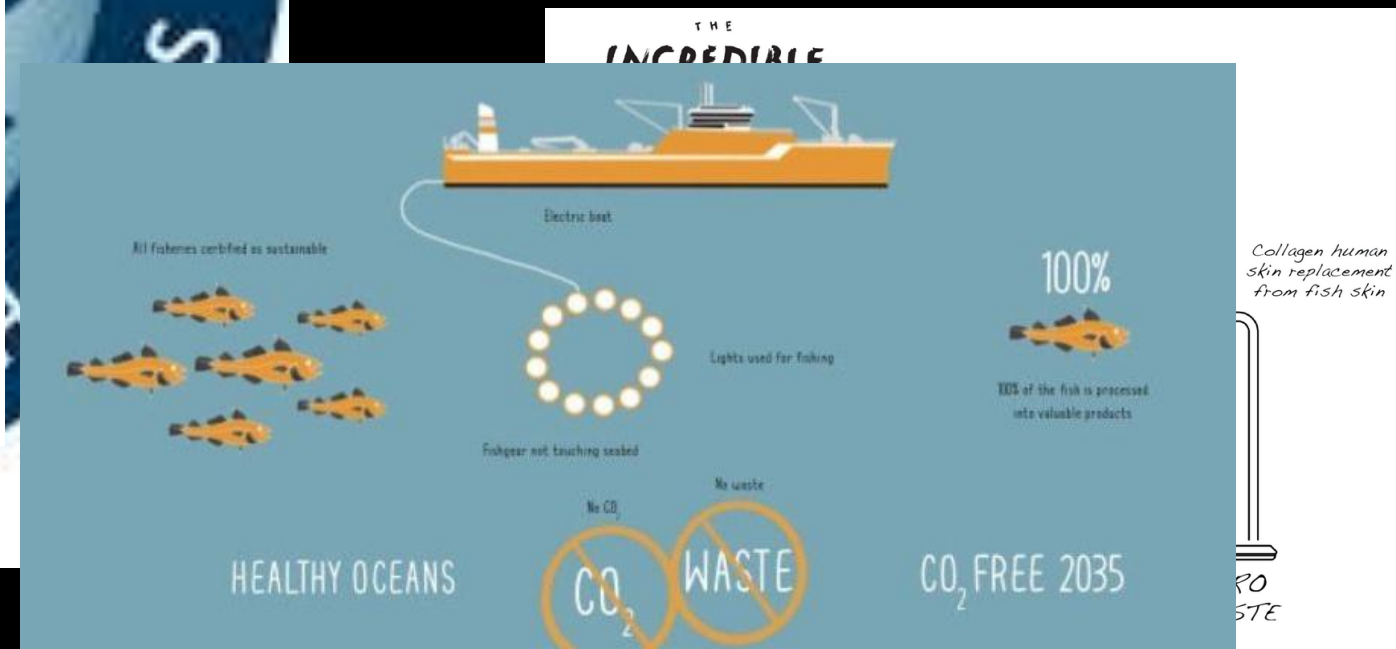
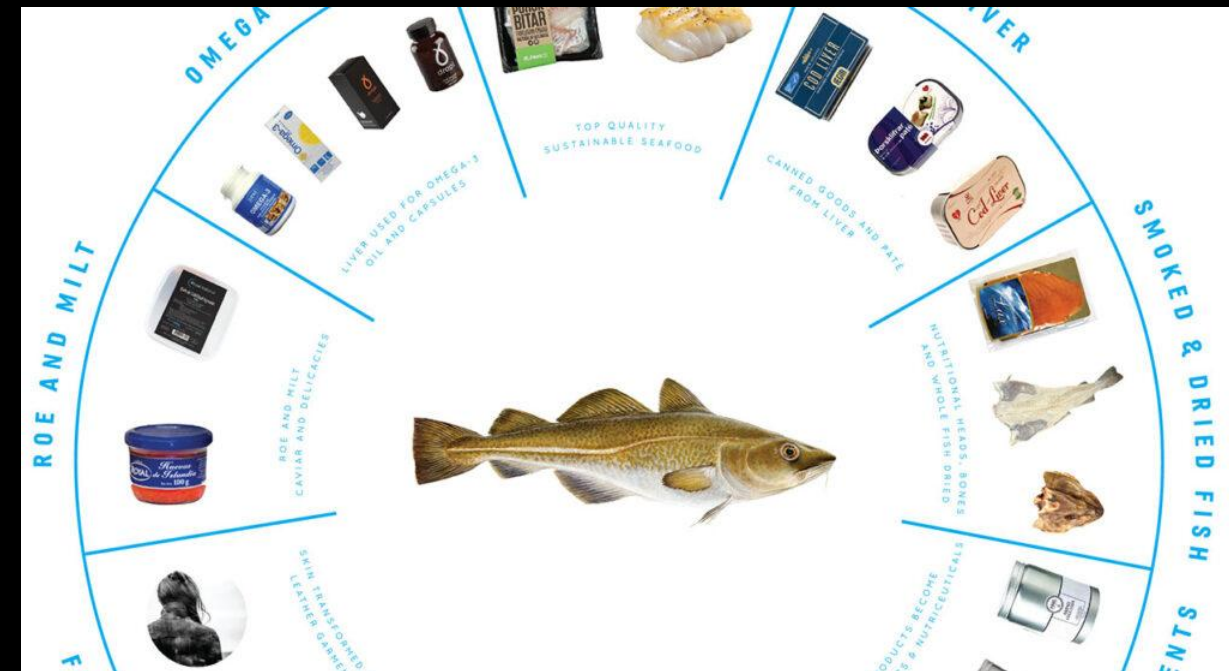
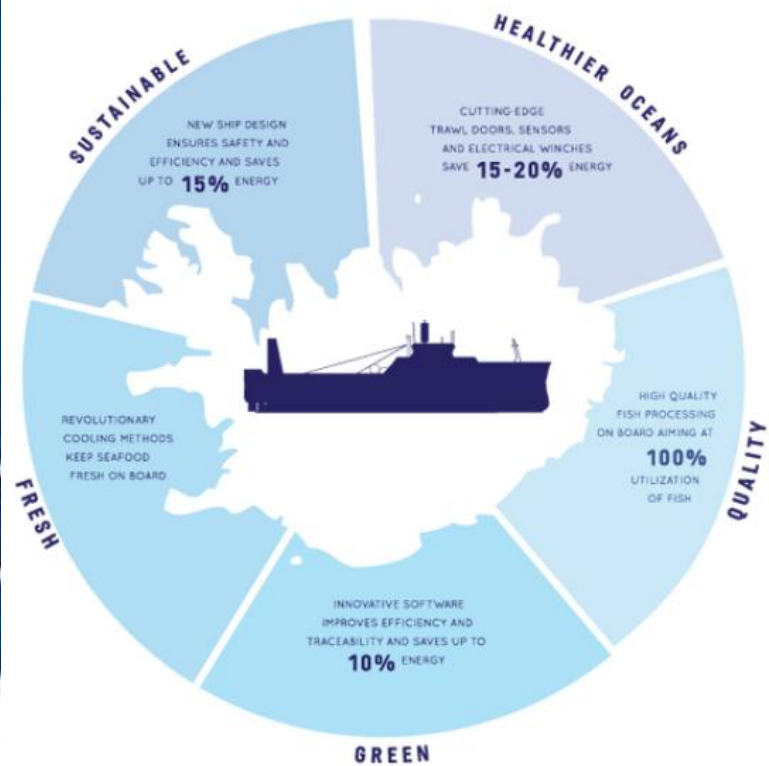


