



## Kick off meeting of ALEHOOP

**On the 3rd of June 2020 we had the pleasure to participate on kick off meeting of project ALEHOOP (Biorefineries for the valorisation of macroalgal residual biomass and legume processing by-products to obtain new protein value chains for high-value food and feed applications), a project funded under the EU Horizon 2020 programme and coordinated by CONTACTICA S.L. – R&D&I organization in the Food Industry and Health.**

The online meeting brought project partners together who had the chance to meet for the first time and get familiar with each other's activities and country specific reports.

All project partners actively participated at the kick off meeting which was organized by the coordinator through meet.google platform. The meeting was also attended by Antonella Canalis, BB JU (Bio- based Industries Joint Undertaking) Project Officer from Bruxelles.

Research whose main objective is to obtaining of proteins from green macroalgal blooms, brown seaweed by-products from algae processors and legume processing by-products (peas, lupines, beans and lentils) as alternative protein sources for animal feeding (case of green seaweed) and food applications (case of brown seaweed and legume by-products), since they are low cost and under-exploited biomass that do not compete with traditional food crops for space and resources. This will reduce EU's dependency on protein imports and contribute to our raw material security.

The new proteins will be validated in foods for elderly, sporty and overweight people, vegetarians and healthy consumers as well as for animal feed creating cross-sectorial interconnection between these value chains and supporting the projected business plan

The project consortium consists of 16 partners from scientific institutions and SMEs.

In the project proposition, VRI will perform activities related to pig and poultry feeding. The staff of Immunology Department, which is targeted to swine and chicken immunology, physiology and host-pathogen interaction with studies done on intestinal microflora. It will be responsible for performance of feeding experiment in accredited experimental stables inside the institute and laboratory analyses of collected samples. VRI will also give support, together with the rest of partners, to coordinator in the Exploitation, Communication and Dissemination activities.

*This project has received funding from the Bio Based Industries Joint Undertaking (JU) under grant agreement No 887259. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the Bio Based Industries Consortium.*