



Margaret Rae

Konree Innovation

Margaret Rae is the founder and CEO of Konree Innovation, a company dedicated to offering sustainable solutions to reliably manage and control lice in fish aquaculture. The company uses a deep-tech, science led approach to the problem. Konree is backed with investment from Enterprise Ireland's Pre-Seed Start Fund 2022/2023.

Margaret's interest in sea lice was triggered by her research career. She had developed many bioassays to test biologically active molecules on human and animal diseases and parasites. It was during this time that she became fascinated with sea lice, how these parasites had survived, adapted and continued to thrive no matter what methods were being used to control them in salmonid aquaculture.

From 2015 to 2020, Margaret was Director of the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Coordination and Support Action (AORA-CSA) at the Marine Institute Ireland to develop lasting Atlantic Ocean research cooperation between Canada, the EU, and the USA. During her term, 5 Atlantic Ocean Research Cooperation Roadmaps were co-developed and published. Later, Margaret chaired the AORA Marine Microbiome Working group between 2021 and 2023. Prior to that, Margaret held a senior research role in the Beaufort Marine Biodiscovery programme looking to harness marine bio-actives for future medicinal purposes and strengthening Ireland's marine knowledge base.

In 2021/2022, Margaret won the highly competitive WomenTech EU award from the European Innovation Council for women-led companies in the deep-tech space. Between 2020 and 2022, she participated in Enterprise Ireland's New Frontiers, as well as the Empower Start for Women entrepreneurs in 2020/2021.

In her career to date, Margaret has raised more than €8 million from competitive grants, commercialisation funding and philanthropy.

www.konreeinnovation.com

