



BlueBio Advisory Board

Late in 2021 the BlueBio Advisory Board was appointed and they had their first meeting in January 2022. The board consists of 5 individuals; Siri Carson (NTNU), David Bassett (EATiP), Dirk Carrez (BIC), Helena Vieira (DGPM) and Nikos Zampoukas (DG RTD). The board is appointed from 01.12.2021 until 31.05.2024, which is the end of the BlueBio ERA-NET Cofund.

The aim of the BlueBio Advisory Board is to support the BlueBio Cofund in the final 2,5 years. The board will help BlueBio make strategic decisions on the multiple activities within the cofund to maximise impact, add value to the funding scheme and funded projects, and create synergy and collaboration within the blue bioeconomy community. The main purpose is to assist BlueBio reaching its overarching goal – to unlock the potential of aquatic bioresources and bringing bio-based products and services to the market.

You can read about board members and their first meeting here:

First BlueBio Advisory Board meeting

Mid-term meeting of the Cofunded Projects

Early in March, [the 19 projects from the BlueBio Cofunded Call](#) met online for their mid-term meeting. The

mid-term meeting was the culmination of the mid-term evaluation of the projects, one and a half years into their duration. The mid-term was an opportunity for the project coordinators to meet and greet both each other and the funding partners and to present how far they have come in these challenging times. Furthermore, this was an opportunity for the Project Coordinators to exchange ideas, as well as to receive information on ethics, communication and Human Capacity Building.

The projects all presented interesting results, dissemination efforts, scientific papers that have been published and some have also initiated additional collaborations between the BlueBio projects. It is lovely to see that we are indeed creating synergies between the BlueBio projects and that the projects and participants grow and develop from these collaborations.

You can watch a recording from the meeting here:

Mid-term meeting

BlueBio Cofund Human Capacity Building e-coffee meeting

In the beginning of April an internal e-coffee meeting was held online. The first objective of the meeting was to promote Human Capacity Building (HCB) in BlueBio co-funded projects, having analysed their reporting on HCB in the mid-term reports. Some examples of HCB initiatives within projects were presented, and discussions about the HCB efforts already done (or planned) by the projects and their challenges, and for facilitating the exchange of best practices took place.

In the second part of the meeting, attendees had the opportunity of considering different forms of assistance that BlueBio Cofund could deliver about HCB to the funded projects (e.g. support in the organization of training courses, workshops, webinars, etc.), taking into account their needs. Issues about communication and sharing of HCB among BlueBio projects were also addressed.

The meeting was insightful and sparked a lot of ideas and opportunities for the BlueBio Cofund team as well as for the project coordinators.

1st additional call projects - Kick-off

On 10 March, the 10 projects funded in the BlueBio 1st Additional Call were kicked off. The online kick-off started with 5-minute presentations of all the projects and a look at their first activities and results. The Project Coordinators were also given an introduction to the BlueBio Cofund and how we work with communication, Human Capacity Building, ethics and creating synergies between projects.

You can find the project pages for each project of the 1st additional call here:

Projects - 1st Additional Calls

The first foresight workshop

In the last week of May, the Blue Bioeconomy ERA-NET Cofund gathered key stakeholders to kick-off a foresight to develop a European Strategic Knowledge and Innovation Agenda (SKIA) within the blue bioeconomy.

The foresight will consist of four workshops and result in a Strategic Knowledge and Innovation Agenda for the blue bioeconomy, published in 2023. The stakeholders invited to be a part of the foresight process, represent central stakeholders in the blue bioeconomy. They represent various industries, technology platforms, governance on national and European level, research and non-profits involved in the blue area and will be participating in the whole process.

To develop the SKIA, the facilitators are applying a foresight approach based on scenarios. In the first workshop, the participants have imagined the year 2050 and mapped the scenarios on possible future worlds. What could the blue bioeconomy look like in 2050? In later workshops, they will work on how we can either reach those future states, or avoid them, mapping the steps towards these possible futures.

The facilitators, coordination team at BlueBio and foresight participants are looking forward to continuing the foresight process the next six months, moving towards a blue bioeconomy SKIA.



The upcoming decision on the projects from the 2nd additional call

We are in the final stages of deciding on the funded projects from our 2nd Additional Call. The 2nd Additional Call is targeted on Advancing Resource Management, Market and Socioeconomic aspects in the Blue Bioeconomy Value Chains and is an important part of filling the gaps in the value chain.

The funded projects will be announced on the [BlueBio website](#) as soon as the decision is made.

Bioeconomy Youth Ambassadors

Would you like to contribute to the sustainable and circular transition of Europe? The European Commission is launching a Bioeconomy Youth Ambassador competition!

Young Europeans (18-35 years old) residing in the EU who have experience or an interest in the bioeconomy or bioeconomy-related fields for example food systems, forestry, climate change, blue economy, etc. are encouraged to apply!

This summer, July 25th-27th 2022, a summer camp will take place in Brussels for the selected Ambassadors where they will lead by example, inform and inspire their communities on sustainable circular bioeconomy and bioeconomy related-fields.

**You will find more information about the
competition here:**

**Bioeconomy Youth Ambassador
competition**

MicrobiomeSupport Final Conference

On the 27th, 28th and 29th of June, the Horizon 2020 MicrobiomeSupport project is organizing a free, 3-day on-site conference entitled “Paving the Microbiome Way for Improved Food Systems” in Brussels, and we are inviting you to be part of it!

The conference will provide unique insights into how microbiomes can deliver sustainable and innovative solutions that create significant positive impacts on our food systems. Furthermore attendees will have the chance to participate in a networking reception on the 1st day of the conference with colleagues from all over the world.

**You will find more information on the Conference
such as agenda and registration link here:**

**MicrobiomeSupport Final Conference
registration**

**The BlueBio Cofund hopes this information
finds you well and that you will enjoy the
summer season.**



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