



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):

Influence of different fertilization regimes on the quality and quantity of produce (salads, herbs) in aquaponics

We are looking for a PhD or postdoctoral researcher who is motivated, committed to innovative research and who would be interested in conducting an in-depth experiment focusing on managing nutrient levels in aquaponics. This research will also investigate the option to fully close the water loop by mineralising fish sludge and reusing the released nutrients in the system by reusing fish sludge.

We are looking to award a grant to a PhD student or early career postdoctoral researcher (less than 8 years since the award of the PhD) to undertake a Short-Term Scientific Mission (STSM) for ten weeks in the period of August to November 2015 in order to conduct the experimental work. In the experiment four nutrient regimes will be compared: (i) conventional hydroponic, (ii) Aquaponics (AP) with fish water, no additives, (iii/iv) AP with fish water, two versions of 'additives' (mineral nutrients, nutrients from fish sludge). The monitoring will include water quality, productivity of the system, and aspects of quality of plants (shelf life, biomass composition ...)

Applicants should have good lab skills, and knowledge of microbiological methods would be very desirable. The researcher will work together with our Aquaponics team, consisting of fish, plant, and microbiology experts. The results of the work will be published.

The researcher 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 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) by **15 July 2015**:

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

For informal enquiries contact Ranka Junge (jura@zhaw.ch).