

The EATP mission is to:

- Provide a Strategic Vision for the European aquaculture sector with respect to RTDI.
- Define strategies and roadmaps for realizing the Vision through the formulation of a comprehensive Strategic Research Agenda.
- Stimulate increased private and public investment in RTDI in the aquaculture sector.
- Contribute to improved cooperation between European, national and regional research activities, to assist to the establishment of National Mirror Platforms and to enhance the clustering and networking of Europe's RTDI capacity.
- Stimulate researchers to work within aquaculture research, close to industry needs.

Through these actions, EATP will provide a platform for the stakeholders to develop a Vision of the future and a long term Strategic Research Agenda for the aquaculture sector. Hence, EATP will:

- identify priority research areas and
- promote and stimulate the deployment and implementation of the Strategic Research Agenda in order to achieve the goals of this vision.

European Aquaculture Technology Platform

- a technology platform enabling European aquaculture
to maintain its world leadership

Your support for establishing this
Technology Platform is welcomed!



For more information, contact the EATP Secretary General:
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Background

The European aquaculture sector can contribute substantially to achieve the European Union's goal of becoming "*the most competitive and dynamic knowledge based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion*" (Lisbon European Council). Surely, attaining these goals will require generating new knowledge, hence the need for investment in research, technological development and innovation.

Over the last two decades the European aquaculture industry has shown a strong ability to take up research and new knowledge and turning it into increased production of food and strong economic growth. Today, the industry must be considered as world leaders in their field and European aquaculture technology is clearly one of the areas where Europe has the edge and can make a difference in the future.

Nevertheless, the industry is facing able competition from other parts of the world. Therefore, in order to stay ahead and realize its potential, a substantial increase in investment in research, technological development and demonstration activities will be required. To influence the EC research agenda and to make the most of the 7th Framework Programme (FP7), the European Aquaculture Industry must develop a comprehensive, viable and trustworthy Research Agenda that the EC finds compelling. Unless the European Aquaculture Industry manages that, we fear that our industry will not receive its proper and needed share of the increased research budget. Furthermore, research in our priority areas may be fragmented, made in duplicate, inefficient and ineffective. In short we may loose out to other industries competing for the same funds. Therefore it is vital for the European Aquaculture Industry to speak with one voice when communicating its visions and research priorities to the EC.

Technology platforms are good instruments for bringing together industry, science and other stakeholders to establish a common view of which possibilities the future holds and to create a shared Vision of the future. With this Vision in hand, a Strategic Research Agenda and a Deployment Strategy can be finalized to make the Vision a reality. In order to accomplish this, a group of individuals has taken the initiative to create a *European Aquaculture Technology Platform*. We invite all stakeholders involved in the European aquaculture industry to participate in an open and transparent

way to formulate the Vision and Strategies for the common purpose of upholding the world leadership of the European aquaculture industry.

The central aim of the platform, we propose, is to influence the EC research agenda with a one-voice identification of research priorities by the industry through the technology platform. Thereby we promote the transformation from a resource-intensive to a knowledge-intensive industrial basis, knowledge-intensive products, processes and services. Achieving this will both improve the industry's competitiveness and its economic contribution to society – and thus supporting the Lisbon strategy.

The initiative is taken by the following individuals: *Wout Dekker*, Nutreco N.V. - EATP Chairman; *Petter Arnesen*, Marine Harvest Group ASA; *Gustavo Larrazábal*, Tinamenor S.A.; *John Stephanis*, Selonda S.A.; *Patrick Sorgeloos*, Ghent University; *Yngvar Olsen*, Norwegian University of Science and Technology; *Torgeir Edvardsen*, SINTEF Fisheries and Aquaculture Ltd – and it has the support of individual companies, institutions and industry federations.

First Stakeholder Meeting

This meeting will debate and formulate *a*) a common vision for the industry for the next 20 years, and *b*) initiative areas (pillars) for the coming Strategic Research Agenda.

Agenda

- Discussion of Vision, Terms of Reference
- Identifying Initiative Areas & Groups
- Appointing persons responsible for Initiative Groups

You are welcome to participate at the meeting. Please find more information and online registration for the First EATP Stakeholders Meeting on our web-page.

Please register for the First Stakeholders Meeting at
Paleis der Academiën Brussels 22. March 2007 at:
www.EATPnet.eu