

## Partner Search Profile Form

| <b>CONTACT DETAILS</b> |  |
|------------------------|--|
| <b>ORGANIZATION</b>    | <b>SOCIETATEA ECOLOGICA AQUATERRA</b>  |
| <b>TYPE</b>            | <b>NGO – research organization</b>   |
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### **Work history of the organization**

From 20 years ago, our actions really contribute to ecological restoration of rivers and lakes in Romania.

Our interest is to develop the aquaculture domain in Romania, with the scope to protect rare fish species.

Currently, excessive pollution of rivers and especially unrestrained poaching resulted in the disappearance of about 40-45% of river fish species in all European countries.

Pollution, more or less are picked pollutants emitted by industry, agriculture and other human activities in the catchment area of the river.

In Romania it is estimated that about 50-60% of river fish species are threatened with extinction.

In Romania are known 95 species of freshwater fish species but are still live only 85, 10 species of them are already extinct, and marine species, more than 60% are not found on the Romanian seaside.

Currently about 20% are at risk of extinction: tertiary endemite – aspret (*Romanichthys valsanicola*) - the only fish species who have the name of our country, rudd covers (*Sardinus racovitzai*), small chub (*Leuciscus Leuciscus*), Maramureş chub (*Leuciscus souffia agassizi* - *Telestes souffia agassizi*), common zingel (*Zingel zingel*), mason (*Zingel asper*), striped perch (*Stizostedion volgense*), orfe (*Leuciscus iduus*), Gobies or mug of sludge (*Benthophylloides brauneri*), sturgeon (beluga, sturgeon, visa, starry sturgeon, sterlet), mudminnow (*Umbra krameri*), grig -zvârluga (*Cobitis elongata*), the old man with thorns (*Pungitius platygaster*) etc.

Now the most important project we develop is Research Station for Biodiversity Conservation and development of the mountainous area of Frasin-Suceava. The project has a total estimated value of over 5 million euro.

Our priority is to develop a basic breeding stocks to repopulate the rivers and lakes of Romania, every year in the future and have a national reserve of fish to repopulate in rivers where is danger of extinction in the wild.

The project started since 2002 but actual work started since 2006. Currently some objectives are completed (first farm where they are raised sturgeon), some are partially completed (offices and laboratories training center) and follows at shortest time to begin work to complete all objectives.

We propose that in the next five years to put into operation this resort overall research and to start

the first concrete projects (repopulate with fish species) at Bistrita and Moldova rivers, with local authorities responsible for monitoring fish species.

Research programs of Aquaterra ES are focused mainly by:

- Fish Ethology
- Fish Ecology
- Fish Biochemistry
- Reproductive Biology
- Fish Telemetry
- Ecotoxicology of fish and aquatic invertebrates
- Fish nutrition - production of compound feed
- Develop automated electronic feeding fish
- Production of bio herbal medicines from marine hatcheries, incubators sterilization and prevention of viral diseases and fungal
- Management and conservation of protected areas - Natura 2000
- Development of mountain areas

## RESEARCH TOPIC

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|--|--|
| <b>Topic of interest/SCOPE</b>                       | <p><b>Fisheries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Mapping and modelling of the environmental, economic and social effects of the fishing sector under different schemes of maximisation of resource efficiency and minimization of carbon footprint, allowing to respond to questions such as: which combination produce the best balance between economic efficiency, environmental and social effects? These schemes should include energy consumption, vessel design, effects on targeted resources, environment and society.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developing techniques and strategies to assess the impact of coastal fisheries on sensitive habitats in a context of sustainable exploitation of fishery resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>Aquaculture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developing water treatment technology and technologies to increase water/feed efficiency to lower the production cost and the environmental impact of aquaculture.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developing strategies to increase efficiency of aquaculture production (e.g. feed conversion ratio, reduction of the time to slaughter ...).</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Developing strategies to decrease waste effluents and bio-deposit impacts (for mariculture and inland aquaculture).</li> </ul> |
| <b>Topic title</b>                                   | <b>Will be developed with Consortium</b>   |
| <b>Role in the project (coordinator/participant)</b> | <b>PARTNER</b>   |