



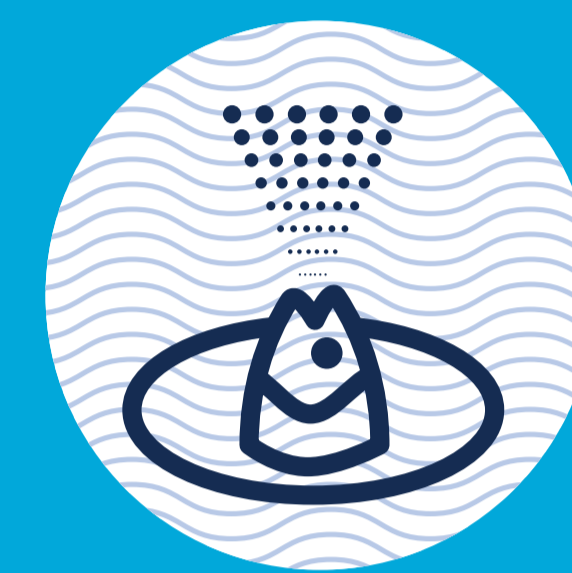
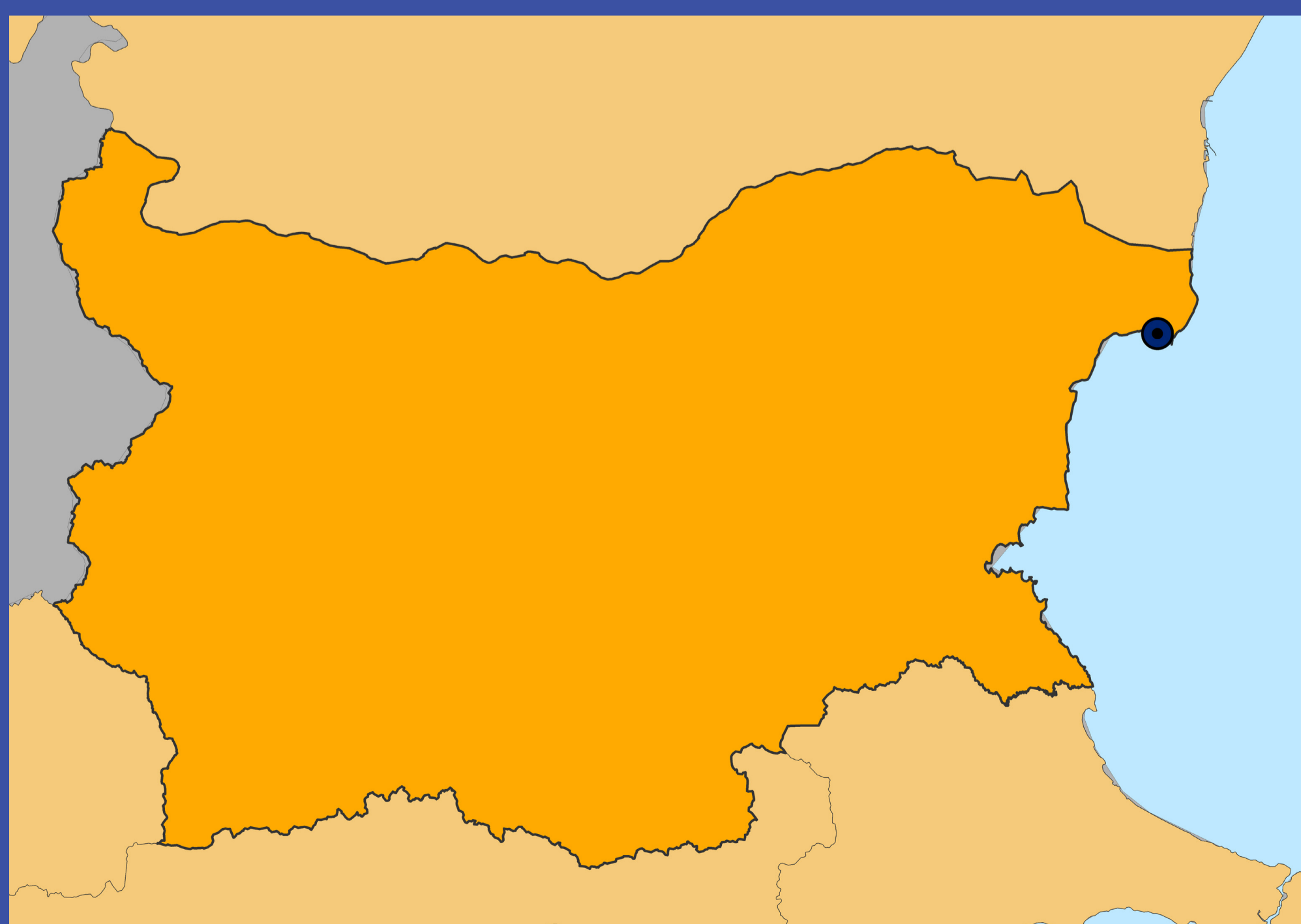
SUPPORTED BY THE EFF (European Fisheries Fund)

UPSCALING OF BLACK SEA MUSSEL PRODUCTION TO MEET MARKET DEMAND

The operation represented the latest in a long line of investments to develop and expand the Dalboka Black Sea mussel (*Muthilus gallaprovincialis*) farm. The farm produces market-size mussels ready for human consumption.

Located in Kaliakra Bay on the North Black Sea coast, the company first constructed an underwater mussel farm in 2003 with a total area of 780 m² and expanded it in 2006 by another 1 640 m². The latest EFF supported investment, further expanded the farm. Funds were used to equip and modernise the production facilities in order to improve working conditions, hygiene, human and animal health and to increase the quality of production, whilst also reducing the negative impact on environment.

Website: <http://dalboka.com>



aquaculture

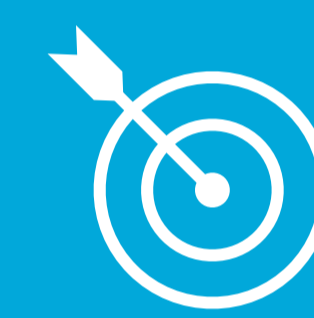


processing



environment

DOBRICH, KAVARNA, BULGARIA



RESULTS (2009 - 2011):

- Increase in farm area under production by 2 080 m²
- Increase in annual production of 250 tonnes, to reach 450 tonnes
- Increase in sales values of 25 % compared to sales before the expansion
- Increase in employment from 5 to 28 people
- Expansion of sales to local and national markets
- Scaling up of production acted as a catalyst for the future construction of a mussel processing plant
- Establishment of closed production cycle – from farm to fork



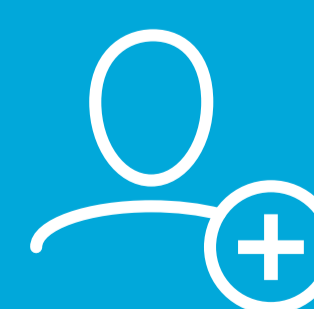
LESSONS LEARNED:

Expansion in business operations often needs to be phased over a period of years to reduce the operational and market risks associated with rapid expansion. The ability of beneficiaries to access different sources of EU funds over time may therefore be beneficial.



TOTAL OPERATION COST:

Total budget: 658 782 €
Union contribution: 299 520 €



CONTACT DETAILS:

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