



FEDERATION OF  
EUROPEAN  
AQUACULTURE  
PRODUCERS



ANNUAL  
REPORT

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2024



FEDERATION OF  
EUROPEAN  
AQUACULTURE  
PRODUCERS



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FEAP  
in 2024



# Foreword by the FEAP President

**Mrs Lara Barazi-Geroulanou**

As we reflect on another transformative year for our sector, it becomes clear that resilience and innovation continue to define European aquaculture. Throughout 2023, we witnessed substantial progress in sustainability, digital innovation, and market adaptation amid economic and political challenges. This year's Annual Report offers a holistic view of these developments, underlining the dedication and adaptability of all stakeholders within our community.

The EU aquaculture sector has weathered a number of crises in the last few years, most notably the inflationary and supply disruptions resulting from the pandemic and the war in Ukraine. These events highlighted the vital importance of ensuring food security and self-sufficiency in the EU.

The European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service indicates with near certainty that this year will set a new record as the warmest ever and the first to surpass 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. These record-breaking temperatures have been accompanied by a series of extreme weather events worldwide, including heatwaves, floods, and droughts, underscoring the escalating impact of climate change on our ecosystems and human societies.

In 2024, it's clear that responding to climate change is of primary importance as it is perhaps the clearest threat to our sector and ensuring Europe's food self-sufficiency. Both are pressing issues that demand action, vision, and innovation from our industry. The worsening impacts of climate change call for resilience, adaptability, and a renewed focus on sustainable practices across European aquaculture. It also requires a renewed emphasis on close cooperation between the sector and the scientific community to provide robust and actionable responses to a rapidly changing environment. At the same time, recent geopolitical developments and the potential for tariffs and trade wars highlight the urgent need for Europe to build a secure, self-reliant food system, especially in seafood production.

Addressing climate change requires both commitment and creativity from our community. FEAP members have embraced sustainable practices, advancing technology integration and collaborative efforts to overcome shared obstacles. Our members are committed to reducing the sector's environmental footprint while producing high-quality, responsibly farmed seafood that is resilient and adaptive to the changing climate.

Equally important, we must secure Europe's food independence. The FEAP has advocated for sustainable intensification to expand Europe's aquaculture capacity, stressing the need to move beyond restrictive EU policies that limit finfish production. These policies currently hold back our sector's growth and threaten our self-sufficiency in aquatic products, now at only 35%. As emphasized in our October workshop with the Hungarian Presidency, strategic policy shifts that promote innovation in finfish farming are vital. A thriving, self-sufficient aquaculture sector is essential for meeting Europe's dietary needs and maintaining a stable food supply for our communities.



Paul Birger Torgnes

The establishment of the European Strategic Seafood Alliance comprised of AIPCE CEP, EAPO, EUROPECHE, and FEAP at the Seafood Expo Global in Barcelona brought together key industry players to advance shared goals. This alliance aims to unify the EU fisheries and aquaculture industries around common goals, emphasizing seafood's value as a low-carbon, nutritious protein source that supports both human health and environmental sustainability. Through this collaborative initiative, the alliance seeks to bring greater visibility to these benefits in EU and global policy discussions, advocating for seafood to be prioritized alongside agriculture in EU food security strategies.



In 2024, we also celebrated our commitment to a diverse and inclusive future for aquaculture by expanding initiatives to encourage young farmers and women in the sector. These efforts are crucial for the long-term sustainability and innovation of our industry, and we have seen inspiring participation and growth among these groups. Their unique perspectives and energy are helping drive our industry forward, fostering resilience and adaptability in ways that strengthen our future.

At our Annual General Meeting in Istanbul, we presented the 2024 FEAP Award for Excellence in European Aquaculture to Paul Birger Torgnes, a pioneer whose dedication to aquaculture spans over four decades. From salmon farming in Norway to extensive international activities, including work with seabass and seabream in Turkey, Paul's impact on the sector is profound. His leadership roles in the Norwegian Seafood Federation, the International Salmon Farmers Association, and FEAP have shaped and strengthened aquaculture both in Europe and globally. His tireless efforts to secure and promote aquaculture interests underscore his invaluable contributions to our industry.

Looking forward, our priorities remain clear: bolstering Europe's self-sufficiency, adapting to climate impacts, fostering inclusivity in aquaculture, and ensuring long-term resilience and economic vitality in our industry. With unity and dedication, we are poised to drive European aquaculture forward, setting global standards for a prosperous and sustainable future.



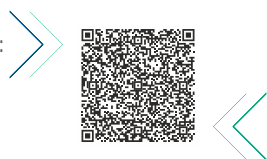
FEAP Award from left to right:  
Lara Barazi, Paul Birger Torgnes and Marco Gilmozzi

# Update on EU Leadership and Aquaculture Priorities



In the European Commission and European Parliament, as of late 2024, new leadership teams are set to shape the direction of EU aquaculture and fisheries policy in the years ahead. EU citizens elect a new European Parliament every five years, and the Parliament must approve the new Commission President, proposed by the European Council. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen was re-elected for a second mandate. Shortly after her re-election, she presented her Political Guidelines for the next European Commission (2024-2029) to the European Parliament. On 17 September, the President presented a list of Commissioners-designate and their portfolios, reflecting the ambitions set out in the Political Guidelines for the next mandate of the European Commission.

New portfolios are available here:



Costas Kadis during the confirmation hearing 2024  
© European Union, 2024 - Source: EP

**Costas Kadis**, formerly Cyprus's Minister of Agriculture, will serve as the European Commissioner for Fisheries and Oceans. Kadis has outlined his commitment to enhancing the sustainability, resilience, and competitiveness of EU aquaculture. His focus areas include simplifying regulations, advancing sustainable algae production, supporting marine innovation, and expanding consumer access to clear, reliable labelling on aquaculture products.



