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CSA MarineBiotech prepares the foundation for an ERA-NET in marine biotechnology. The CSA MarineBiotech concentrates its efforts on the mobilisation and engagement of funding agencies and stakeholders through the establishment of a Strategic Forum and a Stakeholder Group, which provide strategic advice to the project consortium and contribute to a high-quality proposal for a future ERA-NET in marine biotechnology.

www.marinebiotech.eu
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CSA MarineBiotech 1st workshop held



Our 1st workshop, Mobilisation and Engagement of Funding Agencies and Stakeholders, was held in Olhão, Portugal, on 26-27 April 2012, organised by Portugal's funding agency, FCT (Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia). Day 1

contained presentations on the marine biotechnology landscape in the EU, including the CSA MarineBiotech. Day 2 introduced the attendees to the two important groups created and supported by the CSA MarineBiotech: the Strategic Forum of funding agencies, intended to collaborate in the evolution of an ERA-NET; and the Stakeholder Group, whose input is important to ensure timeliness, relevance and context of collaborative research activities in marine biotechnology. The workshop concluded with a visit to CCMAR (Centro de Ciências do Mar) at the University of Algarve. This 1st workshop was successful in enlarging the group of interested funding agencies. Additional exchanges on research priorities and gaps, resource problems and the need to bring complementary expertise together have provided a basis towards the establishment of the MarineBiotech ERA-NET. The complete programme, attendee list, presentations and public report is available at <http://www.marinebiotech.eu/conference>. The 2nd invitation-only workshop will take place in Hamburg, Germany, on 8-9 October 2012.

International Innovation Report

CSA MarineBiotech will produce a 3-page article on Blue Biotech for Research Media Ltd's International Innovation issue later this year.

News from the Consortium



RCN Partner 1 organised a session in the OECD Global Forum in May 2012, Vancouver: Steinar Bergseth chaired contributions on marine bioresources from researchers of Midwestern University USA on marine bioactives in clinical

development and human medicine, Marine Harvest Norway on ocean farming of salmon, Jeju National University Korea on markets for biomass and BAL Chemicals USA on producing chemicals and fuels from seaweed biomass. Other partners in CSA MarineBiotech spoke at the Forum, including Jan-Bart Calewaert (ESF Marine Board), Jan Mees (VLIZ) and Catherine Boyen (CNRS-Roscoff). [The OECD Global Forum](#) is an essential element for the development of OECD's strategy for marine biotechnology and sustainable utilization of marine bioresources.

An industrial biotech network for Norway: Innovation Norway, The Norwegian Research Council and The Industrial Development Corporation of Norway (SIVA) have established an innovation and knowledge network for industrial biotechnology, to be a key instrument supporting and implementing the Government's biotech strategy. The network now invites companies, R&D institutes and academic institutions, initially in Norway, to engage in this initiative and explore the opportunities of the emerging bioeconomy. The launch meeting was held on 11 June 2012 in Oslo. For further information in this initiative, please contact Ole Jørgen Marvik, Innovation Norway, olmar@innovationnorway.no, +47 911 95 876.

ASSEMBLE offers subsidised access to marine researchers and scientists willing to perform their research with marine models in associated state-of-the-art facilities. To apply and for more information about the 9 Assemble stations and accessible services consult www.assemblemarine.org.



ASSEMBLE
 ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

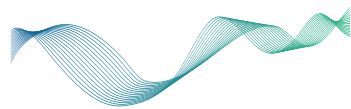
7th CALL now OPEN

- Access to 9 marine stations in Europe, Israel, and Chile provided
- Up to 60 persons/days funded (travel, accommodation, meals)
- Projects to take place from December 2012 to May 2013

For more information and to apply:
www.assemblemarine.org

Deadline for submission:
 Sept. 15, 2012

Algal Bioenergy Special Interest Group (AB-SIG) launch their Strategy Research Agenda in UK. A new report from the UK AB-SIG highlights the benefits of cultivating and using both macroalgae (seaweed) and microalgae (microscopic floating plants such as phytoplankton) in a wide range of products. It also identifies some of the research that should be done to understand and manage the potential impacts on the Earth's environmental ecosystems. For more information please visit [this link](#).



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News from the Consortium (continued)

Norgenta Partner 3 co-organized the [Submariner Blue Biotechnology Cooperation Event](#) in May 2012, Kiel, bringing together over 150 experts from research institutions, private companies and public authorities. They discussed new strategies and future perspectives of Blue Biotechnology for the Baltic Sea Region, which has an enormous potential of commercial applications of marine organisms in the fields of genetics, food, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals.

CSA MarineBiotech at EFIB Forum 2012: BioBridge Ltd Partner 11 is organising a talk session and a half-day workshop at this year's [EFIB](#) 16-18 October, Dusseldorf, Germany. This will be in collaboration with EuropaBio, the Biosciences Knowledge Transfer Network and the Norway-UK Partnership in marine biotechnology. BioBridge can issue you with a discount code - to receive a discount off the registration fee, please get in touch with admin@biobridge.co.uk.



