



### Measure

Human Resources  
Development and Skilling

### Promoters:

BIM – Bord Iascaigh Mhara  
SFITA – Co Down SEAFISH,  
UK  
National Fisheries  
College, Greencastle, Co.  
Donegal

### Title:

**BIM / Selfish Cross  
Border Fisheries Training  
Programme**



Participants in the  
Aquaculture Training Course

The aim of this project was to provide training opportunities, in accordance with the principles of life-long learning, to beneficiaries from the seafood industry in the border counties of ROI and NI. The courses provided ranged from Deck and Engineering Officer certificates of Competency for fishermen to manual fish filleting skills training for staff in fish processing companies. Associated environmental issues were also addressed such as conservation technology for fishermen and wastewater and effluent minimisation for fish processors.

Diversification into marine tourism was encouraged, in order to bring economic spin-offs to coastal regions. The introduction of the Marine Aquaculture Training Course with 90 attendances, at a time of severe downturn in the traditional fishing industry, ensured that diversification opportunities were maximized to make better use of scarce resources locally.

Trainer Training was offered to allow for continued delivery once the programme ended. The project exceeded the number of trainers originally proposed by increasing the target figure from 2 to 4.

Training was also provided to women's groups involved in supporting the role of women in fisheries, who met and developed a cross border network. 48 women in the border counties were directly involved in the project and 85 women from 11 EU countries attended the AKTEA Conference hosted by the NI Women in Fisheries.

From a total of 536 beneficiaries in the border county seafood industry, 369 have benefited from 23,241 accredited training / activity hours. This programme successfully contributed to the pool of skilled workers in the border counties, which is essential to the future sustainability of the seafood industry.

**Total Project Cost: €249,999**

**Grant Awarded: €187,499**

Contact Details

**Richard McCormick**

**Tel:** 028 7188 3282

**Email:** [mccormick@bim.ie](mailto:mccormick@bim.ie)

