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# Biosecurity measures: Evaluation and Program improvement

Why animal health  
and biosecurity are  
important in  
Aquatic Animal  
farms?

Aquatic Animal diseases  
threaten the sustainable  
growth of the aquaculture  
sector and, consequently,  
food supply

Implementation of  
biosecurity measures to  
mitigate the introduction  
and spread pathogenic  
agents



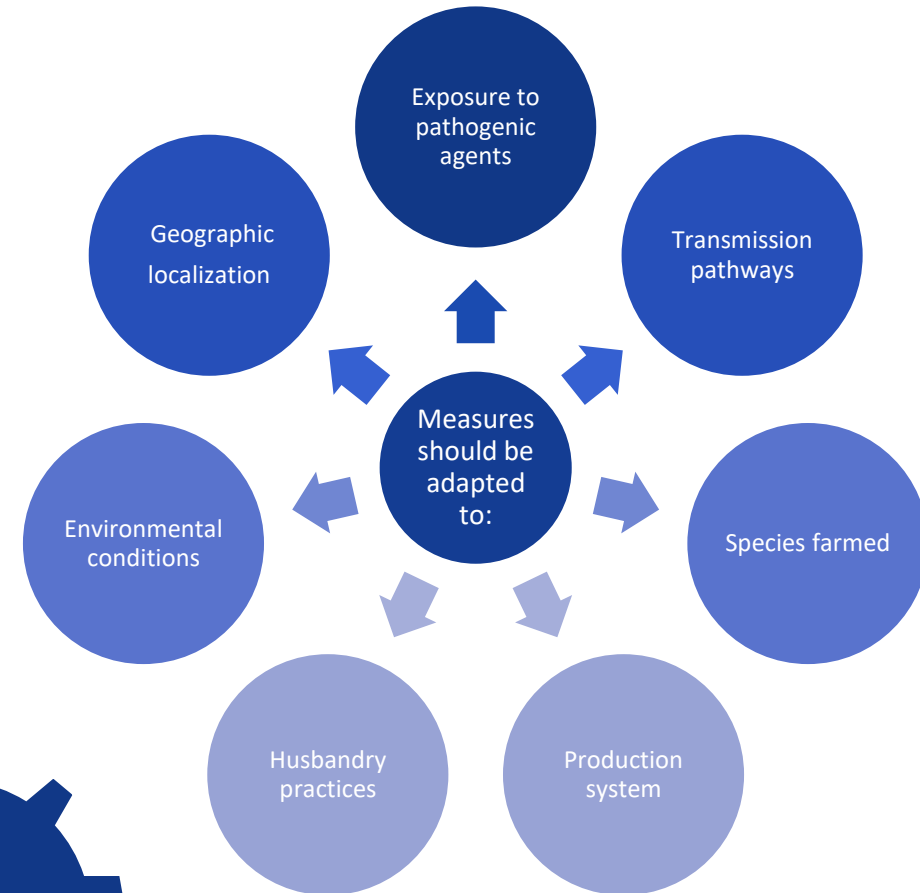
# General Principles



Biosecurity is

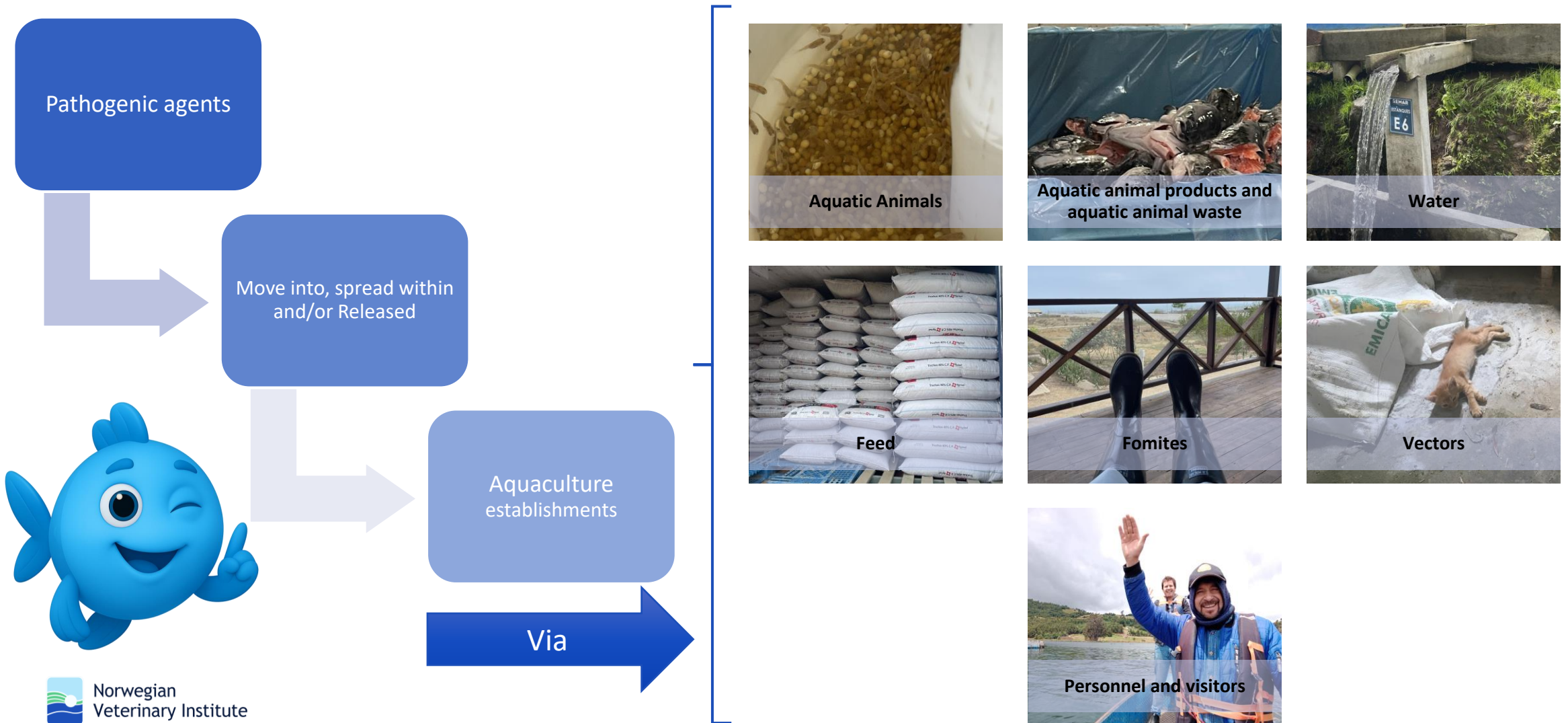


On-Farm Implementation





# Transmission Pathways



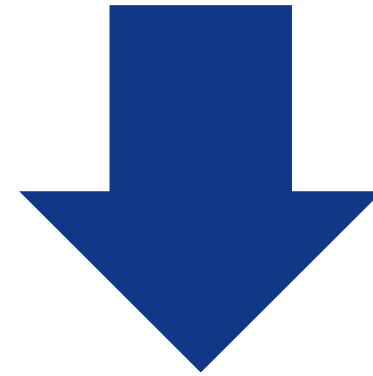


# On-Farm Biosecurity Measures Categorization



Preventive measures

