



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



General Fisheries
Commission for
the Mediterranean



FEDERATION OF
EUROPEAN
AQUACULTURE
PRODUCERS

Romanian Aquaculture at a glance

Catalin PLATON
ROMFISH

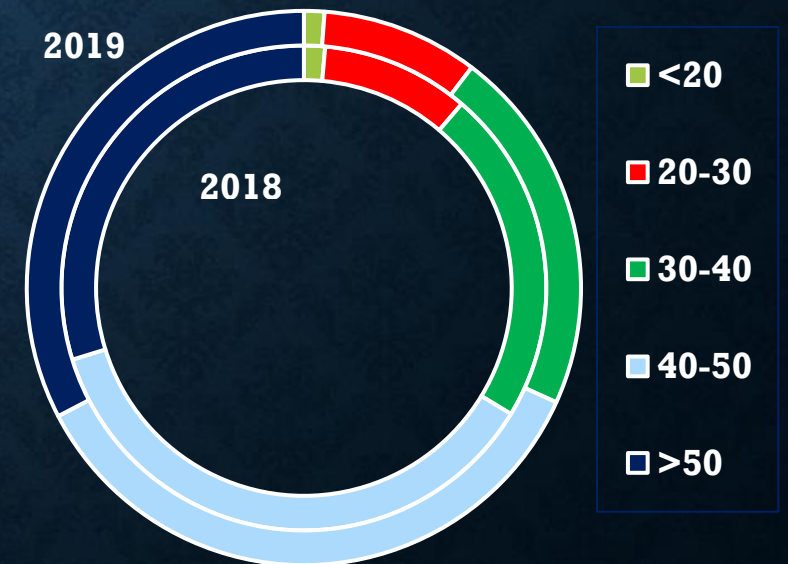
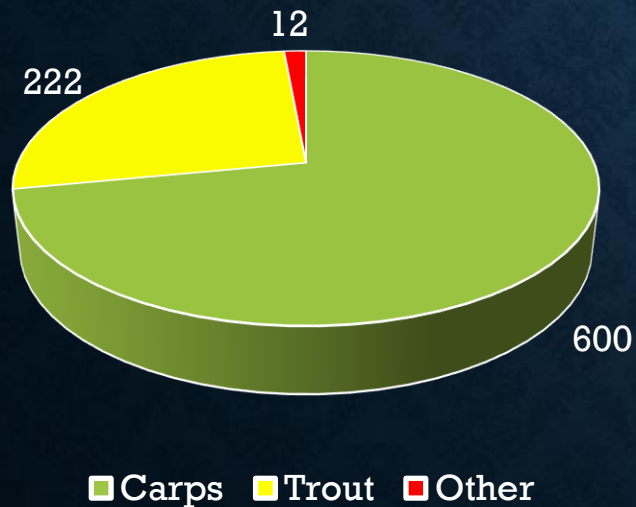
Workshop for Promoting Sustainable Aquaculture Practices in the Mediterranean and Black Sea Regions: the Producers' perspective, 18 January, Rome, Italy

