

Fish Welfare Programme

Project Outline:

- This project will seek to identify the most appropriate indicators on a commercial freshwater site under the following categories: environment-based indicators (e.g., temperature) and animal-based indicators (e.g., behaviour). These operational indicators will be aligned with laboratory indicators (indicators that require specialised equipment and cannot be done on site), which will allow the analysis of alternative farm management techniques to optimise fish welfare.
- Deliver eight welfare workshops for the freshwater and saltwater finfish sectors. Development of practical tools for use on site to compliment the subject matter of the workshops.

Project Objectives:

- Industry meeting third party seafood certification standards requirements on fish welfare competencies.
- Increase knowledge and proficiency in diagnostic and sampling methods for optimal assessment of fish health and disease in aquaculture facilities, through attendance at workshops and post workshop evaluation.
- Facilitate greater connectivity between industry members on fish health and welfare practices on fish farm sites.
- Information dissemination, networking opportunities.
- Improved fish welfare in commercial settings utilising Operational Welfare Indicators.

Expected Benefits:

- Facilitate greater connectivity between industry members on fish health and welfare practices and dissemination of information to industry.
- Information dissemination, networking opportunities.
- Improved fish welfare in commercial settings.

Projected Cost: €24,600