

# Life Cycle Assessment



**AquaBioTech Group** is an international aquaculture and fisheries consulting company strategically located in the Mediterranean, on the island of Malta. It operates globally, with clients and projects in over fifty-five countries. Staff are recruited from across the globe, enabling communication with clients in thirteen languages.

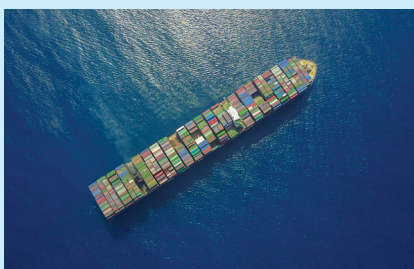
**AquaBioTech Group** undertakes a variety of aquaculture, fisheries, marine surveying, aquatic environmental, financial, and technical projects, performed with its selected, worldwide partners.

**AquaBioTech Group** has specialist, expert knowledge in value chain sustainability. Through experience, we have developed the capacity to perform Life Cycle Assessments (LCA) of any aquaculture and fishery product. This includes the production of fish, shrimp, bivalves and algae for food and non-food applications, such as algal based biofuel production.

**AquaBioTech Group** provides a service covering the full LCA process from project design and data collection through to modelling and communication of outputs. The LCAs are presented as part of a comprehensive report, including a description of the calculated environmental impacts, which are interpreted and explained within a context and manner that is accessible and informative for readers from a variety of backgrounds and levels of expertise.

Each LCA is performed to a high, professional standard. They can be tailored towards the client's requirements, with services being offered for both preliminary (basic) LCAs, and thorough, detailed assessments.

**AquaBioTech Group** has particular experience in developing LCAs for complex multifunctional production systems, novel technologies, and LCAs comparing the environmental performance of several products.



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## WHAT IS LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT?

Whereas Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) typically focus upon specific localised impacts from one stage of aquaculture production (such as a fish farm), Life Cycle Assessment calculates the potential larger-scale environmental impacts from across all stages of a product's life-cycle.

The life cycle of a commodity begins at the point of resource extraction which is used to make infrastructure, fertilisers and fuel. It includes the production and supply of electricity and transport, and the production of the commodity itself. A complete life-cycle includes a product use phase and ends at final disposal of wastes.

Life Cycle Assessment can be partial or complete. Partial assessments are common for food and aquaculture products, ending immediately after the point of harvest: the 'farm-gate.'

They can be used to compare the impacts of alternative products, as well as alternative production methods and technologies. LCA is increasingly used to understand product sustainability by academic researchers, industry, and governance.

