



Current Practices in Maltese Aquaculture Licensing

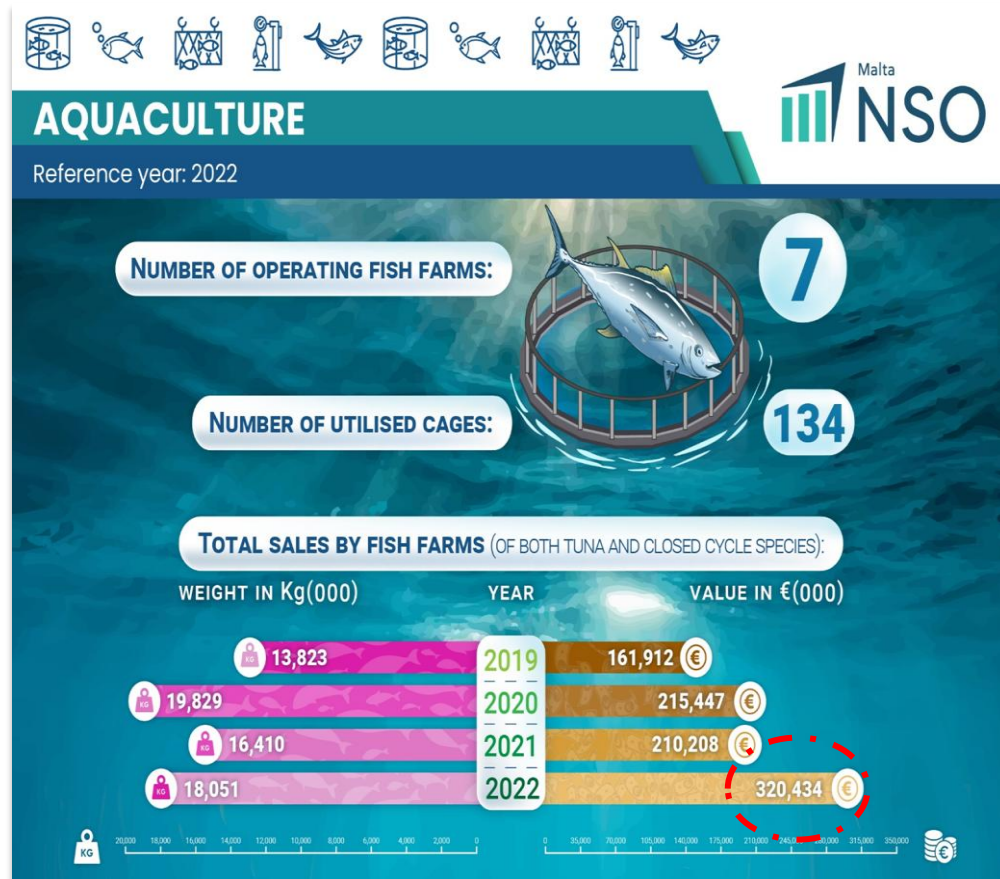
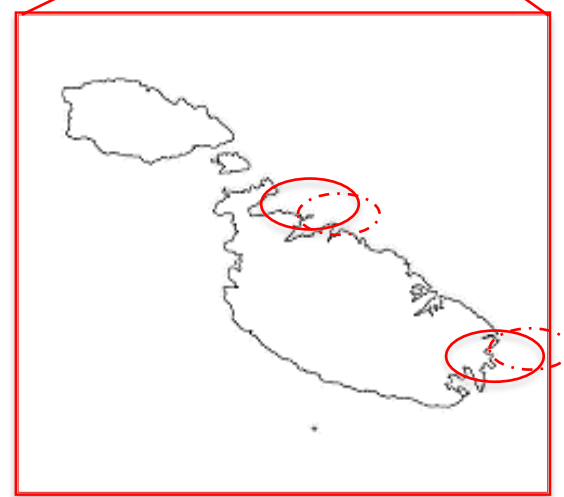
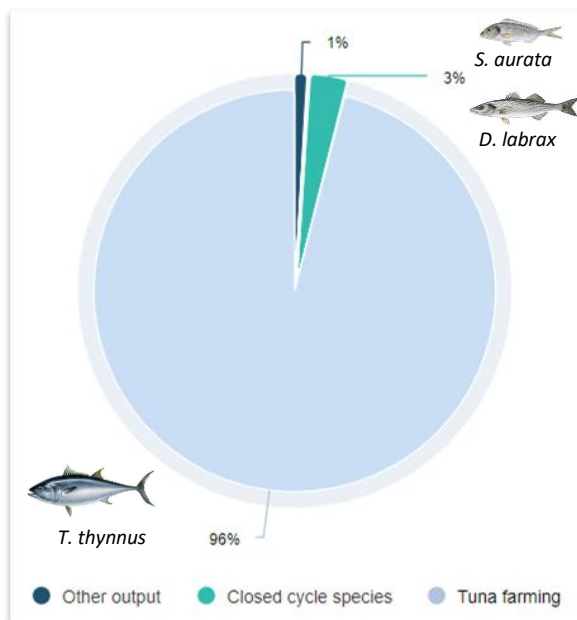
EMODnet Workshop 'Data Management in Offshore Licensing Procedures'

