

Simple inland aquaculture governance in Latvia

TAPAS workshop on aquaculture governance

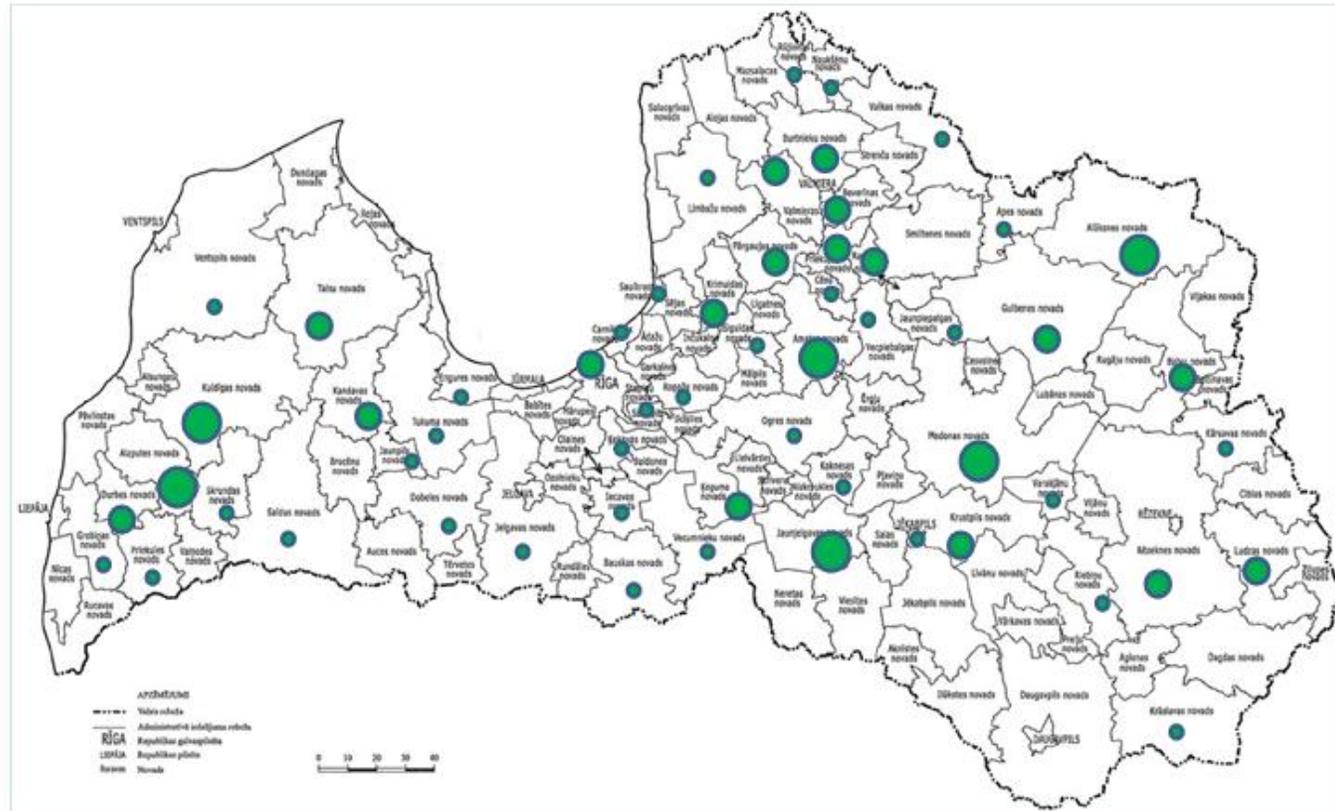
Olsztyn, Poland

5.03.2019

Content of the presentation

- ▶ General information about aquaculture in Latvia;
- ▶ SWOT analysis of aquaculture in Latvia;
- ▶ The management of the aquaculture sector in Latvia, main institutions involved;
- ▶ Regulatory framework of aquaculture in Latvia;

