EMBRIC – The European blue bio-economy cluster for aquaculture and biotechnology innovations

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EMBRIC - The European Marine Biological Research Infrastructure Cluster - is designed to accelerate the pace of scientific discovery and innovation derived from natural marine Bio-Resources. The novelty of EMBRIC lies in clustering 6 existing European Research Infrastructures (EMBRC, MIRRI, EU-OPENSCREEN, ELIXIR, AQUAEXCEL and RISIS) and 27 interdisciplinary partners from Academia, Research institutes, non-for-profit organizations and industry. Together, these will create new pipelines and novel applications in diverse fields, such as, drug discovery, aquaculture selective breeding, bioremediation, cosmetics and bioenergy.

One of EMBRIC's academic partners, Ghent University, dedicated two research groups to the cluster:
- The marine biology research group is in charge of training and exchange of best practice, by building an integrated training platform for the Blue economy industry and academia.
- The laboratory of protistology and aquatic ecology is in charge of proof of concept that genetically engineered microalgae can produce strains with improved performances in commercial applications.

Moreover, by interconnecting science, industry and policy, EMBRIC will defragment regional research, development and innovation policies. Hence, facilitating technology transfer, knowledge transfer and transnational access, by developing best practices and integrated training programs. Furthermore, the industry will have access to newly available resources, novel techniques and up-to-date industry standards to directly integrate results and protocols in commercial processes, putting forward Europe's Marine Blue Bio-economy innovation in the fields of aquaculture and biotechnology.

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