

ECO-FISH 3rd e-newsletter

The Project **‘Ecological footprint in cross-border marine fish farming in Sagiada (Greece) and southern Albania’ (ECO-FISH)** aims, through specific pilot actions, to reduce the environmental footprint of aquaculture in Greece and Albania, with a view to sustainable management of natural resources and control of microclimatic conditions during production.

ECO-FISH is implemented under the “Interreg IPA II Cross-Border Cooperation Programme Greece-Albania 2014-2020” and is co-funded by the European Union and by National Funds of Greece and Albania.

During the previous months:

Deliverable 6.2.2. “Prototype scenario of LCA Action Plan” was finalized by the Chamber of Commerce of Thesprotia, Project Beneficiary 2 of the Project. The deliverable regards the calculation of the environmental footprint, on the basis of hypothetical differentiation scenarios of selected parameters. The conclusions are summarized below:

Better feeding management and accordingly reduction of FCR, led to significant reduction of environmental impacts. The use of photovoltaic panels for energy supply in fish cage farms had limited eco-efficiency value. Finally, the increase in the number of fry stocked per kg of final product, negatively affected the ‘water

Ecological footprint in cross-border marine fish farming

ECO-FISH

3rd

e-newsletter

ECO-FISH

consumption' category, reflecting environmental burdens at the hatchery production stage.

The on-going climate change and the related water temperature rise is expected to affect fish farming in many ways. Within this context, feeding management, fish appetite, feed metabolism and mass balances are also affected. Moreover, fish mortalities are expected to rise, due to the emergence of new pathogens and higher stress levels, which in turn will affect growth rates and marketability of the final product. Within this context, feed, fry and at a lesser extent energy, are important components of production cost in fish farms and managerial efforts to reduce this cost will eventually reflect also to the overall eco-efficiency of the sector.

The Chamber of Thesprotia has implemented 2 Summer Schools in the context of **Deliverable 5.2.1 "Summer School for Stakeholders in Greek Area"**, **Deliverable 5.2.1 "Summer School for Stakeholders in Greek Area"**, which aimed to raise awareness on issues related to marine aquaculture systems and their sustainability among the participants.

More specifically, the summer schools' implementation aimed at the professionals in the aquaculture sector gaining knowledge that will assist them in upgrading their production. The themes that were presented during summer schools included presentation of fish farming sector, aquaculture legislation, environmental issues and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in marine fish farming and application of LCA method in aquaculture and management options.

The 1st summer school took place on 21, 22, 23 October 2019 and the 2nd on 24, 25, 29 October 2019, with 25 participants each.

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The Chamber of Thesprotia has implemented 2 Visits in fish farms in the context of **Deliverable 5.2.2 “Organization of visits in fish farms in Greece”**. The two Visits in the fish farm of the company SKALOMA S.A. took place on 31st of October and 1st of November 2019. They were attended by 15 participants each and provided professional and specialized information in various business topics that included: the production process and related environmental issues, development prospects and problems the fish farm faces, issues of competition, promotion and advertising of products and services, institutional and structural changes required, and, presentation of structure and operation, as well as, human resources and upgrading prospects.

Project Beneficiaries:



LB

University of Ioannina, Special Account for
Research Funds,
Department of Agriculture



PB2

Chamber of Thesprotia



PB3

Chamber of Commerce and Industry of
Vlora Region



PB4

Social Education & Environment
Protection



PB5

Royal Albania Foundation

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