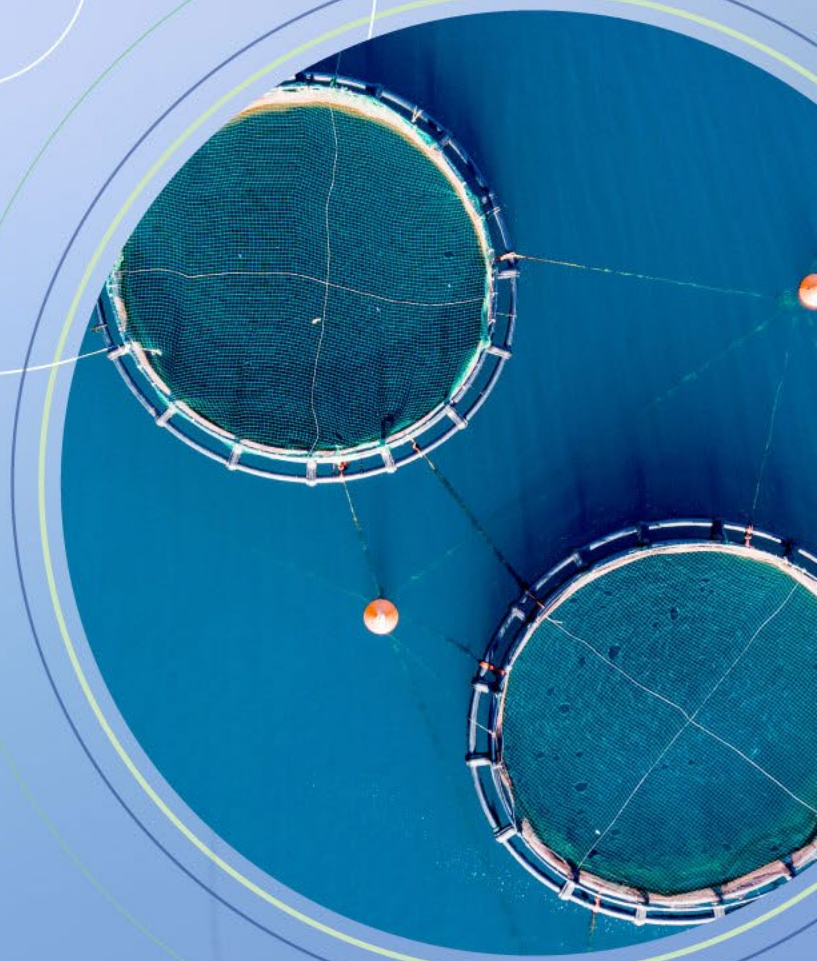
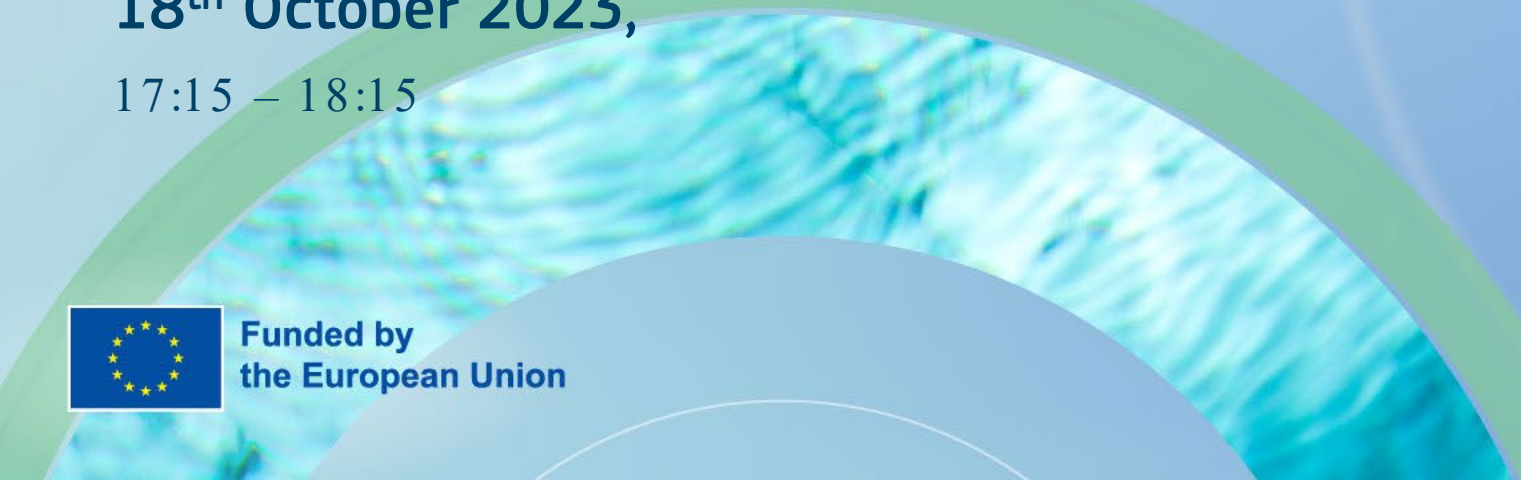
Conclusions from Workshop Plenary session



