



Deliverable Report

Deliverable No:	D31.19	Delivery Month:	49
Deliverable Title	Annual presentation of DIVERSIFY (Y4) at a relevant conference (mainly Aqua Europe meetings, EU Forum) by the Project Coordinator		
WP No:	31	WP Lead beneficiary:	P18. CTAQUA
WP Title:	Dissemination		
Task No:	31.3	Task Lead beneficiary:	P1. HCMR
Task Title:	Presentation of DIVERSIFY at the AQUACULTURE EUROPE meetings		
Other beneficiaries:	P18. CTAQUA		
Status:	Delivered	Expected month:	44

Lead partner preparing the deliverable: Mylonas, C.C. (HCMR).

Other partners participating: Robles, R. (CTAQUA).

Objective: To make a summary presentation at the European Aquaculture Society's (EAS) annual meeting, presenting the major achievements of DIVERSIFY for each of the included six species.

Description: The AQUACULTURE EUROPE 2017 conference was held between 17-20 October 2017 in Dubrovnik, Croatia (**Fig. 1**). The conference was attended by 1700 persons, including the visitors to the Trade show. This year the Project Coordinator (PC) Dr. Constantinos C. Mylonas gave a presentation in the Special Session "DIVERSIFY - New/emerging finfish species (EU Project)" (See also D31.20 Presentations of DIVERSIFY (Y4) at the Aqua Europe meetings (Diversification Sessions). The session was chaired by Drs Rocio Robles (WP31 Dissemination leader) and Constantinos C. Mylonas, the latter opening the full-day session with the first presentation, which focused on some of the more interesting results of the project after almost 4 years.



Figure 1. The announcement poster of AQUACULTURE EUROPE 2017 (left) organized every year by the European Aquaculture Society, and a view of the spectacular old town of Dubrovnik, Croatia (right).



The “DIVERSIFY - New/emerging finfish species (EU Project)” session $\zeta\alpha\sigma$ held on Wednesday, October 18, 2017. The DIVERSIFY presentation of the PC was well attended with more than 100 people in the room, which is indicative of the interest that this project has for the Aquaculture sector (**Fig. 2**). The PC summarized the most relevant results of DIVERSIFY according to species studies and in the area of socioeconomics. The presentation begun with a very brief mention of the project and its consortium, and the underlining reasons for the support of this project by the European Union (**Fig. 3**).



Figure 2. A full room with ~100 people attended the opening presentation of the Special Session DIVERSIFY (EU project)-New/emerging finfish species.

COOPERATION forGROWTH October 17-20, 2017 Dubrovnik, Croatia

DIVERSIFY New species for EU aquaculture

DIVERSIFY-Exploring the biological and socioeconomic potential of new/emerging fish species for the expansion of the European aquaculture industry

Co-funded by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Union

Rocio Robles
Dissemination leader
CT-AQUA
Cadiz, Spain

Constantinos (Dinos) Mylonas
Project Coordinator
HCMR
Crete, Greece

37 partners:

- 20 Research/Universities
- 9 Small Medium Enterprises
- 2 Large companies
- 5 Professional associations
- 1 NGO

- Enhancing the EU aquaculture through species diversification

2013-2018
11,8 million €, EU-7FP

Figure 3. Representative slides of the summary presentation of DIVERSIFY during the special session at AQUACULTURE EUROPE 2017, presented by the PC.

The presentation explained the justification of the project’s species selection (**Fig. 4**). Then, there was a brief description of the major achievements of the project in the six species examined (**Fig. 5**). In meagre, for example, we have completed the genetic characterization of many of the existing broodstocks in Europe, and begun work on a genetic linkage map and QTL analysis. We have developed methods necessary for the implementation of selective breeding (*in vitro* fertilization, paired spawning). We studied the feeding behaviour in order to improve grow-out in cages and we also undertook a significant amount of work to try to understand the cause of Systemic Granulomatosis and its relation to nutrition, and we begun work on the immune system characterization of the species. In greater amberjack, we have succeeded in the development of broodstock management and spawning induction methods, including the first spawning of F1 stocks. We have developed larval rearing methods for the production of juveniles, and have initiated the first commercial on-growing trials in sea cages in a number of facilities in Greece, and of course we dedicate significant effort in issues of health management (parasites) and immune system characterization.

