



**Aquamed Draft report WP4**

**Deliverable 3**

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## **1- General Context**

The strategic aim of the AQUAMED project is to reinforce scientific collaboration between the main stakeholders (i.e. research performing organisations and Universities, industry, NGOs, policy managers) concerned with the freshwater and marine aquaculture sectors in the Mediterranean basin (including EU and non-EU member states), in order to (1) promote a sustainable development of the activity and (2) improve coordination and programming of research activities funded both at national and community levels. The project consortium will put the emphasis on communication between all the actors of the society involved in the aquaculture sector.

The AQUAMED project concept is to enable collective identification of current and future research needs in the Mediterranean Region. This work is currently deployed in four steps using a participatory approach and taking into account the local specificities:

- mapping of existing information about existing research teams, tools, projects, networks at local level using the consortium partners as reference entry points in their country to address the national peculiarities and as coordinator of an informal national network of relevant key institutions
- identification of similarities between countries in the fields of aquaculture sector specificities and related research needs
- definition of platforms with common issues to develop shared research programmes/projects and infrastructure uses (intermediate platforms),
- creation of a self-sustainable international multi-stakeholder platform to contribute to rationalise programming and discuss the needs for further research based on the principle of 'mutual benefit'.

The cooperation between European and Mediterranean partners established during the project will facilitate the Capacity Building to enhance the harmonisation of aquaculture policies (including research policies) in the Mediterranean Basin.

WP4 consists in making an inventory of all existing research teams, tools, projects, networks and carrying out a first analysis of the lacks and overlapping at the country level. This information gathered under a common template through WP4 will be used in WP5 to build databases, which will be organised in such a way as to be easily accessible (interface) and used for analysis at the country level (overlaps and shortcomings) and for comparison with other country situations (WP6).

## **2- Data collection implementation**

Identification and characterization of data needed was established during a meeting of the WP leaders, held in Siphon airport in July 2010.

Once the questions were fixed, questionnaires to be filled locally under the responsibility of the national contact partner were prepared.

However, during the Casablanca meeting (Feb 2011) it was decided that the databases could be accessed directly through internet. A visit to INRA in Montpellier was organised in February 2011, in order to analyse its offer to host the database in SUPAGRO servers. From

this visit, it was decided to use the LIMESURVEY Software to prepare the questionnaire for data collection of the 3 databases (Research, Projects, Stakeholders).

From the 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2011, the links to the online-questionnaire were available to the Aquamed partners.

In order to ease the access of the national representatives to the relevant information, two letters signed by EFARO and by the project officer were prepared for their use.

The data collection process was monitored using a template sent by WP4 leader to all national representative partners. The objective was to precise the data collection procedure and to document the possibly arising difficulties (see template in Annex 2).

Finally, a questionnaire prepared by WP4 leader and distributed among partners to evaluate the data collection process.

## **2.1 data on institutions**

### **2.1-1dentification of institutions**

The relevant institutions were identified:

- By direct contact
- By reviewing reports and other documents concerning studies and meetings where all institutions meet.
- By previous knowledge, literature and collaborations
- From websites of specialized observatories mainly by consultation of database of Research projects funded by the Ministry of Agriculture .
- By personal database (GM partner coordinator) of all research projects on Aquaculture funded since 1988
- Personal contact
- By identifying Institutions located in the Mediterranean region and then searching on the institution web sites other institutions carrying out similar activities.
- After author addresses found on scientific publication.

### **2.1 2-How the questionnaires were used:**

Questionnaires were filled in by national contact partner either after direct discussion by organising a meeting with the Aquaculture coordinator of the institution, or by e-mail or phone discussion with the responsible or an important member of the concerned institutions or using online submission.

### **2.1.3- Availability of people filling in the questionnaire:**

Questionnaires were mainly filled by the national contact partner (except in Israel, where a person was hired to do this job). The availability of the persons contacted to collect the information was estimated between 50 to 90%.

### **2.1.3- Difficulties encountered in filling the questionnaire:**

Questions related to budget, financing, personnel and data supply for aquaculture activities (especially in big Institutions) were not completed because the information is most of the time

not available (no separate budget accounting). In addition, there was a lack of reply particularly when the contact was established by e-mail.

20% to 100% of the information was obtained, depending on the country situations. On average, 4 months of work were necessary to finalize data collection at the country level.

