Blue Career Centre for Aquaculture Education supported by a gamification approach and distance learning platform

Eleni (Helen) MILIOU and George TRIANTAPHYLLIDIS
Agricultural University of Athens

ΓΕΩΠΟΝΙΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

elenmi@aua.gr   gvtrianta@aua.gr

Kick-off meeting, Brussels, Belgium, 22 September 2023

The Consortium

The Consortium includes partners from Greece, France and Portugal that will implement the project with the support of a partner from the Outermost EU regions. They cover the knowledge triangle from the Mediterranean Sea, Atlantic region and the Outermost EU regions.

Agricultural University of Athens (Greece)

AQUIMER (France)

MOBICS (Greece)

InnovaSea Hellas (Greece)

MINDS (Greece)

LAMAR (Greece)

SEAentia (Portugal)

GDI (French Guiana)

The AIM

Contribute to the development of the next generation of aquaculture blue skills.

Provide opportunities for attractive, sustainable careers of aquaculture professionals that will support the **European Green Deal** initiatives.

BlueAquaEdu will address the lack of a comprehensive "skills ecosystem" for professionals in the Blue Economy of the Aquaculture sector and promote the **Farm to Fork Strategy.**

Develop an e-platform that will enable pooling/sharing of educational resources and merge traditional (i.e., curricula/courses) as well as innovative learning (e.g., gamification, digital tools, curriculum through micro-credentials) and career development tools and benefits from trans-national cooperation among key stakeholders in the knowledge triangle (education/training providers, industry and public authorities).

BlueAquaEdu will focus on the Aquaculture sector as well as on the post-harvesting value chain and valorisation of the processing by-products.

The Organizational structure

Impact and Ambition

BlueAquaEdu
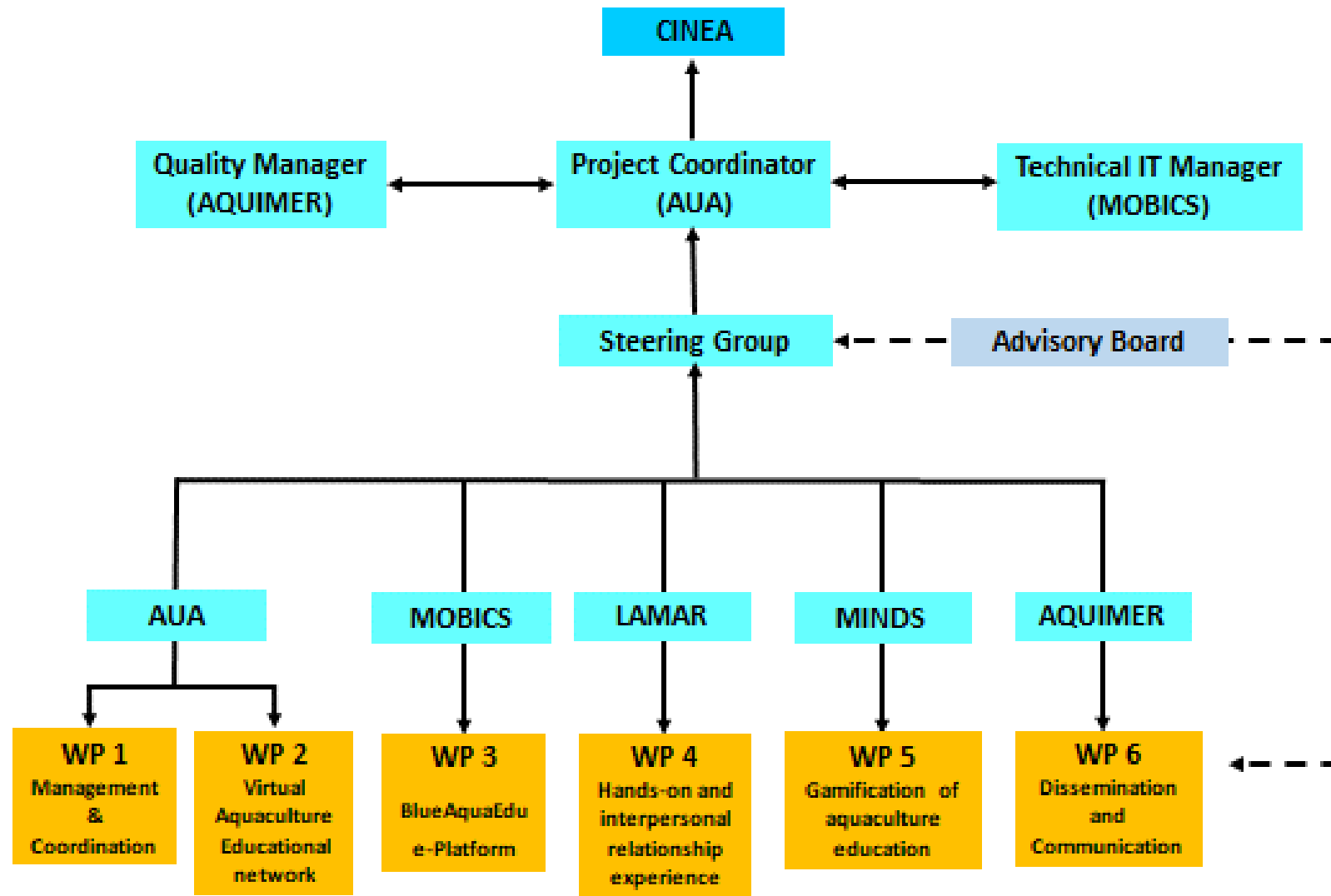
5 Common training/mentoring themes:

