

Strategic Partnership between Norsk Institutt For Bioøkonomi (Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research)

Ecological Aquaculture Foundation LLC

The Norsk Institutt For Bioøkonomi (Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research) (NIBIO) and the Ecological Aquaculture Foundation (EAF USA/Portugal) hereby agree to establish scientific and educational project activities in Norway and worldwide to increase knowledge for the sustainable development of the blue bioeconomy, with an emphasis on circular bioeconomies of ocean and land bioresources and the innovative connections between them, societies, and accelerated climate change.

Partnership Aspects

- 1. NIBIO and EAF agree to establish programs of mutual benefit that can be funded from diverse sources and exchanges. All new programs will be defined as to their objectives, tasks, timelines, personnel involved and budgets, and will be agreed upon separately in advance of new activities.
- 2. The NIBIO Head of Department for Biomarine Resource Valorisation, Dr. Johan Johansen, will be the lead representative for all matters involving the NIBIO with the EAF. The President/Chief Executive Officer of the EAF, Dr. Barry Costa-Pierce, will be the lead representative for all matters involving the EAF with NIBIO. Other parties of NIBIO and the EAF will be involved but will report to their respective lead representatives on all NIBIO/EAF projects and programs.
- 3. NIBIO and the EAF can feature partnership activities as agreed to by the lead representatives in print, conventional, internet, and social media sites.
- 4. EAF agrees to offer support to all agreed-upon, joint NIBIO/EAF activities especially involving Norwegian, Nordic and worldwide students, scholars and qualified experts for recruitment and/or conducting applied R&D in ocean/land systems bioeconomic valorisation.

- 5. To develop and ensure close strategic interactions of programs, projects and people, NIBIO and the EAF will establish a partnership office at the NIBIO Division of Food Production and Society, Department of Biomarine Resource Valorisation. This office will be located initially at Torggården, Kudalsveien 6, 8027 Bodø, Norway. In the future if NIBIO needs the Torggården facility to house an expansion of its professional staff, NIBIO agrees to find an office nearby for this partnership.
- 6. The EAF shall follow all Norwegian laws and tax rules and regulations. NIBIO and the EAF will administer all financial aspects separately and agree to forego office or other administrative costs at NIBIO, Norway, and at EAF offices worldwide. All NIBIO and EAF employee costs will be covered separately by their respective organizations unless other agreements arise from partnership discussions which could be added as Addendums to this overall agreement.

This agreement will be effective upon signature and will be in force until cancelled by either of the parties. Either party may initiate the cancellation of this agreement in writing.

On this date of 12.09.2022, the undersigned parties agree to this Strategic Partnership as the duly authorized officers.

Dr. Johan Johansen

Head of Department

Biomarine Resource Valorisation

Division of Food Production and Society

NIBIO

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Barry A. Costa-Pierce e-signature approval

Dr. Barry A. Costa-Pierce

President/CEO

Ecological Aquaculture Foundation

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