Matthias Kokorsch  
University Centre of the Westfjords  
Coastal Communities & Regional Development

# fishing ship OF TOMORROW



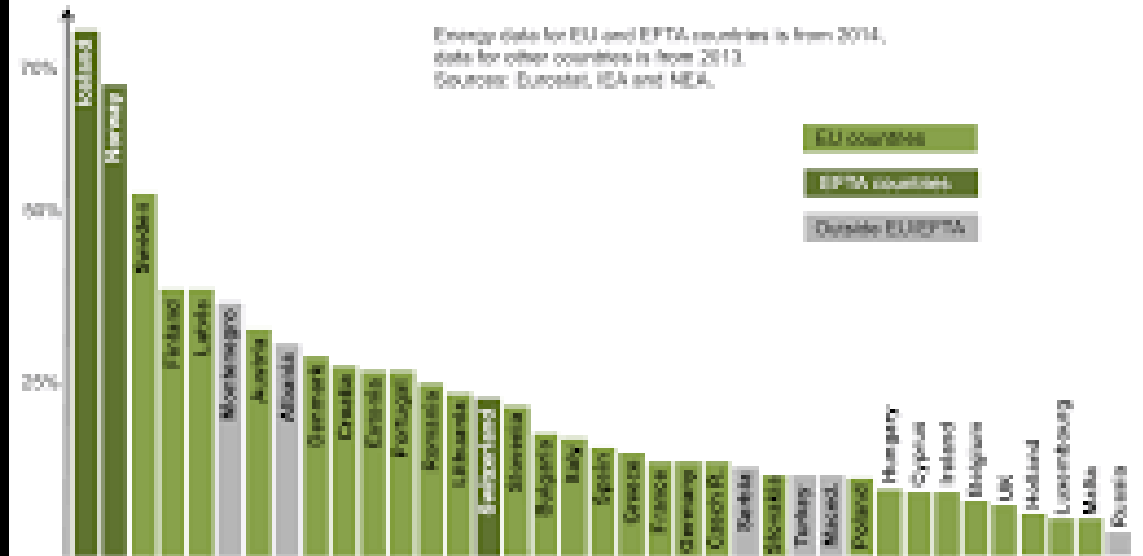




## ICELAND IS EUROPE'S **GREEN** ENERGY LEADER

Share of renewable energy (percentage) in gross final energy consumption in countries of Europe.

Energy data for EU and EFTA countries is from 2014, data for other countries is from 2013.  
Sources: Eurostat, IEA and NEA.