Aquaculture special event, Brussels

18th October 2023,

17:15 – 18:15



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Agenda

17:15-17:30 Conclusions on Guidance Document on *Environmental Performance – Lana Bezinovic Sostar (EC, DG MARE)*

17:30-17:45 Conclusions on Background Paper on *Good Husbandry Practices – Birgit Van Tongelen (EC, DG MARE)*

17:45-18:00 Conclusions on Guidance Document on *Climate adaptation* – ***Evi Lardi (EC, MARE)***

18:00-18:15 Conclusions on Background Paper on *Inland Farming – Emilia Gargallo Gonzalez (EC, DG MARE)*

18:15-18:30 Closing remarks

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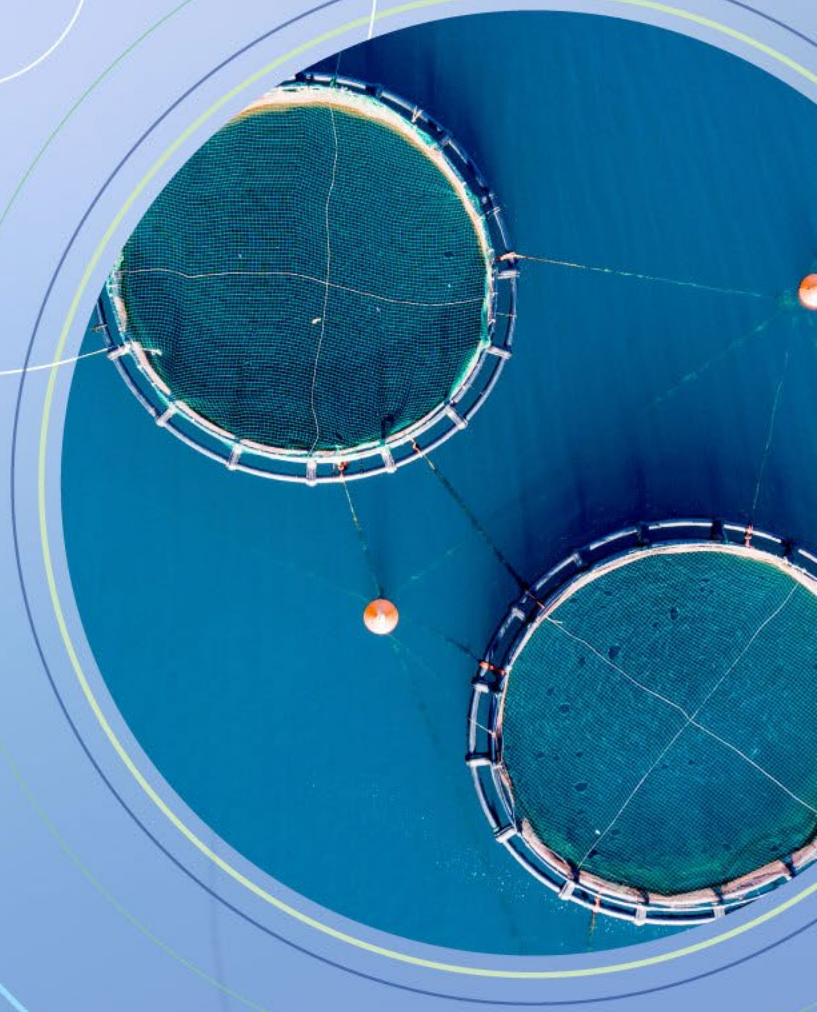
Workshop Conclusions on ‘Environmental Performance’



