

**European Parliament
Committee on Fisheries
Presentation by SEG
Chairman Andrew
Kerr 27/06/23**





Sustainability and Responsibility



Eel Reg 1100/2007

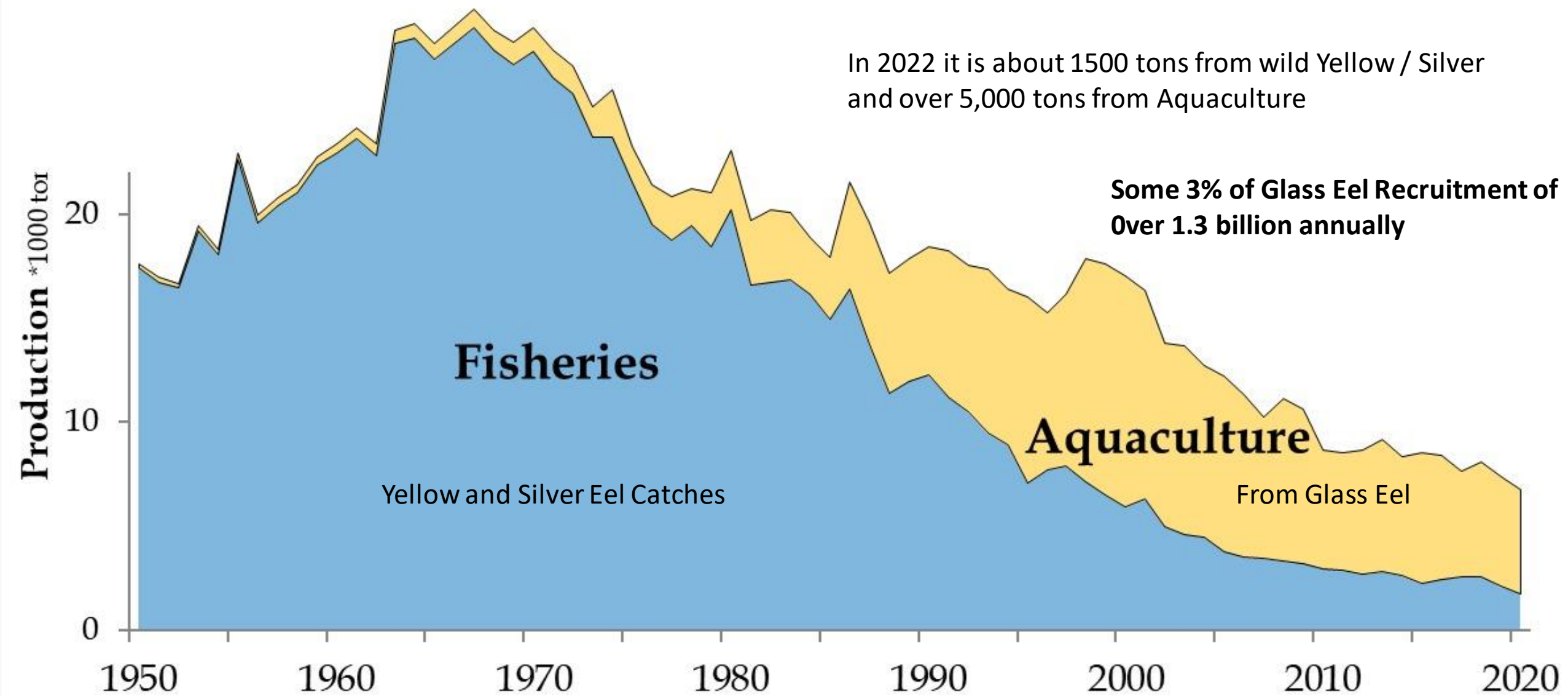
“How the SEG Standard can help combating illegal trade and improving traceability and certification?”



