



Offshore Low-trophic Aquaculture in Multi-Use Scenario Realisation

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Executive Summary
The OLAMUR project consortium aims at supporting 5 Associated Regions, considering the maximum financial support of EUR 100 000 to showcase the feasibility, replicability and scale up of the solutions developed within the project in associated regions. This deliverable includes the selection and assignment of the associated regions.



We will provide the selected Associated Regions with technical assistance to develop roadmaps and plans for low-impact marine aquaculture and multi-purpose use of marine space addressing possible barriers and showing the feasibility of implementing innovative solutions in the region. The associated regions will be able to follow the OLAMUR project and its demonstration activities. The outcomes and knowledge will be shared with the associated regions and technical assistance to build capacity and to implement solutions for low-impact marine aquaculture and multi-purpose use of marine space in their territory to ensure that Mission objectives can be achieved.

As this is a public Deliverable, we have deliberately not shared any information in this document which may be viewed as sensitive to the applicants or their competitors or collaborators.

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Introduction

To ensure that communication, dissemination and exploitation remains a dynamic and engaged process rather than a top-down supply of retrospective information, 5 associated regions will be invited to engage in project activities, to allow for transfer of information and experience to other geographical regions, networks and stakeholders. Associated regions will be based both within Europe (i.e. other Mission Basins including Black Sea / Mediterranean / Atlantic) but also on a wider global basis. This will ensure a broad information exchange both within and external to the project consortium, maximising opportunities for identifying best practice, innovations and shared knowledge.

The OLAMUR call for Associated Regions was first announced with a deadline March 31, 2024. Due to a low number of applications the deadline was extended to June 30, 2024.

Call guidelines and proposal template can be found at the webpage: <https://olamur.eu> or in Deliverable D8.6 (submitted).

Results

All applications were stored on an internal SharePoint-site that only the call management had access to when they were received.



The committee for evaluation was appointed at the OLAMUR Executive Board meeting (March 14th 2024).

The number of applications received at the first deadline was 10, of which 7 were eligible and 3 were non-eligible according to the guidelines. The lack of eligibility was due to the fact that the applicants were not public bodies.

That outcome led to the decision by the evaluation committee to request the Commission for a prolonged application period, which was immediately approved by the Commission. The new deadline was set to June 30th.

An e-mail notification was sent to all applicants informing them about the extended deadline and asking if the application was still valid or if they wanted to withdraw. No applications were withdrawn, thus all proceeded.

At the end of the prolonged application period, 21 applications had been received. The increased number of applications received after the second period, made it clear that a prolonged application period was necessary. However, of the five approved applications, three were received by the end of the first application period, whereas the two others were received during the second period (until June 30th).

After the call deadline, the evaluation committee was given access to all the applications at the internal SharePoint-site. They were also given the guidelines of how to evaluate the applications. Each evaluator reviewed all the applications individually.

The evaluation committee then had a TEAMS meeting (0900-1030 CET) on August 14th, 2024, where the evaluation of the applications and a decision was made.

Participants of the meeting were:

- Øivind Bergh, IMR
- Henning Wehde, IMR,
- Turid Loddengaard, IMR
- Bela Buck, AWI
- Jack Royd Hall, UoT
- Pamela Ernstberger, EATiP

In addition, Antonio Aguera Garcia, IMR, and Marie Maar, UoAa could not participate in the meeting but had given their recommendations in advance. Together, these 8 participants constituted the evaluation Committee appointed by the Executive Board of OLAMUR.

Applications received.

