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THE CHALLENGE

Current key global challenges facing society are food security and environmental sustainability. An increase in fish production, through sustainable aquaculture, will contribute to overcoming both. Traditionally, fish raised through aquaculture are fed with ingredients such as fish meal and fish oil derived from capture fisheries. However, there is increasing pressure on these limited raw materials due to growing demand; making them costly and unsustainable. Hence the sustainability and competitiveness of aquaculture depends on the replacement of fish meal and fish oil with alternative ingredients.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

INvertebrateIT aims to respond to the global challenges of food security, marine environmental impact and resource efficiency. **INvertebrateIT**'s overarching objective is to bring influential actors together to define a Joint Roadmap and Investment Plan across the European Union (EU) Atlantic Basin to promote and exploit the value chain around the production of invertebrates, such as insects, as economical, environmentally efficient and nutrient-rich ingredients for sustainable fish feeds. Accordingly, INvertebrateIT will support three demonstration projects, at a time when EU legislation is mobilising strategic investment.

AT A GLANCE

PROGRAMME:

Executive Agency for SMES (EASME) European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

INSTRUMENT:

Blue Careers in Europe

DURATION:

24 months (April 2017 - March 2019)

CONSORTIUM:

Seven partners from five European countries

COORDINATOR:

Innagate to Europe S.L., Spain

BUDGET:

860,000 Euros



EXPECTED RESULTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR STAKEHOLDERS

- **Strategic Joint Vision and Roadmap** to promote and exploit the value chain of invertebrate production, in line with regional and EU priorities and common challenges amongst all relevant stakeholders from both the public and private sector, and from different EU Atlantic Member States.
- **Commercial solutions for fish feeds** based on invertebrates, in line with new EU legislation and market opportunities.
- **Increased awareness** of real opportunities for Blue Growth and the Circular Economy in the aquaculture, waste management, technology and invertebrate production sectors.
- **Establishment of a critical mass**, collaborating positively and strategically at a critical time to seize a new industrial niche.
- **More profitable processes and better waste management** to produce valuable animal proteins, leading to a more diversified and resilient aquaculture economy.
- **Development of an invertebrate production business case** to improve the competitiveness and sustainability of EU aquaculture and overall coastal economy, attracting investment and opening up accessible opportunities for EU SMEs.
- **Support to three demonstration projects** in the EU Atlantic region, selected through an open contest for SMEs and Public-Private Partnerships.

CONSORTIUM

- 1 **Innagate to Europe**
(INNO)
- 2 **Pole Mer Bretagne Atlantique - Technopole Quimper-Cornouaille**
(PMBA-TQC)
- 3 **Cluster de la Acuicultura de Galicia**
(CETGA)
- 4 **Fórum Oceano**
(FORUM OCEANO)
- 5 **NGN Pro-Active - International Insect Centre**
(NGN - ICC)
- 6 **AquaTT UETP CLG**
(AQUATT)
- 7 **Marine Institute**
(MI)

