



October 2021

Final Newsletter

THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING



I am writing these words the last day of OpenMode, a project that has allowed RDC and PREFFOR to test their innovations in new sea basins and to cooperate with a wide spectrum of companies and universities. The last 18 months have been challenging. During the confinement I felt that reaching our objectives was at risk, and even that the restrictions to mobility were going to force us to ask for an extension, as logistically it was impossible to assemble the testers in different countries. However, we have finished on schedule, reaching a 134% of average fulfilment of the 19 KPIs that we committed with the European Commission.

In 24 months, we have installed 1240 m² of sustainable mollusc farms, we have collaborated with more than 30 companies and institutions, and we

have launched three patents, and, above all, we have innovated without complexes and facing the market needs.

Now that we reached our goals, I can say that the ratio between the impact generated and the funds granted to this project is surprisingly high. I firmly believe that OpenMode has generated a positive impact for the farmers, for our companies and, ultimately, for the society; and that the testers and the results generated will continue being exploited during the next years and for the benefit of everyone.

Finally, I want to show my deep gratitude to the European Maritime and Fishery Fund (currently integrated in the European Climate, Infrastructure, and Environment Executive Agency, CINEA) for trusting us, and to the employees of RDC and PREFFOR, recognizing their tireless and selfless attitude to achieve excellence in the project. My gratitude is also for the Project Officer, Estelle, who has provided a valuable technical and institutional support.

It remains to me only to say that, as all EU projects, OpenMode has been a tool, not a end, so its completion is only the beginning of the change of the aquaculture world. We will see each other in the seas.

Esteban Camacho, Coordinator of the OpenMode Project

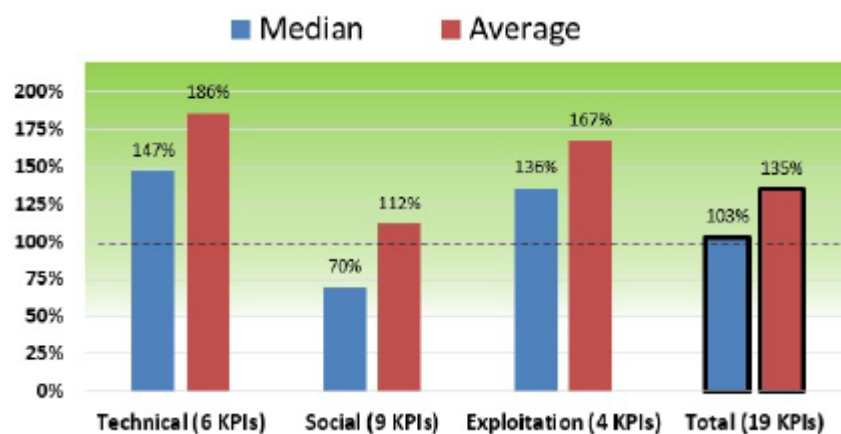
OpenMode is a Project where RDC is boosting the use of UHPC floating mussel farms in different sea basins. The durability and mechanical performance of this patented RDC structure has allowed to sink it in areas with winter ice, to use a durable module in highly eutrophized waters, or to connect modules on the water.

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The Project OpenMode ends with an average fulfilment of Key Performance indicators of 135%

On 31 October the project OpenMode arrived to its end. After 24 months and despite of the global pandemic, the implementation has been successful, and the level of success has been measured thanks to the monitoring of the Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) carried out under Task 1.1.