The applications received during the first period were from:

- Namibia (Municipality of Walvis Bay)
- Wales (UK) (Bangor University, School of Ocean Sciences)



- Indonesia (LTA Indonesia, North Halmahera Regency)
- Netherlands (NIOZ Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research- NSF-1)
- Bulgaria (Kavarna Municipality, OBS Black Sea)
- Poland (Utska municipality)
- Ireland (FAS Feamainne, Midc Pairc na Mara Dac, public)

Non- eligible applications (the applicants were not public entities) came from:

- Pakistan
- Nigeria
- Mozambique

By the end of the second application period, applications had also been received from:

- Riga Technical University,
- Latvia Municipio de Viana do Castelo, Portugal. (LowAWind)
- University of Aberdeen, National Decommissioning Cente, (ViSCoLO)
- Kavarna Municipality, Bulgaria
- CEFAS, UK, AquaWindEN
- Bangor University, UK, (CoSARIS)
- Adana Matropolitan Municipality. Turkey, (EMECO)
- The Agr Food and Biosciences Institute, N-Ireland, UK, North Irish Sea Co-located Offshore Resources Platform (NISCORP)
- The Spanish National Research Council, CSIC, (Multi-Use platforms in an Upwelling region)
- The Municipality of Odesa, Ukraine, (OSSA)
- Marine Energy Engineering Centre of Excellence (MEECE)

Decision on applicants to be supported.

The committee decided to emphasize the dissemination and communication aspect of the Associated Regions Call. By integrating five Associated Regions, the activity in the OLAMUR project could be disseminated to new geographical regions,

A decision was made to try to spread the associated regions geographically. Among the regions from outside Europe, two applications were pointed out as the best, based on the committee's evaluation by the scores given in the guidelines.

Those were:

- The Municipality of Walvis Bay, Namibia. Mr Joseph Kondja Amushila
- North Halmahera Regency, Indonesia. Mr Oscar Bertho Mene



In addition, the committee decided to support three European applicants

- Municipio de Viana do Castelo, Portugal. Mr Jowquim Luis Nobre Pereira (LowAWind)
- Midc Pairc na Mara Dac, Ireland, Maire Ni Einniu, (FasFeam)
- University of Aberdeen, National Decommissioning Cente, Marcin Kapitaniak (ViSCoLO)

The five supported projects are highly diverse both in terms of scientific and technical objectives, and in case of geographic localization.

All five project applications were clearly eligible, thus no legal problems are foreseen.

The committee decided to pay particular attention to the Associated Regions instrument as a potential for dissemination and increased use of multi-use projects.

In general, the two non-European applications (from Namibia and Indonesia), showed the strongest potential for dissemination of OLAMUR concepts and technologies to new geographical areas. The applicants showed significant competence with potential for new developments, and the evaluation committee chose to highlight the geographic spreading, in order to maximize impact of the overall OLAMUR project.

The three European projects highlight different aspects. However, they all emphasize the introduction of multi-use concepts into new regions or new applications.

- The Portugese project shows potential for use of multi-use technologies in a European country with significant potential for such technologies, but a demanding environment with an exposed coastline.
- The UK project emphasizes decommissioning of offshore oil/gas structures, which has considerable potential in multi-use of renewable energy and aquaculture. This aspect is not covered in OLAMUR consortium but should have a great potential with much of the European oil/gas industry in steady decline.
- The Irish project shows considerable competence in environmental monitoring and will bring additional competence to the OLAMUR consortium.

In total, the five selected projects will represent a strengthening of dissemination as well as communication activities of the overall OLAMUR project, and they engage interesting competence. They will add to the overall impact of the project.

The decision was unanimous.



All applicants will be notified of the outcome of the evaluation. The selected associated regions will be published on OLAMUR's website (<https://olamur.eu>).

The selected associated regions will proceed with signing a contract with the coordinated organization (Havforskningsinstituttet) and start implementing their respective projects.

Conclusions

Five associated regions were selected based on the evaluations of the applications.

The following 5 associated regions were assigned:

- The Municipality of Walvis Bay, Namibia. Mr Joseph KondjaAmushila
- North Halmahera Regency, Indonesia. Mr Oscar Bertho Mene
- Municipio de Viana do Castelo, Portugal. Mr Jowquim Luis Nobre Pereira (LowAWind)
- Midc Pairc na Mara Dac, Ireland, Maire Ni Einniu, (FasFeam)
- University of Aberdeen, National Decommissioning Cente, Marcin Kapitaniak (ViSCoLO)