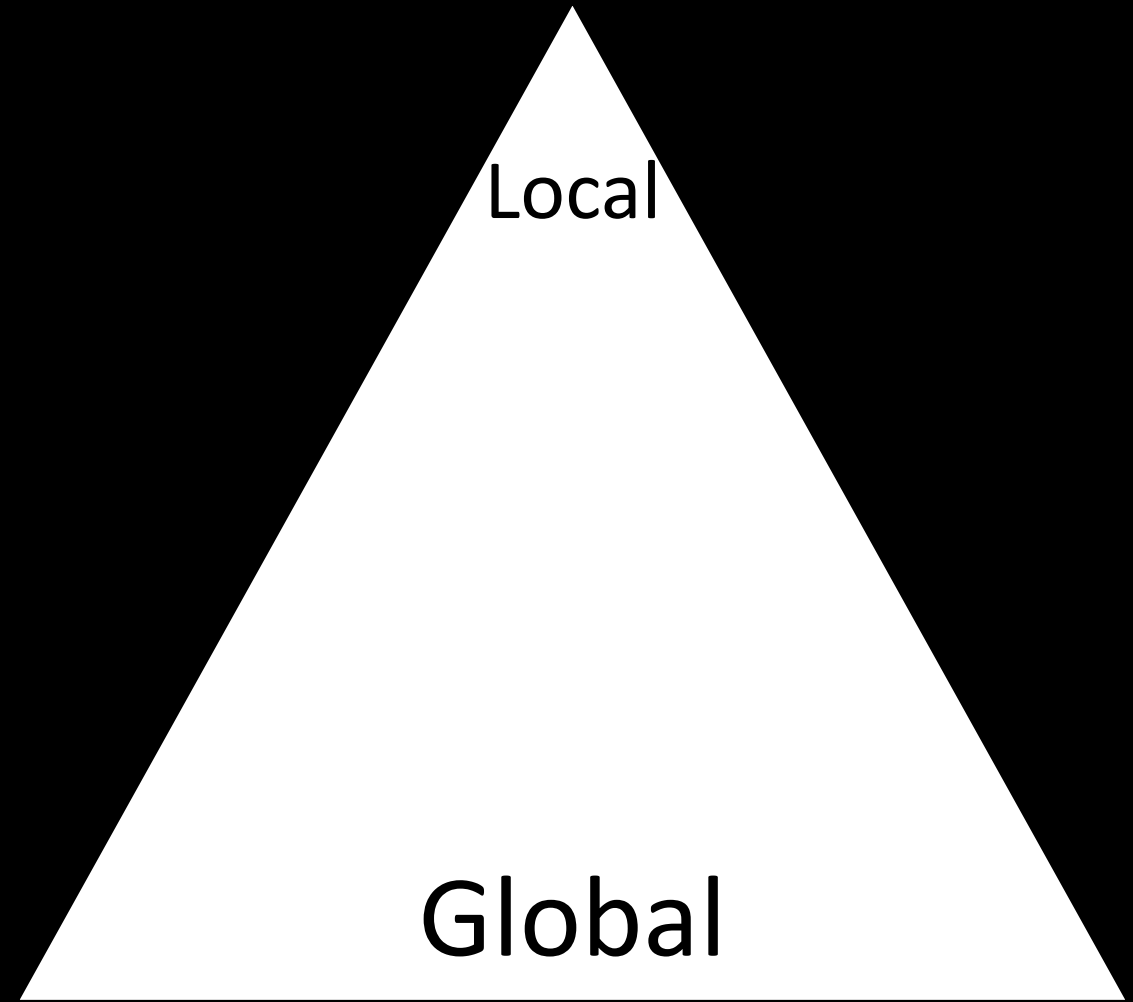
© Solja Energy Partners 2018



# Sustainability...

“Sustainable development is a three legged stool embodying environmental, economic and social sustainability; dangers arise when one of these legs is weakened by neglect.”

(Symes and Phillipson 2009, 1)





# Community Resilience

*Community resilience* is  
'the ability of a community to cope  
and adjust to **stresses caused by  
social, political, and environmental  
change** and to engage **community  
resources** to overcome adversity  
and take advantage of  
opportunities in **response** to  
change'  
(Amundsen, 2012, p. 46)

