AQUA EXCEL 2020

AQUAculture infrastructures for EXCELlence in European fish research towards 2020 — AQUAEXCEL2020

First Evaluation of the Access Given
John Bostock & Kirsten Strachan

Executive Summary

Objectives: The organisation of Transnational Access (TNA) to the 39 research infrastructures within the AQUAEXCEL[2020] consortium is a central component of the AQUAEXCEL[2020] project. This interim report evaluates the management and delivery of TNA over the first half of the project and makes some recommendations for improvements over the remainder of the project.

Rationale: The purpose of this report is to identify any problems that have arisen and consider ways in which the management and execution of TNA can be improved for the remainder of the project. The review was carried out around the mid-point of the project (between two and two and half years), during which time there have been nine calls for access and eight rounds of project review and selection.

The evaluation draws on data from the application forms submitted to the project, and on an e-mail survey of users and providers of the facilities, as well as those involved in the review and selection process. For reasons of confidentiality, data is aggregated, and comments are quoted anonymously.

Main Results: The AQUAEXCEL project offers access to 39 aquaculture research installations provided by 19 partners under the EU Horizon 2020 Framework Access to Research Infrastructures Programme. During the 5 years project it is expected that 169 projects will be carried out, involving around 217 users. Call details are publicized on the project web site at http://www.aquaexcel2020.eu/transnational-access/call-access and leaflets, posters and other promotional materials are also distributed including networking through social media (Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter). Researchers from any type of organisation or country may apply, although priority is given to new users with high quality proposals and there is a maximum limit of 20% of the access that can be provided to users from outside the European Union and Associated States.

The Consortium decided to manage applications for TNA through regular (quarterly) calls and deadlines which are sequentially numbered. Applications are made through an online system hosted by the University of South Bohemia in the Czech Republic (excluding the first call). The overall process and particularly the management of review and selection of proposals is the responsibility of the University of Stirling (UK).

Received applications are firstly reviewed by appropriate subject experts (target is 50% people external to the AQUAEXCEL2020 Consortium and the others external to the applicant or host organisations). These reviews are passed to the Selection Panel which consists of around eight regular reviewers who consider the applications and the reviews and decide on the outcome. The Selection Panel is further supported by an external Ethics Adviser who also reviews each application which passes the initial screening by the Expert Reviewers. If necessary, the Selection Panel may request further information or clarifications from the applicant before reaching a decision. Once a decision is reached, a summary review is prepared by the University of Stirling for transmission to the applicant(s). If the project is not approved for funding this review usually includes the reasons for this and recommendations for improvement prior to resubmission. Most commonly, the reason for withholding approval is due to weak scientific quality (methods or originality) but can sometimes be on other grounds such as limited relevance for the sector.

To April 2018 a total of 114 applications for TNA had been received, of which 4 were re-submissions of earlier proposals. At this point 64 projects had been approved and decisions were pending on 22. Three projects had been withdrawn and 21 rejected. The average

number of applications per call was 12.7 ranging from seven to nineteen. Per call, the approval rate has ranged between 38% (Call 1) and 100% (Call 5) with an average of 69% for calls 1-6. The actual number of projects completed was 18 with a further 7 projects in progress.

As of Call 9, thirty-one of the installations have received applications, which is around 80%. The eight installations without applications are mostly specialist and/or new facilities for AQUAEXCEL2020 and awareness of their inclusion may not be so great within the general aquaculture scientific community. Applications have been received from organisations located in thirty different countries including seven from outside of the EU and Associated States. The greatest number of applications have originated from Italy, Portugal, Spain and Germany. Applicants for AQUAEXCEL[2020] TNA are predominantly from Universities and secondarily from other research organisations. Three applications have been received from SMEs (1 approved) and two applications (both approved) have been received from larger private organisations.

On completion of TNA projects, users are asked to complete a feedback form which includes information about key outputs and also views on their experience of TNA. As of March 2018, eighteen TNA projects had been completed and survey responses were received from fifteen of these users. These respondents gave an overall score of 4.4 out of 5 when rating their experience of TNA. The highest ratings concerned facilities and expertise at the host installations. Slightly lower ratings were given for administration (especially the payment of expenses) and in some cases for the delays in the selection process. Thirteen of the fifteen respondents expressed a desire to collaborate further with their host organisation and six of these already had specific plans.

TNA hosts were similarly asked to provide feedback on their specific projects. Six responses were received (from the 18 completed projects) and these similarly gave a score of 4.4 out of 5 for their experience of TNA. All of these were positive about the approach and work of the users and expressed a keenness to continue collaborations.

The Expert Reviewers and Selection Panel Members were asked for their experience and opinions on the process. In total there were 88 Expert Reviewers registered with the project in March 2018. This included the eight Selection Panel Members. Seventeen retuned a questionnaire providing a score of 4.47 out of 5 for their experience of the TNA selection procedure. This group provided the most detailed responses and specific comments which were used in formulating recommendations for the second phase of the project.

- Promotion and publicity for AQUAEXCEL[2020] should be further especially through Infrastructure websites.
- Further guidance could be given to help users complete the application form in more detail.
- The internal scoring system for project evaluation should include a criterion that would help SMEs to obtain a higher rating.
- The length of time required for application processing is still too long for some applicants and infrastructures. The possibility of a fast-track system for certain types of project could be considered.
- Better communication of outcomes to reviewers was requested (and is now being delivered) and better communication of process and status of applications
- Lack of clarity in reimbursement rates and procedures for expenses and sometimes in the rates themselves and delays in payment needs to be addressed by Infrastructure managers.
- Greater efforts are required to ensure feedback forms are returned by all users, hosts and evaluators.

Authors/Teams involved: This report has been prepared by John Bostock and Kirsten Strachan from the University of Stirling.

Table of contents

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose

This evaluation of the Transnational Access (TNA) provided under the AQUAEXCEL project has been carried out around the mid-point of the project (between two and two and half years), during which time there have been nine calls for access and eight rounds of project review and selection. The purpose of this report is to identify any problems that have arisen and consider ways in which the management and execution of TNA can be improved for the remainder of the project.

The evaluation draws on data from the application forms submitted to the project, and on an e-mail survey of users and providers of the facilities, as well as those involved in the review and selection process. For reasons of confidentiality, data is aggregated, and comments are quoted anonymously.

1.2. Summary of the application and review process

The AQUAEXCEL project offers access to 39 aquaculture research installations provided by 19 partners) under the EU Horizon 2020 Framework Access to Research infrastructures Programme. During the 5 year project it is expected that 169 projects will be carried out, involving around 217 users (from Project Description of Action). Call details are publicized on the project web site at http://www.aquaexcel2020.eu/transnational-access/call-access and leaflets, posters and other promotional materials are also distributed including networking through social media (Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter). Researchers from any type of organisation or country may apply, although priority is given to new users with high quality proposals and there is a maximum limit of 20% of the access that can be provided to users from outside the European Union and Associated States.

The budget for each installation is calculated in relation to "Units of Access" which are defined in different ways for each installation. Guidance is provided to potential applicants through the following key documents:

- Call for access document (key information about the project and conditions and the infrastructures available)
- TNA Guide (guide to the Infrastructures and how they can be accessed – see Deliverable 1.1)
- Guideline for completing the application form
- Transnational Access Leaflet (produced by AquaTT)
- CV Template for applicants

The Consortium decided to manage applications for TNA through regular (quarterly) calls and deadlines which are sequentially numbered. Applications are made through an online system hosted by the University of South Bohemia in the Czech Republic (excluding the first call). The overall process and particularly the management of review and selection of proposals is the responsibility of the University of Stirling (UK).

Received applications are firstly reviewed by appropriate subject experts (Target is two per application (occasionally 1 or 3) of which one would normally be external to the AQUAEXCEL2020 Consortium and the other external to the applicant or host organisations). These reviews are passed to the Selection Panel which consists of around eight regular

reviewers who consider the applications and the reviews and decide on the outcome. The Selection Panel is further supported by an external Ethics Adviser who also reviews each application which passes the initial screening by the Expert Reviewers. The criteria for acceptance is primarily based on the quality of the scientific work proposed, broader considerations of relevance to the aquaculture sector, quality of exploitation and dissemination plans and whether the proposed project helps to build new collaborative partnerships. Once a decision is reached, a summary review is prepared by the University of Stirling for transmission to the applicant(s).

2. METHODOLOGY FOR THIS EVALUATION

This evaluation firstly reviews the data on TNA applications and reviews and then considers the views of applicants, hosts and reviewers on both the system and most importantly the transnational access delivered to date.

Most of the data used in this evaluation was collected by means of PDF forms with the data then collated into spreadsheets for analysis. Some follow-up was carried out by e-mail or telephone/Skype to discuss specific issues where appropriate. However, most of the analysis is from the following sources (copies of forms provided in the Appendices):

1)   List of approved projects and access provided
2)   Membership of Expert Review Pool and Selection Panel
3)   Survey forms completed by TNA users
4)   Survey forms completed by TNA providers (hosts)
5)   Survey forms completed by members of the Selection Panel and Ethics Adviser

The survey forms were distributed periodically from August 2017 with requests for all stakeholders to complete them as soon as projects were completed etc. Views were only sought from successful applicants with approved projects.

The central analysis in this report was carried out on schedule prior to the third annual consortium meeting in Faro in November 2017. At that point, seven calls had been held with six deadlines for applications. As completion of the report was delayed, some additional information has been added to indicate overall status up to the ninth call.

3. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AND EVALUATED

3.1. Projects and infrastructures

To April 2018 a total of 114 applications for TNA had been received, of which 4 were re-submissions of earlier proposals. At this point 64 projects had been approved and decisions were pending on 22. Three projects had been withdrawn and 21 rejected. The average number of applications per call was 12.7 ranging from seven to nineteen. Per call, the approval rate has ranged between 38% (Call 1) and 100% (Call 5) with an average of 69% for calls 1-6.

There has been no marked pattern in applications between calls, although the highest number received was for a closing date after the Christmas and New Year holiday season in early 2017.

| Call	Closing date	No. Applications	No. Approved	No. Pending Decision
1	11/3/2016	16	6	0
2	8/7/2016	7	5	0
3	14/10/2016	11	5	0
4	13/1/2017	19	15	0
5	17/4/2017	8	8	0
6	12/7/2017	12	10	0
7	25/9/2017	13	9	2
8	8/12/2017	13	6	5
TOTAL		**99**	**64**	**7**
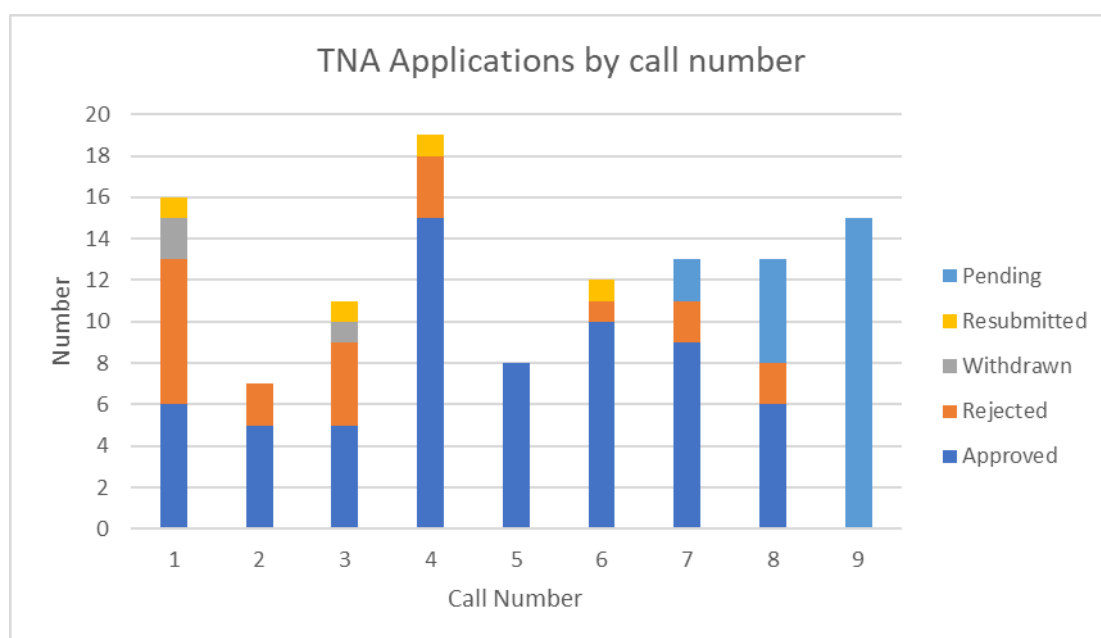
As of Call 9, thirty-one of the installations have received applications, which is around 80%. The eight installations without applications are mostly specialist and/or new facilities for AQUAEXCEL2020 and awareness of their inclusion may not be so great within the general aquaculture scientific community. Around 70% of installations have received two or more applications, 36% have received 4 or more applications and 10% have received six or more applications (see next chart).

The four resubmitted applications were a result of an initial decision not to approve funding but accompanied by constructive advice from the Selection Panel as to how to improve the proposal.

Number of Applications
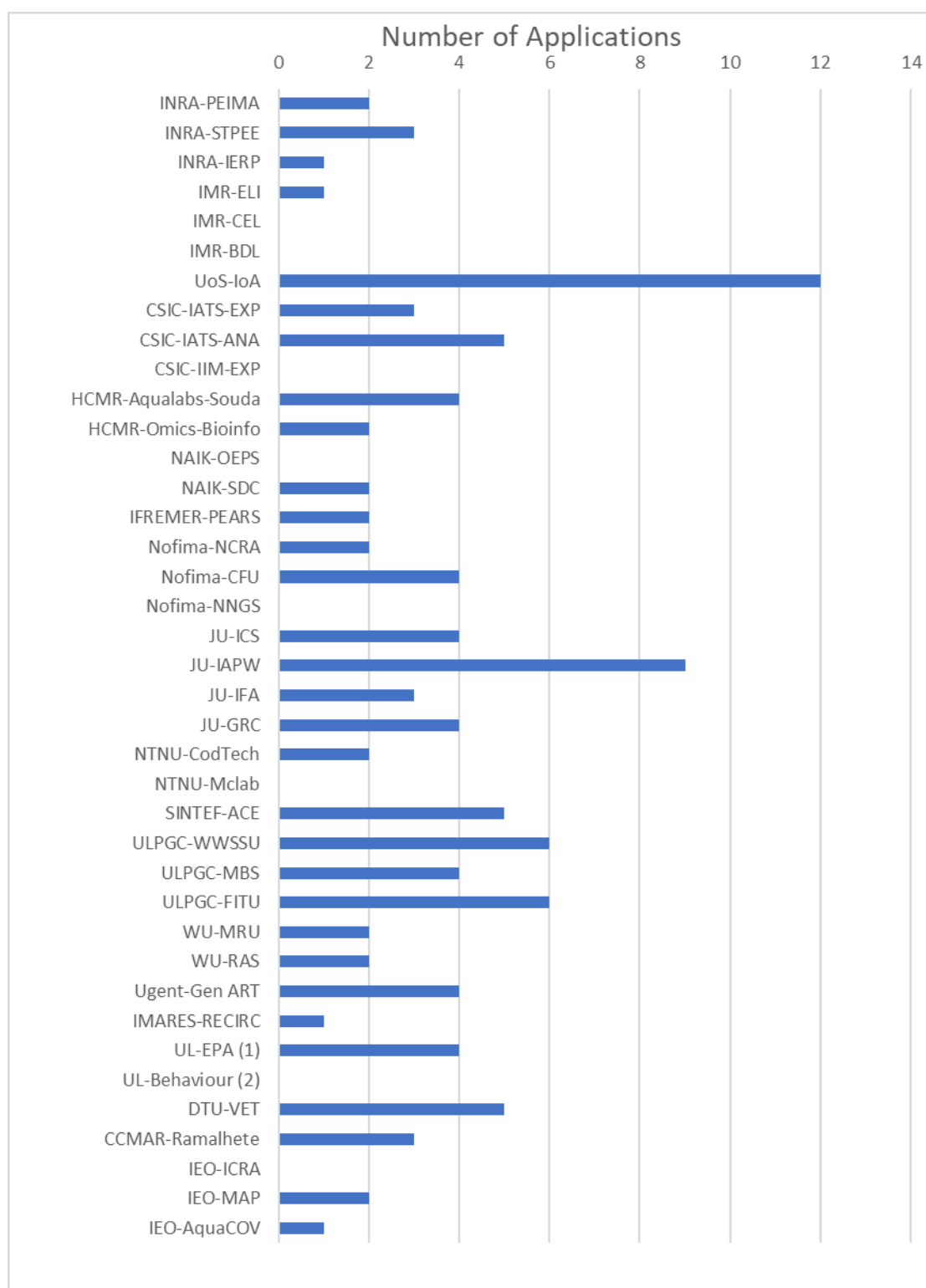
Projects involving mobility of the user to the host infrastructure to conduct research is limited by EC funding rules to 3 months (approximately 90 days). Most TNA projects are less than this in practice. However, some projects involve virtual access where work is carried out without the presence of the user. These projects can exceed 90 days. Analysis of average project duration (based on applications) is shown below with the overall average being 70 days.
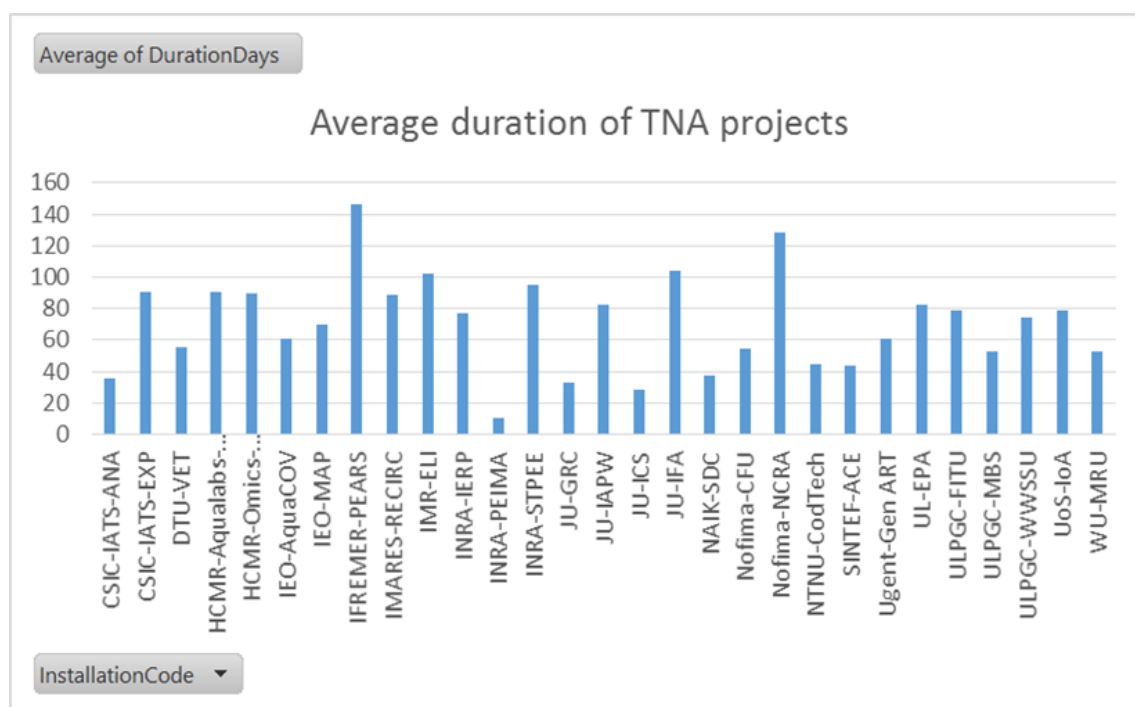
3.2. Profiles of project applicants

Applications have been received from organisations located in thirty different countries including seven from outside of the EU and Associated States. The greatest number of applications have originated from Italy, Portugal, Spain and Germany. The following chart shows the number of applications by country and call number.