As a special comment on institution data collection, in Spain there are 2 research centres of IEO performing research in Aquaculture in the Mediterranean and they were identified as 2 different institutions. The same situation was observed for CSIC (Consejo Superior de Investigacion cientificas). In Italy, there are several Departments belonging to the same University (or Research Centers to the same Institute). In France, there are two Ifremer stations working on aquaculture in the Mediterranean (Sète and Palavas), they were identified as one Institution.

When it was the case, it was necessary and recommended to compare and homogenize the data.

For this reason, a control and a cleaning of all the data collected by the national representative is absolutely necessary.

## **2.2 Data on projects**

### **2.2-1- Identification of the projects:**

The identification of existing projects was carried out using the different methods listed below:

- Consulting specialized Networks or Observatories in different concerned Ministries,
- Asking responsible of research institutions for lists of Research Projects in Aquaculture,
- Contact of Funding Agencies for Research projects,
- Analyzing reports and websites of Funding Agencies,
- Searching on European Cordis web site, Scientific publication database (ie, Web of Science),
- Organising meeting with colleagues,
- Contacting directly researchers by e-mail or face to face meeting,
- Consultation of Research projects database funded by the Ministry of Agriculture and stored in the web. -Personal knowledge on aquaculture projects funded by Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Research,
- Cross check with colleagues from other Institutes.

### **2.2.2-How the questionnaires were used:**

The projects coordinators were approached by inviting them by e-mail to fill in questionnaire and assisting them by telephone calls or short meetings. They were available in most cases when the project was finished.

The questionnaire of projects were filled by the national contact partner (6 over 12), some partners did only some corrections, other used the help of other aquaculture colleagues, hired a person to do this job, or filled directly by the project coordinator.

### **2.2.3- Difficulties encountered in filling the questionnaire:**

Questions concerning institutional budget were difficult to answer for oldest projects, which budget was not accounted separately.

Data was collected by e-mail mainly. The main issues raised in this category were the following:

- Lack of data and clarity when the project is already covered by another institution or a different laboratory,
- Lack of information about the project budget,
- Identification of real 'Mediterranean' projects from the whole aquaculture projects (Atlantic + Mediterranean),
- To find projects funded at local level or by funding agencies not specialized in research and aquaculture,
- To define the limit of the Mediterranean region (ie, for freshwater aquaculture),
- To get answer from project coordinators,
- To get information on the outputs of the projects (ie publication) as results are sometimes published 1-2 year after the end of the project,
- To find list of project from international agencies that are involved in many fields,
- From submitted projects, in reality they were not projects but part of a program, and which means no project in aquaculture in Morocco,
- Sometimes it is difficult to tell the difference between a fisheries project and aquaculture project, especially where extensive aquaculture or research on the biology of species of aquaculture interest.

Data collection state was completed from 15% to 100% depending on partners, with a maximum of 4 months to completed data collection.

As a special comment on this category, in Italy the research projects were included separately for each Institute, also when two Institutes belong to same Department (e.g in the case of University). In Morocco, some projects submitted in the database had to be deleted. In Turkey, project partners are reluctant to share information.

## **2.3 data on stakeholders**

### **231- Identification of the stakeholders**

The identification on the main stakeholders was based on the analysis of reports and of websites of Producers Associations or of specialized Observatories and Media. However, it is nearly impossible to find more detailed information than name, address, phone and fax.

For instance, in Tunisia it is very difficult to get access to detailed information on stakeholders, due to the limited trust between stakeholders and the administration (Tunisia), confidentiality problems and lack of reliability of accessible data. As an example, farmers are very suspicious and they are afraid of lacking competitiveness due to information communication on their rearing process.

However, Stakeholders were identified by:

- Previous knowledge and Previous experience
- FAO website

List of participants of National Aquaculture meetings (SFAM)

### **232- How the information was collected**

The stakeholders were approached by direct contact (if possible, friend relationships) or mainly by phone and e-mail (when existing), if not by fax or phone, or even by organizing

a meeting to fill in the questionnaire together. In Algeria and Morocco, Investigators had to move on site in order to gather the necessary information.

The questionnaire was filled in directly by National Representatives and stakeholder representatives, or inviting them by e-mail to fill in questionnaire on line and assisting them by telephone calls, short meetings or interviews.

**233- Difficulties encountered**

The main difficulties encountered in this category are of 3 types:

- Lack of economic, personal and e-mail information to contact them,
- Direct contact difficult or impossible with the boss of most of the farms,
- Low reply rate: interviewed people were not likely cooperating in some of the partner countries (as in Tunisia) whereas they were very motivated to respond in other countries (as in Croatia for instance).