Location of the aquaculture farms in Latvia



Number of farms ● 1 - 2 ● 3 - 5 ● 6 - 10 Total 150

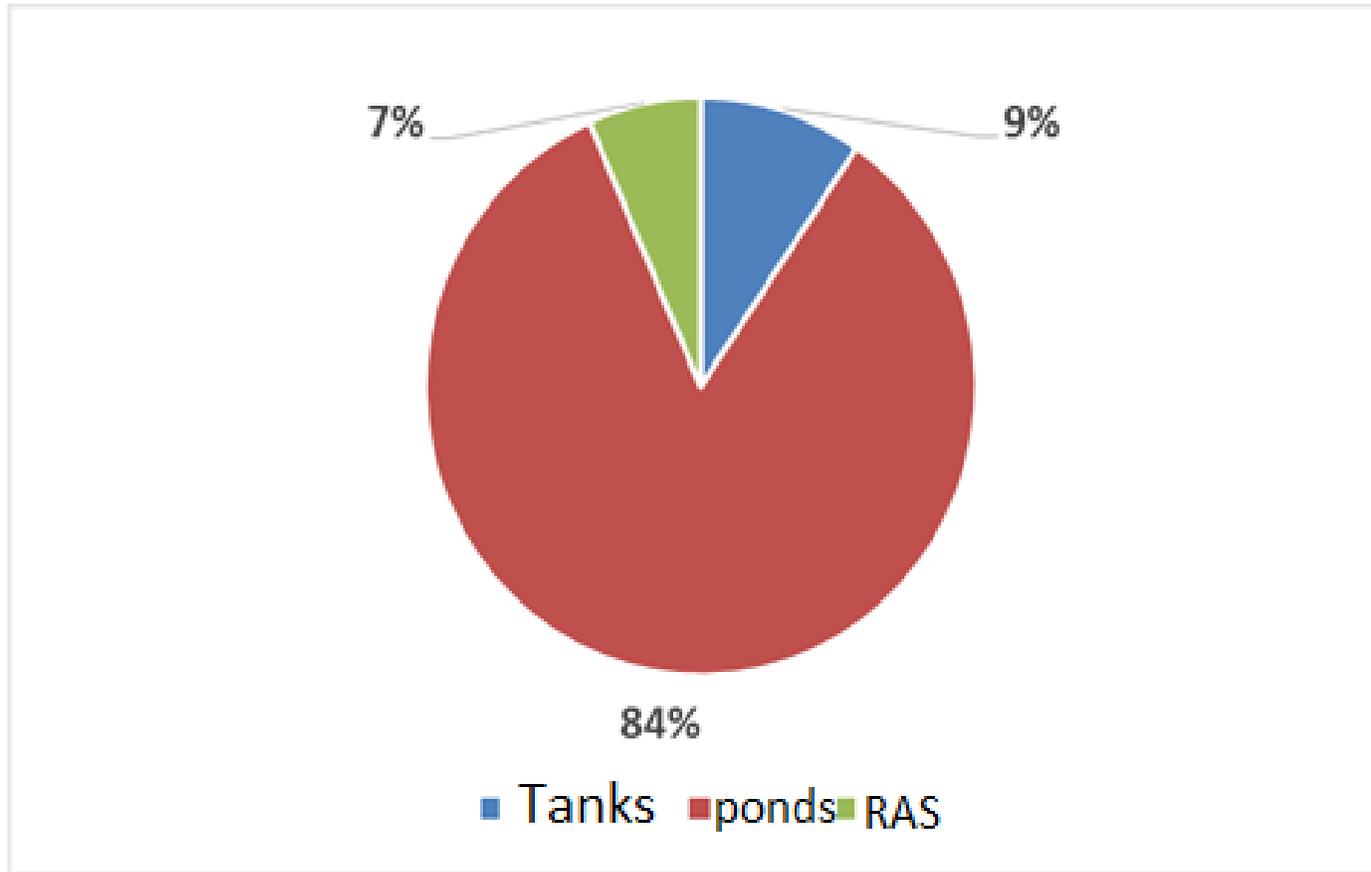
The structure of the aquaculture production

In Latvia the aquaculture sector has two main directions:

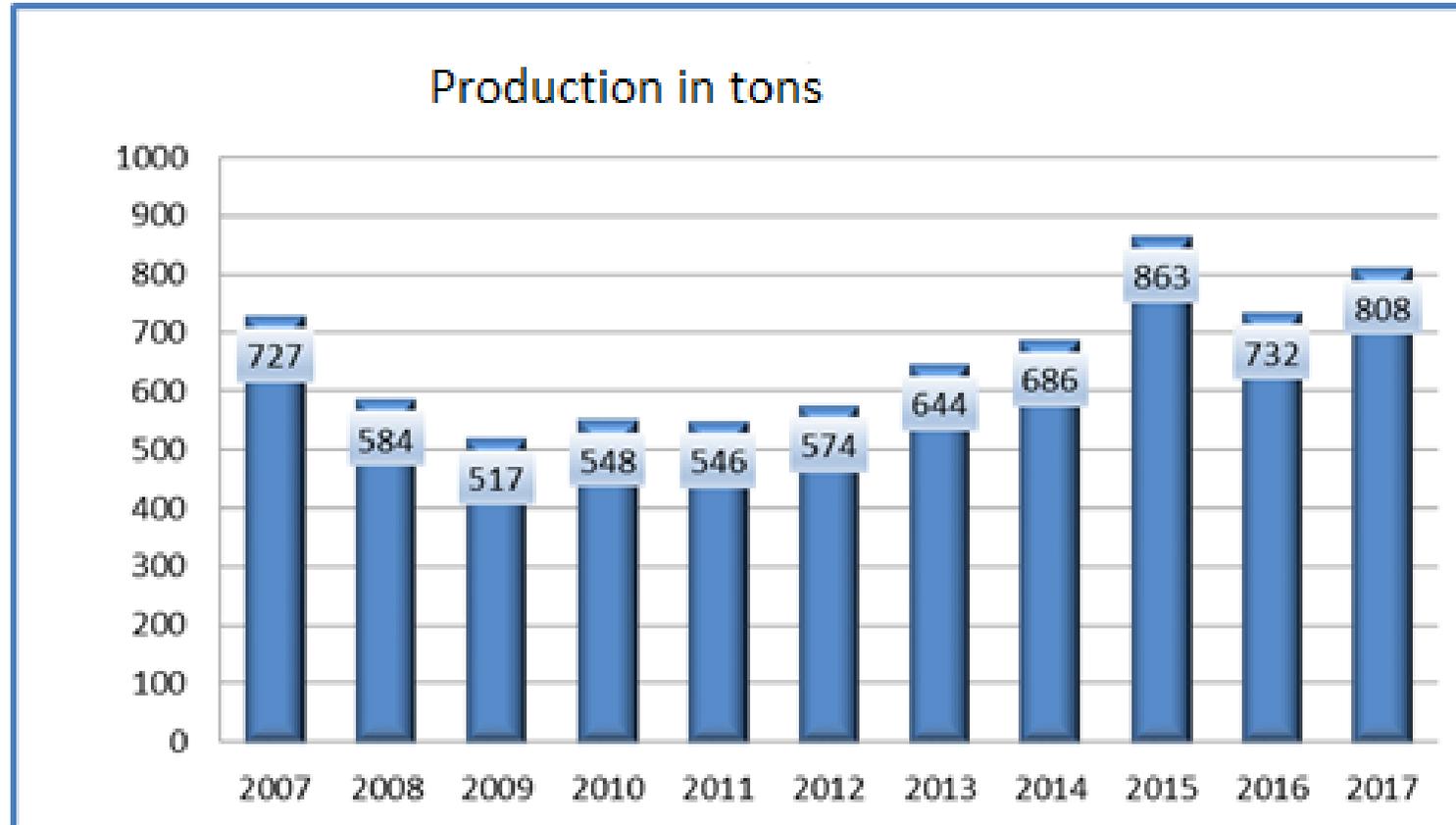
- ▶ The production of such fish and crayfish that are marketed for direct food consumption or for the processing of aquaculture products. Approximately 40% of aquaculture farms are working in this direction.
- ▶ The production of juveniles for further cultivation or for the restocking of the natural waterbodies with the fish resources (rivers, lakes). Approximately 35% of aquaculture farms are working in this direction.