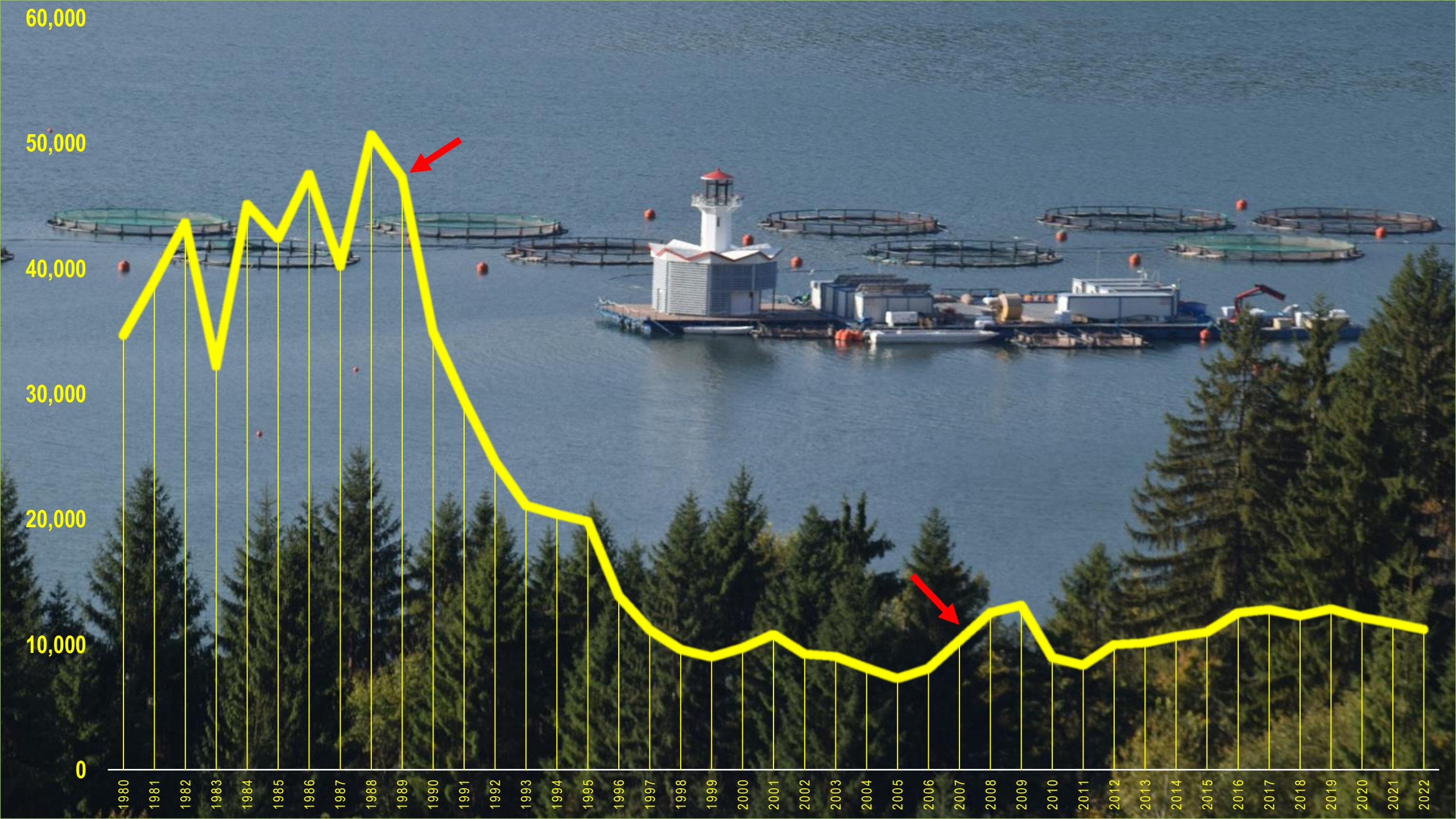




Context

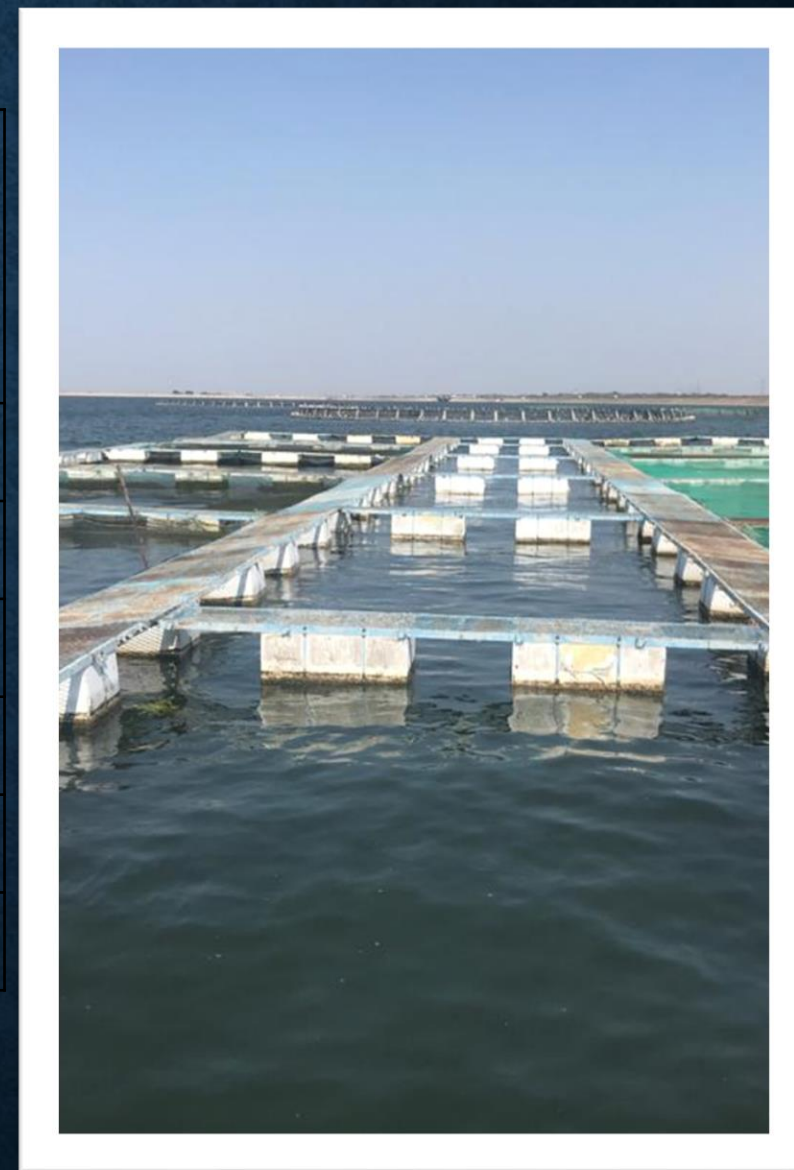
- ✓ 59,000 ha ponds;
- ✓ 41,000 ha dyked enclosures in Danube Delta;
- ✓ 35,000 ha of multiuse dam lakes and reservoirs;
- ✓ 3 Black Sea Aquaculture zones
- ✓ 834 licences
- ✓ 2206 FTE



