

# THE CONTRIBUTION OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE TO FOOD SECURITY

European Bureau for Conservation and Development (EBCD) event  
Brussels, 14 November 2024

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**HU24EU**

**PROGRAMME**

**AGRIFISH**

**FISHERIES**

# Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union



1 July – 31 December, 2024

# PRIORITIES OF THE HUNGARIAN PRESIDENCY



1. New European Competitiveness Deal
2. The Reinforcement of European Defence Policy
3. Consistent and Merit-Based Enlargement Policy
4. Stemming Illegal Migration
5. Shaping the Future of Cohesion Policy
6. Farmer-Oriented EU Agricultural Policy
7. Addressing Demographic Challenges

# FISHERIES ISSUES DURING THE PSY



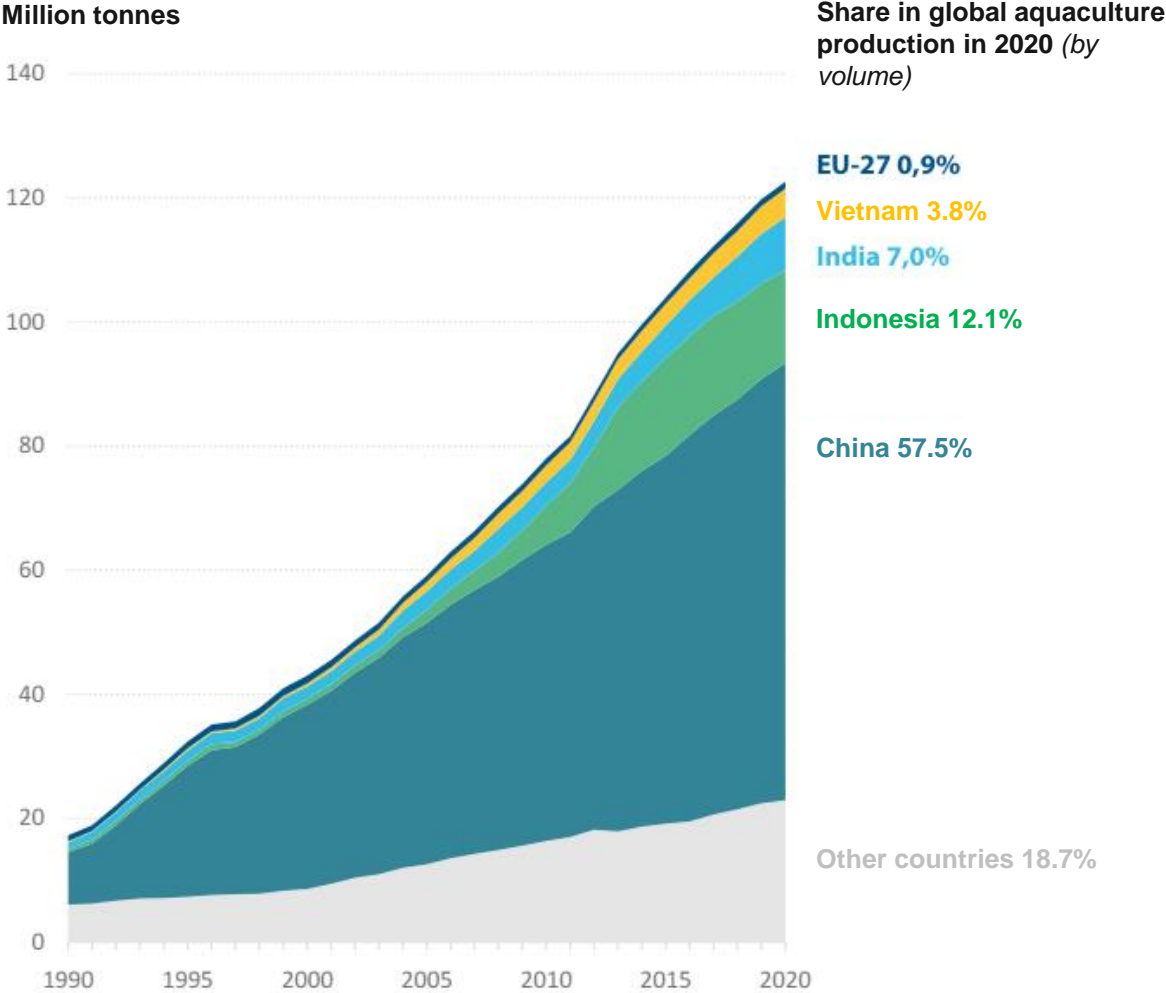
- Ordinary legislative procedure – new EP
- International dimension (RFMOs, SFPAs, Northern Agreements)
- Fishing Opportunities (by sea basins)