To reduce Risks

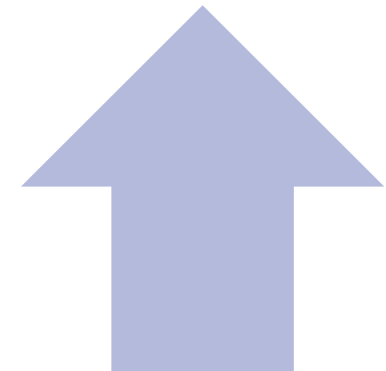


External Biosecurity Measures

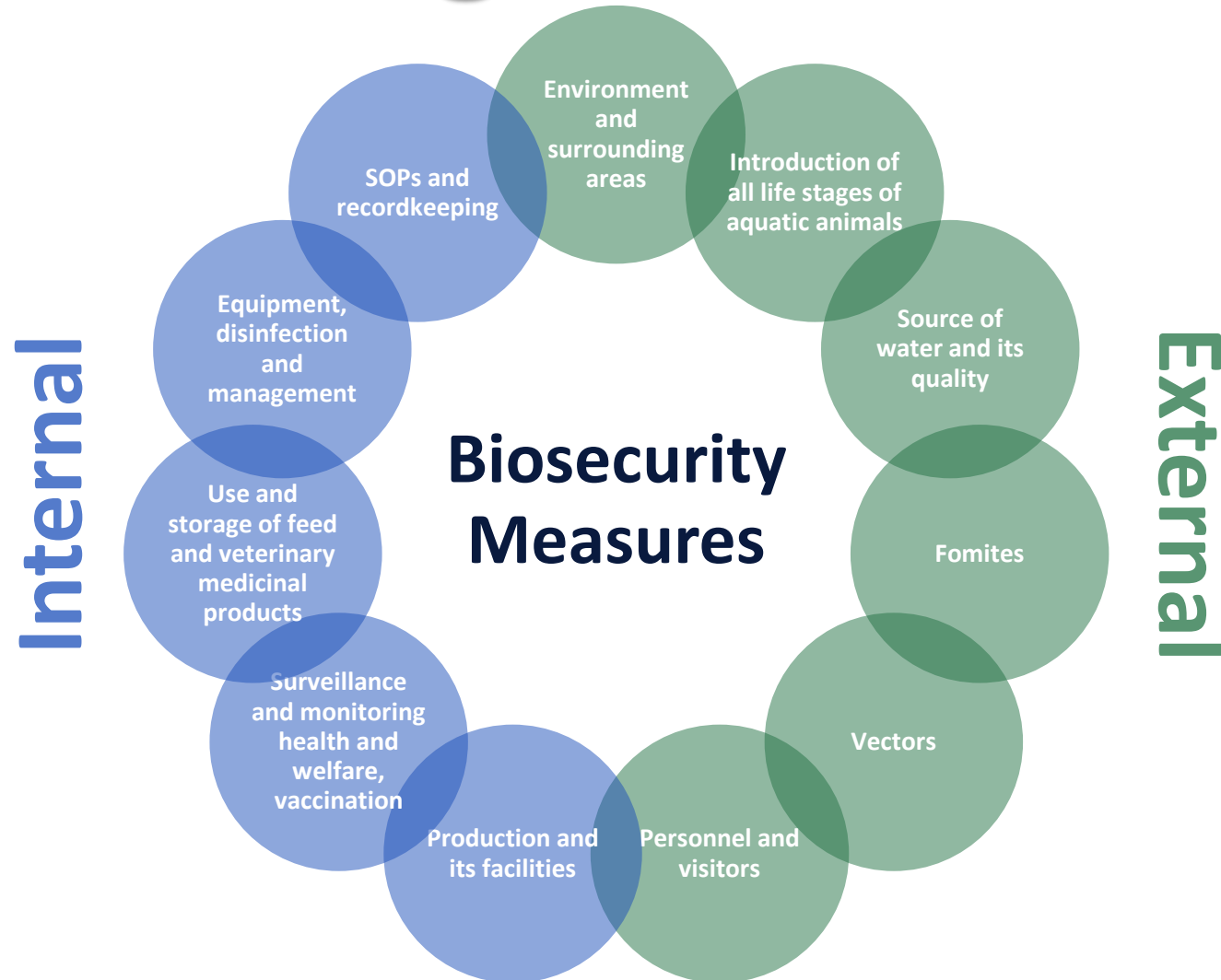
- Introduction
- Release from

Internal Biosecurity Measures

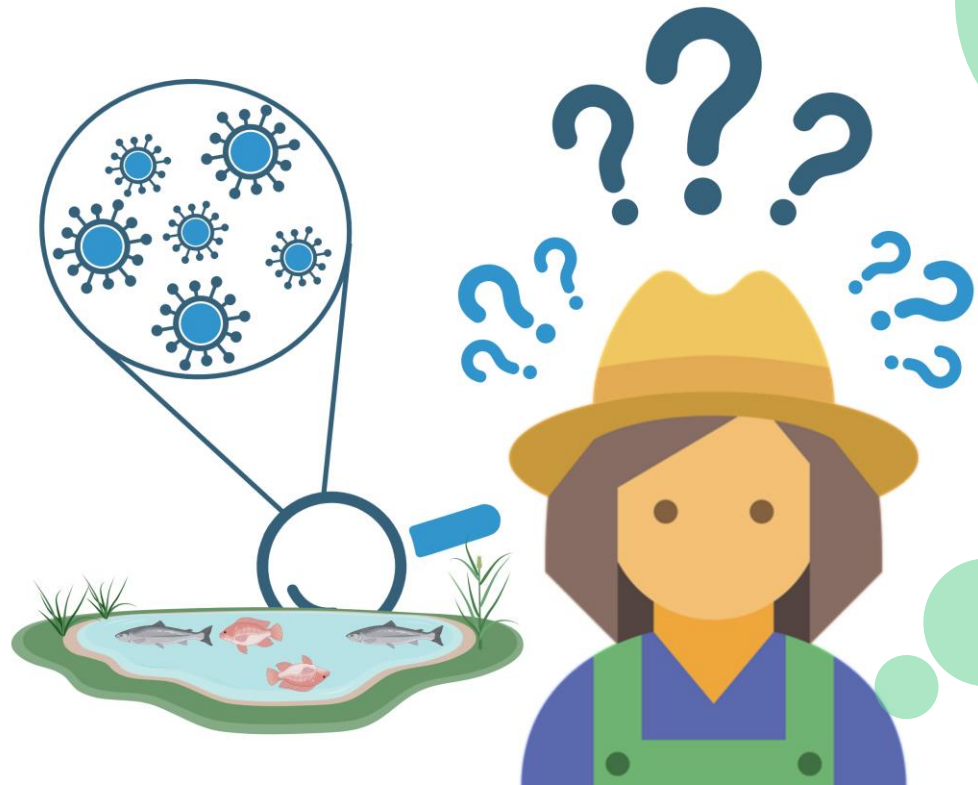
- Spread Within



# On-Farm Biosecurity Measures Categorization



**How can we  
determine the  
