



**COFASP**  
ERA-net

## Shared Research Infrastructure

Sigurdur Björnsson, Policy Day Brussels 10.01.2017

## Task 2.4 Sharing infrastructure

“Within the framework of a common research programme approach, aiming at the optimal use of resources, it is logical to include also a shared use of the involved research infrastructures ...”

“The proposed task will be performed in connection, and as a complementation to, the activities on the marine research infrastructures within SEAS-ERA ...”



COFASP  
ERA-net

# Three types of infrastructure

- ❑ Regional vessels contributing to fisheries issues
- ❑ Experimental facilities for aquaculture research
- ❑ Research and Development (R&D) facilities for seafood processing research and innovation



COFASP  
ERA-net

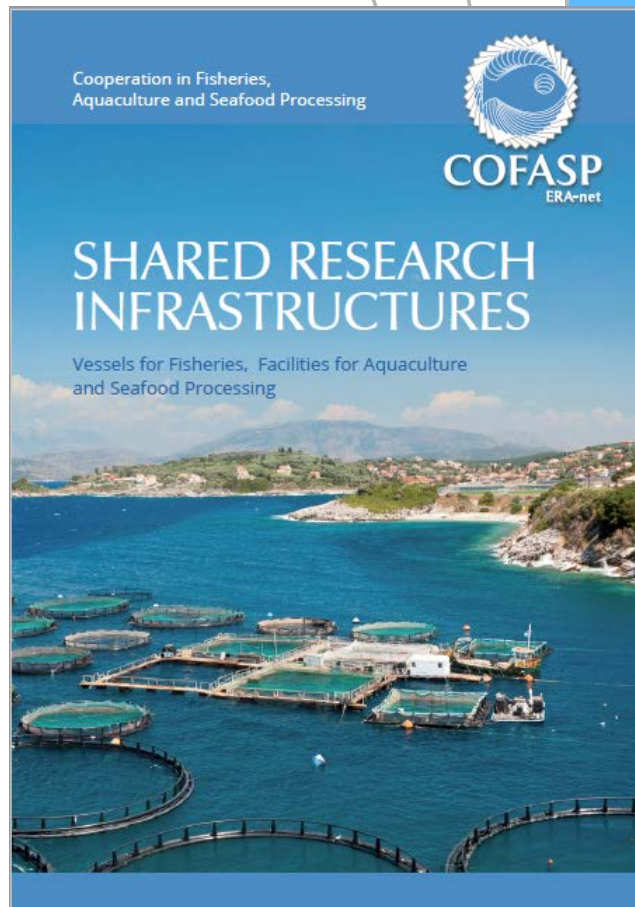
# Methodology

78 Operators shared their opinions and recommendations on;

- Shared use of research infrastructures, e.g. through transnational access
- Common vision on new needs, optimisation of new investments
- Pooling skills for operation & maintenance
- Development of innovative technologies

# Report

- ❑ Task leader Ifremer – Jean-Francois Masset
- ❑ Delivered 4Q 2015



# Research Vessels (RV) for Fisheries

- ❑ More than half of RV are designed for fisheries research, whereas almost one third are multi-purpose
- ❑ Average days at sea for fisheries RV is 114 days per year
- ❑ Sharing RV ranks as the highest priority
- ❑ Over 90% of operators are open to „outside“ researchers and training



# RV – size and age

62 RV contributing to fisheries research were registered in Europe:

Ship Length (m)	> 80 m	80 m > L > 55 m	55 m > L > 30 m	30 m > L > 15 m	15 m > L > 10 m
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7</b>
RV firstly designed for fisheries research		10	9	17	2
RV designed multi-purpose with capacity and use for fisheries research		6	9	4	5
<b>Average age (years)</b>		<b>22,6</b>	<b>18,9</b>	<b>19,4</b>	<b>23,8</b>
RV < 20 years old (built or last big refit)		6	10	10	2
RV > 20 years old		10	8	11	3 (+ 2 age unknown)

## RV - Main recommendation

“Main recommendation is to develop regional case studies of RV multi-annual programming addressing both scientific, national procedures and logistical issues, including fisheries and biological monitoring (in line with some of the MSFD descriptors), with concerns for the spatial coverage of shared sea basins and for proper (seasonal) timing of cruises”.



COFASP  
ERA-net



# Experimental Facilities for Aquaculture

- ❑ There are over 70 facilities operated by 59 operators, 85% of those are public
- ❑ Highest priority is shared use through transnational access
- ❑ Stakeholders recommend that such an overview should be maintained and updated regularly



# Research Facilities for Seafood Processing

- ❑ Out of 45 operators that responded 80% are public institutions
- ❑ Not available in all countries, 13 countries have no such facilities
- ❑ A need for shared vision on development of innovative technologies is seen as top priority
- ❑ It is recommended that this mapping is updated and oriented towards wide range of R&D support for the sector

# Research for the Seafood Processing

The trend is to evolve from single-species plants towards more multi-purpose processing units – requiring a strong R&D sector in support.

- ❑ R&D for new products and packaging
- ❑ R&D to maximise the use of raw biomass
- ❑ R&D for healthier products



# To Conclude

Sharing research infrastructures is a long-expressed wish, potentially appreciated;

- ❑ by researchers who can gain access to facilities tailored to their needs but not always existing in their own country,
- ❑ by operators who can optimize the use of their resources and exchange good practices for their design, technology and operation, and
- ❑ policy makers who can perceive new needs and optimize new investments.



COFASP  
ERA-net