It appeared that most of the time only a direct contact worked and that the main primary source of information was internet. Compared to other 2 categories, the participation was low. In Israel, it was very easy to identify fish farmer stakeholders through producer associations. However, for other sectors it was difficult to decide who the interested stakeholder were.

**3- Description of the data collected to date**

The collection of data began in May 26, 2011. WP 5 leader, Mr I. Arnal was reporting on a weekly basis the quantitative information collected in the database (number of records evolution, figure 1).

Records were somewhat stable in mid July to mid August, due to holidays period, then data flow increased in September 2011.

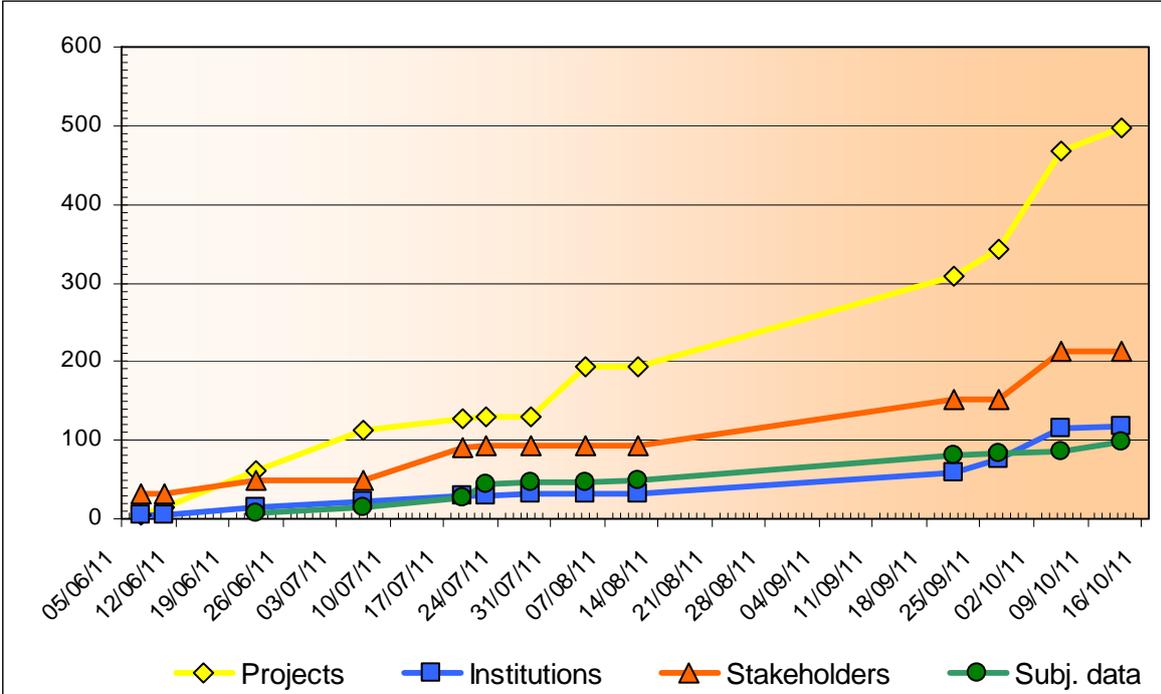


Figure 1: Number of data collected versus time.

**Situation of Aquamed Surveys on 13 October 2011**

Some output from databases projects, institution and stakeholder are shown in the following figures:

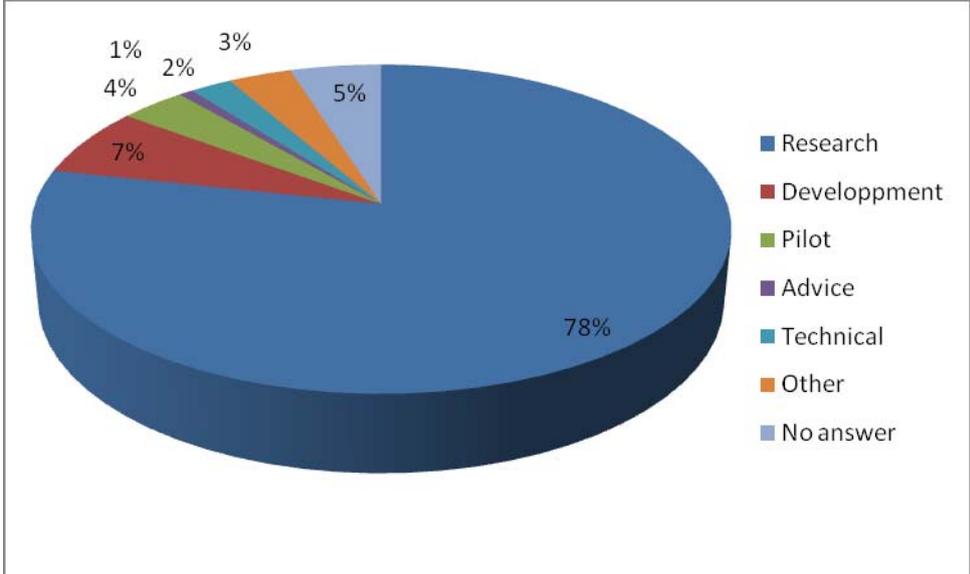


Figure 2: Types of projects by category collected on 21 November 2011.

In total, 533 responses were submitted, 507 were full responses and 26 incomplete answers.

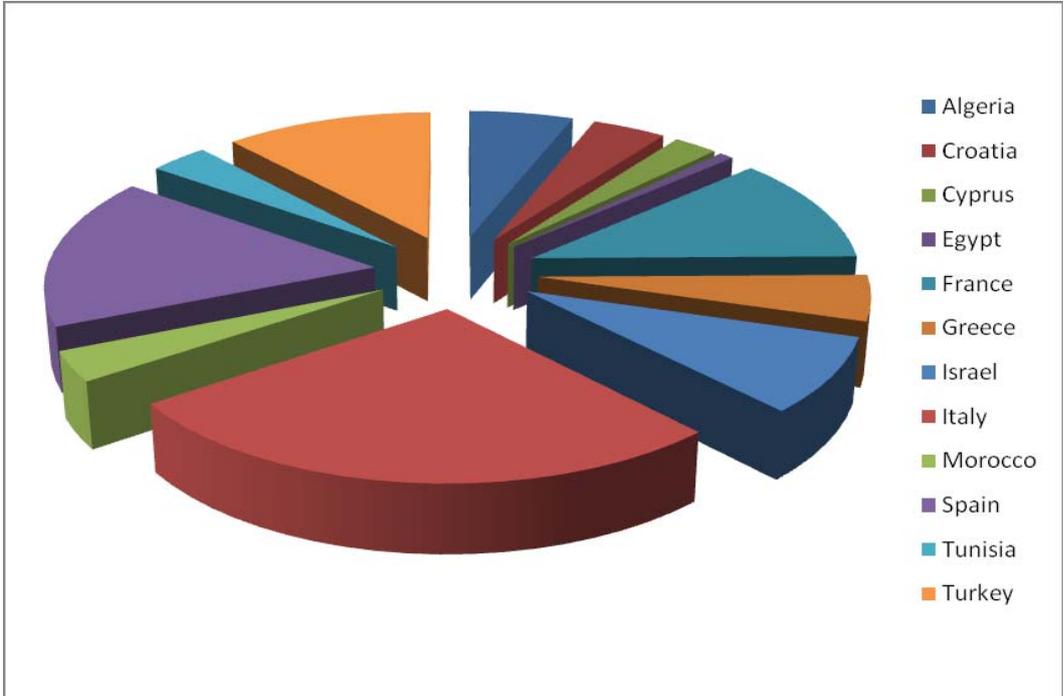


Figure 3: Institutions recorded per country (on November 2011)

145 responses were submitted, 125 full responses and 20 incomplete or wrong.