level of  
biosecurity on an  
aquatic animal  
farm??**





# Development of digital tools

[What is biosecurity](#)

[Transmission pathways](#)

[Biosecurity quantification tool](#)

[Risk profiling tool](#)

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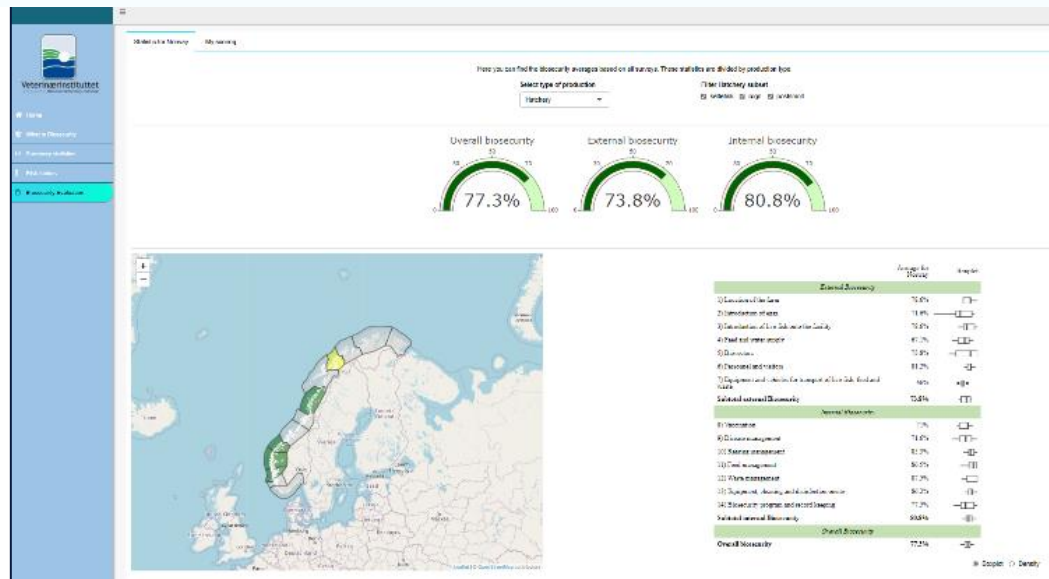
[Score overview](#)

[Summary statistics](#)

