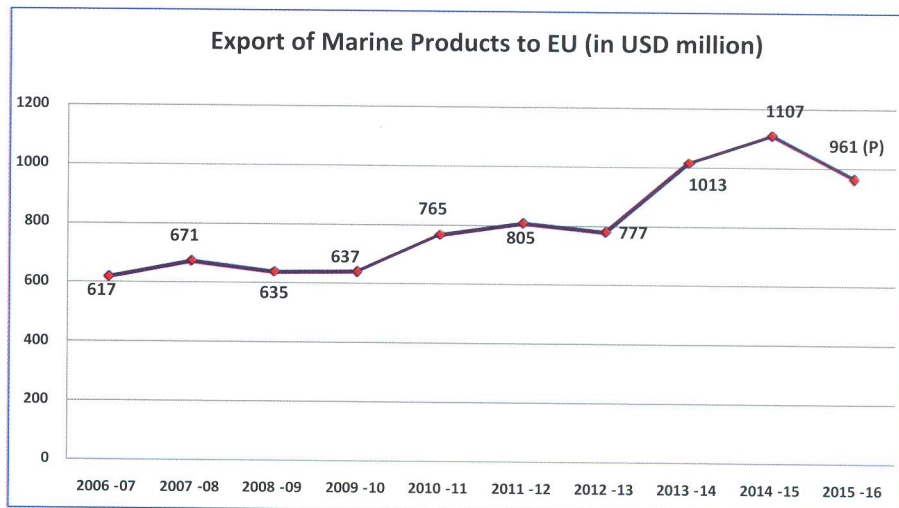


MPEDA's participation in Seafood Expo Global 2016 at Brussels

EU Seafood Market

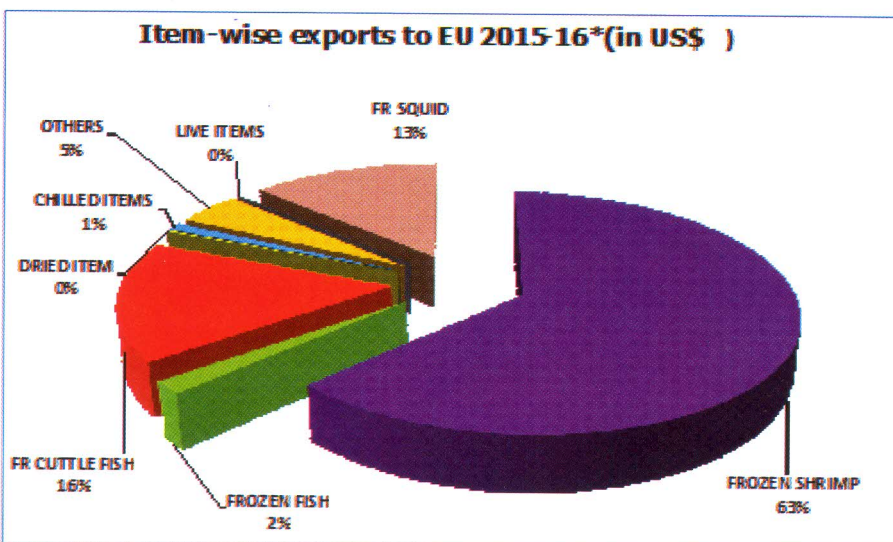
EU is the largest importer and exporter of fish and fishery products in the world. The European Union affected an estimated total imports and exports of fish and fishery products to the tune of 48.8 and 29.3 billion US \$ respectively in 2015 against 54.4 and 32.2 billion respectively in 2014 making it one among the topmost seafood markets of the world. The EU household expenditures for seafood was EUR 54.7 billion in 2013. But their per capita fish consumption has declined from 26 kg in 2008 to 23.9 kg in 2012 indicating that consumers buy less seafood but spend more for it. The trend also brings about a change in the consumption preferences as well as seafood prices. EU consumption is dominated by captured fish, which represents ¾ of the total.



Norway and China are the main suppliers in EU doing salmon and whitefish (Cod & Pollock) respectively. The most remarkable phenomena observed are the increasing consumption of salmon and herring, and the stabilization of pangasius. Demand for organic aquaculture products has grown rapidly over the last years, mostly through imports from outside the EU. The biggest

organic markets in the EU are Germany, France, the UK and Italy (EUMOFA, 2015).

There is a widening gap between the amount of seafood eaten in the EU and the volume supplied by the fishing industry. Today, a quarter of fish and seafood produced in the EU comes from fish farms and other forms of aquaculture. Mussels, Rainbow trout and Atlantic salmon are the main species farmed in the EU by volume, followed by oysters, sea bream, common carp, clams and sea bass.



The EU is a net importer of fishery and seafood products, with a trade balance deficit (exports minus imports) that has been growing rapidly since 2009. The 2014 trade deficit was the largest ever at EUR 16.6 billion. This was primarily due to the growing import of shrimps, which increased by EUR 630 million between 2013 and 2014.

*Provisional