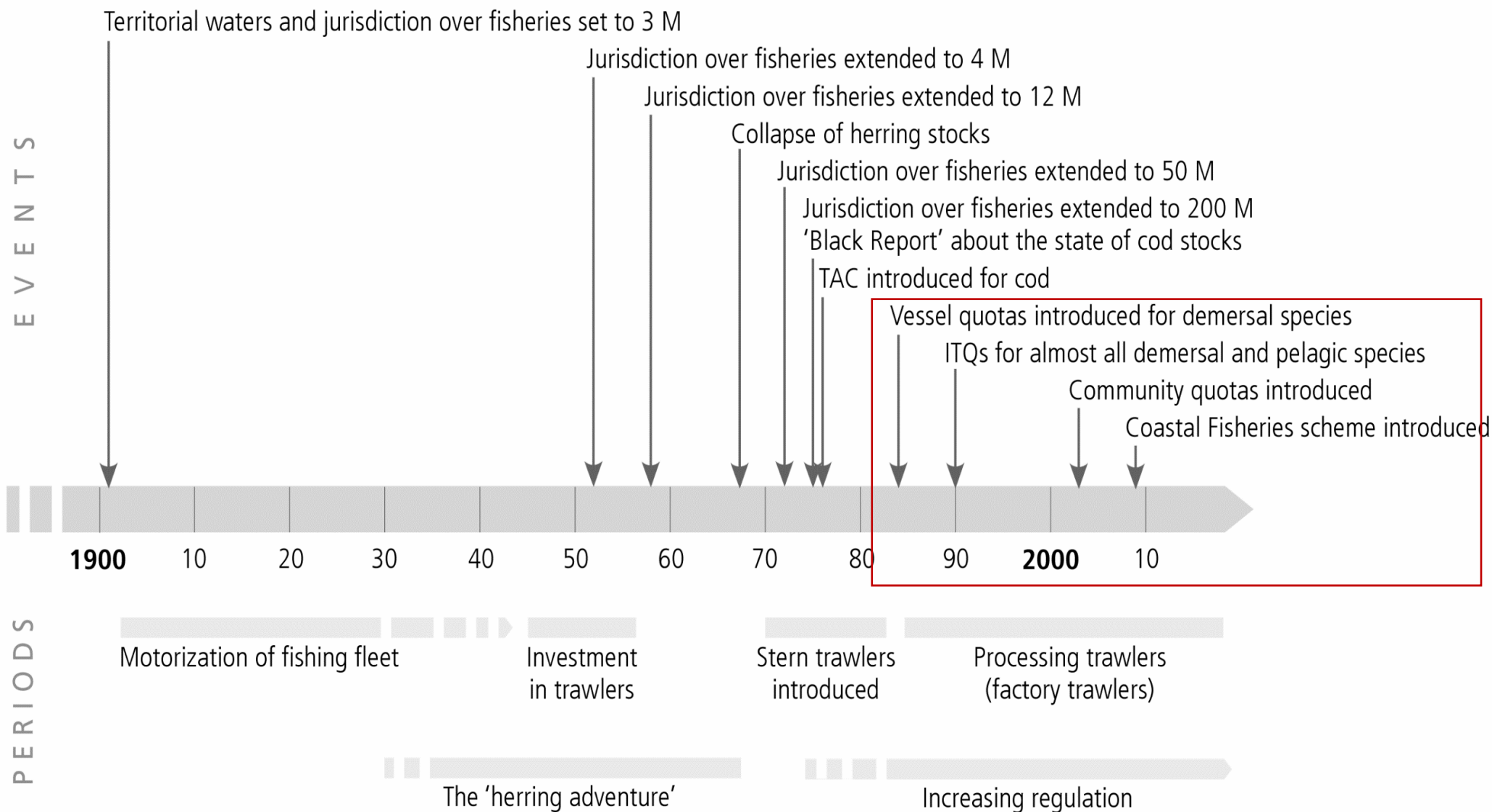


**CHAPTER I**  
**General provisions**  
Article 1

The exploitable marine stocks of the Icelandic fishing banks are the common property of the Icelandic nation. The objective of this Act is to promote their conservation and efficient utilisation, thereby ensuring stable employment and settlement throughout Iceland. The allocation of harvest rights provided for by this Act neither endows individual parties with the right of ownership nor irrevocable control over harvest rights.

