SEABIOPLAS Project Partners

NAME: Daithi O'Murchu Marine Research Station
SHORT NAME: DOMMRS
TYPE: RTD
COUNTRY: Ireland

The DOMMRS has been in operation since 1991 originally as part of the Aquaculture and Development Centre (ADC), University College Cork. However, in late 2005 it was established as an independent research station with a hatchery and both commercial scale shellfish and finfish farms (60ha). It contains a fully equipped laboratory, both pump ashore and recirculation units, seawater filtration and treatment complex, freshwater and seawater storage silos, workshop and office. The hatchery itself contains conditioning broodstock tanks, larval rearing tanks, settlement tanks, nursery rearing tanks and three algal rearing rooms. Outside the building there are three systems in operation containing larger tanks (8m², 4m² and 1m²). In the sea we have a long-line system for seaweed cultivation with currently 200m and with a potential to expand to an area of 10ha. The station also has access to a workboat. Research at the station has focused on aquaculture husbandry, minimising waste in the aquaculture and fisheries production process, developing new products from waste and environmental monitoring. For the current project DOMMRS will be operating as both an SME and RTD. It hopes to benefit from the investigations into the feasibility of using seaweed as a feedstock for the generation of biodegradable plastics.

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NAME: Algaplus Producao e Comercializacao De Algas e Seus Derivados LDA
SHORT NAME: ALGAPLUS
TYPE: SME
COUNTRY: Portugal

ALGAplus is a Portuguese company which originated in the transference of academic knowledge to a business activity. ALGAplus high-quality and sustainable seaweeds are mainly sold for food and well-being markets in the B2B (ALGA+®) and B2C (Tok de Mar® and SeaOriginals) sectors. The biomass is mostly produced under the Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) concept, which allow us to increase biomass yields and sustain production when the wild resource is unavailable. Currently, we focus our land-based and on-shore cultivation activities on red and green seaweed species. We work with our customers on tuning the seaweed biomass to give the desired characteristics or on the domestication of new species of interest, giving them the product differentiation needed in highly competitive markets. All production phases are carried out in-house: biomass production, processing (washing, drying, milling) and packaging. ALGAplus also invests in R&D activities to optimise processes and find high-value applications of the seaweed biomass. Current projects include the application of seaweeds in foodstuffs, feed additives, textiles (SeaColors - LIFE) and biopolymers (SEABIOPLAS – FP7).

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NAME: Stichting Dienst Landbouwkundig Onderzoek
SHORT NAME: DLO
TYPE: RTD
COUNTRY: Netherlands

DLO-FBR, part of Wageningen University and Research Centre, executes strategic and applied-scientific research for the industries and national and international authorities. Contract partners can be found, among others, in the energy industries, transport companies, the chemical industry, the motor-car industry, the food industry, the European Commission and national Ministries. The Business Unit 'Bio-based Products' has a strong focus on primary streams of biomass and bio-residues to produce biobased chemicals, materials and sustainable industrial raw materials. At the Bioconversion Group, biotechnology (i.e. microbiology physiology, genetics, metabolic engineering) and bioprocess design (i.e. bioreactor configuration, product separation methodology) are the key knowledge fields applied for optimisation of fermentation processes. DLO-FBR has a great variety of research facilities and fermentation equipment that range from laboratory scale to pilot (100l - 1,500l bioreactor) scale. At the Sustainable Chemicals and Materials group, DLO-FBR has extensive expertise on the production of biobased building blocks and biobased polymers. Moreover, processing facilities for the biobased polymers include several compounding extruders, 2 injection moulding machines and facilities to produce films up to five layers. Analyses equipment includes tri-sec GPC to measure absolute molar masses of polymers like PLA and standard equipment like DSC, DMTA, GS-MS and FTIR.