The SEG Standard

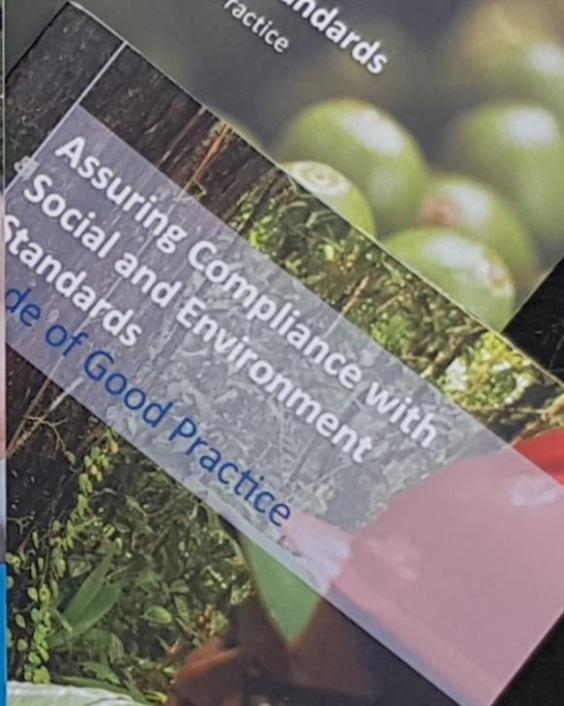
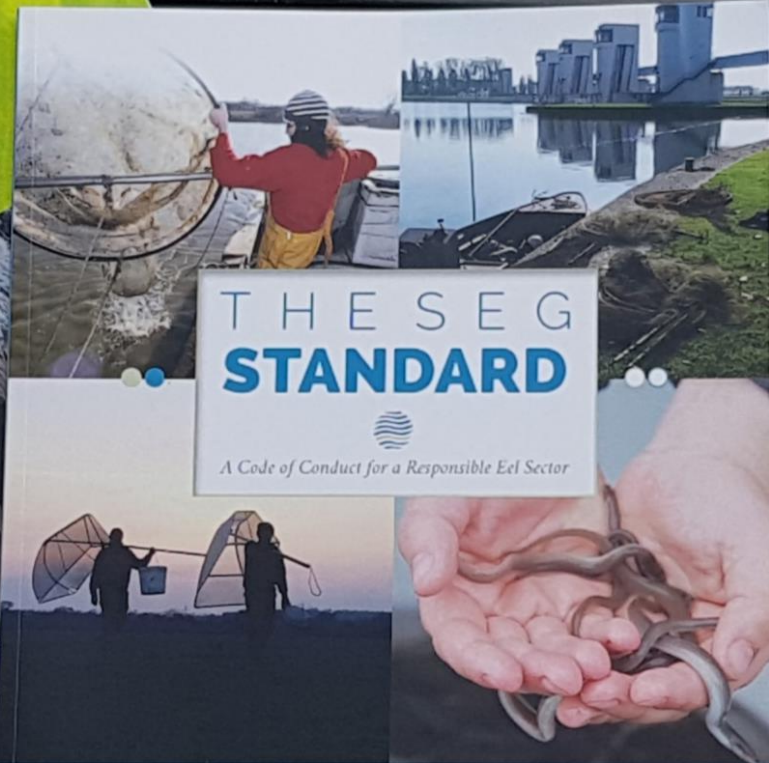
SEG promoting Eel Recovery through ‘protection and sustainable use’

The Changing and Declining Pattern of EU Eel Fisheries



for Credible
ative Sustainability
ds Systems
edibility Principles

g the Impacts of
nd Environmental
ards Systems
ode of Good Practice
0 - December 2014



Reinventing the sector



110 million SEG Certified eel for farming / restocking supply chains in both 2022 and 2023



to retail

The ISEAL Code Compliant Model

SEG Standard Owner and Standard Setter.

