



EU4Algae

Working group #1: Macro-algae cultivation



European Climate,
Infrastructure and
Environment
Executive Agency

Agenda for today

- Remind context
- Present draft action plan for WG1 and collect feedback
- Align on priorities and to dos for the Working Group
- Present the “Algae and climate study”

This session will be recorded

Agenda for today

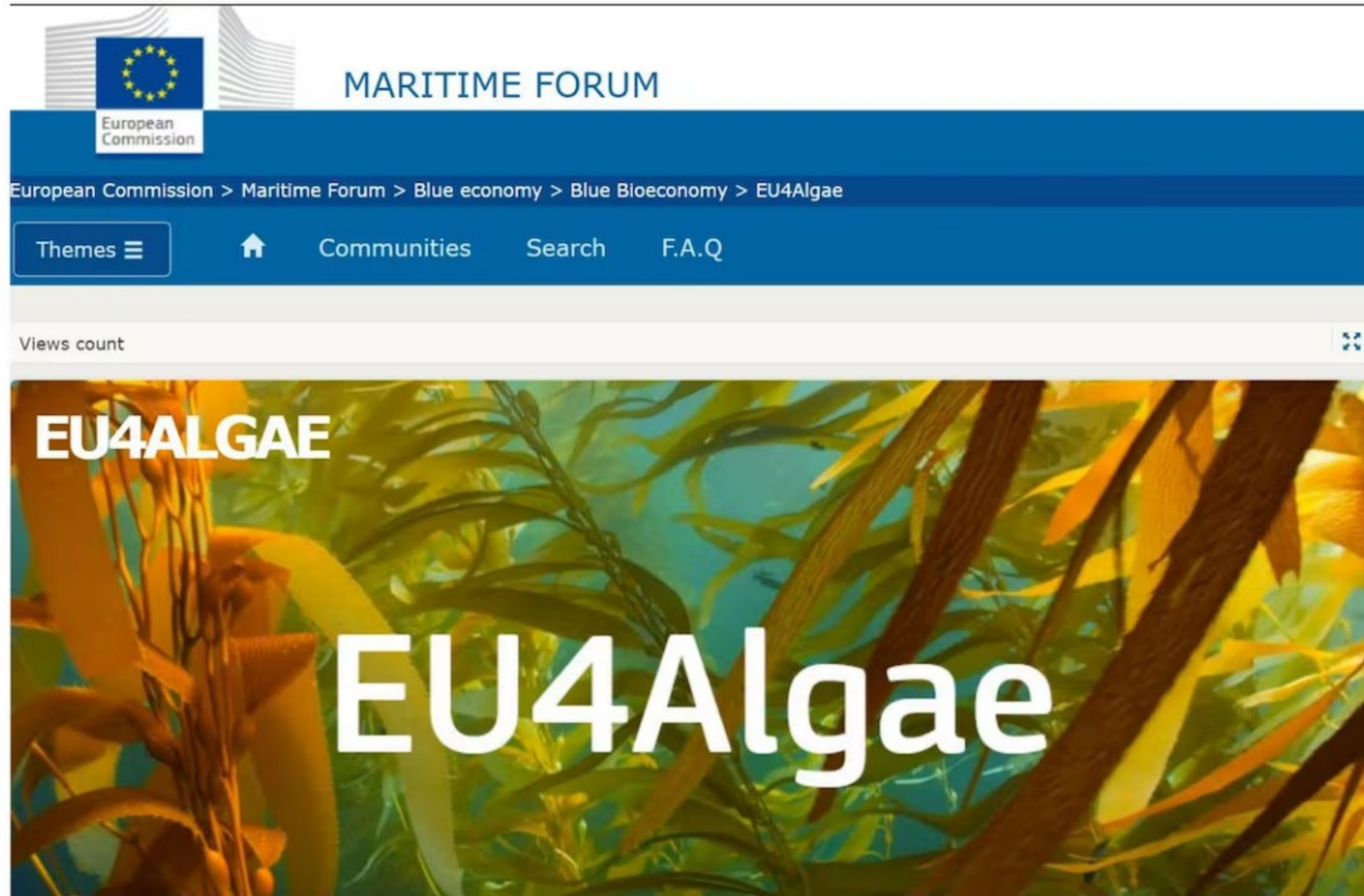
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#EU4Algae Objective

- **The ultimate objective of the #EU4Algae is to accelerate the scale up of a regenerative, resilient, fair and climate friendly algae industry in Europe.**