3 for aquaculture (cage farming, hatcheries, RAS)
1 for the post-harvesting value chain
1 for the valorisation of the processing by-products

Attendance of common training programs:
Blue Economy industry of aquaculture,
post-harvesting value chain and
valorisation of the processing by-products

160 Attendees
30 in Greece, 30 in France, 20 in Portugal and
80 from other EU, EU Outermost regions and non EU Countries
    from the Mediterranean Sea

Attract competent teachers/mentors/lecturers with hands-on experience: Target value (KPI): **25 Lecturers**.

Establishment of the **Consortium Network** (CN) & the **virtual Aquaculture Educational Network** (v-AquaEduN)

Development: Distance learning **e-Platform of BlueAquaEdu**

Organisation: **6 Workshops** (2 in France, 2 in Greece and 2 in Portugal)
                                                                    5 Summer schools (1 in France, 2 in Greece and 2 in Portugal)

Apprenticeships/Traineeships schemes: **6 Persons benefiting**

Increased **visibility and attractiveness** of
    blue careers in the aquaculture: **500 students/individuals benefiting**

Career guidance & enhanced employability: **200 Persons benefiting**

Impact and Ambition

The future aquaculture professionals will have a **more versatile, user friendly and interactive training** both online (gamification, e-platform) and face to face, thus allowing students to gain both declarative and functional knowledge.

The BlueAquaEdu serious game

- Provide players with a better understanding of the complexities of aquaculture,

- Help them make informed decisions about how they can contribute to sustainable and responsible practices in the industry.

Whether they are an industry professional, a student, or a consumer, a serious game in aquaculture could help understand the importance of this growing industry, and the role they can play in supporting its growth and development.

Impact and Ambition

The short-term effects of the project will reflect the establishment of the **virtual Aquaculture Educational Network (v-AquaEduN)**, a dynamic ground-breaking network of academics, aquaculture industrial representatives and public authorities focused on establishing and improving relationships between education and the aquaculture industry and exploiting the full value of collaboration. The expansion of the network in terms of members and geographical covering area will consist of the medium and long-term effects.

The project outcomes will be transferred to other regions in the EU as well as in non-EU countries.

- Mediterranean region (Greece and France)

- Atlantic region (France and Portugal)

- Neighbouring countries in the Atlantic and Mediterranean regions

- EU Outermost regions of Guadeloupe, Saint Martin, Canary islands, Azores and Madeira

- Non-EU Countries of Norway, Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey

- Sub-Saharan African Countries that produce fish through aquaculture (Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe, etc).