FEAP Team meeting MEP Carmen Crespo Diaz Oct2024

In the European Parliament, the Committee on Fisheries (PECH) is now chaired by **Carmen Crespo Díaz** (EPP, Spain), with a leadership team that includes Vice-Chairs Sander Smit (EPP, Netherlands), Giuseppe Milazzo (ECR, Italy), Stéphanie Yon-Courtin (Renew, France), and Jessica Polfjård (EPP, Sweden). This committee of 28 members, representing EU countries such as Italy, France, and Germany, has set priorities aligned with sustainable marine ecosystem management, climate adaptation, and the support of coastal economies through the blue economy.

Looking forward, both the European Commission and the EP Fisheries Committee will prioritize initiatives that support aquaculture's role in EU food sovereignty. The Commission's mid-term review of the Strategic Guidelines on Aquaculture, scheduled for 2025, will assess progress and outline any additional measures needed to advance sustainable practices. Currently, the Commission and the member states are supported by the aquaculture assistance mechanism in the implementation of the aquaculture strategic guidelines.

Kadis has also emphasized the importance of the European Oceans Pact, which will serve as a comprehensive framework for aligning ocean-related policies to support both marine health and industry innovation.

With this collaborative focus on regulatory reform, scientific research, and consumer engagement, the EU is set to lead in sustainable aquaculture practices that bolster both ecological and economic resilience across the region.



# More on FEAP activities

**FEAP calls for strategic change in European aquaculture to contribute to EU aquatic food self-sufficiency**

The Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in collaboration with the Hungarian Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (HUNATiP), hosted a workshop on the future of aquaculture on October 14 in Brussels at the Permanent Representation of Hungary to the European Union. At this event, **Javier Ojeda**, Secretary General of FEAP, delivered a presentation highlighting the key differences between the aquaculture policies of the European Commission and those of international organisations, such as the FAO (United Nations).

Read our statement:

[https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/df7693e5-834b-49e1-bf36-6a543ddfd16\\_en?filename=Poster%20of%20Commissioners%202024%202029.pdf](https://commission.europa.eu/document/download/df7693e5-834b-49e1-bf36-6a543ddfd16_en?filename=Poster%20of%20Commissioners%202024%202029.pdf)

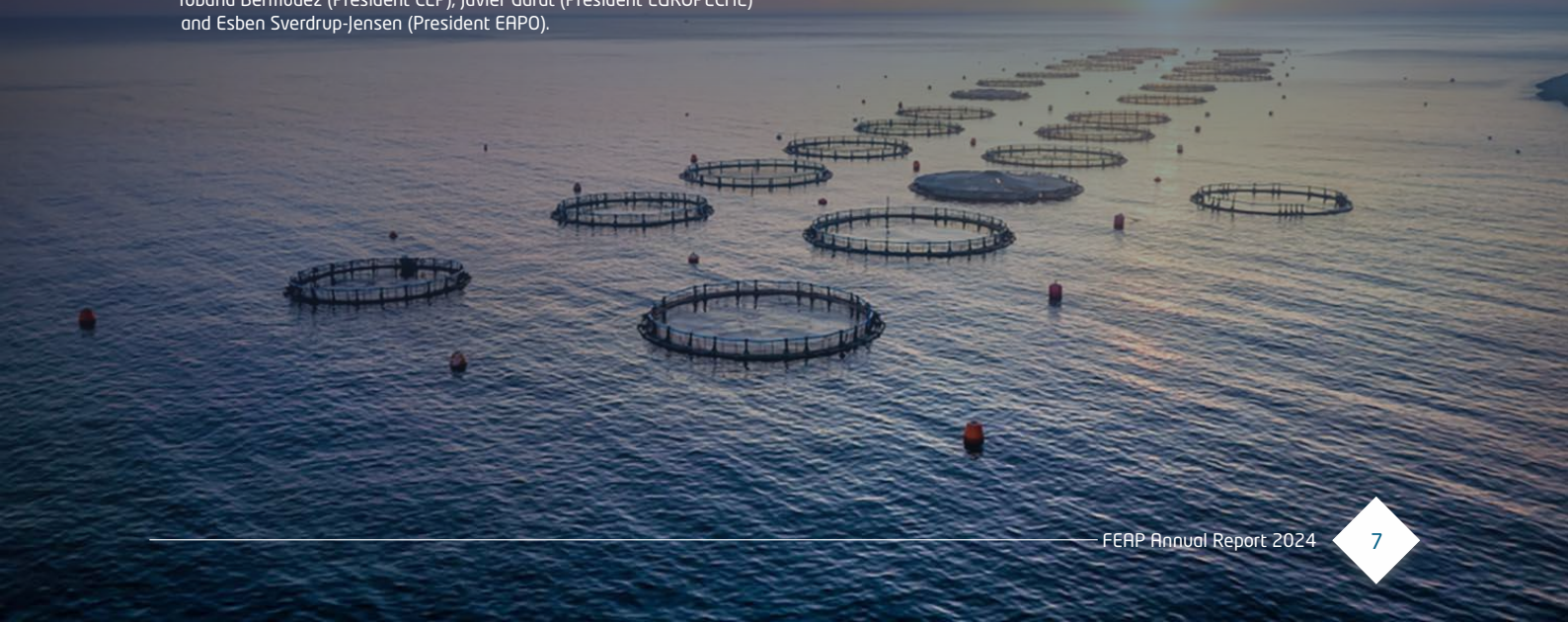


Javier Ojeda, FEAP General Secretary



Gus Pastoor (President AIPCE), Lara Barazi (FEAP), Yobana Bermudez (President CEP), Javier Garat (President EUROPECHE) and Esben Sverdrup-Jensen (President EAPO).

AIPCE CEP, EAPO, EUROPECHE, and FEAP, representing the EU fisheries and aquaculture industries, announced at the Seafood Expo Global in Barcelona 2024 their intent to form a strategic alliance aimed at advancing shared goals and promoting critical industry priorities on a broader stage.