TNA Applications by Country of Applicant Organisation
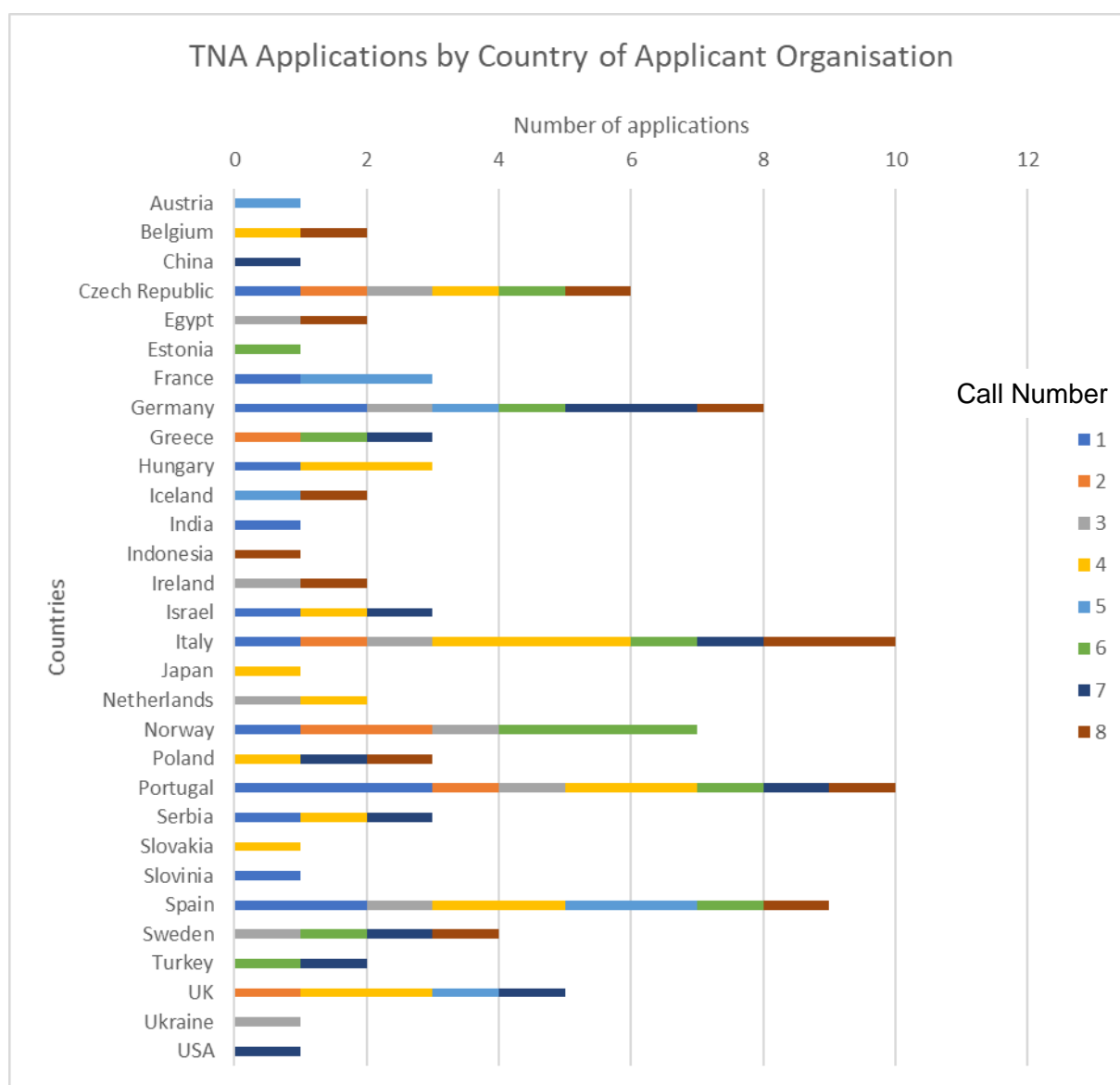
The numbers of applications from each country are too small for reliable statistical analysis, but examination of the following chart of application status by country indicates that project approval rates may vary somewhat by country. Up to Call 8, organisations in 24 different countries have had approval for TNA projects.
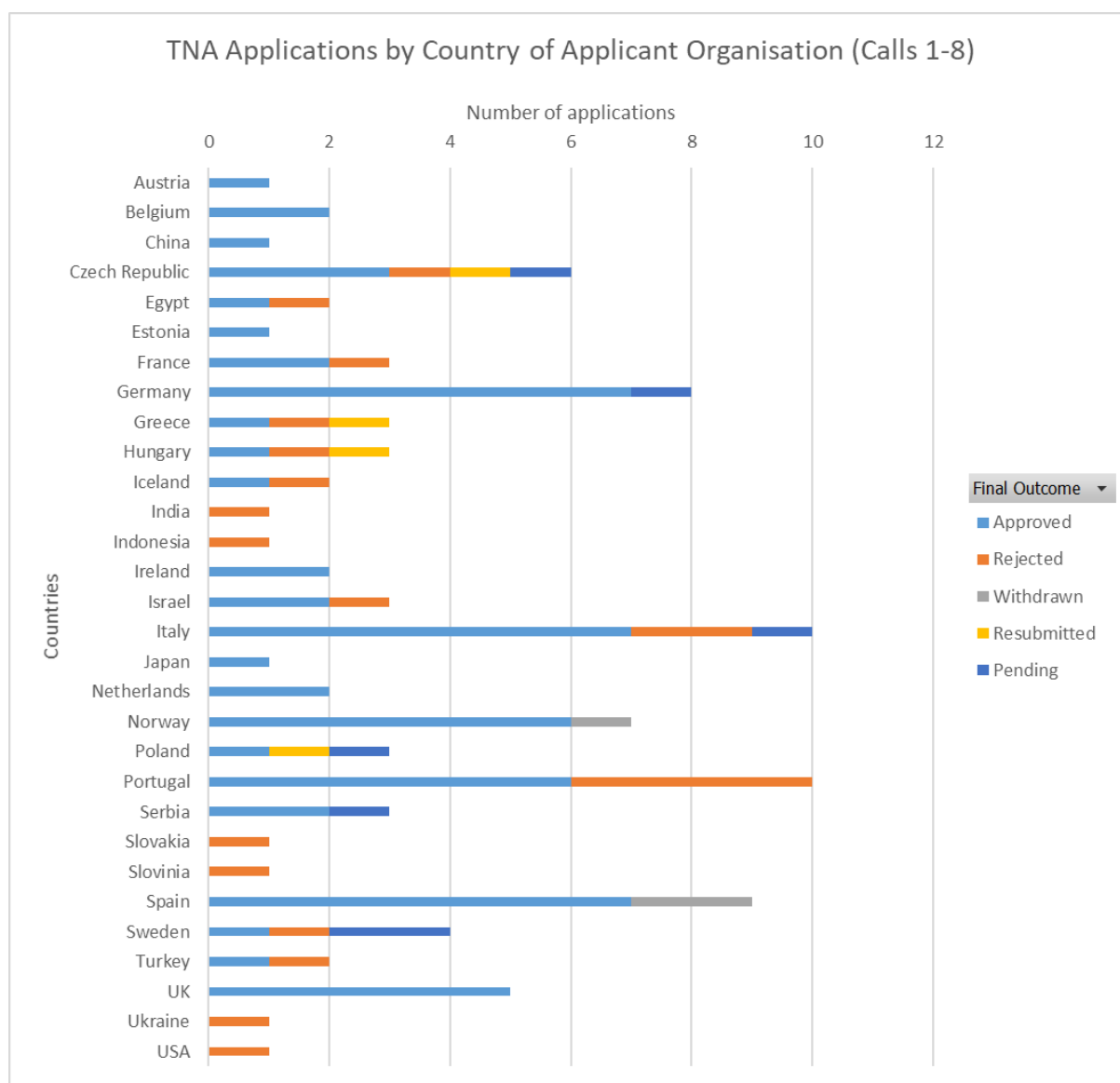
TNA Applications by Country of Applicant Organisation (Calls 1-8)

Applicants for AQUAEXCEL^{2020} TNA are predominantly from Universities and secondarily from other research organisations. Three applications have been received from SMEs (1 approved) and two applications (both approved) have been received from larger private organisations. The "Other" category appears to have been used by several applicants from research organisations that rely on a mix of funding sources, or state authorities with other core functions.
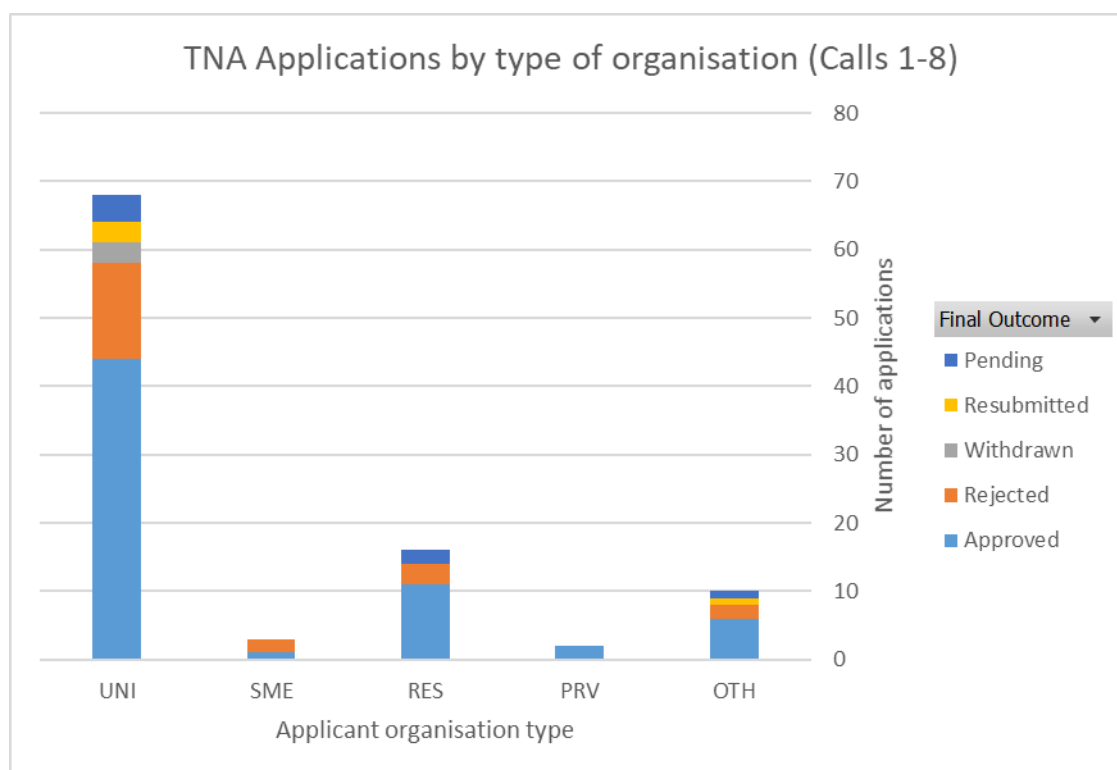
Analysis of calls 1-6 shows that 42% of lead applicants were classed as "Expert" (with significant postdoctoral research experience; 32% were at post doctorate level, 25% at postgraduate level and 1% at undergraduate level. These proportions are not much changed when considering approved projects (47% expert, 23% post doctorate and 30% postgraduate).
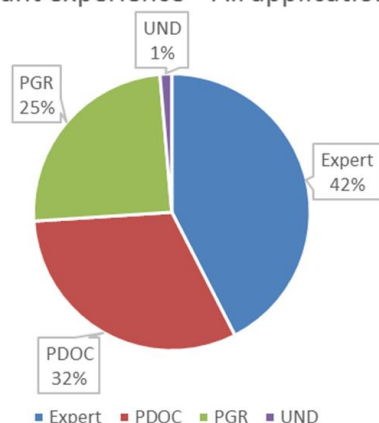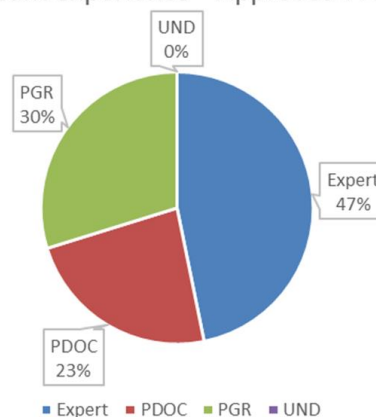
In terms of gender, 55% of lead applicants were male and 45% female in calls 1-6 whereas this ratio reversed slightly when considering approved projects (49% male and 51% female). This is probably not statistically significant but indicates a good gender balance overall.

Gender of lead applicant (calls 1-6)   Gender of lead applicant (Approved calls 1-6)
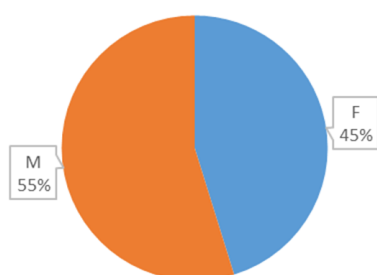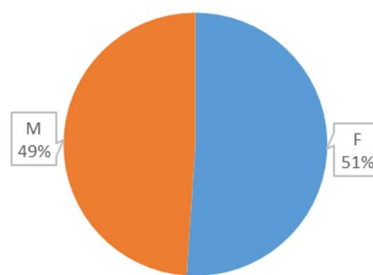
For applications with more than one applicant, there was a greater likelihood that this would be a male (66% of second applicants male to 34% female).
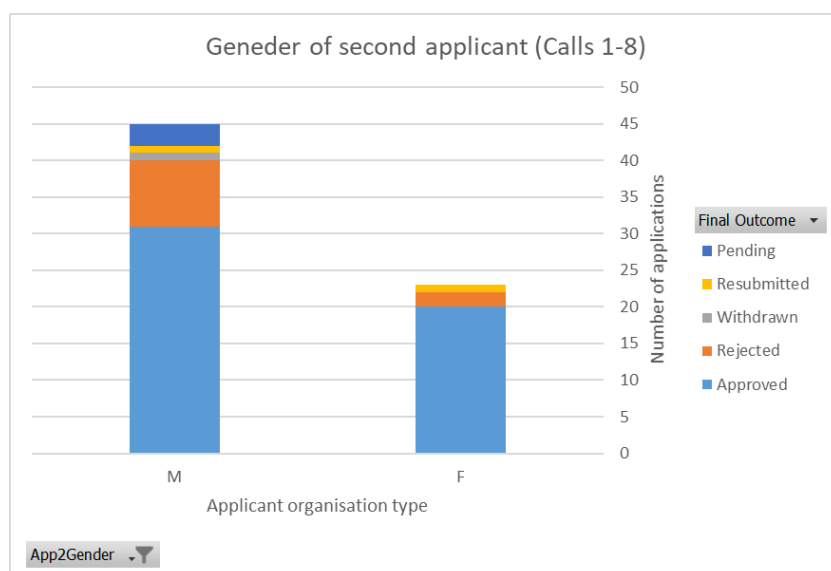
3.3. Categorisation of projects

Applicants are requested to categorise their proposal into one or more of nine thematic areas in order to help with selection of expert reviewers and to provide some analysis of the areas that are of interest and being supported.

In calls 1-6 the areas of physiology, nutrition, welfare and pathology predominated. There was no indication from the data on approvals that the subject area greatly influenced likelihood of approval.
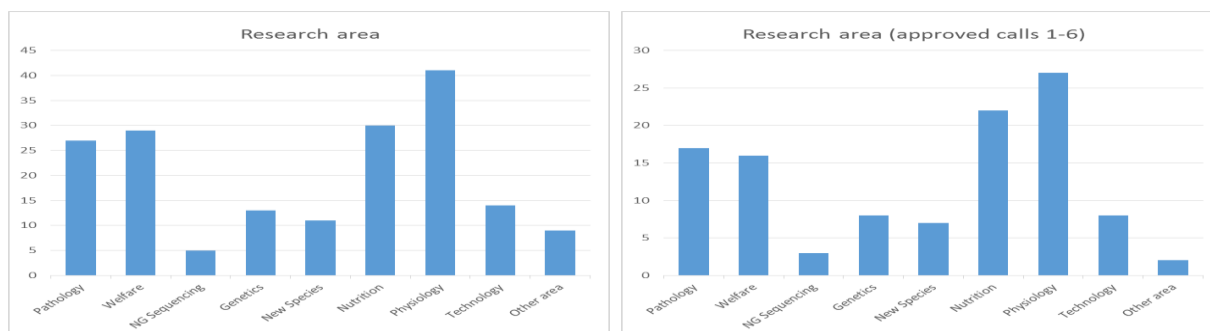
Similarly, project selection was not unduly influenced by species category. The greater number of projects were for work on marine fish species, followed by freshwater species and diadromous species (e.g. salmonids). This is unsurprising given the profile of the consortium and facilities offered.
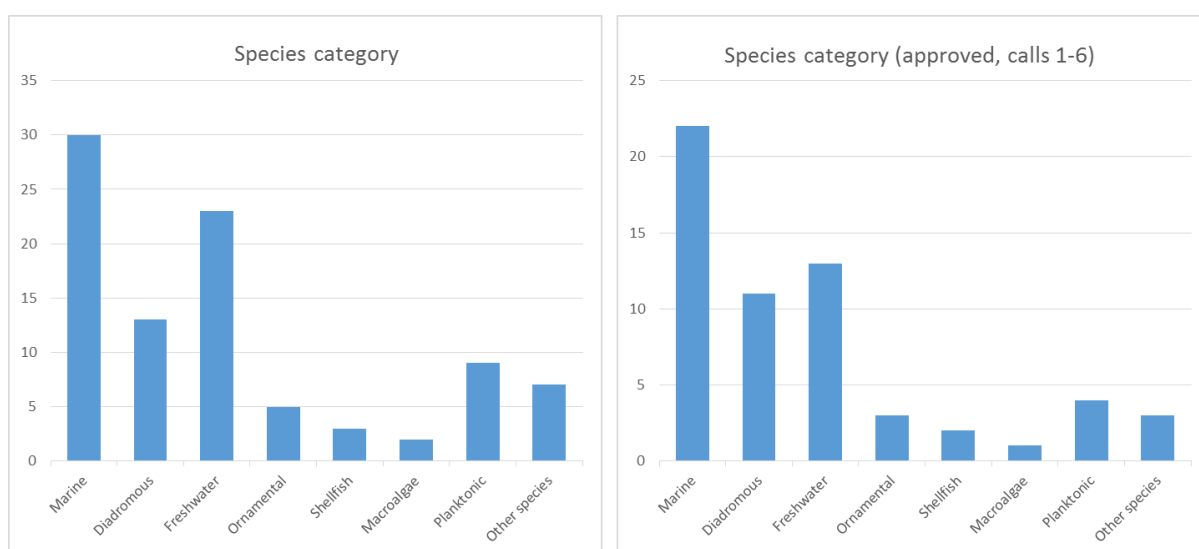
Applications were also considered in relation to the European Aquaculture and Technology Innovation Platform (EATIP) strategic research agenda and its identified priority areas. For Calls 1-6 this analysis showed that health was the most common priority addressed, followed by feed, quality, lifecycle (breeding) and technology. Again, there was no obvious bias in project approval.
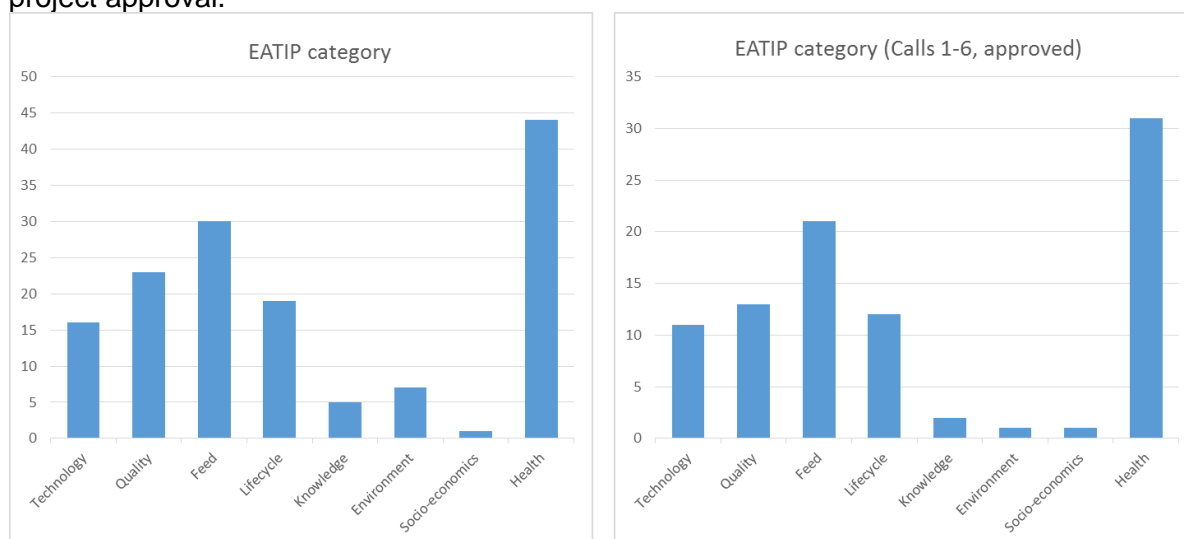
3.4. Current status of projects

Over the five years of the project it is anticipated that around 169 TNA projects will be supported. At the approximate half-way point in the project, 64 projects have been approved (38% of anticipated total). Whilst this is somewhat behind target, it is anticipated that applications will increase as the time remaining reduces and potential applicants realise the opportunities to apply are becoming more restricted. This was certainly the pattern in the first AQUAEXCEL project.

