

ICHTHYS: Optimization of novel value chains for fish and seafood by developing an integrated sustainable approach for improved quality, safety and waste reduction

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ICHTHYS (Optimization of novel value CHains for fish and seafood by developing an integraTed sustainable approach for improved qualitY, safety and waSte reduction) aims to optimize novel value-chains for fish and seafood products for the EU and international markets. It develops an integrated sustainable approach to improve quality and safety, while reducing product loss in the whole supply chain. ICHTHYS is an intersectorial project and focuses on two essential parts of the value chain, postharvest processing and packaging, integrating novel modern techniques and molecular biology tools in the evaluation of the quality and safety of fish and shellfish, including their allergenic capacity. New nonthermal processing methods, i.e. high pressure, pulsed electric fields and high-intensity pulsed light are investigated together with active and intelligent packaging and smart labels and biosensors for monitoring safety and shelf life enriched with novel data from "omics" analysis. The implementation of ICHTHYS will offer the industrial partners the opportunity to translate scientific research into well-defined knowledge-based end products and analytical tools. ICHTHYS aspires to provide cross-cutting intersectorial and interdisciplinary knowledge exchange and training for academics and commercial partners to improve their employability and career prospects. The project will contribute to the knowledge-based economy and society and boost regional and European competitiveness and growth, food exports and job creation.

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