



EU Cluster for Food Traceability & Trust

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Funded by the
European Union

Who we are



A collaborative ecosystem of 13 EU projects and expanding:



Our journey began in February 2024!



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What does the EU Cluster do



Aim: Leverage advanced technology, multidisciplinary expertise, and policy-driven strategies to ensure the EU's food supply chains are not only secure but also resilient, transparent, and sustainable, for all!

Our scope:



**Tackling food
fraud and safety
concerns**



**Supporting resilient
and sustainable
food value chains**

Stronger together: The synergy among these thirteen projects fosters cross-disciplinary collaboration and accelerates the adoption of technological solutions.

From regulation to implementation: Why 2026 is a turning point for traceability in EU and Globally

Jan 2026

Soon

Jan 2029



Fisheries Control Regulation &
Digital traceability minimum
standard
(Chapter 03)



System digital interoperability,
common standards &
lot marking
Other traceability rules - Globally



Traceability rules for
prepared & preserved
(Chapter 16)

Key risk: fragmented, uneven and problematic implementation unless actors align early on interoperability and digitization.

Common challenges across EU-funded traceability work

What consistently shows up across fisheries and aquaculture value chains



1) Fragmentation

Regulation intent vs daily operations

Multiple actors, varying maturity

High admin load for SMEs



2) Interoperability gap

Systems don't 'speak' with each other reliably

Data re-keyed into spreadsheets or systems

Some data elements are not available in digital format

High errors and delays



3) Lot marking

Transformations / splits / merges / repacking break continuity
Physical vs digital IDs drift apart

Interoperability is crucial to achieve traceability



Goal: data can move across actors without re-keying or bespoke integrations, while preserving lot continuity.

Evidence from the multiple EU-funded pilots

Feasibility in real operations for fisheries and aquacultures



Operational

Used in real operator workflows



Lot handling

Supports split / merge / relabel



Interoperable

Event-based exchange (GDST-aligned)



Report-ready for global operations

In alignment with EU and US (FSMA 204 structured map)

Takeaway: digital traceability and lot continuity are feasible today when designed for interoperability.

TRACEABILITY

Multiple sources to collect data

Digital Inputs
(GPS / Sensor etc)

User Inputs & Doc.
capture

Existing SW Data

Structures **Key Data Elements (KDEs)** at every **Critical Tracking Event (CTE)**, turning raw data into audit-ready assets – Based on international standards.

- ✓ Automated structured reporting.
- ⌚ Offline-first architecture for at-sea use.
- ⟳ Real-time digitization of catch / harvest events.

GDST Capable

A TRACEABILITY INTELLIGENCE LAYER

A **Digital Intelligence Layer** that sits on top of existing catch, farm, processing, and ERP systems.

- Non-Disruptive: Sits on top of catch, farm, processing, and ERP systems.
- Logic Mapping: Structures disparate data from different systems and / or user inputs.
- Audit Centralization: data warehouse for instant response.

“DOESN’T REPLACE EXISTING SYSTEMS.”



Moving Forward Together – Approach

- The cluster embodies a **shared vision** for transparent, secure, sustainable food systems.
- Each project contributes **unique innovations**—from advanced traceability tech to consumer behavior change.
- Encourage engagement—e.g., joint upcoming events, shared scientific dissemination, shape policy & collaborate further.



EU Cluster & FG actively aims to support members

Suggestion



Optional access to implementation examples

For information purposes

- MAC members may request a short video or live walkthrough of an EU-funded platform implementation
- Focus: Digital data capture, practical lot handling, interoperable data exchange, and audit-ready records.
- Use cases include aquaculture and wild-capture operators and processors.
- Operational experience across EU and US supply chains (incl. FSMA 204 alignment).

Follow-up (optional): reach out after the meeting to coordinate a short demo/video session.



**EU Cluster
for Food
Traceability
& Trust**

Thank you for your attention!



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