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## BlueBio Cofund - Newsletter

December 2020



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### THE FIRST ADDITIONAL CALL

Out of 16 evaluated pre-proposals 15 pre-proposals will be invited for full proposal stage. Respective coordinators have been informed. The submission tool for full proposals will be set up and the deadline for full proposal submission is 15 February 2021. The selected projects will be announced in June 2021.

Letter of commitment (LoC) will be part of the full proposal stage. All coordinators and involved partners (with and without own funds) need to submit it. The LoC can be signed by a any responsible person of the applying institute or company but not of the applicant her-/himself.

### BLUEBIO COFUND E-COFFEE MEETINGS

Four e-coffee meetings took place last November. All co-funded projects gave a presentation, followed by a discussion on possible synergies and common challenges of the projects. The projects had been divided into four nodes: *new marine compounds* (Aquaheal3D, BIOZOOSTAIN, BlueCC, CASEAWA, InEVal), *algae*

(MARIKAT, MINERVA, Plastisea, SNAP), *health improvements* (Aquahealth, ImproveAFish, MedSpon, SIDESTREAM, SuReMetS) and *(re)circulation* (AquaTech4Feed, BESTBROOD, BIOSHELL, DIGIRAS, RASBiome). Projects showed interest in further meetings, preferably based on areas the projects are interested in (market issues, methodology, knowledge sharing and dissemination efforts). The next e-coffees will be in spring 2021, possibly in February. The outcome of the discussions can be useful for work on national level, especially when identifying challenges and opportunities. The discussions demonstrate possibilities for synergies, between the projects, but also some degree of scientific and commercial competition.

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## RESULTS OF THE FIRST ADDITIONAL CALL 2020

In early June 2020, a call announcement was made by the BlueBio Cofund. The scope of the call was to fund projects that would advance the supply systems in the blue bioeconomy value chains. For example projects that would somehow facilitate the transfer, (i. e logistics, preservation and transportation) of bio-resources from harvest (catch or production) to processing to ensure e.g. traceability, quality, sustainability, and the necessary quantity or pre-processing of the bio-resources for conversion into products for the market.

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## JOINT TRAINING COURSE ON BLUE BIOTECHNOLOGIES



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The **BLUEMED R&I initiative for Blue jobs and growth in the Mediterranean area** ([www.bluemed-initiative.eu](http://www.bluemed-initiative.eu)) has identified “**Explore the potential of Blue Biotechnologies**” as one of the priority goals of its Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA). Among the actions identified to reach this goal will be to foster collaborative research through transdisciplinary fields of expertise (e.g. genomics, data bases, outreach) and interdisciplinary approaches (e.g. by scientists, private stakeholders, end-users etc.), and promote education through training the next generation of marine biotechnologists.

In this context, the recently endorsed [BlueMed Implementation Plan](#) promotes the development of a joint strategic action on Blue Biotech at first by organizing a training course aiming at the creation of blue careers.

**BlueBio COFUND** ([www.bluebioeconomy.eu](http://www.bluebioeconomy.eu)) coordinates R&D funding scheme to strengthen Europe’s position in the blue bioeconomy and address gaps to finally identify ways of bringing bio-based products and services to the market and find new ways of creating value from in the blue bioeconomy.

**Date and Location: 15 – 19 March 2021, National Research Council of Italy, Messina (Sicily) and virtual**

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KICK-OFF MEETING FOR THE  
BLUEBIO COFUNDED PROJECTS

A kick-off meeting for the cofunded projects of the first cofund call took place online in June. All 19 projects were presented on this online meeting. We have now published fact sheets for all these projects [here](#).

The first joint BlueBio call is supported by European 16 countries as well as the EU. All partner countries contributed to the call: Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain and Sweden. The countries will provide 19 of the € 25 million for the projects, and the European Commission will top up with 6 million euros.

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## Season's greetings from the BlueBio Cofund!



Co-funded by the European Commission  
within the Horizon 2020 programme



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