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NAME: Centro Interdisciplinar de Investigação Marinha e Ambiental
SHORT NAME: CIIMAR
TYPE: RTD
COUNTRY: Portugal

The CIIMAR is an interdisciplinary research institute whose mission is to develop high-quality research, to promote technological development and innovation, education and knowledge dissemination in Marine and Environmental Sciences. The research carried out at CIIMAR focuses on 3 Research Lines: Global Changes and Ecosystem Services, Aquaculture and Seafood Quality, Marine Biotechnology. The centre hosts 165 PhD researchers with diverse scientific backgrounds and annually publishes about 360 ISI publications (60% Q1) providing important critical mass and excellent scientific environment. CIIMAR is a renowned centre for advanced training (100 PhD & 320 MSc theses in the last 5-years), supporting several national and European MSc and Doctoral Programmes.

With its headquarters being relocated to new installations at the heart of the maritime industry and services in the Northern region of Portugal (Leixões harbour), the centre features well-equipped facilities for research, training and services with state-of-the-art equipped laboratories, large cultivation and animal experimental facilities approved by the Portuguese Veterinary Authority. With branches in Lisbon and Madeira and Azores Archipelagos, the centre is in a unique position to promote research and innovation in the Atlantic Area and, particularly, on the Portuguese continental shelf. The CIIMAR further integrates two research infrastructures of national and European relevance: EMBRC.PT - European Marine Biological Resource Centre – Portugal and EMSO - European Multidisciplinary Seafloor Observatory. The centre is a member of the European Marine Board and funding member of the National Maritime Cluster – Forum Mar that aims to promote and strengthen the national maritime economy.

The translation of the scientific research into tangible benefits for society is also an important objective for the centre. This is pursued through the participation in different projects contributing to public policy design and implementation at regional, national and European level; and through the implementation of an extensive outreach program address to all sectors of society and particularly to the school community.

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NAME: Instituto de Ciências e Tecnologias Agrárias e Agro-Alimentares
SHORT NAME: ICETA
TYPE: RTD
COUNTRY: Portugal

The Institute of Agriculture and Agro-Food Sciences and Technologies (ICETA) is a non-profit private organisation that manages research activities of research centres from the University of Porto (UPorto). UPorto is the biggest Portuguese scientific research institution. It hosts a range of research centres, from humanities to science and technology, reflecting the different competencies of its fourteen organic units. Some research centres are integrated in associated laboratories, which are research units that have been recognised by the Portuguese government. REQUIMTE is a Portuguese associated laboratory conducting research and development in the areas of green chemistry, clean technologies and processes, since 2001. Its researchers are located at the Centre of Chemistry in UPorto (managed by ICETA) and at the Faculty of Sciences and Technology of the New University of Lisbon (FCT-UNL). They include chemists, biochemists, chemical engineers and biotechnologists, physicists, pharmacologists, food scientists and technologists, all working in the general area of "sustainable chemistry". The current thematic areas of research are grouped by: i) novel compounds from renewable sources, (ii) food quality and safety, (iii) analytical control and process automation, (iv) clean chemical processes and (v) chemical biology and bioengineering. REQUIMTE has 270 researchers holding PhD degrees. It has vast experience in regional, national and international projects.

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NAME: Centre d'Etude et de Valorisation des Algues
SHORT NAME: CEVA
TYPE: RTD
COUNTRY: France

CEVA, located in Pleubian (Côtes d'Armor, Brittany, France), is a private research organisation and a technical centre of the ACTIA network, recognised as a national Agro-Industrial Technical Institute (ITAI) by the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Located in a leading European region for the seaweed industry, CEVA is a very unique organisation, fully devoted to sustainable industrial exploitation of algae. CEVA encompasses all fields from algae biology, aquaculture, processing, chemistry and characterisation. CEVA was created in 1982 with the support of several public bodies and private companies involved in seaweed harvesting and transformation of algae into valuable products. Its first purpose was to answer local community concerns related to "green tide" (coastal eutrophication) problems. From 1987 to present, CEVA has expanded its vision to providing R&D and technical transfer services to companies interested in developing industrial products based on algal biomass. In addition to providing technical assistance to industries, CEVA participates in collaborative R&D projects on a national, European and world-wide level. In particular, CEVA ensures the transfer of scientific knowledge from the academic world to the industry field. CEVA has 25 permanent employees, including PhDs, engineers and technicians.