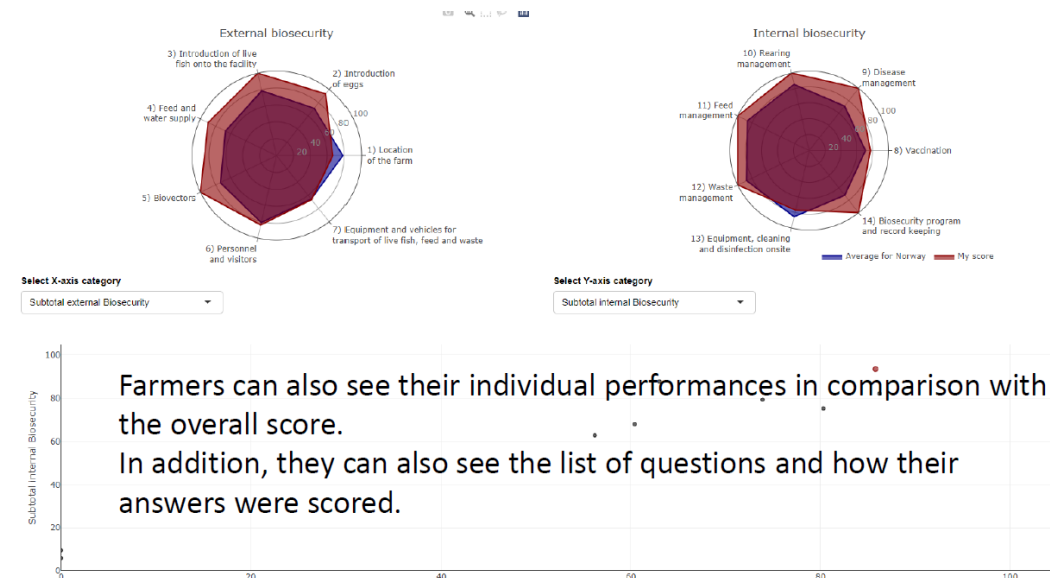
[My scoring](#)

[Risk profiling](#)

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- ✓ Salmon: Land-based and sea-based facilities
- ✓ Trout: Fresh-water production
- ✓ Aquatic Animals (General)
- ✓ Small-scale Farmers (on development)



# External

## Environment and surrounding areas



Proximity to Other Aquaculture Farms



Signage of farm perimeter boundaries



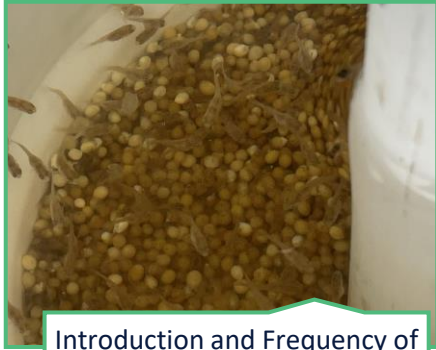
Signage for different production areas



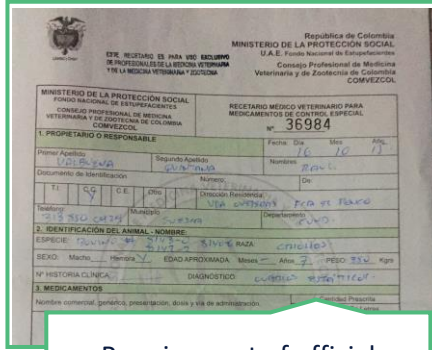
Facilities has a sanitary system including handwashing and disinfection footwear at the entrance

# External

## Introduction of all life stages of aquatic animals



Introduction and Frequency of Live Animals and Genetic Material



Requirement of official permits/licenses



Requirement of health status documentation



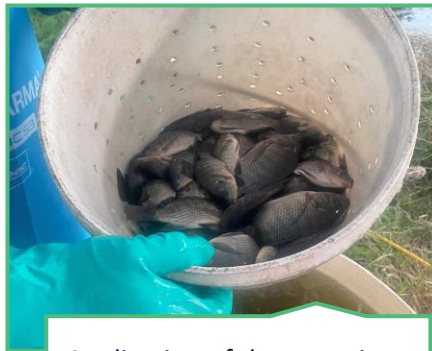
Application of quarantine and isolation



Have a quarantine zone separated from other production areas



Cleaning and disinfection of quarantine facilities before use



Application of therapeutic or prophylactic measures



Post-arrival screening for mandatory / important diseases



Dedicate clothes or clean and disinfect the clothes after leave the quarantine area



Have a traceability system and record the origin.