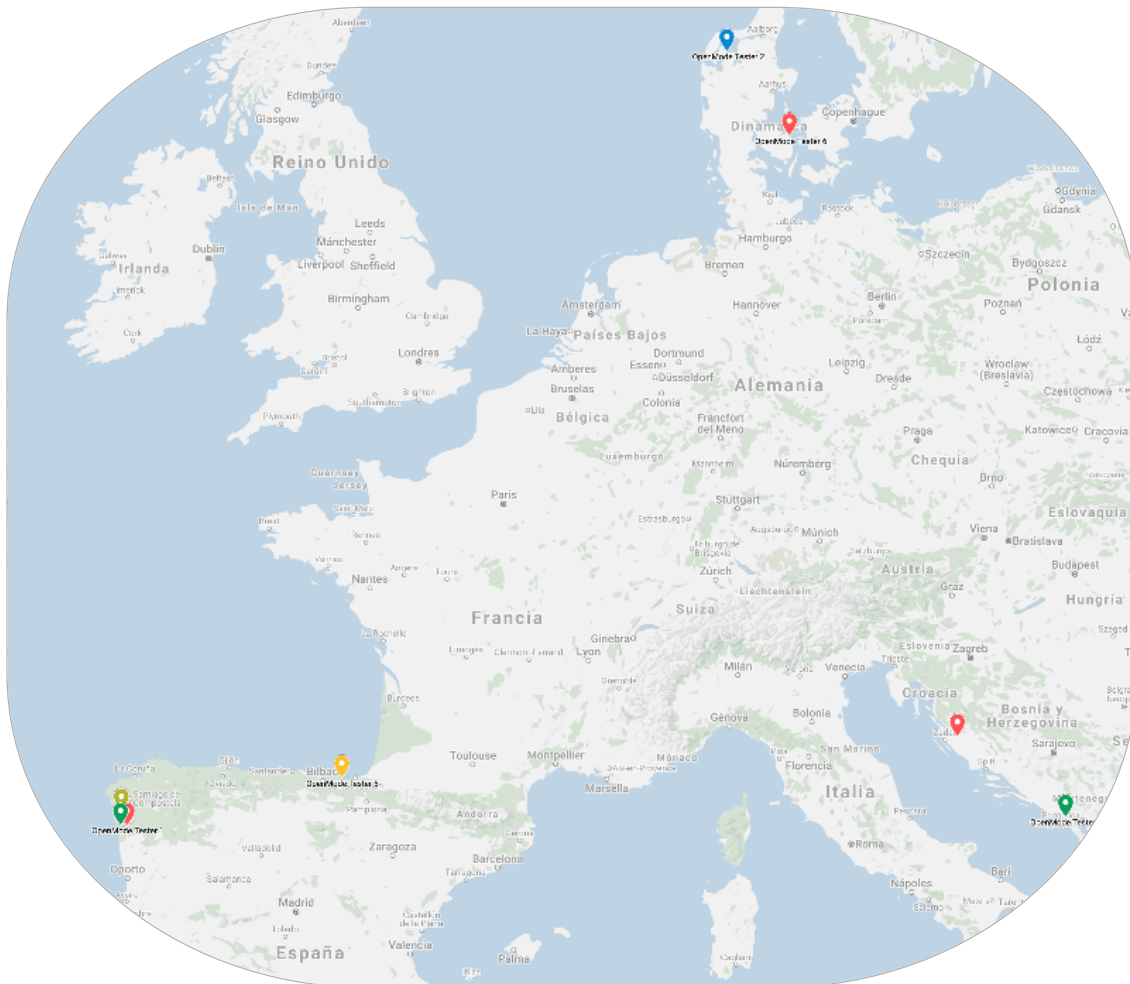
The project had 19 KPIs with quantified objectives (each of them can be found at www.open-mode.eu), and they were divided in three groups of KPIs: Technical (six KPIs), social (nine KPIs), and exploitation (four KPIs). **As can be seen in the figure below, both the median and the average of the project KPIs have exceeded the 100%, showing that under any of both criteria it can be considered that the project has reached its specific objectives.** Among the most relevant successes has been the **launching of three patents**, the **measurement in remote of more than 40 parameters**, the cooperation with more than 30 institutions in the frame of OpenMode and the revenues that will be obtained at short term from the purchase of products that have been developed under the project. On the contrary, few objectives have not been reached and should be managed in the future, as obtaining 500 complete surveys from potential clients, or reaching an audience of 425 students for the online trainings.



These results show that the specific objectives set in the beginning of the project were realistic and ambitious (10 from 19 have exceeded the 100% of compliance, and only 4 from 19 have reached a compliance below 50%), and their completion has represented the real technical, social, and economic advances of the 24 months of implementation. RDC and PREFFOR expect that these results are only the foundations of a fruitful exploitation during next years!

Relevant activities we have carried out

8 testers installed, in 4 European sea basins



To learn more about our testers, visit the page: <https://open-mode.eu/testers/>

Online training to learn how to use the modules

Online Training

Use of Formex® intensive farming modules

This practical guide is oriented to aquaculture professionals, farmers and enthusiasts of mollusc farming.

During eight short chapters it is explained how to use the Formex® modules developed in the project OpenMode, and which are produced by the company PREFFOR.

Totally free and open access

Start the course

The training has been carried out by the companies PREFFOR and IDC in the frame of the project OpenMode, funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund of the European Union.

PREFFOR
PREPARACIÓN DE EQUIPOS PARA LA FARMACIA

IDC



TRAINING
OPEN MODE

<https://open-mode.eu>

Programme

Module 1
The system

1. What is a mollusc raft?
2. Parts of a raft
3. Advantages in each EU sea basin
4. Differences between Formex® rafts and other farming systems
5. Commissioning of a raft

Module 2
Farming

6. Health and safety using a raft
7. Farming on the raft
8. Aquaculture tools, machinery and innovations

OPEN MODE

With the contribution of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund of the European Union

Use of Formex® intensive farming modules

During eight short sections it is explained how to use the Formex® modules

developed in the project OpenMode. With **free and open access**, the training is available in English and subtitled in Spanish and it can be done at different speed and order. [Take a look at it!](#)



Events, colloquiums, press releases, surveys to understand shellfish farmers' needs and other [communication activities](#)



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With the contribution of the European Maritime
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