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المملكة العربية السعودية Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



الجمعية السعودية للاستزراع المائي
SAUDI AQUACULTURE SOCIETY

Saudi Aquaculture

A Comprehensive National Strategy
To Further Support & Develop the Aquaculture Sector

7 - 10 October 2018

Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Center

held Concurrently with

Saudi Agriculture

The 37th Int'l. Agriculture, Aquaculture & Agro-Industry Show



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About Aquaculture in Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Globally, aquaculture has an important role to play in bridging the gap between supply and demand of affordable, and nutritious food of high quality. Aquaculture already provides more than half of the seafood (food of aquatic origin) consumed globally and the sector has grown faster than any other sector of food production. With supplies from wild fish stocks leveling off, and with global population increasing, aquaculture will be required to supply an additional 50 million tons of food per year by 2030.

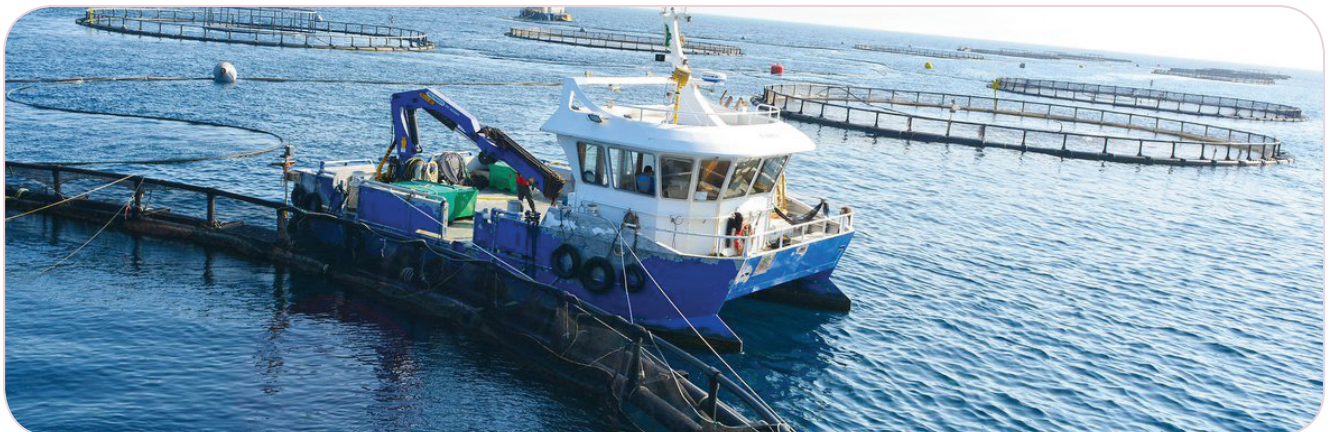
The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has a long history in aquaculture since the first shrimp farms were established along the Red Sea coast in the mid 1980's. Since then, great advancements have been made, mainly owing to the favorable environmental conditions of the Red Sea as well as to technologies for recirculated aquaculture systems (RAS) that are being employed by fresh water farms.

Over the years, many visionary entrepreneurs and shareholders invested heavily in the industry, bringing know-how, developing expertise, and building and installing state-of-the-art facilities, while the Government, with the technical assistance of FAO, developed competent research centers and supporting laboratories.

Nowadays, under strict guidance and control by the Saudi government authorities, well established local aquaculture companies produce high quality products for the local and the international markets.

In 2017 the aquaculture industry in KSA produced about 60 thousand tons of shrimp, marine and fresh water fish, having actually doubled its production only from the year before. The plan is for 100 thousand tons in 2020, and about 600 thousand tons in 2030.

The potential of the clean waters of the Red Sea, the favorable environmental conditions and the advantageous geographical locations, as regards logistic and transport requirement for seafood, have by no means been fully capitalized so far. There is great room for further growth in production volumes and in supplying the ever increasing demand for seafood in the national and international markets.



A Comprehensive Strategy to Further Develop the National Aquaculture Sector.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has developed a comprehensive strategy for the further development of the national aquaculture sector. Smart and sustainable use of the unique natural and environmental resources are the cornerstones of this strategy, the objectives of which are directly aligned with the country's Vision 2030. In this respect:

1. A faster and more simplified aquaculture licensing framework has been put in place, making relevant investments more business friendly.

