



## **Second AQUAEXCEL<sup>2020</sup> Call for Access Now Open: Fully EC-Funded Access to Top-Class Aquaculture Research Infrastructures**

**Press release:** June 2016

The second **AQUAEXCEL<sup>2020</sup>** (AQUAculture infrastructures for EXCELlence in European fish research towards 2020) Call for Access is now open, with a deadline of 8 July 2016.

On a regular basis, the **AQUAEXCEL<sup>2020</sup>** project will invite proposals from European research groups for scientific research that utilises the facilities of any of the participating aquaculture research infrastructures. The **AQUAEXCEL<sup>2020</sup>** project unites major aquaculture experimental facilities with capacity to undertake experimental trials on a selection of commercially important fish aquaculture species and system types. These installations are made available to the research community for Transnational Access (TNA) with the support of the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme. Transnational Access involves a research group in one country collaborating with one or more **AQUAEXCEL<sup>2020</sup>** Infrastructures that are located in a different country to the applicant, and which offer facilities and expertise not available in their own country.

The facilities available cover the entire range of production systems (cage, pond, recirculation, flowthrough, hatchery and disease challenge); environments (freshwater, marine, cold, temperate and warm water); scales (small, medium and industrial scale); fish species (salmonids, cold and warm water marine fish, freshwater fish and artemia); and fields of expertise (nutrition, physiology, health & welfare, genetics, engineering, monitoring & management technologies).

Interested researchers can propose projects that involve visits of one or in some cases two people to the chosen research infrastructure for periods of up to three months. Access to the research infrastructures and associated travel and subsistence expenses will be paid for under the project. The establishment of new transnational collaborations is strongly encouraged, as well as the participation by SMEs.

For more information, please visit: [www.aquaexcel.eu](http://www.aquaexcel.eu).

### **Notes for the Editor**

**AQUAEXCEL<sup>2020</sup>** is a research and innovation action funded under the EU's new Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020. The project will run for five years from 2015 to 2020, with a total budget of €9.7 million funded by the European Union.

The **AQUAEXCEL<sup>2020</sup>** consortium includes 22 partner organisations (including 39 top level aquaculture facilities) in 12 European countries. The project is coordinated by the Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA) in France. AquaTT is the project dissemination partner.