Training course on Seaweed cultivation and Biotechnology

Tunis, 12-16 September 2023

TOPICS

Seaweeds are a natural resource with multiple properties that make them useful in many areas: human and animal consumption, nutraceutical, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals, agriculture, bioenergy, etc. The Mediterranean Sea is characterized by an important seaweed biodiversity with a low standing biomass of the natural populations. This course is part of the project TAHALEB (supported by Safe Seaweed Coalition) to leverage capacity in seaweed biomass production and bioprocessing through know-how transfer and training of future seaweed producers in south Mediterranean region. It will present basic and applied aspects of macro-algae: taxonomy, ecology, culture and uses. Emphasis will be given to applied aspect and potential developments of the field in Tunisia, according to its specific biodiversity. International and national speakers with strong background in the cultivation and biotechnological uses of seaweeds will present the state of the art of algal industry and the potential developments. Upon completion of the course, participants will have improved their knowledge of the main groups of seaweeds of industrial interest in the Mediterranean, the possibilities of creating cultivation systems, the marketing chains of algae-derived products and future prospects for the development of this emerging sector.

ORGANISATION

As part of the project TAHALEB, the course is organized by the laboratory of Blue Biotechnology and Aquatic Bioproducts (B3Aqua) of INSTM (Tunisia); Moreforsking Institute (Norway) and Spanish Bank of Algae (BEA) of the University of Las Palmas Gran Canaria (Spain) in association with ATIS (Association Tunisienne pour l'Information Scientifique).

ADMISSION

The course is designed for 20 to 25 participants. Eligible candidates are graduate students in aquatic sciences or professionals involved in aquaculture activities. Precedence will be given to technicians or young promoters.

Participation fees are supported by the TAHALEB project.

Additional support to some applicants will be granted for accommodation and some contribution for travel for near neighborhood country will be available.

PROGRAM

Program will include theoretical lectures and practical sessions on :

Theoretical sessions (13H)

- Algae classification, biology and ecology
- Seaweed production in the world and in Tunisia
- Seaweeds cultivation techniques and biomass processing: ponds, tanks, IMTA and open sea examples
- Use of seaweeds: phycocolloids, bioproducts, bioremediation, bioenergy
- Mediterranean Seaweed for valuable compounds
- How to build an algae-based business
- From research to seaweed producer

Practical sessions (16H)

- Collect and identification of seaweeds
- Seaweed cultivation techniques
- Phycocolloids extraction
- Pigment and secondary metabolites extraction
- Visit of a company's facilities

CONFIRMED LECTURERS

Dr Ben Said Rafik - INSTM (Tunisia)
Dr Chebil Leila - INSTM (Tunisia)
Dr Francavilla Matteo -UNIFG (Italy)
Dr Ktari Leila - INSTM (Tunisia)
Dr Mensi Fethi - INSTM (Tunisia)
Dr Pinchetti JLG - BEA/ULPGC (Spain)
Dr Rebours Celine - Møreforsking (Norway)
Dr Shili Abdessalem - INAT (Tunisia)

APPLICATION

Application form, can be filled at **https://forms.gle/1F11SwPPLogEnhvf7** with short CV (2 pages max).
For any information send an email to:
Tahaleb.project@gmail.com or
Leila.ktari@instm.ucar.tn
The deadline for application is **10th of June 2023**.








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