The number of projects anticipated per infrastructure varies considerably, from just one to fourteen. Most infrastructures have received applications somewhat in proportion to their original allocation, although a small number are well under target and others already over. Organisations with the most limited resources now remaining include ULPGC and CSIC (both Spain) although several other infrastructures have only one project available.
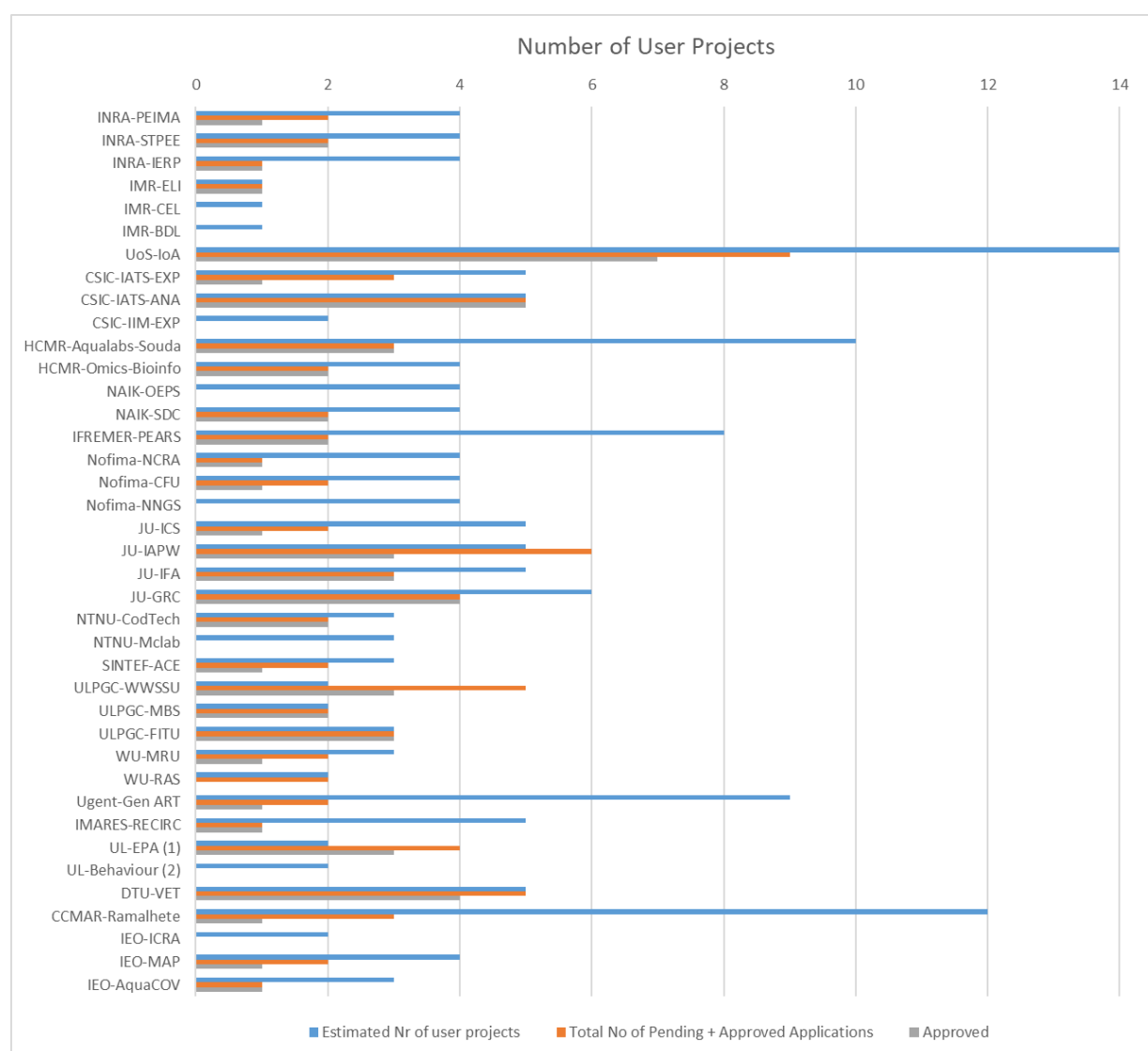
The actual resource available at each infrastructure is measured in terms of units of access which can be defined flexibly for each installation. On average, 50% of the available units of access have been allocated to approved projects. This may indicate that projects are requesting a little more resource than originally expected and therefore there will be less

projects overall. However, the figures could also be distorted by partners with a smaller share in project numbers who have more quickly fulfilled their allocation. A small number of installations have either exceeded their original allocation or have pending proposals that could exceed their budget. Some re-allocation of budget to take account of actual demand may therefore be necessary in the second half of the project.
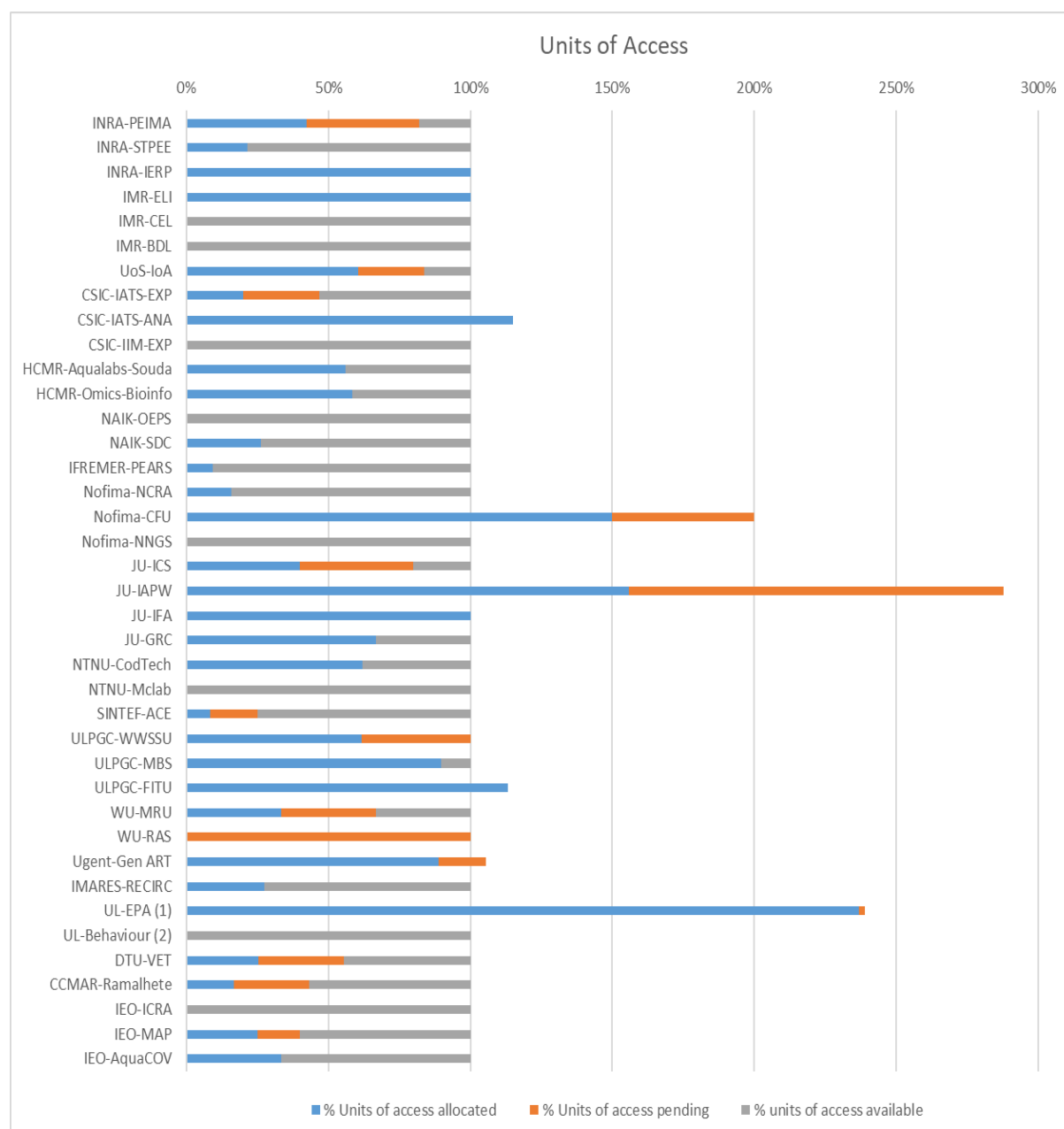
As of March 2018, eighteen projects had been completed, seven projects were in progress and thirty-six projects were approved but not yet started. This indicates some lag between approval and execution, but this is not unusual especially given the timescale required to ensure appropriate sized animals are available.

There were also some significant delays to the overall selection process during the initial calls which were due to a combination of new procedures, shortage of expert reviewers and staff constraints at the University of Stirling. These issues were addressed, but some projects were unable to start according to their original schedule.

4. FEEDBACK FROM USERS

On completion of TNA projects, users are asked to complete a feedback from which includes information about key outputs and also views on their experience of TNA. For the purposes of this report, project participants were also asked to complete draft feedback forms where the main project had not yet finished. A total of sixteen forms were returned from the 18 completed projects and the responses given are summarised in this section. The complete user feedback form is included in the annex to the report.

Users were asked to rate their experience of AQUAEXCEL[2020] TNA on a scale of 1-5 where (1) is poor and (5) is excellent. They were also given the opportunity to provide further information and explanation on the main issues.

4.1. Project information

Users were asked their opinion of AQUAEXCEL[2020] publicity. This resulted in mixed feedback with 14 participants giving an answer and an average score of 3.64
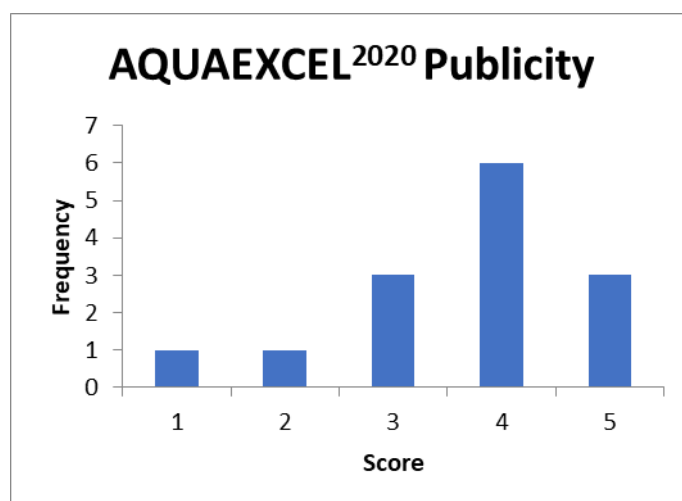
A second question asked how Users became aware of the AQUAEXCEL[2020] project and TNA opportunities. Responses to this question indicated that pre-existing personal contact with colleagues and contacts at the host infrastructures were the most important factors in leading users to apply. General promotion efforts must play a role in raising and maintaining awareness but appear less important as a key driver for applications. Future evaluations could ask more specifically how they would like to receive information about the project.

How users became aware of AQUAEXCEL[2020]

Infrastructure Publicity
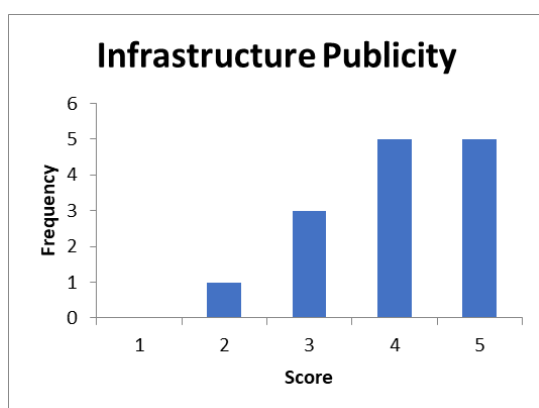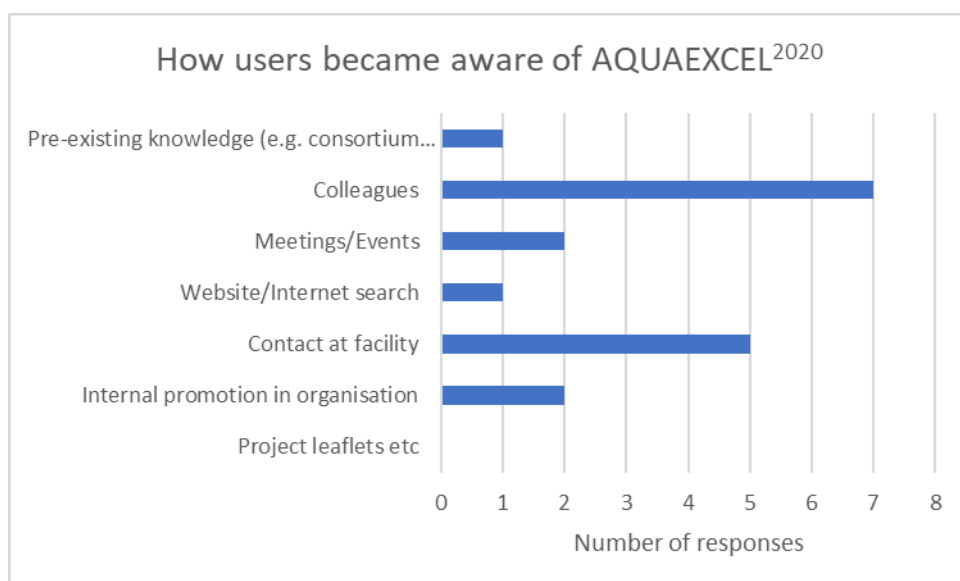
Users were asked for more specific feedback on publicity provided by the chosen infrastructure. Fourteen responses were received with a mean score of 4. Again, there was some spread in the score, but the majority considered the infrastructure publicity to be very good or excellent.

Users were also generally satisfied with the information that was made available to applicants – 15 responses were received with an average score of 4.4. There were a small number of Users however who were less satisfied with the available information. No clear reasons for this were given, but it appears likely to relate to lack of administrative information on issues such as accommodation and expenses.

Information for Applicants
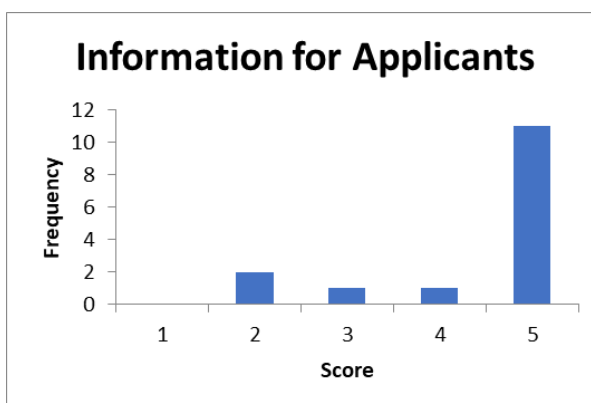
4.2. Application and evaluation procedure

Application system
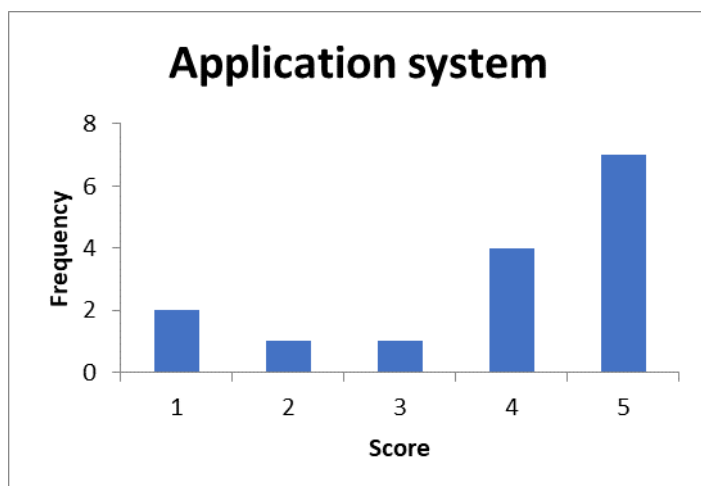
Users were asked for their views on the TNA application system. Fifteen responses were received with an average score of 3.87. The actual scores vary from 1 to 5 indicating significantly different experiences. The worst scores are likely to be associated with individual difficulties and delays in the early calls whilst the system was being set up and evaluators recruited. The online system works well for most applicants once they are familiar with it. The main problem has been with users not reading the guidance and ensuring that the Infrastructure Manager completes their checks on the application prior to submission.

Once the evaluation process has been completed, the outcome is communicated back to the applicants by means of a summary evaluation form. Users appeared generally satisfied with the quality of the feedback provided (mean score 4.47 from 15 respondents), although note that as with all the analysis, the respondents are only from those with approved projects.

Evaluation Feedback
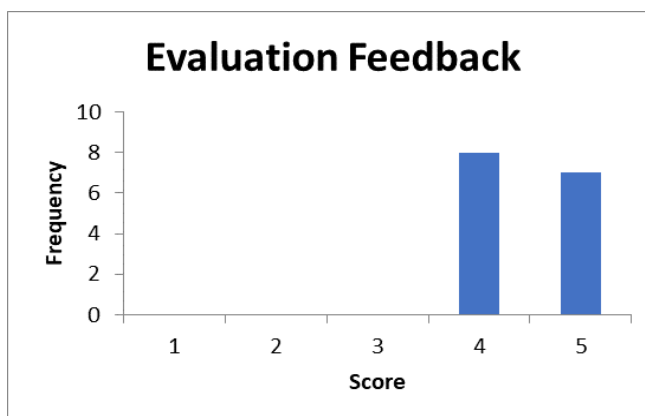
4.3. TNA visits and experimental work

Users were then asked about their experience of working at and with the host infrastructure.

The first question concerned the guidance they were given on using the infrastructure, which would include practical access information, health and safety briefings and any necessary training. Fifteen respondents gave an average score of 4.13. The variability in response suggests that there is scope for improvement in the guidance provided by some facilities, but that others are doing very well.

Facility Use Guidance
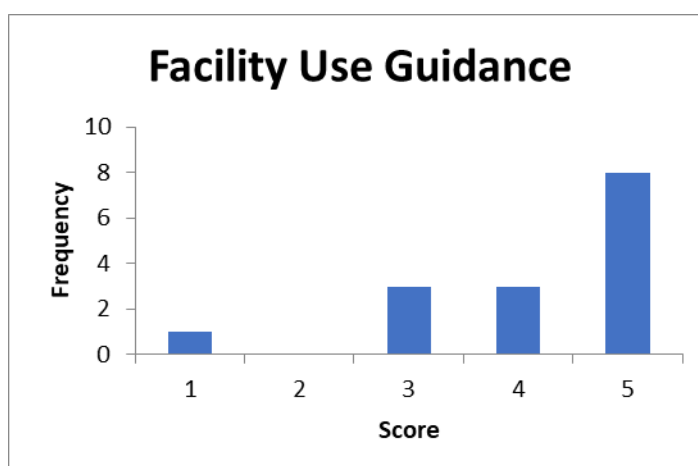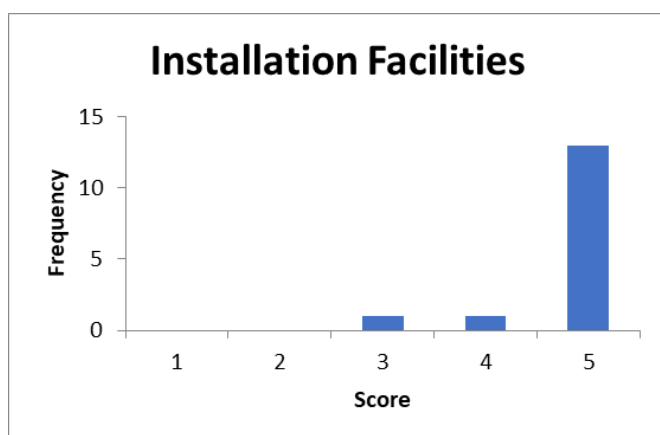
The second question in this section concerned the quality and suitability of the host facilities. These were generally rated very highly with 15 responses and a mean score of 4.8. The lowest score was related to a project where the applicant found some expected analytical facilities were not available.

Users were then asked about the quality of the scientific support to set up their experiments and analyse the results. The 15 responses to this question gave an average score of 4.67, with all users rating the quality of the scientific support as very good or excellent.
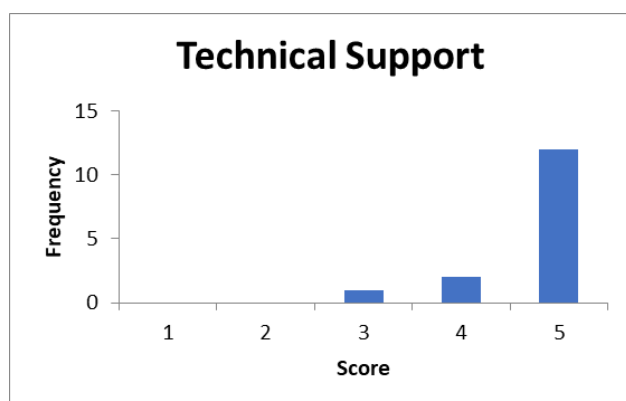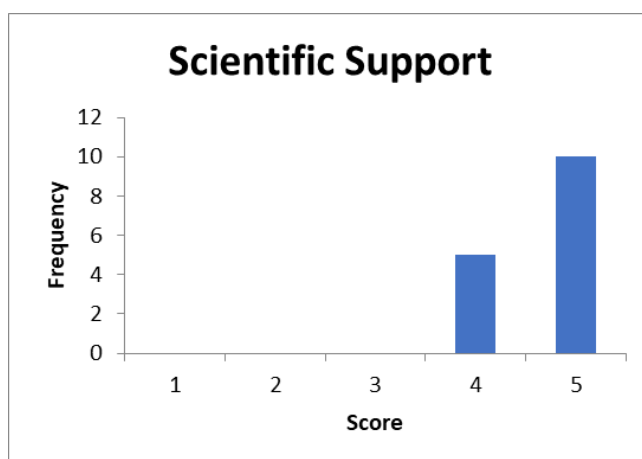
When asked about the quality of technical support at the infrastructure 15 respondents gave generally very positive responses with an average score of 4.73. The lowest score was influenced by some technical and administrative problems with the particular project.

Consideration of logistical support at the infrastructure included issues such as accommodation, office space, computing and library facilities etc. 15 responses gave an average score of 4.47. Most users were very satisfied with the logistic support provided, but those with a lower score were generally related to problems with accommodation, often due to limited budget.

Host Administration
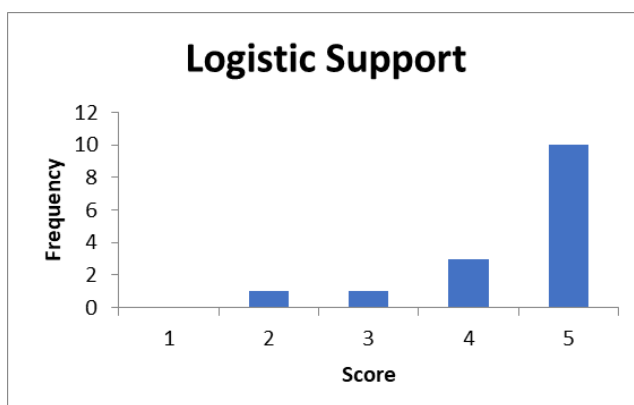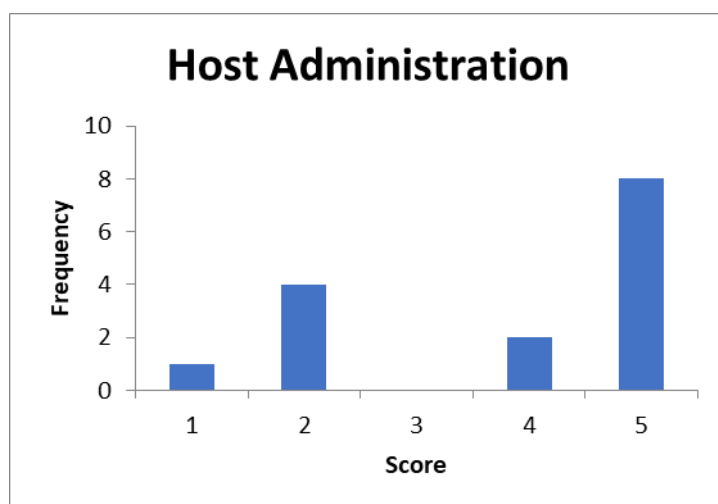
Fifteen respondents gave an average score of 3.8 for host administration of TNA projects. This result was bimodal – ten respondents awarding 4 or 5 and five awarding 1 or 2. The poor scores are related to complications and delays in the payment of travel and living expenses by some host organisations. This is being communicated to the hosts with the recommendation that procedures are more clearly communicated and administered in future.

