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› Maestro



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**David Bassett**

**European Aquaculture Technology  
and Innovation Platform**

**Elfde Vlaams Aquacultuursymposium:  
Nieuwe eiwitten voor de aquacultuur**

Vlaams  
**Aqua  
cultuur**  
platform

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# European Aquaculture

Technology and Innovation Platform

VLAAMS AQUACULTUUR PLATFORM:  
AQUACULTUUR SYMPOSIUM 2022  
*“Nieuwe eiwitten voor de aquacultuur”*

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# Why a European Technology Platform (ETP)?



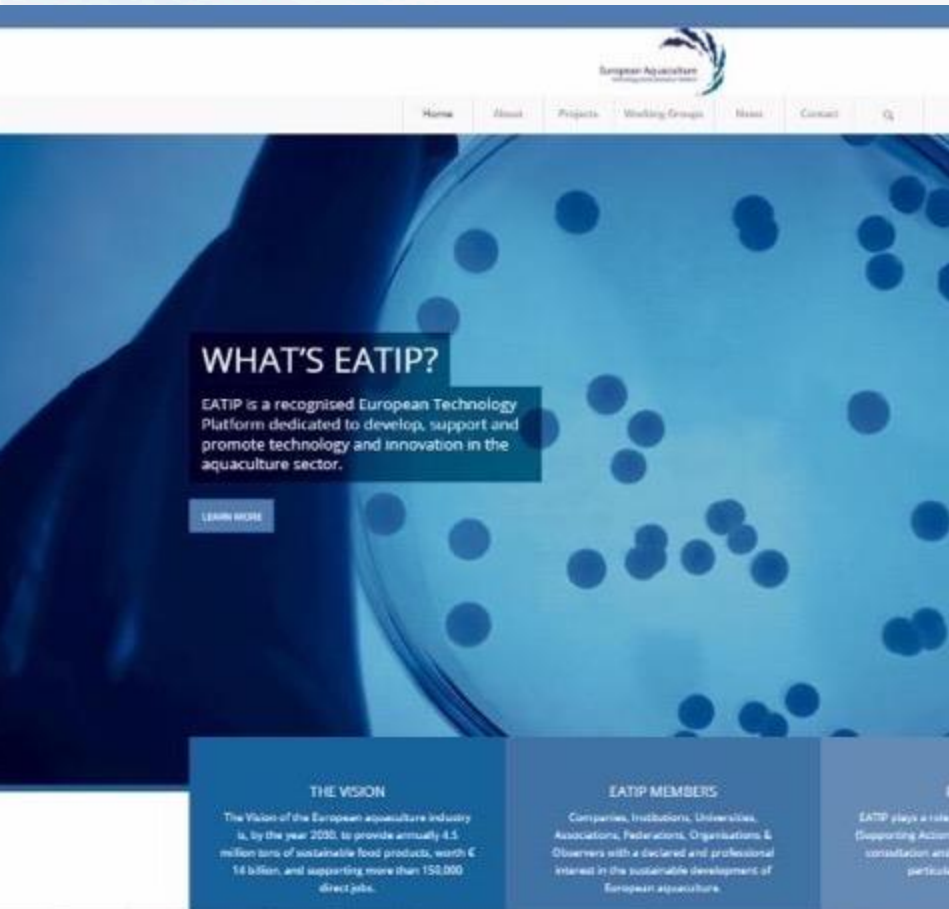
- Lisbon Strategy / desire for EU to be the “Global leading knowledge based (bio) economy” (KBBE)
  - Establishment: Vision/SRIA/Implementation
  - Function: Address bottlenecks to innovation / mobilisation of networks / dissemination of RTDI
- 
- Key Tasks of ETiPs
    - Development of SRIA;
    - Encourage industry participation in Framework Programmes;
    - identify opportunities for international cooperation;
    - provide networking activities to address cross-sectoral challenges;
    - facilitate the formation of new partnerships;

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATA G/2017/603935/EPRS\\_ATA\(2017\)603935\\_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/ATA G/2017/603935/EPRS_ATA(2017)603935_EN.pdf)



**Think Tank**  
European Parliament

# What is EATiP?



- One of 39 ETPs
- Established 2008
- Registered in BE / governed by statute.
- ASBL (Not for profit)
- Membership funded
- Multi Stakeholder
- Industry led
- Finfish, Shellfish, Algae
- Marine, FW, RAS
- SRIA & Recommendations
- [www.eatip.eu](http://www.eatip.eu) / @eatip\_eu



