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TASCMAR EU PROJECT — MARINE INVERTEBRATES AND ASSOCIATED-MICROORGANISMS, A GLOBAL SCIENCE FOR A GLOBAL VALORIZATION Jamal Quazzani



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oral reefs extend as deep as 150 meters and with the development of new technologies to go deeper, scientists are beginning to explore 'Mesophotic Coral Ecosystems' (MCEs) existing in low light levels, which still allows for photosynthesis. Mesophotic coral ecosystems (MCEs) are almost entirely unexplored; they are a treasure-trove for discovering new species and their associated bioactive chemical compounds. Organisms such as soft corals, sponges, and microbes living on coral reefs naturally produce potent cocktails of chemicals to defend themselves from competitors and harmful predators. EU-funded Horizon 2020 project TASCMAR, which aims to tackle major bottlenecks in the discovery, development, and commercialization of marine-derived chemical compounds with a specific focus on using new biological and chemical resources from MCEs. The project partners are working on developing innovative technologies for the sustainable cultivation of marine resources, e.g. through the isolation of chemicals in their natural environment without the need to harvest them. The project is specifically looking for new chemical compounds active against age-related illnesses such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, cancer, and aging diseases related to muscles and skin.

Recent Publications

- Leman-Loubière C, Le Goff G, Retailleau P, Debitus C and Ouazzani J (2017) Sporothriolide-related compounds from the fungus hypoxylon monticulosum CLL-205 isolated from a Sphaerocladina sponge from the Tahiti Coast. J. Nat .Prod. 80(10):2850–2854.
- Gallego A, Meton I, Baanante I V, Ouazzani J, Adelin E, et al. (2017) Viability-reducing activity of *Coryllus avellana* L. extracts against human cancer cell lines. Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy 89:565–572.
- 3. Le Goff G, Adelin E, Arcile G and Ouazzani J (2017) Total synthesis of the antibiotic 4-hydroxycyclopent-2-en-1-

one acrylate derivative EA-2801. Tetrahedron Letters 58:2337-2339.

- Adelin E, Le Goff G, Retailleau P, Bonfill M and Ouazzani J (2017) Isolation of the antibiotic methyl (R,E)-3-(1hydroxy-4-oxocyclopent-2-en-1-yl)-acrylate EA-2801 from trichoderma atroviridae. J. Antibiotics 70(11):1053–1056.
- Ouazzani J, Benayahu Y and Trougakos I (2016) Seeking the fountain of youth in the twilight zone. The Marine Biologist 7:9–11.



Biography

Jamal Ouazzani completed his PhD in Applied Microbiology in 1988 from Paris XI University-France and obtained a research position at the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) in 1989 (www.cnrs.fr). Since 2014, he has held the position of CNRS Research Director within the Institute for Chemistry of Natural Compounds (ICSN, www.icsn.cnrs-gif.fr) and leads the ICSN Pilot-Unit (www.pilotunit.com). He has an interdisciplinary profile covering fundamental and applied microbiology, natural product chemistry, biochemistry, biocatalysis, bioremediation, innovative biotechnology design, building and implementation. He has been engaged in diverse consulting activities since 1996, for environmental, cosmetic and pharmaceutical companies. He has published more than 62 publications in peer-reviewed journals and has obtained nine patents. He collaborates with various companies in the field of ethno-pharmacology, bioactive natural compounds from plants, marine organisms and microorganisms, innovative extraction and bio-resource cultivation technologies.

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