

AdriAquaNet

Enhancing Innovation and Sustainability in Adriatic Aquaculture

PROJECT CLOSING CONFERENCE IN CROATIA

ZADAR, 03.06.2022

MINUTES



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INTRODUCTION

The Closing Conference of the project was organized as a twin event both in Croatia and in Italy, in order to engage the regional stakeholders. Both events were open to the public.

The Conference in Croatia was organized by PP1 and PP7, with the support of LP.

Logistics

The Conference in Croatia took place in Zadar, Hotel Kolovare, Zadar Bože Peričića 14 on the 3rd June 2022 from 10 am to 3:30 pm.

The project's posters, roll ups and background were displayed in conference room.



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Communication material was distributed at the registration desk:

- event agenda
- paper folder
- paper notebook
- project's pencil
- project's brochure (D1.1.4)
- brochure on the vaccination strategy (D4.1.3)
- brochure about nutritional value and health benefits of fish consumption and flyer (D5.3.2)
- attendance sheet, with 40 registered attendees



The communication language was Croatian and simultaneous translation from/to English was provided by an external service. Catering service for a coffee break was provided during the conference in the Hotel hall.



Press conference

A press conference was held before the conference, with 6 journalists interviewing:

- Marco Galeotti, LP (University of Udine)
- Boris Hubrun, director of the Croatian Veterinary Institute (CVI)
- Snježana Zrnčić, PP1 (CVI)
- Lovro Jurišić, Joint secretariat of the INTERREG Italy-Croatia Programme, Zadar branch
- Dragan Kovačević, Vice President of the Croatian Chamber of Commerce
- Dane Desnica, director of Cromaris fish farming enterprise



Conference

The conference ran as scheduled by its agenda.

The main message has been summarized in a post-event press release, published in the Interreg website (go to: <https://www.italy-croatia.eu/web/adriaquanet/-/final-conference-in-zara>):

“This event attracted a lot of interest among the key players in the sector, because, as was revealed in a press conference that opened the conference, Europe has not achieved productive self-sufficiency in the seafood market and, in fact, only satisfies 36% of its needs. Since fisheries are regulated by quotas, necessary to protect natural populations of fish and other marine species, the future of supplying consumers with these products lies in sustainable aquaculture, which respects the environment, the health of fish on farms and is attentive to offer the market high quality nutritional products.

Tatjana Boroša Pecigoš, director of the Aquaculture Service of the Fisheries Directorate of the **Ministry of Agriculture of Croatia**, said that the drafting of the national aquaculture development plan for the programming period 2021-2027 is underway. The objectives are to increase the productivity of aquaculture, its resilience to climate change, increase the sector's competitiveness, contribute to the development of rural and coastal areas and encourage innovation in aquaculture.

Indeed, in Croatia aquaculture is a strategic productive sector: “... **it is one of the best segments of Croatian agriculture and food industry**”, said **Dragan Kovačević**, vice president of the **Croatian Chamber of Commerce for Agriculture and Tourism**, thanks to strong exports. He noted, however, that fish consumption in Croatia is below the European average by 20%.

The next INTERREG VI A Italy-Croatia 2021-2027 cross-border cooperation program, which is expected to be approved by 2022, provides for **strong investments in the economy of the Adriatic Sea and therefore also in aquaculture**, said **Lovro Jurišić**, Project Manager in the Joint Secretariat of the **Interreg Croatia - Italy Program**.

The **Cromaris** company is the main producer of farmed fish in Croatia. Production manager **Dane Desnica** said the company expects to supply more than 12,000 tons of fish to the market this year, which would represent a 12% growth in production over last year. The director himself, at the end of the conference, reiterated that “**the results achieved by the AdriAquaNet project are concrete and useful for innovating the production and market of farmed fish**”.

According to **Boris Habrun**, director of the **Croatian Veterinary Institute**, partner of the project, the innovations developed by the AdriAquaNet project, which have aroused the greatest interest are the **new feed formulas, new vaccines and new molecules for strengthening the natural immunity of**

farmed fish. Very important are the scientific data that demonstrate that **farmed fish has high nutritional quality**, which must be the basis for correct consumer information.

