



The SEAFOODplus research platform

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Why a SEAFOODplus research platform?

The Integrated Project SEAFOODplus running in the period 2004-08 was very successful in achieving the ambitious goals set and the results have been important for promoting the seafood area in general. SEAFOODplus has delivered several breakthrough research results in the areas of seafood and health, consumers and seafood, seafood safety, seafood quality and product development and aquaculture. The management structure has contributed to the integration of several scientific disciplines within the seafood area. SEAFOODplus has become a brand label for highly qualified seafood research managed in a professional way. Therefore we wish to take this development a step further by launching the SEAFOODplus research platform.



Vision

The vision of the SEAFOODplus research platform is:

- To be the preferred research platform for major stakeholders in all aspects of the seafood science, industry, policy makers and financing bodies in Europe particularly addressing research supported by the EU.
- To work for continued and effective integration of the best research environments in academia and industry with the aim of having European seafood research to be recognised as the world leaders in seafood science

Mission

The mission of the SEAFOODplus research platform is:

- To begin, stimulate and encourage international integrated multidisciplinary seafood research covering the whole production chain from aquaculture and fisheries to consumers' health and well-being.
- To influence the European research agenda with focus on seafood research related to human health, consumers' perception and well-being, process and product quality, product development, safety and aquaculture as source for seafood.
- To bring forward and promote the project ideas from the scientific community via the channels of the European Commission in addition to existing Technology Platforms.



What is the Strategic Research Agenda?

The SEAFOODplus research platform is approaching the whole value chain from the live fish through processing until the product is being consumed. Furthermore the platform addresses nutrition and health questions with the objective of preventing negative effects of lifestyle diseases. The initial topics adopted by the SEAFOODplus research platform are described below. By becoming a member you will be able to impact the future strategic research agenda, which will be communicated to financing bodies in Europe and elsewhere in the most efficient way.

- **Quality** in a sustainable whole chain approach, including the special requirements for local seafoods and all modern criteria for certifications, like carbon footprints and other requests.
- **Process and product development** in its widest context, including application of bio- and nanotechnology, energy considerations and consequences of global climate changes.
- **Consumer science** covering the understanding of consumer's attitudes toward seafood, eating habits and how culinology may impact consumer's choice.
- **Health aspects** and how seafood in the diet impacts major lifestyle diseases, cognitive abilities and targeted population groups.
- **Lipids, proteins, amino acids, trace elements** from seafood are believed to have metabolic effects beyond known functions of omega-3 fatty acids.
- **Safety** will have emphasis on microbiology, but other aspects will be included.
- **Aquaculture** is important as future supplies of seafood depend on it. Seafood can be tailor-made by including critical components for human nutrition in the feed.



How is the platform managed?

The Governing Council decides the Strategic Research Agenda and considers the adoption of new members to the platform. The management team is responsible for fulfilling the mission and a secretariat handles administrative and financial matters

What can the platform do for you?

As a member you can benefit from the workshops and conferences arranged, be assisted in finding partners, and you will be alerted about new calls targeting your specific interests. In the long term you will benefit from the lobbying the platform makes towards funding bodies, specifically the EU.



How can I become a member?

Any entity from a research organisation or a university covering the research area described in the mission can become a member of the SEAFOODplus research platform. This implies that several entities from the same organisation can be a member. The membership fee is dependent on the type of entity. The secretariat is contacted and will give instructions on how a specific membership may be obtained.



The membership fees are the following:

| <u>Entity level</u> | <u>Euro/year</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| University or similar | 8000 |
| Institute/Faculty | 5000 |
| Department or similar | 3000 |
| Research group (< 5 people) | 500 |

Industries and seafood organisations can become an associate member of the SEAFOODplus research platform. An entry fee of 2000 euro has to be paid by regular companies, and 500 euro for SMEs. An industry advisory board is established.

Do I need to be based in Europe to become a member?

No, we welcome members from all over the world, but our primary target for obtaining funds will be the EU. A number of countries outside Europe can also receive funds from programmes launched by the EU. In some cases a consortium must have a partner from e.g. India, China or other specified countries in order to obtain support. In other cases, participation from one of the listed ICPC countries is requested. The SEAFOODplus research platform encourages the use of all possibilities for collaboration on a global scale.

A dynamic organisation

Once a member of the SEAFOODplus research platform has become a coordinator of an EU supported project, he or she will be offered a seat in the Governing Council, thus having the opportunity to impact future priorities within the seafood science. The other opportunity is to work through the Assembly where all members have a seat.

For further information please contact any of the Management Team members:



Torger Børresen
President
tb@aqu.dtu.dk



Joop Lutén
Vice-President
joop.luten@nofima.no



Mercedes Careche
Comm. Manager
mcareche@if.csic.es



Jette Donovan Jensen
Secretariat Manager
jej@aqu.dtu.dk