# External

## Source of water and its quality



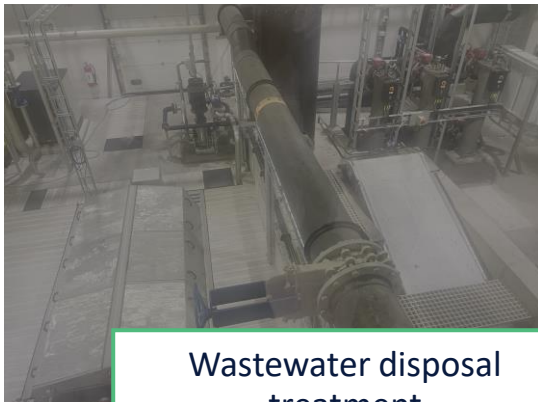
Source of water used at the facility



Shared water source with other aquatic animal facilities



Implementation of intake water treatment



Wastewater disposal treatment



Water quality monitoring and analysis



Disinfection of water supply tanks

# External

## Fomites

Feeding with fresh feed, raw feed, mortalities, homemade feed or feces



Quality inspection of veterinary medicinal products before storage



Limit vehicle entry to the facility (cars, trucks, vessels)



Do not share vehicles with other facilities



Implementation of vehicle (cars/trucks) disinfection prior to facility entry



Have a designated visitor parking area outside the production area





# External

## Fomites

Do not Share equipment or materials with other facilities



Disinfecting equipment and materials shared with other facilities



Do not share equipment between the quarantine and production areas



Disinfect Animal transport containers before disposal.



Do not reuse boxes and bags used to transport live animals





# External

## Vectors



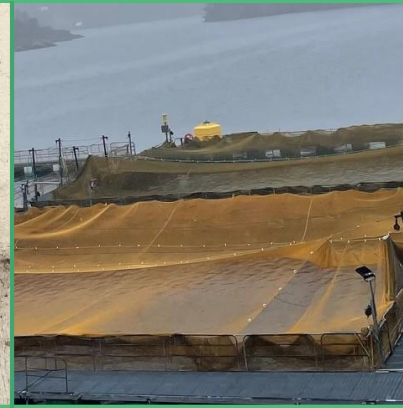
Have fences or barriers to prevent entry of potential vectors (wildlife and other animals)



Regularly inspect for pests and predators



Apply pest control measures



Use nets to prevent birds from accessing aquatic animals



Restrict pet access to the production area



Proper disposal of organic and aquatic animal waste at the facility

- Entrails, fecal matter, uneaten feed, unfertilized eggs

# External

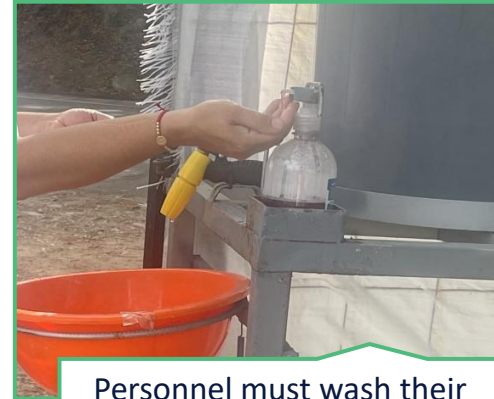
# Personnel and visitors



Implement measures for personnel and visitors' entry\*



Restrict personnel from visiting other aquaculture facilities



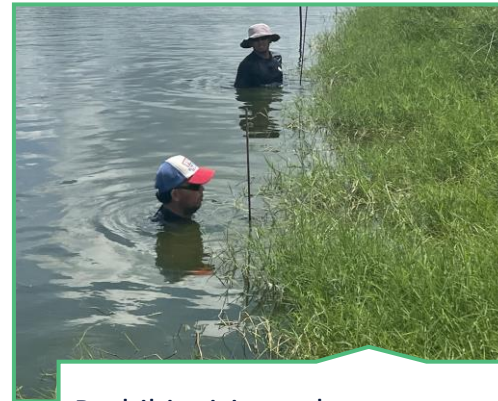
Personnel must wash their hands regularly during daily activities



Visitor access is restricted



Visitors are informed of the facility's biosecurity protocols



Prohibit visitors close contact with aquatic animals



Washing and disinfection of protective clothing for personnel and visitors



## Production and its facilities



Define a maximum number of animals per cage, tank, or unit, and do not exceed it



Designate a specific area for cleaning and disinfecting nets and equipment



Have a dedicated cleaning and disinfection station for hands and footwear at all entry and exit production area points



# Internal

## Surveillance and monitoring health and welfare, vaccination



Inspection of abnormal behavior, feeding, and clinical signs



Perform necropsies and diagnostic tests for disease monitoring at a defined frequency.