BioBridge Partner 11 is moderating two Think Tanks at BioMarine 2012 in October: [Biomarine Business Convention 2012](#) is an international gathering dedicated to Marine Bioresources aimed at CEOs of biotechnology companies, senior business development and licensing executives, public and private equity investors, research analysts, investment bankers and senior-level industry executives focused on investment trends and business development opportunities in marine bioresources. BioBridge can issue you with a discount code - to receive a discount off the registration fee, please get in touch with admin@biobridge.co.uk.

International News

- ▶ In February, the DoE Biomass Program, USA announced a \$14 million programme to develop transportation fuels from algae. [...more](#)
- ▶ [Algae.Tec](#), Australia is piloting a project that sees micro-algae being grown in large quantities in shipping containers to be turned into fuel for the transport sector. Researchers at [Shoalhaven Marine & Freshwater Centre – University of Wollongong](#) are assisting in identifying the right strain for the biocrude production. [...more](#)
- ▶ [Lonza](#) has reformulated its omega-3 range using its proprietary algal strain and sunflower oil. [...more](#)
- ▶ [TNO](#) is setting up a consortium, GAIA, together with algae producers and potential end-users of algae ingredients with the aim of making realistic business cases for using algae ingredients in food, feed and chemical processes. The project starts in September 2012. [...more](#)
- ▶ A project funded by the EU in the [ACP Technology Programme](#) is supporting algae technology in Namibia. Another joint EU-FAO project has resulted in an emerging spirulina industry in Chad, boosting production of the nutrient-rich algae to a commercial scale across the country. [...more](#)

Recent Events

The [European Commission's consultation](#) is now open for comments on possible topics for future activities of the Research Infrastructure "Integrating Activities" for Horizon 2020 (the follow-up of the successful FP7). Stakeholders are invited to propose topics and submit their proposal using [the online questionnaire](#) no later than 22 October 2012. The aim of these activities is to provide a wider and more efficient access to, and use of, the research infrastructures existing in EU Member States, Associated Countries, and at international level when appropriate. This is an opportunity for all stakeholders interested in the developments of Marine Biotechnology research to ensure enough and relevant marine biotechnology topics for integrating activities.

The third and final cross-thematic call for the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) "The Ocean of Tomorrow 2013" was launched on the 10th of July 2012. Project proposals can be submitted via [this link](#) till January 7th, 2013 on biosensors, innovative multifunctional sensors, innovative antifouling materials for maritime applications and innovative transport and deployment systems for the offshore wind energy sector. On June 6th, 2012 an [information day](#) took place in Brussels for a first meeting between prospective partners.

Forthcoming events

[Rendez-vous de Concarneau](#), 28-29 August 2012, Concarneau, France: The event, now open for registration, promotes relationships and strengthens bridges between Industry and academic research, enabling technology and knowledge transfer among stakeholders within European marine biotechnologies. Further information from [Florence Levu](#).

[Symposium on Marine Invertebrate Cell Culture \(MICC 2012\)](#), 30-31 August 2012, Concarneau, France: Following on from Les Rendez-Vous, this symposium, organised by UMR BOREA as part of the Sino-European programme IRSES "MarBiotec", MICC 2012 focuses on advances in improvement and development of marine invertebrate cell cultures and access to in vitro technology. Follow the link for more information.

[1st Annual International Congress of Marine Algae 2012 \(AICMA-2012\)](#), 20-23 September, Dalian, China: Follow the link for more information.

[ASSEMBLE Conference](#), 23-25 October 2012, Olhão, Portugal: The aim of the ASSEMBLE Conference is to highlight scientific outcomes resulting from research carried out in ASSEMBLE Marine Stations through on-site and remote access to marine resources. The needs of users and improvements on this Transnational Access scheme will be discussed, especially in relation to the development of ASSEMBLE into the extended and long-term ESFRI marine infrastructure EMBRC ([European Marine Biological Resource Centre](#)). Follow the link for more information, registration and submission of abstracts.

[BioMarine International Business Convention 2012](#), 24-25 October 2012, London, UK: Follow the link for more information.

[Marine Microbiology & Biotechnology: Biodiscovery, Biodiversity and Bioremediation 2012](#), 14-16 November 2012, University College Cork, Ireland: Follow the link for more information.

[ScanBalt Forum 2012](#), 20-23 November 2012, Tampere, Finland: The event brings together key figures in biotechnology and life sciences representing the 11 countries of the ScanBalt BioRegion. Follow the link for more information.

[BioProsp 2013](#), 20-22 February 2013, Tromsø, Norway: This event will focus on the challenges and possibilities related to industrial applications of marine bioactive compounds. Follow the link for more information.

Baltic Med workshop, 21-22 March 2013, Marseille, France: Session focused on blue biotech.