## How the European Feed Manufacturers' Federation sees the next steps in the fishfeed sector?

### Interview with **Alexander Döring** FEFAC Secretary General

#### **How relevant is fish feed environmental sustainability for achieving the environmental sustainability of farmed fish?**

There is no discussion that, like for land-based animal species, fish feeding represents a large part of the environmental impact of fish production. Environmental challenges for fish feed manufacturers concern both the impact on the environment from the production of feed materials and the impact of feed following its digestion. Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) based science has determined clearly that the majority share of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions related to animal production lies with how feed materials are cultivated and what their origin is. One of the most important environmental challenges for fish feed is the risk of halieutic resource depletion linked to the feeding of fish with fish meal and fish oil produced from wild fish. With the huge development of aquaculture worldwide, the need to secure sustainable management of marine fish has become critical and sustainability schemes have been developed during the last decades to secure that fishmeal/fish oil from wild fish used in the EU nowadays is from sustainably managed stocks. More needs to be done also to substitute wild fish-based ingredients with other ingredients, be they from terrestrial animal origin, plant-based or marine origin, at lower trophic levels.

On the feed digestion side, a big challenge is to improve feed efficiency and reduce emissions of nitrogen, phosphorus and other nutrients like trace elements. An additional challenge that makes clearly the work of fish feed manufacturers more complicated than of their colleagues from land animals is the need to minimize feed wastage since any surplus of feed not consumed by fish can deposit in sediments. Fish feed manufacturers are fully aware of their responsibility on the road to increased aquaculture systems sustainability and are confident in their capacity to succeed through innovation.

#### **What are FEFAC's current workstreams on fish feed sustainability?**

FEFAC's action plan on sustainability lies in 3 key areas: measuring, improving, and communicating. Measuring is the prerequisite to any improvement. This is why FEFAC invested in the development of an LCA-based method for the evaluation of the environmental impact of feed production, the outcome being Product Environmental Footprint Sector Rules, endorsed by EU authorities. We have also invested, together with other European organisations of the feed chain as well as third country organisations in the development of a database to facilitate access of feed companies to data and thereby encouraging them to apply the method to evaluate their own baseline, identify areas for improvement and also being able to communicate on verified data. This is the third pillar which FEFAC has invested in, with guidelines on green feed labelling, which hopefully will be endorsed by the EU Commission by the end of 2024.

#### **What are the expected developments in terms of access to new feed resources and technologies that can contribute to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050?**

Clearly the buzzword and key business driver nowadays is circularity. The feed industry is asked to position itself as a contributor to more sustainable food systems, not only in reducing its use of resources that may be used in food but also in using side streams of the food industry and renewable energy sector that would otherwise end up as waste. The latter is not a new area for fish feed manufacturers, who have a long tradition of valorising co-products from the food and biofuels industries. Fish feed companies are permanently looking for untapped or underused side streams of other industries, just to name the increased usage of fish trimmings. New resources not yet used as food or feed may also be found in the oceans, with increased use of starfish, polychaetes, etc.

In 2023, FEFAC issued a publication on “Advanced animal feeding strategies for more sustainable and circular livestock & aquaculture production” where we provide examples of new resources and also new technologies in particular for the optimised distribution of feed. Our companies are also mindful of the importance of the need to reduce dependency on fossil energy and the recent energy crisis provided them with a reason if there would still be the need for any to seek optimisation of energy efficiency and use of renewable energy sources. FEFAC is also at the origin of another initiative, the so-called Circular Feed Platform, whose objective is to map existing limitations to the use of certain materials, in particular legal prohibitions and propose a roadmap to reconsider whether such restrictions which were decided more than 20 years ago for some such as the use of phosphorous recovered from urban waste waters, are still justified. We intend together with other organisations of the feed chain such as EFFOP, to come up with a report on these initiatives in 2025. Of course, the bottom line is that feed safety should by no means be compromised.

### **How do you value the collaboration between farmer’s organisations and feed manufacturer’s organisations?**

We had opportunities over the recent years to strengthen our cooperation with FEAP, either directly or via the EU Aquaculture Advisory Council. We are in particular grateful to Javier Ojeda for his contribution to the debates within the FEFAC Fish Feed Committee on topics of primary importance to support the development of aquaculture in Europe. It is indeed a pity that, although aquaculture was identified by the EU Commission as a sector deserving support for its development and contribution to food security, we have only seen limited expansion of farmed fish production in Europe, not because of a lack of demand but because of the many restrictions that the sector faces at EU and Member State level. If there would be only one example to give, it would be the conditions of authorisation of feed additives: it is not sufficient anymore to perform safety assessment for ruminants, pigs and poultry to obtain authorisation of an additive for all species: it is now necessary to perform additional studies for fish safety, which is likely to discourage certain feed additives companies to seek authorisation for all species, and therefore focus only on species with big market volumes. Likewise, the strengthening of the requirements regarding environmental risk assessment is penalising the aquaculture sector. FEFAC and FEAP have joint forces to alert the EU Commission on this and we hope they take on board our concerns for farmed fish when revising the feed additives legislation, which is scheduled in 2025.

### **How can we improve the social acceptance of farmed fish through better communication with society about what fish are fed?**

There is clearly a deficit of public knowledge in the public on fish farming in general, including how farmed fish are fed. However, the baseline remains good compared to livestock farming, in the sense that fish is valued higher in terms of contribution to healthy diets than meat. This means the nature of the communication is different and should consist mostly in addressing myths regarding e.g. the reliance of EU fish farming on wild fish, the safety of ingredients of marine origin (PFAS, etc.). Again, such communication needs to remain fact-based and this means providing access to data. There is ongoing work by DG MARE for the identification of key environmental performance indicators, which is at this stage focusing on the farming stage. We believe there is a case to extend to feed sourcing to help develop useful indicators focussing on the environment footprint of fishfeed production (based on the PEFCR feed).

