



Agenda

MiP Meeting

Meeting location:
Virtual

Date:
Friday 29 April 2022
Time:
10:00 -12:00 CEST

Attendance: Marie Bruaut and Manon Desmytter (AQUIMER), Kari Thyholt (NCE Aquatech), Ana Gamundi and Yolanda Molares (ACUIPLUS), Stefan Meyer (Blue Bioeconomy Cluster), Zsuzsanna Brlàs-Molnar (HUNATIP), David Murphy (IATiP), David Bassett, Alexandra Neyts, Catherine Pons

Apologies from AquaCircle, SIC, NCE Aquaculture, Stiim, SAIC, Itaqua, HETEPa, CETGA, PTEPA

1. Welcome, approval of agenda and minutes of the last meeting – Lead YM / ME

See the minutes on Basecamp (<https://public.3.basecamp.com/p/u5VKYcTbwzZxm8LeXAqxndr>).

Status of situation at MiPs on activities and geopolitical situation:

- ACUIPLUS: carried out trade show, high activity level
- HUNATiP: growing problems with delivery of feed, increased prices, high inflation, increased production cost
- IATiP: brokerage events for Norwegian suppliers and Irish producers of high interest, mining knowledge for shellfish and seaweed solutions. Difficult funding situation in between EMFF and EMFAF, having as a consequence that IATiP might be governed by IBM
- NCE Aquatech Cluster: Restructuring the platform connected to project work on food safety with network between processing plants, researchers working on how to deal with new regulations on effluents; a network on fish welfare to fight mortalities; conference TEKSET <https://tekset.no/> on land-based aquaculture with student involvement; focus on circularity; mapping of test facilities in the region to stimulate cross-use of facilities.
- AQUIMER: new government and new elections complicates situation of the cluster, with new financing regime. Dealing with waste of algae, cooperation about circular economy, French event to increase collaboration
- Blue Bioeconomy cluster (prev. BAMS): 46 members incl algae, RAS, primary production. Runs on national funds, activities with model sites for aspects linked to aquaponics, side streams from aquaculture and circularity; war has had impact on national financial situation, providing jobs to refugees, and on energy costs for operation (not possible to have support from EMFAF – as yet)
- Aquaculture Vlaanderen: 8 projects running, escalating prices



These issues of geopolitical impacts on aquaculture will be communicated to the EC and the AAC. Ukraine is an Associated Member State in Horizon Europe. If other information is available, please let us know!

Additional developments:

- At UoS in Scotland, new funding was received and will be rebranded as the national centre for aquaculture research and innovation. EATiP is discussing how we can collaborate.
- Wageningen University has launched a new initiative / network W-ARE, to stimulate cross-disciplinary approach in aquaculture.

2. Blue Economy Smart Specialisation / I3 follow-up – Lead DB

EATiP has had meetings with other bioeconomy ETPs on common issues about the need for a clarification of the role of ETPs in Missions, European Partnerships. The collaboration is channelled through the DG RTD Food Systems unit (Karen Fabri), as it is important to know the timetable for ETPs and/or Member States to interact with the Commission.

Meetings with DG MARE and DG RTD were held. In the latter, aquaculture is struggling to get sufficient attention as a member of staff (Miguel Lizaso) left the Healthy Ocean unit. DG MARE Blue Economy unit is restructuring, with the set-up of a research section taking more responsibility in aquaculture.

DG MARE and DG REGIO are setting up the S3 (Smart Specialisation Strategy) platform on sustainable blue economy, with the plans to support an aquaculture interregional blue economy partnership. The Blue Economy S3 platform will be the 4th one, complementing the existing ones on energy, agri food and industrial modernisation. There will be a brokerage event to investigate the setting up of an aquaculture pilot project as part of the S3 platform on sustainable blue economy. This event will be held jointly by DG MARE, DG REGIO and EATiP, on June 21 in conjunction with the EATiP AGM. There will be presentations about the instrument from other sectors (agriculture in Tuscany region). A pre-meeting will be organized. Those that have expressed interest are: ACUIPLUS (ES), the B2E (Blue BioEconomy CoLab in Portugal), and the BlueBioeconomy Cluster (DE). Other MiPs are invited to join. Regional administrative representatives will also attend.

Regions are also working on innovation strategies for ERDF incl blue economy and aquaculture. Until now, this has had no impact on EMFF (only on Structural Funds) as there is no harmonization between the funds.

