

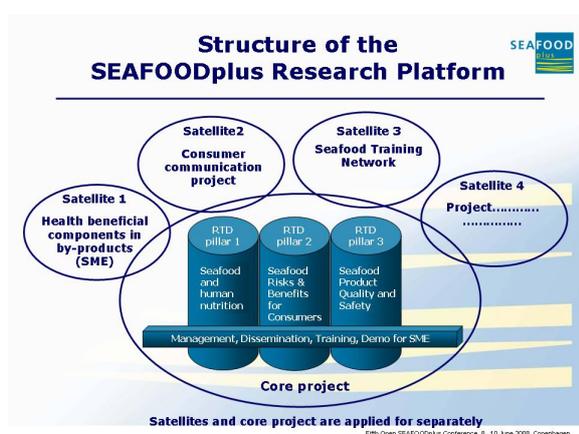
The future of SEAFOODplus – the SEAFOODplus Research Platform

Presenting author: Torger Børresen⁽¹⁾ co-authors: Joop Luten⁽²⁾, Mercedes Careche⁽³⁾

⁽¹⁾ National Institute for Aquatic Resources-DTU Aqua, Denmark

⁽²⁾ Nofima Marine, Norway

⁽³⁾ Institute del Frio, CSIC, Spain



The EU supported Integrated Project SEAFOODplus has been a great success. SEAFOODplus has delivered several research results being breakthroughs in the areas of (1) seafood and health, (2) consumers and seafood, (3) seafood safety, (4) seafood quality and product development and (5) aquaculture. The management structure developed for the 20 projects has been blueprint for many other integrated projects. This structure has contributed to the integration of many different scientific disciplines of relevance to the seafood area. SEAFOODplus has become a brand label for highly qualified seafood research managed in a professional way.

These achievements have been highly acknowledged, and many requests have been received for a continued operation of SEAFOODplus. It has thus been decided that the **SEAFOODplus Research Platform** will be developed as a new collaborative concept after the closing date of the present SEAFOODplus project period, which is by the end of 2008. The new research platform will thus start its operation 1 January 2009.

The new SEAFOODplus Research Platform will be operated on a membership basis, welcoming research institutions, universities, industry and other stakeholders wishing to support the further development of the seafood area and promotion of seafood to the benefit of human health and well-being.

The vision of the SEAFOODplus research platform is (1) 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 European Union. (2) 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.

This vision will be realised by the mission adopted where **international integrated multidisciplinary** research will be stimulated and encouraged. Every opportunity will be explored to influence the European research agenda with focus on seafood research. Project ideas from the members of the research platform will be brought forward and promoted for funding wherever possible. Research priorities will be communicated via channels at the scientific level of the European Commission and to existing Technology Platforms in relevant areas.

The research platform will be operated by a management structure based on principles applied in the present SEAFOODplus organisation, where project leaders in charge of new projects, called satellite projects, fostered by the research platform will have a seat in the management committee, which will be the central Council for the research platform. Further, a small management team will take care of the day to day management, and all stakeholders will have a seat in the general assembly, being the governing body of the SEAFOODplus Research Platform.