

# FACTSHEET



## At a Glance

Title:	AQUAMED, the future of research on aquaculture in the Mediterranean region
Programme:	FP7, Cooperation, Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnology (KBBE)
Instrument:	Coordination and Support Action (Coordinating action)
EC contribution:	€996,854
<b>Duration:</b>	June 2010 – May 2013
Consortium:	18 partners and associated partners from 16 countries
Coordinator:	IFREMER, on behalf of EFARO
Web:	www.aquamedproject.net

#### The Challenge

The rapid development of Mediterranean aquaculture is increasingly confronted with a set of difficulties such as inadequate production systems and competition with other users. Aquaculture development in the Mediterranean countries is characterised by 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 and they are a major source of our food and raw materials. Consequently, a knowledge-based strategy for the sustainable development of Mediterranean aquaculture has to be implemented using a flexible and concerted approach.

#### **Project Objectives**

AQUAMED will promote innovative Mediterranean research and focus on the most relevant issues needed to sustain aquaculture in the region. It will strengthen the EU-Mediterranean partnership in developing common projects, and in planning for the challenges Mediterranean aquaculture faces, now and into the future.

### Methodology

AQUAMED will develop a cross-functional strategy for aquaculture research in the Mediterranean region. It will develop a multi-stakeholder platform to orchestrate research activities, and it will publish a revolving implementation plan aimed at the sustainable development of aquaculture. The AQUAMED project will be based on a four step approach:





- Database and map relevant policies, research activities and socio-economic characteristics for each partner country;
- Identify common situations and constraints between countries;
- Group countries with similar driving forces, allowing for their engagement and to formulate scientifically-backed recommendations;
- Initiate a multi-stakeholder platform to promote research organisation, shared objectives and a revolving implementation plan.

#### **Results**

AQUAMED will make a valuable contribution to the Mediterranean Partnership enabling southern and eastern Mediterranean countries to collaborate with their EU counterparts. This cooperation will facilitate capacity building to enhance the harmonisation of aquaculture and research policies in the Mediterranean basin. The main achievements of AQUAMED will be:

- · Coordinated research activities across EU Member States and third countries in the Mediterranean region
- · Synergies between stakeholders and a network of partners committed to mutually agreed applied research objectives;
- A sustainability pathway for transnational joint research activities through a multi-stakeholder platform, a long-term structure to be used after the project is completed.

## **Project Partners**

European Fisheries and Aquaculture Research Organisation (EFARO), representing:			
	Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer (IFREMER)	<u>ifremer</u>	France
	Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO)		Spain
	Istituto Centrale per la Ricerca Scientifica e Tecnologica Applicata al Mare	ISPRA  The state of the state o	Italy
	Hellenic Center for Marine Research (HCMR)		Greece
	Department of Fisheries and Marine Research (DFMR)		Cyprus
	Institute for Marine Resources and Ecosystem Studies (IMARES)	WAGENINGEN UR for quality of the	The Netherland
	National Institute of Dialogical Decourses (IDIAAAD IAIDD)	INRB, I. P. Instituto Nacional	Portugal
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