



Announcement of the 2026 training course organized by the EURL for Fish and Crustacean Diseases

Dear colleagues,

We hereby announce that the EURL training course in 2026 Validation of Diagnostic methods for fish and crustacean diseases will be held during week 44, 2026. Please feel free to forward and circulate this invitation to colleagues who might be interested in this training course.

The course is entitled:

- **“Validation of Diagnostic methods for fish and crustacean diseases” in week 44 from Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 of October 2026**

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A preliminary programme is attached to this invitation

The EU commission has allocated a specific budget for organizing and holding these training courses, meaning that we can offer up to 15 participants from NRLs of EU Member States the following package.

Package for up to 15 NRL representatives of EU Member states includes:

- No course fee
- Travel expenses will be refunded in relation to EU guidelines https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/procedures-guidelines-tenders/information-contractors-and-beneficiaries/calculate-unit-costs-eligible-travel-costs_en
- Up to three nights at hotel incl. breakfast will be paid and booked by the EURL
- Lunches and coffee breaks will be included
- One social dinner

For other members of governmental institutions, such as Universities, Veterinary institutes etc. the package includes:

- No course fee
- Travel expenses and accommodation must be covered by the participant
- Fee for lunch and coffee of around 25 € per day plus fee for social dinner

Finally, members of private companies are welcome to apply for participation. The package offered to these participants includes:

- Course fee (700 €)
- Travel expenses, accommodation and daily allowances must be covered by the participant
- Fee for lunch and coffee of around 25 € per day plus fee for social dinner



Registration will be open until August 7th, 2026: in order to finalize the registration, we ask you to fill out the registration form provided with this invitation letter. The registration form must be followed by a letter of motivation in which your background and work experience are described. The form and the motivational letter have to be sent by email to **Camilla Warming** camwa@aqua.dtu.dk. The information obtained will solely be used to evaluate participants according to the foreseen activities.

On August 17th, a letter to all applicants will be submitted indicating if they are accepted for participation. Due to space limitations, we have to restrict the number of participants to 15 people.

The EURL will prioritize applications from NRL's in the EU Member States; afterwards, places will be allocated on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

For further information, please consult our website at <https://www.eurl-fish-crustacean.eu/> or contact us directly

Best regards,

The EURL fish team

Technical University of Denmark
National Institute of Aquatic Resources
Kemitorvet, building 202
DK – 2800 Kgs. Lyngby
EURL@vet.dtu.dk
<http://www.eurl-fish.eu/>





European Union Reference Laboratory for Fish and Crustacean Diseases

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF AQUATIC RESOURCES, TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF DENMARK

| Time slot | Day 1 – Wednesday 28 | Day 2- Thursday 29 | Day 3 Friday 30 |
|-------------|--|--|---|
| 9:00-10:15 | <p>Introduction and presentations of participants</p> <p>The importance of accurate and reliable diagnostics & Diagnostic assays and fit for purpose</p> | <p>Pooling Case studies crustacean</p> <p>Regulatory compliance and quality assurance</p> | <p>Predictive values of diagnostic data</p> <p>Maintenance of accreditation and Proficiency tests</p> |
| 10:15-10:45 | Coffee break | Coffee break | Coffee break |
| 10:45-12:00 | <p>The validation pathway WOH</p> <p>EURL Diagnostic manuals for listed fish and crustacean diseases</p> | Diagnostic validation | <p>Validation of novel technologies for aquatic animal diagnostics Multipathogen diagnostic</p> <p>Use of eNA for screening and surveillance</p> |
| 12:00-13:00 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch |
| 13:00-14:15 | <p>Analytical validation</p> <p>Standard materials and controls</p> <p>Case studies</p> | Diagnostic validation and examples | Practical exercises from students and discussion - part 1 |
| 14:15-14:30 | Coffee break | Coffee break | Coffee break |
| 14:45-16:00 | <p>Analytical validation</p> <p>Case studies - PCR</p> <p>Retrospective data</p> <p>Case studies – cell culture</p> | Exercises diagnostic validation and sample size | <p>Practical exercises from students and discussion - part 2</p> <p>Course evaluation and conclusions</p> |