



Aquainnova - Presentation Event
30th October 2012
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences
Brussels

The Future of European Aquaculture PRESS RELEASE

Tuesday, 30th October 2012, the EATiP (European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform) presented its Vision for European Aquaculture in 2030 at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences in Brussels.

Through the widest consultation ever made on European aquaculture - supported by the European FP7 project '**Aquainnova**' - the development of sectoral growth forecasts and accompanying challenges and needs of the sector in 2030 have been prepared. The Vision is accompanied by the identification of a range of goals within a comprehensive Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda whose achievement will contribute to reaching the targets described.

These are summarised in the document '**The Future of European Aquaculture**' that was prepared by the EATiP and which was presented in detail for discussion during this meeting.

Some 80 attendees from over 15 different European countries listened to the introductory welcome speeches of Timothy Hall (EC – DG Research & Innovation) and EATiP chairman Gustavo Larrazábal. These presentations focused on the challenges and opportunities that face European aquaculture and how European RTDi efforts can be put into place to respond to these.

After a presentation on the characteristics of European aquaculture, professional representatives from shellfish and fish farming in the North, the Mediterranean, coastal and Central Europe gave their interpretation of how these scenarios will affect their sectors.

These were followed by explanations of the '**why's and 'how's**' of these developments, the implications for the European professional and research sectors and the need to integrate these issues with different policies and strategies at both the National and European levels.

A representative of the European Investment Bank informed on measures that were available for the development of infrastructure and assistance for SME development.

Experts from the aquaculture profession, research and development, the European Commission and other stakeholder interests were all present to participate in a lively debate and answer the key questions raised by the results of these actions.

The afternoon was concluded by a visit to the exceptional Dinosaurs Gallery of the Museum.

The details of the event and all presentations can be consulted on www.eatip.eu