When asked about the overall intellectual environment at the host infrastructure, 15 respondents gave an average score of 4.53. Those with the lowest score did not comment specifically on this but it was associated with a smaller facility with few scientific staff.

Intellectual Environment

Overall TNA Experience
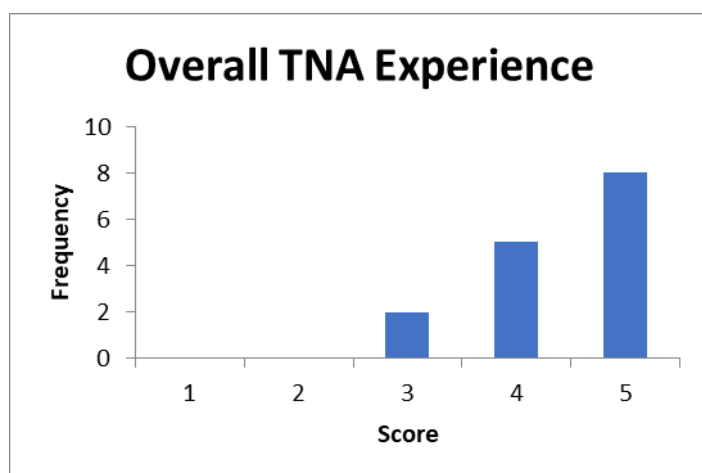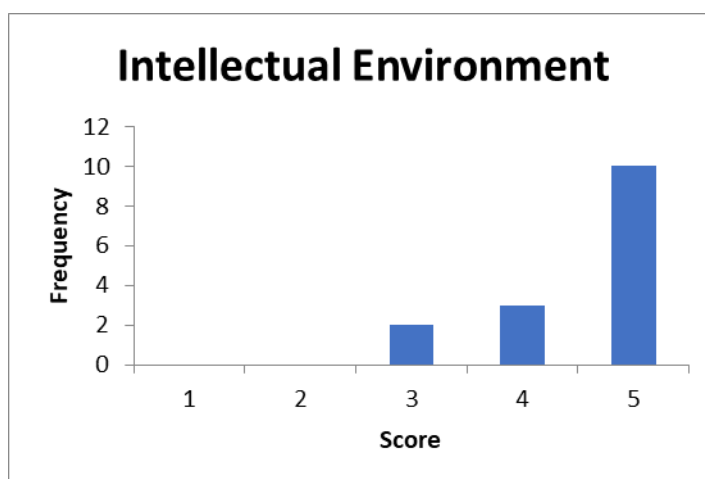
The 15 respondents gave an average score of 4.4 for overall TNA experience indicating generally very high satisfaction levels. The lower scores are due to technical and administrative problems as indicated above.

4.4. Project outputs, dissemination and exploitation

Fifteen users provided feedback concerning dissemination and exploitation of results. Two projects have already published their results in a scientific journal and a third is expecting an article to be published in the near future. Several other projects are expecting to publish in peer reviewed science journals in due course. At least five projects have given conference or workshop presentations and several more have this type of dissemination planned. Other dissemination activities include the publication of articles on organisation web site or in newsletters such as the AQUAEXCEL[2020] newsletter. For two projects, the work will be incorporated into a PhD thesis which will be published in due course. Workpackage 4 is collating

the knowledge outputs of the TNA along with other AQUAEXCEL[2020] workpackages, so a more comprehensive analysis of outputs and impacts will be available later in the project. SME users are expected to use results directly and are not under the same obligations for dissemination as research organisations or large companies.
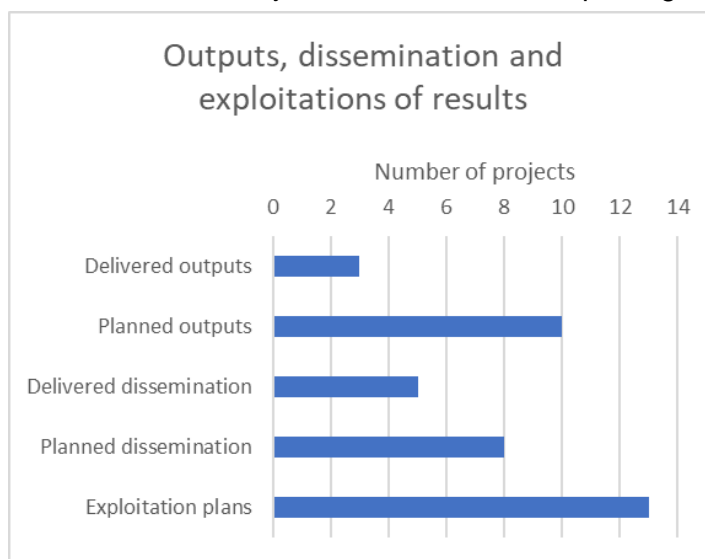
The majority of projects have articulated plans for the further exploitation of results (12 of the 15 respondents). Of these around three mentioned direct transfer and application of the knowledge to industry, whilst a further five envisaged benefit to industry through further development of the knowledge gained. The remainder focused on the knowledge gained and how this can be used to guide further research.

TNA users were also asked about the major achievements from their project. Most provided technical responses concerning scientific findings indicating useful scientific outputs. Two projects did not achieve their anticipated objectives but still considered the work to have been valuable due to other findings or lessons learned.

4.5. Prospects for future collaboration

Most of the users (13 out of 15) expressed a desire to pursue further collaboration with the host organisation. Of these, six had specific plans for scientific work and some had plans for funding applications including further TNA projects or with support from national funding bodies etc.
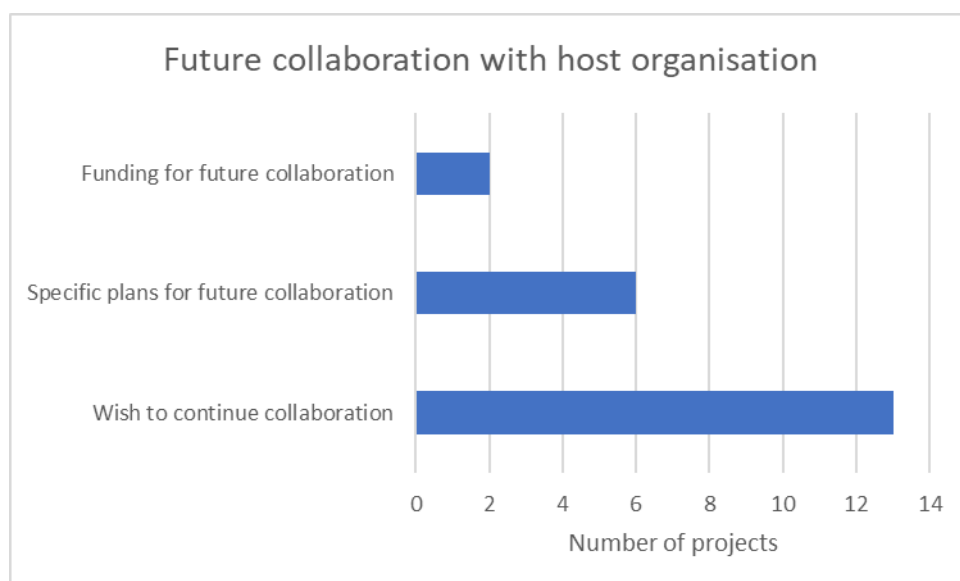
Two projects had already received funding approval for further collaboration, one of which is an AQUAEXCEL[2020] project.

FEEDBACK FROM HOSTS

4.6. Response received

All host organisations involved in providing TNA were asked to complete an evaluation form for each project that they had hosted. Seven responses were received of which six were answered fully. The six responses analysed were all from different infrastructures. As with the users, hosts were asked to rate aspects of their experience between 1 and 5 with 5 being excellent and 1 very poor.

4.7. Host experience

Hosts were firstly asked for their opinion on TNA Coordination. The six responses received gave a mean score of 4.2. Most had a very positive experience of TNA coordination, but one host gave a lower score, relating to delays in project evaluation and decision which affected planned experimental schedules.

TNA Coordination

Evaluation feedback
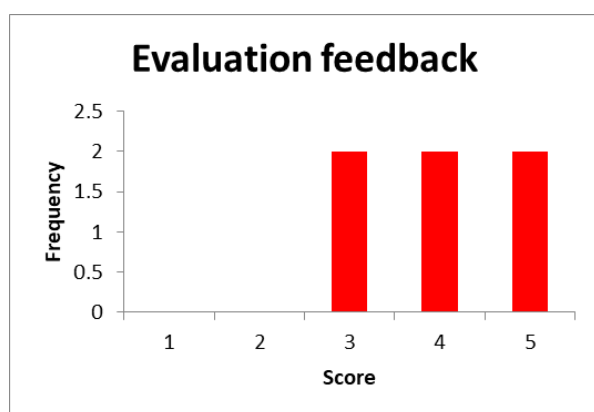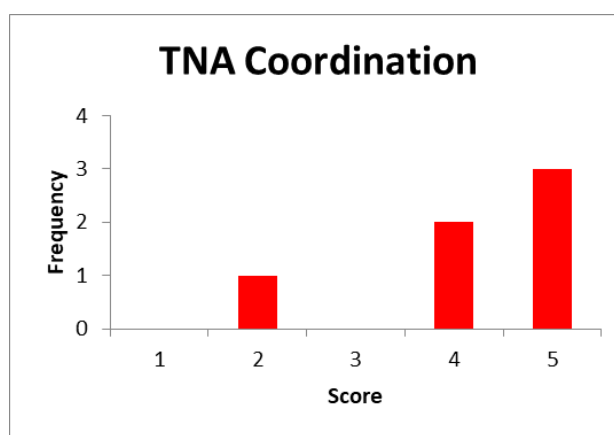
Hosts were then asked about the quality and usefulness of the feedback received after the project evaluation. The six respondents gave this a mean score of 4. The quality of the evaluations were not mentioned in any additional comments, but several respondents said the time taken was too long.

Hosts were asked about the attitude of users accessing their facilities. The six respondents gave a unanimous 5 (excellent) score for this question.

User attitude

User communications
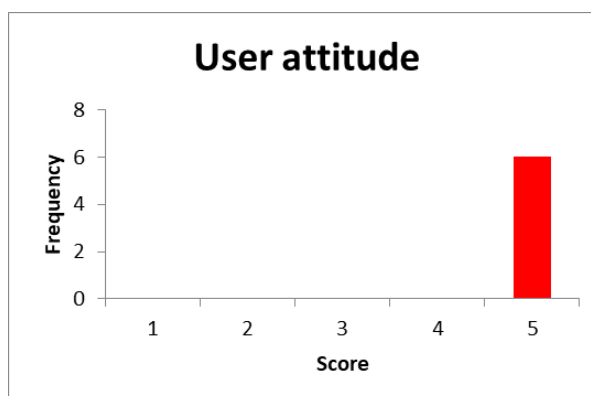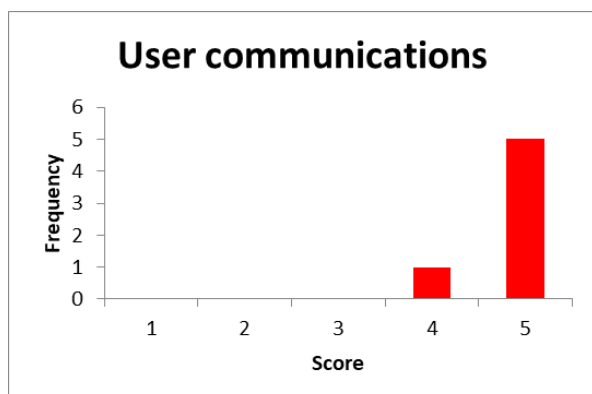
The six hosts were again very positive about the ease and quality of communications with the TNA User, giving a mean score of 4.8.

The same feedback was received from the six hosts in terms of their opinion of the users work with a mean score of 4.8.

User work
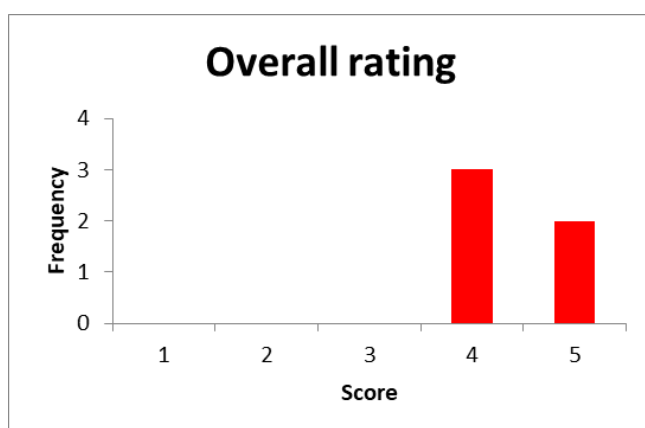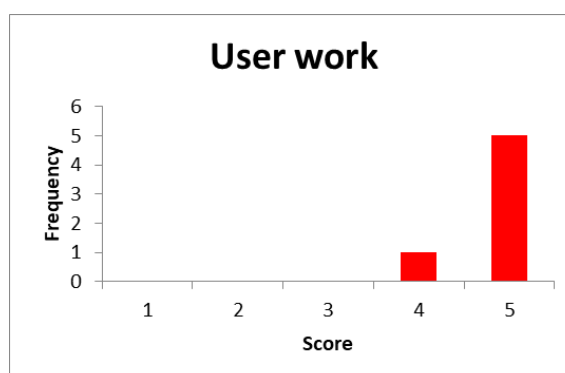
Overall rating

When asked for their overall rating of TNA projects as hosts, the six respondents again gave a positive response with a mean score of 4.4.

Hosts were asked about any specific problems or issues that arose during the TNA project. Two of the six respondents cited technical problems that occurred which either required to be solved in other ways, or reduced the sample size for analysis for instance. One project cited limited time for the work as a problem, whilst the others responded that there had been no significant problems.

4.8. Prospects for future collaboration

All six host respondents reported a desire to continue collaboration with the TNA user. Of these, two had definite plans for activities and one had already received funding for further work,
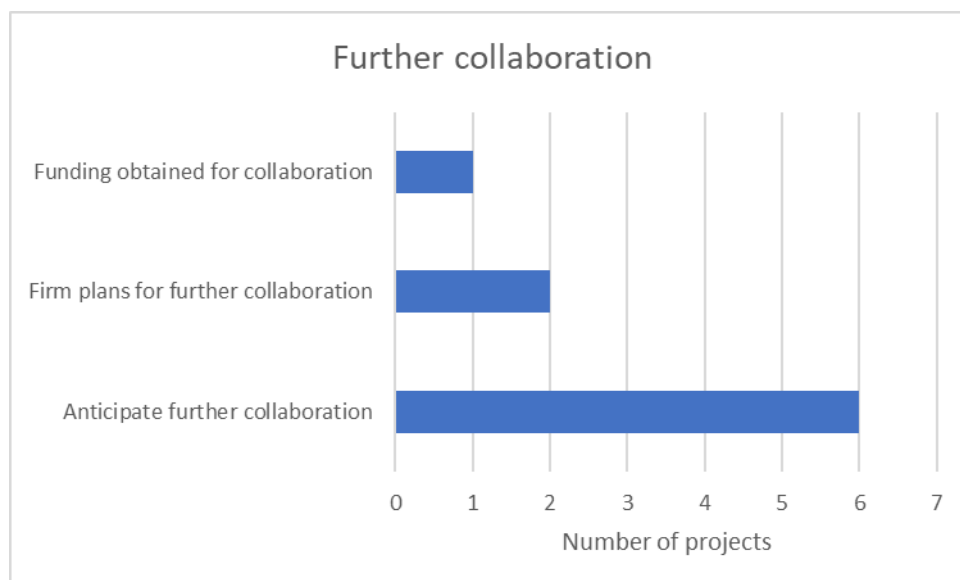
Further comments provided by the hosts concerning future collaboration were mostly specific concerning the experimental work or potential sources of funding. One host provided the following comment indicating the perceived value of TNA: "The potential of this cooperation is excellent, the model developed during this project is important for the scientific perspectives of both <organisations>. We envision an increase of the interactions between the two institutions in the coming years. The complementarity between the fish facilities are an additional favorable element of context".

5. FEEDBACK FROM EXPERT REVIEWERS AND SELECTION PANEL MEMBERS

5.1. Response received

The AQUAEXCEL2020 project currently has 88 expert reviewers registered, of which eight are on the Selection Panel and are tasked with making final recommendations for each project. All were asked to contribute to this interim evaluation and seventeen returned forms including 4 members of the Selection Panel.

5.2. Evaluator experience and opinion

Reviewers were asked about the adequacy of information concerning the proposed work to enable them to make a recommendation on acceptance and funding. Seventeen responses were received with a mean score of 4.29. This suggests reviewers were mostly satisfied, but sometimes felt further information was necessary. One reviewer commented on this question as follows "Application forms are sometimes not fully informative. However, I do not know if this is because some sections should be added or because people do not make much efforts

to fill or because I do not know enough some fields". One of the Selection Panel members also commented that forms are not always very complete: "Some proposals are in the panel members view incomplete, meaning they have failed to present sufficient detail to judge the proposal and probably made it more time consuming for the reviewer. This might be language and to help in this area they could go to a native English speaker".

Adequacy of information
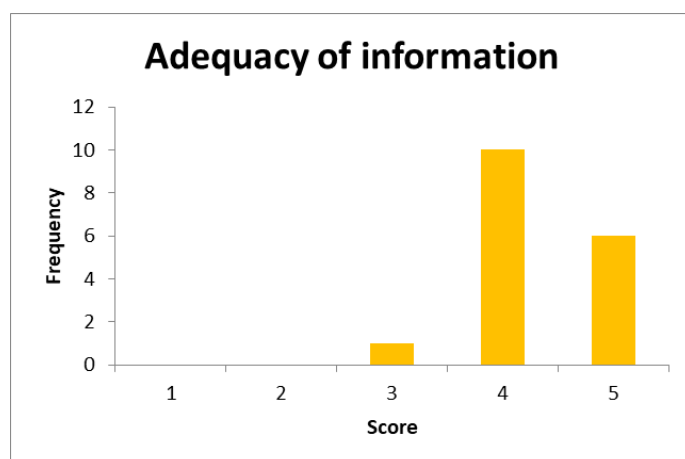
Another reviewer did suggest a specific modification: "Information found in the application form was quite comprehensive as to allow reviewers to quickly cross link the application to the current state of the art in a given research field. In this regard, unveiling knowledge on specific ongoing parallel developments by third parties could be easily requested to applicants to allow a more precise assessment of novelty". This suggestion was echoed by another reviewer who commented "In future, use of core literature and citation of central references could be emphasised more than now". Another suggestion concerned the provision of more information about the collaborating staff at the host institution: "I often feel I have only one side of the proposal with little information on the people in the project that are not travelling, usually in the receiving institution. It could be good to provide more information on the receiving institution particularly the people involved in the project i.e. CVs. However, on the whole I think the balance is very good between not providing too much information making it arduous to evaluate and providing sufficient information to enable the proposals to be correctly reviewed". The balance between too little and too much information is probably dependent on each reviewer. One commented "In general, the system looks good, however, in my opinion the proposals should be a bit longer, containing deeper information (about material and methods, for example)" whilst another appeared to want a little less "I am not in favour of projects listing basic equipment (e.g. Petri dish, scalpel), they should specify equipment that is not generally available and required to support the project".

Reviewers were then asked to rate the guidance provided on conducting the reviews and in particular the scoring system used internally for the Selection Panel. Seventeen responses were received to this question with a mean score of 4.47.

Guidance & Scoring System

One reviewer gave the following further comments: "The instructions given in the Guidance of score criteria were rather general and the evaluation was therefore based on reviewer's own experience and understanding of the given topics. This was however a positive feature and the five main criteria were in fact most relevant in such small-scale, short term projects. The applicants were seemingly also aware of the key selection criteria because they were well met and explained". Another reviewer commented "The guidelines and scoring system provided with the proposals are clear and helpful to make a valued and fair decision on the scientific value of the proposal and the potential of creating a new collaboration". One
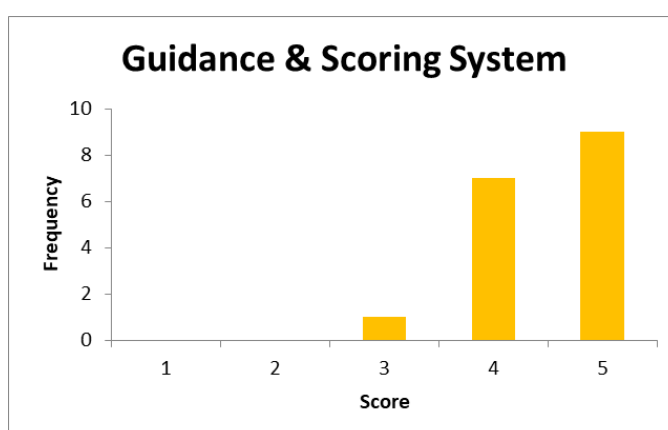
reviewer did however make a specific suggestion on scoring: "I would recommend adding a specific score for applicants coming from the industrial sector. It might compensate the fact that they often have a cv with a limited publication record."

