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THE CHALLENGE

The farming of sea bass and sea bream is an important sector in the Mediterranean, contributing significantly to the local economy and job creation in rural and coastal areas. Sea bream and sea bass are by volume the third and fourth most farmed fish species in the European Union (EU). However, in recent years, there is a growing concern regarding the lack of growth and improvement in Mediterranean Marine Fish Farming (MMFF) which covers the majority of sea bass and sea bream production. For the last decade, overall production in the EU has remained stagnant and the industry is under a range of pressures, including technical, market-oriented, legislative and financial issues.

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WHAT WILL PerformFISH DO?

PerformFISH has the direct support and endorsement of the MMFF industry, with producers' associations from Greece, Spain, Italy, France and Croatia directly involved as partners in the project, representing 92.8% of all sea bream and sea bass production in the EU through their membership. Their involvement will be focused on ensuring that the research addresses the needs of the sector and knowledge is transferred effectively to their members. **PerformFISH** will work to ensure sustainable growth of the MMFF industry, based on consumer perceptions and real market requirements. It aims to support fish farms to operate not only in ideal economic and environmental conditions, but also in a socially and culturally responsible manner.

AT A GLANCE

PROGRAMME: Horizon 2020 (Societal Challenge 2)

TYPE OF ACTION: Research and Innovation Action (RIA)

DURATION: May 2017 – April 2022 (60 months)

CONSORTIUM: 28 partners from 10 countries

COORDINATOR: University of Thessaly (UTH)



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EXPECTED RESULTS

- Substantial improvement of the performance of the focal fish species, through the formation and measurement of sector accepted Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)
- Increased competitiveness and improved consumer and society perceptions of MMFF by enabling the industry to adopt a holistic approach to:
 - produce safe and healthy food with a low ecological footprint
 - provide employment and trade in peripheral and coastal regions
 - reduce European dependency on importation of seafood
- Consolidated and promoted best practice in fish farming through:
 - endorsed certification and quality assurance
 - development of human capacity building
 - engagement with consumers and societal actors to promote the brand of MMFF practices and products

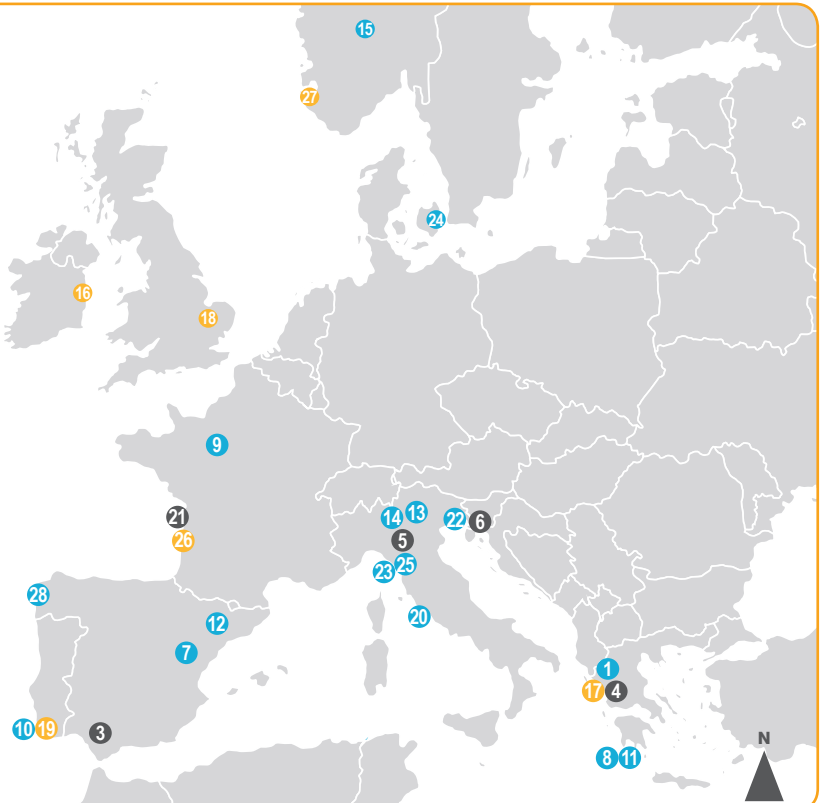


CONSORTIUM

- 1 (UTH) University of Thessaly (EL)
- 2 (ULPGC) Universidad de las Palmas de Gran Canaria (ES)
- 3 (APROMAR) Asociacion Empresarial de Acuicultura de Espagna (ES)
- 4 (FGM) Federation of Greek Mariculture (EL)
- 5 (API) Associazione Piscicoltori Italiani (IT)
- 6 (CCE-CAA) Croatian Chamber of Economy-Croatian Aquaculture Association (HR)
- 7 (CSIC) Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas (ES)
- 8 (HCMR) Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (EL)
- 9 (INRA) Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (FR)
- 10 (CCMar) Centro de Ciencias do Mar (PT)
- 11 (UoC) University of Crete (EL)
- 12 (UAB) Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona (ES)
- 13 (UNIUD) University of Udine (IT)
- 14 (UNIPD) University of Padova (IT)
- 15 (SINTEF) SINTEF Fiskeri og havbruk AS (NO)
- 16 (AquaTT) AquaTT UETP CLG (IE)
- 17 (AQUARK) Panagiotis Christofilogiannis- Ioanna Tavla (EL)
- 18 (AQUAxperts) AQUAxperts Ltd (UK)
- 19 (Sparos) Sparos Lda (PT)
- 20 (ISPRA) Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale (IT)
- 21 (SFAMN) Syndicat Français de l'Aquaculture Marine et Nouvelle (FR)
- 22 (RBI) Ruber Bosovic Institute (HR)
- 23 (CNR-ISTI) CNR-ISTI (IT)
- 24 (Eurofish) Eurofish (DK)
- 25 (UNIBO) University of Bologna (IT)
- 26 (SYSAAF) SYSAAF (FR)
- 27 (ARC) Skretting Aquaculture Research Centre (NO)
- 28 (CETGA) (ES)

TYPE OF PARTNER

- Public Research or Education Organisation (PRO)
- Associations (ASS)
- Small and medium enterprises (SME)



Find out more:

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