Lana Bezinovic Sostar (EC, DG MARE)

David Bassett (EATiP,
EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism)

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Take Away messages

- Balance finfish, shellfish and algae alongside MS representation (where possible!)
- Balance **positive & negative** impacts of aquaculture production.
- Reference **Strategic Guidelines objectives** (including for sector growth) and wider policy (Green Deal, Farm to Fork etc.)
- Reference to **wider policy** (e.g. Paris Agreement) with expanding the current section considering legislation and referencing MS Case Law
- Inclusion of **stronger recommendations** from identified best practices. (Consideration of recommendations how best industry may approach environmental excellence / improvement.)

2. Additional good practice or measures to be included

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Additional new practices or measures to be included

Examples from MS and also from Industry - especially on:

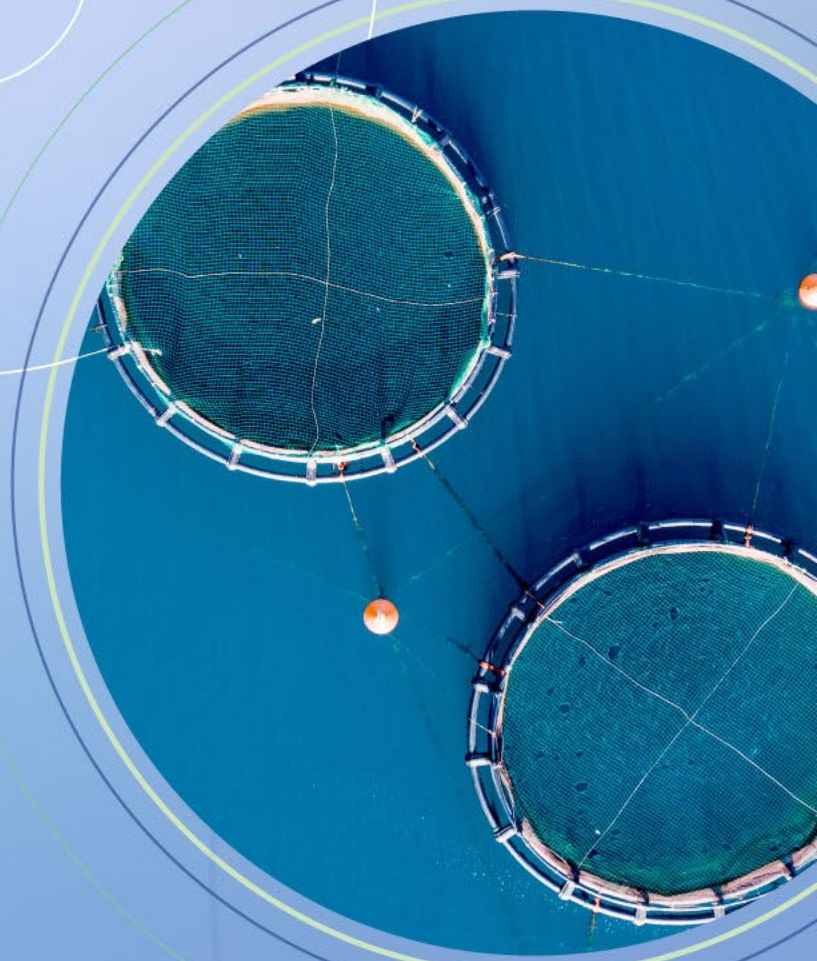
- Categorisation by intensity or production methodology – e.g. DK / DE / IT?
- Strategies for toxic substances, residues & treatments
- Management of farm health planning / veterinary procedures (to minimise treatment use)
- Strategies for cleaning and disinfection