Approximately 25% of aquaculture farms are working in both directions

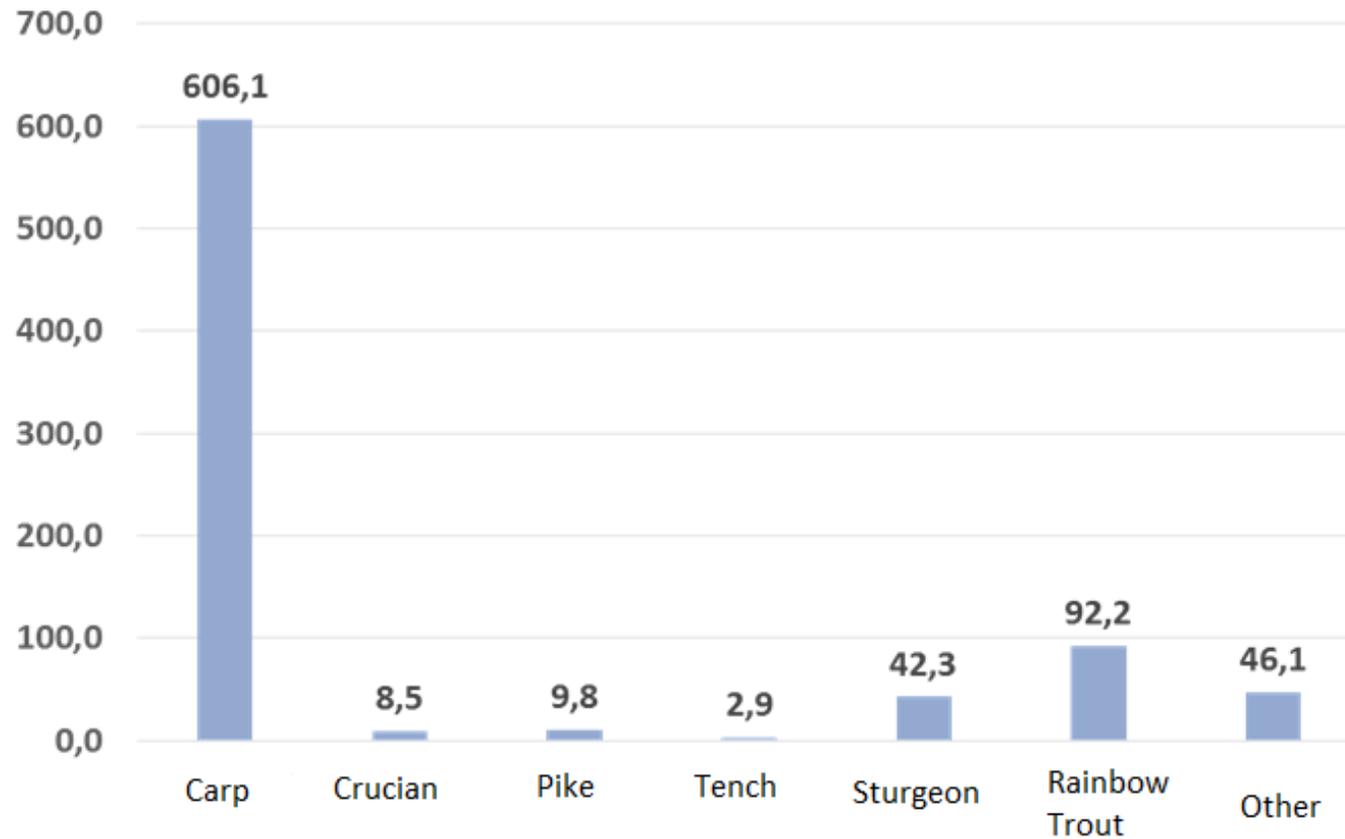
The methods of the aquaculture production



Aquaculture production in Latvia



Structure of the Aquaculture production in Latvia



The aquaculture in policy planning documents

In Latvia the issues concerning development of the aquaculture sector involves 2 main directions:

- ▶ The ensuring of the sustainability of the fish resources within the national competence - the artificial reproduction measures in accordance with a National artificial restocking plan for fish resources for 2017-2020
- ▶ The development of the aquaculture business for the production of the market fish - The aquaculture strategy 2014-2020.

The aquaculture strategy 2014-2020 includes:

- ▶ The principle of sustainable development - the welfare of the society, integrated and balanced environment protection and economy development;
- ▶ Competitive, productive and sustainable aquaculture in Latvia;
- ▶ Innovative and efficient aquaculture production that meets the needs of markets;
- ▶ Development of aquaculture research and transfer of the knowledge;

SWOT analysis of aquaculture in Latvia I

Strengths:

- ▶ Land and inland resources are available in sufficient quantities;
- ▶ Stakeholders in aquaculture sector have the initiative and desire to work and develop their farms;
- ▶ Aquaculture activities in general are considered as environment friendly in Latvia;
- ▶ With help of EMFF significant new capital investments are made in the modernization and technologies;

SWOT analysis of aquaculture in Latvia II

Weaknesses:

- ▶ Open aquaculture production dominates with one species - carp;
- ▶ Mainly extensive production of aquaculture production, low productivity and gross value added;
- ▶ Lack in cooperation between aquaculture farmers in order to expand the markets;
- ▶ The processing of aquaculture production is poorly developed;
- ▶ There is a low level of aquaculture product consumption in Latvia;

SWOT analysis of aquaculture in Latvia III

Opportunities:

- ▶ Possibility to increase productivity and efficiency by introducing new technologies in aquaculture;
- ▶ Increase of the added value of the aquaculture products by developing the processing of the products;
- ▶ The extent of innovation and strengthening of the links with science including selection work;
- ▶ Development of cooperation in the field of production, processing and marketing;
- ▶ Increase of ecological and organic production;