**Alexander Döring graduated as an Agricultural Economist at the University of Bonn (1991). He is Secretary General of FEFAC for over 30 years, being appointed in 1994. In his working experience as FEFAC Secretary General, he has been a regular participant in European Commission Advisory & Civil Society Dialogue Groups, EFSA stakeholder platforms meetings, EC seminars & training workshops on Feed Hygiene, EU- TAIEX workshops on Feed Safety management as well as meetings of international Organisations including Codex Alimentarius, FAO, OIE and IFIF.**





In 2023, FEAP has started innovating with new communication and networking actions, designed to bring inspiring ideas and solutions to its members, from National organisation to fish farming companies.

In 2024, FEAP continued its series of online SMART CHATS, covering in March 2024 (#5) the Value Chains and in October 2024 (#6) the impacts of Climate Change on aquatic food production.

The SMART CHATS are dedicated to FEAP members, their members and interested stakeholders which can be invited by FEAP members. They provide practical solutions, paths for adaptation and tools for producers.



The fifth FEAP smart chat entitled **“Increasing social acceptance by enhancing collaboration with the value chain”** was presented and animated by the expert Ignacio Gavilan, who shared his experience working with the Consumers Goods Forum, dealing with NGO negotiations in the field of forestry, agriculture and farming. We discussed our mutual perceptions of the problems facing fish farmers and where they can apply better control to restore trust and confidence in the market

For our sixth smart chat, we benefited from the knowledge of two researchers and aquaculture experts, Rita Lecci, Oceanographer at the CMCC Foundation - The Euro-Mediterranean Center for Climate Change, and Elisabeth Ytteborg, researcher at NOFIMA. In this edition we addressed in priority the entry points of **climate observation systems, existing forecast tools for producers and collective action for adaptation.**

## QUOTES

**“We have a bright future”** (Ignacio Gavilan)

**“Climate change is impacting aquaculture, but you can adapt and mitigate these effects with practical strategies using monitoring tools and early warning systems”**  
(Rita Lecci)

In order to share the knowledge and advice provided by our smart chat experts, you can find all replays on the FEAP website at this address

<https://feap.info/index.php/smart-chats/>



# The French Aquaculture Federation (FFA) Celebrates its 100th Anniversary

On October 17th and 18th, 2024, the French Aquaculture Federation (FFA) celebrated its 100th anniversary in Bordeaux, France.



## A story of hard work, deep commitment and innovation to create a better future together

Founded in 1924, the FFA has since been dedicated to the development of aquaculture in France, playing a key role in structuring and representing the sector at national level, and ensuring its sustainable growth. The Federation's efforts in supporting technological innovation, improving environmental practices, and influencing policy have been essential to the sector's success and were celebrated at this occasion. The event was very rich and offered multiple flashbacks, analyses and reflections by representatives of several generations of fish farmers, on how past challenges, solutions and solidarity amongst producers have strengthened the sector, and provide keys to keep strengthening it for a 100 more years.

In addition to aquaculture producers, the event also gathered, researchers, public authorities, communication experts, offering a platform to discuss future challenges and opportunities for the industry.

## A Strong Partnership within the FEAP

As a longstanding member of the Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP), the FFA's contribution to European aquaculture is indisputable.

We congratulate our French colleagues for organizing this remarkable event and for their ongoing commitment to the future of European aquaculture.



# FEAP MEMBER ASSOCIATION: TÜRKİYE



## Turkish Seafood: A Rising Star in the Global Market

Türkiye is graced with prodigious coastlines totaling 8,592 km along the Aegean, Mediterranean, Marmara, and Black Seas, not to mention its inland lakes and rivers. With 2,130 producers contributing to the industry, Turkish cuisine and food culture prominently feature fish and seafood. Whether enjoyed in seaside taverns or at family gatherings, the reverence for fish and seafood reflects not only Türkiye's maritime heritage but also its commitment to vibrant and flavorful cuisine.

Our Seas are home to a wide range of fish species and among the largest seafood suppliers in the world. Sea Bream, Sea Bass, Turkish Salmon, Trout and Bluefin Tuna lead the country's aquaculture export market. Türkiye is also a world leader as an exporter of Seabass and Seabream commodities. Several fish species are highly regarded and prized in the Aegean region due to their taste, texture, and culinary versatility. Luxury gourmet items such as sand mussels, clams, shrimp, octopus, frog legs, blue crabs, and escargot also attract global attention.

In the last 20-25 years, Turkish entrepreneurs brought the world's most modern and integrated facilities in the aquaculture sector to our country. We have reached the position of exporting our protein-rich water products produced in these facilities to more than 100 countries. This success has made us a country that exports more than 1.7 billion dollars worth of seafood within 5 years, with an increasing momentum each year.

### Priorities of Türkiye's Fishery Sector:

- **Diverse Species, Diverse Products:** Türkiye offers a wide variety of fish species available year-round and accessible in all forms demanded by consumers, including fresh, chilled, frozen (whole or fillet), and smoked products.
- **Modern Infrastructure:** Significant investments in modern fishing vessels, processing plants, and cold storage facilities ensure the high quality and sustainability of Türkiye's seafood industry.
- **Quality and Freshness:** Turkish seafood is renowned for its exceptional quality and freshness, thanks to its proximity to fishing grounds and the use of high-tech processing facilities.
- **Sustainable Practices:** Türkiye is dedicated to sustainable fishing practices, ensuring the protection of its marine resources for future generations.

### Turkish Aqua And Animal Products Exporters' Associations

To promote this exceptional richness and present it to the world under one roof, the Turkish Aqua And Animal Products Exporters' Associations have been continuously active since 1940. The Association is acting under the auspices of Turkish Ministry of Trade and plays a critical role as a bridge between the sector and the governmental bodies, institutions and other stakeholders. With over 350 seafood exporter member companies, the Association contributes significant added value to the sector and to our country.