Other

- Recommendations on future research / innovation requirements - public / industry alignment (from existing survey) and consider general priorities for considering environmental impact.
- Include “proof of concept” for research outputs alongside barriers / obstacles to research outputs being implemented (*e.g*. cost, legislative barriers etc.)
- Consideration given to benefits in terms of environmental benefits vs. socio-economic benefits.
  - ***Where should the balance be in this? Is there a balance in this?***
- Graphs / Grid matrix of Good practices / obstacles
- Use of terminology – same terms as WFD, MSFD, Green Deal

➢ ***Is there a need for a distinct “Predator Control” document (including non mammalian and aquatic predators)?***

Workshop Conclusions on ‘Good Husbandry Practices’



Birgit Van Tongelen (EC, DG MARE)

Pablo Xandri (NTT DATA,
EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism)

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Key take away messages (1/2)

General

- Overall, the document is considered **clear, practical and user-friendly**
- Need to decide on the **level of technical details**: some recommendations are too detailed - some are vague and open to interpretation
- Include a chapter on **GHPs applicable to all species**
- Differentiate between husbandry and **environmental practices**
- Include text of **legislative articles** that are referred to
- Ensure **consistency of "language"** throughout document
- **Translate** document in all EU languages
- **Justify** why cleaner fish is covered and not flatfish; and why transport/ slaughter are not covered
- Make the **different stages of lifecycle** more explicit
- Publish **factsheets** as **separate documents**

Key take away messages (2/2)

Topics:

- Harvesting & grading: to be re-titled as handling
- Environmental enrichment: definition to be improved
- Predator control: only a few tools available for farmers

Factsheets

- Sea bass & sea bream: a) 2 separate factsheets, b) include functional feed instead of feed
- Shellfish: to be further elaborated. Lacks specificity, differentiation needed between good practices for producers and governments, refer to unregulated pathogens, … → Further information will be sent to the EU AAM

Thank you!

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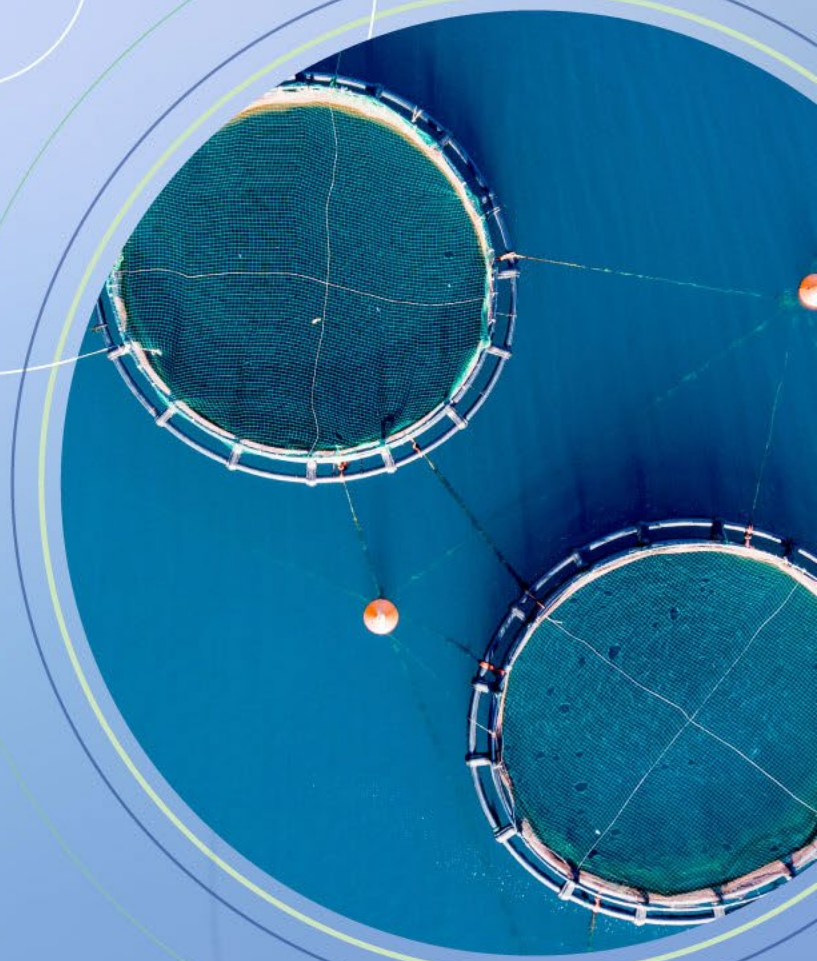
Written inputs to be sent via e-mail by November 15th to:

