



SEAWEED AQUACULTURE IN NORWAY: SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS

Date: 25 February 2020

Duration: 10:00-17:30, registration from 09:30

Location: Bellona Headquarters, Vulkan 11, 0178 Oslo, Norway

Seaweed aquaculture is a recent and exciting newcomer in Norwegian waters. The workshop examines two aspects that may significantly influence the ability of the industry to develop and thrive.

Firstly, novel industries depend on public acceptance and support. Material and economic benefits from seaweed aquaculture are increasingly valued in the marketplace. However, it remains less clear how we are to understand and value the wider socio- environmental benefits. Characterisation and recognition of such benefits may thus serve to generate public acceptance and support.

Secondly, seaweed aquaculture emerges within a policy and regulation framework developed for purposes other than managing seaweed production. Consequently, it is important to consider whether these existing frameworks are appropriate for seaweed aquaculture. Do they support or constrain development? How can they be improved to further promote sustainable growth?

This workshop brings producers, managers and scientists together to address these issues. In hosting these discussions, Bellona wishes to advance the debate on important aspects of seaweed industry development. This joint, intensive one-day workshop aims to make best use of participants' time and foster exchange between different stakeholder groups.

The workshop results from a collaboration between two ongoing EU-projects on seaweed (<https://genialgproject.eu/>) and low-trophic aquaculture (<https://aquavitaeproject.eu/>).

Organised by project partners: Bellona, CIIMAR – UP, Nofima and UiT - The Arctic University of Norway.



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Program

09:30-10:00	<i>Participant reception, coffee</i>
10:00-10:15	Welcoming and opening session
10:15-11:30	Focus groups: Perceptions of socio-environmental benefits of seaweed aquaculture - How do we value nature?
11:30-11:45	<i>Coffee break, snacks</i>
11:45-12:15	Land/Seascape preferences: Aesthetic valuation
12:15-13:00	Focus groups: Scenario creation for seaweed aquaculture future - Where are we in 10 years' time?
13:00-14:00	<i>Lunch break</i>
14:00-15:30	Group discussion: How do policies promote and/or constrain development of seaweed aquaculture?
15:30-16:00	<i>Coffee break, snacks</i>
16:00-16:30	Outputs from group discussions
16:30-17:30	Plenary discussion and wrap-up