Other S3 brokerage events:

- May 9: Biotechnology https://scic.ec.europa.eu/ew/register/dgmare/s3_sbe_mare_brokerage_2022/m/l/kk/cffc248983fc8fd97a8b53335b84c371/
- May 10: Marine renewable energy <http://www.atlanticstrategy.eu/en/webform/smart-specialisation-marine-renewable-energy-registration-form#>

3. Collaborative actions and Project Activities – lead YM, ME, DB

Erasmus+ initiative: a presentation of the outline of the proposal and an update was given by Yolanda and Ana at ACUIPLUS. The call has focus on vocational training. It is the idea to have EATiP leading, with the Clusters and providers of vocational training as partners. Proposal deadline: September 2022.

MiPs were invited to express their interest. Stefan has already done some work on the issue from an Interreg project. There may be an interest from the Swiss RAS cluster. A vocational centre needs to be included – either as part of the cluster or as separate partner. The challenge is that there will be a strong competition. Another proposal is being planned by CPMR after a previously unsuccessful proposal. There is a lot of ongoing work, so it is important to look into the project design and build in a legacy – how to establish a Q4 approach for a long-term structuring? It will be important to develop a unique concept including soft skills (digitalisation, entrepreneurship, design, technology) that might match emerging needs and developments. Yolanda / Ana proposed a time schedule, and will share the concept note with all MiPs in order to ask for interest. A new project will be created on BC for those joining the consortium.

It was informed that DG MARE will be putting out a call for Blue Skills, where EATiP also could have a possibility to apply. It was proposed to connect the general work on capacity building to DG MARE. It was advised to look into the list of recommendations from Blue Skills. See the DG MARE event on Blue Skills: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/en/node/7053>

EATiP submitted several proposals under Cluster 6 and Mission Ocean and was included in a CINEA tender on the Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism.

Clusters were encouraged to announce interest for consortium partners through BC.

No further news to report on the Novel Food issues for aquaculture.

4. Update on events & actions – lead DB, AN with contributions from All MiPs.

Past Events

- [AquaFuture Spain](#) : EATiP and Aquimer joined as speakers
- April 5: [Workshop on Best Practice in aquaculture](#) (in collaboration with IOC-OBPS) by invitation only. Presentations are available on BC, a summary report will be made available
- April 26: [EATiP Forum on Gene Editing](#) (in collaboration with FABRE TP) with over 100 participants.

Upcoming Events

- May 12: [On the Horizon webinar](#) – presenting outputs of EU projects on solutions from environmental interactions with speakers from AQUAEXCEL, GAIN, AquaPEF, AquaVitae, with an introduction from DG ENVI.
- June 16: [Future of Food Conference](#) – aquaculture session with the programme under establishment on Algae Innovation (in collaboration with EIT Food)
- June 20-21: Smart Specialisation Brokerage Event, EATiP AGM and GA, in person Mirror Platform Meeting (at [NHOW Brussels](#)). Registration is now open!
- September 29: [Aquaculture Europe '22](#) (in collaboration with EAS and DG MARE) EU-EATiP has emerged into the Innovation Forum, with the theme on Facilitating the uptake of innovative solutions (draft agenda attached). Different sessions from the EC, on implementation of knowledge and on innovations. EATiP has a booth at the trade show.

In addition, EATiP was invited to Israeli and Tasmanian events. MiPs are requested to let the secretariat know of any events where EATiP could join.



The development of national and international standards is ongoing – see the earlier example of standard process plastic use in aquaculture and fisheries. Standards represent strong incentives for impact of new research. Stefan M is involved in the working group defining the roadmap for the establishment of a new global standard: smart farming/digitalization across agri- and aquaculture. More updates to follow.

5. Updated MiP Map / Data – status

Updated logo's and those figures supplied to date have been collected in order to produce a new EATiP MiP infographic. A further follow-up is postponed until the EATiP intern Estelle returns to the office. All MiPs are asked to respond to the requests.

6. Request for MiP opinion from EATiP BoD

During the latest EATiP Board Meeting (25 April 2022) the issue of commencing a review of the EATiP SRIA was discussed. A request has been made for the MiP Platforms to provide some initial comments on the current SRIA & Recommendations, specifically with regard to what has changed on the RTDI landscape at a regional/national level (e.g. as included in the multi-annual plans) in the past 5 years that might impact on prioritisation / presentation of RTDI goals. This work will be taking place in the coming weeks.

7. AOB and Date of Next Meeting – Lead YM

It was agreed to have the next MiP meeting on Wednesday 22nd June 2022 pm in Brussels. In addition, a meeting adjacent to the EU-EATiP day at Aquaculture Europe (29 September) is planned.