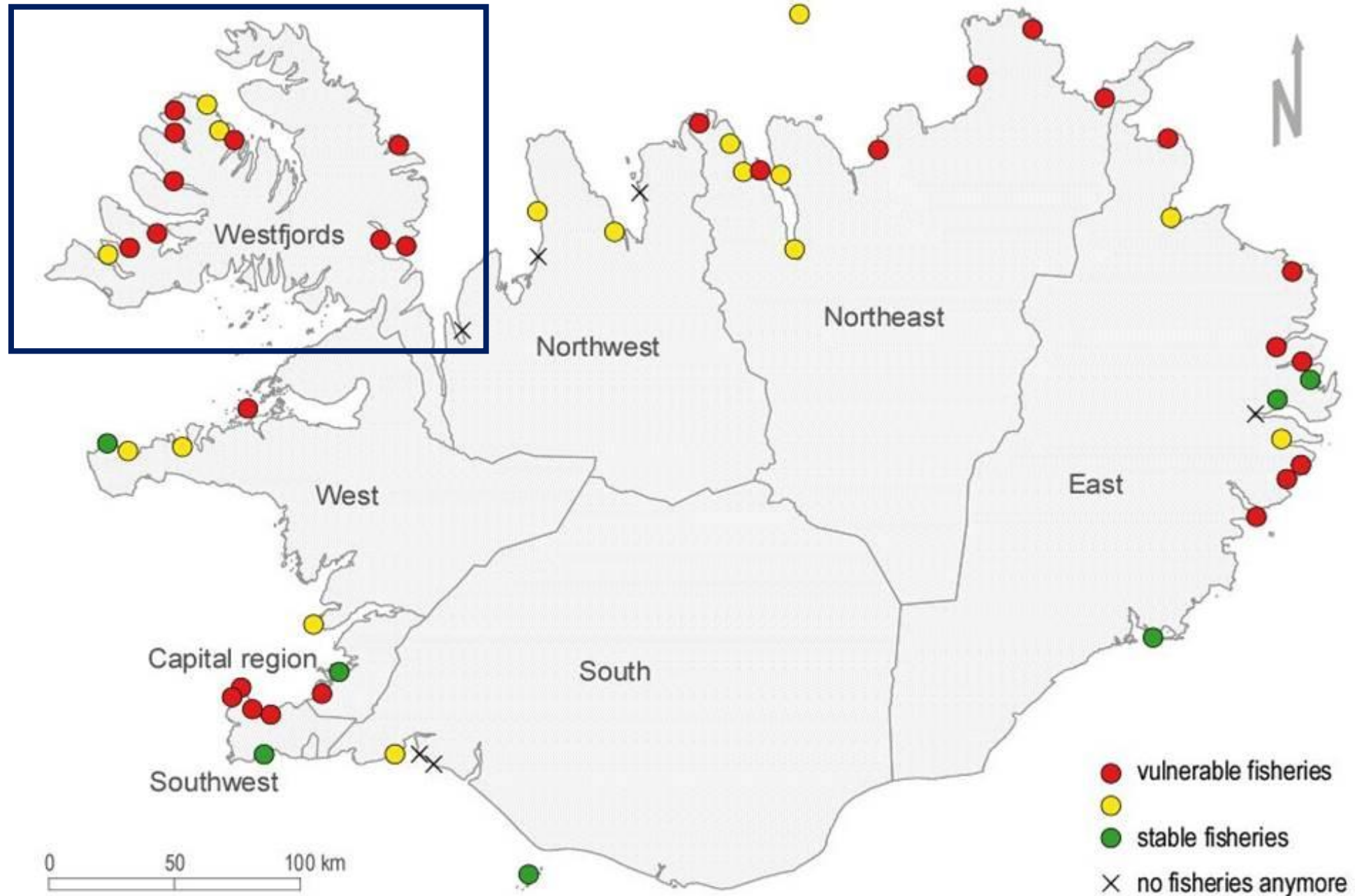


# Resilient to what...?

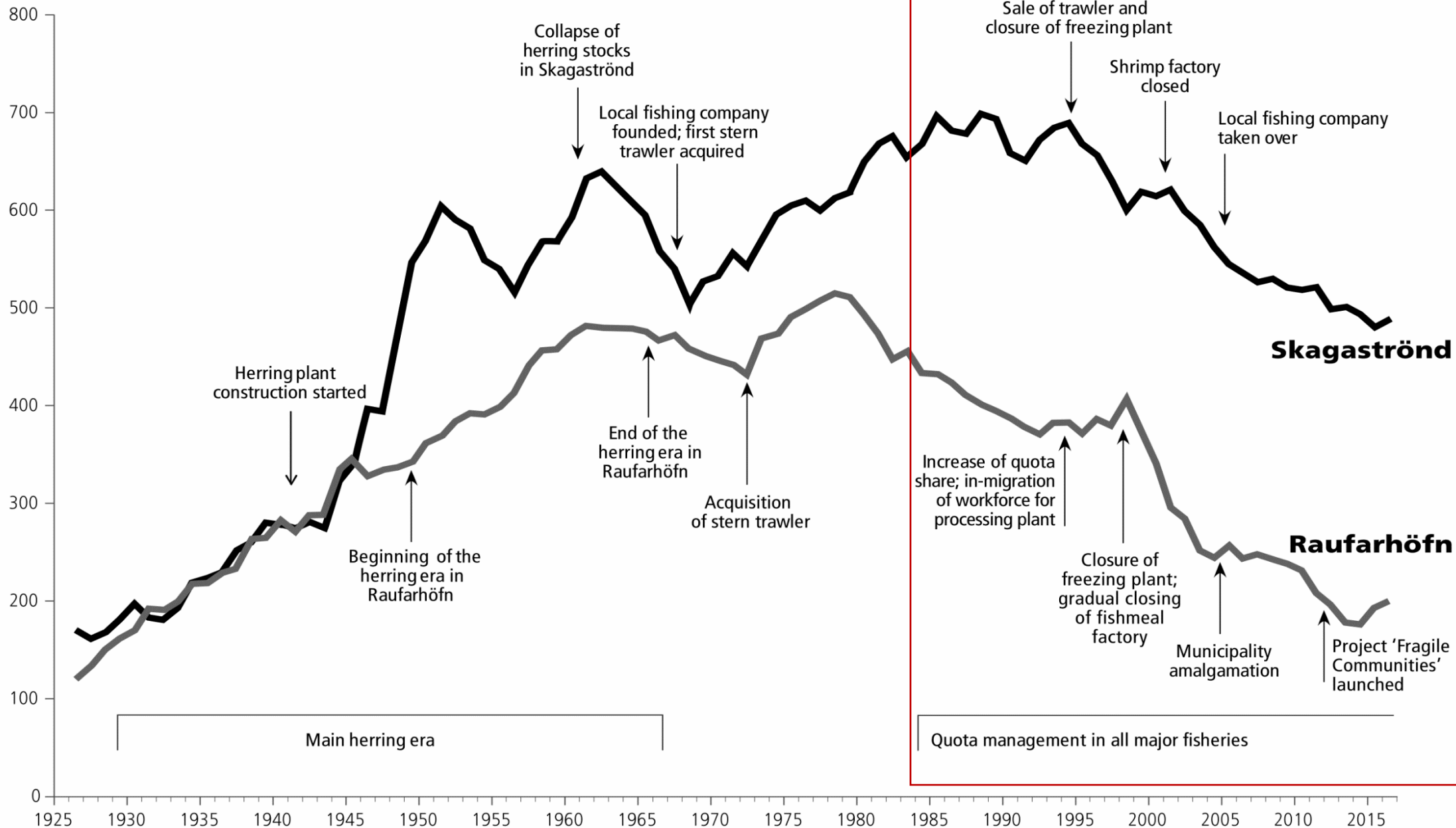




## Status of Icelandic fishing villages (2016)



Inhabitants





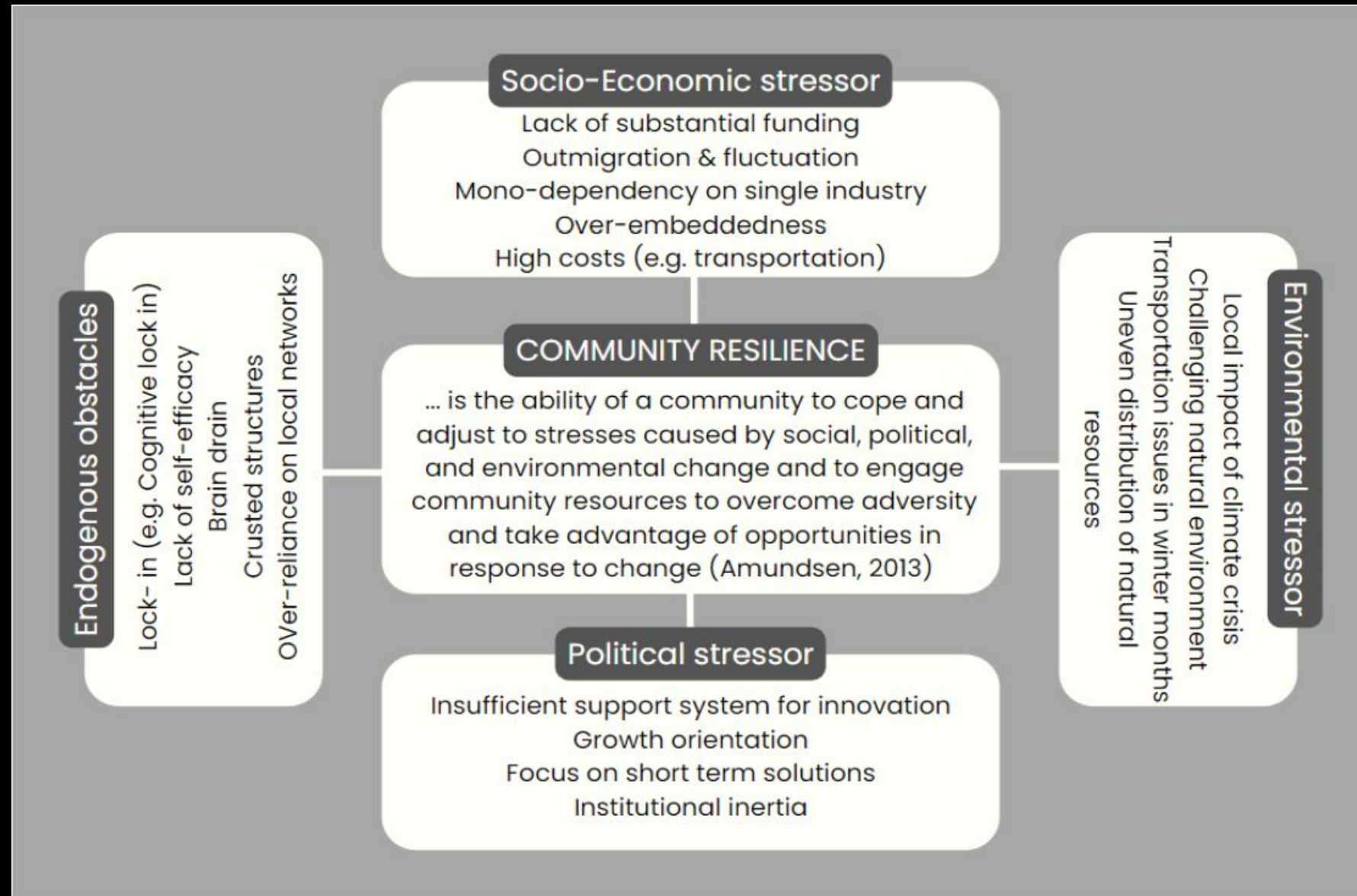