# EATiP SRIA & Recommendations:



# Thematic Areas:

## Aquaculture and the Consumer

Product  
Quality,  
Consumer  
Safety &  
Health

Sustainable  
Feed  
Production

## Assuring a Sustainable Industry

Technology &  
Systems

Managing the  
Biological  
Lifecycle

Aquatic Animal  
Health & Welfare

## Aquaculture in Society

Integration  
with the  
Environment

Knowledge  
Management

Governance  
& Socio-  
Economics

Social Licence

# EATiP Mirror Platform Network:



## 16 National Mirror Platforms / Clusters:

- 11 Countries, 800+ members
- av. 65% industry membership
- Vehicles to mobilise SMEs
- Drives “bottom up” approach
- Strengthen public / private alliances
- Reduces disconnect between research & application
- Access funds / R&D investment
- Dissemination / Surveying / Communication / Consultation / Policy Development
- Stakeholder representation / mapping
- International Collaboration

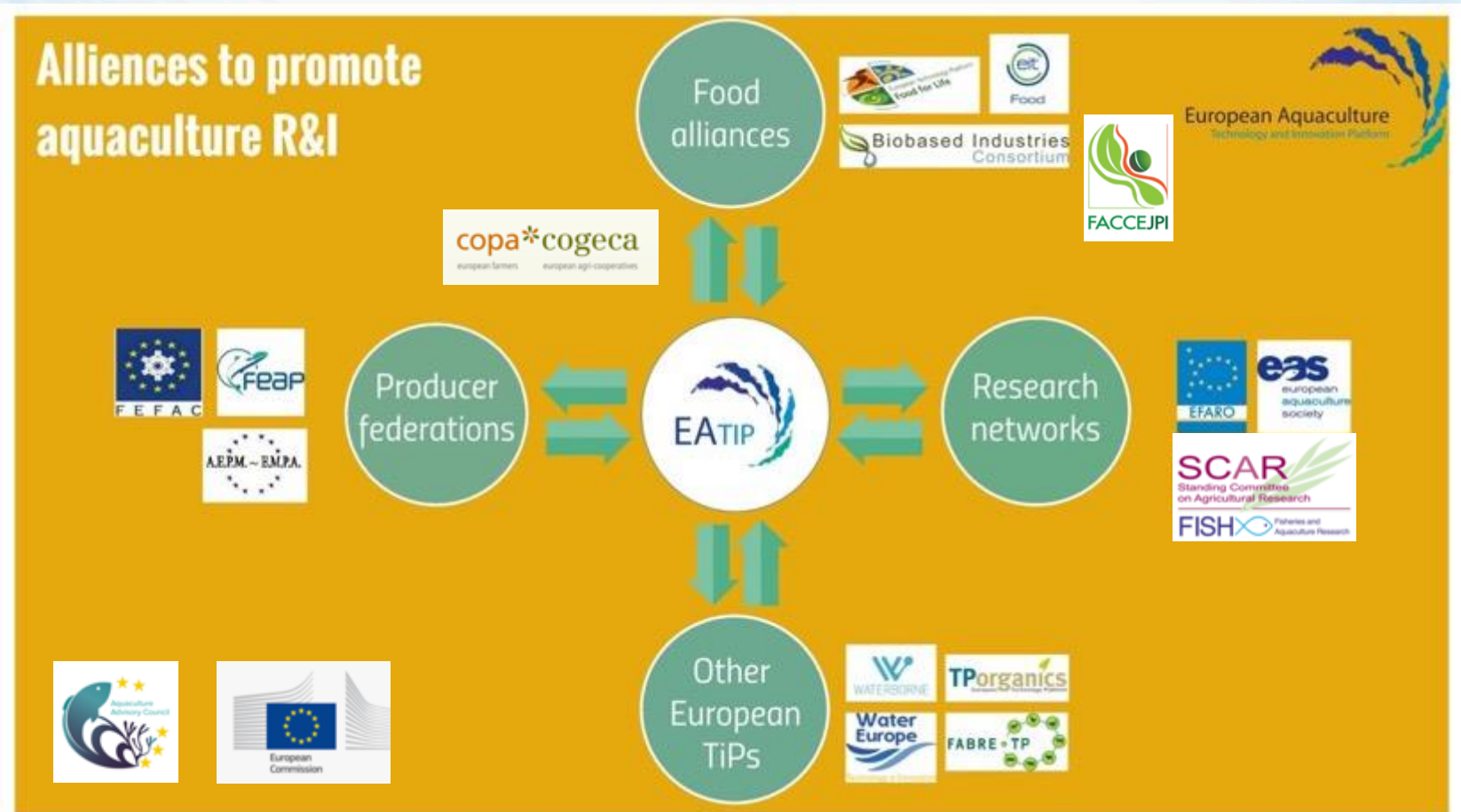
*“The total is greater than the sum of each part”*



