



COST Action FA1305 'EU Aquaponics Hub' unites a heterogeneous group of scientists, researchers and SMEs from across the EU and around the globe to better understand the state of knowledge in aquaponics in Europe and around the world and to facilitate innovation and education in this field of sustainable fish and vegetal food production.

## **Funded Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM):**

### **Tomato production in aquaponic systems – nutrient mass balance of different fertilization regimes**

We are looking for PhD and/or postdoctoral researchers who are motivated, committed to innovative research and who are interested in conducting an in-depth experiment focusing on managing nutrient levels in aquaponics. This research will also investigate closing the nutrient loop by reusing fish sludge. The work will furthermore involve microbiological profiling and the detection of root and plant diseases that may occur in the systems.

We are looking to award one or two grants to PhD students or early career postdoctoral researchers (less than 8 years since the award of the PhD) to undertake a Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM) for eight weeks in the period of April to June 2015 in order to conduct the experimental work outlined above. Applicants should have good lab skills, and knowledge of microbiological methods would be very desirable. The researchers will work together with our Aquaponics team, consisting of fish, plant, and microbiology experts. The results of the work will be published.

The researchers will be hosted by the Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften (ZHAW), Wädenswil, Switzerland. A fixed grant of **€ 2500 (plus € 500 from ZHAW to cover for high costs of living in Switzerland)** will be awarded to each researcher as a contribution towards the cost of travel, board and lodging. The grant will be paid after the successful completion of the STSM.

Applicants must be affiliated to an institution located in a COST country participating in this Action: Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom. According to COST regulations, STSMs are intended to facilitate scientists going to an institution or laboratory in another country; applicants from institutions in Switzerland are therefore ineligible. The nationality of the researcher is not a bar to eligibility.

Applicants should send the following documents to Professor Ranka Junge, Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften, Institute for Natural Resource Sciences ([jura@zhaw.ch](mailto:jura@zhaw.ch)) by 15 April 2015:

- CV (max 2 pages)
- Letter of motivation
- List of publications

For informal enquiries contact Ranka Junge ([jura@zhaw.ch](mailto:jura@zhaw.ch)).