

To stakeholders

On behalf of the Management Committee, I would like to shortly introduce you the COST funded action “MARISTEM - Stem cells of marine/aquatic invertebrates: from basic research to innovative applications” (supported by EU).

This action may interest your company and I would like to invite you to become a partner of our Network.

This COST action for cooperation in Science and Technologies fosters scientific collaborative interdisciplinary research in Marine and aquatic invertebrate stem cell (MISC) biology (www.maristem.eu). Bioresources originating from marine invertebrates are a rich source of new products of commercial value that can find a wide range of applications. In addition, marine organisms and their cells are used to study the impact of environmental stressors. In the emerging discipline of Marine biotechnology (Blue Technology), developing novel MISC tools and methodologies is of prime interest in biomedical and biotech disciplines. As mammalian stem cell-related technologies opened in the last decade unexpected fields of applications, breakthrough in MISC research will also lead to valuable biotechnological applications.

An important point in the MARISTEM strategy is to associate industrial partners from the very first steps of the project progression.

After the first kick-off meeting in early February 2018 with more than 60 participants from 21 Countries, we now organize a second General Meeting **in Banyuls-sur-Mer (France), on November 28-30**, with a specific one-day session dedicated to exchanges between the scientific community and industry on the potential applications of MISC. The objective is to set-up an academic-industry collaborative approach to face the current challenges in this domain and develop innovative strategies in this economic sector.

I would kindly ask you, or one of your colleagues from your company, to join us on our next general meeting to present the current needs in your sector and to discuss with the scientific MARISTEM community how MISC technology can meet your expectations.

Sincerely,
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