Voluntary

CAB - Independent Role Certifier and then maintains the Register

Full Self Evaluation before Audit

CAB – Conformance Assessment Body

Independent qualified Auditors appointed by CAB to verify performance and claims



The SEG voluntary Standard with a fully Traceable Supply Chain is adopted

Influence building –
the SEG Platform

First
Certificates
Spain 2022

88% of French
Fishery Certified

110 million for 2022 and 2023 eel farming
and restocking

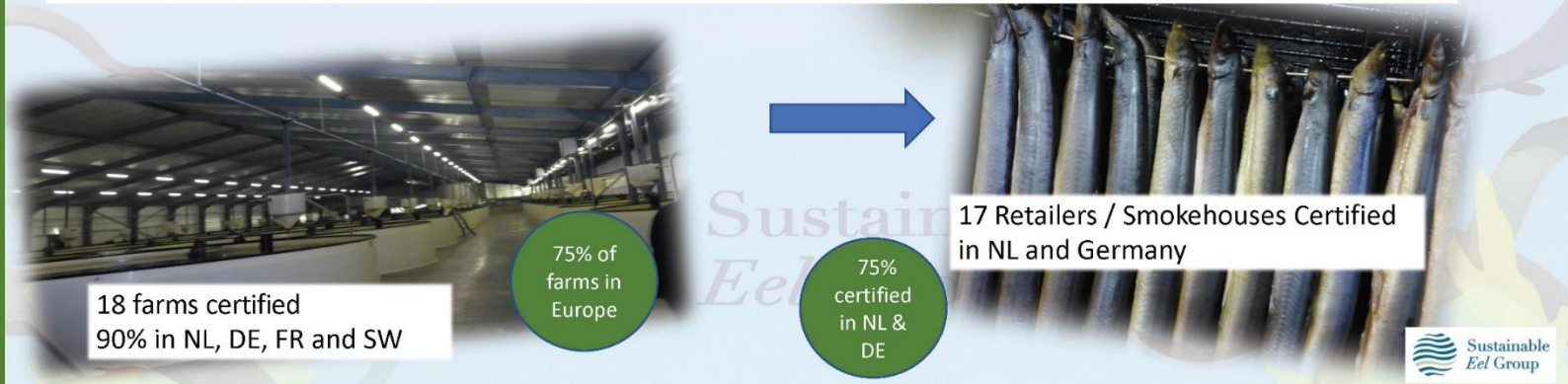
3/4 of
French
GE Fishermen
certified

France 400 Fishermen
UK all 300 part time

21 million Glass Eel 2018
32 million Glass Eel in 2019
33 million Glass Eel in 2020
64 million Glass Eel in 2021



Growing Impact of SEG Standard in building a fully traceable supply chain



18 farms certified
90% in NL, DE, FR and SW

75% of
farms in
Europe



17 Retailers / Smokehouses Certified
in NL and Germany

75%
certified
in NL &
DE



France Glass Eel
Total Catch

2022 55.6 Tons

2023 49.6 Tons

Quota was down
from 65 tons to
58.75

The Reinvention is taking place - the sector takes on the
“Stewardship Role”

Working to SEG Standard / Supply Chain and effective counter trafficking save 100s of millions of glass eels annually



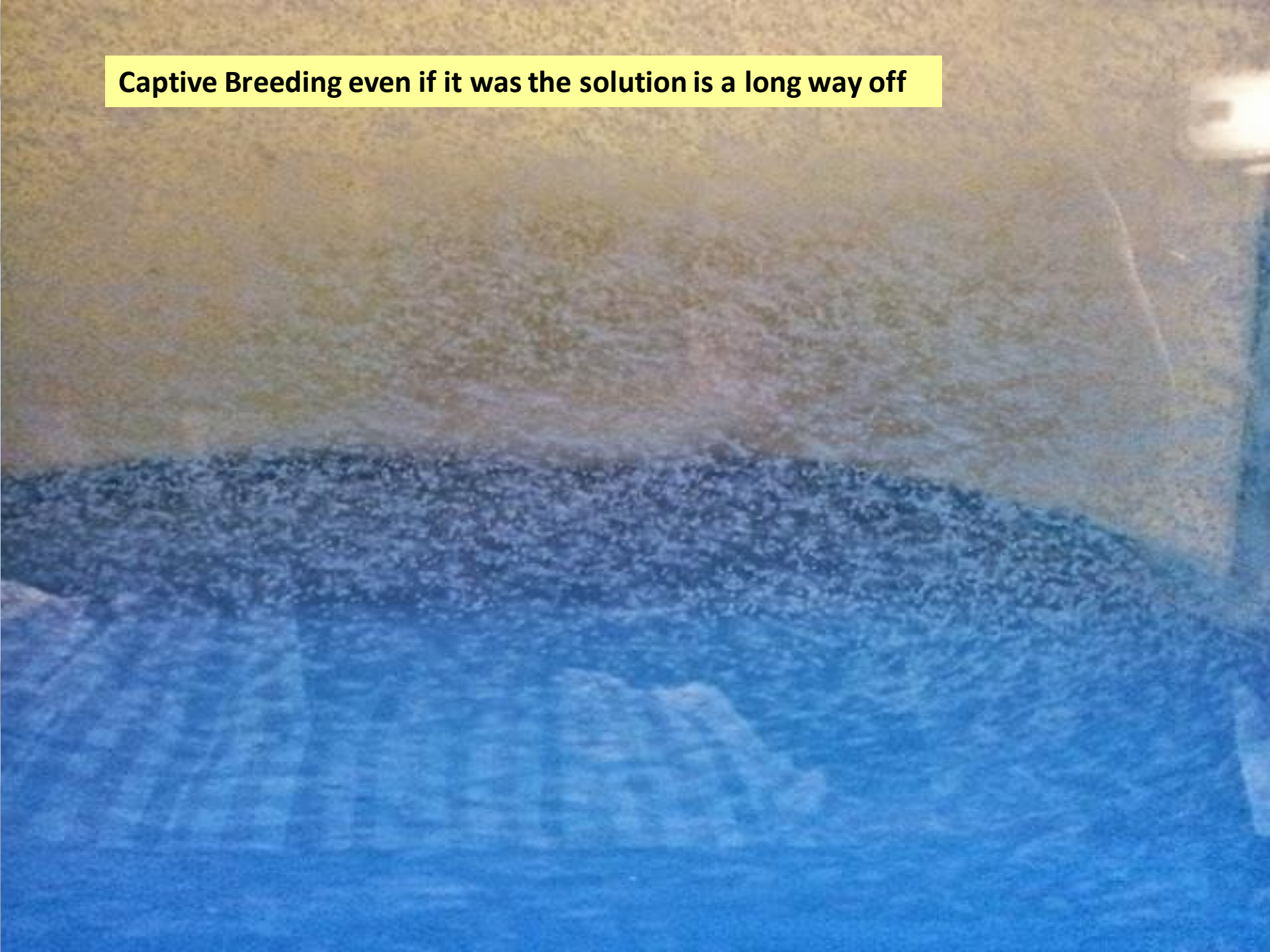
Better Eel Husbandry mortality was 40% of 150m quota **some 60 million** Glass Eels saved