# GLOBAL SHARE OF EU AQUACULTURE



Global aquaculture production 1990-2020



Source: ECA, 2023, based on World Bank data

## Increase of aquaculture production 2012–2022:

- World: 33%
- EU: 9%
- Non-EU Europe: 31%

Source: FAO-SOFIA, 2024

# AQUACULTURE IN HUNGARY



- No commercial fishing since 2016
- Pond polyculture is dominant (26,682 ha operating pond area, 21,215 t total production, 77% of total volume)
- Rapidly growing intensive aquaculture (mostly African catfish)
- Aquaculture employment: 1439 persons
- Per capita fish consumption: 6.7 kg
- Exports: 24.5 M EUR, imports: 138.5 M EUR

# AQUACULTURE



## PRESIDENCY PRIORITY

*Placing aquaculture into the centre of gravity in an integrated way and reflecting the needs of the local communities*

### EVENTS:

#### INFORMAL MEETING OF DIRECTORS GENERAL AND ATTACHES

- Balatonfüred, 8-10 July

#### WORKSHOP ON AQUACULTURE

- Hungarian Permanent Representation,  
Brussels, 14th October





# INFORMAL MEETING OF DIRECTORS GENERAL AND ATTACHES



***„The future of EU aquaculture”***  
Balatonfüred, Hungary, 9 July 2024

Discussion points:

- Legislative framework and the CFP
- Environmental aspects (nature restoration)
- EU recognition of aquaculture in the broader economic and food policies, role of aquaculture in food security
- Financing (funding), investment and innovation
- Diversification and income generation for fishermen, agriculture farmers and coastal/rural communities
- Communication and transparency
- The potential and the obstacles of growth of the farming of low-trophic species



# INFORMAL MEETING OF DIRECTORS GENERAL AND ATTACHES



Main conclusions of the discussions:

- Commitment to continue **strengthening cooperation** to boost the EU aquaculture sector. The European Union should raise the level of ambition of EU aquaculture, considering also its social and environmental dimensions.
- An efficient and sustainable development of such a diverse industry requires an **integrated approach** addressing all the main challenges of the sector.
- Aquaculture should be developed in a **holistic way**, incorporating aquaculture development in other sectoral needs, such as like spatial planning, nature restoration or raw material supply.
- **Diversification** as key to long-term economic sustainability.
- The **attitude** towards aquaculture needs **to be changed** in the EU in order to maintain and improve the global competitiveness of the sector.

# WORKSHOP ON AQUACULTURE

## *„Making Aquaculture a Vital Part of the European Sustainable Food System”*

- organized by the Hungarian Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (HUNATiP) under the auspices of the Hungarian Presidency
- Brussels, 14-Oct-2024



# WORKSHOP ON AQUACULTURE

- Participants: DG MARE, FAO, industry, NGOs and Member States
  
- Speakers:
  - Emphasizing the important place of aquaculture within the **global aquatic food system** as well as the in **FAO's Blue Transformation Roadmap**;
  - Warning about the **growing gap between** the explosive growth of global aquaculture and the stagnating EU sector
  - Fostering **innovation** essential for future development;
  - **Producers' insights** on adapting to the evolving EU aquaculture landscape;
  - The aquaculture will also remain a priority of the upcoming **Polish Presidency**.
  
- Roundtable discussion:
  - Effective policy execution, political will and a level playing field (imports and domestic production) for enhancing the **competitiveness of EU aquaculture**;
  - **Innovation** in production technologies;
  - Call for a **coherent and scientifically based system of sustainability indicators**, which would take into account the diversity of EU aquaculture systems;
  - Role of **public perception** and improved **communication** about the benefits of the sector;
  - **Challenges** like space, water quality, animal welfare and market access;
  - Stronger focus needed on **food security** and animal welfare.

# FISHERIES GROUP – THE TEAM



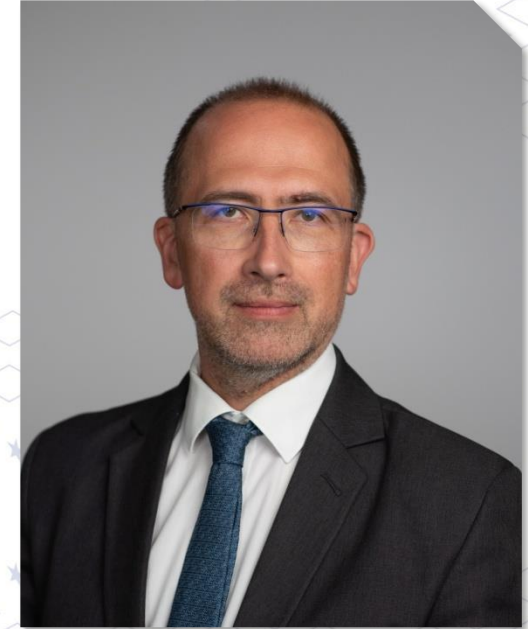
Gábor RÉCZEY  
Chair



Márta JANAKAKISZ



Carlos ALDEREGUÍA



Péter LENGYEL  
Vice chair

**THANK YOU!**

**KÖSZÖNÖM  
SZÉPEN!**



<https://hungarian-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/>





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