#EU4Algae in practice – Online platform



#EU4Algae in practice – Working groups

1. Working Group 1. Macroalgae Production (Facilitators: **Systemiq**, EABA, EurA)
 2. Working Group 2. Microalgae Production (Facilitators: **EABA**, EurA)
 3. Working Group 3. Algae for Food (Facilitators: **EABA**, s.Pro, EurA)
 4. Working Group 4. Algae for Feed (Facilitators: **s.Pro**, EABA, EurA)
 5. Working Group 5. Ecosystem Services / Bioremediation (Facilitators: **s.Pro**, EABA, EurA)
 6. Working Group 6. Materials / Chemicals / Bioactives and Algae Biorefining (Facilitators: **EABA**, s.Pro, EurA)
 7. Working Group 7. Youth and Entrepreneurship (Facilitators: **s.Pro**, EurA)
- **Transversal Topic: Regulation and Standardisation** (Facilitators: **Technopolis**, EurA)

#EU4Algae in practice – Working groups

1. **Working Group 1. Macroalgae Production (Facilitators: Systemiq, EABA, EurA)**

2. Working Group 2. Microalgae Production (Facilitators: EABA, EurA)

3. Working Group 3. Algae for Food (Facilitators: EABA, s.Pro, EurA)

4. Working Group 4. Algae for Feed (Facilitators: s.Pro, EABA, EurA)

5. Working Group 5. Ecosystem Services / Bioremediation (Facilitators: s.Pro, EABA, EurA)

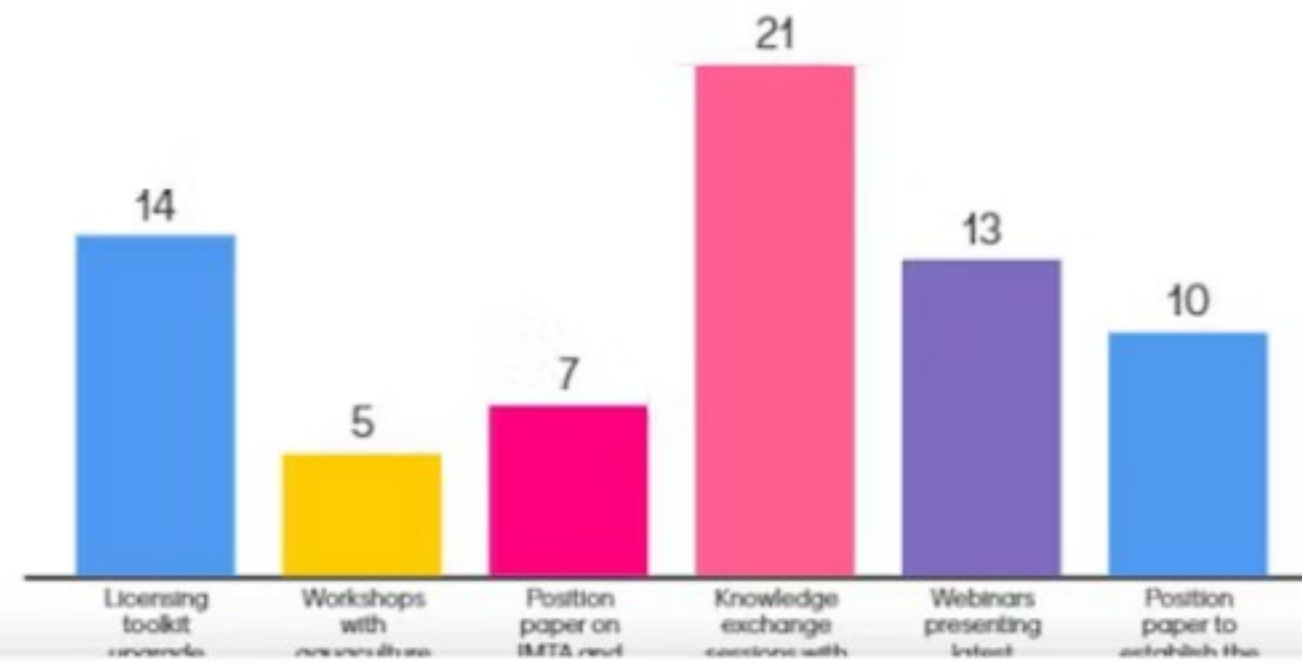
6. Working Group 6. Materials / Chemicals / Bioactives and Algae Biorefining (Facilitators: EABA, s.Pro, EurA)

7. Working Group 7. Youth and Entrepreneurship (Facilitators: s.Pro, EurA)

• Transversal Topic: Regulation and Standardisation (Facilitators: Technopolis, EurA)

1st session for the WG1 took place in June

What could be concrete deliverables for our WG?



What could be other ideas for the WG?

Studytrips for press and politicians

dissemination of examples of good practice

Reporting practice list

Invite to discussion political partners

Establish national focal points to attract and link national language actors.