Snježana Zrnčić, who coordinated the scientific work of the Fish Pathology Laboratory of the **Croatian Veterinary Institute**, explained that by replacing fishmeal, derived from fishing activities, with new protein mixtures of plant origin and obtained from insects, it is possible to exploit vital resources for feeding fish, without therefore changing the ecological balance of the sea. This approach corresponds perfectly to the principles of the circular economy and environmental sustainability.

Marco Galeotti, coordinator of this large research & innovation project from the **University of Udine**, stated **“the project has achieved all the expected results”** and hoped for the continuation of the activities of this network of Italian-Croatian research institutions and companies, as recommended by **Davor Zanella**, member of the Advisory Board of the project and professor at the **University of Zagreb.**”

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The event outcome is published on the web portal Veterina:

<https://veterina.com.hr/?p=93183>

The event milestones were covered in the Facebook page of the project with 19 posts that received 1044 visualizations.

Press review from the media

The Croatian media reported about the Conference in 13 outlets:

RADIO & TELEVISION

Post Interview of Snježana Zrnčić on Hrvatska Radiotelevizija.

the national TV morning show: Dobro jutro Hrvatska (Good morning Croatia)

https://www.presscut.hr/videoclip/MP4/2022/2022-06/2022-06-13/VideoClip_58F0ABBE-2391-4532-9C52-C3B07C83CE51_4802718.mp4

Hrvatska Radiotelevizija Magazine.

HRT: Mediteranska smo zemlja, ali ribu ne konzumiramo dovoljno

<<https://magazin.hrt.hr/sretni-i-zdravi/mediteranska-smo-zemlja-ali-ribu-ne-konzumiramo-dovoljno-7930960>>

Hrvatski Radio. Radio Zadar

Inovacije u marikulturi: znanstvenici ponudili muhu u prehrani ribe

<https://radio.hrt.hr/radio-zadar/vijesti/inovacije-u-uzgoju-ribe-znanstvenici-ponudili-zamjenu-za-riblje-brasno-7742716>

DIGITAL MAGAZINES

KIGO.hr-Hrvatski dnevni portal.

Mediterranska smo zemlja, ali ribu ne konzumiramo dovoljno - [KIGO.hr](https://kigo.hr) |

[KIGO.hr](https://kigo.hr)

<<https://kigo.hr/mediteranska-smo-zemlja-ali-ribu-ne-konzumiramo-dovoljno/>>

EZADAR-Zadarski internet portal.

Konferencija o budućnosti uzgoja riba u Jadranu u hotelu Kolovare

<https://ezadar.net.hr/biznis/4247200/kako-iz-uzgoja-ribe-izbaciti-riblje-brasno-te-osigurati-bolju-odrzivost-ove-vazne-prehrambene-grane/>

MorskiHR. Jadranski web portal

Saznajte kako na održivi način uzgajati brancina i oradu

<https://morski.hr/2022/06/01/saznajte-kako-na-odrzivi-nacin-uzgajati-brancina-i-oradu/>

Glas Istre

Održiv uzgoj riba traži ekološki pristup

<https://www.glasistre.hr/gospodarstvo/odrziv-uzgoj-riba-trazi-ekoloski-pristup-800270>

Jadranski.hr web portal

Hrvatska među četiri zemlje u Europskoj uniji koje uzgajaju najviše riba

[Hrvatska među četiri zemlje u Europskoj uniji koje uzgajaju najviše riba - Jadranski.hr](https://jadranski.hr)

Hrvatska.ch portal

[Hrvatska osvaja Europu održivim uzgojem riba | - Vijesti HR](https://hrvatska.ch)

Mojzagreg.info portal

[Hrvatska osvaja Europu održivim uzgojem riba | Zagreb Gospodarstvo | Gradske...](https://mojzagreg.info)

[\(mojzagreg.info\)](https://mojzagreg.info)

Veterina.com - Veterinarian national portal

[Hrvatska osvaja Europu održivim uzgojem riba • veterina portal | prvi hrvatski veterinarski portal & VetBook | međunarodna online mreža veterinara](https://veterina.com)

Suvremena.hr portal

[Održiv uzgoj riba traži ekološki pristup - Suvremena.hr](#)

Večernji.hr

Hrvatska na četvrtom mjestu EU zemalja koje uzgajaju najviše ribe

<https://www.vecernji.hr/biznis/hrvatska-na-cetvrtom-mjestu-eu-zemalja-koje-uzgajaju-najvise-ribe-1591892>>