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Collegio futuro Topics - Class 2024/25

Towards a sustainable aquaculture

Over the past half century, aquaculture production has grown rapidly worldwide. Aquaculture is the fastest-growing food production technology, globally, accounting for more fish biomass than capture fisheries if non-edible amounts are included. Because of its rapid development, sustainability, particularly environmental sustainability, has emerged as a growing concern. The enhancement of awareness for environmental issues and the implementation of practices aimed at reducing the environmental impact represent two of the main challenges for aquaculture. Today, the need to manage aquaculture production in an environmentally responsible and sustainable way is no longer up for debate.

Students participating in the working group named 'Towards a Sustainable Aquaculture' will take a look at current challenges, as well as ecological, environmental and economic impacts related to aquaculture. The final output of this educational program is drafting a policy brief, which should provide a concept to increase the sustainability of aquaculture activities and support decisions to improve best practices. Moreover, the concept could incorporate criteria related to the far-field effects of aquaculture, recognizing and accounting for the impact of local conditions on farming.

Impulse lectures & supervision

Prof. Dr. Luigi Orsi, Sustainable development, University of Milan
Prof. Dr. Marco Parolini, Ecology/Ecotoxicology, University of Milan

External partner & guest speaker:
Dr. Federico Håland Gaeta, NIVA (The Norwegian Institute for Water Research)