pablo.manuel.xandri.royo@nttdata.com

Workshop Conclusions on ‘Climate change adaptation’



Evi Lardi (EC, DG MARE)

Alistair Lane (EAS,
EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism)

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Conclusions

1. **Additional adaptation measures**

- Feed & Functional feed

2. **Additional good practice**

- Impact forecasting including other biological & abiotic factors
- Selective breeding also considered for shellfish populations
- Production opportunities: decision support for modelling of different species, adaption of stocking periods. Multispecies opportunities
- Infrastructure and system adjustments including systems that buffer against damage and those that reduce evaporation losses or volume of water available. Also, containment and semi-containment systems
- Location planning in AZA and importance of new areas for relocation (balanced opportunities/risks). A 'suitability index' for future production in existing areas
- Revision of non-native and invasive species good practices

Conclusions

3. Knowledge gaps

- Additional specific gaps have been identified and now need to be grouped for complementarity of the existing ones
- Regional approaches for areas that need more adaptation measures
- Identified gaps are mainly diseases-oriented others will be added

4. Industry measures

- Adjustments of the list, including welfare and environmental conditions
- New adaptive systems in freshwater aquaculture
- Capacity building at national and regional level
- What to do with data? Providing farmers with solutions that they can use

5. Policy areas

- Allocate funds to all knowledge gaps
- Mapping of habitat supplemented by mapping hotspots of CC across Europe
- Improvement of the licensing procedures and flexibility
- Importance to keep aquaculture policies high on the agenda

Thank you!