2. The geographic locations with the most favorable conditions for aquaculture development have been identified, taking into account not only the environmental and oceanographic conditions, but also the logistics for supply of raw materials and of quick transport of the products to the local, national, regional and international markets.

3. A tight national Biosecurity surveillance program is being implemented, coupled by Ministry approved Standard Operating Procedures, a Rapid Alert system and Contingency Plans in case of an emergency. This program is probably the most concise biosecurity surveillance program ever put in place in any country globally.

4. Technical workshops being organized on an almost bi-monthly basis, with national and international specific-matter-experts sharing their experience and know-how with all relevant industry stakeholders, on issues



ranging from new production techniques and protocols, to animal health and welfare and to market issues.

5. Research towards improving the production efficiency of the currently cultured species, as well as experiments with new species that have high market potential, are being conducted by the country's best research and academic institutions, often in collaboration with international experts and research centers of excellence.

6. A Saudi national aquaculture product certification and labelling scheme has been developed under the acronym SAMAQ (SAudi Mark of Aquaculture Quality). SAMAQ is based on internationally acknowledged guidelines and responsible aquaculture practice requirements. The objective is that ultimately all KSA national aquaculture products will be certified and marketed with the SAMAQ label indicating their local origin and assuring of their quality and freshness.

Key Drivers for Growth

Growing local market and big export potential

- KSA seafood consumption is expected to grow by 8 % per annum until 2030
- Growing local consumption, driven by population growth and a shift towards a more healthy lifestyle and diet is expected to generate an additional demand for seafood of around 550,000 tons in 2030
- With declining growth in capture fisheries and stricter quality and safety regulations imposed on imports, local aquaculture produce will be the main source of supply of seafood in KSA
- In addition to local consumption increase potential, KSA is strategically located to become a quality seafood exporter serving the GCC market as well as the wider international markets

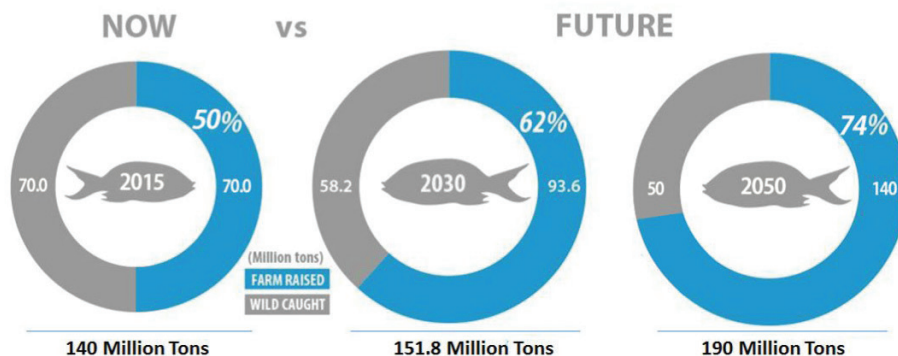
Government commitment to grow the sector to its full potential

- KSA is highly committed to growing the aquaculture industry. Producing high quality food in a sustainable manner is part of KSA's vision 2030.
- In line with Vision 2030, the Ministry of Environment, Water and Agriculture (MEWA) has launched a dedicated PROGRAM that is committed to reach 600,000 tons of fisheries products by 2030
- The PROGRAM (NPWF) has set a budget of SAR 1.3 Bn to unlock the sector by investing in infra structure, R&D and marketing campaigns.
- In addition, KSA's strict quality and safety assurance programs made KSA renowned for its safe and high quality seafood products

Investment opportunities ready for investors

- Saudi Arabia's 1,800 km coastline on the Red Sea offers plenty of opportunities.
- 15 locations have already been identified by the government as suitable for new aquaculture projects, after a rigorous and thorough evaluation of the Red Sea coastline.

Global Sea Food Supply



* Source : FAO

GENERAL INFORMATION

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- Parking capacity of 1,500 cars

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