



WP12 Core group Meeting – May 2009

Meeting minutes

WP12: Stakeholder group 3: Consumer Representatives

Venue: Laboratory of Aquaculture & Artemia Reference Center
Ghent University (Belgium)

Date: 18 May 2009

Attending:

Name	Institution	Country
Wim Verbeke	Ghent University	Belgium
Zuzanna Pieniak	Ghent University	Belgium
Karen Brunsø	Aarhus School of Business, University of Aarhus	Denmark
Joachim Scholderer	Aarhus School of Business, University of Aarhus	Denmark
James Young	University of Stirling	UK
Alistair Lane	European Aquaculture Society	Belgium
Olga Kehagia	Rlabs	Greece

Coordinator: Wim Verbeke
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Agenda:

1. Introduction of WP12 by the coordinator
2. Review of WP Objectives
3. Review of WP Deliverables
4. Cooperation with other WPs
5. Collection of data
6. Conclusions

Meeting progress:

Introduction of WP12 by the coordinator

The WP12 coordinator, prof. Wim Verbeke welcomes new members and introduces the WP12, starting with some background information on the role and activities of consumer stakeholder group in AQUA-TNET1 and going through the description of the WP 12.

Review of WP Objectives

Two core objectives of the WP12 have been identified:

- (1) Establishing a platform for the exchange of information between the network sections and society as a whole, as well as between the network, and its customers (e.g. retailers) and end users (e.g. European seafood consumers) in the value chain.

It has been discussed that it is better to work with consumer organisations, and within those organisations with 'policy people' (and not people working on education subjects per se). Examples of such platforms/networks have been given: BEUC The European Consumers' Organisation (www.beuc.org), ATIPlatform

(2a) Identification of needs related to necessary skills. This should be a kind of gap analysis – Identification what is there and what not.

- (Skills could be segmented for students working in industry and academia; since their skills should be different)
- At the beginning there need to be an inventory done of what is available, thus WP1 & WP2 if it would be possible to get. WP 1 and WP2 could collect data about current MSc and PhD programmes and further could provide to WP 12 an overview of subjects/courses/modules that deal with consumer and societal issues, and additionally whether these subjects are mandatory or voluntary. Then we can identify what is the gap.
- Recognition of necessary skills rather than giving them
- In MSc programmes very little room for elective courses. There has been a discussion whether a summer school or a postgraduate programme with the identified skills could be a possibility? This needs to be highlighted to WP1 and WP2.
- Additionally, there was a discussion whether consumer and societal skills can be a part of a PhD programme. Would it be too hard to justify including it in a doctoral training? Or would it still be possible?

(2b) Giving feedback and recommendations concerning development of courses/trainings in societal and consumer issues skills

(2c) Provide specialist teaching within existing courses and programmes; suggesting a PAN-European course

Review of WP Deliverables

Discussion is needed with WP4. They have similar plans what we had, i.e. identify gaps. We need to exchange ideas about identifying needs and preferences in terms of training. Review of WP12 Deliverables has been done. In total there are 12 deliverables to be done.

WP 12.1 Start-up Meeting (M1)

WP 12.2 Review WP Core Reports for consumer and societal issues (M4)

WP 12.3 Identification of skills relevant to consumer issues (M8)

WP 12.4 Identification of training needs regarding consumer issues (M10)

WP 12.5 Stakeholder Group Meeting at Annual Event Year 1 (M11)

WP 12.6 Summary Report on Annual Event Year 1 (M12)

WP 12.7 Review WP Core Reports for consumer and societal issues (M17)

WP 12.8 Stakeholder Group Meeting at Annual Event Year 2 (M23)

WP 12.9 Summary Report on Annual Event Year 2 (M24)

WP 12.10 Review WP Core Reports for consumer and societal issues (M29)

WP 12.11 Stakeholder Group Meeting at Annual Event Year 3 (M35)

WP 12.12 Summary Report from Stakeholder group on Annual Event Year 3 (M35)

In brackets delivery months are given. Month 1= October 2008

Cooperation with other WPs

One of the main objectives of WP12 is to identify skills and training needs regarding consumer issues in order to make an inventory to identify gaps. We need to contribute to the training in societal and consumer issues skills, which will include feedback and recommendations for the development of MSc, PhD and Mobility programmes. Therefore, WP12 would like to cooperate with WP 1 and WP2

which collect data about current MSc and PhD programmes. They could provide an overview of subjects/courses/modules that deal with consumer and societal issues, and additionally whether these subjects are mandatory or voluntary. Then we can identify what is the gap.

Collection of data

WP4 has made an extensive draft questionnaire on university provision of generic skills training in aquaculture, fisheries & marine sciences, for different stakeholder groups (employers, students, graduates). The questionnaire is already very comprehensive, and WP12 just would like to add a few things to it. WP12 and WP4 will discuss together as to how to set up the Survey incorporating the different WP Surveys. The Secretariat will help coordinating the set-up of the survey.

Conclusions

Summing up:

1. Inventory of available courses
2. Identification of gaps (involvement of others WPs, e.g. WP1 and WP2)
3. Match the identified gaps with views of students, research institutes, students (should be done in one survey, preferably together with WP4)

It was commented that they would like to see the establishment of a forum between stakeholder groups and society. A link with the relevant policy (e.g. Marine policy) would be useful. Participants of WP12 also wonder what the best way to interact with consumer organizations is. How could they integrate teaching and training?