high relevance for the professional sector*

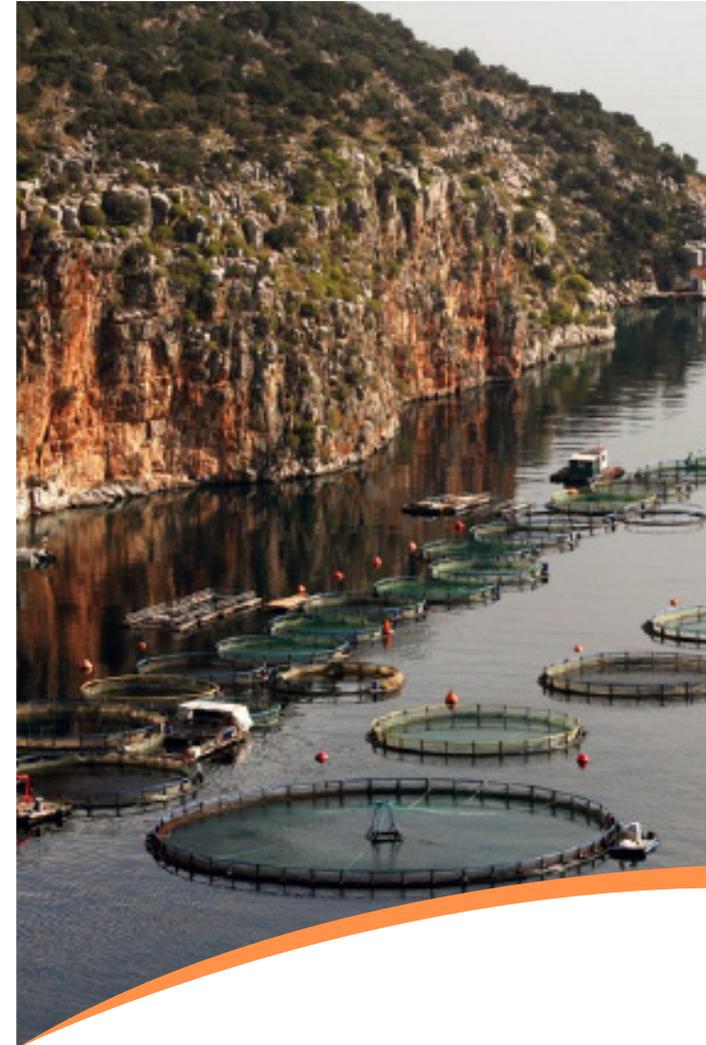
Each Thematic Area is composed by senior representatives of EATIP Member organisations and coordinated by experienced professionals and researchers, qualified in the topics and subjects covered by the individual Thematic Area. The Chairpersons and Facilitators of each Thematic Area form the Operating Council which is charged with integrating outlines, plans and proposals into the overall EATIP Vision document and the accompanying SRIA and Action Plan.

What are the challenges addressed by the Thematic Areas?

1. *Product Quality, Consumer Safety & Health*
2. *Technology & Systems*
3. *Managing the Biological Lifecycle*
4. *Sustainable Feed Production*
5. *Integration with the Environment*
6. *Knowledge Management*
7. *Aquatic Animal Health and Welfare*
8. *Socio-economics & Management*

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Aquainnova

The Challenge

European aquaculture production represents an extraordinarily diverse sector that links to an important and diversified range of upstream and downstream activities. Together, the players concerned cover the entire supply and management systems that provide the European consumer with nutritious high quality fish and shellfish products - a genuine value-chain.

In the 21st century, the aquaculture value-chain is committed to assuring its sustainability and recognises that achieving this requires:

- *Attaining economic profitability through competitiveness*
- *Providing the highest levels of product quality and new products that the consumer appreciates*
- *Offering the best nutrition and health for the livestock*
- *Ensuring the response to and control required on environmental issues*
- *Improving approaches to engineering and equipment needs*
- *Guaranteeing effective technology transfer and lifelong learning for those working in the sector*

These goals cannot be achieved alone and it was recognised that each of the different components of European aquaculture, producers and suppliers alike, needed to join forces with the research and development sector so as to achieve the objectives outlined. This has been done by creating the European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (EATIP).

What is Aquainnova?

'Aquainnova' – 'Supporting governance and multi-stakeholder participation in aquaculture research and innovation' is an EU project focusing on the creation of an international framework that will facilitate the development of vision documents and strategic research agendas on the sectoral components of European aquaculture.

Coordinated by the EATIP, Aquainnova is supported by the EU 7th framework programme, Cooperation, Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology (KBBE) – Coordination and Support Action Grant Agreement n°245238.

Aquainnova assists EATIP in actively promoting the exploitation, dissemination and communication of Community aquaculture RTD research actions and results, looking to improve the manner in which the knowledge generated is efficiently managed, disseminated and transferred.