Reduced Trafficking from 300 million to some 50m or about 20% so about **250m saved**

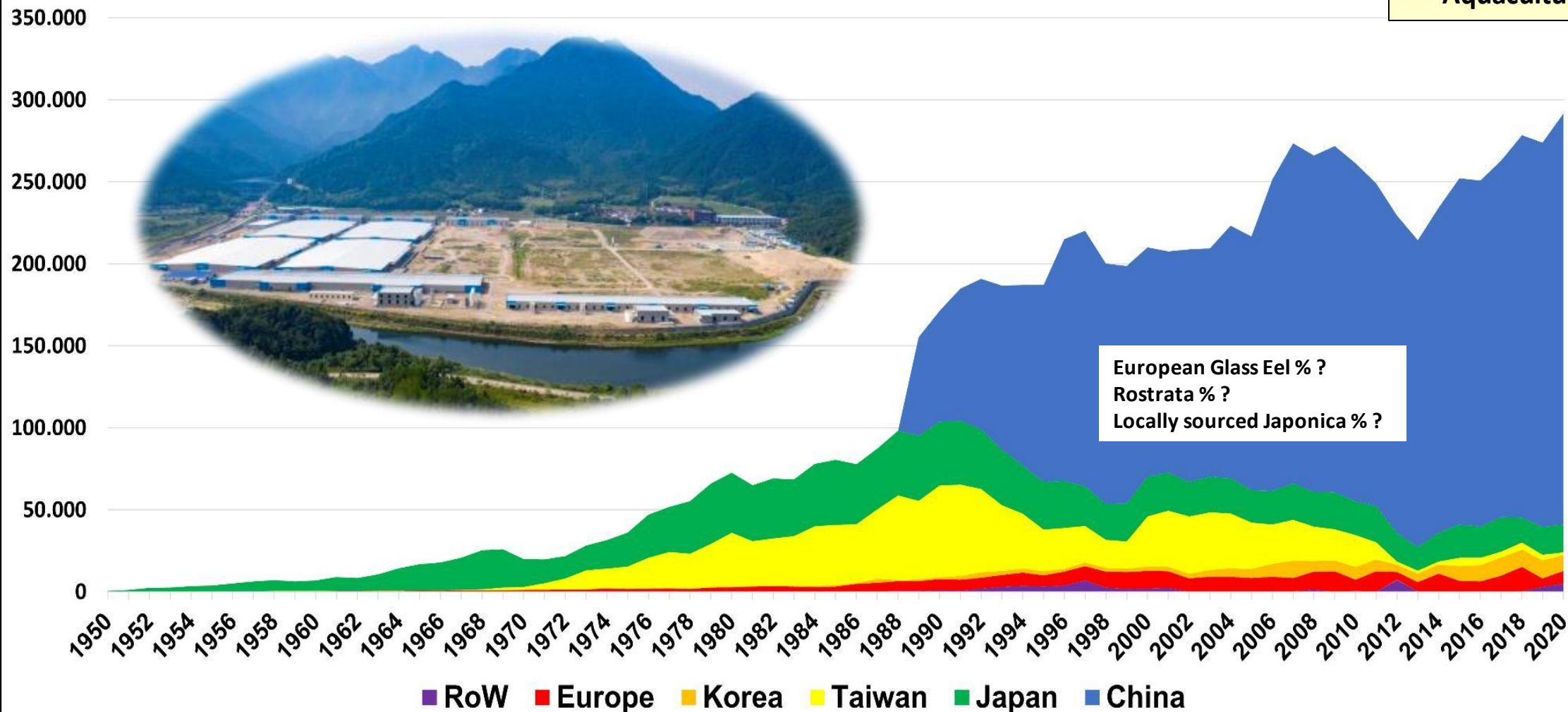
TOTAL ANNUAL SAVING
over **300**
million Glass Eels