Our associations focus on the following:

- **Making a Difference Through Promotional Activities:** We participate in international exhibitions, organize tasting events, and leverage digital marketing through our social media channels and promotional films, which are showcased across various platforms.
- **Building Stronger Ties and Increasing Awareness:** We collaborate with prestigious institutions and universities, join major industry organizations, and work to have a stronger voice in the sector.
- **Serving as a Bridge Between Members and the Global Market:** Through networking and educational activities, we highlight our members' achievements, support their development, and ensure they meet international standards. We achieve this through initiatives such as trade delegations, clustering projects (Turkish seafood and animal products), B2B events, and providing training and consultancy services to our members.



# FEAP NextGen: our investment into European fish farming future



In 2024, FEAP has initiated a series of preliminary actions, meetings, exchanges and brainstorms with its members and rising stars of European aquaculture: the Young Aquaculture Professionals Networks. FEAP believes that the young professionals working in different sectors of the industry, from production to sales, veterinary, innovation and management, must be connected, heard and, whenever needed, supported and mentored by FEAP members and their experts.

Grouped under the “FEAP NextGen” operation name, these actions intend to build bridges and exchange opportunities between young professionals across countries and maritime basins, connecting young inland farmers with their coastal counterparts to create a community of knowledge and practice.

Kickstarted in Lisbon during FEAP’s General Assembly in the presence of NOWA (Network of Women in Aquaculture) YAS (Young Aquaculture Society) WiSA (Women in Scottish Aquaculture) and Young Fish Norway, the FEAP NextGen actions will develop in 2025 with a first capacity building dedicated to young professionals of different horizons, communication actions such as the FEAP video series “Fantastic Fish Farmers”, and more cooperation initiatives between FEAP and Young Aquaculture Professionals Networks.

Is your organization interested in sharing knowledge with young fish farming professionals in the form of advice or mentoring? Are you in the early phase of your fish farming career and want to connect with a European network of helpful and motivated professionals? Don’t hesitate and get in touch with us at [communication@feap.info](mailto:communication@feap.info) to talk about it.

## More about the Young Aquaculture Professionals Networks



### The Young Aquaculture Society Let’s Make Waves Together

The Young Aquaculture Society was launched in early 2024, and is a free to join young professional network for the UK’s Aquaculture Ecosystem. Built by early career professionals for early career professionals our goal is to provide a place to network, learn, grow and make friends. So far, we have 240+ members, and a LinkedIn community of over 2000 people.



YAS creates value for its members and the UK’s aquaculture sector through a series of activities. Some are regular such as our weekly posts on LinkedIn, our quarterly Newsletter, or our fun blog posts on the YAS website ([www.youngaquacsociety.com](http://www.youngaquacsociety.com)). More sporadically we create events for our members - for example visits to a fish farm, webinars on specific topics, or we speak at conferences. These opportunities to learn and network are why our volunteers commit their time to support the organization.

Some highlights from our first year include two members of YAS speaking at the GSA’s Responsible Seafood Summit, the leader of the Scottish Labour Party (Anas Sarwar) attending our in-person launch event, and the Marine Directorate (the Scottish Marine Regulator) asking YAS to be a key stakeholder in their upcoming National Marine Plan 2.



How do we achieve all of this? We collaborate with the industry. None of our achievements would have been possible without companies supporting us and trusting us to deliver. A big thank you to those who have been a part of our journey. Similarly, no member of YAS is paid for their contributions - we are all volunteers. It takes real time to achieve the results we have, so a big thank you to our committed members.

Want to know more? Reach out. Talking about aquaculture is our passion... after all there is a whole ocean of opportunities out there!

[young.aqua.soc@gmail.com](mailto:young.aqua.soc@gmail.com)

2-



## The Network of Women in Aquaculture

Social entrepreneurship initiative dedicated to promoting gender equality and inclusivity across the global aquaculture industry

The journey of NOWA began in Athens in June 2023, during the "Empowering Women Towards Sustainable Aquaculture Development" program, where a group of young female professionals united to create the NOWA Network of Women in Aquaculture. Driven by a belief in the untapped potential of women in aquaculture, NOWA aims to promote gender equality, sustainability, and ocean preservation through advocacy, awareness, and skills development.



As of December 2023, NOWA has over 1,100 LinkedIn followers and has launched its official website. The network has gained recognition, winning 2nd place in the EU-COPEXUS Innovation Contest (June 2024) and 3rd prize in the CIHEAM Youth Innovation Contest (November 2024). NOWA also became a legal entity based in France and was featured in UNEP's Women's Waves Campaign.

In 2025, NOWA will launch its membership and begin planning training and resources to support women in aquaculture. The network focuses on empowerment, collaboration, and environmental stewardship, offering a platform for women to connect and contribute to a more inclusive and sustainable aquaculture industry. Join us today to help create lasting change.

[nowaquaculture@gmail.com](mailto:nowaquaculture@gmail.com)



[www.nowaquaculture.org](http://www.nowaquaculture.org)

# Empowering Future Leaders: Young Women Aquaculture Training in Spain



The Third Training Programme for Young Women in Aquaculture in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea took place in Spain from September 8 to 14, 2024. The event, titled “**Aquaculture Gastronomy and Culture Immersion**,” aimed to enhance skills and knowledge among young women in aquaculture while offering cultural experiences.

The transformative training program for young women in aquaculture from countries around the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, was initiated by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM), and organised together with the Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP) and its member, the Spanish Aquaculture Association APROMAR. The initiative brought together aspiring female students, researchers and entrepreneurs from across the Mediterranean region, aiming to enhance their skills and knowledge in sustainable aquaculture practices.

Over the seven-day training, the 12 participants from 11 countries engaged in hands-on workshops, immersive learning experiences, interactive sessions, and expert-led discussions across Spain, covering a range of topics, including sustainable fish farming techniques, environmental management, and entrepreneurial strategies in aquaculture. This program not only focused on technical skills but also emphasized the importance of leadership and empowerment, encouraging young women to take active roles in their communities and the broader aquaculture sector.