29 February 2024

Dr. Francesco Lombardo - Chief Scientific Officer at MAFA-DFA



MALTESE AQUACULTURE





AUTHORITIES and REGULATIONS



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
 MINISTRY FOR AGRICULTURE,
 FISHERIES AND ANIMAL RIGHTS
 DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
 MINISTRY FOR AGRICULTURE,
 FISHERIES AND ANIMAL RIGHTS
 ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (CAP. 425)

S.L. 425.02 - Fish Market Regulations.

S.L. 425.03 - Tunny Fish (Importation) Restriction Order.

S.L. 425.05 - Fisheries and Aquaculture Services Payments Regulation.

S.L. 425.12 - Aquaculture Operations Regulations.

S.L. 425.13 - Blue Fin Tuna Harvesting Regulations.

S.L. 425.17 - Offences, Proceedings and Sanctioning (Fisheries and Aquaculture) Regulations.

Prevention of Disease Ordinance Act (CAP. 36)

Veterinary Services Act (CAP. 437)

Animal Welfare Act (CAP. 439)

S.L. 437.95 - Animal Health Requirements for Aquaculture Animals and Products thereof, and on the Prevention and Control of Certain Diseases in Aquatic Animals Rules.



AUTHORITIES and REGULATIONS



Environment Protection Act 2016 (CAP. 549)

- S.L. 549.42 - Conservation of Wild Birds Regulations.
- S.L. 549.44 - Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations.
- S.L. 549.45 - Waste Management (Activity Registration) Regulations.
- S.L. 549.46 - Environment Impact Assessment Regulations.
- S.L. 549.47 - European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register Reporting Obligations Regulations.
- S.L. 549.61 - Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations.
- S.L. 549.62 - Marine Policy Framework Regulations.
- S.L. 549.63 - Waste Management Regulations.
- S.L. 549.65 - Waste Management (Shipments of Waste) Regulations.
- S.L. 549.100 - Water Policy Framework Regulations.

Development Planning Act (CAP. 552)

- S.L. 552.27 - Maritime Spatial Planning Regulations.

Lands Authority Act (CAP. 563)

Government Lands Act (CAP. 573)

<https://era.org.mt/>
<https://www.pa.org.mt/>
<https://landsauthority.org.mt/>

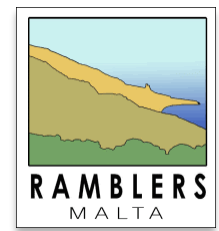


OTHER STAKEHOLDERS





ENVIRONMENTAL NGOs





LICENSING PROCESS

- Preliminary Permits -

1. Development Permit

- ❖ Compliance with plans



PLANNING AUTHORITY

2. Environmental Permit

- ❖ Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- ❖ Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP)



ERA
Environment & Resources
Authority

3. Concession Permit

- ❖ Conditions for land and water use



LANDS
Authority



Environmental
Permitting



Note: All permits require payment of initial fee.