Captive Breeding even if it was the solution is a long way off



Global eel aquaculture production in metric tonnes (period 1950-2020; FAO 2022)

“Europe is a small player in Global Eel Aquaculture”



This situation led to CITES Listing 2007 - 2010



Up to 100,000 glass eel in each suitcase

- Fishermen gets 10 cents an eel**
- Landed in Hong Kong 1Euro**
- Grown on 10 Euro**

364 Suitcases in one raid 2018

In 2018 300-350 million were trafficked

SEPRONA / EUROPOL

18th April 2018

MADRID

**“100 tons / 300 + million
Glass Eels a year”**

GUARDIA CIVIL
TERIOR



Reported Seizures

“Tens of millions a year”

16 million	2016 - 17
17 million	2017 - 18
15 million	2018 - 19
10 million	2019 - 20
1.38 million	2020 - 21



Reported Arrests

“Averaging 100 arrests a year”

48	2016 - 17
98	2017 - 18
154	2018 - 19
108	2019 - 20
52	2020 - 21



Recent ASIA Press Reports

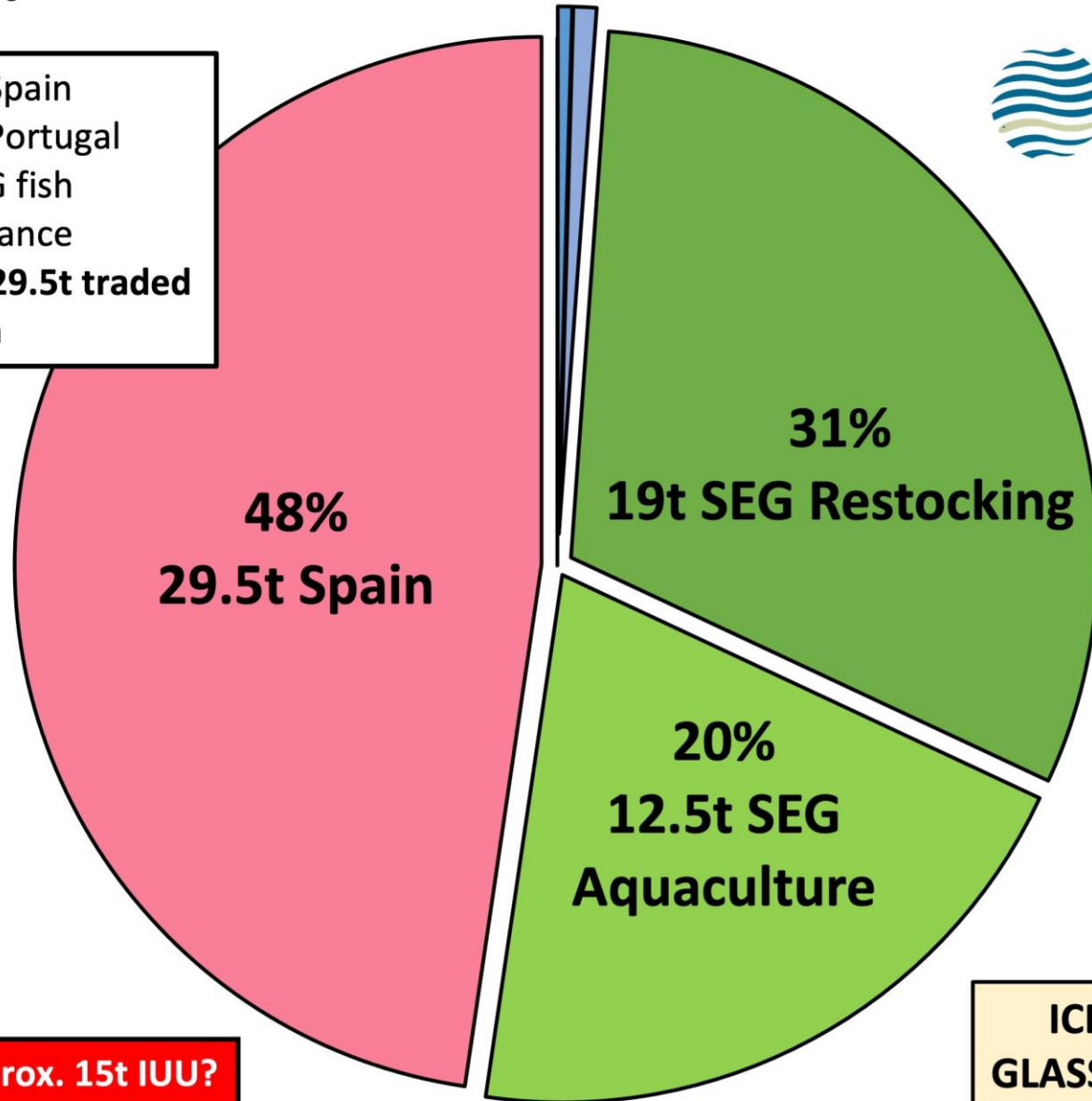
**Suggest 85% Reduction to
some 50 million fish a year...**