The most substantive comments on the scoring criteria were as follows: "I have at times struggled with scoring the various application criteria, especially criteria 1 and 2, even with the 'guidance on score criteria' at hand. This is related to the question of how much weight should be placed on the 'aquaculture-related relevance' of the project. Thus, can a fundamental research application get a top score for criterion 1 'Scientific excellence' through 'including original ideas', 'developing new techniques' and 'contributing new knowledge', even if these ideas, techniques and knowledge have nothing to do with applied aquaculture research? Similarly, I find the bullet points for evaluating criterion 2 'Expected impact' somewhat ambiguous. Again, a basic science project with no relevance to aquaculture can get top scores for 'Publications – type and quality' and 'Contribution to future research proposal'. Only one of the four bullet points 'Transfer to commercial sector' demands that the project is aquaculture-related. Bottom-line: I would like to have a clearer instruction on what type of research (fundamental vs applied) should be prioritized for TNA to the AQUAEXCEL2020 infrastructure".
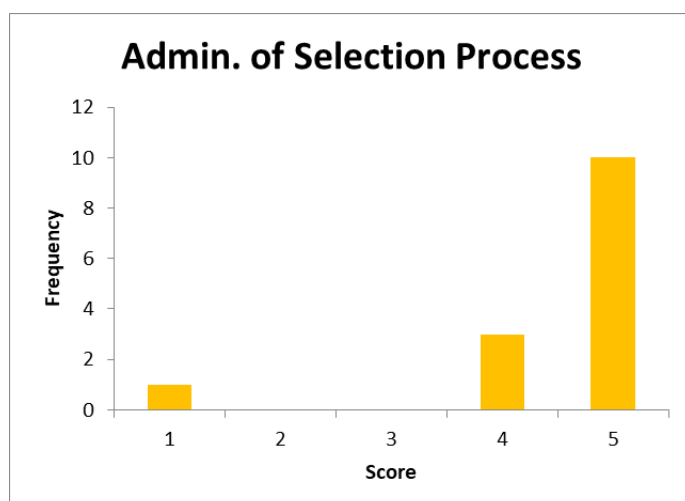
Reviewers were then asked for their opinion on the administration of the selection process. Fifteen responses were received with an average score of 4.6. The majority were satisfied or very satisfied with the administration, however, one reviewer rated it as very poor. This was directly related to the use of the online review system established after the Second Call for TNA applications. Unlike the main application system, the only compatible browser in Microsoft Explorer, which is not available to all reviewers. It was also found that reviewers comments and scores could be lost after they had been entered into the system. After several major problems, this directly linked online system was abandoned even though it had several desirable features. The reviewer concerned commented "I think I've reviewed four TNA project applications for AQUAEXCEL2020, during 2016 and 2017. From the onset, it was a major struggle to use the on-line evaluation system. For one evaluation, the system did not save any of my input and I had to rewrite the whole thing. For the latest evaluation, I simply filled out the evaluation form off-line, so I don't know if you still have the on-line system. If not, good riddance". Another reviewer said "Evaluation in the website TOTALLY not operative. Have to get the files from the team and do it offline. Strange that one has to use only one kind of browser!! and even then..."

Selection Panel Communication
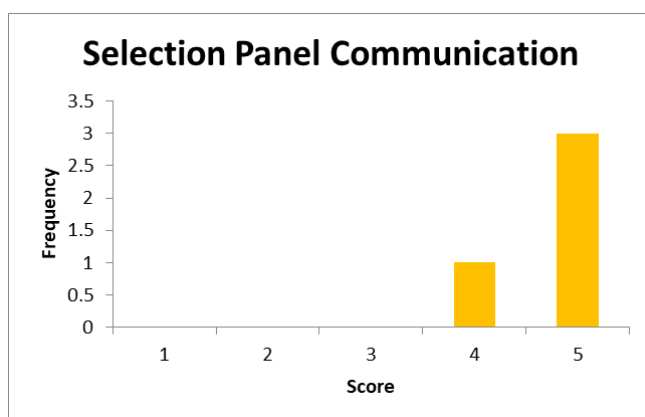
Members of the selection Panel only were asked about communications relating to Selection Panel operation. There were four responses to this question with an average score of 4.75. The only specific comments was that the Selection Panel process runs smoothly and is well supported.

All reviewers were asked about management of the review workload. This relates to the number of reviews expected, their frequency and time allowed for reviews to be completed. There were fifteen responses with an average score of 3.87. This lower score probably reflects the difficulty many reviewers have to fit this work in with other responsibilities and that requests for reviews inevitably arrive at

Workload Management

difficult times. One positive comment was "As independent reviewer, I can confirm that the TNA projects assigned to me were reviewed and conveyed to the selection panel within the timeline scheduled. Such timeline was ample enough to allow gathering collateral information to support the evaluation report as well as the final recommendation from the reviewer". Another reviewer said "The last time I reviewed a TNA project, I was given 2 weeks to complete the task. I think that, in order to read the proposal thoroughly and also read additional papers to enhance the understanding of the subject and the originality of the project, two weeks is the minimum amount of time that should be granted."

Overall Experience TNA
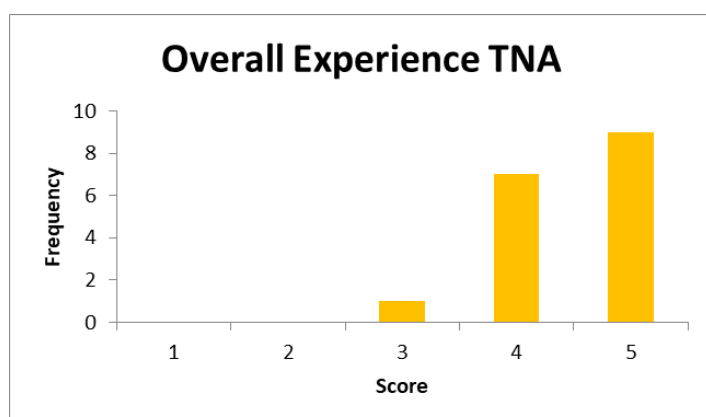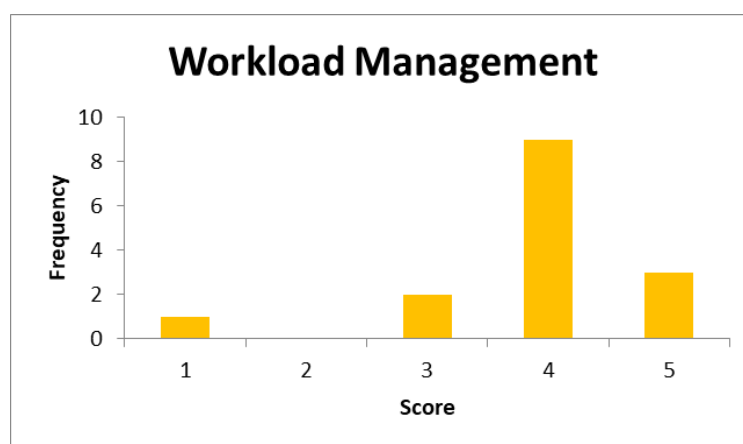
All seventeen responding reviewers gave a rating for overall experience of TNA. This gave a mean score of 4.47. These scores reflect the range of opinions and issues raised previously.

Specific quotes are "In my opinion the overall experience of the evaluation process has been positive and easy"; "We did not have any problem or recommendation for the selection procedure for TNA projects. All the information provided, the projects themselves and the forms to fill after the evaluation were very simple and easy to fill"; and "I think that the evaluation process is fine, giving to the proponents confidence upon the decisions taken."

6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1. Overall progress of TNA implementation

At the half-way stage in the project, the TNA activities are generally running well. Sixty-four projects have been approved of which eighteen have been completed and seven are in progress. However, this is 38% of the anticipated total of 169 projects approved and 15% completed, meaning intensity of activity will need to increase substantially during the second half of the project.

Approved projects are encouraged to make use of a Term Sheet to set out the details of the project and ensure both sides are aware of each other's expectations. This was developed as Deliverable 1.2. Up to March 2018 27 TNA projects had submitted completed user agreements based on this template. Of eighteen completed projects, copies of completed term sheets were received from sixteen (89%). Term sheets have been submitted by a further five projects currently in progress (out of seven (71%)). A further six term sheets have been submitted by projects that have not yet started. The overall use of terms sheets is therefore quite high considering that it is not compulsory. This is shown in the chart below (N = No, Y = Yes).
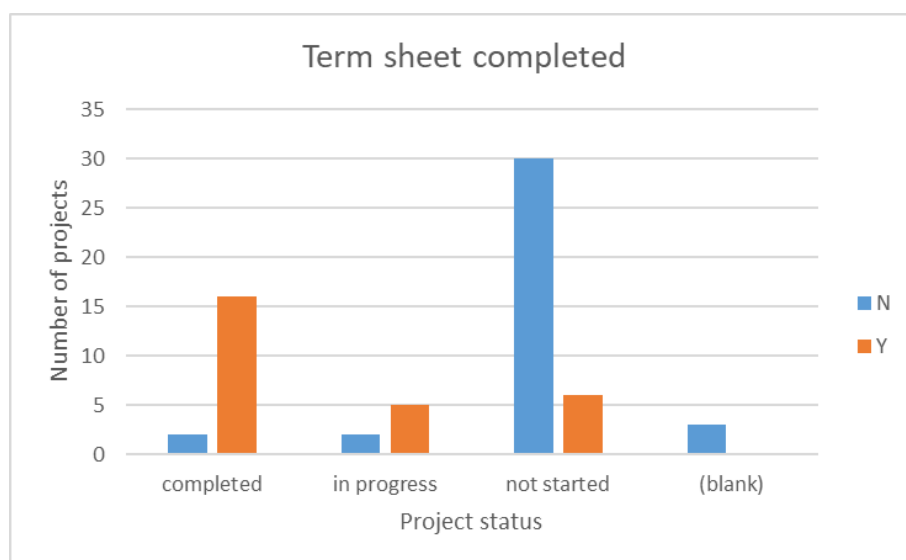
6.2. Application and selection process

The application, review and selection process is generally running well, but numerous problems were encountered during the early phase of the project. Firstly, a new online application system was delayed and could not be used for the first call for TNA. After that, problems were encountered with the reviewer side of the system. Substantial problems were encountered obtaining reviews from Expert reviewers, so significant efforts were made to recruit more and to reduce administrative delays e.g. by asking more reviewers than required in the initial stages and providing documents immediately. There was also a period of delays caused by the WP1 Coordinator taking on new duties at the University of Stirling and the time taken to recruit and train a specific administrator for the project. Whilst the time taken to process applications is still significant given the complex review process, it has improved substantially over the first six calls.

Days between submission and final decision
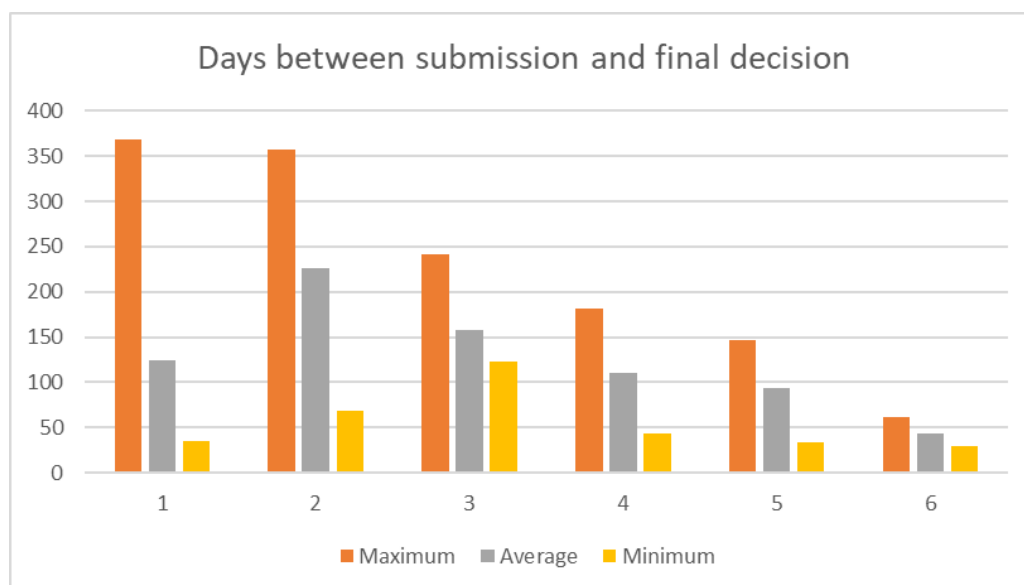
Delays by thematic areas were examined as a possible indicator of which subject areas might need more expert reviewers to be recruited. This suggested that health could be a particular constraint, followed by feed and nutrition.
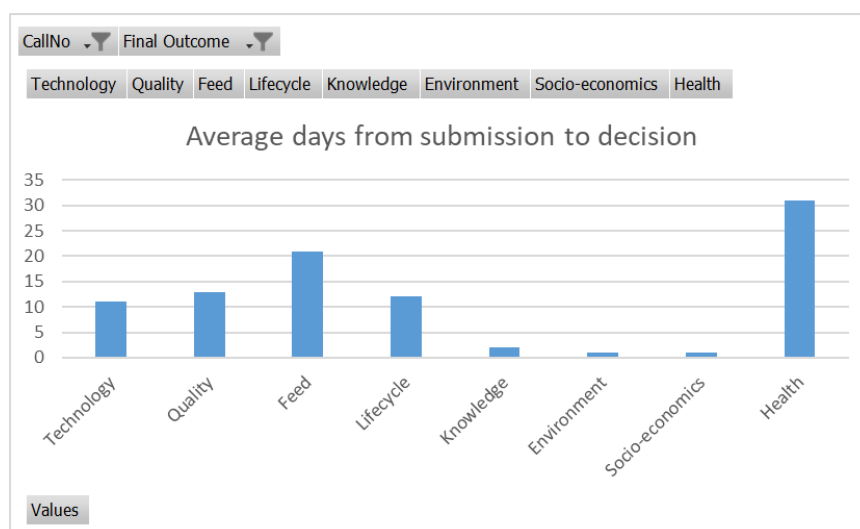
The Expert Review process was examined for calls 1-6. The target was to obtain two expert reviews for each application. As requests for reviews can be declined or ignored it was found that on average, the mean number of reviews requested per project was 3.2 with a maximum of 8. The mean number of reviews from the entire pool of Experts was 2 reviews with a maximum of six. The mean number of reviews declined per reviewer was 0.6 but also the mean number of failures to respond was 0.8. The overall load on individual experts should not therefore be too onerous although a small number of experts have been more active.
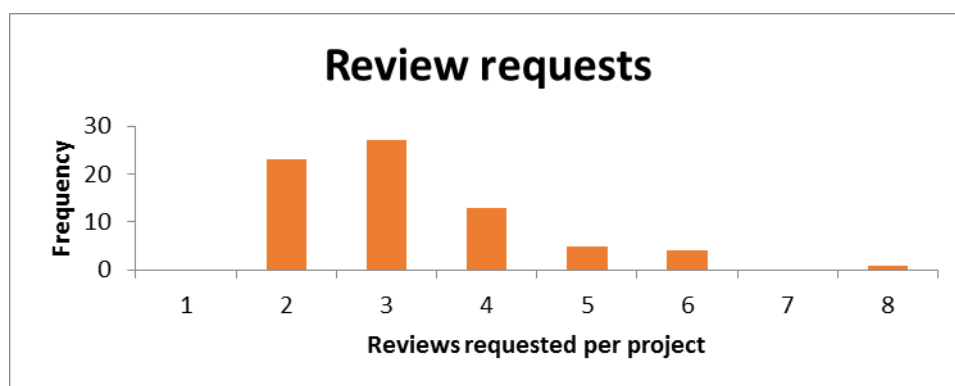
Another significant factor in delaying the final decision is that 86 % of applications (calls 1-6) were referred back to the applicant for clarifications – mainly on grounds of ethics or scientific methodology etc. This increases the time between application and final decision

	Scientific clarifications needed	Dissemination clarifications needed	Ethics clarifications needed	Totals
Number	24	5	34	63
Percentage	33%	7%	47%	86%

It was originally planned that ethics review would be carried out on projects after consideration by the Selection Panel. However, it was felt by the Selection Panel that they needed that information to inform their decision. The procedure was therefore changed to send applications for ethics review if they exceeded a guideline score threshold of 65 from the expert reviewers. As this still created delays in the overall process, this was subsequently relaxed to passing the application for ethics review as soon as at least one expert review had been received that exceeded the guideline score of 65. 88% of applications in Calls 1-8 have been reviewed for ethics. The chart below shows the ethics status of the call 1-8 applications as noted by the project administration.
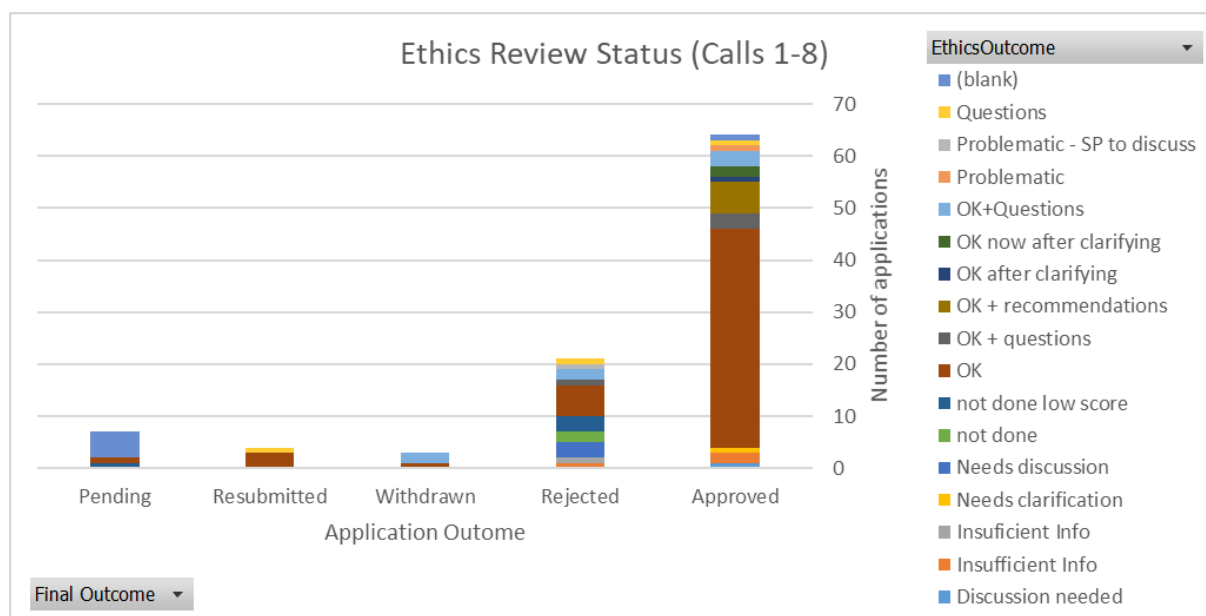
The outcome of ethics reviews was more systematically analysed for calls 1-6 and classified as follows;

1 No ethical issues arise
2 Ethical issues satisfactorily managed
3 Recommendations to improve management
4 Insufficient information for ethical judgement
5 Serious ethical issues arise – project should not proceed on current plan
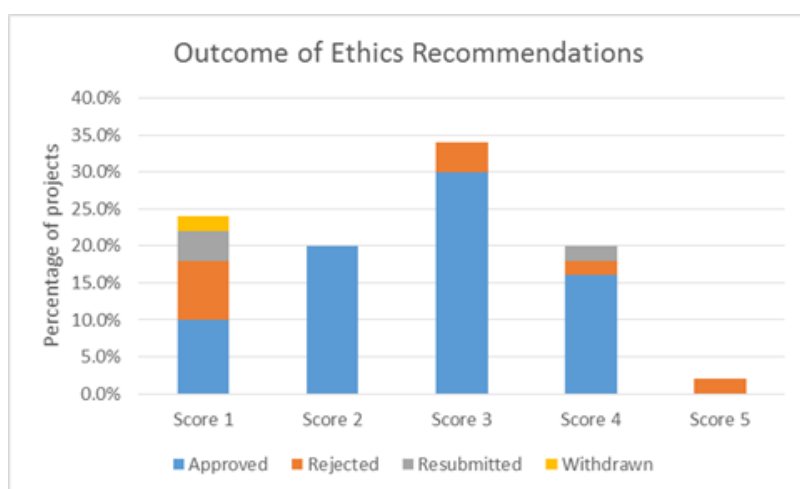
In calls 1-6 the majority of approved projects had some ethical issues identified. Most of these required further discussion with the applicant and resulted either in a modification to the work plan or a recommendation for further planning and precautions prior to project execution.