The training was a collaborative effort among GFCM, FEAP, APROMAR and local Spanish aquaculture stakeholders, with special emphasis given to gender equality in fisheries and aquaculture. By fostering an inclusive environment, the initiative aimed to break down barriers and promote equal opportunities for women in this traditionally male-dominated field.

As the aquaculture industry continues to grow, the need for diverse perspectives and innovative solutions becomes increasingly critical. Programs like the GFCM Young Women Aquaculture Training are vital in shaping a more sustainable and equitable future for aquaculture, ensuring that young women are equipped to lead the way.

This training not only provided valuable skills but also created a network of empowered women ready to contribute to the advancement of the aquaculture industry. The Federation of European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP) supports these initiatives, recognizing the crucial role of women in driving sustainable practices and innovation within the sector.

### The program offered:

- Visits to Leading Aquaculture Facilities: Participants toured shrimp, trout, sturgeon, and spirulina farms, in addition to a feed factory and research center, gaining in-depth insights into sustainable practices in seafood production and innovation.
- Interactive Workshops and Cultural Experiences: The agenda featured workshops on aquaculture practices, Mediterranean cooking, communication strategies, and Spanish culture, including a Mediterranean dance session.
- Networking Opportunities: The participants connected with industry leaders, professionals, and local markets, fostering valuable networks for career development.

FEAP remains dedicated to empowering young women in aquaculture, equipping them with skills, confidence, and community connections to drive innovation and leadership in the sector.

FEAP remains dedicated to fostering skills, confidence, and community among young women in aquaculture, empowering them to lead, innovate, and make meaningful contributions to the sector.



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations



General Fisheries  
Commission for  
the Mediterranean



APROMAR  
Asociación Empresarial de Acuicultura de España





Facts  
and **Figures**



# European Aquaculture Production

This section gives information on fish aquaculture in Europe, provided by the FEAP Member Associations or national authorities as confirmed or provisional data. Three key production sectors are highlighted, being:

- Marine coldwater species
- Marine Mediterranean species
- Freshwater species

The **total European production** of fish by aquaculture is estimated to be 2,865,072 tons in 2022, indicating a small decrease of 0.9% in total production when compared to 2021. Marine coldwater species represent 67% of total production, freshwater species 14% and marine Mediterranean 19%.

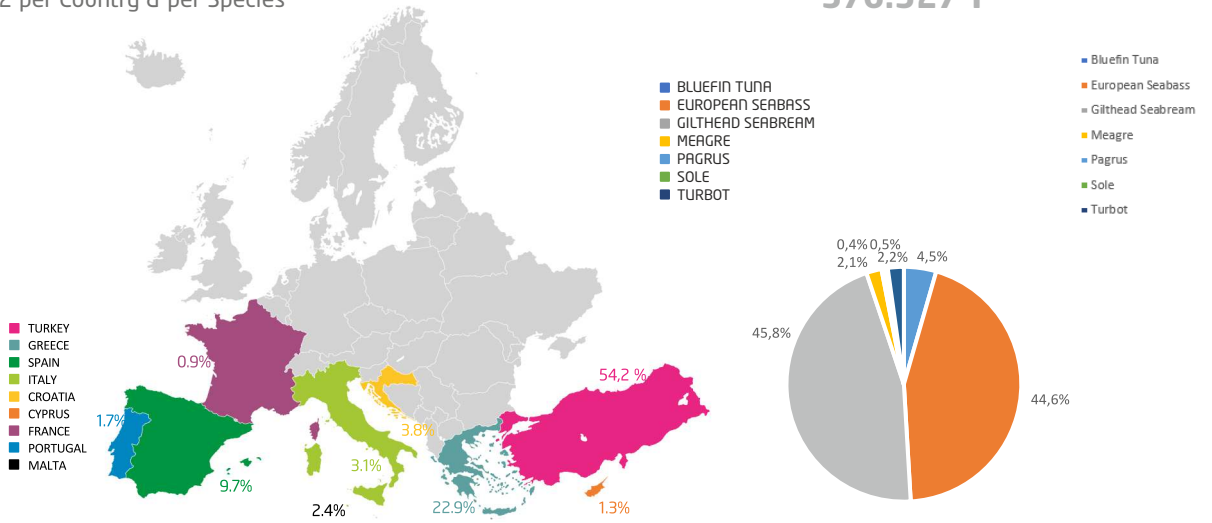
Norway remains the dominant producer in Europe with 58% of the total supply, mainly salmon but also large trout (>1.2 kg) production. The other countries that produce more than 100,000 tons annually are Turkey, United Kingdom and Greece. **The main species produced** are salmon, trout, seabream, seabass and carp which represent together 96% of the total European production in 2022.

The following graphics provide an overview of the key production sectors, analysed by country and by species.

The detailed Production Report for 2022 will be available soon at our web page:  
FEAP PRODUCTION REPORT <https://feap.info/index.php/data/>

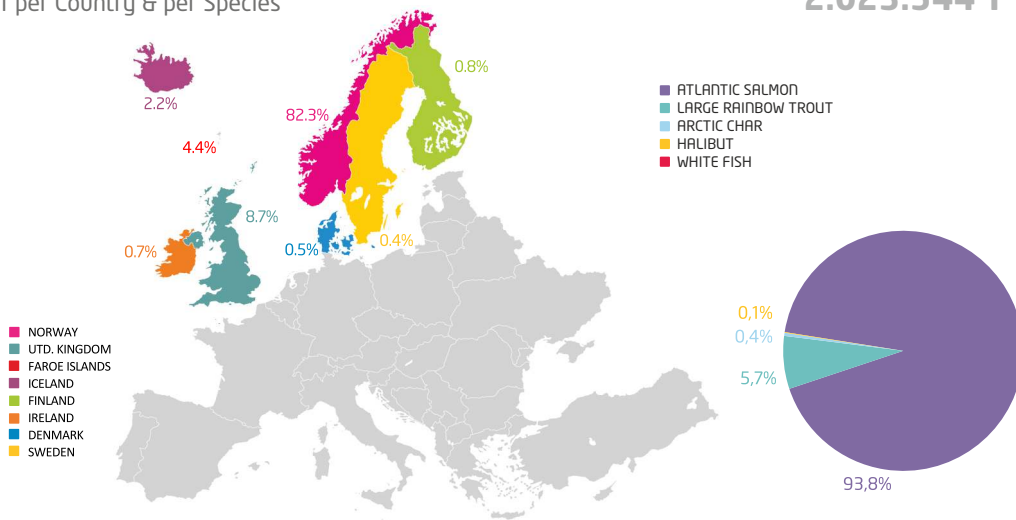
Marine Mediterranean Production  
in 2022 per Country & per Species

