



WEBINAR SERIES ON STATE OF FISHERY AND AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY BRIEFING: GEORGIA-SERBIA

6 October 2021
10:00 – 12:00 (CET)

PROSPECTUS

1. Introduction

The virtual state of fishery and aquaculture industry briefings are a series of web stakeholder briefings designed for Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Serbia and Ukraine. Three virtual seminars will be organized, one each for Albania and Armenia, Georgia and Serbia, and Ukraine. The webinars are planned on a weekly basis in the last two weeks of September and the first week of October.

Effective participatory fisheries/aquaculture management, among other things, requires working in partnership with the private sector and other stakeholders, while strengthening inter-industry co-operation and stakeholder involvement in strategic decision-making. Improving the business environment is important for sustainable aquaculture and fisheries development. Diverse stakeholder groups from the above-mentioned countries have, on many occasions, underlined the need to strengthen both national and intra-regional collaboration and partnerships in fisheries and aquaculture, and enhance the involvement and visibility of private sector stakeholders (traders, investors, suppliers, etc.) who represent the key actors in the regional collaborative platforms.

The webinar series aim to create a briefing, discussion and networking forum for the representative of key stakeholders from the above-mentioned countries while providing a state of fisheries and aquaculture update for each country. The webinar thus offers a way to facilitate exchanges of the experiences, success stories, ideas, and challenges specific to the industries, including those from the COVID-19 pandemic, and trade and investment opportunities between stakeholders. Additionally, this initiative aims to update the National Aquaculture Sector Overview (NASO), a fact sheet collection comprising the reports submitted by the FAO Member States, which is available at the following link: <http://www.fao.org/fishery/naso/search/en>.

2. Objectives:

The objectives of this industry briefing webinar study are to:

1. Promote the involvement of the private sector in regional priorities, initiatives and platforms;
2. Create a platform for sharing industry information, examples of good practice, challenges, and identify business investment opportunities to promote sector development;
3. Create a platform for discussing aquaculture and fisheries governance, private sector and government's roles in providing an enabling environment for sector development, and how good governance can be promoted;
4. Discuss the industry's vision for building and supporting sustainable aquaculture and fisheries sectors; and
5. Share experiences in relation to the development of a new, more productive, sustainable and equitable agriculture sector.

3. Process

The workshop will be conducted virtually. The participants will be provided with a webinar ID and password to attend the webinar. The two-hour webinar will include comments, suggestions and discussions on the current situation of countries, problems and solutions. All background documents and reports (if the preparation is requested) will be shared with the participants.

4. Participants

The five countries will be invited to nominate participants for their own brief webinar: Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Serbia and Ukraine. Should it be requested by the target country, additional participants may be invited from the country/ies (representatives from international trade, supply chains, etc.). FAO particularly welcomes the nomination of qualified women. The event targets key stakeholders of the fishery and aquaculture industries (i.e. researchers; fishers, fish farmers, representatives of fisher's association and companies, traders, investors, etc.).

5. Organization and partners

The virtual event will jointly be organized by FAO REU, EUROFISH International Organisation, and the fisheries/aquaculture competent authorities of participating countries.

6. Webinar language

The webinar will be conducted in English and Russian.

7. Webinar contact persons

Mr. Haydar Fersoy, Senior Fishery and Aquaculture Officer (haydar.fersoy@fao.org)

Ms. Katerina Kulik, Programme and Monitoring Associate (katerina.kulik@fao.org)

8. Webinar provisional agenda

The provisional agenda for the regional webinar is given below.

9. Registration link

https://fao.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0sd-GoqTkrHtP8yu3Ya_5NqKcqTUpcXXuo

PROVISIONAL AGENDA (times in CEST)

10:00-10:15

Opening remarks:

- Haydar Fersoy, Senior Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, FAO
 - Nabil Gangi, Deputy Regional Representative, FAO (*VIDEO*)
 - Andro Aslanishvili, Head of National Environmental Agency, Georgia
 - Milanka Davidovic, Head of department for international cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management, Serbia
 - Behnan Thomas, Head of Information Unit, EUROFISH
-

10:15-11:00

SESSION I: GEORGIA

Moderated by: Haydar Fersoy, Senior Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, FAO

A. State of the industry

Speaker: Irine Lomashvili, Chief Specialist of Biodiversity and Forestry Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia.

- Aquatic resources and their use
- Capture fisheries and aquaculture production by main species groups
- Fishing fleet
- Farmed fish and shellfish production systems
- Number of businesses and employment in the sector
- Governance frameworks - roles and responsibilities
- Strategic priorities, goals, and targets

B. Industry performance

Speaker: Nino Chobaniani, Chairperson, Georgian Fish Farmers Association

- Industry organizations (producers, and farmers associations, trade unions, cooperatives, etc.)
- Market structure and product characteristics
- Consumer preferences, seafood consumption rates, barriers to increasing consumption
- Labour constraints and their mitigation
- Import/export status and potential
- Competitive advantages of the industry
- Success stories
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic

C. Q & A with the audience

11:00-11:40

SESSION II: SERBIA

A. State of the industry

Moderated by: Behnan Thomas, Head of Information Unit, EUROFISH

Speaker: Mirko Novakovic, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

- Aquatic resources and their use
- Capture fisheries and aquaculture production by main species groups
- Fishing fleet
- Farmed fish and shellfish production systems
- Number of businesses and employment in the sector
- Governance frameworks - roles and responsibilities

- Strategic priorities, goals, and targets.

B. Industry performance

Speaker: Mirko Novakovic, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

- Industry organizations (producers, and farmers associations, trade unions, cooperatives, etc.)
- Market structure and product characteristics
- Consumer preferences, seafood consumption rates, barriers to increasing consumption
- Labour constraints and their mitigation
- Import/export status and potential
- Competitive advantages of the industry
- Success stories
- Impact of COVID-19 pandemic

C. Q & A with the audience

11:40-11:55 **SESSION III: JOINT PANEL DISCUSSION, GEORGIA AND SERBIA**

11:55-12:00 **Closing remarks**

- Haydar Fersoy, Senior Fishery and Aquaculture Officer, FAO
-