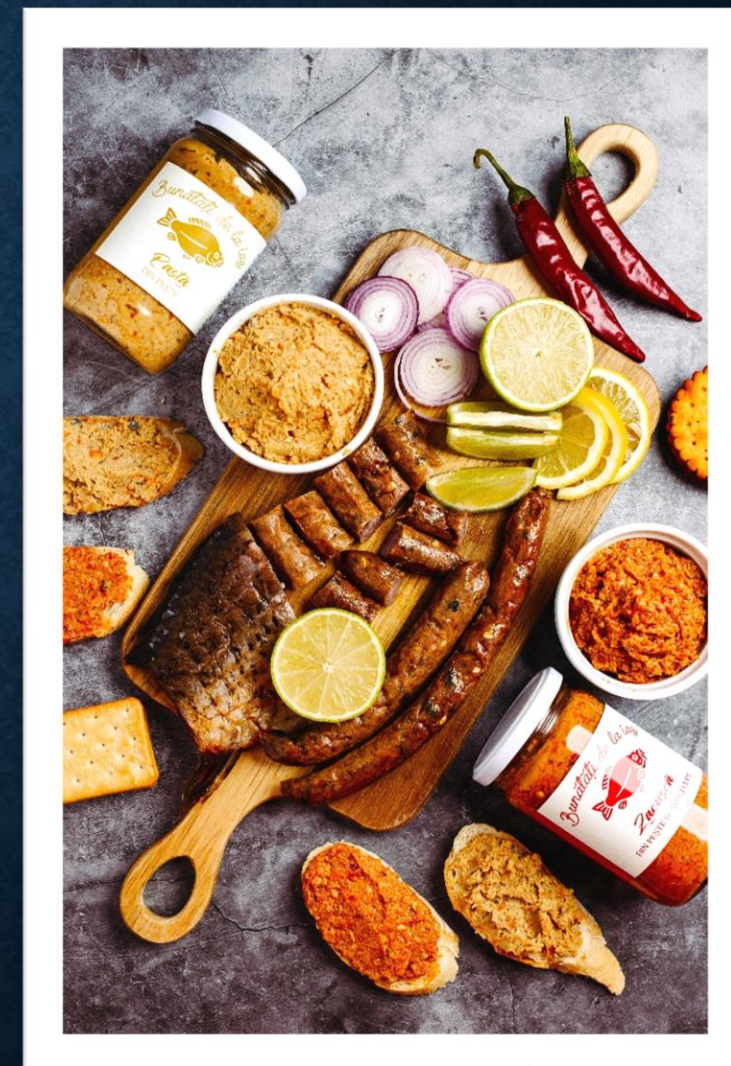
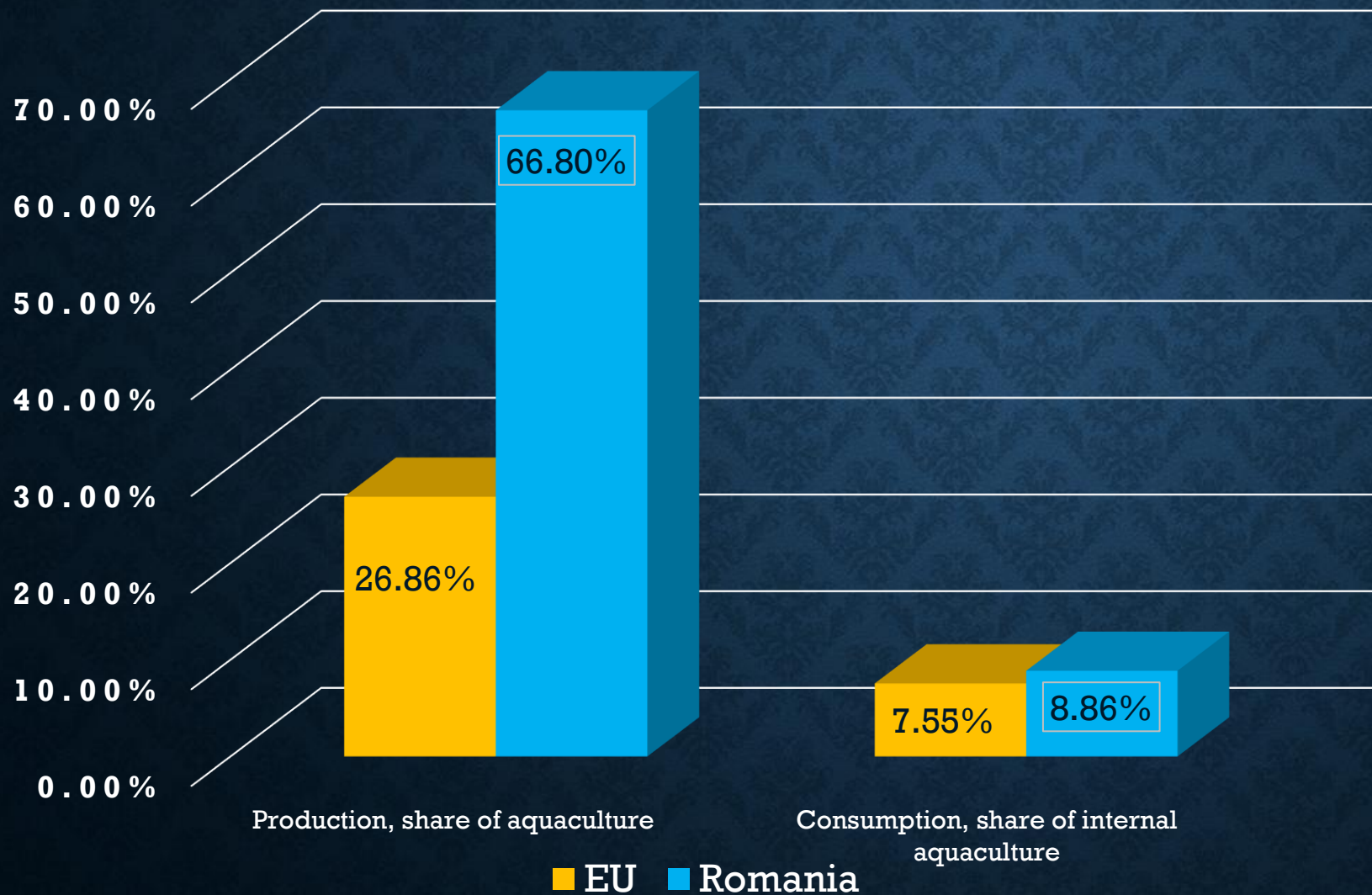


STRUCTURE OF AQUACULTURE ENTERPRISES

Production per year, tonnes	Share of enterprises, %	Share of production, %
<30	79.0%	15.32%
30-100	14.3%	22.55%
100-250	4.1%	23.10%
250-500	1.7%	18.40%
>500	1.0%	20.63%
TOTAL	100%	100%