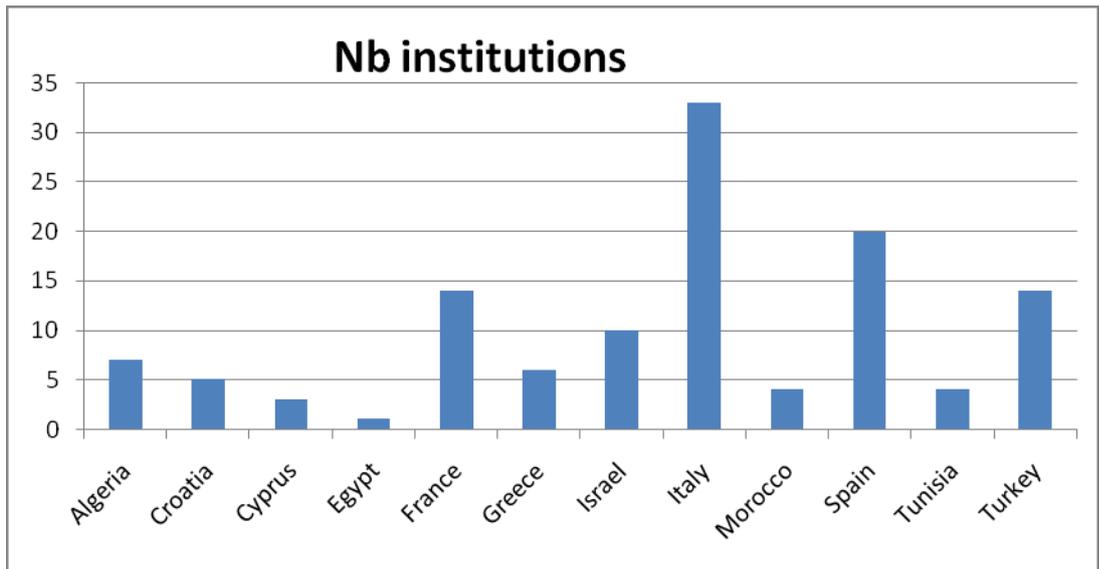


Figure 4: Number of institutions per country.



Figure 5: Stakeholders recorded per country (on November 2011)

218 Total responses were submitted, 207 were full responses and 11 were incomplete.

**Stakeholder category**

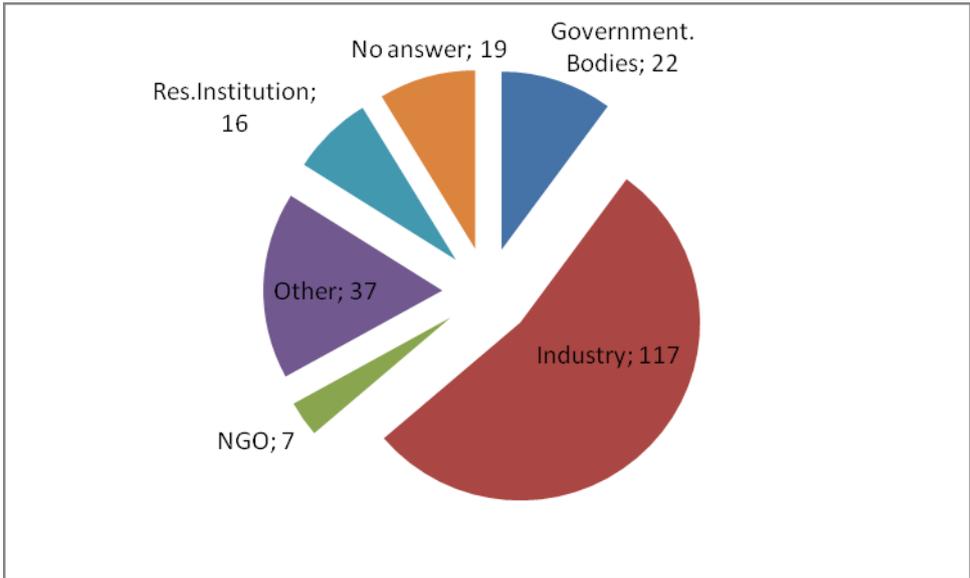


Figure 6: Number of Employees per Stakeholder type.