6.3. Dissemination and exploitation of results

Applicants are required to provide plans for dissemination and exploitation of results as part of the application process. The detail provided and ambition of these varies significantly and this aspect is sometimes the grounds for further questions to the applicant from the Selection Panel. Once the project is completed, details are passed on to WP4 led by AquaTT. This WP asks users to provide information on knowledge outputs by means of a spreadsheet template "Project Catalogue". So far these have been received from twelve of the eighteen completed projects. Analysis of the outputs is carried out under WP4.
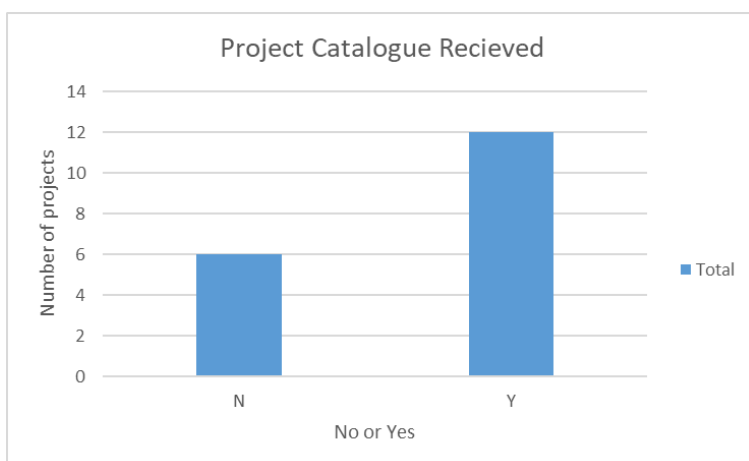
Some information on dissemination activities is also requested in the user feedback forms and the findings of that were reported in Section 4.4. By March 2018, two projects had publications in scientific journals and five had presented to scientific conferences or workshops.

Previous experience indicates continued efforts are needed to ensure findings are properly exploited or disseminated.

6.4. Recommendations

Overall, TNA is progressing well and an increasing number of projects are either underway or already complete. Consultations conducted to support this evaluation provided the following recommendations for further improvement:

- Promotion and publicity for AQUAEXCEL[2020] could be further improved as most applicants found out about the project through colleagues and contacts rather than the websites or newsletters of AQUAEXCEL[2020] or the project partners. Specific information for potential TNA users is still lacking from many Infrastructure websites.

- The application form was generally considered adequate, but further guidance could be given to help users complete the sections fully. In particular, reviewers felt users should give more references to prior work, give more detailed dissemination plans and better address the EATIP Strategic Research and Innovation Priorities.

- The internal scoring system for project evaluation should include a criterion that would help SMEs to obtain a higher rating.

- Further guidance should be given to project reviewers concerning the expectations for TNA projects – e.g. concerning fundamental vs applied research.

- The length of time required for application processing is still too long for some applicants and infrastructures. The possibility of a fast-track system for certain types of project could be considered.

- Better communication of outcomes to reviewers was requested (and is now being delivered)

- Better communication of process and status of applications is requested – although expectations vary and have workload implications.

- The most common cause of dissatisfaction from users is lack of clarity in reimbursement rates and procedures for expenses and sometimes in the rates themselves and delays in payment. Clear documentation of this should be available from each Infrastructure and included in the Term Sheet

- Greater efforts are required to ensure feedback forms are returned by all users, hosts and evaluators. The response of hosts has been the least adequate. Response rates for the return of other documents (such as project catalogues) also needs to be improved. The withholding of expense payments until reports have been received has been considered but rejected as unrealistic especially when PhD and early-career scientists are involved.

Glossary

AQUAEXCEL[2020]: AQUAculture Infrastructures for EXCELlence in European Fish Research towards 2020

AQUA TT	AquaTT UETP Ltd
CCMAR	Centre of Marine Sciences (University of Algarve)
CSIC	Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas
EATIP	European Aquaculture Technology & Innovation Platform
ExCom	Executive Committee
GC	Governing Council
HAKI	Research Institute for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Irrigation
HCMR	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research
IEO	Instituto Español de Oceanografía
IFREMER	Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer
IMARES	Institute for Marine Resources and Ecosystem Studies
IMR	Havforskningsinstituttet
INRA	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique
IT	INRA Transfert S.A
JU	University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice
NAIK	National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre (Hugary)
NOFIMA	Nofima Marin AS
NTNU	Norges teknisk-naturvitenskapelige universitet
PDF	Portable Document Format (Adobe Acrobat File)
SINTEF	SINTEF Fiskeri og havbruk AS
SRA	Strategic Research Agenda (of the EATIP)
TNA	TransNational Access
UGENT	Universiteit Gent
UL	University of Lorraine
ULPGC	Universidad de las Palmas de Gran Canaria
UoS	The University of Stirling
VURH	University of South Bohemia
WU	Wageningen Universiteit

List of AQUAEXCEL²⁰²⁰ TNA Installations

Installation Number	CODE	Installation full name	Installation Country code
1	INRA-PEIMA	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique - Pisciculture Expérimentale INRA des Monts d'Arrée	FR
2	INRA-STPEE	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique - Saint Pée sur Nivelle	FR
3	INRA-IERP	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique - Fish Infectiology Platform	FR
4	IMR-ELI	Institute of Marine Research – Matre Environmental Laboratory Installation	NO
5	IMR-CEL	Institute of Marine Research – Matre Cage Environment Laboratory	NO
6	IMR-BDL	Institute of Marine Research – Bergen Disease Laboratory	NO
7	UoS-IoA	University of Stirling – Institute of Aquaculture	GB
8	CSIC-IATS-EXP	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas- Instituto de Acuicultura Torre de la sal – Experimental Facilities	ES
9	CSIC-IATS-ANA	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas- Instituto de Acuicultura Torre de la sal – Analytical Facilities	ES
10	CSIC-IIM-EXP	Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas - Instituto de Investigaciones Marinas – Experimental Facilities	ES
11	HCMR-Aqualabs-Souda	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research – Aqualabs & Souda research facilities	GR
12	HCMR-Omics-Bioinfo	Hellenic Centre for Marine Research – Genomics-Bioinformatics	GR
13	NAIK-OEPS	National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre, Research Institute for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Irrigation (HAKI) - Outdoor experimental pond station	HU
14	NAIK-SDC	National Agricultural Research and Innovation Centre, Research Institute for Fisheries, Aquaculture and Irrigation (HAKI) - Indoor System for fish Disease Challenge	HU
15	IFREMER-PEARS	Institut Francais de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer - Palavas Experimental Aquaculture Research Station	FR
16	Nofima-NCRA	The Norwegian Institute of Food, Fisheries and Aquaculture Research -	NO

		Nofima Centre for Recirculation in Aquaculture	
17	Nofima-CFU	The Norwegian Institute of Food, Fisheries and Aquaculture Research - Nofima Cleaner Fish Experimental Unit	NO
18	Nofima-NNGS	The Norwegian Institute of Food, Fisheries and Aquaculture Research - Next Generation Sequencing of Microbiota	NO
19	JU-ICS	University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice - Institute of Complex Systems	CZ
20	JU-IAPW	University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice - Institute of Aquaculture and Protection of Waters	CZ
21	JU-IFA	University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice – Intensive Freshwater Aquaculture Units	CZ
22	JU-GRC	University of South Bohemia in Ceske Budejovice – Laboratory of Fish Genetics and Reproduction and Hatchery	CZ
23	NTNU-CodTech	Norwegian University of Science and Technology – Cod Tech Laboratory	NO
24	NTNU-Mclab	Norwegian University of Science and Technology – Marine Cybernetics Laboratory	NO
25	SINTEF-ACE	SINTEF Fiskeri og havbruk AS - Aquaculture Engineering	NO
26	ULPGC-WWSSU	Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Grupo de Investigación en Acuicultura - Warm Water Species Selection Unit	ES
27	ULPGC-MBS	Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Grupo de Investigación en Acuicultura - Marine BioAssays Station	ES
28	ULPGC-FITU	Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Grupo de Investigación en Acuicultura - Feed Ingredients and Additives Testing Unit	ES
29	WU-MRU	University of Wageningen - Metabolic Research Unit	NL
30	WU-RAS	University of Wageningen - Recirculating Aquaculture Systems	NL
31	Ugent-Gen ART	University of Ghent - Gene expression in gnotobiotic Artemia	BE
32	IMARES-RECIRC	DLO-Wageningen Livestock Research - Recirculation facilities	NL
33	UL-EPA	University of Lorraine – Experimental Platform in Aquaculture	FR
34	UL-Behaviour	University of Lorraine – Hatchery & behaviour room	FR
35	DTU-VET	DTU National Veterinary Institute - Laboratory and Fish tank facilities	DK
36	CCMAR-	Centre of Marine Sciences - Ramalhete	PT

	Ramalhete	Marine Station	
37	IEO-ICRA	Instituto Español de Oceanografía - Marine Aquaculture facilities of Murcia – Bluefin tuna	ES
38	IEO-MAP	Instituto Español de Oceanografía - Marine Aquaculture facilities of Murcia – Marine Aquaculture Plant	ES
39	IEO-AquaCOV	Instituto Español de Oceanografía - Marine Aquaculture facilities of Vigo	ES

Definitions

Access provider: means the beneficiary that is in charge of providing access to the infrastructure(s) or installation(s),

Applicant: A potential user of an Infrastructure who has applied for Transnational Access

Evaluator: A person involved in reviewing applications for Transnational Access and involved in decisions on whether they should be approved for project funding; i.e. an Expert Reviewer or member of the Selection Panel or the Ethics Adviser

Expert Reviewer: A person who has scientific expertise relevant to a particular TNA application who evaluates the proposed work and makes comments and recommendations to the Selection Panel

Facility: A generic term to indicate either an Infrastructure or a specific Installation as appropriate

Host: used as shorthand for "Access provider"

Infrastructure: means a facility, a resource (or a coherent set of them) together with the related services that are used by the scientific community to conduct research.

Installation: means a part of an infrastructure that could be used independently from the rest.

Selection Panel: A group of subject experts who consider evaluations from the Expert Reviewers and their own knowledge of the subject and make decisions concerning the funding of TNA projects.

User: means a researcher within a user group, including the user group leader.

User group: means a research team of one or more researchers given access to the infrastructure under the project. Each user group is led by a user group leader.

TNA Call Schedule

Call	Opens	Closes	Call	Opens	Closes
1	11/02/2016	11/03/2016	10	30/04/2018	08/06/2018
2	07/06/2016	08/07/2016	11	30/07/2018	07/09/2018
3	06/09/2016	14/10/2016	12	29/10/2018	07/12/2018
4	06/12/2016	13/01/2017	13	28/01/2019	08/03/2019
5	28/02/2017	17/04/2017	14	29/04/2019	07/06/2019
6	19/06/2017	12/07/2017	15	29/07/2019	06/09/2019
7	31/07/2017	25/09/2017	16	28/10/2019	06/12/2019
8	30/10/2017	08/12/2017	17	27/01/2020	06/03/2020
9	29/01/2018	09/03/2018	18	27/04/2020	05/06/2020

Document information

EU Project N°	652831		**Acronym**	AQUAEXCEL[2020]
Full Title	AQUAculture Infrastructures for EXCELlence in European Fish Research towards 2020			
Project website	www.aquaexcel.eu			

Deliverable	N°	D1.4	Title	First Evaluation of the Access Given
Work Package	**N°**	1	**Title**	One-stop access to EU aquaculture RIs

Date of delivery	**Contractual**		30/09/2017 (Month 24)	**Actual**	03/08/2018 (Month 35)
Dissemination level	X	**PU Public, fully open, e.g. web**			
		CO Confidential, restricted under conditions set out in Model Grant Agreement			
		CI Classified, information as referred to in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC.			

Authors (Partner)	University of Stirling			
Responsible Author	**Name**	John Bostock	**Email**	j.c.bostock@stir.ac.uk

Version log			
Issue Date	**Revision N°**	**Author**	**Change**
08/04/2018	1	John Bostock	First version
23/04/2018	2	Edwige Quillet.	Review Comments
20/07/2018	3	John Bostock	Revised version

Annex 1: Check list

Deliverable Check list (to be checked by the "Deliverable leader")

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>Check list</td><td></td><td>Comments</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="6">BEFORE</td><td>I have checked the due date and have planned completion in due time</td><td></td><td><i>Please inform Management Team of any foreseen delays</i></td></tr>
<tr><td>The title corresponds to the title in the DOW</td><td></td><td rowspan="3"><i>If not please inform the Management Team with justification</i></td></tr>
<tr><td>The dissemination level corresponds to that indicated in the DOW</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>The contributors (authors) correspond to those indicated in the DOW</td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>The Table of Contents has been validated with the Activity Leader</td><td></td><td><i>Please validate the Table of Content with your Activity Leader before drafting the deliverable</i></td></tr>
<tr><td>I am using the AQUAEXCEL^{2020} deliverable template (title page, styles etc)</td><td></td><td><i>Available in "Useful Documents" on the collaborative workspace</i></td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4"><i>The draft is ready</i></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="4">AFTER</td><td>I have written a good summary at the beginning of the Deliverable</td><td></td><td><i>A 1-2 pages maximum summary is mandatory (not formal but really informative on the content of the Deliverable)</i></td></tr>
<tr><td>The deliverable has been reviewed by all contributors (authors)</td><td></td><td><i>Make sure all contributors have reviewed and approved the final version of the deliverable. You should leave sufficient time for this validation.</i></td></tr>
<tr><td>I have done a spell check and had the English verified</td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>I have sent the final version to the WP Leader, to the 2nd Reviewer and to the Project coordinator (cc to the project manager) for approval</td><td></td><td><i>Send the final draft to your WPLeader, the 2nd Reviewer and the coordinator with cc to the project manager on the 1st day of the due month and leave 2 weeks for feedback. Inform the reviewers of the changes (if any) you have made to address their comments. Once validated by the 2 reviewers and the coordinator, send the final version to the Project Manager who will then submit it to the EC.</i></td></tr>
</table>

Additional Annexes

List of Approved TNA Projects

User Evaluation Form

Host Evaluation Form

Reviewer Evaluation Form

User TNA Application Form

Application Form Guidance Document

Approved TNA Projects

Project Reference Number: AE010001	**Acronym:** LAPPAQ
Research Infrastructure: NAIK-SDC	**Study Title:** LAB for pike perch aquaculture
User Group Organisation: IMGGE, UB	**User Group Country:** Serbia
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 24
	Visit Duration (Days): 30

Project Reference Number: AE010002	**Acronym:** AMVI2016
Research Infrastructure: UoS-IoA	**Study Title:** Advanced method for viral identification
User Group Organisation: IOLR	**User Group Country:** Israel
Organisation Type: SME	**Number of Units of Access:** 13
	Visit Duration (Days): 92

Project Reference Number: AE010004	**Acronym:** INTEBREAM
Research Infrastructure: CSIC-IATS-ANA	**Study Title:** Intestinal integrity
User Group Organisation: UALG	**User Group Country:** Portugal
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 4
	Visit Duration (Days): 20

Project Reference Number: AE010005	**Acronym:** POLYPHENOLS
Research Infrastructure: ULPGC-FITU	**Study Title:** Polyphenol project
User Group Organisation: CAUK	**User Group Country:** Germany
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 228
	Visit Duration (Days): 56

Project Reference Number: AE010006	**Acronym:** OXIHEALTHMEAGRE
Research Infrastructure: UOS-IOA	**Study Title:** Oxitative status of meagre
User Group Organisation: ULPGC	**User Group Country:** Spain
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 8
	Visit Duration (Days): 54

Project Reference Number: AE010014	**Acronym:** PHYSLARVA
Research Infrastructure: IEO-MAP	**Study Title:** Physiological Limits of Cultured Fishes
User Group Organisation: UHAM	**User Group Country:** Germany
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 10
	Visit Duration (Days): 70

Project Reference Number: AE020006	**Acronym:** CO2RAS
Research Infrastructure: WU-MRU	**Study Title:** CO2 and salmon metabolism
User Group Organisation: Nofima	**User Group Country:** Norway
Organisation Type: PRV	**Number of Units of Access:** 8
	Visit Duration (Days): 53

Project Reference Number: AE020007	Acronym: FISSAIREF
Research Infrastructure: IFREMER-PEARS	Study Title: Automated fish sampling in RAS
User Group Organisation: JU	User Group Country: Czech Republic
Organisation Type: UNI	Number of Units of Access: 24
	Visit Duration (Days): 19

Project Reference Number: AE020014	Acronym: CAMOILBREAM
Research Infrastructure: ULPGC-FITU	Study Title: Camelina oil in seabream feed
User Group Organisation: USI	User Group Country: Italy
Organisation Type: UNI	Number of Units of Access: 192
	Visit Duration (Days): 92

Project Reference Number: AE020017	Acronym: TRANSOIL
Research Infrastructure: ULPGC-MBS	Study Title: GM-derived oils in aquafeeds
User Group Organisation: UoS	User Group Country: UK
Organisation Type: UNI	Number of Units of Access: 108
	Visit Duration (Days): 90

Project Reference Number: AE020019	Acronym: FISHPOX
Research Infrastructure: DTU-VET	Study Title: Salmon gill poxvirus challenge
User Group Organisation: NVI	User Group Country: Norway
Organisation Type: RES	Number of Units of Access: 1
	Visit Duration (Days): 30

Project Reference Number: AE030014	Acronym: DISRUPBREAM
Research Infrastructure: CSIC-IATS-ANA	Study Title: Seabream Endocrine Disruption
User Group Organisation: UNIVPM	User Group Country: Italy
Organisation Type: UNI	Number of Units of Access: 10
	Visit Duration (Days): 77

Project Reference Number: AE030028	Acronym: STEC
Research Infrastructure: IMARES-RECIRC	Study Title: Swim to enhance cognition
User Group Organisation: NMBU	User Group Country: Norway
Organisation Type: UNI	Number of Units of Access: 48
	Visit Duration (Days): 89

Project Reference Number: AE030036	Acronym: AGDBIOMAR
Research Infrastructure: CSIC-IATS-ANA	Study Title: AGD pathogenesis biomarkers
User Group Organisation: GMIT	User Group Country: Ireland
Organisation Type: UNI	Number of Units of Access: 4
	Visit Duration (Days): 25

Project Reference Number: AE030051	**Acronym:** SVCV-MucoVacc
Research Infrastructure: INRA-IERP	**Study Title:** SVCV mucosal vaccines
User Group Organisation: WUR	**User Group Country:** Netherlands
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 20
	Visit Duration (Days): 77

Project Reference Number: AE030061	**Acronym:** PRO-CARP
Research Infrastructure: JU-IFA	**Study Title:** Progestin and carp larvae
User Group Organisation: IGB	**User Group Country:** Germany
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 8
	Visit Duration (Days): 83

Project Reference Number: AE040011	**Acronym:** HSI4DIET
Research Infrastructure: INRA-PEIMA	**Study Title:** Hyperspectral for Fish Diet
User Group Organisation: USB	**User Group Country:** Czech Republic
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 212
	Visit Duration (Days): 10

Project Reference Number: AE040027	**Acronym:** LABRAWEAN
Research Infrastructure: NAIK-SDC	**Study Title:** Lactobacilli for rapid weaning
User Group Organisation: IMGGE, UB	**User Group Country:** Serbia
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 48
	Visit Duration (Days): 45

Project Reference Number: AE040035	**Acronym:** photoperiodpikeperch
Research Infrastructure: UL-EPA	**Study Title:** Photoperiod and immunity
User Group Organisation: Unamur	**User Group Country:** Belgium
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 240
	Visit Duration (Days): 105

Project Reference Number: AE040040	**Acronym:** IMPRovES
Research Infrastructure: HCMR-Aqualabs-Souda	**Study Title:** Treated IM in fish feeds
User Group Organisation: UniTo	**User Group Country:** Italy
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 25
	Visit Duration (Days): 120

Project Reference Number: AE040041	**Acronym:** BreamAA
Research Infrastructure: ULPGC-MBS	**Study Title:** Functional diets for seabream
User Group Organisation: CIIMAR	**User Group Country:** Portugal
Organisation Type: OTH	**Number of Units of Access:** 150
	Visit Duration (Days): 50

Project Reference Number: AE040042	**Acronym:** BeyondColour
Research Infrastructure: INRA-STPEE	**Study Title:** Astaxanthin physiology in salmonids: beyond colour
User Group Organisation: ULPGC	**User Group Country:** Spain
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 10
	Visit Duration (Days): 90

Project Reference Number: AE040044	**Acronym:** r-stGtHs
Research Infrastructure: JU-GRC	**Study Title:** rLH, rFSH in sterlet in-vivo
User Group Organisation: HUJI	**User Group Country:** Israel
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 2
	Visit Duration (Days): 74

Project Reference Number: AE040049	**Acronym:** Diploidgametes
Research Infrastructure: JU-GRC	**Study Title:** Diploid gametes production
User Group Organisation: Hokkaido University	**User Group Country:** Japan
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 2
	Visit Duration (Days): 13

Project Reference Number: AE040061	**Acronym:** ENDOPUFA
Research Infrastructure: IMR-ELI	**Study Title:** EPA & DHA production in salmon
User Group Organisation: UoS	**User Group Country:** UK
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 192
	Visit Duration (Days): 102

Project Reference Number: AE040063	**Acronym:** Lump-Brood-Temp
Research Infrastructure: NOFIMA-CFU	**Study Title:** Temp & Lumpfish Broodstock
User Group Organisation: UoS	**User Group Country:** UK
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 36
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE040069	**Acronym:** AIRE PROGRAMM
Research Infrastructure: HCMR-Aqualabs-Souda	**Study Title:** Effects of pollen in meagre
User Group Organisation: UNINA	**User Group Country:** Italy
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 20
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE040071	**Acronym:** CARPBANK
Research Infrastructure: JU-GRC	**Study Title:** In vivo gene bank of carp
User Group Organisation: SZIE	**User Group Country:** Hungary
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 2
	Visit Duration (Days): 13

Project Reference Number: AE040073	**Acronym:** Transsexbass
Research Infrastructure: IFREMER-PEARS	**Study Title:** Trans-generational epigenetic and genomic influence on sex ratio in sea bass
User Group Organisation: CSIC	**User Group Country:** Spain
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 205
	Visit Duration (Days): 274

Project Reference Number: AE040085	**Acronym:** IMPROV-SEABASS
Research Infrastructure: CSIC-IATS-ANA	**Study Title:** Fish dietary immunomodulation
User Group Organisation: CIIMAR	**User Group Country:** Portugal
Organisation Type: OTH	**Number of Units of Access:** 4
	Visit Duration (Days): 29

