

WP5 – MoU AMONG CROSS- BORDER NETWORK'S PARTICIPANTS

Deliverable Number D.5.5.4.

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| Project Acronym | INVESTINFISH |
| Project ID Number | 10042901 |
| Project Title | Boosting INVESTments in INnovation of SMEs along the entire FISHERY and aquaculture value chain |
| Priority Axis | 1 – Blue innovation |
| Specific objective | 1.1 – Enhance the framework conditions for innovation in the relevant sectors of the blue economy within the cooperation area |
| Work Package Number | 5 |
| Work Package Title | Knowledge transfer and long term sustainability |
| Activity Number | 5.4 |
| Activity Title | Knowledge transfer to EU mainstreaming groups |
| Partner in charge | SVIM Sviluppo Marche |
| Status | Final |
| Distribution | Private |

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INVESTINFISH PROJECT

INVESTINFISH - “Boosting INVESTments in INnovation of SMEs along the entire FISHerY and aquaculture value chain” is a project funded by the Italy – Croatia CBC Programme under the Priority Axis 1 “Blue Innovation”, Specific Objective 1.1 (S.O.1.1) “Enhance the framework conditions for innovation in the relevant sectors of the blue economy within the cooperation area”.

INVESTINFISH sees the cooperation of n. 6 Partners from 5 Different Regions: T2I (LP – Italy – Veneto), Sviluppo Marche (PP1 – Italy – Marche), D.A.Re. Puglia (PP2 – Italy – Puglia), Punto Confindustria (PP3 – Italy – Veneto), Istrian Development Agency (PP4 – Croatia – Istria), Zadar County Rural Development Agency (PP5 – Croatia – Zadar).

INVESTINFISH main objective is strengthening of competitiveness of F&A production system through promotion of investment programs aimed at acquisition of innovation services. INVESTINFISH implements pilot actions providing some IT-HR F&A SMEs with a roadmap to innovation instruments & services, boosting creation of marketable innovative products and/or processes that will improve the SMEs potential market positioning.

Expected benefits for enterprises are: accelerate time to market, increase linkages with innovators, increase F&A enterprises R&D expenditures in new & greener components/technologies/services, to boost HR-IT competitiveness. INVESTINFISH intends also to offer to the F&A sector to substitute the value chain concept with value network, proposing a shift from traditional value chains towards more collaborative value networks.

Memorandum of Understanding

In order to foster the continuity of the support services to the F&A sector initiated in the project, and to enhance the exchange of best practices between elements of the innovation ecosystem in the Italy-Croatia region, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was prepared, so that the objectives and mission of the project are promoted also after its formal end.

In particular, the goals of the MoU are the following:

- Foster and support each partner's work, activities, and business opportunities through the involvement of other partners
- Continue involvement of regional S3 development and initiatives
- Cooperate with other organizations in the field of the Blue Economy with particular reference to technologies and innovations in the fishery and aquaculture sector
- Involve individual members in searching for funding opportunities and join new project calls and proposals (Interreg or other programs)
- Provide a catalogue of each partner's skills and offerings to easily meet exchange needs and solutions
- Support the process of innovation and technology transfer.

Signatories

As of 31/12/2021, the MoU has been signed by the project partners, since the first goal is to ensure continuity of the network built in the project, i.e.:

- T2I – TRASFERIMENTO TECNOLOGICO E INNOVAZIONE S.C.A R.L.
- SVILUPPO MARCHE SRL
- DARE PUGLIA
- PUNTO CONFINDUSTRIA S.R.L.
- ISTRIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCY – IDA LTD.
- ZADAR COUNTY RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The MoU has been submitted also to key stakeholders and innovation poles (and in particular, ones selected among the ones mapped in D3.1.1), to enlarge the network and increase exchange opportunities.

Annex 1 - INVESTINFISH Collaboration Network - Memorandum of Understanding

1. introduction

INVESTINFISH Collaboration Network is a group of actors operating in the field of open innovation and technology transfer in the blue economy. The network is made up of former INVESTINFISH project members and additional affiliate members from EU countries and was founded as a project sustainability tool.

2. Purpose / Objectives

The purpose of the network is to continue and extend the INVESTINFISH project activities and to promote its results and values beyond the duration of the project. The network focuses on the following objectives:

- Foster and support each partner's work, activities and business opportunities through the involvement of other partners
- Continue involvement of regional S3 development and initiatives
- Cooperate with other organizations in the field of the Blue Economy with particular reference to technologies and innovations in the fishery and aquaculture sector
- Involve individual members in searching for funding opportunities and join new project calls and proposals (Interreg or other programs)
- Provide a catalog of each partner's skills and offerings to easily meet exchange needs and solutions
- Support the process of innovation and technology transfer

3. activities

INVESTINFISH Collaboration Network seeks to achieve its purpose and to achieve its objectives by involving other members in the activities organized by the individual components (for example: transnational working groups, transnational open seminars, technology tours, innovation weeks, seasonal schools, exchanges of experts and / or students, who share new technological results, etc.). These activities are organized on a voluntary basis and scheduled by individual members or several members who work together, sharing activities and informing the network about them.

4. Communication

Members use the following forms of communication:

- Online group calls (Telco) - every six months, organized by the current member chair, serves to maintain a regular flow of information and contacts, provide updates, and a platform for discussion regarding the association's activities and operational matters. In case of need (eg new current project calls) additional telcos can be arranged as needed.
- INVESTINFISH site - supported by Interreg for 2 years from the end of the project maintained by the current member responsible for the website with input from other members, mainly used to publish information on events and activities within the network.

5. members

- The members are the INVESTINFISH project partners who have applied to join after the end of the project and signed the INVESTINFISH Collaboration Network memorandum of understanding, and all

other organizations outside the INVESTINFISH project who have applied to join and signed the INVESTINFISH Collaboration memorandum Network of Understanding.

- The member can be a small, medium or large company, cluster, business support organization, academic organization, university, research organization, or government related entity from any of the EEA (European Economic Area) the countries active in the INVESTINFISH Collaboration Network areas.
- Each member is represented by one or more official representatives appointed by the member organization in writing. Each member organization is required to provide the contact details of its representatives and update them in case of any changes.
- Membership may terminate if the member makes a written announcement expressing a desire to leave the INVESTINFISH Collaboration Network, if the member organization ceases to exist, if it is no longer active in the specified sectors, or if the member's representatives fail to communicate. with the network in any form, for a period of more than one year.
- Membership is free.

6. executive committee

- The steering committee includes official representatives of the members (a minimum of one person per member).
- The steering committee is responsible for managing the network, signing the Memorandum of Understanding by the members, organizing the telco meetings, providing minutes of these meetings and maintaining the INVESTINFISH website.
- The steering committee keeps an up-to-date list of members' representatives and their contact information.
- One of the members of the steering committee is a presiding member voted on by the members. This role is rotated among members every 12 months.
- One of the members of the steering committee is a member responsible for the website voted for by the members. This role is rotated among members every 12 months.
- The members of the steering committee are appointed for a term of 12 months. After this period they can be re-appointed by their organization.
- The members of the steering committee do not receive any financial compensation from Collaboration Network INVESTINFISH.
- The members of the steering committee may resign from their position, or they cease to be members of the steering committee in the event of death, in the event of termination of the employment relationship for the member organization they represent, in the event that the member organization they represent they represent decides to stop their representation, or if their organization's membership expires.