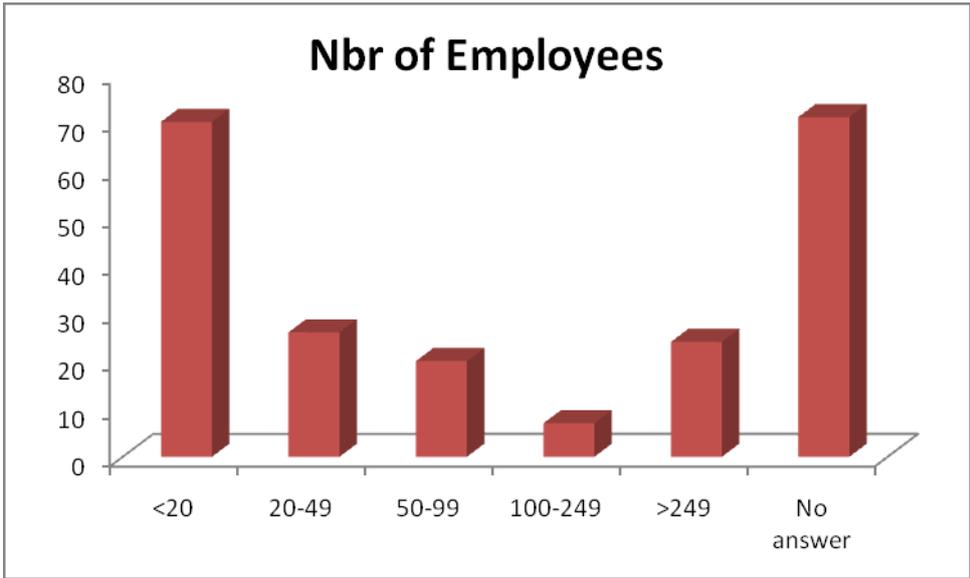


Figure 7 : number of employees per stakeholder company or institution  
 The number of Employees per stakeholder is less than 20 for 39 stakeholder in the mediterranean.

## Map of data collected

### *Institutions*

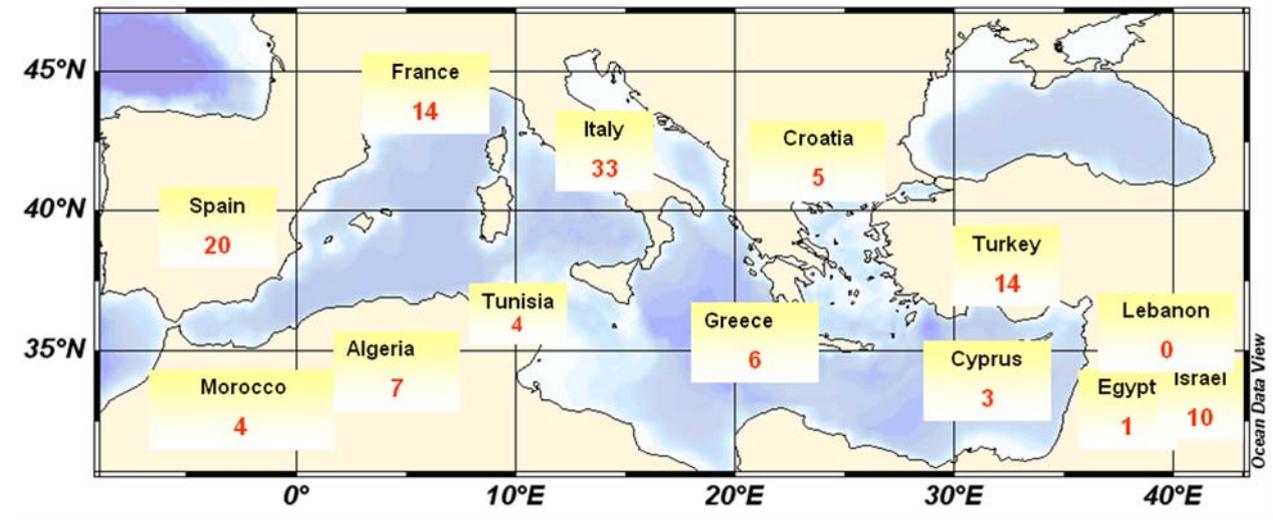


Figure 8: Number of stakeholders per partner country.