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NAME: Herfst en Helder bv
SHORT NAME: H & H
TYPE: SME
COUNTRY: Netherlands

Herfst en Helder (paint for wood applications) belongs to PCM Holding, to which Mol Coatings (paint for steel applications) also belongs. PCM Holding and their subsidiaries is a private owned organisation. Herfst en Helder was founded in 1875 and was bought by PCM in 2009. The company produces high quality paint to be used on monumental buildings in the Netherlands and Germany. Company goals include: to produce client specific coating solutions; to maintain environmentally responsible production and products; and to ensure constant attention on improvements and innovations. H&H together with Wageningen Universiteit are working on a R&D project, with the aim to develop a biobased paint on the basis of natural oil.

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NAME: Sleever Technologies
SHORT NAME: SLEEVER
TYPE: OTH
COUNTRY: France

A pioneer and world leader in the shrinksleeve business, Sleever International relied on accurate engineering and creativity to make shrinksleeve a major packaging process on mass distribution markets and on highly discriminating segments such as cosmetics, perfumery and alcoholic beverages. Thanks to its in-depth expertise in all components of the shrinksleeve technology - films/sleeves/machines - Sleever International was ideally positioned to better implement the basic functionalities of shrinksleeves for primary container labelling & decoration, protection, tamper evidence and sales promotion. Today, the company is a major and well established leader on these functions worldwide. Above all, Sleever International was able to capitalise on its outstanding innovation capabilities for developing new shrinksleeve functionalities for diversified or combined applications, thus carrying the shrinksleeve technology way beyond a mere labelling process and making it a "specialty technology" in order to supply customers with custom-made solutions. Sleever International's continuous stream of innovation - often for highly demanding applications - results from the company's close monitoring of market needs and trends as well from its unique mastery of all film, sleeve and machine parameters that command the quality and efficiency of the end results. This earned the company a number of professional awards such as “Oscars de l'Emballage” and “Eurostars for Packaging”. The Sleever International group is organised so as to provide customers with all the benefits of its technology.

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NAME: Agrolabo S.p.A.
SHORT NAME: AGRO
TYPE: SME
COUNTRY: Italy

Agrolabo S.p.A., with its registered Head Office in Scarmagno, north of Italy, is a manufacturing and research based chemical company founded in 1975. It is UNI EN ISO 9001:2008 certified. Agrolabo is engaged in livestock and companion animals' health and nutrition. The company manufactures and distributes feed supplements to be included in the diet of farm animals for zootechnical productions. Agrolabo market focuses on dairy and beef cattle; secondly swine and poultry; third horses, rabbit, sheep, goats and buffalos. Agrolabo's main nutritional products are yeasts, natural products (made of herbal extracts and/or plants) as alternative in promoting animal wellbeing, vitaminic emulsions, chelated trace elements, flavouring substances, toxin and mycotoxin binders. The Husbandry Division is the founding sector of the company which, for more than 30 years, has been dedicated to manufacturing high specification, high quality feed supplements, by bringing innovative, scientific solutions to the typical nutritional problems of livestock production. The Diagnostics Division of Agrolabo (founded in 1986) focuses on diagnostic products (immunology, immunohaematology and infectious diseases) for dogs, cats and livestock.

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NAME: Cartron Point Shellfish
SHORT NAME: CPS
TYPE: SME
COUNTRY: Ireland

Cartron Point Shellfish Ltd. (CPS) was established in 1989. The purpose built facilities at New Quay, Co. Clare were designed and constructed with the primary aim of bivalve spat production. Facilities include an up-to-date continuous microalgal system and a large outdoor diatom production unit. In 2000 CPS diversified into production, initially with seaweed longline trials at New Quay. In 2004 Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) contracted CPS to establish and manage a seaweed hatchery at DOMMRS near Bantry, Co.Cork. The company have acquired a lot of expertise in both seaweed hatchery and ongrowing techniques over the last decade.

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