Project Reference Number: AE040092	**Acronym:** Algae-clay
Research Infrastructure: HCMR-Aqualabs-Souda	**Study Title:** Algae extracts dietary support
User Group Organisation:	**User Group Country:** Netherlands
Organisation Type: OTH	**Number of Units of Access:** 25
	Visit Duration (Days): 90

Project Reference Number: AE050004	**Acronym:** OXYPIKE
Research Infrastructure: JU-IFA	**Study Title:** Oxygen in pikeperch culture
User Group Organisation: HOLAR	**User Group Country:** Iceland
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 21
	Visit Duration (Days): 147

Project Reference Number: AE050006	**Acronym:** FISHID
Research Infrastructure: Nofima-NCRA	**Study Title:** Personalized aquaculture - non-invasive real-time fish identification
User Group Organisation: PLUS	**User Group Country:** Austria
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 26
	Visit Duration (Days): 186

Project Reference Number: AE050029	**Acronym:** OestroFish
Research Infrastructure: CSIC-IATS-EXP	**Study Title:** Effects of oestradiol on the adaptive immune system of sea bass
User Group Organisation: UNILEHAVRE	**User Group Country:** France
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 12
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE050057	**Acronym:** MYCOTOX
Research Infrastructure: UoS-IoA	**Study Title:** Mycotoxins in aquaculture
User Group Organisation: EDEM	**User Group Country:** Spain
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 1
	Visit Duration (Days): 67

Project Reference Number: AE050060	**Acronym:** PROTOFISH
Research Infrastructure: NTNU-CodTech	**Study Title:** Protists in larval nutrition
User Group Organisation: UHAM	**User Group Country:** Germany
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 7
	Visit Duration (Days): 53

Project Reference Number: AE050063	**Acronym:** OctoGrowth
Research Infrastructure: IEO-AquaCOV	**Study Title:** OctoGrowth
User Group Organisation: USTAN	**User Group Country:** UK
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 10
	Visit Duration (Days): 61

Project Reference Number: AE050070	**Acronym:** FISHSOUNDS
Research Infrastructure: JU-ICS	**Study Title:** Fish sounds localization
User Group Organisation:	**User Group Country:** France
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 4
	Visit Duration (Days): 27

Project Reference Number: AE050072	**Acronym:** Shallot_CARP
Research Infrastructure: JU-IFA	**Study Title:** Shallot immunostimulation
User Group Organisation: UMU	**User Group Country:** Spain
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 11
	Visit Duration (Days): 83

Project Reference Number: AE060006	**Acronym:** MeagreGenetics
Research Infrastructure: HCMR-Omics-Bioinfo	**Study Title:** Meagre genetic evaluation
User Group Organisation:	**User Group Country:** Spain
Organisation Type: PRV	**Number of Units of Access:** 12
	Visit Duration (Days): 90

Project Reference Number: AE060011	**Acronym:** EuropeanperchRAS
Research Infrastructure: UL-EPA	**Study Title:** Effect of perch origin in RAS
User Group Organisation: USB	**User Group Country:** Czech Republic
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 240
	Visit Duration (Days): 121

Project Reference Number: AE060012	**Acronym:** BIOLUMART
Research Infrastructure: Ugent-Gen ART	**Study Title:** V.campbelli via Artemia to cod
User Group Organisation: NTNU	**User Group Country:** Norway
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 16
	Visit Duration (Days): 30

Project Reference Number: AE060014	**Acronym:** ZiCLiMP
Research Infrastructure: INRA-STPEE	**Study Title:** Mineral & Metabolic plasticity
User Group Organisation: NIFES	**User Group Country:** Norway
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 144
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE060023	**Acronym:** MeagreEFA
Research Infrastructure: ULPGC-FITU	**Study Title:** Specific diets for meagre
User Group Organisation: CIIMAR	**User Group Country:** Portugal
Organisation Type: OTH	**Number of Units of Access:** 144
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE060027	**Acronym:** RMS
Research Infrastructure: DTU-VET	**Study Title:** Is RMS vectorized by Ich.?
User Group Organisation: BIOUNIPI	**User Group Country:** Italy
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 40
	Visit Duration (Days): 61

Project Reference Number: AE060028	**Acronym:** HEXAFEED
Research Infrastructure: ULPGC-WWSSU	**Study Title:** Insects for European sea bass
User Group Organisation: UROS	**User Group Country:** Germany
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 120
	Visit Duration (Days): 89

Project Reference Number: AE060030	**Acronym:** NEUROLARVAE
Research Infrastructure: UoS-IoA	**Study Title:** Pathways for metamorphosis
User Group Organisation: GU	**User Group Country:** Sweden
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 3
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE060033	**Acronym:** RBBT
Research Infrastructure: DTU-VET	**Study Title:** PRV-3 infection of Rainbow tro
User Group Organisation: NMBU	**User Group Country:** Norway
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 6
	Visit Duration (Days): 75

Project Reference Number: AE060035	**Acronym:** U-CAT for Aqua farm
Research Infrastructure: SINTEF-ACE	**Study Title:** U-CAT for Aqua farm
User Group Organisation: TTU	**User Group Country:** Estonia
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 1
	Visit Duration (Days): 10

Project Reference Number: AE070008	**Acronym:** RHODOFILTER
Research Infrastructure: ULPGC-WWSSU	**Study Title:** Rhodolith biofilters
User Group Organisation: MPIMM	**User Group Country:** Germany
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 144
	Visit Duration (Days): 59

Project Reference Number: AE070010	**Acronym:** SAF1-LCDV-NGS
Research Infrastructure: UoS-IoA	**Study Title:** In vitro LCDV assays and NGS
User Group Organisation: IUFAS	**User Group Country:** Turkey
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 12
	Visit Duration (Days): 90

Project Reference Number: AE070013	**Acronym:** CROSSIMMUNEFISH
Research Infrastructure: JU-IAPW	**Study Title:** cross reactive antibodies fish
User Group Organisation: FLI	**User Group Country:** Germany
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 12
	Visit Duration (Days): 84

Project Reference Number: AE070018	**Acronym:** HUFACARPQUALIT
Research Infrastructure: JU-IAPW	**Study Title:** Postmortem quality of carp
User Group Organisation: DLPU	**User Group Country:** China
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 13
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE070019	**Acronym:** antimicroalgae
Research Infrastructure: NTNU-CodTech	**Study Title:** Antimicrobial microalgae
User Group Organisation: UPAT	**User Group Country:** Greece
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 6
	Visit Duration (Days): 41

Project Reference Number: AE070020	**Acronym:** SeabassPP
Research Infrastructure: ULPGC-WWSSU	**Study Title:** Sustainable diets for seabass
User Group Organisation: CIIMAR	**User Group Country:** Portugal
Organisation Type: OTH	**Number of Units of Access:** 180
	Visit Duration (Days): 56

Project Reference Number: AE070021	**Acronym:** PERLIGHT
Research Infrastructure: UL-EPA	**Study Title:** Controlled spawning of perch
User Group Organisation: UWM	**User Group Country:** Poland
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 38
	Visit Duration (Days): 28

Project Reference Number: AE070025	**Acronym:** DISH
Research Infrastructure: CSIC-IATS-ANA	**Study Title:** ISH for D. lepeophtherii
User Group Organisation: MRI	**User Group Country:** UK
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 1
	Visit Duration (Days): 29

Project Reference Number: AE070026	**Acronym:** SanHer
Research Infrastructure: JU-IAPW	**Study Title:** Insect meal in pikeperch diets
User Group Organisation: UniTo	**User Group Country:** Italy
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 14
	Visit Duration (Days): 95

Project Reference Number: AE080005	**Acronym:** ISDCOAG
Research Infrastructure: JU-GRC	**Study Title:** Cryopreservation of Sperm
User Group Organisation: CCMAR	**User Group Country:** Portugal
Organisation Type: OTH	**Number of Units of Access:** 2
	Visit Duration (Days): 14

Project Reference Number: AE080025	**Acronym:** VIRRAVBNVLF
Research Infrastructure: DTU-VET	**Study Title:** Viral infections in lumpfish
User Group Organisation: GMIT	**User Group Country:** Ireland
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 4
	Visit Duration (Days): 30

Project Reference Number: AE080035	**Acronym:** MeditGen
Research Infrastructure: HCMR-Omics-Bioinfo	**Study Title:** Medfish quality genomes
User Group Organisation: UNIPD	**User Group Country:** Italy
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 16
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE080042	**Acronym:** oxidativpikeperch
Research Infrastructure: UoS-IoA	**Study Title:** Oxidative status of pikeperch
User Group Organisation: Unamur	**User Group Country:** Belgium
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 10
	Visit Duration (Days): 72

Project Reference Number: AE080044	**Acronym:** UTOP
Research Infrastructure: UoS-IoA	**Study Title:** Health biomarkers for Tilapia
User Group Organisation: Kfs	**User Group Country:** Egypt
Organisation Type: UNI	**Number of Units of Access:** 13
	Visit Duration (Days): 91

Project Reference Number: AE080052	**Acronym:** Phosphobass
Research Infrastructure: CCMAR-Ramalhete	**Study Title:** Effects of dietary phosphorus
User Group Organisation: CSIC	**User Group Country:** Spain
Organisation Type: RES	**Number of Units of Access:** 120
	Visit Duration (Days): 73

YOUR PROJECT DETAILS

1.01   AQUAEXCEL^{2020} project reference number:

1.02   Date this form was completed:

1.03   Name of the person completing this form:

1.04   E-mail address of the person completing this form:

1.05   Version (use 01 for the first version and 02, 03 etc for subsequent versions):

1.06   Infrastructure/facility used:

1.07   Project acronym:

1.08   Project title:

1.09   Lead researcher name:

1.10   Lead researcher organization name:

1.11   Name(s) of any other people participating in the visit:

1.12   Date of project commencement:

1.13   Start date of first visit:

1.14   End date of last visit:

1.15   Explanation of number, type and duration of visits:

CHOICE OF INFRASTRUCTURE

2.01   How did you become aware of the AQUAEXCEL^{2020} Project and opportunities for TNA?

2.02   What were the reasons for selecting your host infrastructure?

2.03   Did you consider other infrastructures? If so, which ones?

2.04   Did you receive any advice on selecting an Infrastructure? If so, who from?

2.05   Comment on the quality of any advice you received when selecting a host infrastructure

2.06   If AQUAEXCEL^{2020} funding were not available, would you still have
        been able to carry out your work at this research infrastructure?

2.07   Please give the reasons for your answer:

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

3.01   Give details of any issues arising in implementing the project such as difficulties
        encountered and/or how recommendations of the Selection Panel or Ethics Adviser were
        addressed:

PROJECT OUTPUTS AND DISSEMINATION

4.01   Have you completed a Knowledge Capture Template
        (AQUAEXCEL[2020] Project Catalogue)?

*If no, please complete the AQUAEXCEL2020 Project Catalogue template and submit with this form. If yes
but you have additional project output(s) now, please complete a new Project Catalogue template for these
and submit with this form. (Templates can be requested from Claudia Jung: Claudia@aquatt.ie)*
.

4.02   The Project Catalogue captures information on all outputs from the project; however you
        can use the space below to draw attention to any notable publications, presentations or
        websites resulting from the project.

4.03   Add information on any planned (but not yet delivered) outputs:

4.04   Describe the actions you have carried out to disseminate your project results to (a) the
        academic community, (b) industry, (c) government, (d) wider civic society, or (e) other
        (please specify):

4.05   Describe any future actions you expect to take to disseminate your project results:

PROJECT IMPACT (EXPLOITATION OF RESULTS)

5.01   Describe how the results of your project are being used, or how they are expected to be used in the future:

5.02   Comment on the main achievements of your project and whether these match original objectives:

TNA EXPERIENCE

On a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) how would you rate your experience of AQUAEXCEL[2020] Transnational Access with respect to the following criteria:

6.01   Publicity provided by the AQUAEXCEL[2020] project

6.02   Publicity provided by the infrastructure

6.03   Practical information provided on how to apply for access

6.04   The online application system

6.05   Usefulness of feedback from Evaluators and/or Ethics Adviser

6.06   Information provided, once your project was accepted, on how to use the facility

6.07   Quality and suitability of the facilities of the host institution

6.08   Scientific support to set up your experiments and interpret the results

6.09   Technical support to make best use of the installation(s)

6.10   Logistic support at the facility (office space, computing, libraries, accommodation)

6.11   Administrative support (including the reimbursement of travel & subsistence expenses)

6.12   The intellectual environment

6.13   Overall rating of your experience of AQUAEXCEL[2020] TNA

6.14   Please comment further on your scores, giving your recommendations for improvements in the future or any other comments not included elsewhere:

FUTURE COLLABORATION

7.01   Do you expect to collaborate again with this Infrastructure/host
        organization in the future?

7.02   If yes, do you have specific plans? (Provide further details):

7.03   If yes, do you have funding? (Provide further details):

7.04   Please add any further comments on the potential for future collaboration with
        the host organization:

OTHER COMMENTS

8.01   Please provide any further comments or suggestions concerning your access to
        the research infrastructure or the AQUAEXCEL[2020] project in general:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

9.01   Have you completed the Commission evaluation questionnaire at:
        http://bit.ly/2qWGtCZ ?

        If no, please do so as soon as your project is complete.

Return this form to the TNA Coordinator via the SUBMIT button. If
that does not work, save the completed PDF form and e-mail it to
j.c.bostock@stir.ac.uk.

PROJECT DETAILS

1.01   AQUAEXCEL^{2020} project reference number:

1.02   Project acronym:

1.03   Date this form completed:

1.04   Name of person completing this form:

1.05   E-mail address of person completing this form:

1.06   Role of person completing this form in respect of this project:

1.07   Version (use 01 for the first version and 02, 03 etc for subsequent versions):

1.08   Infrastructure/facility used:

VISITOR INFORMATION:

1.09   Lead researcher name:

1.10   Lead researcher organization:

1.11   Name(s) of any other people participating in the visit:

1.12   Date of project commencement:

1.13   Start date of first visit:

1.14   End date of last visit:

1.15   Explanation of number, type and duration of visits:

PROJECT BENEFITS

2.01   Summarize any particular achievements, impacts or benefits of the project for your organization

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

3.01   Summarize any issues arising in implementing the project such as difficulties encountered and/or how recommendations of the Selection Panel or Ethics Adviser were addressed:

TNA EXPERIENCE

On a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) how would you rate your experience of AQUAEXCEL[2020] Transnational Access with respect to the following criteria:

4.01   Coordination of TNA applications and evaluations:

4.02   Usefulness of feedback from Evaluators and/or Ethics Adviser:

4.03   Attitude of users and ability to integrate with work practices of host institution:

4.04   Quality of communication with visiting researchers prior to the first visit:

4.05   Quality of work carried out by visiting researchers:

4.06   Overall rating of your experience of AQUAEXCEL[2020] TNA:

4.07   Comment further on your scores, giving your recommendations for improvements in the future or any other comments not included elsewhere:

FUTURE COLLABORATION

5.01   Do you expect to collaborate again with this user in the future?

5.02   If yes, please give further details

5.03   If yes, do you have funding and from what source?

5.04   Please add any further comments on the potential for future collaboration with the user:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

Return this form to the TNA Coordinator via the following button. If that does not work, save the completed PDF form and e-mail it to j.c.bostock@stir.ac.uk.

EVALUATOR DETAILS

1.1   Name of person completing this form:

1.2   Date this form completed:

1.3   E-mail address of person completing this form:

1.4   Role of person completing this form in respect of this project:

1.5   Version (use 01 for the first version and 02, 03 etc for subsequent versions):

EVALUATION PROCESS

2.1   Please comment on the evaluation and selection procedure for AQUAEXCEL^{2020} TNA projects, highlighting any problems and making recommendations for improvement:

EVALUATOR EXPERIENCE

On a scale of 1 (poor) to 5 (excellent) how would you rate your experience of evaluating AQUAEXCEL[2020] Transnational Access with respect to the following criteria:

3.1   Adequacy of information on which to base the evaluation/selection:

3.2   Guidance and scoring system provided:

3.3   Administration of application reviews (and selection):

3.4   Selection Panel Members Only - Communication to reach selection decisions:

3.5   Management of workloads and timescales:

3.6   Overall rating of your experience of evaluating AQUAEXCEL[2020] TNA:

3.7   Please add any further relevant comment on your scores, or any other comments not included previously:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK

Return this form to the TNA Coordinator via the following button. If that does not work, save the completed PDF form and e-mail it to j.c.bostock@stir.ac.uk.

APPLICATION FORM
FOR RESEARCH ACCESS

(Please read guidelines before completing this form)

Leave Blank – Will be Completed by TNA Administrator
1a. Project Identification Code: 1b. Call ID:
1c. Current Status: 1d. Submitted Date:

Research Proposal Identification

1e. Proposed research study title:
1f. Short study title (max 30 characters):
1g. Project acronym (max 20 characters no spaces)
1h. Is this application a re-submission? Yes/No (*delete as applicable*)
1i. Previous application reference:
1j. Have you sought and received advice from the Orientation Commitee? Yes/No (*delete as applicable*)

2. Lead Researcher applying to access the Research Infrastructure(s)

2a. Applicant Name: **2b. Applicant role*:**

2c. Is this person the group leader?   **2d. Is this person a remote user?**

2e. Organisation Name:

2f. Organisation Unit Name:

*Applicant Roles: LAV (Lead applicant/Visitor); CAV (Co-applicant/Visitor); CAU (Co-applicant/Unfunded visitor); CAE (Co-applicant non-visiting expert); CAS (Co-applicant non-visiting support)

3. Co-Applicant (If applicable) applying to access the Research Infrastructure(s)

3a. Applicant Name: **3b. Applicant role*:**

3c. Is this person the group leader?   **3d. Is this person a remote user?**

3e. Organisation Name:

3f. Organisation Unit Name:

*Applicant Roles: LAV (Lead applicant/Visitor); CAV (Co-applicant/Visitor); CAU (Co-applicant/Unfunded visitor); CAE (Co-applicant non-visiting expert); CAS (Co-applicant non-visiting support)

4. Names and organisations of other researchers involved in the project:

Previous AQUAEXCEL/AQUAEXCEL^{2020} Applications by any of the applicants

5. Please give details of any previous applications made by your Research Group under the AQUAEXCEL or AQUAEXCEL^{2020} projects whether supported or not:

5a. Project reference code: **5b. Project acronym:**

5c. Project title:

5d. Year submitted: **5e. Leader Name:**

5f. Funded?:

Requested Research Installations

6a. Research Installation Code:

6b. Number of units of access requested from research installation*:

6c. Requested start date for access to research installation:

6d. Expected duration of work at research installation (days):

6e. Expected end date for access to research installation

6f. Is Remote Access required?

6g. Has the Installation Manager been consulted and have they completed the Installation Manager Form for the application? Yes/No (*delete as applicable*)

*Please see call details for guidance on calculating the units of access for each Research Infrastructure, for instance it may be number of weeks x number of tanks, or number of weeks x number of people etc.)

Previous Collaborations

7a. Have you or your research group previously carried out collaborative research with staff of the proposed Research Installation? Yes/No (*delete as applicable*)

7b. If yes, when and how?

7c. Have any members of your research group previously accessed this Research Installation? Yes/No (*delete as applicable*)

7d. If yes, please give further details:

7e. Is the lead applicant a "new user" of the Research Installation?: Yes/No (*delete as applicable*)

7f. (If relevant) Is the visiting co-applicant a "new user" of the Research Installation? Yes/No (*delete as applicable*)

Planned visit schedule:

8a. Number of visits to research installation planned by lead applicant:

8b. Total duration of planned visits by lead applicant (days at installation):

8c. Planned start date of first visit by lead applicant*:

8d. Planned end date of first visit by lead applicant*:

8e. Planned start date of second visit by lead applicant*:

8f. Planned end date of second visit by lead applicant*:

8g. Number of visits to research installation planned by co-applicant

8h. Duration of planned visits by co-applicant (days at installation):

8i. Planned start date of first visit by co-applicant*:

8j. Planned end date of first visit by co-applicant*:

8k. Planned start date of second visit by lead applicant*:

8l. Planned end date of second visit by lead applicant*:

*If you are planning a complex schedule of visits with more than two trips please explain it in detail here:

NB: If you wish to use two Research Installations as part of the same TNA project, please submit a second form with just sections 1, 6, 7 and 8 completed.

SCIENTIFIC PROPOSAL

9a. Proposal summary: (max 1000 characters):

9b. Justification (Need for the research (include reference to previous projects and publications) and why you need to use the specific infrastructure):

9c. Study objectives (max 0.5 pages):

9d. Research plans (max. 2 pages; include proposed plan of work, include experimental procedures and timings/number of days and what work will be carried out in-person by visiting users and what will be done remotely):

9e. Details of proposed analysis of results (e.g. use of statistics or further lab analysis)**:**

9f. Expected knowledge outputs from the research:

9g. Specific Requirements (Details of equipment, materials and supplies required; use of specific fish lines, sizes and quantities; technical assistance and training etc.)

9h. Unfunded Requirements (Details of any resources that will be used and funded by the applicant organisation or third parties)

9i. Total estimated travel cost:

9j. Estimated subsistence expenses:

9k. Explanation of expected expenses:

Dissemination and exploitation of results

10a. Describe how you expect to disseminate the results of the research:

10b. Describe how you expect the results of the research to be exploited:

10c. Do you expect the research to result in the creation and protection of any IP? Yes/No (*delete as applicable*)

10d. If yes, please describe the expected IP and how it will be protected:

Ethics

11a. Does your research involve any procedures likely to cause stress, distress or lasting harm to experimental animals? If so, please list any relevant procedures and give details if not described fully in section 9:

11b. What procedures are necessary to ensure the proposed research is approved under the ethical regulations of the selected Research Infrastructure or national regulatory body? What is the timescale for this and what stage has been reached?

11c. Reduction: Please explain any specific procedures you plan to put in place to reduce the number of experimental animals used

11d. Refinement: Please explain any procedures you plan to put in place to reduce adverse impacts of any procedures used.