A roadmap listing strategic seaweed species, applications and farming practices for a competitive European seaweed aquaculture sector

market survey for seaweed products for food and feed

Regular position on difference in regulations among EU countries = be de guardian of fair information centralized

workshops for public administration technicians

Share best practice in setting up a fundraising file / answering tender offers

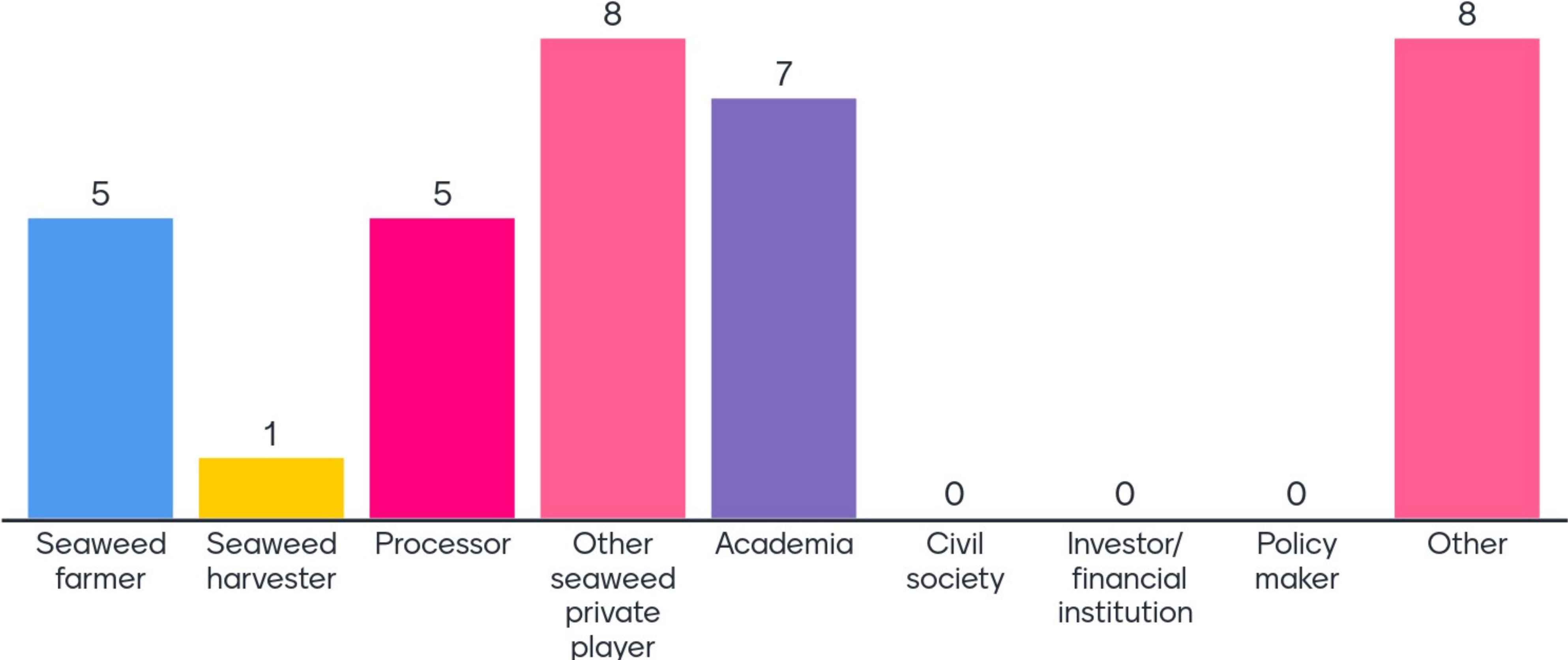
Draft action plan for WG1

European algae stakeholders' forum (EUAlgae) and bringing more algae species to the EU market
01.7. to version of WG1 action plans