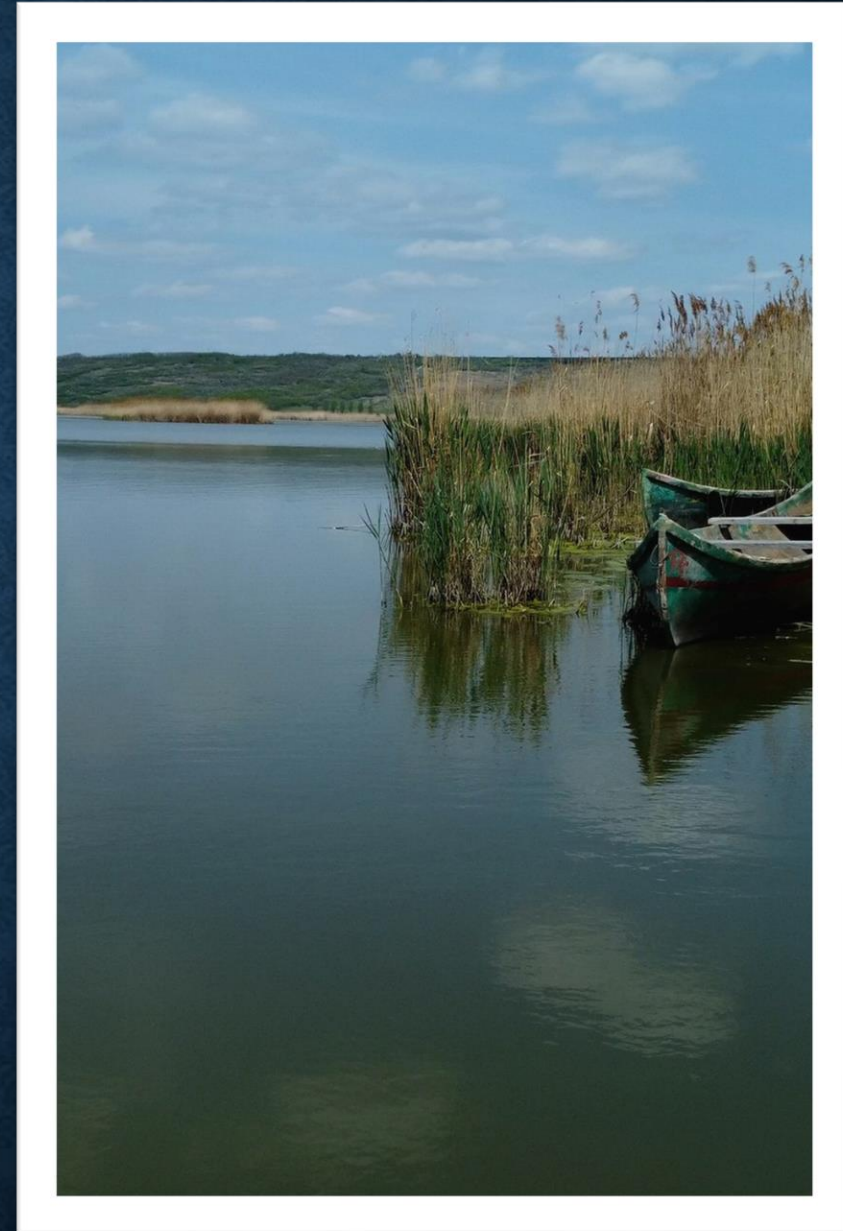


AQUACULTURE SHARE



SUPPORT REASONS

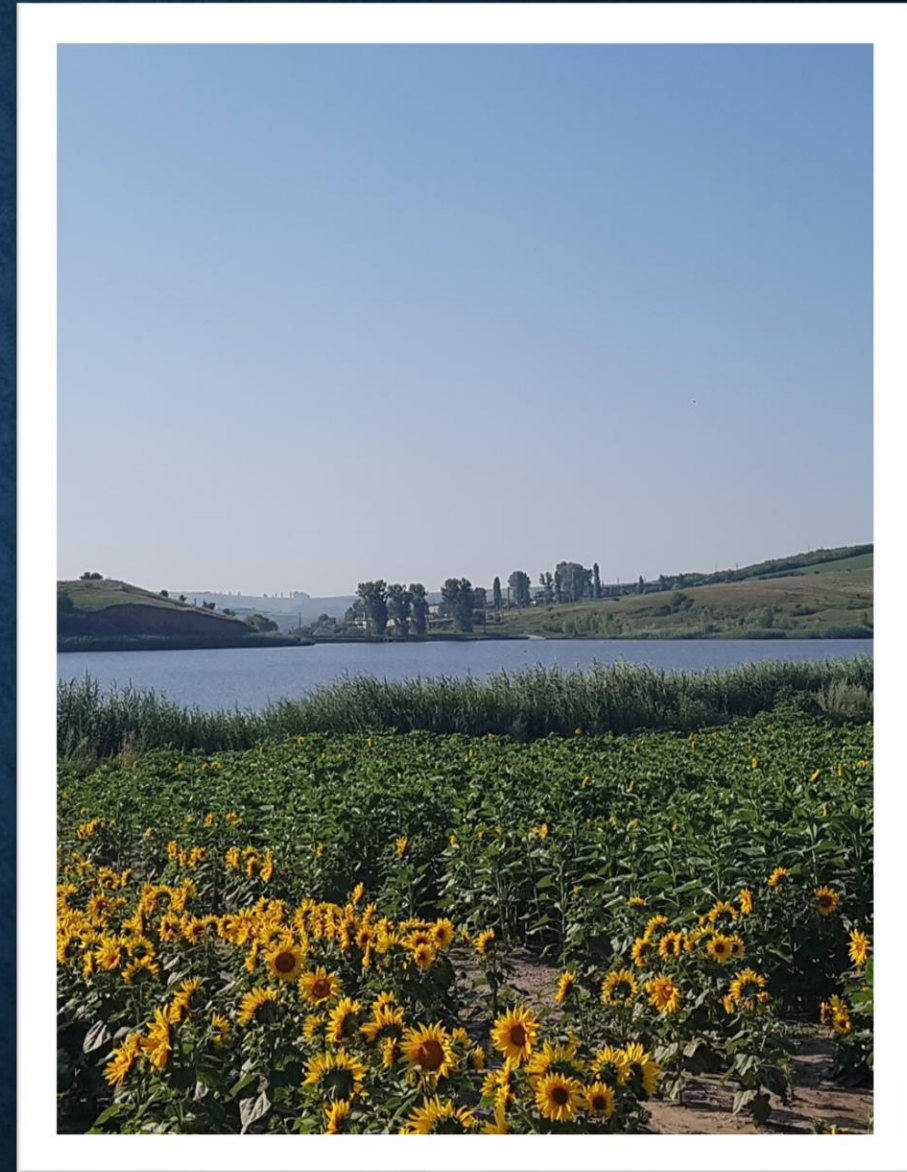
- “support farmers and improve [...] productivity, ensuring a stable supply of affordable food;
 - safeguard European Union farmers to make a reasonable living;
 - help tackle climate change and the sustainable management of natural resources;
 - maintain rural areas and landscapes across the EU;
 - keep the rural economy alive by promoting jobs in farming, agri-food industries and associated sectors.”
-
- ✓ “despite the importance of food production, farmers’ income is around 40% lower compared to non-agricultural income;
 - ✓ agriculture depends more on the weather and the climate than many other sectors;
 - ✓ there is an inevitable time gap between consumer demand and farmers being able to supply”





CHALLENGES

- Lack of knowledge about aquaculture for decision makers;
- Administrative bodies high “Creativity” in legislation interpretation;
- Lack of structured coordination and dialogue between regulators and between regulators and stakeholders;
- Competition among regulators on bureaucratic control and overlapped legislative infrastructure;
- Differential approach in support schemes for agriculture and aquaculture;
- Research is not demand-driven;
- Low investment charm and rapid ageing of the sector.





