



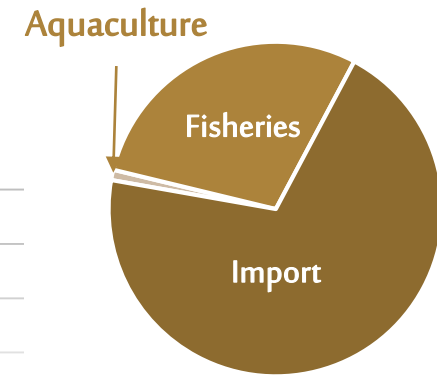
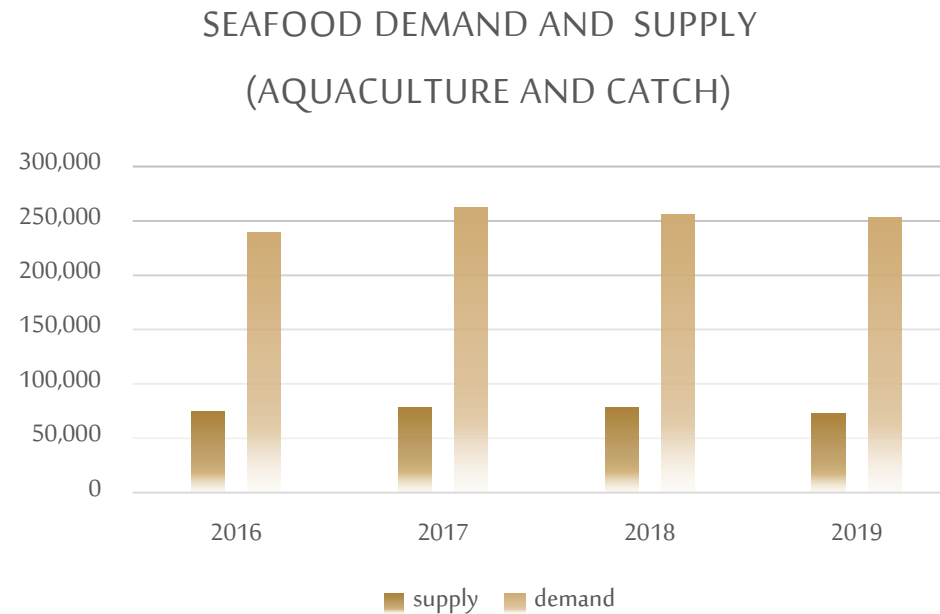
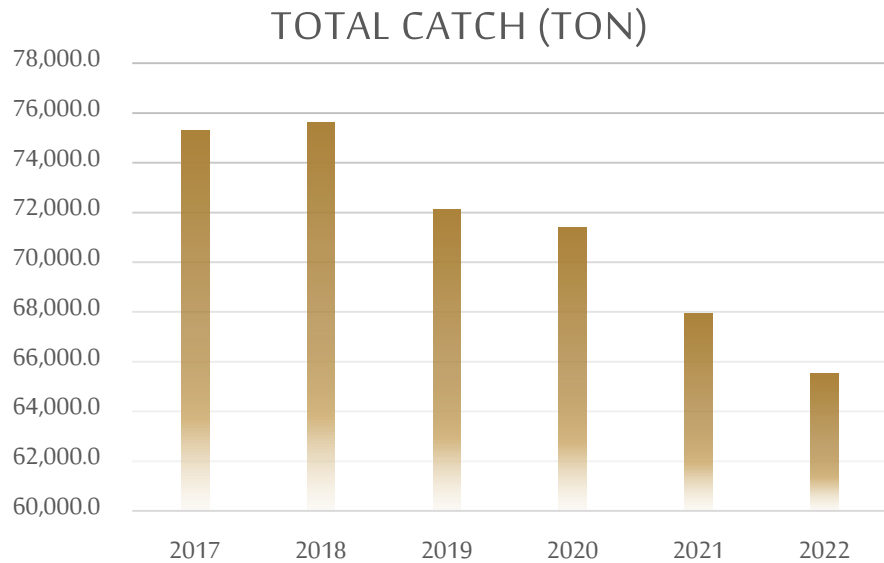
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Fisheries and Aquaculture in The UAE

2024



Seafood Demand and Supply (Aquaculture and Catch)



Fish Catch ~ 29 %
Aquaculture ~ 1 %
Gap ~ 70 %

Average annual seafood consumption per capita

Globally 19.8 kg < In The UAE 26.4 kg

Percentage of aquaculture's contribution to seafood available for consumption

Globally %52 > In the UAE %1



Aquaculture Status in the UAE

17 Farms

Registered

Aquaculture Production in
2022 reached
3526.51 T

Total Production (ton):