**You are already a member!**

# R&I Interactions:

(What is a “Region” when viewed through a network?)





# EC: S3 Blue Economy Smart Specialisation Platform



- Developed out of the Blue Economy COM
- EATiP is in discussion with DG MARE and DG REGIO who lead on it.
- Innovation transfer vehicle
  - Inter-regional basis.
  - EATiP / Mirror Platforms (other multi stakeholder groups) well positioned to enact this.
  - Different levels of innovation can be identified – from the commercial to network building.
  - Formalisation of the process – e.g. through inclusion of regional development departments / local government.
  - **Scope for building on Regional collaborations – e.g. BE / NL / DE.**

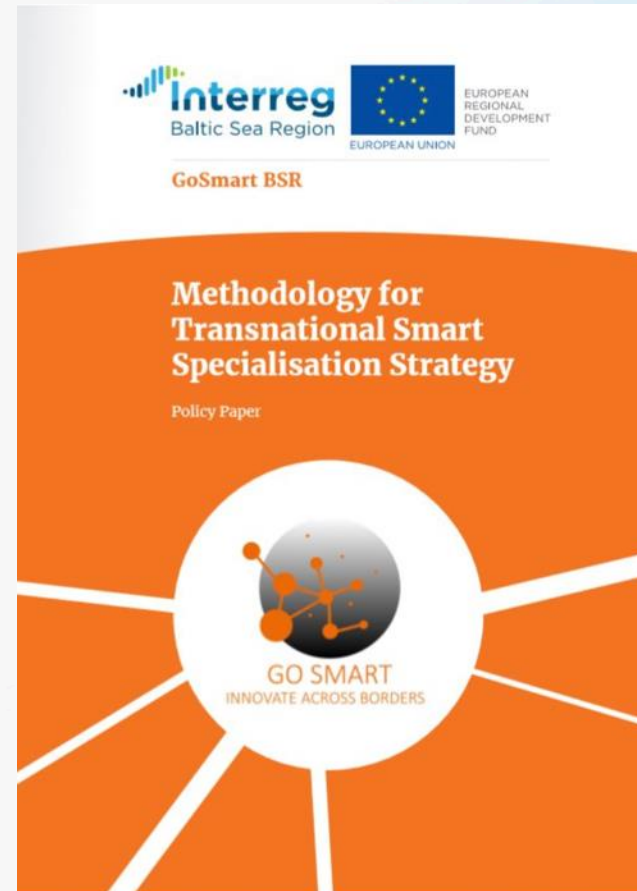


# Common Challenges for Aquaculture



The EU aquaculture sector is diverse and varied but, there are common challenges across the sector:

- Access to space (other marine users)
- Licensing & Planning
- Micro & SME engagement
- Innovation uptake and technology transfer
- Communication & dissemination
- Sharing of best practices
- Costs of production / business efficiency



# S3 Blue Economy Smart Specialisation Platform



Through previous S3 Brokerage work MiPs identify 8 areas of priority / engagement.

1. Biomass processing & added-value compounds
2. Integration of aquaculture in "climate neutral" or "zero carbon" production
3. Digitalization of seafood supply chains
4. Development of international standards
5. Access to Finance, from innovation outcome to risk-based financing / low-threshold accelerators
6. Education and life-long-learning, cooperation on training of staff and researchers
7. Marine spatial planning / AZA
8. Costs of production / precision farming

# Next steps / actions:



Capitalise on existing momentum for blue growth & a Blue Economy Platform:

- Align with complimentary networks and clusters –e.g. CPMR, SUBMARINER
- Map other networks & platforms (...)
- Synergies with other sectors: Renewables, Tourism, BioTechnology
- Identification of regions/authorities prioritising aquaculture (marine & FW)
- Review of differing TRL / innovation needs
- Identify support & funding for cluster events / innovation transfer / dissemination activities (EMFAF)
- Supporting the EU Mission Ocean.