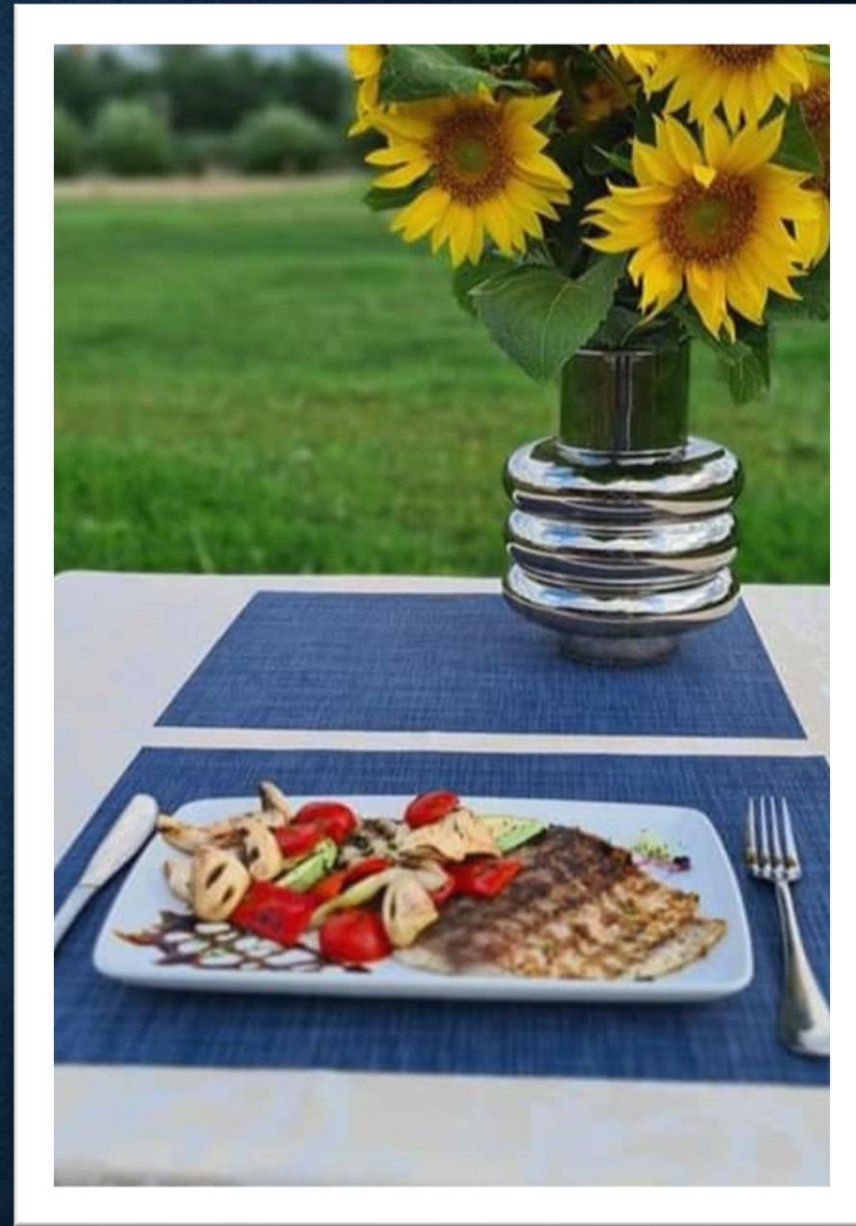
OPPORTUNITIES

- ❖ Positive impact of some forms of aquaculture on sustainability pillars, especially on the environment;
- ❖ Consistent cooperation and exchange of good practices among professional organisations and other stakeholders (AAC, FEAP, EATiP, GFCM);
- ❖ SMEs have a higher adaptative capacity on local markets;
- ❖ Focus on short supply chains;
- ❖ Buds of an “aquaculture Renaissance” seem to blossom.



CONCLUSION

“A ‘culture of aquaculture’ needs to be built on historical foundations so that informed politicians, investors, and communities can make better decisions based upon complete information and timelines of this historically important food innovation that has arisen multiple times in antiquity.” (Barry-Costa Pierce)





Thank you for your patience!

References and data sources

- Costa-Pierce, B.A., (2022) The Anthropology of Aquaculture. *Front. Sustain. Food Syst.* 6:843743. doi:10.3389/fsufs.2022.843743
- European Commission, Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, The EU fish market – 2023 edition, Publications Office of the European Union, 2023 https://eumofa.eu/documents/20124/35668/EFM2023_EN.pdf/95612366-79d2-a4d1-218b-8089c8e7508c?t=1699541180521;
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - Romanian Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture for the years 2021 to 2030, <https://www.anpa.ro/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/PSNMA-2021-2030-versiunea-a-doua.pdf>;
- Romanian National Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture – Data collection framework;
- EUROSTAT
- ROMFISH database