

Impact of EU Funding on Latvian **Aquaculture: Productivity, Competitiveness and Perspectives**

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The performance indicators and targets set for the aquaculture sector as part of Latvia's Fisheries Action Programme 2014-2020 allocation are vague and consequently do not lead to an increase in the number of ponds and basins. From a productivity, environmental and land use point of view, it is positive that the number of recirculation aquaculture systems is on the increase.

An in-depth analysis of the distribution of EMFF funding according and the financial return on investment in the aquaculture sector is needed.

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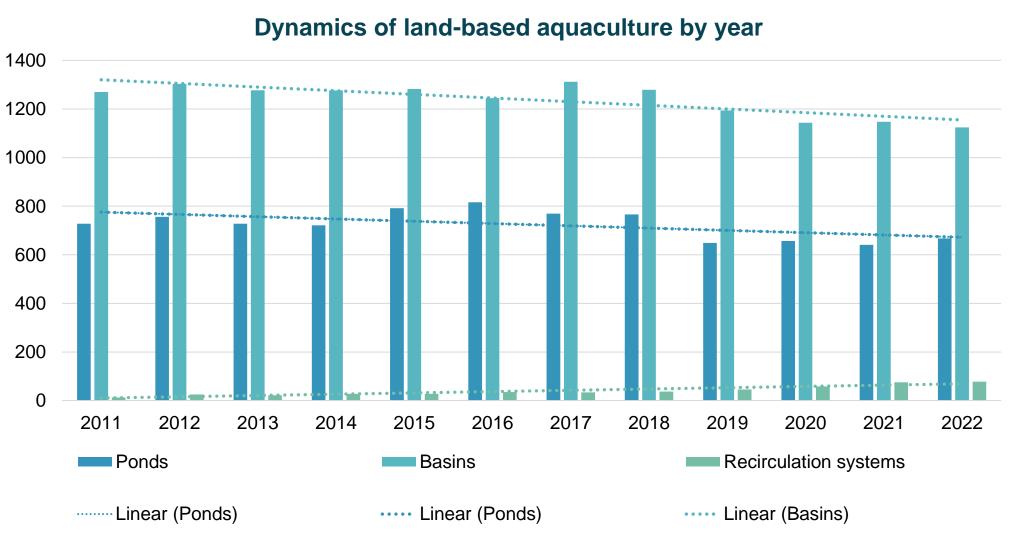
Introduction

The allocation from the EU's European Maritime and Fisheries Fund to Latvia's fisheries and aquaculture sector for 2014-2020 was more than €130 million, distributed in accordance with Latvia's Fisheries Development Action Programme 2014-2020, and a further €135 million is foreseen for the current programming period (2021-2027). The objective of this research was to analyse the results achieved through the allocation of funds and to determine the extent to which the productivity of Latvian aquaculture has increased, as well as its competitiveness and sustainability in domestic and global markets.

Defined priorities

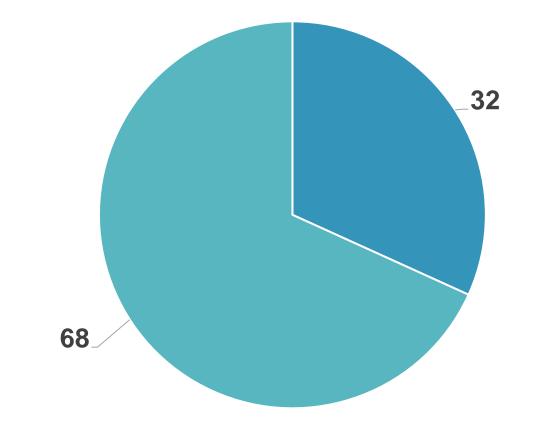
Funding for aquaculture has been analysed in the light of EU priorities - innovation, trade and processing, environmental sustainability, resource efficiency, employment and territorial cohesion. This includes the integration of technological advances and innovative practices in existing aquaculture companies, as well as the provision of funding for projects that stimulate the creation of new aquaculture companies, such as the promotion of community-led local development strategies and the collection and availability of sector-specific data that could contribute to the development of the sector.

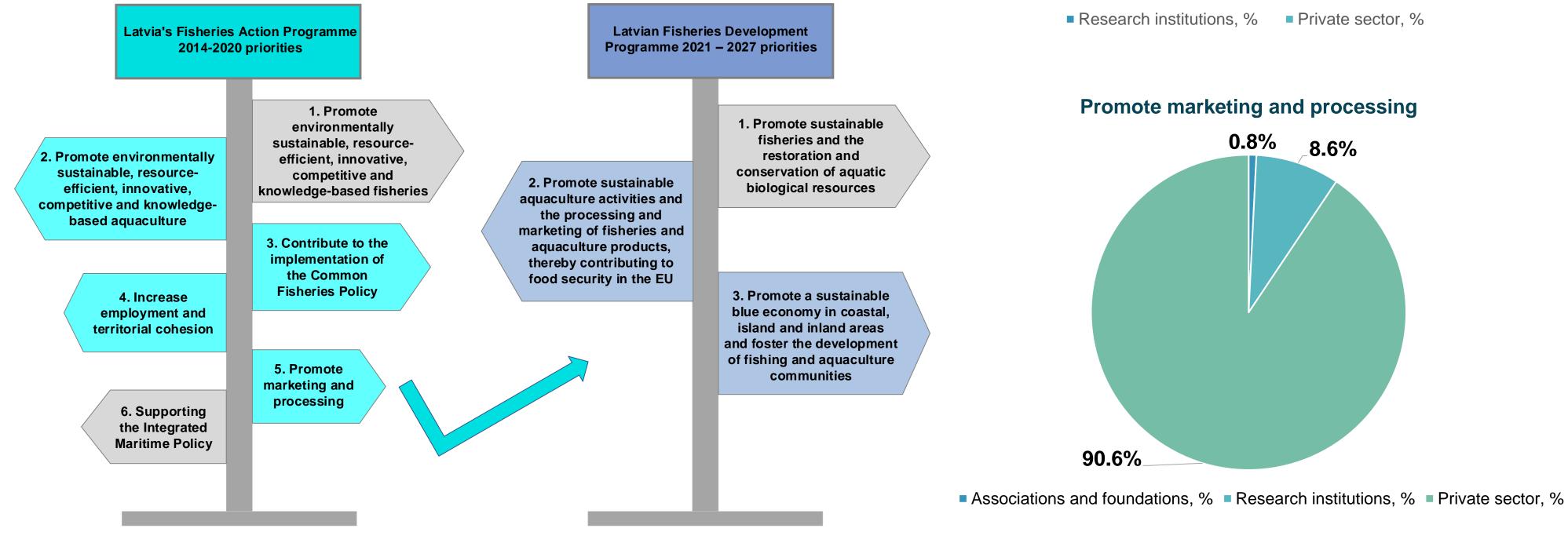
Results



…… Linear (Recirculation systems)

Promote environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based aquaculture





Priorities set out in the Latvian Fisheries Development Programmes, under which EMFF funding is allocated