

AQUACULTURE PILOT PROJECTS IN THE ATLANTIC AREA REGION

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ACCESS2SEA

PILOT ACTION 1. NEW AQUACULTURE SITES

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OVERVIEW

Aquaculture innovation has a key role to play in the success of blue growth and sustainability, contributing to competitiveness, resource efficiency, job creation, as well as protecting and providing services to marine and coastal ecosystems. The aquaculture industry is looking for alternatives that promote economically profitable farming with a very low environmental footprint, committed to animal welfare and nutritional quality of the product. Access2Sea project is compromised with these targets and besides is improving accessibility to the marine space, supporting SME to boost business models and elaborating innovative tools or methodologies.

Access2Sea's project count on four areas of intervention to boost aquaculture SME's: **Social Acceptance, Spatial Planning, sustainable Business Models** and, in parallel, **Pilot Projects** developed with the purpose of materialising the results obtained throughout the project execution.

Pilots projects have been developed to answer to the key fields of the project: (1) **Improve the social acceptance of those activities**; (2) **Support the sustainable aquaculture activities** (new and existing) and spatial planning; (3) **Take advantage of business opportunities detected**.

Each pilot action carried out during the project execution were previously framed in these three main objectives: **Pilot action 1, New aquaculture sites**, satisfied the necessities observed in (2). Pilot action 2, aquaculture activities installation, was framed as part of (3) in addition to Pilot action 5, Feed intake simulation model. Pilot action 3, sustainable aquaculture, and Pilot action 4, social acceptance activities, were developed in the context of (1).

PILOT ACTION 1: NEW AQUACULTURE SITES

1. INTRODUCTION

Aquaculture's professionals testified numerous difficulties in their search for sites on land to install new aquaculture farms. Their needs for spaces are located on the coasts where the constraints are important, whether regulatory (coastal law, remarkable areas, NATURA 2000...), societal (acceptability, cohabitation with other activities...), technical (pumping installation, discharge, water quality...) which restrict the possibilities when installing an inland aquaculture site and making it very difficult to understand for professionals. **The edition of a methodology guide provides clarity on the different stages of the installation of an inland aquaculture site.**

This action is carried out by Investir en Finistère (IEF) and Technopole Quimper-Cornouaille (TQC).

TQC is a Business Innovation Center and is responsible for the strategic domain fishing, aquaculture, biotechnologies at interregional level and contact point for Food for future Skills: Incubation, creation of innovative enterprises; Network enterprises/research/stakeholders; and Project engineering, granting follow-up & results promotion.

IEF is a non-profit organization that brings together the 27 largest companies in Finistère & consular chambers. In recent years, IEF has carried out actions to support the development of marine aquaculture & biotechnology activities, particularly by spatial planning approach

2. PILOT DESIGN

This pilot action aims to:

- increase the knowledge and skills of the project partners regarding the identification of the best sites and technical requirements for installing aquaculture projects.
- raise awareness of public authorities in local areas to consider the installation of aquaculture activities through clarification on the stage required to install an inland aquaculture site in coastal areas.

3. PILOT IMPLEMENTATION

With the support of local aquaculture stakeholders and a consortium of aquaculture consulting firms, Investir en Finistère and Technopole Quimper-Cornouaille have created a technical document that explains the different stages to be analysed when installing an inland aquaculture site. This document is published on the form of a "methodological guide for equipping a land-based aquaculture site". It is destined to aquaculture entrepreneurs and technicians of public organizations in coastal areas that can

support creations of aquaculture sites in their territory. The local follow-up committee was involved along all the steps.

4. PILOT ASSESSMENT

The edition of the guide took place in a 2 years approach.

After discussing with external expertise consortium and local follow-up committee (LFC), the decision was taken to elaborate a grid of ratios for each aquaculture sub-sector and a methodology to explain how to set up an aquacole farm on land (technical and regulations constraints) with a focus on 2 potential sites (experimentation)

The co-construction was based on the external expertise (SAFI/Idée Aquaculture/Safège) and LFC composed with 10 partners gathered throughout 6 meetings and local stakeholders (mayors and technical agents of selected sites).

The meetings with LFC helped to verify and validate at each step the information. They regularly read the guide and added modifications and suggestions. We visited various sites to compare the methodology with conditions *in situ*.

5. PILOT TRANSFERABILITY

We printed the guide and sent it to all stakeholders concerned (available in English and French). This document is available on the Access2Sea Website.

We also edited a 4 pages leaflet.

Examples of action of promotion/communication

- Round-table during the IEF's General Assembly (50 attendees)
- Dedicated workshop with LFC (10 people)
- 4 pages Leaflet sent to the mayors of coastal municipalities (116 mayors)

and guide to EPCI Presidents/deputies and senators/Prefectures/Brittany Region/ professional Partners (33 people)

- Information given orally during events such as Idealg and Campus Mondial de la mer
- Leaflet distributed during Professional Exhibition (Salon de la Conchyliculture)
- Communication on website social networks

On demand of the partners, we printed again the guide and put 200 exemplars to their disposal.

6. RESULT DESCRIPTION



You can access to the document: [Methodological guide: set up an on-shore aquaculture site with sea water supply](#) on the Access2Sea project website

7. INDICATORS

- Number of case studies and pilot actions implemented:1



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