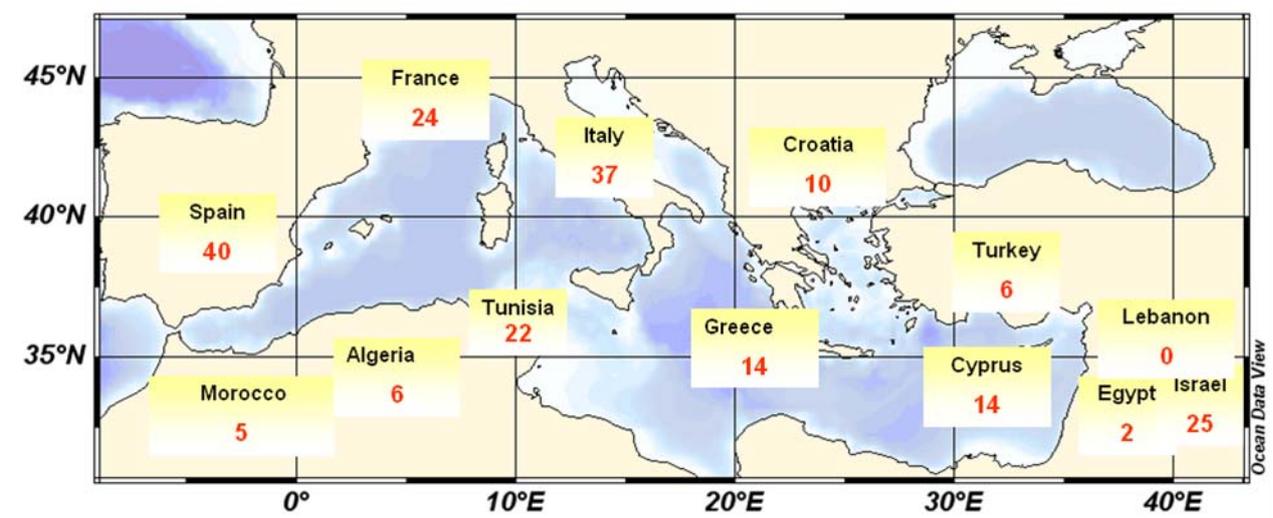
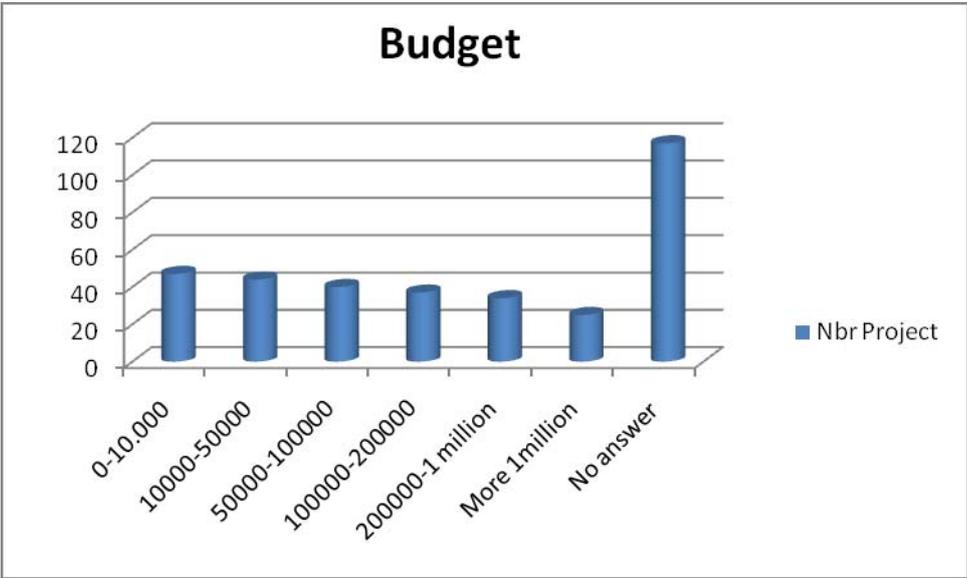


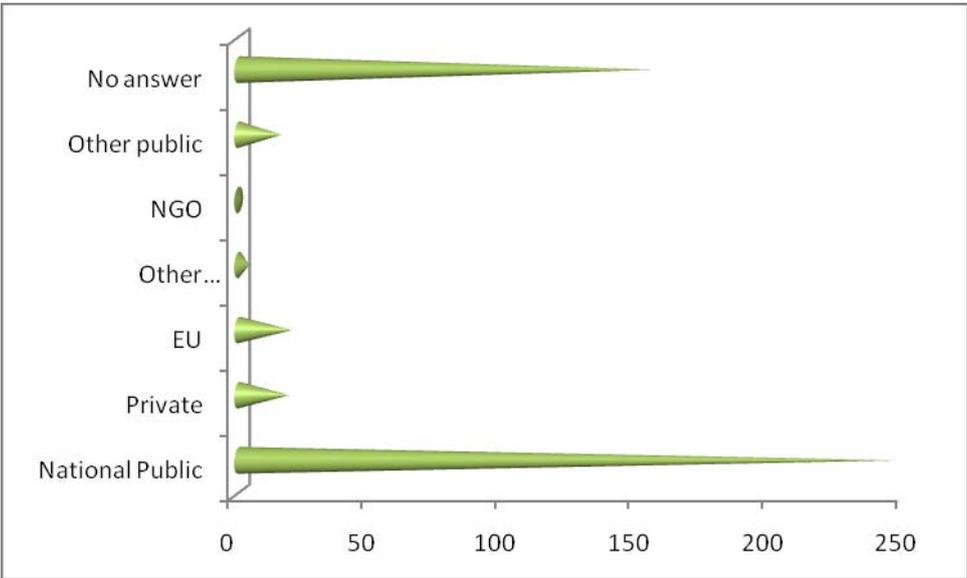
Figure 9: number of stakeholders per partner country. Projects recorded were project being implemented since 2005 (having started before 2005, but still going on in 2005). Most of them are research projects.