EUMALGAE WORKING GROUP ACTION PLAN			
WG Name	Macroalgae cultivation	WG Number	1
Facilitator	Adrien VINCENT	Organisation	SYSTEMIQ
Identified Constraints, Obstacles, and Issues			
<p>A robust demand for high-quality, traceable, sustainably grown seaweed is expected to increase significantly in the coming years. However, if this demand is met through imports, Europe will miss out on many of the benefits associated with seaweed farming (e.g. innovation, ecosystem services, coastal jobs). Satisfying this growing demand translates into the need to produce millions of tonnes of fresh seaweed each year, which is far above current production levels. While Europe can build on expertise and know-how from decades of science, wild harvesting and processing activities, production growth of this magnitude will depend on cost-efficient farming scaleup, which must meet sustainability criteria.</p> <p>Today, cultivated European seaweed is insufficient in volume, too expensive and produced by a fragmented supply chain. So far only a few companies have managed to secure a license for large-scale operations and leverage sufficient funding to expand.</p> <p>Besides, high quality, traceability and local sourcing are value-adds that can justify a price premium for European seaweed versus imported Asian products. However, European seaweed will not be viewed as an economically viable source of large-scale future supply if the price structure does not change – the current price premium often makes it ten times as costly as imports. To enable this change and help propel European producers up the ladder of preferred sources of supply, production costs in Europe have to be cut drastically. Economies of scale will naturally occur as farms grow bigger in size and assets like boats or seeding and harvesting machinery can be amortised.</p>			
General Objective			
Support the sustainable and cost efficient scale-up of European seaweed cultivation			
Specific Objectives			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create useful centrally accessible knowledge and facilitate knowledge and experience sharing between seaweed farmers • Create a bridge between the seaweed farmers community and other stakeholders groups (e.g. policy makers, journalists, investors, etc.) • Inspire new entrants to launch and develop a seaweed farm in Europe, by providing them with the right tools, role models and support to access financing 			
Working Groups Actions			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A.1. Upgrade and maintain up to date the Licensing Toolkit developed by Seaweed for Europe - A.2. Organise knowledge and experience sharing sessions with farmers from other continents - A.3. Organise webinars presenting latest scientific developments and new technical solutions for seaweed cultivation - A.4. Facilitate organisation of on-site trips for journalists and policy-makers/ politicians to visit farms and meet seaweed farmers - A.5. Explore potential to create a public seed bank at European level 			

Please open Mentimeter

Which stakeholder group do you consider yourself part of?



Pin where you are from



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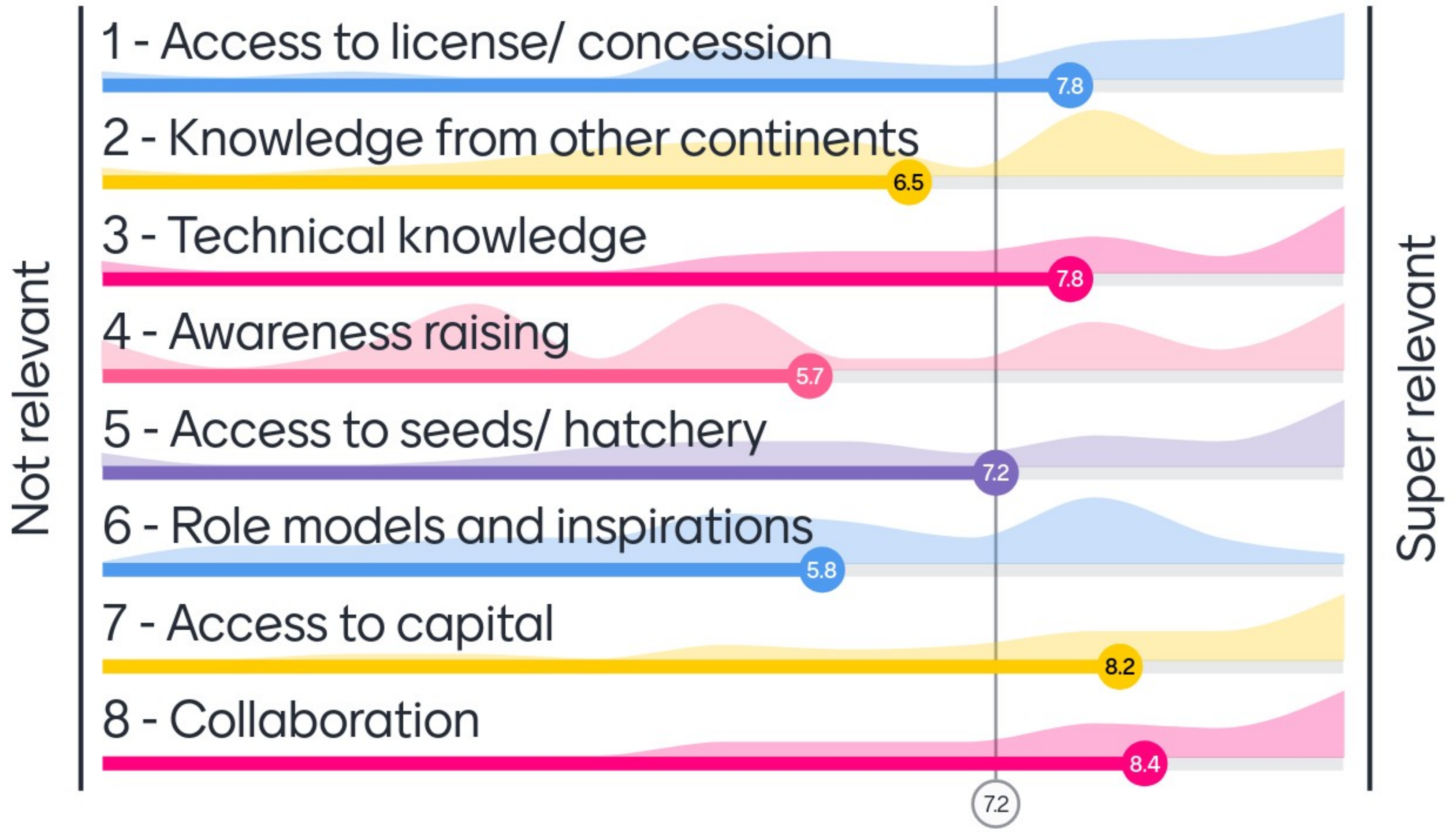
8 priority actions for 8 concrete outcomes

