





The <u>LIFE CONQUER Project</u> has entered its second year of implementation, and the first 18 months have been marked by numerous accomplishments. Dive into this newsletter to explore the progress made by the consortium.

WP1: PROJECT MANAGEMENT, COORDINATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT

- We are preparing for the first economic reporting in the LIFE CONQUER project, to be performed by end of April 2024, and including the activities performed during the first 20 months of the project (February 2024).
- We are also planning for the second monitoring visit, in which Inta Duce will visit Hirtshals on April 16th, 2024.
- We have applied for an amendment to the project, as we would like to have some more time to complete the LIFE CONQUER project.

WP2: NEW AND INNOVATIVE INBOUND LOGISTICS FOR RAW MATERIAL

- At Vega Salmon, samples of various fractions of raw materials have been taken from various points between production and delivery to the raw material container. Analysis of temperature and several other parameters shows good control of raw material and quality up to the collection container.
- Technical solutions are being evaluated for the transport and unloading and introduction of raw material to the Biomega process. Special focus has been given to hygiene, temperature a robust operation.
- The first test with transport, offloading and processing of bulk raw materials is planned for May-June 2024, when the weather is warmer and more representative of cooling challenges expected.

WP3: SOLUTION FOR EXTRACTING PROTEIN FROM BONES

- Preliminary 3D models of process equipment, skids and building created.
- Mass Balance, Process Flow Diagrams and a complete PID for the new process line established, and under continuous development.
- Hygienic, continuous transport of bone remnants from existing process to the new line has been in focus. Various technologies have been considered, suppliers consulted, and a test is planned in Q2 2024.
- Laboratory studies booked at external lab in Q1 & Q2 2024 to do further tests of optimal process conditions, for the extraction of proteins from bones.
- Currently awaiting some budget quote and laboratory tests to determine more details for the technology to be used.





WP4: INSTALLATION OF 'STATE OF THE ART' SPRAY DRYING IN SITU

- Pilot scale tests have been conducted documenting conditions required for favourable product characteristics (like particle size, dispersibility and solubility)
- Additional data has been collected from several peptide productions at the Hirtshals biorefinery, followed by toll drying at external spray drying facilities
- The collected data formed the basis of a comprehensive equipment specification, sent to three potential suppliers
- After extensive dialogue with potential suppliers a preferred supplier was selected based on cost, quality, green purchasing considerations, etc.
- The preferred solution has been incorporated into a preliminary design including building design, equipment layout, and auxiliary equipment and process integration.
- The budget and project timelines have been revised accordingly for further evaluation of the investment.



WP 6: IMPACT MONITORING AND EVALUATION, INCLUDING LCA AND REPORTING IN LIFE KPI WEB TOOL

- Preliminary LCA is in process. Process schemes for State-ot-the-art process and new LIFE CONQUER process to be confirmed.
- Next step is to complete the preliminary LCA and start identifying data needed to collect to define the Life Cycle Inventory.

WP7: DEVELOPING THE LIFE CONQUER PROJECT STORY AT KEY HUMAN NUTRITION EVENTS

After a successful event at the Ulriken 643 restaurant, located at the top of Mount Ulriken in Bergen, where CSO Bjørn Liaset discussed our SalMe Peptide innovations back in March 2023, biomega® has since discussed the LIFE CONQUER project at various human nutrition events throughout the year.

In 2023, our CCO Silke Middendorf has attended the following events:

Global Seafood Expo, Barcelona



Vitafoods Europe, Geneva



Vitafoods Asia, Bangkok



SupplySide West, Las Vegas



FIE, Frankfurt



- Discussions with network peers has highlighted that there is major interest in companies wanting to source from sustainable sources, as circularity and the need to upcycle ingredients becomes a big driver in the sector. Many human nutrition companies are now turning to marine and alternative ingredients to widen their portfolio and deliver on their circularity goals.
- While salmon peptides are new to the market, interest in them from companies is continuing to grow, especially when backed by projects like LIFE CONQUER, which enables biomega® to support the environmental, social and governance (ESG) needs of brands in this area. Further insight into our ESG goals means biomega® continues to prove its ambitions to create a sustainable future for aquaculture and human nutrition.

WP8: SUSTAINABILITY, REPLICATION, AND EXPLOITATION OF PROJECT RESULTS

Work on the Market and Stakeholder analysis has been initiated through our external partner CiaoTech. This is the first stage of the report which will be delivered by September 2024.

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