Vaccination against diseases of concern



Promptly remove of dead animals



Final disposal of dead animals



Report unusual mortality or detected diseases to the Competent Authority



Have a defined process for handling the aquatic animals



Use equipment designed and operated to minimize physical injuries to aquatic animals



Define a process for loading and unloading animals to minimize stress and prevent injuries

# Internal

## Use and storage of feed and veterinary medicinal products



Conduct regular inspections of stored feed and veterinary products



Rotate feed stock using the First-In, First-Out (FIFO) method

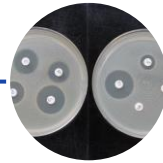


Follow good practices for the administration of veterinary products\*

## Use and storage of feed and veterinary medicinal products



Prohibition of antibiotic use as growth promoters or preventive purposes (prophylactic)



Perform susceptibility tests before using antibiotics



Batches under veterinary treatment clearly identified with visible signage.



Report side effects from veterinary products to the competent authority



# Internal

## Equipment, disinfection and management



Do not share  
equipment and  
materials  
between  
batches within  
the facility



Use dedicated  
equipment for  
handling dead  
and moribund  
animals



Cleaning and  
disinfection of  
facilities and  
equipment  
between  
batches



Perform  
fallowing before  
introducing new  
animals



Conduct soil  
treatment in all  
earth ponds



Do not apply  
untreated  
animal feces as  
pond fertilizer



# Internal

# Equipment, disinfection and management



Routinely clean and disinfect handling equipment



Proper and safe use of treatments

- Pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, probiotics and prebiotics.



Regularly remove debris and waste from the facility



Handwashing after contact with sick or dead aquatic animals



Ensure all personnel are properly trained in biosecurity protocols.

## SOPs and recordkeeping



Comprehensive and documented biosecurity program



SOPs for Animal Health and Welfare purposes



SOPs for traceability purposes



SOPs for production and productivity management

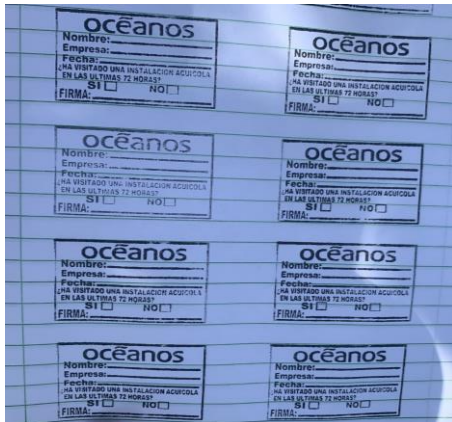


SOPs for environmental and sanitation practices



SOPs for cleaning and disinfection activities

# SOPs and recordkeeping



HAVE WRITTEN  
RECORDS OF:

Mortality, including  
causes and disposal

Health status of new  
animals and  
quarantine

Stocking  
densities, feeding  
and growth rate

Daily inspections,  
including feeding  
behavior and  
swimming

Visitors and vehicle  
disinfection

Feed storage  
conditions

Water quality and  
monitoring

Sanitary inspections,  
including necropsy  
reports and lab  
results

Veterinary  
treatments,  
prescriptions and  
vaccinations

Pests control  
activities

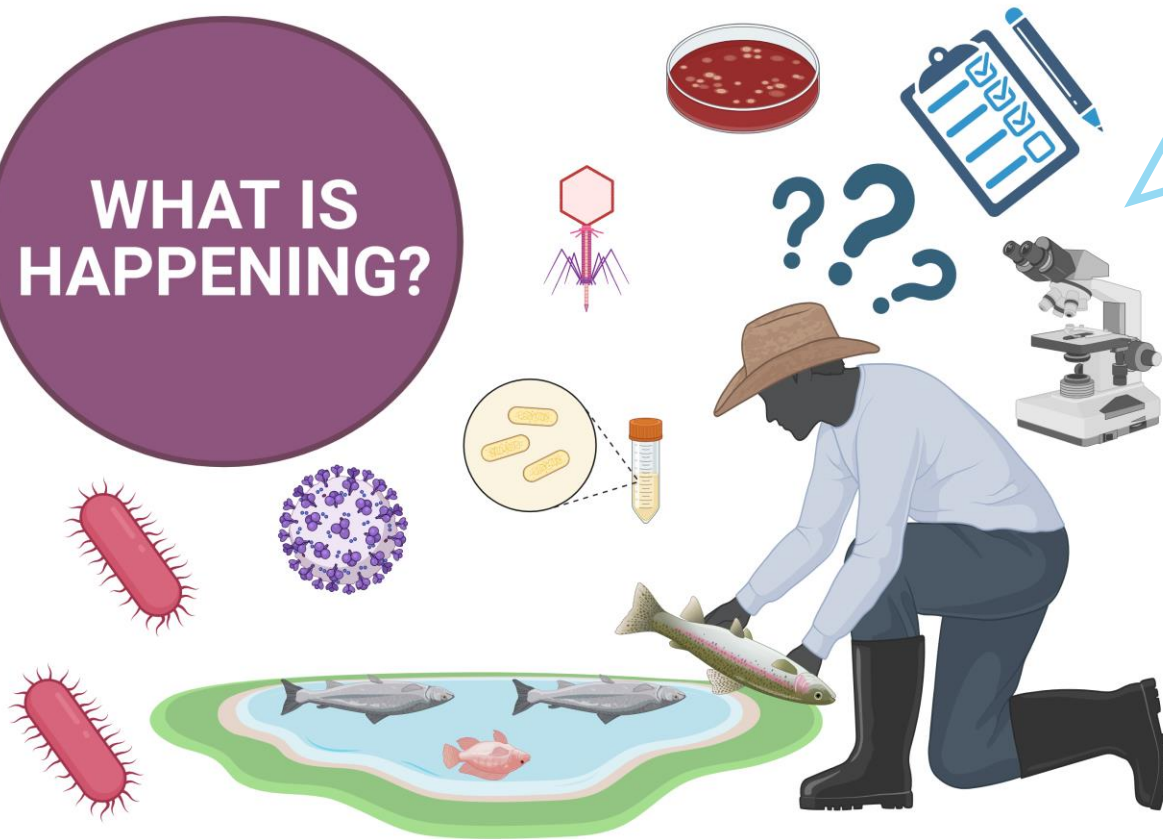
Training of  
personnel

Inventario Particular											
Comederos #	Marzo	Abril	Mayo	Junio	Julio	Agosto	Septiembre	Octubre	Noviembre	Diciembre	Total
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1





**WHAT IS  
HAPPENING?**



**Would you be  
interested in  
providing your  
expertise on the  
weighted scoring  
system for on-farm  
biosecurity in  
aquatic animals?**

# What we want to do??

## Expert consultation

To develop a weighted scoring system for quantifying farm biosecurity measures in aquatic animal farms

Because we recognize

That not all biosecurity risk have the same likelihood of occurrence, due to varying efficiency of disease transmission pathways

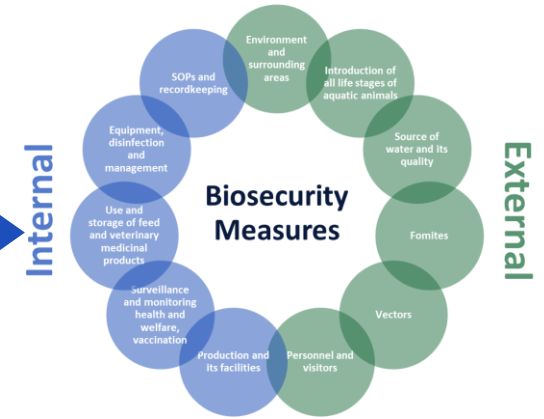


# How are we going to do this?

## Subcategory Scoring Survey

\*We will ask for your opinion on the importance the subcategories of on-farm measures allocating 100 points among the subcategories.

\*This allocation should reflect your opinion of each subcategory's importance for the introduction, spread within, and release of infectious diseases in aquatic animal farms



## The survey will be conducted through Metimeter

\* With 4 Scenarios to scoring subcategories by production type/species: Genetic Material (gametes and fertilised eggs), Grow out Freshwater cultured species, Grow out Marine cultured species, and Grow out Shrimp.





- Biosecurity Expert elicitation

Survey: <https://www.mentimeter.com/app/presentation/ali3a24fjj94efj9211unrsxo73gcfbr/edit?source=share-modal>

- National Biosecurity

Programs: <https://www.mentimeter.com/app/presentation/al9ch9iewgkff3bdin227731qd2c285x/edit?source=share-modal>

# THANK YOU!!



Scientifically ambitious,  
forward-looking and collaborative  
– for One Health



Norwegian  
Veterinary Institute