Theme/ key challenge	Priority action	Concrete outcome
1 Access to license/ concession	Upgrade and maintain up to date the Licensing Toolkit developed by Seaweed for Europe	Online licensing toolkit available on EU4Algae online forum, enriched with more country profiles and maintained up to date
2 Knowledge from other continents	Organise knowledge and experience sharing sessions with farmers from other continents	3 sessions organised (1 per year) with farmers from e.g, Asia, North America, Africa
3 Technical knowledge	Organise webinars presenting latest scientific developments and new technical solutions for seaweed cultivation	3 webinars organised (1 per year) presenting latest scientific developments and new technical solutions for seaweed cultivation
4 Awareness raising	Facilitate organisation of on-site trips for journalists and policy-makers/ politicians to visit farms and meet seaweed farmers	3 on site farm visits for journalists and policy-makers/ politicians (1 per year) co-organised with local partners in e.g., France, Netherlands, Portugal

8 priority actions for 8 concrete outcomes

Theme/ key challenge	Priority actions	Concrete outcome
5 Access to seeds/ hatchery	Explore potential to create a public seed bank at European level	Scoping document for the set up of a public seed bank at European level
6 Role models and inspirations	List and profile success stories of seaweed farmers	Fact sheets/ profiles of European seaweed farmers success stories
7 Access to capital	Identify potential sources of financing for seaweed farmers (types of capital + potential partners)	Mapping of potential sources of financing for seaweed farmers (types of capital + potential partners)
8 Collaboration	Host 5x WG meetings (online or in-person) with rotational chair / host	5x WG meetings (online or in-person) with rotational chair / host

Do you feel the 8 priority actions are relevant to help scale up macroalgae cultivation?



Is there one activity you were really expecting EU4Algae to do on macroalgae cultivation that you found missing in the action plan?

Species selection

Market value

2

Environnemental impact

Business models

Macroalgae life cycle understanding and manipulation (link with nursery development).
Protocol and guideline publication.

organization of production and distribution chains

Best available technics for cultivation and processing

Industry interest

Is there one activity you were really expecting EU4Algae to do on macroalgae cultivation that you found missing in the action plan?

one topic i miss is genetics, kyoto protocol, gene manipulation etc

macroalgae cultivation costs (dry biomass cost)

Supporting sustainability assessments

Uniform regulation in Union

Suitable sites

cost and prices for accessing markets

Uniform and transparent EU legislation specific for seaweeds.

Creating demand on eating seaweeds, training, recipes, ready to eat products, seaweed processing

expand research to identify what other native species could have commercial application - currently only a few species are considered

Is there one activity you were really expecting EU4Algae to do on macroalgae cultivation that you found missing in the action plan?

Regulations from Brussels on iodine

List of priority species for Aquaculture in Europe

Mapping the genetic and biochemistry distribution from wild populations

IMTA

Growth of market demand and connection to growers

management of natural populations integrated with local communities

Link/collaboration with future European biobank and culture collection already available (with online database?).

Using cultured plants for restoration of coast al subtidal ecosystems

legislation and access rules simplification

Is there one activity you were really expecting EU4Algae to do on macroalgae cultivation that you found missing in the action plan?

Monitoring open-sea production of seaweeds with other aquaculture farms

IMTA in mediterranean

economic feasibility of products and processes in the context of the bioeconomy

Co location among floating wind

Seaweed will provide Echo system service how we do we value this

Circular economy

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Proposed priorities for the next 6 months

Theme/ key challenge

Proposed priority towards summer 2023

1 Access to license/ concession

On hold until online platform EU4Algae is fully operational – dependent on EU Maritime Forum

