

## FOODLAND

FoodLAND project aims to develop, implement and validate innovative, scalable and sustainable technologies aimed at supporting the nutritional performance of local food systems in Africa, while strengthening agrobiodiversity and food diversity as well as diversity of healthy diets.

FoodLAND will empower smallholder farmers and food operators, will foster nutrition-responsive and sustainable agro-biodiversity, will reinforce the productivity and resilience of food supply chains, and will create new market opportunities at both the local and global scales, thereby encouraging the flourishing of rural communities. These achievements will benefit both African and European consumers by providing them with traditional-based, healthy, nutritious foods, while encouraging the diffusion of African diets and aiding the fight against malnutrition, particularly in women and children.

The FoodLAND project is committed to developing a range of innovations for local agriculture and aquaculture development, as well as to nudging consumers towards healthier eating behaviour in six African countries: Morocco, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. The project will create a network of 14 local Food Hubs—paired with 14 separate cities in these countries—that will mobilise relevant actors in rural, urban and peri-urban communities and serve as injection points for testing and introducing the innovations.

FoodLAND will contribute to the reinforcement of the long-standing relationships between EU and African Partners as well as to the enhancement of their research cooperation on sustainable agriculture and food and nutrition security.

## **Objectives of FOODLAND**

- Develop, implement, and validate 12 technological innovations including organizational innovations and technological innovations for both vegetable and fish farming and food processing systems.
- Develop 17 novel local food products, ranging from fresh, dried and processed vegetables and fish to composite flours and therapeutic foods.
- Create a network of 14 local Food Hubs in Africa, paired with 14 separate cities, that will mobilise relevant actors in rural, urban, and peri-urban communities and serve as injection points for testing and introducing the innovations.
- Ensure that nutritious foods are accessible, affordable and desired for all citizens in two African sub-regions.

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### **AT A GLANCE**

**TYPE:** Research SME

**LOCATION:** Mosta, MALTA G. C.

#### Who We Are

**CAPABILITIES:** R&D / Consultancy / Engineering

**EXPERTISE:** Aquaculture / Marine Research Blue Growth / Aquatic Environment



**AquaBioTech Group** is an international consulting, engineering and R&D company with over 20 years of experience in aquaculture, fisheries and other aquatic sciences. Located in the center of the Mediterranean on the island of Malta, although operating globally with clients and projects in over fifty-five countries.

The vast majority of the organisation's work is related to the marine or aquatic environment, encompassing aquaculture developments, market research/intelligence through project feasibility assessments, finance acquisition, project management, technology sourcing, technical support and training.



# Our role in the FOODLAND project

**AquaBioTech Group**'s main tasks in the FoodLAND project include:

- Leading the aquaculture working group, which will develop aquaculture technologies for urban and periurban areas, bringing production closer to the markets, resulting in a shorter distribution chain that can be competitive with imported products and reduced dependency on cold chain product distribution
- Research pan-African consumer preferences for fish products, and develop new fish species and new fish processing methods to ensure a competitive advantage for the African aquaculture sector
- Lead the technological research, innovation, and validation activities in green-water RAS technologies and develop intensive-extensive aquaculture integration technology to suit local needs
- Build further on the work done in the H2020 VicInAqua project, where ABT developed an integrated aquaculture facility in Kisumu, Kenya, and provide guidelines and protocols for the implementation of these systems

AQUACULTURE R&D h & shellfish hatchery technology Health & disease prevention Nutraceutical development new species development Aquatic nutrition research Production techniques



Our Research Activities

MARINE RESEARCH Environmental Impact Assessments Geophysical investigations Marine spatial planning Marine engineering Marine surveying Baseline studies



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