

Aquaponics: a sustainable way to boost rural development in Greek Islands

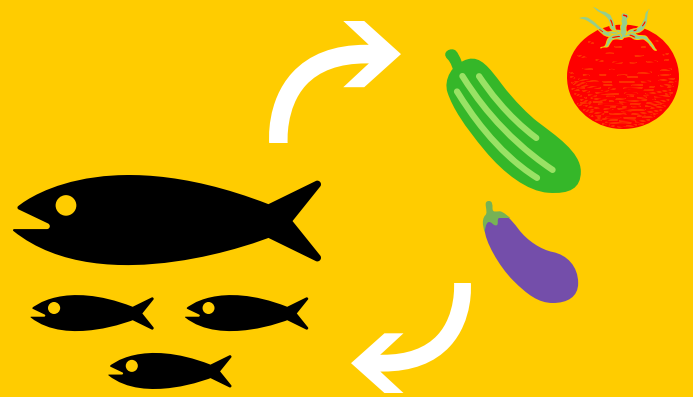
Social Issues

- Urbanization and Land Abandonment
- Dependency on import food supplies
- Unsuitable landscape for agriculture



Our unique selling proposition

- enhancing competitiveness and added value of aquaponic products
- niche markets
- increased visibility for products
- contribution to local non farm economy



Aquaponics: innovative farm technologies

- a sustainable and profitable farming practice
- resource efficient
- attractive for youth
- new business opportunities



Social Outcomes

- Less dependency on import for food supply
- New business and employment opportunities
- Social inclusion, poverty reduction and economic development
- Valorizing rural areas

Greek Island Social Issues

Nowadays, rural areas in Greece islands face many social challenges. Due to increasing urbanization, the abandoning rate experience significant growth. Moreover, these areas rely on import food supply, since they lack required space for consistent volume of agricultural production.



Introducing aquaponics in greek islands

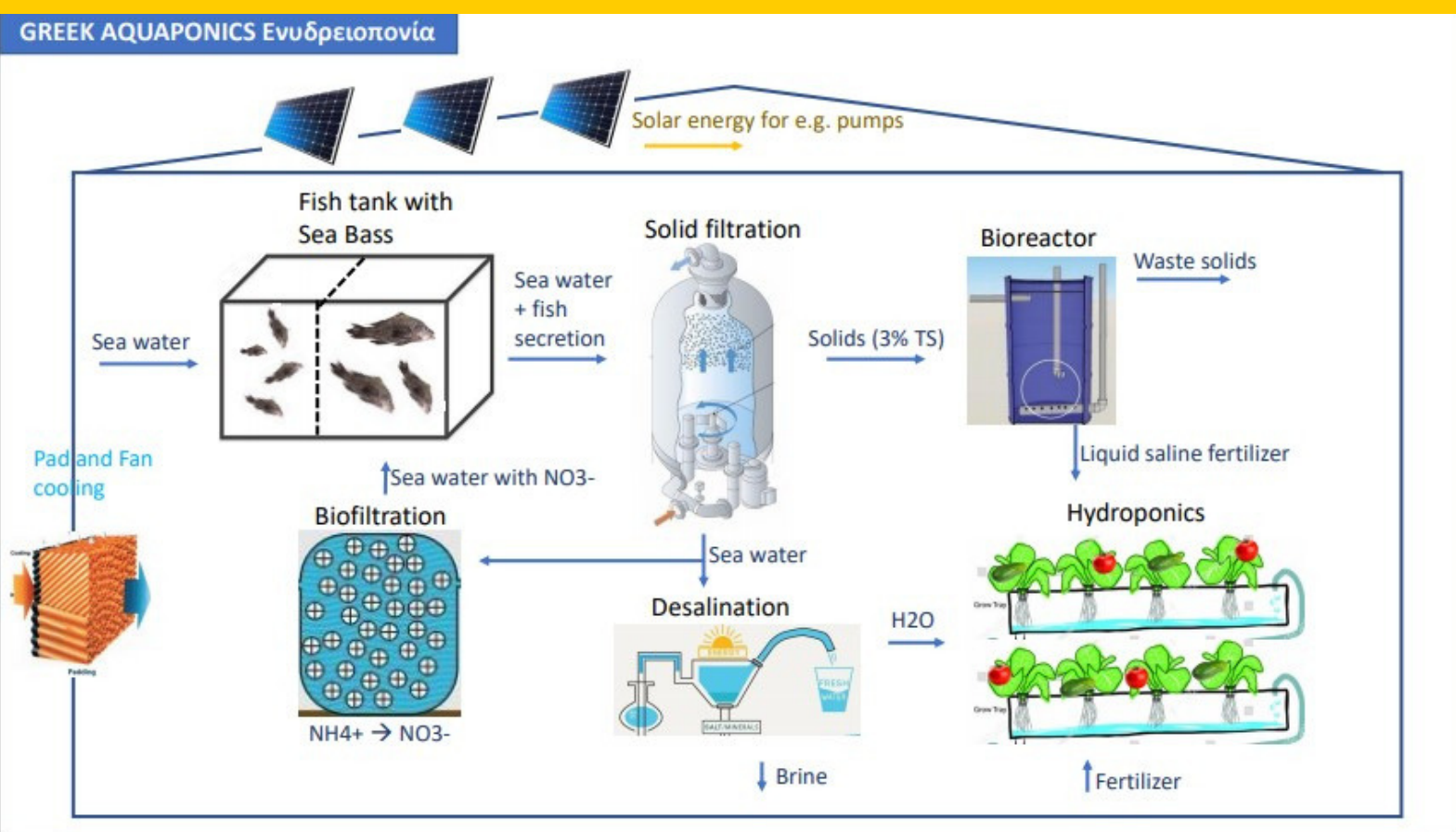
Aquaponics is an innovative farming method that can play a major role in improving the access to sufficient healthy food for marginalized groups, such as greek islands.