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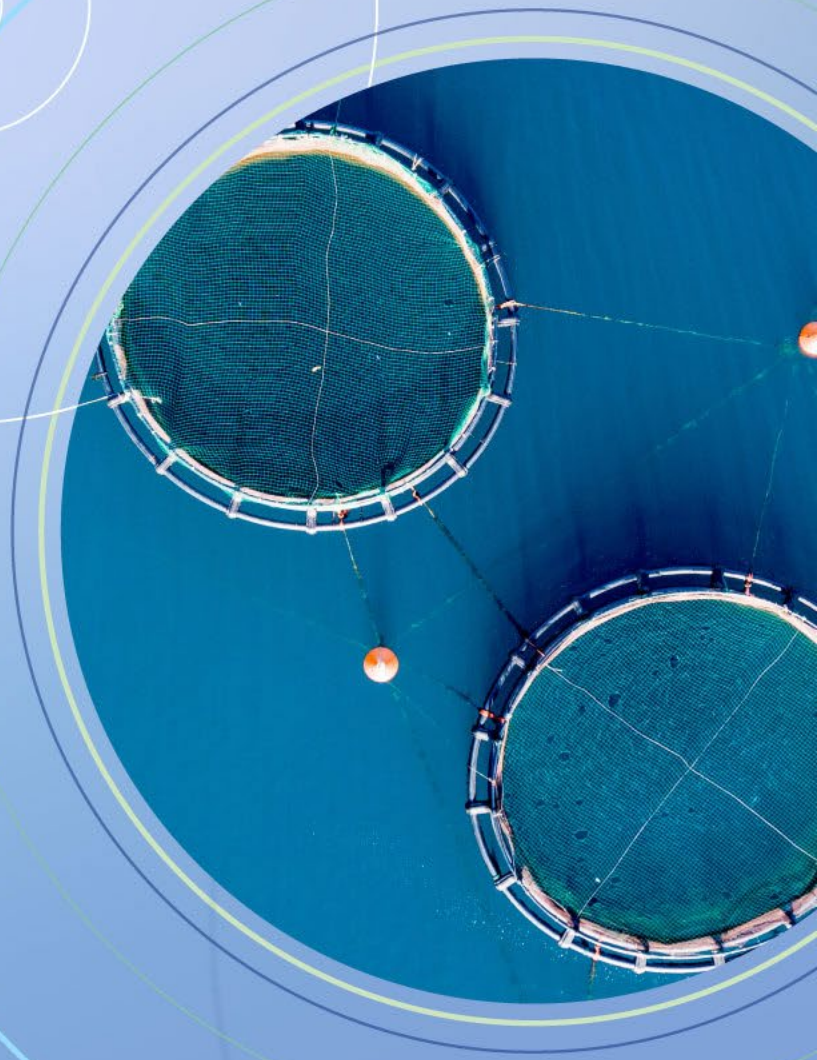
Written inputs to be sent via e-mail by November 15th to:

Alistair@aquaes.eu

Workshop Conclusions on ‘Access to Space and Water for Inland Aquaculture ’



Emilia Gargallo Gonzalez (EC, DG MARE)

Tiziana Pacchiarini (NTT DATA,
EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism)

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Key takeaways

There are three spaces that we need to have:

- **Access to space**
- **Access to water**
- **Access to society**

Practical approach in the document (1/2)

Expand context

- To make clear production methods but also challenges of the freshwater aquaculture, even if they are not directly relevant to “access to space and water” (such as predators), they are relevant for the sector and - as such - it is recommended to mention licenses
- To make clear that is not a document about rural areas, but all areas
- Positive references and others: to consider in the text to include reference
- Aquaculture is not a Water consuming activity
- Level playing field with agriculture

Practical approach in the document (2/2)

- Better definitions such as: pond aquaculture and wetlands
- Better rephrasing on the list of topics and the topics itself to made them clearer what do we refer to (industrial synergies)/ branding
- Re-structuring to make clear the difference when we are addressing existing and new facilities

Ideas

Consider to include:

- Marine species for RAS
- WFD biggest problem for Access to Water
- Aquaculture considered a pressure, this needs to be revised
- Multifunctional approach in terms of industry symbiosis/synergies

Additional good practices or measures to be included

New ideas

- More awareness in general on the production part of aquaculture and not on the product (Farm in the EU, city halls, regional, etc.) - Constanze lake and drinking water → Social acceptance will help better for access to space and water
- We need to consider energy consumption in the document

New practices

- NYC on GIS rooftops
- Spain awareness plan to touch upon Board river management plans
- Fish Auction- What is that? – Inland aquaculture
- Practice of franchising space from farmers to fish farming
- Governments conducting ‘carrying capacities studies’ themselves
- Integrated water resource management (Italy)

Thank you!

Written inputs to be sent via e-mail by November 15th to:

tiziana.pacchiarini@nttdata.com

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Thank you!

Written inputs to the documents to be sent via e-mail by November 15th

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