

EIFAAC PROJECT

Welfare of Fishes in Aquaculture

PRELIMINARY	
a. Owner	EIFAAC
b. Role of EIFAAC¹	As welfare in animal husbandry is of increasing public concern and of increasing importance, it is required to have an independent institution to discuss, prepare and publish an independent state of the art document concerning welfare of fishes in aquaculture. Formerly, a working group within the Council of Europe acted as this body, but due to internal reorganisation within the Council of Europe these activities ended in 2008 and there is no indication of a restart of such activities. EIFAAC as an independent body would be the ideal body to fill this gap.
1. OBJECTIVE AND EXPECTED OUTCOME	
1.1 Purpose	The project is linked to Strategic Objective II: “Interactions and avoidance or resolution of conflicts in inland fisheries and aquaculture” (see also Table in Appendix A). Welfare of fishes in aquaculture is of increasing concern in the public discussion. The aim of the project is to prepare a statement including recommendations of EIFAAC to this topic.
1.2 Objectives²	The objective is to produce a summary of the actual knowledge concerning welfare of fishes in aquaculture and based on this knowledge to prepare a clear and concise statement by 2017.
1.3 Rationale³	In the public the perception of welfare is based mainly on feelings or ideology and the point of view on this matter depends on particular interests. Scientific data are rarely taken into account. However, for certain species an increasing amount of scientific knowledge concerning welfare is available
1.4 Benefits	In this project scientific data and recommendations will be presented as well as field of necessary research in order to produce a scientific and objective statement.

¹ Explain what is the specific, unique role of EIFAAC compared to other groups/organisations that may deal with this subject, too? Has EIFAAC the role of being “lead agency”, “participant” or other role?

² Statement of the objective(s) (PLEASE NOTE: objectives need to be **SMART**: **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ttainable, **R**elevant and **T**ime-bound).

³ Reason for the project; why the project is important and key outcomes and stakeholders.

2. PROJECT MANAGEMENT	
2.1 Project Manager or Chair	Helmut Segner (Switzerland)
2.1.1 Management responsibilities ⁴	Mr. Segner serves as coordinator of the project. His tasks include coordination of the contributions of the project participants, organisation of a workshop and the preparation of a final “statement” concerning welfare of fishes in aquaculture.
2.2 Participants⁵ and stakeholders	
2.2.1 Participants	Thirteen experts (names in alphabetical order) from seven countries, i.e. Gallagher Cathal (Ireland), Hanel Reinhold (Germany), Heinimaa Petri (Finland), Hurtado Rosa (Spain), Kanyilmaz Mahir (Turkey), Reiser Stefan (Germany), Ruane Neil (Ireland), Robles Rocio (Spain), Rösch Roland (Germany), Saraiva Aurelia (Portugal), Segner Helmut (Switzerland) – Project Manager, Steinhagen Dieter (Germany), Vehanen Teppo (Finland). Members of the established working group are experts in the field of welfare of fishes. The search for/selection of further participants depends on the identification of possible knowledge lacks in the group.
2.2.2. Stakeholders concerned and involved	Thünen Institute Germany; CTAQUA Spain; University of Porto Portugal; Marine Institute Ireland; LAZBW Germany; Universität Bern Switzerland; University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover Germany; Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute Finland; Riigimetsa Majandamise Keskus Estonia. Fish farmers are also concerned. In a second (final) step, it is intended to also invite the European fish farmer organisations.
2.3 Time frame⁶	Q3 2014 to Q4 2017. In total three and a half years: in 2014, the working group will establish the outline for the report. In 2015, the first workshop will be held to define the working tasks. By the end of 2017, a scientific paper and EIFAAC statement will be produced.
2.4 Expected deliverables⁷	(a) A summary paper on the actual knowledge concerning welfare of fishes in aquaculture. (b) An EIFAAC statement including recommendations concerning welfare of fishes in inland aquaculture.

⁴ e.g., serve as chair, report to appropriate bodies, set agenda and work plan, coordinate country reports and running of the meeting, edit report, edit draft advice.

⁵ Identify potential participants; include details of relevance of the participant to the project and the capacity in which participation is carried out.

⁶ Expected/intended duration of the project

⁷ List potential project deliverables; e.g. Policy guidelines; best-practice guidelines; recommendations; scientific report; project report; etc.

2.5 Outline of Working Methodology⁸	The ad-hoc working group will collect and summarize the state of knowledge concerning welfare of fish in aquaculture. Based on the actual knowledge recommendations will be elaborated. In addition to the electronic communication a workshop will be held.
3. BUDGET	
3.1 Budget⁹	
3.1.1 available	No
3.1.2 possible	Funds for travelling are attained through members' own organizations.
3.1.3 required	No

⁸ How the project work to be is conducted e.g. meetings, workshops, literature review, research. A methodology should be provided for and closely linked with each of the objectives.

⁹ In relation to budget, answer each of the three categories with “yes” or “no”, and provide details if appropriate/needed

EIFAAC STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Select one of below list:

I. Management-related issues and principles for inland fisheries and aquaculture	
II. Interactions and avoidance or resolution of conflicts in inland fisheries and aquaculture	
III. Harmonization of cross-border and cross-sectoral governance and legal aspects of inland fisheries and aquaculture	
IV. Protection and restoration of the environment and species	
V. Trade and economic aspects of inland fisheries and aquaculture	
VI. Development of databases on inland fisheries and aquaculture	
VII. Climate change	