<https://www.sustainableeelgroup.org/counter-trafficking-success-is-reflected-by-crash-in-european-glass-eel-supply-into-chinese-eel-aquaculture/>

2021/2022

4.734t Spain
0.913t Portugal
4.3t SEG fish
19.5t France
TOTAL 29.5t traded in Spain

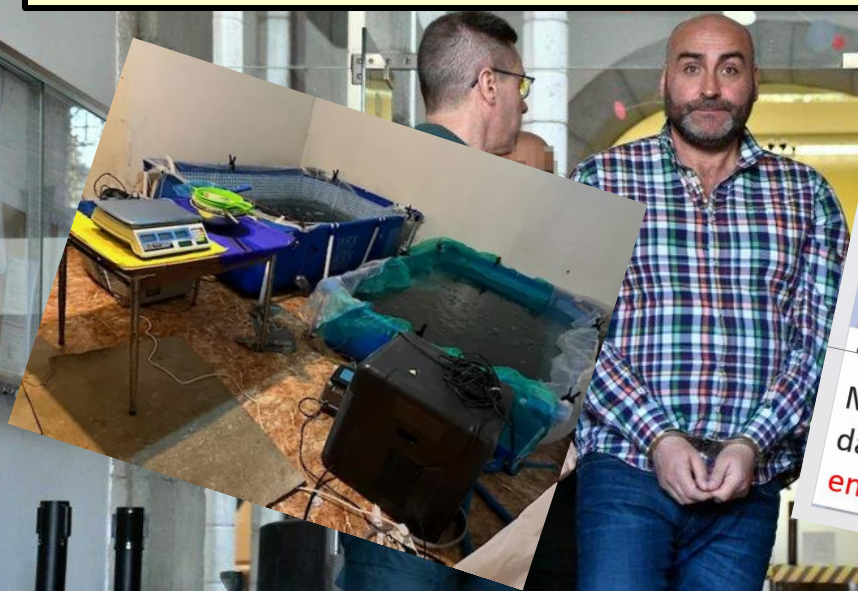
Non-SEG Restocking & Consumption <1t



Approx. 15t IUU?
50 million

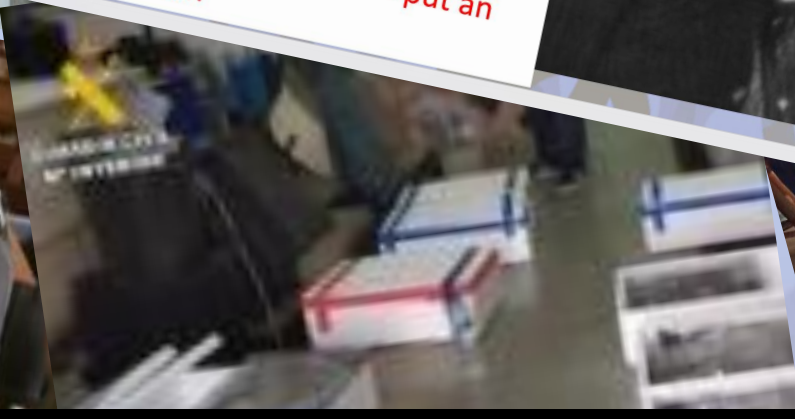
ICES TOTAL GLASS EEL CATCH 59.48t

2023 Some Images...all non SEG Certified – in 2023 the greatest number of seizures



Arrested and jailed likely invoking his 18 months suspended sentence
10 May 2023

"27 people arrested during the operation on 10 May, 20 people taken into custody the following days, ten now prosecuted. Justice has put an end to the vast operation"