# Transformational Shock

- **Comparatively rapid and sudden changes**
- **Difficult to respond to**

# Structural Change

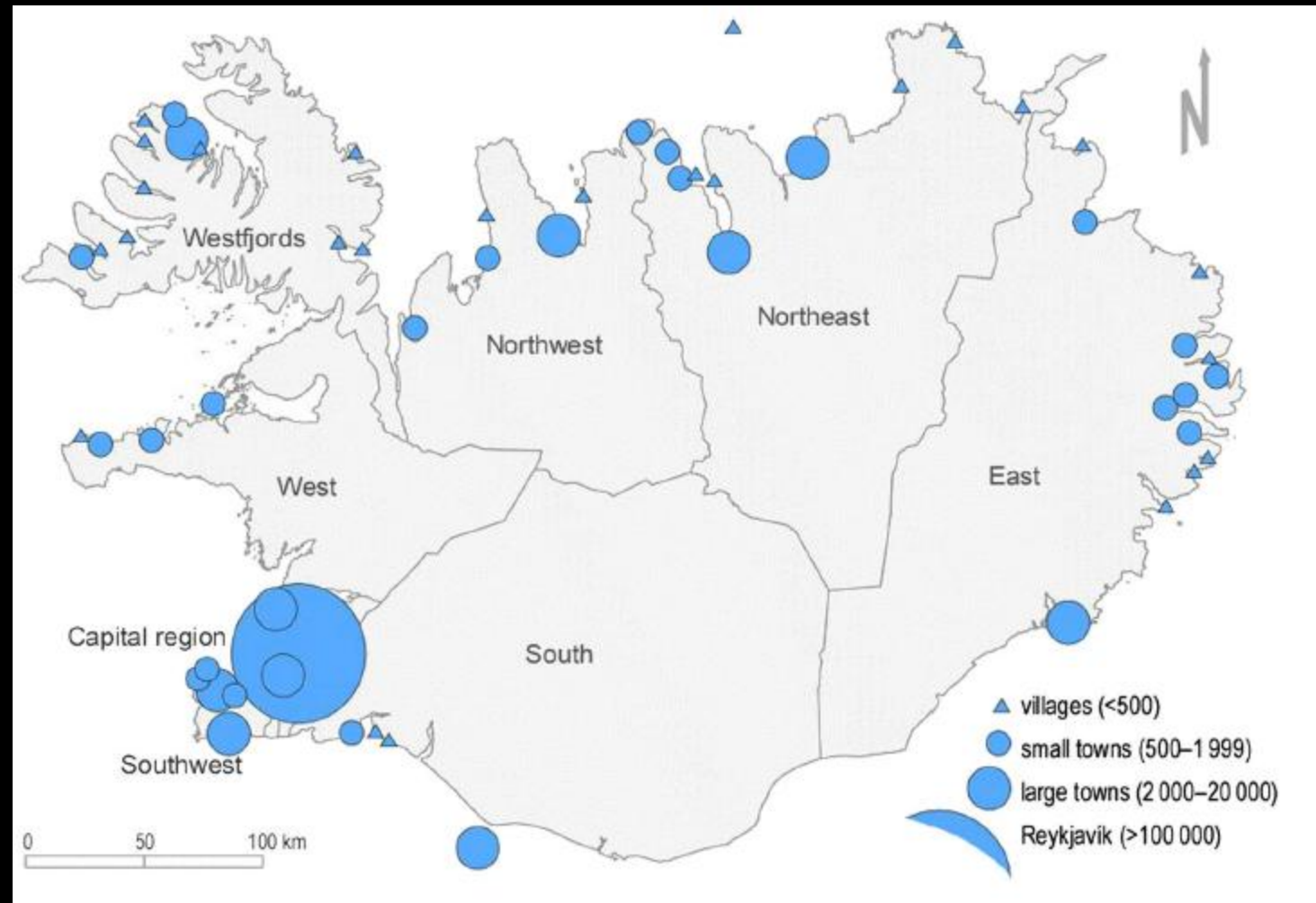
- **Slow and gradual process, shaped by long-term changes**
- **Can in theory be addressed with sustainable strategies**