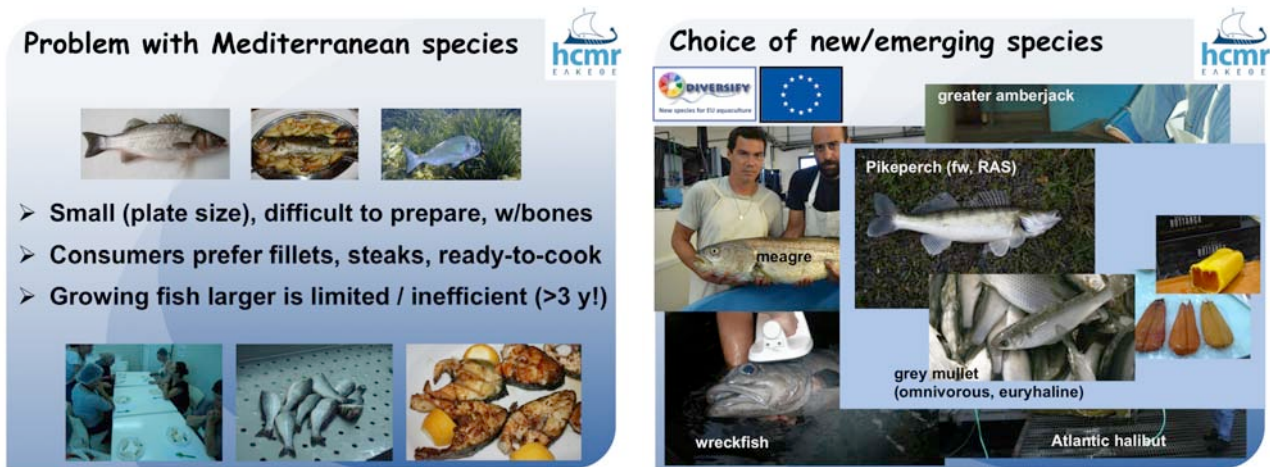


Figure 4. Representative slides of the summary presentation of DIVERSIFY, explaining the problem with the species produced today by the Mediterranean aquaculture industry, and the proposed species selected in DIVERSIFY.

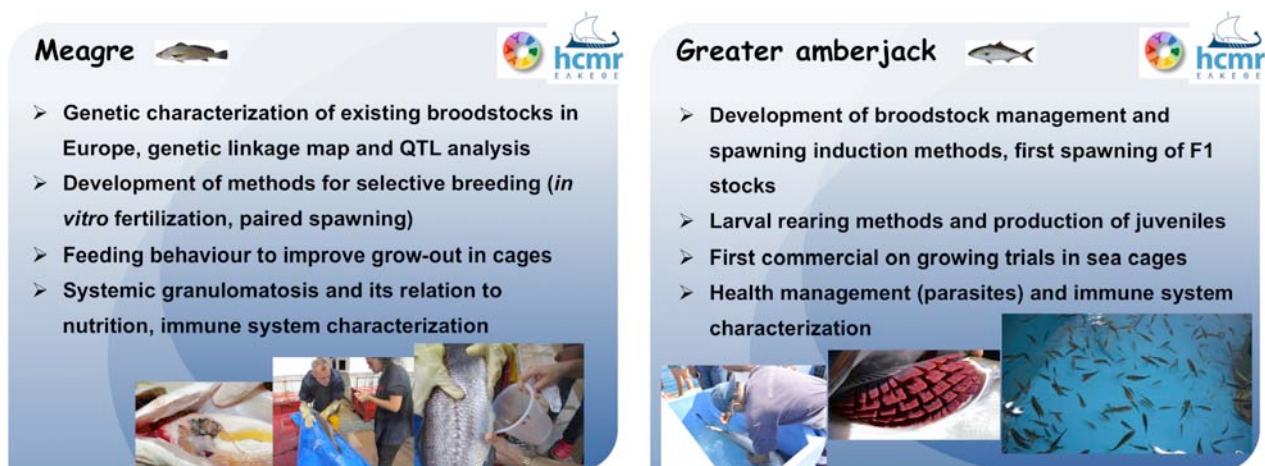


Figure 5. Representative slides of the Species achievements in the project.

In pikeperch, we have analyzed the genetic variability of cultured broodstocks and compared it with wild population, in preparation for future breeding selection programs, we have studied the effects of various environmental factors (light intensity, water renewal rate, water flow direction and tank cleaning timing) on larval rearing of pikeperch and we have completed studies on various behaviour traits that appear during early development. Finally, in grey mullet, we had great success in the development of hormonal therapies to enhance gametogenesis and to induce spawning and produce good quality eggs, and we have studied the environmental and nutritional aspects of larval rearing, weaning to herbivorous diet (Fig. 6). In the area of socioeconomics, we have worked on the identification of consumer segments in a number of European countries, we have characterized organoleptically some of the studied species and produced a number of ideas for value added products. These products have been screened and are currently undergoing trials in an on-line supermarket platform (Fig. 6).