SWOT analysis of aquaculture in Latvia IV

Threats:

- ▶ Increase of the price of the resources needed for the production;
- ▶ The prevalence of invasive species and diseases in aquaculture;
- ▶ Damage caused by wildlife species in pond farms;

The management of the aquaculture sector I

Main tasks of the Ministry of Agriculture:

- ▶ Policy making concerning aquaculture governance (also EU level);
- ▶ The implementation of the aquaculture policy and development strategy;
- ▶ Responsible for the introduction of the National artificial restocking plan for fish resources for 2017-2020;
- ▶ The supervision of the national authorities involved in the implementation of the management measures as well as the institutions on the scientific research in aquaculture sector;
- ▶ Participation in the local or international workshops, meetings, policy and strategy planning forums (EIFAAC, FAO ..)

The management of the aquaculture sector II

BIOR (Institute of Food safety, animal health and environment):

- ▶ Restocking of the fisheries resources in public waterbodies mainly migratory species;
- ▶ Research on fish resources and aquaculture;
- ▶ Scientific advice on release of juveniles per species, amounts, waterbodies;
- ▶ Approves transfers of fish species and the introduction or reproduction of new species;
- ▶ Provides information and advice concerning the production of particular fish species and development of aquaculture;

The management of the aquaculture sector III

- ▶ Food and Veterinary Service - register and recognize aquaculture farms and ensures the veterinary supervision and control of the fish production;
- ▶ The Nature Conservation Agency - issues permits for the introduction of new aquaculture species in Latvia;
- ▶ State Environmental Service - provides the control of the environment status and pollution, issues permission for polluting activities for aquaculture farms;
- ▶ Local municipalities - Issues license for specialized fish farming in natural waterbodies, the license must be agreed with Institute BIOR, State Environmental Service and The Nature Conservation Agency.

Legislation regulating the aquaculture sector in Latvia

- ▶ Currently there are no special law or regulations covering specially aquaculture governance;
- ▶ However, to the aquaculture sector applies the same regulations which apply to fisheries, environmental protection and food and veterinary sphere;

Regulatory competences of aquaculture in Latvia I

- ▶ Till 2004 the aquaculture enterprises (fish farms) in Latvia had to apply and receive business license in order to start their activities;
- ▶ The process was time consuming, administratively complex and not efficient;
- ▶ After the evaluation of this licensing system and taking into account the need to reduce administrative burden for the producers, scientific information on the possible negative and positive effects as well as requests from the sector on the need to simplify the system - it was decided to replace the Licensing with registration or recognition of the enterprise for producing of the aquaculture products;

Regulatory competences of aquaculture in Latvia II

Current procedures to start aquaculture production in Latvia:

- ▶ If the aquaculture farm is planned in the natural waterbodies (lakes, rivers) - a permit should be received from the local municipality which is approved by the Nature Conservation Agency and Institute BIOR;
- ▶ Obtain a permission for the polluting activities from the State Environmental Service;
- ▶ Before the start of the production, the aquaculture farm and the fish (fish species) to be produced must be registered in Agricultural data center;
- ▶ The farm must be registered in the Food and Veterinary service, as well as procedure of recognition of the aquaculture farm.

Regulatory competences of aquaculture in Latvia III

Food and Veterinary Service:

- ▶ Food and Veterinary Service conducts individual registration or recognition of the aquaculture farm;
- ▶ If the aquaculture farm is producing fish or selling juveniles - the farm should be recognized. If the farm is providing fishing services (paid fishing) - the farm should be just registered;
- ▶ The aquaculture farm receives individual recognition number;

Regulatory competences of aquaculture in Latvia IV

State Environmental Service:

- ▶ Issues the permission for the polluting activities which is needed in order to monitor and control extraction of water resources and its impact on the environment.
- ▶ The permission for the polluting activities is also needed if the result of the activities is an artificial or heavily modified waterbody - for example the operation of canals or ponds.

Regulatory competences of aquaculture in Latvia V

- ▶ The aquaculture farm must conclude a cooperation agreement between the Food and veterinary service and a veterinarian on the monitoring of the aquaculture business;
- ▶ The transfer of fish species and the introduction or reproduction of new fish species requires the authorization from The Nature conservation agency which is agreed with the Institute BIOR and Food and veterinary service;
- ▶ The statistical information should be submitted every year and is collected as obligatory from all aquaculture farms.

Thank you!