**Fig. 1.** Community Resilience in the context of different external stressors and local obstacles in Iceland.

# Challenges for rural development







Depopulation in Iceland &  
loss of livelihood: responses





# REORIENTATION & RENEWAL

# Renewal...

...or new dependency





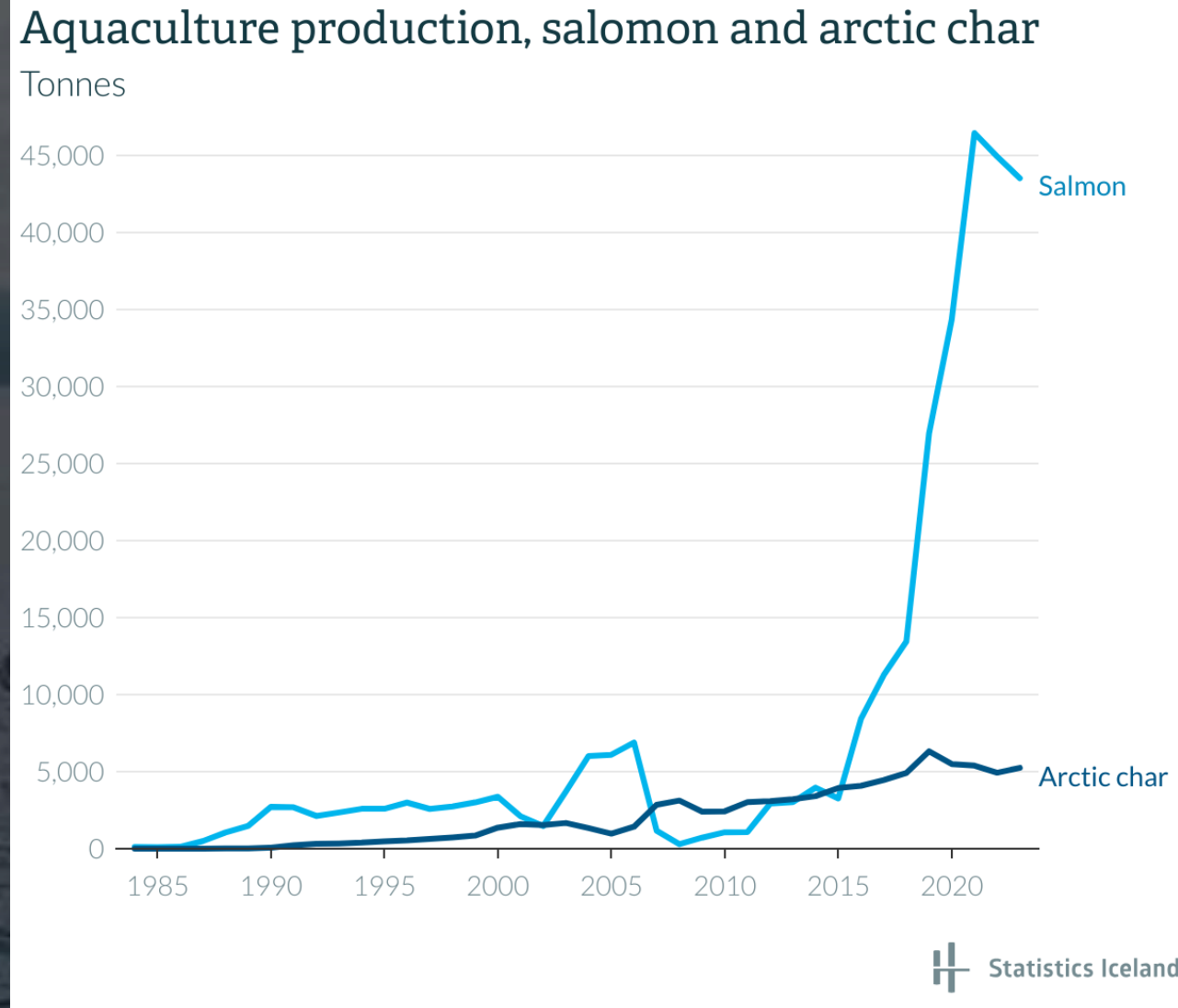
1790t in 2010



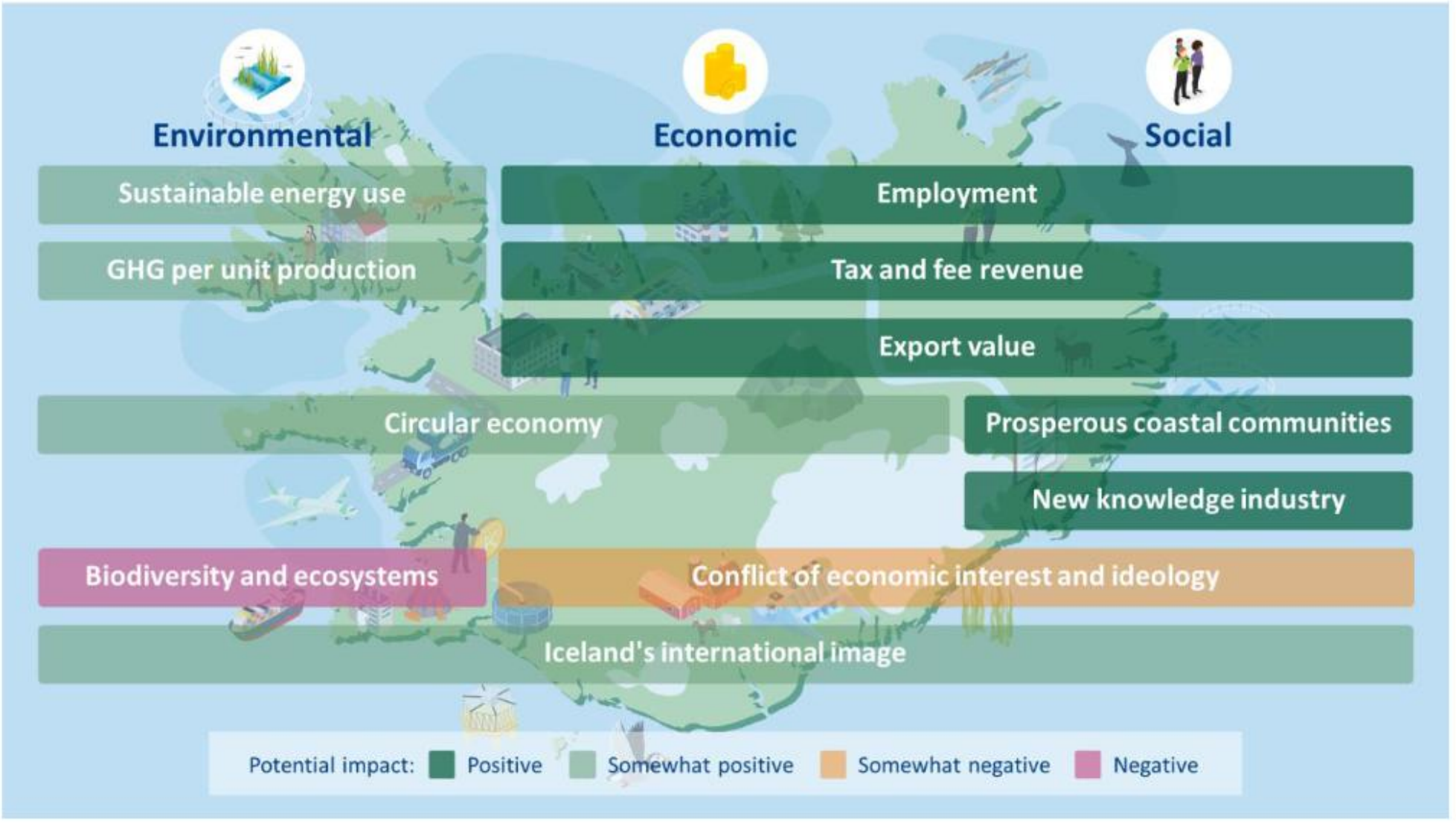
45797t in 2024



# Renewal or new dependency?



**FIGURE 2.2: POTENTIAL IMPACT PROFILE OF GROWTH IN AQUACULTURE IN ICELAND**







**Sustainable tourism in small and remote communities?