Only 227 answers could be collected on budget and 25 projects had a budget exceeding one million euros.



**Figure 10: Budget of the project recorded.**

Only National funds allow to cover all the budget of some of the project (247 projects). EU was co-financing 20 research projects.



**Figure 11: Type of project (origin of the funds).**

Cleaning of the data collected was carried out by mid-January. The question of how to keep the process of data collection and cleaning (updating) going on after the end of WP4 and WP5 will be discussed during next project meetings.

## ANNEX 1

### Example of data definition for Databases: Stakeholder questionnaire

		Field Name	Field contents & Explanations
STAKEHOLDER ID and CATEGORY	ID Number	Stake_ID	Entire number; 2 The final code must be Country_Code&ID_Number?
	Country Code	Country	Table with International ISO2 Code of Med. Countries; <a href="http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/iso3list.asp">http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/iso3list.asp</a>
	Organisation Name (ENGLISH)	Stake_English_Name	Text
	Organisation Name (In own language - ENGLISH LETTERS)	Stake_Original_Name	Text
	Category	Stake_Category	Possible values: 'Research; Industry; Governmental Bodies; NGO; Other'. See Sheet 'Categories&Subcategories';
	Sub-Category	Stake_Subcategory	See Sheet 'Categories&Subcategories'; depends on Stake_Category value
	Subcategory Speciality	Stake_Subcategory_Speciality	<b>Only for Industries;</b> See Sheet categories&Subcategories
SCALE and IMPACT	Size (amount of employees working on Aquaculture)	Stake_Nr_Employees	Table (or list) with 5 records (or elements): <20; <50; 50-100; 100-250; >250
	Size of an association (amount of members)	Stake_Ass_Nr_Members	Table (or list) with 5 records (or elements): <20; <50; 50-100; 100-250; >250. <b>Only for associations</b>
	Annual production (ton/year) for producers and producers associations	Stake_Ann_Production	Table (or list) with 5 records (or elements): <200; <500; 500-1000; 1000-2500; >2500
	Turnover (if relevant, in Euros)	Stake_Turnover	Table (or list) with 3 records (or elements): <1M; 1M - 10M; >10M
	Perception of Impact on Aquaculture Industry	Stake_Impact_On_Industry	Table (or list) with 5 records (or elements): 1; 2; 3; 4; 5
	Perception of impact on National Research Community in Aquaculture	Stake_Impact_On_Research	Table (or list) with 5 records (or elements): 1; 2; 3; 4; 5
CONTACT INFORMATION	Address	Stake_Address	Text
	Telephone	Stake_Telephone	Text
	Website	Stake_Website	Text
	Contact Person 1	Stake_Contact_Person_Name	Text
	Job Title 1	Stake_Contact_Person_Job	Text
	Email Address 1	Stake_Contact_Person_Mail	Text
	Mailing List email addresses	Stake_??????	Text

## ANNEX 2

### TEMPLATE for data collection Information

**Questionnaires Institutions (please describe in a paragraph how you collect information in this category, by answering these questions)**

1. How did you identify different institutions dealing with Aquaculture?
2. How did you send the questionnaire to the institution?
3. Are they available to do this job (filling in the questionnaire)?
4. As a partner coordinator, did you fill in yourself the questionnaire?
5. Did you get information by phone, e-mail, fax...etc?
6. What kind of difficulties encountered?
7. Data collection is completed at 100%, 90%.....
8. How much time you need to finalize data collect in this category?
9. Any other comment.

**Questionnaires Projects (please describe in a paragraph how you collect information in this category, by answering these questions)**

1. How did you identify different projects dealing with Aquaculture?
2. How did you send the questionnaire to the project coordinator?
3. Is he available (the project coordinator)?
4. As a partner coordinator, did you fill in yourself the questionnaire?
5. Did you get information by phone, e-mail, fax...etc?
6. What kind of difficulties encountered?
7. Data collection is completed at 100%, 90%.....
8. How much time you need to finalize data collect?
9. Any other comment.

**Questionnaires Stakeholders (please describe in a paragraph how you collect information in this category, by answering these questions)**

1. How difficult was to identify main stakeholder list in your country (potentially to be part of the platform)?

2. How did you proceed to approach them?
3. How did you fill in the questionnaires?
4. What kind of difficulties encountered?
5. Any other comment...