The Latin American and Caribbean Aquaculture 2018 - LACQUA18 and the VIII Colombian Congress of Aquaculture - VIII CCA are close to take place in Bogotá, Colombia at the Agora International Convention Center from October 23 to 26, 2018, this is why we want to invite you to be part of this important event that has an academic program in different areas of aquaculture and an exhibit commercial with national and international companies specialized in the commercialization of supplies and services for the aquaculture sector.

**SESSION CHAIR**

As part of the different session chairs we will have the presence of Dr. Albert G.J. Tacon is Technical who is the Director of Aquatic Farms Ltd in Hawaii, and works as an international aquaculture consultant, specializing in aquatic feeds and nutrition. After obtaining his PhD in fish nutrition at University College (University of Wales, UK - 1978) he spent eight years within the UK as a university lecturer and researcher in applied fish nutrition at the University of Aston in Birmingham and at the Institute of Aquaculture in Stirling. In 1984 he joined the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and worked for fourteen years as a aquaculture feed and nutrition expert. In 1999 he moved to Hawaii and served as Director and Program Manager of the Aquatic Feeds and Nutrition Program at the Oceanic Institute. Since then Albert was has been working with Aquatic Farms Ltd (Hawaii) as an independent consultant in aquaculture and aquaculture nutrition and feed related activities. His expertise has taken him to working in over 44 countries, and has over 228 scientific publications and one patent. He currently serves as Scientific Advisor on Aquatic Resources to the International Foundation for Science, Stockholm, Sweden (since 1998), is Editor in Chief of Reviews in Aquaculture, serves on the editorial board of Aquaculture Nutrition and Aquaculture Research, is on the board of directors of the World Aquaculture Society and the charity Aquaculture without Frontiers.
SPECIAL SESSIONS

During the congress special sessions will take place, among which will have "Technological advances in the intensive production of tilapia in South America - Genetics, market, vaccines and vaccination" (MSD - Merck); "Protease in aquafeed: A solution for better economy and environment" (JEFO Nutrition., Inc.); "Nutrition ingredients" (Darling Ingredients); "Hatchery" (Zeigler Bros., Inc) and "Health management" (Phibro Animal Health Corporation). Additionally, we will have the session "Business challenges of fish farming in Colombia" organized by the Federación Colombiana de Acuicultores - FEDEACUA. At the same time, there will be a space within the program for the conformation of the Colombian Academic Association of Aquaculture, as well as the Colombian Network of Technicians, Technologists and Professionals in Aquaculture Health.

ACADEMICS

So far, today more than 450 abstracts of research results have been submitted on subjects such as South American native fishes, shrimp culture, recirculation systems - RAS, fish nutritional needs, aquaculture in indigenous communities, biofloc, aquaponics and processing technologies. among others. These abstracts have been sent by academics from different institutions such as the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Universidad de Antioquia, Universidad Tecnológica de Pereira, Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia, Universidad del Magdalena, Universidad de Córdoba; there are also abstracts from the University of Arizona, Universidad Técnica Nacional de Costa Rica, Universidade Federal do Ceará de Brasil, Universidad Católica del Norte de Chile, Universidad de Buenos Aires de Argentina, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos de Perú and many more.

COMMERCIAL EXHIBIT

In the last decade, fish production in Colombia has increased at an average annual rate of 8.54%, accompanying the global growth trend. The LACQUA18 and VIICCA are presented as a business opportunity for the sector, having the commercial exhibit, with the presence of national and foreign companies who represent the whole aquaculture chain. We are pleased to confirm the participation of companies such as Ictyopharma, Xpertsea, Hipra, Flint Hill Resources, Cipa, Aqua Center, Agrarian Bank, Jefo, Faivre, Fisanet, Darling, TGV, Acqua & Co, Prilabsa, Haxada - Nutreco, Italcol, MSD, Andritz, Tecnoaqua, Proplantas, Xylem, Pharvet, Wenger, Kaeser Compressors, Artkom, USSEC, Aker Biomarine and Quimtia, among others.

Additionally we will have integration spaces such as the "happy hour" and dinner with the president of the World Aquaculture Society that will be entertained by the Severa Parrandera orchestra, a national musician group who will be in charge of your full amusement.
STUDENT AGENDA

Among the participants at LACQUA18 and VIIICCA we will have the presence of undergraduate and graduate students from universities of the region, who will also present orally or by poster results of their research. We are confident that this experience will enrich their professional profile by offering them the opportunity to learn about other studies carried out in different countries. Additionally, within the congress a student integration festival will be held, this will allow the students to weave social and academic networks around aquaculture.

Finally, we’d like to thank our sponsors congress USSEC and UNIDO, session sponsors Phibro, Merck and Jefo, as well as premium sponsors Darling, Zeigler, Blue Aqua and Tyson.

Information on how to participate as an assistant or sponsor, hotels and technical visits can be found at https://www.was.org/meetings/default.aspx?code=lacqua18

We invite you to watch and share the promotional video of the event in https://youtu.be/6a3CNXevX5g

For more information you can contact: Carolina Amézquita, mobile +57 3184669122 carolina@was.org

We are waiting for your presence in Bogotá !!!

Sincerely,

ORGANIZER TEAM LACQUA18 & VIII CCA
Universidad Nacional de Colombia, FEDEACUA, Latin American & Caribbean Chapter WAS

“ACUICULTURA PARA LA CONSTRUCCIÓN DE REDES DE PAZ”

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