Specifically, the project focuses on providing the support and the methodologies required to facilitate the development of vision documents and strategic research agendas on the sectoral components of European aquaculture, by:

1. *Establishing a basis for applying good governance principles between the different stakeholders, using a participative process, so as to facilitate the creation and development of vision documents and strategic research agendas for the main thematic areas identified by EATIP.*

This means:

- a. *To optimise communication between stakeholders in European aquaculture*
- b. *To identify knowledge and innovation gaps within the aquaculture value chain*
- c. *To improve knowledge management within the operating sector*
- d. *To develop policy support guidelines and identify potential inputs for future legislative processes*
- e. *To respond to societal concerns on the processes and products of livestock rearing.*

2. *Providing dedicated fora to facilitate the dialogue between National and European policy makers, researchers and stakeholders, through the organisation of 4 transnational workshops (Consultation) covering the thematic components of the aquaculture value chain.*

3. *Assuring the promotion of the communication, dissemination and exploitation of Community funded RTD projects by sourcing and summarising, in easy-to-understand terms, research results in aquaculture from the different Community Framework Programmes, focusing on relevance to development and exploitation - using web-based information supply, compendia and demonstrations.*

4. *Creating the conditions for managing knowledge by identifying needs, challenges and methodologies for knowledge application and utilisation.*

AqualInnova

FACTSHEET



At a Glance

Title:	AqualInnova, Supporting governance and multi-stakeholder participation in aquaculture research and innovation
Programme:	FP7, Cooperation, Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology (KBBE)
Instrument:	Coordination and Support Action (Supporting)
EC contribution:	€988,954
Duration:	February 2010 – July 2012
Coordinator:	European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (EATIP)
Third parties:	FEAP, EAS, AquaTT, EUROFISH, SINTEF, UIT, IPIMAR, AKVAGROUP, HAKI, INVE, IFREMER, BIOMAR, HCMR, CULMAREX/GRAMBASA, NTNU, MARINE HARVEST, UoS, CETMAR, UniStav
Web:	www.eatip.eu

The Challenge

Aquaculture in the European Union encompasses the production of a wide range of fish and mollusc species and is a true pan-European production activity, which has grown rapidly from a cottage industry in the 1960s into an industrial sector that is composed of multi-national companies, SMEs and family firms. While aquaculture appears to be integrated within the Common Fisheries Policy, there is no real Europe-wide policy for aquaculture development, and its growth occurred within a relative vacuum for strategic development.

In 2002, the European Commission developed a 'Strategy for the Sustainable Development of European Aquaculture' which was the first attempt to provide a European plan for development and this was reviewed to provide more impetus in 2009. Nonetheless, it is only recently that European States have developed clear national strategies or policies for aquaculture development. This effort has been largely supported by the European research community, with its many institutes and universities dedicating specialised departments to carry out R&D activities for the benefit of the sector.

Commission funding has stimulated European and international cooperation across the research community and, in recent years, through CRAFT and collaborative projects, has encouraged closer contact between the small-to-medium enterprise (SME) and research players. Today, the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) has a clear mandate to progress this approach. Therefore, AqualInnova has been devised to examine and identify research areas and that could be supported by the industry in its own right.



The research leading to these results has received funding from the European Community's Seventh Framework Programme (FP7/2007-2013) under grant agreement no 245238. This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the European Union cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Project Objectives

Aqualnova intends to establish a solid framework for European aquaculture that will support the sector's sustainable development. It will focus on maximising the potential for innovation and technological development in the aquaculture value chain. This issue has been addressed partially by the establishment of the European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (EATIP), which was created in 2008 for the purpose of identifying and implementing actions to improve the competitiveness of professional European aquaculture and related industries.

The EATIP is a collaborative structure of dedicated companies, RTD institutions and representative organisations. Thus, its members are making an active contribution to the aquaculture value chain, while others are driving research and innovation efforts or promoting policy and development aspects. A statutory goal of the EATIP is to put in place measures and structures to improve research, technology, development and innovation (RTDI) framework conditions. Aqualnova will create an international framework to develop vision documents and strategic research agendas which focus on the sustainable development of European aquaculture.

Methodology

Aqualnova will establish an operational framework for dialogue – based on best governance practises – between the aquaculture industry, the research community and policy makers. This will be achieved by:

- Devising new ways to communicate aquaculture research actions and results such as technical summaries and interactive decision tools.
- Improving the manner in which previously generated knowledge is transferred effectively.
- Using expert groups from a spectrum of thematic areas to develop innovative methodologies for gap analysis and problem solving.
- Supporting expert groups with standardised benchmarking documents, making comparative analysis possible.
- Drafting vision documents and strategic research agendas.
- Hosting multi-stakeholder consultations within regional workshops.

Results

Aqualnova will provide a much-needed structured opportunity that supports the goals and objectives identified for European aquaculture. This base will allow for consultation across the entire aquaculture value chain and with the European Commission, national governmental agencies, civil society organisations, related KBBE technology platforms, and national research funding organisations. Once the consultation platform has been developed by Aqualnova for operation, there will be sufficient capacity for the preparation of comprehensive vision documents and strategic research agendas that will identify the innovation and RTD needs that are required for the sustainable development of European aquaculture.

Project Partners

European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (EATIP)

Belgium



Contributing EATIP member organisations

Belgium

The Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)

European Aquaculture Society (EAS)

INVE

Denmark

Eurofish

BIOMAR

France

Institut français de recherche pour l'exploitation de la mer (IFREMER)

Greece

Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR)

Hungary

Research Institute for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Irrigation (HAKI)

Ireland

AquaTT

Norway

SINTEF

University of Tromsø (UIT)

University of Stavanger (UniStav)

Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)

MARINE HARVEST

AKVAGROUP

Portugal

Instituto de Investigação das Pescas e do Mar (IPIMAR)

Spain

CULMAREX/GRAMBASA

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