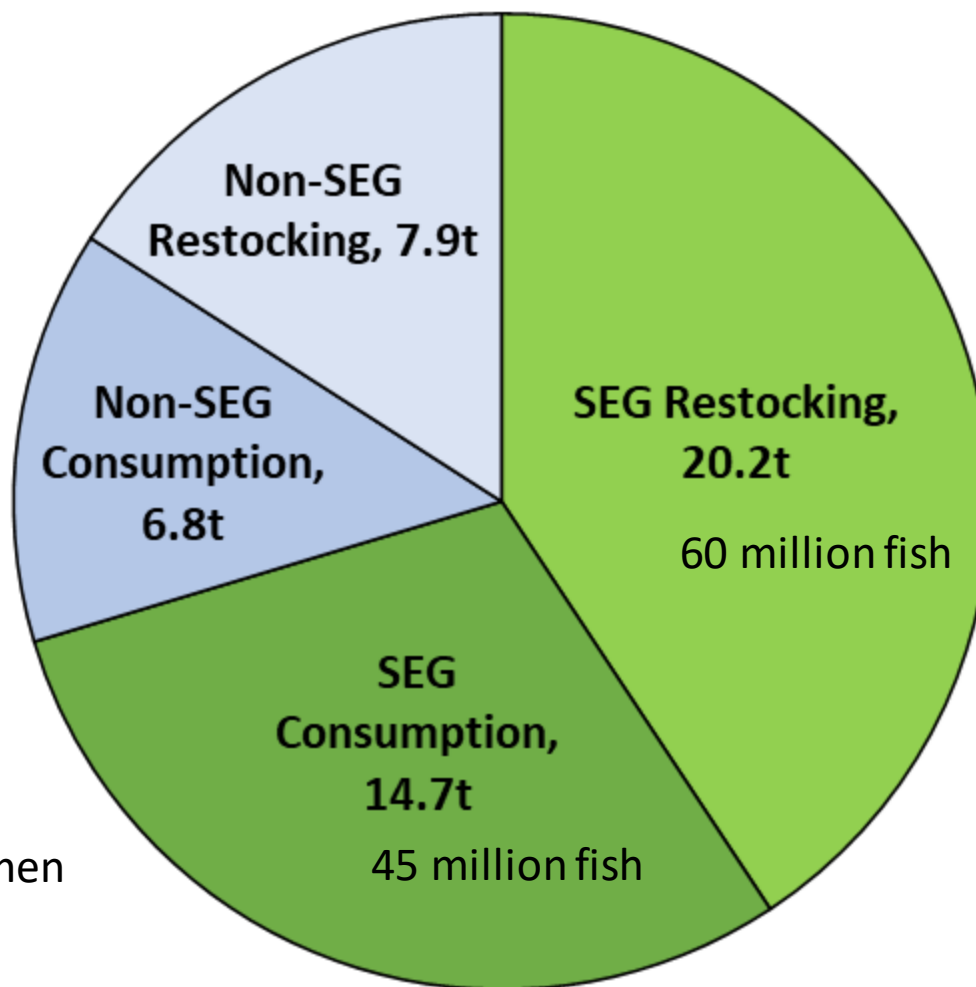
SEG congratulates the National and International Enforcement Agencies

This 50 ton is enough to meet the current EU Eel Farms and Restocking requirements

France 2022/2023

TOTAL 49.6t
2021/22 Total 55.6t

Much of the Trafficking was from this non SEG certified zone - likely closed. Seizures have likely reached new peak

