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**Sustainable
Aquaculture
Practices for
Innovative Seafood
Products**



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BACKGROUND

In a scenario where global food systems are being challenged due to the expected population growth, together with resource impoverishment and other environmental constraints, seafood has been identified as a vital source of food and a key component of a healthy diet.

Nonetheless, decades of unsustainable overfishing practices are depleting aquatic ecosystems at a time when nearly one-fifth of all animal protein consumed by humans comes from seafood, reason why aquaculture has gained traction over wild fisheries.

However, intensified near-shore aquaculture raises environmental and resource-related questions, mainly due to waste-streams, dependence on wild fisheries for aquafeed, disease outbreaks and the potential introduction of invasive species resulting from escapes in ecosystems where they do not belong.

Algae (both microalgae and seaweed) have much potential, both for improving the sustainability of the production processes and as a direct food source to increase the seafood offer to consumers.

GOAL

INNOAQUA's main objective is to pave the path towards the upcoming sustainable and diversified EU land-based aquaculture industry by leaning on the demonstration and mainstreaming of innovative algae-based food and solutions, using ecology, circularity and digitalization approaches.

The INNOAQUA consortium consists of a multidisciplinary and powerful combination of research organisations and universities, associations and companies (nine small and medium enterprises and two large industries) from eight countries with complementary knowledge and skills required for the successful implementation of the project objectives.

5 OBJECTIVES

1

To implement an ecosystem approach for sustainable management of aquaculture production.

2

To demonstrate tools to limit the waste in aquaculture cultivation and processing.

3

To demonstrate processing methods to obtain new innovative seafood products based on algae and/or fish processing side streams.

4

To enhance the societal acceptance and market penetration of innovative seafood products through novel social simulation approaches.

5

To maximize wider uptake of INNOAQUA's results during and after the project's execution.