Aquaponics is especially suitable for the arid soil of Greek islands, where there is lack of arable land for conventional agriculture.

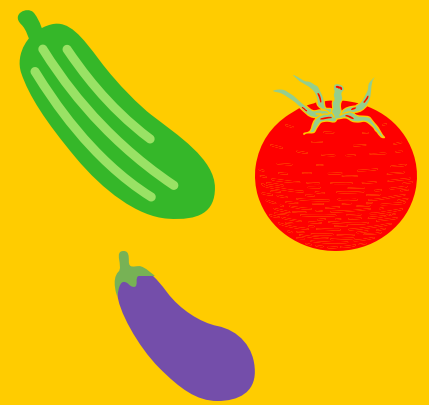
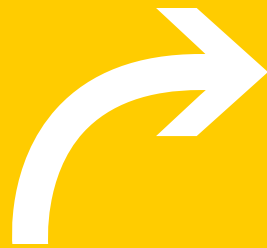
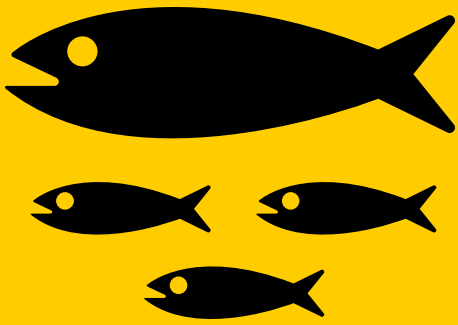
It reaches a higher Reaches a higher crop production per m² in less time than conventional agriculture and provides both vegetables and fish, essential components of a varied diet.



How: our suggestion for a sustainable/smart aquaponics system



Sea Bass
Widely consumed
in Greece; reduced
pressure on sea
fishing



Selected crops:
Tomatoes,
Eggplants and
Cucumber

Enhancing profitability:

” Keys to a profitable business:
highlighting the value of these
products:

- a niche business model
- exclusive sustainable product
- settings where producer-consumer connections can take place: a farmers' market, a restaurant, an agritourism..
- selling product in a place that ensures the opportunity for raising awareness and education of the people.
- allow them to better understand and appreciate the product, enhance their willingness to valorize its intrinsic value.

The Journey of Food

A deep gastronomic experience for families
and tourist

Taste high quality food, locally produced, and
totally sustainable.

HINT

Get an incentive for an environmentally friendly business model:

Our aquaponics restaurant has no impact on the environment. It promotes tourism with a low carbon footprint: consequently, we are eligible for environmental subsidies, and we save tourist taxes for our guests.

Social outcomes

Fostering knowledge transfer and innovation in agriculture

Skill development

Creating new business opportunities and job opportunities

Enhancing 'swasembada': self sufficiency of islands

Promoting an environmentally friendly fish production

Engaging youth

Supporting local economy