

### “SAMI”

## Trawling aquaculture-environment research to enhance accessibility

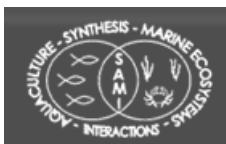
*During the last decade several EU projects have dealt with the environmental issues of marine aquaculture in Europe and the current knowledge in this field has grown significantly. Most of the results are, however, not readily accessible and an overview and synthesis of the most important environmental issues is lacking. It is, therefore, difficult to integrate this knowledge into the environmental requirements of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).*

As several projects have finished recently, there is a risk of losing much of this information unless immediate action is taken. A general overview of environmental issues related to aquaculture has been provided in documents and papers produced in the framework of the MARAQUA FP4 concerted action. However, the spectacular progress achieved through the FP5 EU-funded projects as well as by the international scientific community during the last 4 years is not reflected in these documents.

The **SAMI** project, a specific support action funded under FP6, will **review and synthesise the current knowledge in the field of environment and aquaculture**. The aim is to bring experts from the many aspects of aquaculture-environment interactions together for a discussion on the most significant advances in knowledge from completed and on-going research both in Europe and globally, for a discussion on the future perspectives of marine aquaculture within Europe particularly in the environmental context, and for integration of these advances into the environmental requirements of the CFP. In addition to the scientific aspects, the views of the industry and the NGO's will also

be considered in the discussion on the future perspectives. These discussions will subsequently be disseminated at several levels. A review and synthesis of the obtained results will be presented in a high-impact international journal in order to bring the consequences of recent advances to more general attention, to stimulate the scientific community to address gaps in knowledge in their future work, and to provide recommendations for the future EU research agenda.

Comprehensive reviews of the most important issues in marine aquaculture, specifically including each of the main RTD projects funded by the EU over the past decade, will be collected in a book, which has as its working title “**Aquaculture in the ecosystem**” and will be available for the scientific community as well as for regulating authorities, industry, fish farmers, NGO's, students in the field of aquaculture and the public with interests in the field.



**Project acronym:**

SAMI

**Full title of Project:**

Synthesis of Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystem Interactions

**EU contract number:**

022656

**Web-site:**

[www.sami.biology.sdu.dk](http://www.sami.biology.sdu.dk)

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SAMI will provide the following:

- the state-of-the-art on environmental issues regarding marine aquaculture in Europe;
- advice for integration of environmental requirements into the CFP; and
- expert perspectives on the sustainable development of marine aquaculture in Europe.

This will enable the project consortium to clarify gaps in current knowledge so as to give guidance on future directions for EU research policy in the field of aquaculture-environment interactions.



EXPERT PRESENTING RESULTS DURING EXPERT WORKSHOP IN JANUARY 2006 IN MENORA, HOSTED BY IMEDEA. SOURCE: M. HOLMER

“EXPERTS FROM THE MANY ASPECTS OF AQUACULTURE -ENVIRONMENT INTERACTIONS WERE BROUGHT TOGETHER FOR A DISCUSSION ON THE MOST SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES IN KNOWLEDGE”



THE SAMI WORKING GROUP DURING THE WORKSHOP AT FARO DE SALINAS (IMEDEA) IN OCTOBER 2006, MALLORCA. SOURCE: M. HOLMER