576.527 T



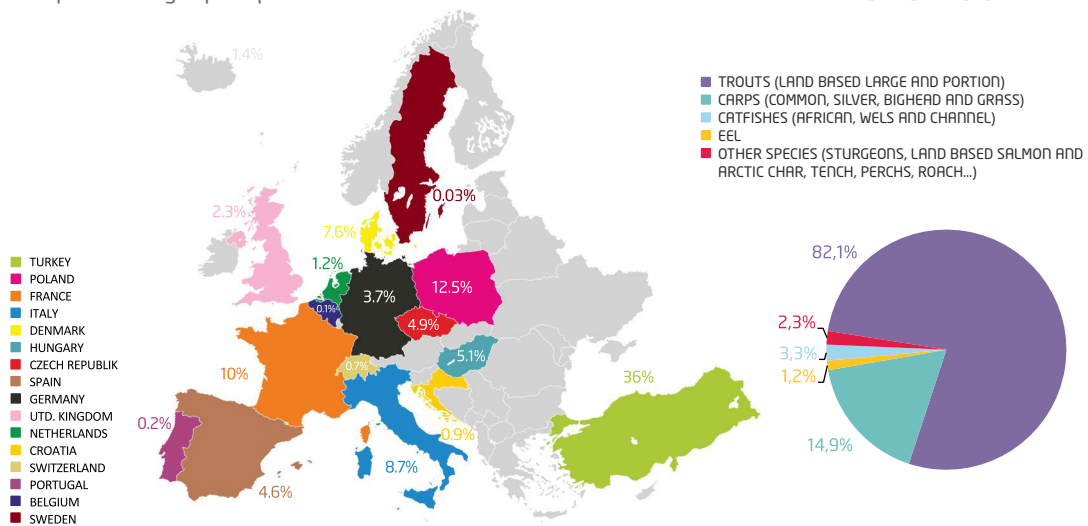
Marine Cold Water Production  
in 2021 per Country & per Species

2.023.544 T



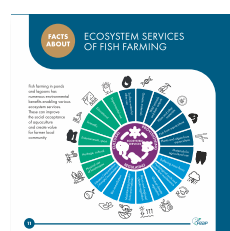
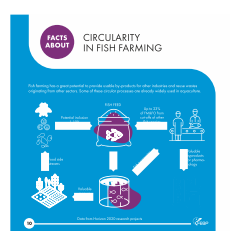
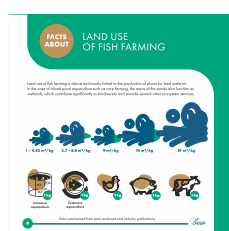
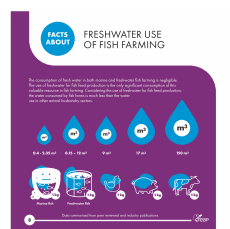
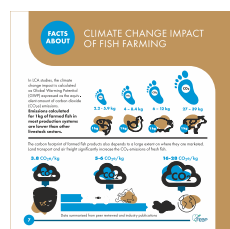
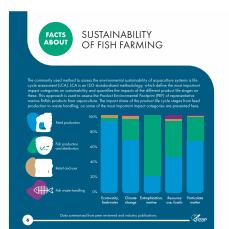
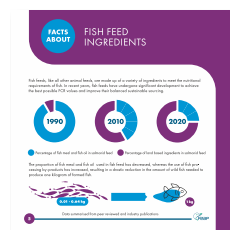
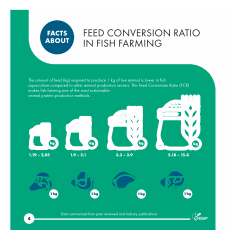
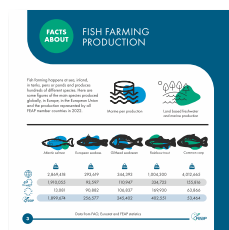
Freshwater Production  
in 2021 per Country & per Species

373.768 T



# Facts about finfish aquaculture

The FEAP new infographics are available on its website, along with the references for the presented data. Check them out now: <https://feap.info/factsaboutfishfarming/>









About  
FEAP





## About FEAP



**FEAP is the united voice of the European aquaculture production industry, being the Federation of National aquaculture associations in Europe that represent professional fish farming.**



With 24 members drawn from 23 countries across the European continent, the FEAP represents:



- 2.5 million tons of produce
- Ex-farm value of over € 8 billion
- >100,000 aquaculture-related jobs in coastal & rural areas



FEAP supports and promotes the responsible development of aquaculture and provides the common positions and opinions of the European aquaculture sector.