2 Knowledge from other continents

Organise one online webinar – Priority geography to be selected jointly

3 Technical knowledge

Organise one online webinar – Priority topics to be selected jointly

4 Awareness raising

Identify local partners with willingness to co-organize on site visits

Proposed priorities for the next 6 months

Theme/ key challenge

Proposed priority towards summer 2023

5 Access to seeds/
hatchery

To be started later in 2023

6 Role models and
inspirations

Prepare template and identify volunteers – Prepare first 3-4 profiles

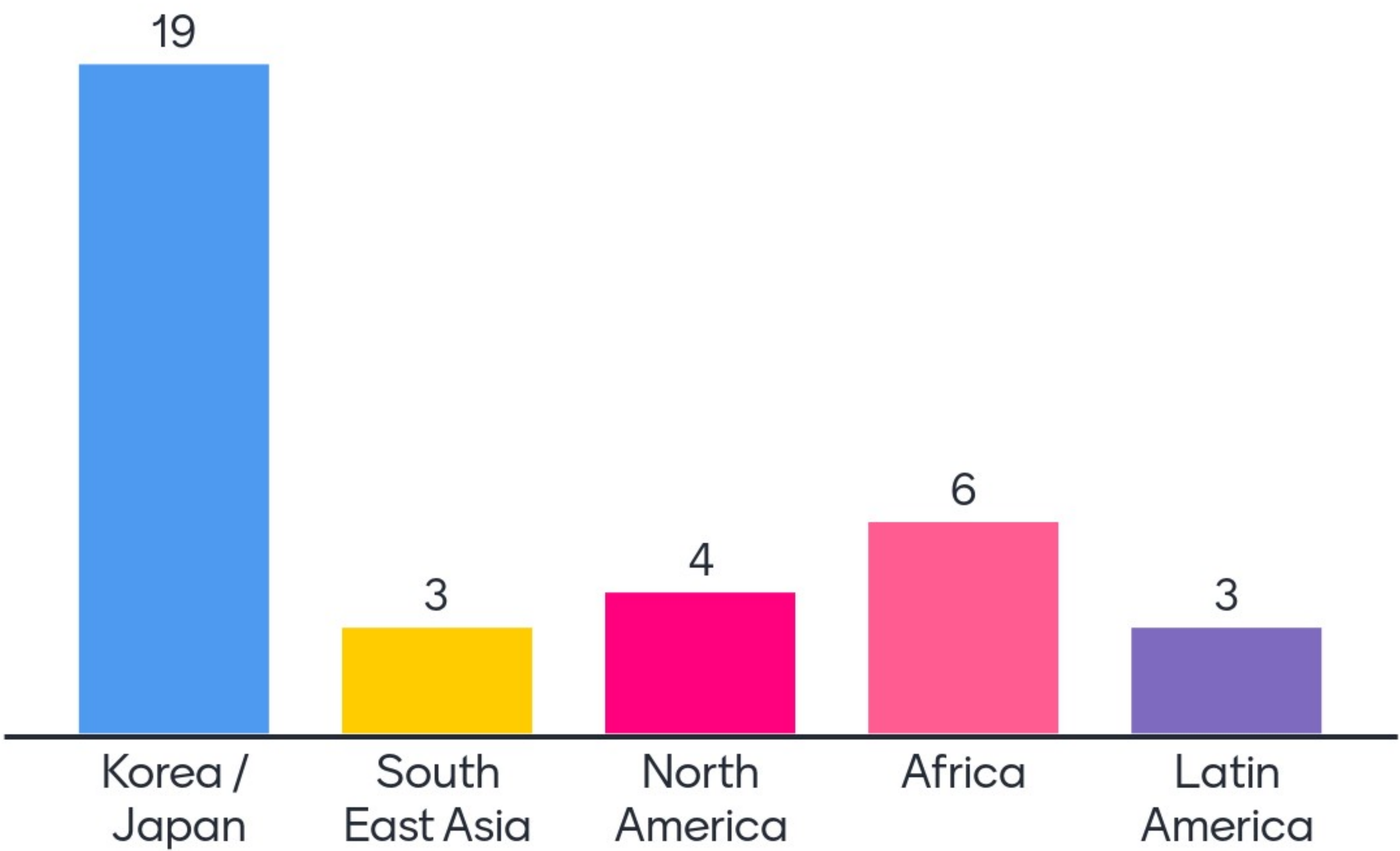
7 Access to capital

Start with mapping of EU funding available

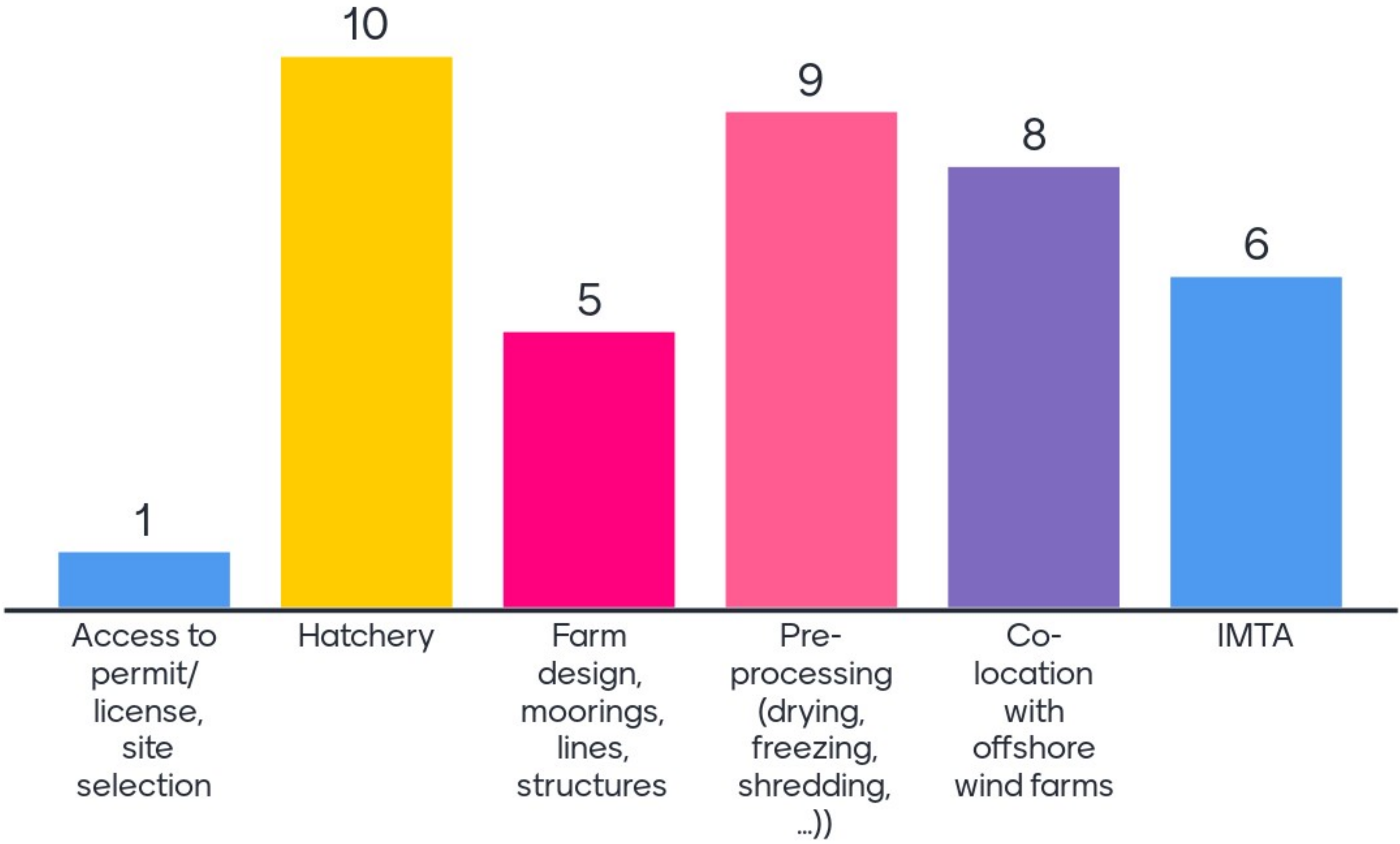
8 Collaboration

Organise next WG1 meeting in January – One volunteer Chair identified

Action 2 - From which geography do you want to hear farmers' testimonies from in priority?



Action 3 - Which topics would you like to see covered in priority by a webinar?



Action 4 - Any volunteer to co-organise an on-site visit with journalists and policy-makers?

The seaweed Company (pending on dates)

Yes!

You should contact SAMS Seaweed Academy...

I hope to be able to

yes

could this be land based too?

Seaweed energy solutions (not me) - organize the Seagrass meeting in 2023

Action 6 - Any volunteer to be profiled as an inspiring seaweed farmer ?

can we suggest anyone?!

Maybe have 2 young people willing in TSC

Organa Spirulina and Microalgae lab (Catalunya/Spain) (not me)

Not myself: Algaplus (Portugal)

This is Seaweed - Paul

Action 8 - Any volunteer to be the Chair for the next WG meeting in January?