2017: 3243.97

2018: 2752

2019: 3223.379

2021: 2627.542

2022: 3526.51

Main cultured species



Sea Bream



Salmon



Sea bass



Shrimp



Oyster



yellowtail kingfish

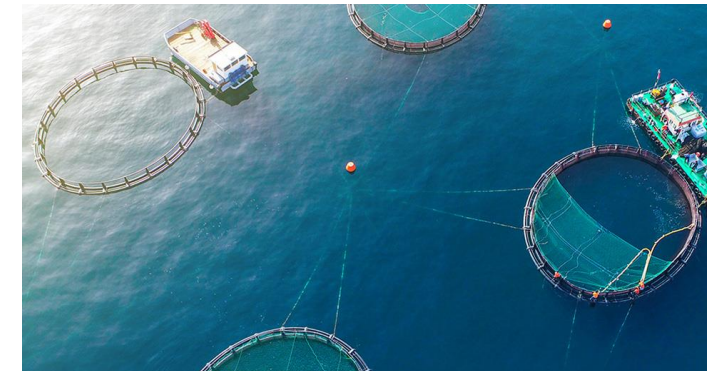
Systems: RAS, cages, and aquaponics

Cage Farming in Fujairah



Sea Bream

~ **57%** Production





Types of Farms & Technology

Technology

Aquaponic



Open system



Floating cages



Recycling Aquaculture System (RAS)



Production in
2022/Ton

26

138

2606

756



Why is Aquaculture Important to the UAE?

- Aquaculture is without a doubt one of **the most promising food sectors** in the UAE, representing an efficient way to **grow high-value protein** without using large amounts of the most precious resource, which is freshwater
- The UAE consumes about 220,000 tonnes of seafood annually, with **imports covering 70 %** of this figure.
- But local **aquaculture** only accounts for **~ 1 %** of the seafood eaten in the UAE and wild catch fisheries are stressed
- **Alleviates pressure on wild fish resources:** some of the Gulf's wild fish stocks (Hamour ,Shaari, Farsh) have declined by 90%
- Aquaculture can **provide employment and economic opportunities**



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Future Plan to Support and Develop Aquaculture in the UAE



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Aquaculture Investment Guide





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Objective of the Guide:

A platform to provide investors with relevant information on aquaculture in the UAE



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Guide content:

- **Laws and legislation and licensing procedure**
- **Aquaculture Toolkit (in cooperation with the FAO)**
 - Consumer Preference Study
 - Manual: Implementing Biosecurity at the Aquaculture Farm Level
 - Atlas of Potential Offshore Aquaculture Development Zones in the UAE
- **Hatcheries**
- **Marine water specifications and weather information**
- **Licensed farms**



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Aquaculture Toolkit in cooperation with the FAO



2

Consumer Preference Study

Objectives:

- To identify attributes that guide consumer preference
- To identify species that are preferred by UAE consumers and are amenable for intensive aquaculture
- To guide and enable investors make informed marketing decisions and identify potential differentiation opportunities





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Aquaculture Toolkit in cooperation with the FAO

3

Manual: Implementing Biosecurity at the Aquaculture Farm Level



Objectives:

- To provide practical information for farm operators in the UAE
- To reduce the risks of diseases entering or spreading in the farm
- To contribute to the Four Betters of FAO: Better Production, Better Nutrition, Better Environment and Better Life



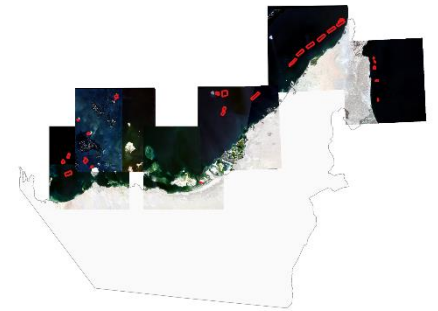
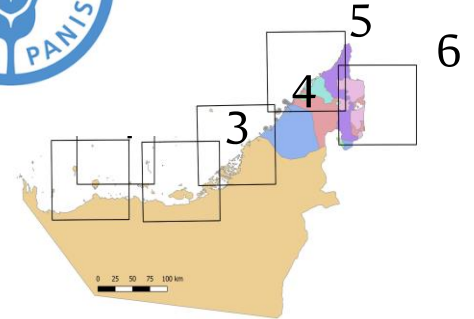
Aquaculture Toolkit in cooperation with the FAO

1

Atlas of Potential Offshore Aquaculture Development in the UAE

Objectives:

- To support expansion in mariculture and increase sustainable aquaculture production
- To guide investors select suitable sites along with suitable technologies and species





Developing the atlas to include aquaculture areas for shellfish, shrimp, seaweed and algae



Oyster



Scallop



Shrimp



clams



seaweed / algae



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Government Initiatives to Support Key Points in Aquaculture



- **Facilitating licensing procedure**
 - The Ministry reduced unnecessary requirements and the current focus is placed on the environmental aspect
 - Licensing roadmap: developing a map of all licensing steps
- **Establishing cluster for aquaculture**
- **Support programs for farmers**
 - Feed (Supporting local feed manufacturing)
 - Fingerlings (Local hatcheries will supply farmers with fingerlings at competitive prices)
 - Support the cost of purchasing equipment
 - Support the cost of electricity and water (It will increase farms using the RAS system)
 - Support health and biosecurity
 - Financing small and medium farming projects
 - Support marketing and exporting products.
- **Cooperation with private sector to study the production of new local species for commercial aquaculture (R&D)**

Thank you

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