

EU Algae Initiative and EU4Algae

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Algae in the EU policy context

- Seaweed as an alternative protein source Farm-to-Fork
- Sustainable blue Economy Strategy
- EU Sustainable Aquaculture Strategic guidelines
- And more...





A new vision for EU aquaculture



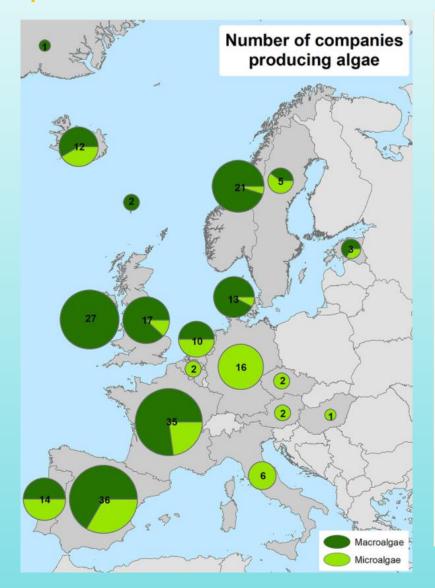
imal feed Bioremediation, diffication Algae biomass applications Environmental restoration clathing Plant Biostimulants _M (fertilisers)

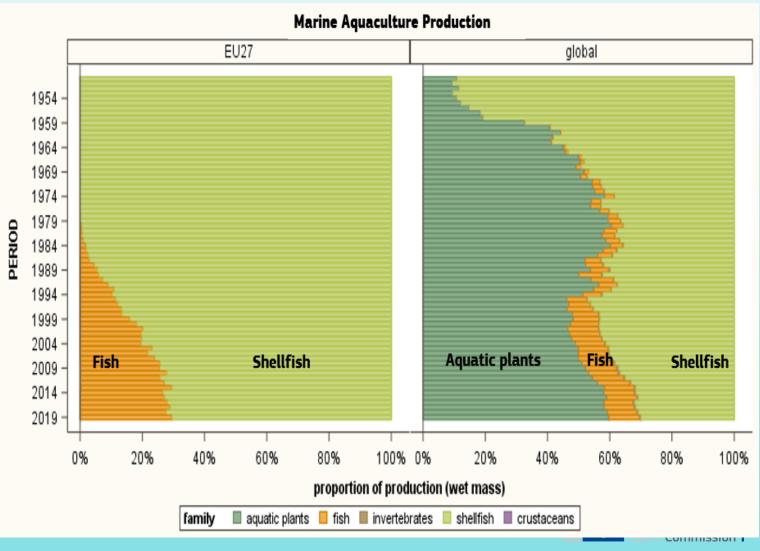
What can algae do for you?





Algae sector in Europe





European demand for algae and algae-based products



EU demand for seaweed may reach up to EUR 9 billion in 2030

(≙3.000% increase in best case scenario)



EU is a top importer worldwide of seaweed products: EUR 554 million in 2016



Market for chlorella will accelerate with an annual growth rate of 6.4% to 2025

Market for spirulina will accelerate with an annual growth rate of 8.7% to 2025



Growing human population worldwide

75 million vegans and vegetarians in Europe

Ageing population and increasingly health-conscious consumers

EU legal acts relevant to seaweed aquaculture



European

Commission

What is happening already?

- Algae related funding calls:
 Horizon Europe, Circular Bio-based Europe
 Joint Undertaking, EMFAF, EIT Climate-Kic,
 EIT Food
- Algae business support mechanisms:
 BlueInvest, Aquaculture Assistance
 Mechanism
- Ocean literacy and awareness raising: EU4Ocean coalition, Taste the Ocean campaign

#TasteTheOcean

is a campaign from the EU with top chefs across Europe to encourage consumers to buy and enjoy sustainable fish and seafood.



Studies to support the European Green Deal Shellfish and algae (2022 – 2023/4): assessing the potential of shellfish and algae to recycle nutrients

Algae and Climate (2022 – 2023): examines costs, impact and benefits of scaling up production of marine algae through commission aquaculture in the EU

The EU Algae Initiative – how did we get there?

Problems

Objectives

Action areas

- High production costs
- Low scale production
- Limited knowledge of the markets and consumers
- Limited knowledge of risks and environmental impacts of algae cultivation
- Fragmented governance framework

Unlock the algae potential in the EU by:

- increasing sustainable production, safe consumption and innovative use of algae products,
- upscaling regenerative algae cultivation and production
- developing and mainstreaming the markets for food and non-food algae applications

- The improvement of governance framework and legislation
- Supporting the improvement of business environment
- Closing knowledge, data, technological and innovation gaps
- Increasing social awareness and acceptance

The EU Algae Initiative

23 actions aimed at:

- 1. improving the governance framework and legislation,
- 2. improving the business environment,
- 3. closing knowledge, research, technological and innovation gaps, and
- 4. increasing social awareness and market acceptance

To be piloted in a coordinated way, in close collaboration with Member States and relevant stakeholders.



Next steps

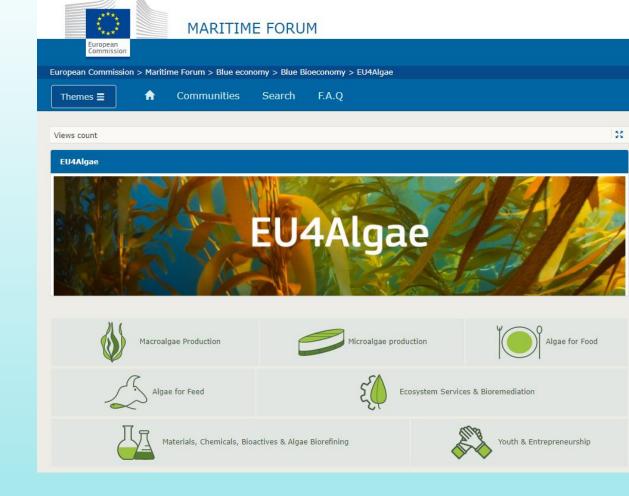
- To discuss implementation with EP and Council;
- Discussion with the EESC;
- Coordinate implementation with EU services Friends of Algae ISG and EU member States;
- To use EU4Algae for implementation of some industryrelated actions;
- The Commission will prepare a report assessing progress in implementing the Communication by the end of 2027.



EU4Algae

EU4Algae

- Create an European algae stakeholder forum (some 600 members today);
- Bring more algae species to the EU market;
- *EU4Afgae & Algae Initiative
- deliverables
 complementary, not duplicative;
- Capitalize on the well-established collaborative environment;
- EU4Algae is expected to contribute to the 4 priorities of the initiative;
- E.g. Action 23: Promoting awareness-raising actions for schools and universities, starting in 2023.



Thank you



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