Focused on fish farming, FEAP represents a range of different farmed species that include:



- Rainbow trout
- Atlantic salmon
- Carp
- European sea bass
- Catfish
- Bluefin tuna
- European eel
- Gilthead seabream
- Turbot
- Cod
- Sturgeon
- Meagre
- Sole
- Artic char



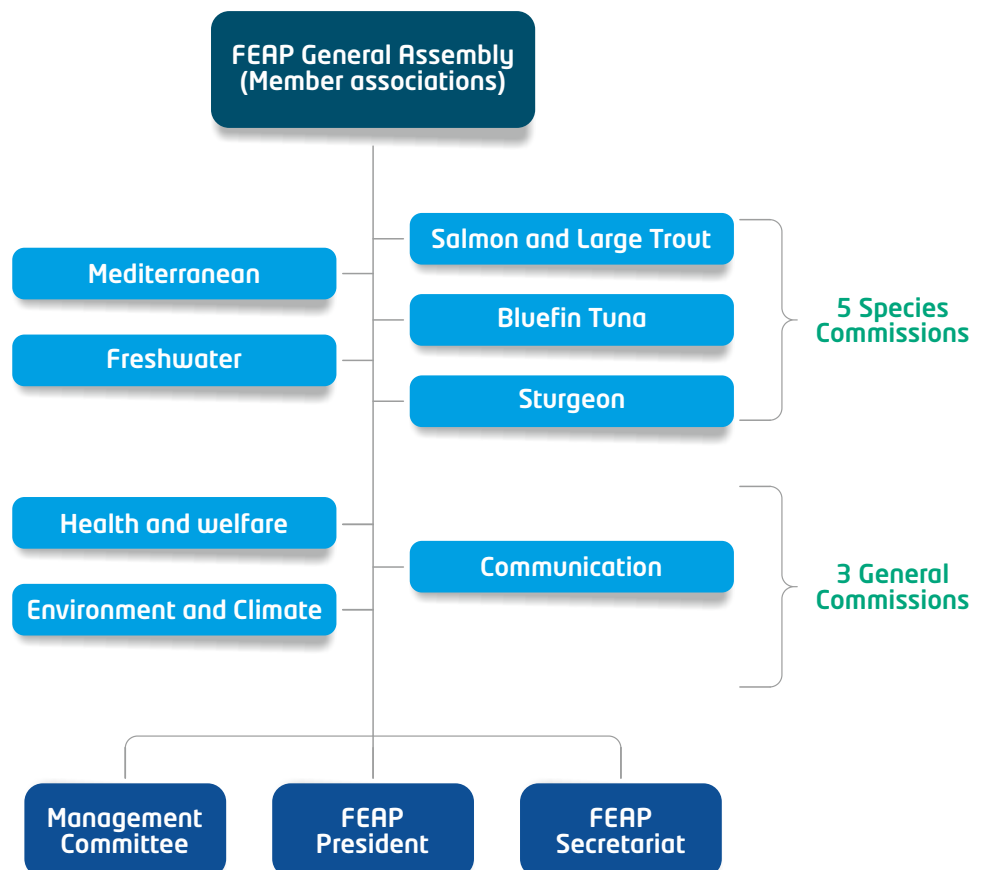
European aquaculture rears many other species, both in fresh and salt water, and details on the levels of production reported can be found in 'Facts & Figures' at [www.feap.info](http://www.feap.info). Additional data on aquaculture is provided by National statistics, the FISHSTAT service of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations ([www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)) and the European Commission's Directorate General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries - DG MARE ([ec.europa.eu](http://ec.europa.eu)), notably through its EUMOFA service ([www.eumofa.eu](http://www.eumofa.eu)).

Founded in 1968, FEAP has responded to the changes and developments in European aquaculture and, in line with society's expectations, provides transparent information on activities and developments in this dynamic sector.

FEAP is run by professionals for professionals, meaning that all of its members are active in European fish farming and are experienced in the issues concerning aquaculture and its sustainable development in Europe.

# FEAP's Mission

- Pursue and improve its coordination role of the aims of its National member associations and the aquaculture profession.
- Assure a pro-active position in front of relevant authorities and interests.
- Provide accurate information and sound rationale to policy and decision makers.
- Guarantee the communication of accurate and unbiased information on aquaculture processes and products to the consumer.
- Guarantee valid, consensual and timely responses to key issues.
- Develop the structure and operations required for the representation of a dynamic and visible sector at European and global levels



# ADVISORY ROLE



# Contact us

## The office holders of FEAP are:

- Lara Barazi, President
- Maialen Berterreche, Vice-President
- Tor Anders Elvegård, Vice-President
- Anna Púç, Vice-President
- Brian Thomsen, Vice-President
- Jordia Trías, Vice-President
- Marco Gilmozzi, Past President

## The FEAP Secretariat:

- Javier Ojeda, General Secretary
- Szilvia Mihalfy, Project Manager
- Catherine Pons, Office Manager



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[feapinfo](https://www.feap.info)

## National Member Associations

- Aquaculteurs de Wallonie asbl (AW)
- Croatian Chamber of Economy Aquaculture Unit (CCE - Aq. Unit)
- Cyprus Mariculture Association (CMA)
- Czech Fish Farmers Association (CFFA)
- Dansk Akvakultur (DA)
- Finnish Fish Farmers' Association (FFFA)
- Fédération Française d'Aquaculture (FFA)
- Verband der Deutschen Binnenfischerei und Aquakultur (VDBA)
- Hellenic Aquaculture Producers Organisation (HAPO)
- Hungarian Aquaculture and Fisheries Inter-branch Organisation (MA-HAL)
- Fisheries Iceland (FIS)
- Irish Salmon Growers Association (ISGA)
- Associazione Piscicoltori Italiani (API)
- Federation of Malta Aquaculture Producers (FMAP)
- Nederlandse Vereniging van viswerkers (NeVeVi)
- Norwegian Seafood Federation (FHL)
- Polish Trout Breeders Association (PTBA)
- Associação Portuguesa de Aquacultores (APA)
- Asociación Empresarial de Acuicultura de España (APROMAR)
- RecirkFisk PO
- Association suisse d'aquaculture (ASA)
- Aegean, Istanbul & Mediterranean Exporters Associations (eib)
- British Trout Association (BTA) and Salmon Scotland



FEDERATION OF  
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