



# AQUA EXCEL

## FACTSHEET



### At a Glance

<b>Title:</b>	Aquaculture Infrastructures for Excellence in European Fish Research
<b>Programme:</b>	FP7, Capacities; Research Infrastructures
<b>Instrument:</b>	Combination of Collaborative projects and Coordination and Support Actions (CP-CSA)
<b>Total Cost:</b>	€11,845,200
<b>EC Contribution:</b>	€9,200,000
<b>Duration:</b>	March 2011 – February 2015 (48 Months)
<b>Coordinator:</b>	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA), France
<b>Consortium:</b>	17 partners from 10 countries
<b>Web:</b>	<a href="http://www.aquaexcel.eu">www.aquaexcel.eu</a>

### The Challenge

Aquaculture is a pan-European production activity that includes a wide range of fish and mollusc species. It has grown rapidly from a cottage industry in the 1960s into an industrial sector that contributes substantially to the European Union's goal of becoming the most competitive and dynamic knowledge based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion.

Today, European aquaculture technology is one of the areas where Europe has the edge and can make a difference in the future. Nevertheless, the European aquaculture industry is facing increasing challenges due to a more demanding and selective market combined with competition from outside the EU. These complex challenges require technological solutions that can only be solved with the contribution of high level experts and experienced professionals, and with excellent research facilities, outstanding services, and the right biological resources.



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## Project Objectives

AQUAEXCEL aims to integrate key aquaculture research infrastructures across Europe, in order to promote their coordinated use and development.

## Methodology

AQUAEXCEL will provide the European aquaculture research community with a platform of top class research infrastructures, integrating on a European scale key aquaculture research infrastructures. The platform will encompass a wide range of production systems including recirculation, flow-through, hatchery, cage, and pond systems. Fish research will be spread across several species including sea bass, sea bream, salmon, cod, trout and common carp. Freshwater, marine, cold, and warm water environments will be represented, as will small, medium and industrial scale settings.

## Results

- Access to state-of-the-art aquaculture research infrastructures by research teams who would otherwise not normally have access to these facilities.
- Coordination of key research infrastructures in Europe, creating the basis for joint research projects.
- An online inventory of key aquaculture research infrastructures, facilities and services.
- Harmonisation and standardization of resources between partners, notably but not exclusively for fish models and experimental methods developed in-house.
- Transfer of knowledge activities, such as training early-stage researchers and technicians on the latest experimental methods in aquaculture research.

## Project Partners

### France

Institut National de la Recherche  
Agronomique (INRA)  
(Coordinator)



Institut Français de Recherche  
Pour L'Exploitation de la Mer  
(IFREMER)



Inra Transfert S.A. (IT)



### Norway

Havforskningsinstituttet (IMR)  
Nofima Marin AS (NOFIMA)



Norges teknisk-  
naturvitenskapelige universitet  
(NTNU)



SINTEF Fiskeri og havbruk AS  
(SINTEF)



### Spain

Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior  
de Investigaciones Científicas  
(CSIC)



Universidad de las Palmas de Gran  
Canaria (ULPGC)



### UK

The University of Stirling (UoS)



### Greece

Hellenic Center for Marine  
Research (HCMR)



### Hungary

Research Institute for Fisheries,  
Aquaculture and Irrigation (HAKI)



### Czech Republic

Jihoceska univerzita v Ceskych  
Budejovicich (VURH)



### Netherlands

Wageningen Universiteit (WU)  
Institute for Marine Resources &  
Ecosystem Studies (IMARES)



### Belgium

Universiteit Gent (UGent)



### Ireland

AquaTT UETP Ltd (AquaTT)



## Contact Us



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