PRESS RELEASE – NEW PROJECT 'INTRANEMMA' – INNOVATION TRANSFER NETWORK FOR MEDITERRANEAN MARICULTURE

The initial partner meeting of the LDV project Lifelong learning programme – Leonardo Da Vinci - Transfer of innovation called 'INTRANEMMA' (Innovation Transfer Network for Mediterranean Mariculture) was held in the FGM offices in Athens on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th of March 2011.

The duration of the project is 2 years and was awarded to the Federation of Greek Maricultures. The management of the project is performed by AQUARK while the consortium includes APROMAR - Asociacion Empresarial de Productores de Cultivos Marinos, MUGLA KULTUR BALIKCILARI (Mugla fish farmers association) and AQUATT.



The INTRANEMMA project will identify priority vocational skill needs in the Mediterranean Mariculture industry and in response will develop and pilot innovative sector led programmes specifically for the Mediterranean region, aimed towards improving vocational skills and ensuring sustainability in sea bass and sea bream aquaculture.

INTRANEMMA builds upon a past LDV project (WAVE-Working in Aquaculture Validation of Experience) which created a Master List of competencies endorsed by the Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP) and an EQF sectoral pilot project titled "VALLA" (Validation of All Lifelong Learning in Aquaculture).

The partnership links the relevant Mediterranean actors, Producer Associations from Greece (FGM), Turkey (MFFA) and Spain (AROMAR), ensuring that the project is industry led to ensure that the outputs meet the needs of the industry, especially in areas critical for the sector's sustainability. The participation of AQUATT which developed the WAVE methodology will also ensure a common sectoral approach relevant to skill requirements as well as learning outcomes. The project outcomes will be training tools/modules designed to provide learners with the required competencies, in a familiar workplace environment. Three training events will take place, each customised to the host country, to take into account specific national curriculum or accreditation structures.

INTRANEMMA brings together Mariculture industry partners for the first time in order to identify joint knowledge / training gaps and to develop applied targeted training courses that will take the Mediterranean Mariculture industry to a higher level of sustainability. The direct link to industry ensures that the outcomes of the project are designed to be of direct relevance to the targeted end-users resulting in impact. The breadth of the partnership which includes three national Producer Associations will also ensure increased cooperation between these three very important Mediterranean countries.



From right: David Murphy and Olivia Daly (AQUATT), Javier Ojeda (APROMAR), Levent Kayi from Skretting Turkey representing Mugla Fish Farmers Association, Akis Ventiris (FGM), Joanna Tavla (AQUARK), Magdalini Armanidou (FGM) and Panos Christofilogiannis (AQUARK)

By developing competence-based innovative courses responding to identified sector needs, and by providing a reference (Learning Outcomes) for the validation of non-formally acquired competence/skills,

- 1. the Aquaculture Sector will benefit from innovative courses better equipped to respond to the immediate needs of the industry;
- 2. the geographic area of the Mediterranean (i.e., the three most important countries for the production of sea bream and sea bass (Greece, Turkey and Spain)) will benefit both from a transfer of know-how in the form of courses and educationally by acquiring the possibility of having short courses accredited within the emerging EQF;
- 3. consumers will benefit as these innovations will ultimately improve the end-product.

An online survey of the identified areas where innovation could bring significant improvement in the Mediteranean mariculture industry will be on line soon aimed at Greek, Spanish and Turkish industry stakeholders in order to identify the top 5 priority areas to be validated through analysis of available solutions and through in-depth interviews with key industry representatives and experts in these areas. This in-depth analysis will create the basis for the three high level training events (one in Spain, Greece and Turkey) which aim to carry out technology and innovation transfer to help resolve key issues for the industry.

Athens 13.3.2011
Panos Christofilogiannis (AQUARK) & Akis Ventiris (FGM)





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