



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):

Integration of aquaculture wastewater and aerobically mineralized fish manure in hydroponic culture

In aquaponics – the integration of aquaculture with hydroponics – the nutrient mass balance is an important aspect to consider and monitor. Generally most attention focuses on nutrient deficiencies. However, unbalanced excess amounts of nutrients in general and sodiumchloride (NaCl) in particular may lead to accumulations and affect plant productivity. We are looking for PhD or early career postdoctoral researchers (less than 8 years since the award of the PhD) who are motivated, committed to innovative research and who are interested in conducting an in-depth experiment focusing on nutrient level evolution and plant (tomato and lettuce) production in aquaponics by integrating aquaculture water and aerobically mineralized manure from our pikeperch RAS.

We are looking to award a grant to a PhD student or early career postdoctoral researcher to undertake a Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM) for two months starting in July 2015 in order to conduct the experimental work outlined above. Applicants should have knowledge of (hydroponic) plant culture and nutrient cycling. The researcher will work together with our experts in glasshouse horticulture and aquaculture at *inagro* in Roeselare, Belgium. The results of the work will be published.

A fixed grant of €2000 will be awarded to the 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: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, 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 Belgium are therefore ineligible. The nationality of the researcher is not a bar to eligibility.

Applicants should send the following documents to dr. ir. Peter Bleyaert (peter.bleyaert@inagro.be) and dr. ir. Dieter Anseeuw (dieter.anseeuw@inagro.be) by **1 June 2015**:

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

For informal enquiries contact : Dieter Anseeuw (dieter.anseeuw@inagro.be).