Timetable

ACTIVITY	YEAR 1												YEAR 2												YEAR 3									
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
WP1. Project management and coordination	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Task 1.1 - Technical & overall coordination	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Task 1.2 - Ethics management	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Task 1.3 - Quality control and risk management	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Task 1.4 - Establishment and coordination of AB	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Task 1.5 - Monitoring and evaluation of the project activities results	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
WP2. Establishment of the v-AquaEdu Network	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■										
Task 2.1 - Mapping of educational activities	■	■	■	■	■	■																												
Task 2.2 - Development of common training programs				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■																
Task 2.3 - Identification of teachers'/ mentors' profile							■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■										
WP3. The e-Platform of BlueAquaEdu	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Task 3.1 - Technical specifications and design of the e-Platform	■	■	■	■	■	■																												
Task 3.2 - Modules of the Resource Sharing-Pooling e-Platform				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■																			
Task 3.3 - e-Platform integration, parameterization and population																■	■	■	■															
Task 3.4 - Testing, Validation & Full-Scale Launch of the Sharing-Pooling e- Platform																			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
WP4 Hands-on experience and the interpersonal relationship experience							■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Task 4.1 - Dedicated workshops and Summer Schools							■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Task 4.2 - Advancement of Knowledge through Competitions for Students (15-18 and 18+)							■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				

Timetable

ACTIVITY (*Continued*)	YEAR 1												YEAR 2												YEAR 3									
	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4			Q1			Q2			Q3			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34
WP5. Developing the serious game for aquaculture education																																		
Task 5.1 - Interactive multimedia assets																																		
Task 5.2 - Development of a Gamification Application																																		
Task 5.3 - Advancement of Knowledge through Digital Competitions for Students (15-18 and 18+)																																		
WP6. Dissemination and communication																																		
Task 6.1 - Communication and Dissemination strategy																																		
T6.2 - Communication and Dissemination activities																																		
Task 6.3 - Participating in EU-level events and organisation of a final event																																		
Task 6.4 - Visual identity																																		
Task 6.5 - Sustainability and capitalisation of the sharing - pooling e-platform																																		

Future possible synergies

EU CONEXUS
Research for Society

EU-CONEXUS RESEARCH FOR SOCIETY (RFS) supports challenge-based and interdisciplinary research collaboration across nine coasts for developing a sustainable natural, technical, economic and cultural environment for society.

— La Rochelle Université, France

A human-sized university specialising in Smart Urban Coastal Sustainability issues.

— Technical University of Civil Engineering of Bucharest, Romania

We build education in engineering since 1818 in Romania.

— Catholic University of Valencia, Spain

Professional and personal growth of students, staff and society.

— Agricultural University of Athens, Greece

Provides a high level of Education and Research since 1920.

— University of Zadar, Croatia

A space of creativity and transfer of new knowledge and technologies.

— Klaipeda University, Lithuania

A national and Baltic Region leader in the field of marine sciences.

— South East Technological University

Education-focussed collaborative, inclusive, ethical and innovative community

— The University of Rostock

University's motto "Traditio und Innovatio"
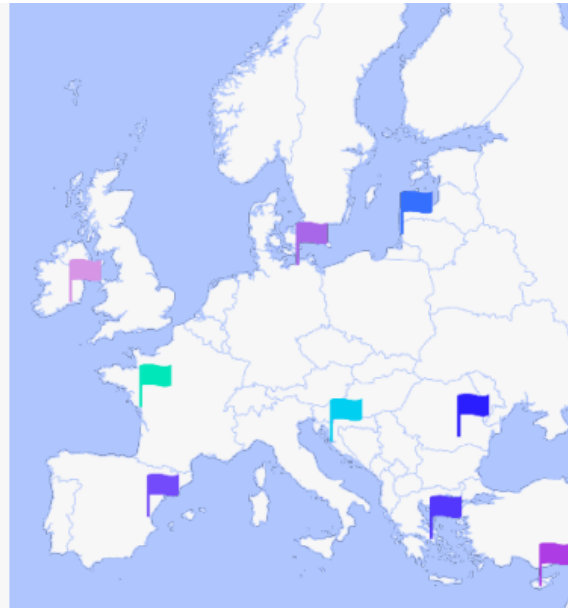
— Frederick university

Assists students achieve the maximum of their potential and empowers them to have a positive impact to society.

65 research institutes

5,6 k academic staff

9 universities

98 research groups

Blue Career Centre for Aquaculture Education supported by a gamification approach and distance learning platform

Thank you very much!

Eleni (Helen) MILIOU and George TRIANTAPHYLLIDIS
Agricultural University of Athens

elenmi@aua.gr   gvtrianta@aua.gr