Paul - This is Seaweed

can co chair only if no one else volunteers

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ALGAE AND CLIMATE

Algae4Climate WG Macroalgae

11 October

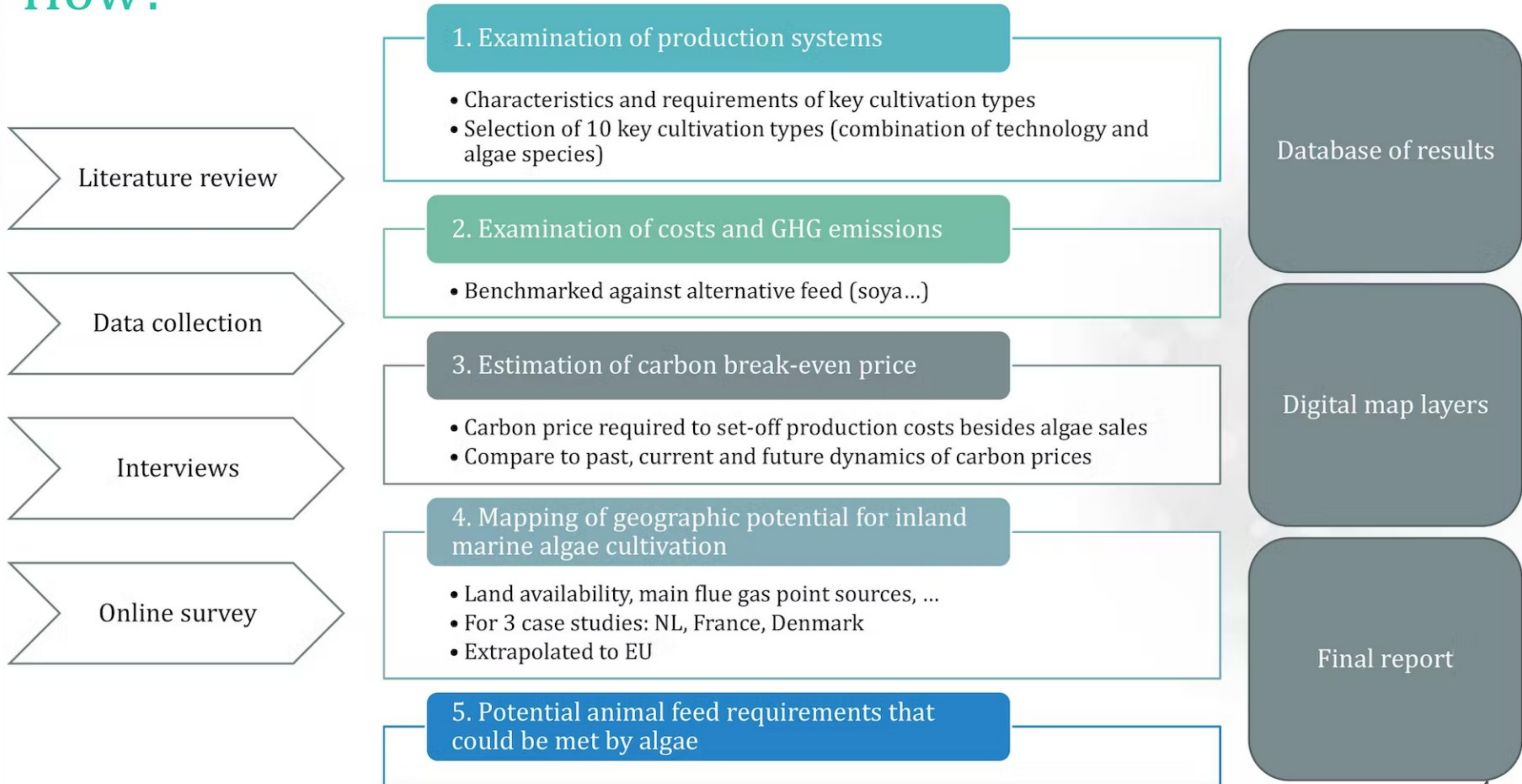


The study, what for?

- ▶ Green Deal ambition: transform the EU into a climate neutral region
- ▶ Can producing and consuming more algae make a significant contribution to the achievement of our climate goals?
- ▶ Algae occupy a production niche in Europe, significant potential remains to be seized for a wide range of applications
- ▶ Knowledge gaps:
 - ▶ The role of algae cultivation contribute to Green Deal objectives
 - ▶ Key constraints and leverage to seize full potential
- ▶ Objective: Provide DG MARE sound and up-to-date information on the potential impact of scaling up the production of marine algae through aquaculture in the EU.
- ▶ Start date December 2021, Duration: 12 Months



How?



Linking to EU4Algae at different stages of the study implementation process

- ▶ Discussions ongoing with the EU4Algae support team for identifying best connections between our study and the coalition process
- ▶ Connections and synergies identified so far:
 - ▶ **Collecting information => Online survey to EU4Algae coalition**
 - ▶ **Interacting with EU4Algae WGs** - during the first series of WG meetings October 2022, and then?
 - ▶ **Consolidating results => Presenting the final results of the study** . EU4Algae coalition organised in Roma December 12, 2022 back-to-back to Algae Europe (December 13 & 14)



How can you contribute?

- ▶ Share knowledge, information and studies
- ▶ Participate to the online questionnaire
- ▶ Join the workshop in December





Many thanks !



Next steps

- Minutes and recording of the meeting will be shared with the group
- You will be invited to a dedicated session on legislation in November, facilitated by Technopolis
- EU4Algae event will take place on December 12th
- Next WG meeting will be organized late January, documents will be sent in advance for review

Thank you



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