



Deliverable Report

Deliverable No:	D31.9	Delivery Month:	22
Deliverable Title	Annual presentation of DIVERSIFY (Y2) 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:	20

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.

Description: A presentation (20 min) was given by the Project Coordinator (PC) at the AQUACULTURE EUROPE 2015 conference that was held between 20-23 October 2015 at Rotterdam, The Netherlands (**Fig. 1**). This year we arranged with the European Aquaculture Society (EAS) to organize a special session dedicated to the work carried out in DIVERSIFY. The Special Session was titled “New/Emerging Species: the DIVERSIFY EU project” (**Fig. 2**) and was chaired by the PC (Dr. Constantinos C. Mylonas) and the WP31 Dissemination leader (Dr. Rocio Robles). The PC’s opening presentation included an introduction to DIVERSIFY and also highlighted some of the major achievements of the project up-to-date, in the six different scientific disciplines, setting the stage of the presentations of the six Species Leaders and the specific presentations of the various researchers of DIVERSIFY, including two presentations from the Socioeconomics work packages. An estimated 100 persons attended the PC’s opening presentation.



Figure 1. The announcement poster of the AQUACULTURE EUROPE 2015 conference that is organized every year by the European Aquaculture Society, and a panoramic view of the beautiful Central Station of the town of Rotterdam that was next to the De Doelen Conference Center.



The presentation begun with an introduction dealing with the world aquaculture status, the current seafood consumption in the European Union (EU) and the underlining reasons for the support of this project by the European Union (Fig. 2).

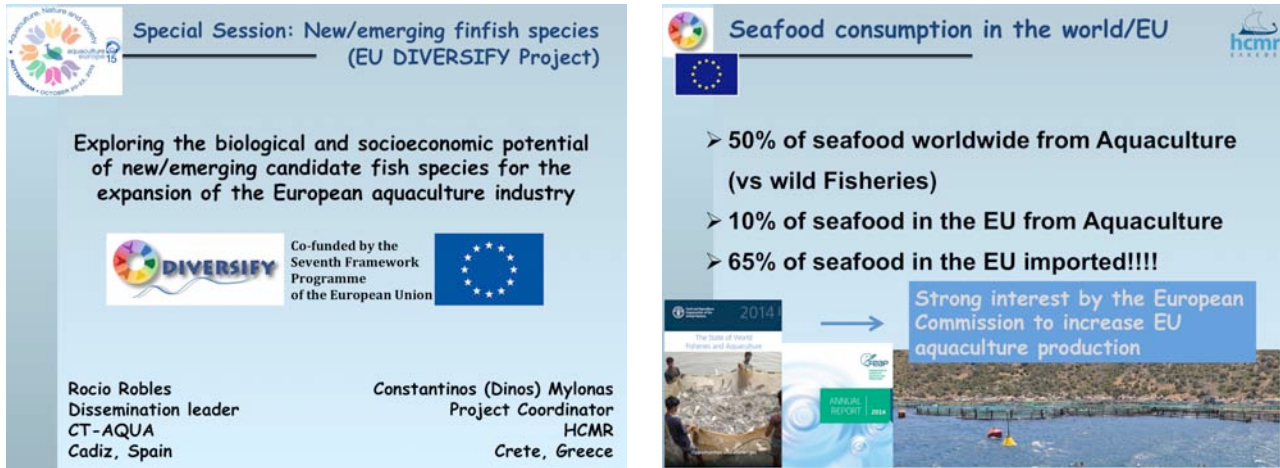


Figure 2. Representative slides of the DIVERSIFY presentation at AQUACULTURE EUROPE 2014, with the opening slide (left) and the background of the state of aquaculture production world-wide and seafood consumption in the European Union (EU, right).

Then, the presentation explained the justification of the project's species selection, which includes meagre (*Argyrosomus regius*) and greater amberjack (*Seriola dumerili*) for warm-water marine cage culture, wreckfish (*Polyprion americanus*) for warm- and cool-water marine cage culture, Atlantic halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*) for marine cold-water culture, grey mullet (*Mugil cephalus*) a euryhaline herbivore for pond/extensive culture, and pikeperch (*Sander lucioperca*) for freshwater intensive culture using recirculating systems (Fig. 3, left). Then, there was a brief description of the identified bottlenecks of each of the selected species, and a brief outline of the work planned in the six scientific disciplines, which are Reproduction and Genetics, Nutrition, Larval and Grow out husbandry, Fish health and Socioeconomics, including final product quality (Fig. 3, right).



Figure 3. Representative slides of the DIVERSIFY presentation at AQUACULTURE EUROPE 2014, presenting the selected species for the project (left) and the identified bottlenecks in the production of these species targeted by the DIVERSIFY project (right).



To set the stage for the six Species Leaders' speeches and the presentations of the specific task undertaken in DIVERSIFY, highlights of the major achievements of DIVERSIFY in the first 2 years of the project were presented, focusing on each of the six scientific disciplines (**Fig. 4**).



Figure 4. Representative slides of the DIVERSIFY presentation with a mention of the major achievements of DIVERSIFY in the scientific disciplines of Reproduction & Genetics (left) and Fish health (right).



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 (Fig. 5). The attendees were also handed out the DIVERSIFY brochure and bookmark produced recently to introduce the project (Fig. 5). Brochures were also made available to all conference participants at specific literature distribution tables.



Figure 5. Representative slides of the DIVERSIFY presentation at AQUACULTURE EUROPE 2015, with a presentation of the project’s webpage (left) and the brochure that was distributed to the people attending the presentation, as well as the conference at large (right).

A presentation was also made on the three magazine publications that have been made so far in the “Aquaculture Europe” magazine (Fig. 6). This magazine is being published on a trimester-basis by the European Aquaculture Society (EAS) and an arrangement has been made between DIVERSIFY and EAS to publish two articles every year, each time summarizing the work done in all scientific disciplines within each species of DIVERSIFY.





Figure 6. The slide presenting the three magazine 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 meeting, 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 various researchers expressed an interest to coordinate their research activities with DIVERSIFY and perhaps carry out joined experiments. One such example is the contact of Drs Luca Parma and Alessio Bonaldo (Italy) who are submitting a National proposal on the aquaculture of grey mullet, and who want to coordinate their activities with the progress made in DIVERSIFY.

Also, a meeting was arranged with Mr Nigel Balmforth (formerly of Wiley – Blackwell and currently of 5M Publishers), who expressed an interest in publishing the final results of DIVERSIFY in the form of a book. Mr Balmforth is the company representative responsible for the Aquatic Sciences titles of the publisher and we reiterated our interest at preparing some species-specific books when DIVERSIFY is completed. These books will include the state-of-the-art knowledge on the biology and aquaculture of these species, and will be based on chapters prepared by a combination of DIVERSIFY researcher and other scientists with important contributions to the study of the species in focus.

Deviations: The deliverable is submitted 2 months later than anticipated in the DOW, but within the same month that the presentation was given at the Aquaculture Europe conference.



The entrance of the conference hall at the De Doelen Centrum with the banner of the conference, and a group photo of DIVERSIFY participants and attendees at the Special Session “New/Emerging Species: the DIVERSIFY EU project”



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