



European Commission Launches Consultation on the Opportunities for the Development of Community Aquaculture

The aquaculture industry is gaining increasing importance with falling catches of wild fish and increasing global demands for seafood. According to projections made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, most of the future demand for seafood is expected to be met by aquaculture.

Aquaculture in the EU is well placed to seize this opportunity. The EU has a strong market for seafood, a long tradition of freshwater and marine fish and shellfish cultivation, dynamic and advanced research, modern technology, qualified and trained entrepreneurs and fish farmers, suitable climatic conditions and sites for the species currently farmed.

However, our aquaculture sector also faces a number of challenges which have an impact on production. These include limitation of space and of water of good quality, and measures to protect public health and the environment. The high Community standards put European aquaculture at the forefront of sustainable development in the world, both in terms of social and environmental impacts, but make it more difficult to compete price-wise with third-country producers especially in Asia and in South-America where aquaculture production growth is the highest in the world.

In 2002, the European Commission presented a Communication on a Strategy for the sustainable development of European aquaculture, which gave a ten-year vision of aquaculture aimed at reaching the status of a stable industry guaranteeing long-term secure employ-

ment, which was able to cope with the main problems identified, ensuring health and environmental protection. Five years later, although most of the challenges identified then appear still valid, time has come to take stock of progress made so far, and launch a debate with all stakeholders on the further development of sustainable aquaculture in the European Community, which could result in the updating of the 2002 Strategy.

The Commission is now opening a public consultation to invite stakeholders to express their views. Comments should be submitted by 15 July 2007 at the latest, by e-mail: fisheries-aquaculture-consultation@ec.europa.eu They can also be sent by post to the following address:

Aquaculture consultation
Unit C4 – Aquaculture
DG for Fisheries and Maritime Affairs
European Commission
99, rue Joseph II
B- 1049 Brussels

The contributions to this consultation will be summarised by the European Commission services and will provide a basis for discussion documents and potential follow-up actions. Please note that the contributions to the consultation will be published on the website of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Fisheries and Maritime affairs.

The consultation documents can be found [here](#).



EAS is an International Non-Profit Association that promotes contacts among all involved in aquaculture. EAS was founded in 1976. EASinfo is the members' e-newsletter of EAS

<http://www.easonline.org>

This newsletter arose from the 2006 Membership Survey, which clearly indicated a request from the membership for news "that can't wait" for publication in the quarterly Aquaculture Europe magazine. It will be sent to EAS members in between each issue of your magazine. Please make it yours and send us any information or announcements that you would like to convey to other EAS members. Please mail your short contributions to eas@aquaculture.cc



EAS Student Group keeping you informed

The EAS Student Group is very active. If you look at the EAS web site main menu and click on EAS Student Group, you'll see several sub-menus that link to pages that show what the group is doing. Most notably, the 'newsletter' menu shows the first two newsletters of the group, and the 'activities' page has information and photographs on events in which the group members have participated



The European Commission's EuroOCEAN 2007 conference will be held on June 22nd in Aberdeen, UK, just after the OCEANS '07 conference

This one-day event will focus on the marine science aspects in support of the development of the European Maritime Policy, and should result in the Aberdeen Declaration, an evolution from the Galway 2004 Declaration. **It represents the final meeting of the consultation period on the Policy and the Aberdeen Declaration will synthesise the voice of European marine scientists and express their priorities in the context of the development of the European Maritime Policy.** All those with an interest

in contributing are warmly invited to attend, and registration is free of charge.

You may register at the EuroOCEAN 2007 web site <http://www.eurocean2007.com/> Hotel and other information is also provided.

The Marine Board of the European Science Foundation is coordinating the Programme Committee, and EAS is actively involved. The preliminary version of the programme is presented on the site.

The European aquaculture Technology Platform invites discussion

Following the first stakeholders meeting of EATP in March, a special discussion forum has now been created. Please visit www.forum.eatpnet.eu to read and post comments.



As a guest, you may read the messages posted, but if you wish to post and/or reply, you'll need to register. The registration page is accessible from the "register" link at the top right of the forum main page. The EATP secretariat has initiated discussions with the creation of several forums and threads. Please feel free to post a comment to this welcoming thread, or establish an entirely new issue by posting a new thread. From Torgeir Edvardsen, EATP Secretary General.



REGISTER online NOW for Aquaculture Europe 2007!

The EAS Aquaculture Europe 2007 meeting "COMPETING CLAIMS", to be held in Istanbul from October 24-27, will address the competition that aquaculture development faces and on which its future depends. **Register online** at easonline.org to be part of the discussion!

AE2007 will take place in conjunction with Future Fish Eurasia 2007.

Latest: Register before JUNE 15 to get the early bird rate and save!



The European Commission is looking for feedback on its CORDIS service

Received by the EAS secretariat from Philippe Lebaube, Head of Unit CORDIS, Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

As a participant in EU projects and a relevant member of the R&D Community you may be very familiar with [CORDIS](#) - the Community R&D Information Service published by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities.

As our intention is to continually enhance and develop the service, with particular emphasis on the information related to guidance for project managing, reporting and dissemination of results, we would be very grateful to

receive your comments and feedback. With this objective in mind we invite you to click on <http://user-survey.cordis.europa.eu/2007/coordinators/coord1.php?language=en>, and to send us your input once you have completed the questionnaire.

Answering this survey will only take about ten minutes. We would be grateful if you could also distribute this e-mail amongst other members of your organisation who are interested in FP7.

All completed surveys shall remain strictly confidential and shall only be used for the purpose of improving CORDIS.

EAS have our say on the future of fisheries and aquaculture research

EAS President Elect, Selina Stead and Alistair Lane attended an expert workshop of the FEUFAR project in Brussels on May 22nd. The workshop brought together experts from European countries to define the drivers that will influence research in the two sectors between now and 2020. The group was also asked to give visions of the aquaculture and fisheries sectors at that time. A further workshop (for the wider stakeholders) is planned at the end of June.

The FEUFAR web site has just been created and will contain significant information and a forum for all to have their input. <http://www.feufar.eu/>

EC survey on aquaculture certification and labelling

The European Commission has launched an internet survey on certification and labelling, which is accessible online in 20 official languages of the European Union from 24 April until 15 June. The purpose of the survey is to explore the views of the sector on existing quality certification systems and assess their interest in possible future European actions in this domain. The questionnaire can be accessed [here](#).

**The Aqua Nor Forum 2007:
A new Forum for the World's biggest aquaculture
exhibition**

Pre-registration is strongly advised



To ensure your place at the FORUM, we invite you to pre-register using the online facility at the [EAS web site](#). All pre-registered participants will have the best prices for both registration and hotels. The pre-registration fee includes:

- ⇒ Access to AQUANOR FORUM 2007 sessions.
- ⇒ A FORUM pack, including the programme and background information.
- ⇒ Access to the Aqua Nor 2007 Welcome Reception on Tuesday, August 14th.