# Horizon Europe & EU Mission Ocean:



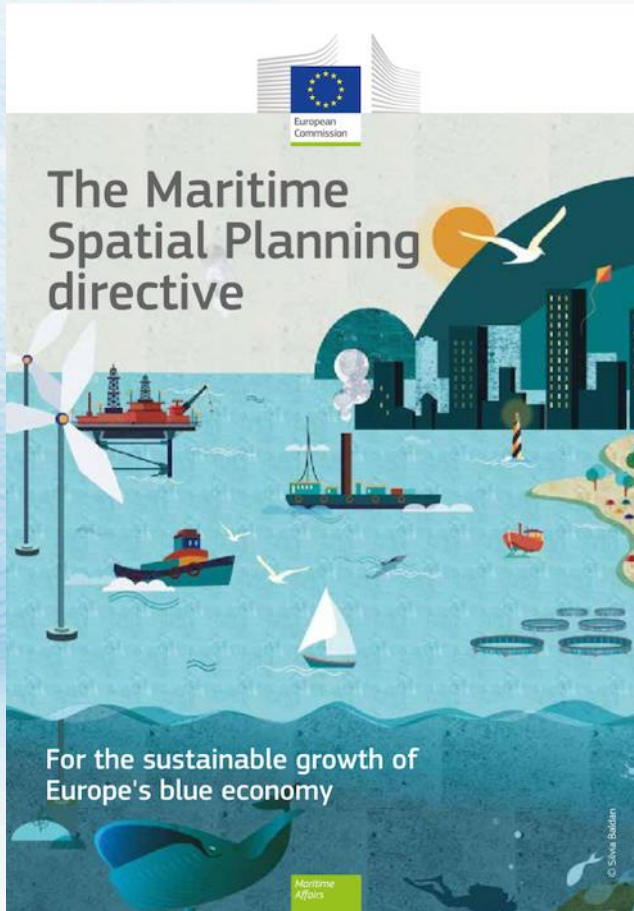
- Horizon Europe – 9th EU Framework Programme
- Cluster 6 for Bio-economy calls.
- Upcoming calls on organic & low trophic aquaculture
- Future work programmes – 25-27 – tbd.
- Mission: Restore our Ocean and Waters has been launched.
  - Environmental focus of the Mission – “zero carbon & climate neutral aquaculture”
  - “Lighthouse” or Regional / Basin Approach
  - Baltic focus for aquaculture
  - “Mission Charter” to showcase support for strategic objectives. Need for aquaculture to showcase positive role in low impact food production

# Aquaculture Policy Priorities:



- European Green Deal & F2F Strategies
- Sustainable Blue Economy & EU Strategic Guidelines (COM 2021 – 240 & 236)
  - Cross Cutting Objective 4: ***“Knowledge & Innovation”***
  - Role of (Regional) Innovation Clusters\*
  - RDI Dissemination & Synergies
  - Smart Specialisation Strategies
  - Investment in innovative (EMFAF & Invest EU)
  - Skills / Training / Lifelong Learning
  - Dedicated Aquaculture Website / Data Portal
- Focus on MSP / IMTA / EU Algae Strategy
- Food Systems – inclusion of aquatic foods.
- EMS, Habitat & Nature Based Solutions

# MSP: Developments & Regional Approaches



Many actions are underway, implementing the MSP Directive & addressing shared / multi use of waters.

- EU MSP Platform
- Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism addressing best practice in zoning & planning/licensing for aquaculture
- Significant targets – 30% MPA

Aquaculture priorities identified include:

- High use potential areas
- Stimulate Farm Clusters / AZAs
- Data provision & use
- Streamline Licensing
- Improve Social Licence
- Full Sector fiche via MSP Platform Portal
- **Multi use approach is key – compulsory in BE. Synergies / Conflicts of aquaculture, tourism & renewables.**



# Collaborations & Projects:



## ➤ Communication / Dissemination:

- EATiP Thematic Forums
- On the Horizon Project Results



Copernicus  
Marine Service

## ➤ EMODNet & Copernicus

- Marine Data for Aquaculture / MSP / Ocean Observation



## ➤ Advisory Boards:

- Blue Bio Cofund (BioTech)

## ➤ Projects:

- AquaExcel 3.0
- Advisory Role on Project Boards





# Contact info



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