11e. Replacement: If the proposed research involves the use of live animals:

    i)   **Could this work be carried out without conducting experiments or other scientific procedures on living animals?**

    ii)   **If the proposal is to use vertebrates, could the same questions be answered using less invertebrate animals?**

    iii)   **Please explain any procedures you plan to employ to replace experimental work on live animals**

12. Thematic classification *(please place an "X" in the box adjacent to the areas that best describe the focus of your study)*

Nutrition		Pathology/disease	
Genetics		New species	
Physiology		NGS genomics	
Behaviour/Welfare		Technology/systems	
Other			

If "Other" please specify:

13. Species classification *(please place an "X" in the box adjacent to the areas that best describe the focus of your study)*

Marine fish (sea bream, sea bass, cod, halibut, others)	
Diadromous fish (salmon, sea trout, trout)	
Freshwater fish (carp, tilapia, others)	
Ornamental fish (zebrafish, guppy, others)	
Shellfish	
Macroalgae	
Planktonic organisms	
Other aquaculture species	

14. EATIP Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda (Please indicate which areas of the European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform Strategic Research & Innovation Agenda (http://www.eatip.eu/default.asp?SHORTCUT=92) will be addressed by the study and how):

Technology and Systems	
Product Quality, Consumer Safety and Health	
Sustainable Feed Production	
Managing the Biological Lifecycle	
Knowledge Management	
Integration with the Environment	
Socio-economics & Management	
Aquatic Animal Health & Welfare	

Describe how your planned research will contribute to specific objectives within the EATIP SRIA:

SUBMISSION

When you have completed your application form you can submit it at any time prior to the call deadline. Applications after the call deadline will not be accepted for that call. Once the call deadline has passed you will not be able to make any further alterations so ensure you have checked your form thoroughly for any errors prior to final submission.

In submitting this application you agree you have read and agreed to the terms and conditions for Transnational Access as detailed within the Call for Access and in < Model Grant Agreement – Article 16 - http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/mga/gga/h2020-mga-gga-multi_en.pdf >

AUTHORISATION: Please ensure you have any necessary authorisation from your own organisation to submit on behalf of that organisation. If a project is approved a contract will be signed between the applicant organisation and the host organisation requiring authorised legal signatures.

When you are ready to submit, send your completed form to j.c.bostock@stir.ac.uk:

APPLICATION FORM GUIDELINES

Version 09 – April 2018

Applications for AQUAEXCEL²⁰²⁰ Transnational Access Projects (TNA) should be made via the application system available at http://160.217.215.252/aquaexcel/

These guidelines supplement the help already provided on the application system. If you have not already done so, you will need to register and create an account on the system to gain further access. The guidance here assumes you have successfully reached the stage of creating a new project application on the system.

SECTION 1: APPLICATION IDENTIFICATION

1. **Project identification**
   1.1 The project identification code is created automatically by the system and can be used in correspondence with the TNA Manager to quickly locate your information
   1.2 The call identification code is inserted automatically by the system
   1.3 Please provide a short title for the application suitable for use as a link on a website (maximum 30 characters)
   1.4 Please provide a descriptive title for your proposed project which will give an immediate indication to the reader of the type of work planned and species involved
   1.5 Other application identification:
   1.5.1 Please create an acronym for your project acronym (maximum 20 upper case letters/numbers) to act as a unique identifier in the EU project database.
   1.5.2 If the application is a re-submission of a previous proposal please select "yes"
   1.5.3 If the application is a re-submission of a previous proposal please give the application reference number. This will help speed up processing of the application.
   1.5.4 If you have sought and received advice from the Orientation Committee please select "yes". If you would like to obtain advice from the Orientation Committee please send an e-mail to aquaexcel-OC@inra.fr.

SECTION 2: APPLICANT DETAILS

2. **Applicant details**
   Add the details of each person involved in the project in this section.

   The lead applicant is considered to be the person responsible for all project communications and who will be participating directly in the work and visiting the research installation (unless the proposal is for remote access only). The lead applicant does not need to be the most senior person involved in the project.

A co-applicant may also apply to visit the research installation if justified by the experimental work and if budget is available. They may be a co-worker or a senior adviser/supervisor or technical assistant.

If either the lead applicant or co-applicant is a student, please ensure that supervision arrangements are fully explained in the project description.

Additional applicants can be identified as being involved in the project, but not involved in the mobility

Help text is provided with each of the fields in the form

Organisation details should also be completed for each person. There are two key parts to this. Firstly the legal name of the organisation and where available the EU PIC (e.g. University or research organisation). Secondly the organisational unit, which is not a separate legal entity, but a department or division of the legal organisation – e.g. institute within a university, or laboratory within a research organisation. For smaller organisations without an organisational unit, simply repeat the organisation name as the organisational unit. In order to ensure consistency in organisational details, you should use the drop-down selection if your organisation and organisational unit is already entered. If you cannot find your organisation or organisational unit in the drop-down lists you need to enter them using the menu button "Add Organisations" on the right of the main window. This gives you the option to enter a new organisation, or just a new organisational unit associated with an existing organisation entry.

SECTION 3: REQUESTED RESEACH INSTALLATION

3. **Requested Research Installations**

    Most TNA projects will involve only one Research Installation. However, if the project requires the use of two or more installations, add additional installations to the application. The available installations are listed in the Call for Access at http://www.aquaexcel2020.eu/ and available via the dropdown selector. You should contact the Research Installation(s) at an early stage via e-mail to ensure your proposals are feasible. **You should also then share your proposal (with read and write permissions) with the research infrastructure manager using the share button associated with the project on the "My projects" screen and entering their e-mail address (see below)**.

    In Section 3.1.1 be particularly careful to correctly calculate the number of units of access that will be required for the proposed work and give planned dates. Further information is available for each facility in the AQUAEXCEL[2020] TNA Guide document. If any work needs to be conducted by the Installation outside of the period of user visits, or if use will be made of remote monitoring equipment, please tick the box to confirm that remote access is required and give further explanation in Section 5.4

    Transnational Access can be provided in the following ways:

    - in person ('hands-on'), provided to selected users that visit the installation or
   - remote, through the provision to selected users of remote scientific services.

    Examples of remote access include the provision of reference materials or samples (e.g. shipping of a virus strain); performing a remote sample analysis or sample deposition; remote access to experimental aquaria or high-performance computing facilities.

The application should make clear the number and purpose of the visits by both the lead and co-applicants and the intended length. This will be an important element of project monitoring. Any requirements for remote access should also be clearly stated.

This section also includes questions about previous collaborations between the applicant and host organisations. This information helps the Selection Panel to determine the priority that should be accorded to the application under the EC contract guidance on promoting new collaborations and ensuring widest possible access. Incorrect information could lead to the proposal being rejected. A "research group" is considered to be the smallest organisational unit within a research organisation, usually a team working in a specialist area on common projects. A "new user" is someone who has not previously conducted any work at the proposed research installation in any capacity. "Access" means making use of the facilities at the proposed research installation.

A visit timetable should be discussed with the host infrastructure **and the start date should be at least 3 months after the call deadline**. In Section 3.1.2 add the details for each separate person and visit planned as part of the project. If you do not have specific dates in mind, fill in most likely dates. These can be changed later. The start date is either the arrival date of a person visiting the installation or the day on which experimental work commences – whichever is the earlier. Unless special provisions have been made by the Installation, TNA projects can only be funded up to 3 months in duration (90 days).

Section 3.1.3 should be completed by the appropriate Installation Manager. Share the application with him or her (**read and write permissions**) so that they can fill in this section prior to submission. **Do this well before the call deadline**.
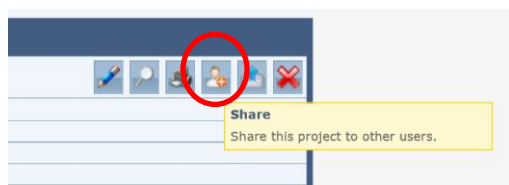
The share button is on the "My Projects" page

Organisation	Infrastructure	Installation	Contact Name	e-mail
INRA	INRA	PEIMA	Laurent LABBE	Laurent.Labbe@rennes.inra.fr
INRA	INRA	STPEE	Stephane Panserat	stephane.panserat@inra.fr
INRA	INRA	IERP	Bernard CAYRON	bernard.cayron@jouy.inra.fr
IMR	Matre	cell	Merete Fonn	merete.fonn@imr.no
IMR	Matre	CEL	Merete Fonn	merete.fonn@imr.no
IMR	Bergen	Disease	Merete Fonn	merete.fonn@imr.no
UoS	UoS_IoA	IoA	David Penman	d.j.penman@stir.ac.uk
CSIC	CSIC-IATS	IATS-EXP	Josep Calduch Giner	j.calduch@csic.es
CSIC	CSIC-IATS	IATS-ANA	Josep Calduch Giner	j.calduch@csic.es
CSIC	CSIC-IIM	IIM-EXP	Beatriz Novoa García	virus@iim.csic.es
HCMR	HCMR	Aqualabs	Stavros Chatzifotis	stavros@hcmr.gr
HCMR	HCMR	Omics-Bioinfo	Costas Tsigenopoulos	tsigeno@hcmr.gr
NAIK	NAIK	OEPS	Rónyai András	ronyai.andras@haiki.naik.hu
NAIK	NAIK	SDC	Jeney Galina	jeney.galina@haki.naik.hu
IFREMER	PEARS	PEARS	Emmanuel REZZOUK	Emmanuel.Rezzouk@ifremer.fr
Nofima	Nofima	NCRA	Per Brunsvik	Per.Brunsvik@Nofima.no
Nofima	Nofima	CFU	Per Brunsvik	Per.Brunsvik@Nofima.no

Organisation	Infrastructure	Installation	Contact Name	e-mail
Nofima	Nofima	NNGS	Ida Rud	Ida.rud@Nofima.no
JU	FFPW	ICS	Dipl.-Ing. Petr Císař, Ph.D.	cisar@frov.jcu.cz
JU	FFPW	IA	Dipl.-Ing. Jan Mráz, Ph.D.	jmraz@frov.jcu.cz
JU	FFPW	IFA	Vojtěch Kašpar	vkaspar@frov.jcu.cz
JU	FFPW	GRC	Vojtěch Kašpar	vkaspar@frov.jcu.cz
NTNU	NTNU	CodTech	Elin Kjørsvik	elin.kjorsvik@ntnu.no
NTNU	NTNU	Mclab	Sverre Steen	sverre.steen@ntnu.no
SINTEF	SINTEF/ACE	ACE	Gunnar Senneset	gunnar.senneset@sintef.no
ULPGC	PCTM	WWSSU	Juan Manuel Afonso López	juanmanuel.afonso@ulpgc.es
ULPGC	PCTM	MBS	Daniel Montero Vítores	daniel.montero@ulpgc.es
ULPGC	PCTM	FITU	Marisol Izquierdo López	marisol.izquierdo@ulpgc.es
WU	WU	WU-MRU	Ep Eding	ep.eding@wur.nl
WU	WU	WU-RAS	Ep Eding	ep.eding@wur.nl
Ugent	Gen ART	Gen ART	Peter Bossier	Peter.bossier@UGent.be
DLO-IMARES	RECIRC	IMARES-RECIRC	Wout Abbink	Wout.abbink@wur.nl
UL	UL facilities	EPA	Sylvain Milla	Sylvain.Milla@univ-lorraine.fr
UL	UL facilites	Behaviour	Alain Pasquet	Alain.Pasquet@univ-lorraine.fr
DTU	DTU-VET	DTU-VET	Tine Iburg	TIMI@vet.dtu.dk
CCMAR	CCMAR	Ramalhete	Ana Amaral	amamaral@ualg.pt
CCMAR	CCMAR	Ramalhete	João Reis	ramalhete@ualg.pt
IEO	IEO	ICRA	Aurelio Ortega	aurelio.ortega@mu.ieo.es
IEO	IEO	MAP	Aurelio Ortega	aurelio.ortega@mu.ieo.es
IEO	IEO	AquaCOV	Montse Pérez	montse.perez@vi.ieo.es

SECTION 4: PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS

4. **Previous AQUAEXCEL and AQUAEXCEL[2020] applications**
Please give the details including reference numbers of any previous AQUAEXCEL applications, including AQUAEXCEL and AQUAEXCEL[2020]

SECTION 5: SCIENTIFIC PROPOSAL

5. **Scientific proposal**
This section is the primary content upon which the project will be evaluated. You should ensure it is completed fully with a good standard of English Language.

5.1 Summary
Provide a concise summary of the planned research including its purpose and expected outcomes.

5.2 Justification

Provide a summary of the scientific context of the proposal study, including the current state of knowledge (including a list of up to 10 most relevant background publications). Include any commercial context for the work. Please identify the key reasons why you are applying to this particular infrastructure, e.g. with respect to facilities, species or particular expertise available or potential future collaboration plans. You should also clarify why the proposed research cannot be carried out in your own country.

5.3 Study objectives

Describe the objectives of the study and especially any potential commercial or quality of life benefits. Make reference to official documents and other literature to show how this specific study meets the aims and objectives of broader EU research programmes.

5.4 Research plans

Provide details of the research to be carried out at the Research Installation(s) (give a minimum of 1 page and maximum 2 pages). Indicate if your research can only be carried out at a particular time for operational reasons, e.g. availability of material. Include experimental methods (treatments, controls etc), and schedules. Please also clarify what work will be carried out in person at the installation and what work might be done remotely.

5.5 Details of proposed analysis of results

Provide details of how you expect to analyse the results. This can include specific use of statistics, modelling, bioinformatics and other analytical techniques.

5.6 Expected knowledge outputs from the research

Consider the type of knowledge that should be generated by the experimental work and its potential value and significance

5.7 Specific requirements

Please provide as much detail as possible here about specific equipment, consumables, technical assistance and training that will be required. In particular consider any materials the pose a hazard and require special procedures or disposal facilities.

5.8 Unfunded requirements

Use this section to identify any requirements for the work that are not covered under the standard TNA budget and how these extra costs will be met.

5.9 Total estimated travel and subsistence costs

Travel costs are normally reimbursed by the Research Installation providing the most economic means of travel is used. Please give an estimate here to help the installation with budgeting.

Travel expenses will be paid from the user's home institution to the Research Installation and return. Economy class air fares will be reimbursed on production of tickets. Any additional travel costs incurred in travelling to and from the Research Installation (e.g. train, taxi) will also be reimbursed at economy rates. Any travel expenses involved in carrying out the research whilst at the Research Installation will also be provided.

Subsistence costs are normally reimbursed by the Research Installation according to their normal organisational rules. Please give an estimate here to help the installation with budgeting.

Accommodation will be provided in accommodation owned by the Research Infrastructure or in nearby guest houses (bed and breakfast) or hotels. Full details of accommodation provisions and expense allowances are available from the individual Research Infrastructures.

Use the space provided to provide any necessary clarifications on expected expenses and whether other funding is available to cover some or all of these.

Users of the Research Infrastructures will need to make their own travel insurance arrangements. If the visit involves more than one trip or different dates for different people, please explain this clearly alongside the cost estimates in this section.

SECTION 6: DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION OF RESULTS

6. **Dissemination and exploitation of results**
Use this section to show you have thought about how the value of the research can be maximised and communicated to potential users. This is an important criteria for selection so it is expected that applicants will see possibilities that go well beyond publishing a paper in a journal or making a conference presentation.

6.1   Describe how you expect to disseminate the results of the research. Please consider who your communications will be targeted towards and the channels you will use.

6.2   Describe how you expect the results of the research to be exploited. Who do you anticipate making use of your results and how?

6.3   Do you expect the research to result in the creation and protection of any IP? This refers to the creation of any intellectual property that might be protected through a patent, copyright, trademark, or non-disclosure agreement. If so, the nature of the IP, ownership, means of protection and mechanisms for exploitation should be agreed with the host installation organisation prior to project commencement.

SECTION 7: ETHICS SCREENING

7. **Ethics screening**
It is AQUAEXCEL[2020] policy that all research linked to the project will be conducted according to the 3Rs (reduce, refine replace) methodology (Further explanation is given below and via web sites such as http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/category.asp?catID=31). All experimental work must also be carried out in accordance with the animal welfare regulations in force in the country concerned and according to welfare policies and procedures at the research installation where the work is conducted. Documentary evidence that correct procedures have been followed and permissions obtained needs to be provided to the Project Coordinator (INRA Transfert).

7.1   Ethics issues: If your work involves live aquatic animals please discuss these principles in relation to your proposed work, showing how you will comply with best practice. As well as acute adverse effects, possible chronic adverse effects should be considered. Where chronic adverse effects are possible, humane end points should be defined before the experiment and criteria defined for early termination of specific experimental groups where necessary.

7.2   Ethics compliance: You should also provide details of any other fish welfare or ethics guidelines or procedures that will be followed in accordance with either the policies of your

7.3   Reduction refers to methods for obtaining comparable levels of information from the use of fewer animals in scientific procedures or for obtaining more information from a given number of animals so that, in the long run, fewer animals are needed to complete a given research project or test. Reduction will be achieved through experimental planning and design, in order to avoid inconclusive experiments due to inadequate statistical power of experiments, as well as by standardisation of the animal population (genetics, health), the environment and experimental techniques. Where relevant, describe the steps you will take to reduce the number of experimental animals.

7.4   Refinement encompass those methods that alleviate or minimize potential pain and distress and enhance animal well-being. Potential pain and distress can be avoided or alleviated with the proper use of anaesthetics, analgesics, and sedatives. The use of such methods is integral to the implementation of Directive 86-609-EEC which will be the baseline of the animal experimentation procedures used in AQUAEXCEL[2020]. In this section describe in some detail the methods that will be used to refine any proposed aquatic animal trials.

7.5   Replacement alternatives encompass those methods that permit a given purpose to be achieved without conducting experiments or other scientific procedures on animals. Whenever possible, ex vivo methods will be preferred to experimentation on animals. Use this section to describe any replacement of experimental animals.

SECTION 8: THEMATIC CLASSIFICATION

8. **Thematic classification**
    To help with evaluation and reporting of the project, please indicate which thematic area(s) are the subject of your study. You must select at least one, but multiple selections are also possible using the yes/no dropdown selectors. Note NGS = Next Generation Sequencing. If you consider the work is not adequately covered by the listed classifications you can enter another classification in the "Other Description" text box.

SECTION 9: SPECIES CLASSIFICATION

9. **Species classification**
    To help with evaluation and reporting of the project, please indicate which species group(s) are the subject of your study. You must select at least one, but multiple selections are also possible using the yes/no dropdown selectors. If you are working on a species not adequately covered by the listed classifications you can enter another classification in the "Other aquaculture species" text box.

SECTION 10: EATiP SRIA CLASSIFICATION

10. **Addressing EATIP Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda**
    Use this section to describe clearly how your research is expected to contribute to the European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (See. http://www.eatip.eu/default.asp?SHORTCUT=92. "The Future of European Aquaculture – Our Vision: A Strategic Agenda for Research & Innovation" was published in 2012 (also available at: https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Byu8uGbcUerAaUxHQ2R6MGZrak0/edit?usp=sharing) which lists the 8 thematic areas in a different order to that on the form, i.e:

1. Product Quality, Consumer Safety and Health
2. Technology and Systems
3. Managing the Biological Life Cycle
4. Sustainable Feed Production
5. Integration with the Environment
6. Knowledge Management
7. Aquatic Animal Health and Welfare
8. Socio-economics, Management & Governance

Select the appropriate areas using the yes/no dropdowns.

For each thematic area, a key target is given and then a set of numbered goals and bullet-point sub-goals. In the text box "EATIP Justification" Please quote the specific goals and sub goals that your research will support – e.g. "Thematic Area 3, Goal 2, Sub-Goal b" (using a,b,c etc to identify the specific sub-goal) and explain these choices in the space given for further explanation. You may also wish to take account of the outcome of the SRIA review in 2017 - http://eatip.eu/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/EATIP-SRIA-2017.pdf

PERSONAL DATA

Application for AQUAEXCEL2020 TNA involves the sharing, storing and processing of personal data. The requirement for and use of personal data is kept to the minimum possible and is managed in compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). This requires explicit consent from all data subjects for the sharing and processing of their personal data. The AQUAEXCEL2020 TNA Policy on Personal Data is available separately (AQUAEXCEL2020_TNA_GDPR.PDF). Each person named on the application form is required to complete a consent form to permit the processing of their personal data in compliance with this policy and the GDPR (AQUAEXCEL2020_TNA_GDPR_ConsentForm.PDF)

ATTACHMENTS

You should ensure that you add the appropriate attachments to your application. These are:

- CV (Use the supplied template on the AQUAEXCEL[2020] website) for the applicant and any other people involved in visits to the host installation (REQUIRED)
- Completed GDPR Consent forms for each person named in the application
- Ethics documents – copies of any permissions or applications mentioned in the Ethics section (not already submitted to the Project Coordinator)
- Nominations for independent project reviewers (form available on AQUAEXCEL[2020] website) – this could help speed up processing and review of your project.
- Any other supporting documentation considered necessary

The attachments must be in PDF format and less than 10 Mb in size.

SUBMISSION

When you have completed your application form you should use the checking tool available from the project selection screen to help ensure all fields have been completed with valid data (This is a necessary step as the form cannot be submitted incomplete). You can submit the form only once at any time prior to the call deadline. Applications after the call deadline will not be accepted for that call. Once the call deadline has passed you will no longer be able to make any changes to the form whether it has been submitted or not.

In submitting this application you agree you have read and agreed to the terms and conditions for Transnational Access as detailed within the Call for Access and in < Model Grant Agreement – Article 16   - http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/mga/gga/h2020-mga-gga-multi_en.pdf >

AUTHORISATION: Please ensure you have any necessary authorisation from your own organisation to submit on behalf of that organisation. If a project is approved, it may be necessary to sign a contract between the applicant organisation and the host organisation requiring authorised legal signatures.