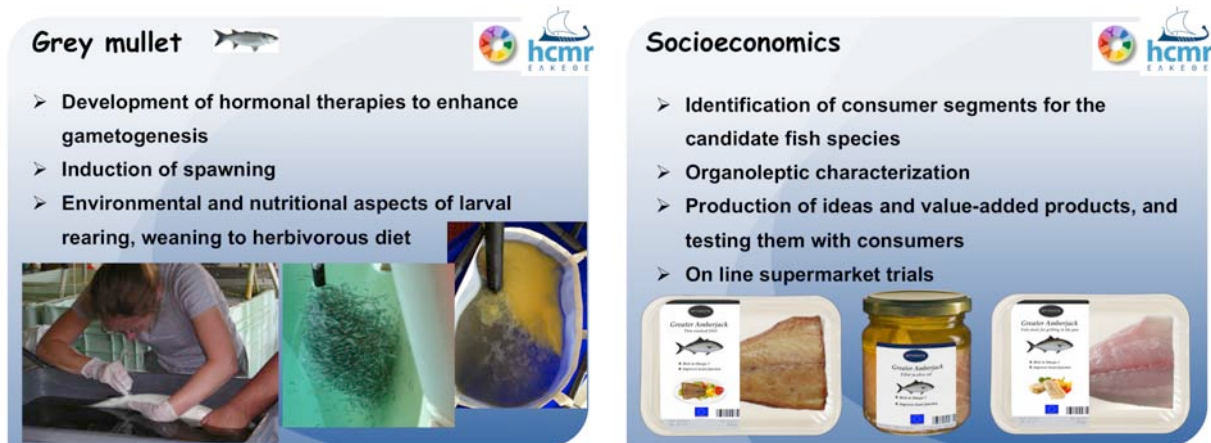


Figure 6. Representative slides of the Species and Socioeconomics achievements in the project.

The presentation then focused on the dissemination activities of the project, firstly on the popularized format that has been used from the beginning of the project, publishing 1-2 articles every year, using the European Aquaculture Society (EAS) magazine as one of the dissemination routes (Fig. 7). This magazine is being published on a trimester-basis by the EAS and an arrangement has been made with DIVERSIFY to publish two articles every year, each time summarizing the work done within each species of DIVERSIFY in all scientific disciplines. Just before the conference (September 2018), a featured 20-page extended article was published in this magazine, and a number of copies were available for distribution to the attendees of the Special Session, as well as the visitors of the EAS booth in one of the areas of the Trade Show.

Afterwards, a presentation of the website (www.diversifyfish.eu) and its organization was provided, encouraging people to seek information on the project, either according to species of interest or of scientific discipline. The participants were also informed of the new pages of the web site, which now contain current updates of the project and our newsletters, all the presentation of the carried work, given during the annual coordination meetings, and more recently as work is completed and submitted for publication, the scientific articles from the project (21 Articles so far).



Figure 7. The slide presenting the six publications that have been made so far in the “Aquaculture Europe” magazine, the official magazine of the European Aquaculture Society.



As in the previous EAS meetings, there were many opportunities to publicize DIVERSIFY during the conference, and to inform numerous colleagues on the project's objectives, already implemented and planned work. People were encouraged to follow the website of the project, where we have been uploading regularly news regarding the project. Interested researchers and industry managers were also informed of the open component of the Annual Coordination Meetings, and a special mention was made of the upcoming **Species-specific knowledge transfer workshops**, which are planned for 2018 (Fig. 8).

These **Species-specific knowledge transfer workshops** will be constituted of 30 min presentations on selected aspects (*e.g.* reproduction and spawning induction, larval rearing, grow out, nutrition, final product diversification and quality, etc.) given by DIVERSIFY researchers, but also from any authorities in the species (European or world-wide, depending on the species), whose work was not part of the project. Aquaculturists (mainly), but also European aquaculture support companies (feed, pharmaceutical, etc.), researchers, government organizations and other important institutions will be invited to attend these meetings. The cost of the invited speakers and the registration of the participants will be covered by the programme (50-100 participants). The seminars will be organized by the Species Leaders from DIVERSIFY in countries where the particular species are cultured --or has the potential to be cultured. One seminar will be organized for each of the selected species (Fig. 8).

Species-specific knowledge transfer workshops
www.diversifyfish.eu

- One day workshop for each species
- Presentations from DIVERSIFY work, but also outside
- Open to all stakeholders, first come-first served (60-100 persons)
- Free of charge (no registration costs)
- Spring-Fall 2018

For information consult our website

Species Workshops 2018

Species-specific knowledge transfer workshops
www.diversifyfish.eu

- Grey mullet (B. Koven, IOLR), June 2018 Bari, Italy
- Greater amberjack (N. Papandroulakis, HCMR), May 2018-Athens, Greece
- Pikeperch (P. Fontaine, U Lorraine), May 2018 Nancy, France
- Wreckfish (B. Alvarez, IEO), July 2018 Vigo, Spain
- Atlantic halibut (B. Norberg, IMR), Sept 2018 Bergen, Norway
- Meagre (A. Estevez, IRTA), October 2018-Barcelona, Spain

Species Workshops 2018

Figure 8. The announcement of the **Species-specific knowledge transfer workshops** of DIVERSIFY, which will take place in 2018.

In the same Special Session for DIVERSIFY, where this presentation was given by the PC, a number of specific presentations from the project were also presented, both as oral and poster presentations, and are reported in **D31.20 Presentations of DIVERSIFY to the Aquaculture Europe meetings (Diversification Sessions) by the Species Leaders in Y4.**

Deviations: The deliverable is submitted 4 months later that anticipated in the DOW. Since the Aquaculture Europe conference has been held at the end of October (month 47), the deliverable has been produced once the conference was finished.



Co-funded by the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Union