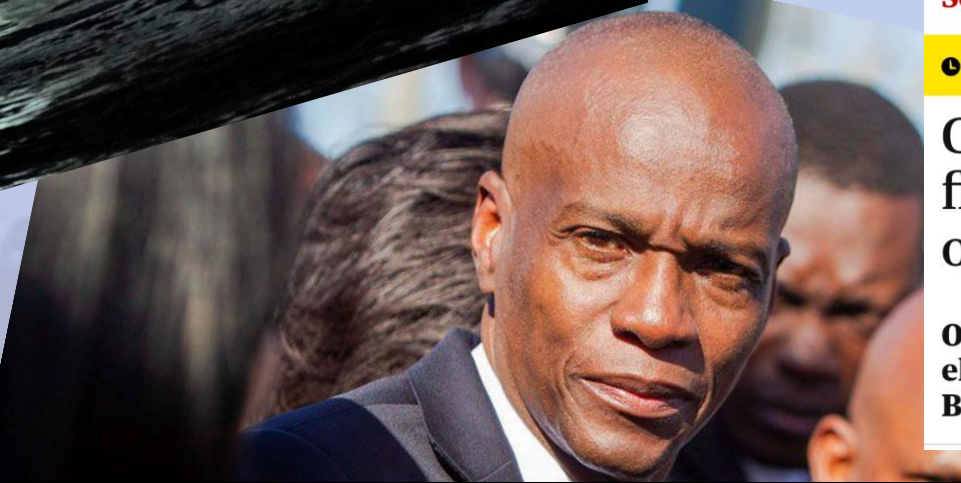


The SEG Voluntary Standard helps to identify and demonstrate those working **responsibly** within the supply chain so enabling enforcement agencies to concentrate their resources more effectively

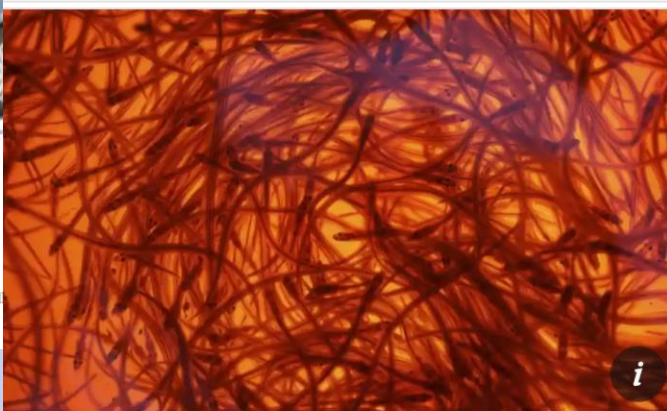
88% of French Fishermen are now certified



**The American Eel
'Rostrata' the new
level – 200 million
for 2023**



Jovenel Moïse, the president of Haiti, was assassinated by drugs and eel gangs on 7 July 2021 at his residence in Port-au-Prince.



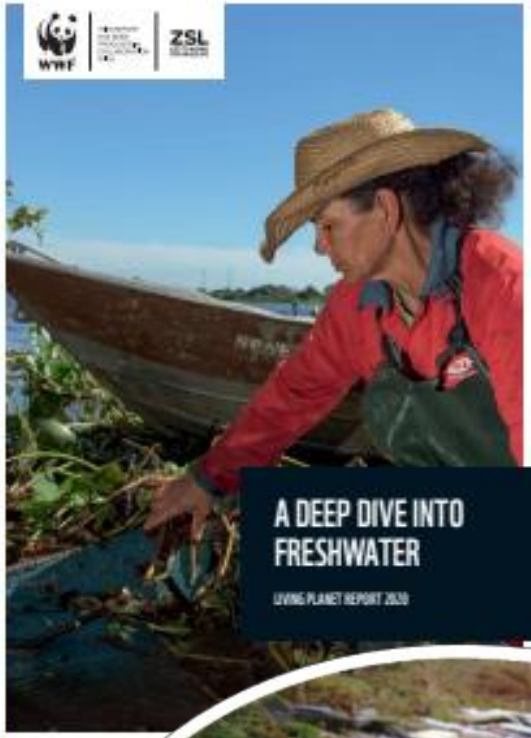
Seascope: the state of our oceans

This article is more than 2 months old

Canada shuts baby eel fishery after string of attacks on harvesters

Officials announce 45-day ban on harvesting elvers in provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick

WWF State of the Planet Report



“Migratory freshwater fish have declined by 93% since 1970 in Europe

LIVING PLANET INDEX FOR MIGRATORY FRESHWATER FISH

93% Matches the EEL

The World's Forgotten Fishes

#EmergencyRecoveryPlan

<p>Of the earth's surface area</p> <p>ONLY 1% IS FRESHWATER <small>(71% of the surface area is ocean)</small></p>	<p>... this contains</p> <p>51% OF ALL KNOWN FISH SPECIES</p>	<p>... and today</p> <p>1 OUT OF 3</p> <p>are threatened with EXTINCTION</p>
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SEG BOARD

Sustainability and Responsibility



Eel Reg 1100/2007

“The SEG Standard does help combat illegal trade and does improve traceability and certification?”



The SEG Standard

SEG promoting Eel Recovery through ‘protection and sustainable use’