LICENSING PROCESS

- The Permit -

4. Aquaculture Operational Permit

- ❖ *Application form*
 - ✓ IDs of the applicant and legal person
 - ✓ Proof of entitlement of land
 - ✓ Site and Operational Plans
 - ✓ “Code of Good Practice” declaration
 - ✓ Development Permit (CAP. 552)
 - ✓ Environmental Permit (CAP. 549)
 - ✓ Concession Permit (CAP. 563 and 573)

- ❖ *Validity: 25 years*



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DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Aquaculture Operational Permit

Aquaculture Operations Regulations LN 157 of 2017
Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (CAP. 425)

Farming Bluefin tuna

- Concession fee = €35,000
- Permit fee = €10,000

Farming other species

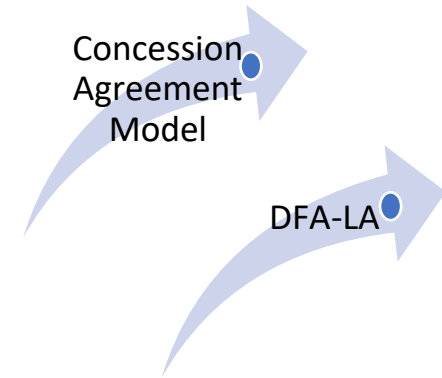
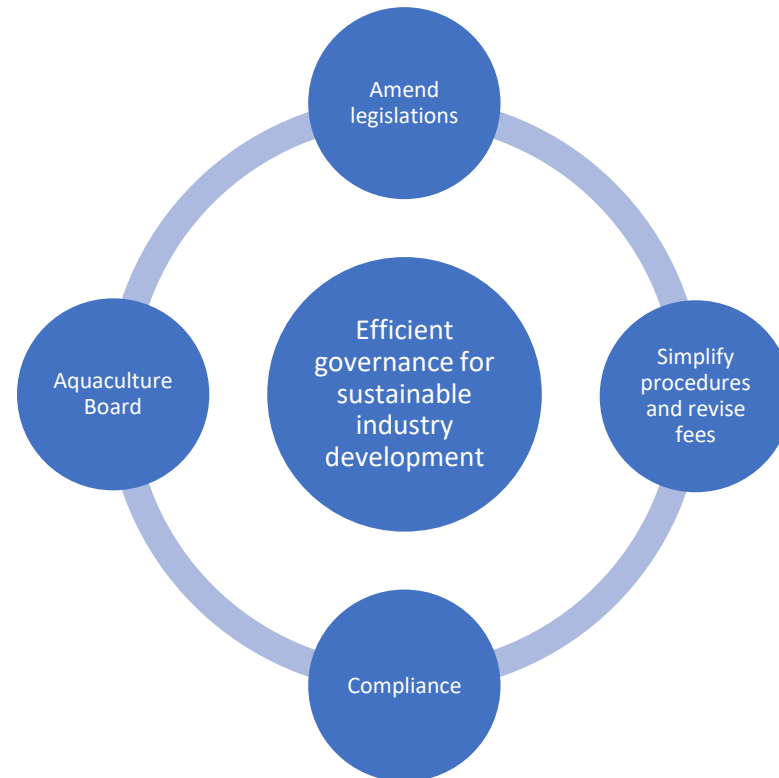
- Concession fee = variable
- Permit fee = €5,000

Note: these yearly contributions are paid into the “Aquaculture Fund” which is used to finance projects, programmes and schemes related to aquaculture, and to finance costs intended to carry out and manage the promotion and protection of the environment and the environmentally sustainable development of aquaculture, as well as works which may be needed for that purpose or to remedy any harm caused to the environment related to aquaculture.



FUTURE STRATEGY & CONCLUSIONS

MULTIANNUAL NATIONAL PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE (MNPSA)
2022-2030





Thanks for your attention