**







Reorientation and renewal...

...or new dependencies?



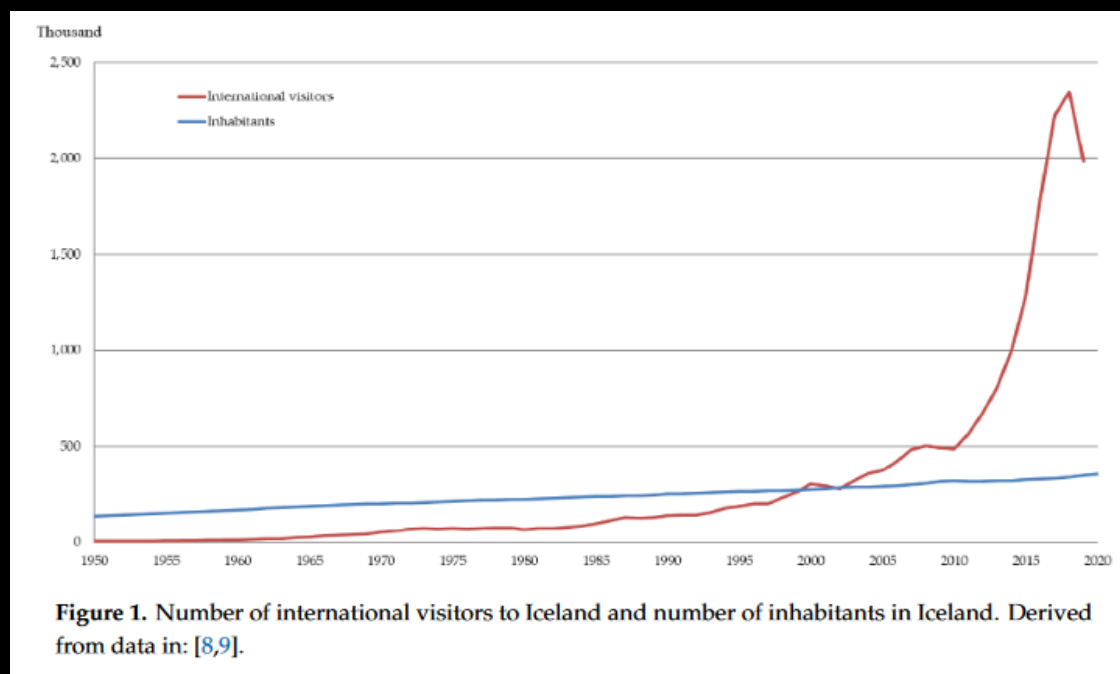
7. júlí 2023	12-21	Star Legend	343	190	Ísafjörður
-	8-18	Norwegian Prima	3950	1388	Ísafjörður
-	8-18	Azamara Journey	750	400	Ísafjörður
-	7-19	MSC Grandiosa	6300	1700	Ísafjörður
-	8-17	Zuiderdam	2300	817	Ísafjörður

# Iceland at a crossroad?

**Table 1.** The top 20 countries/special administrative regions with the highest ratio of number of tourists per inhabitant in 2017.

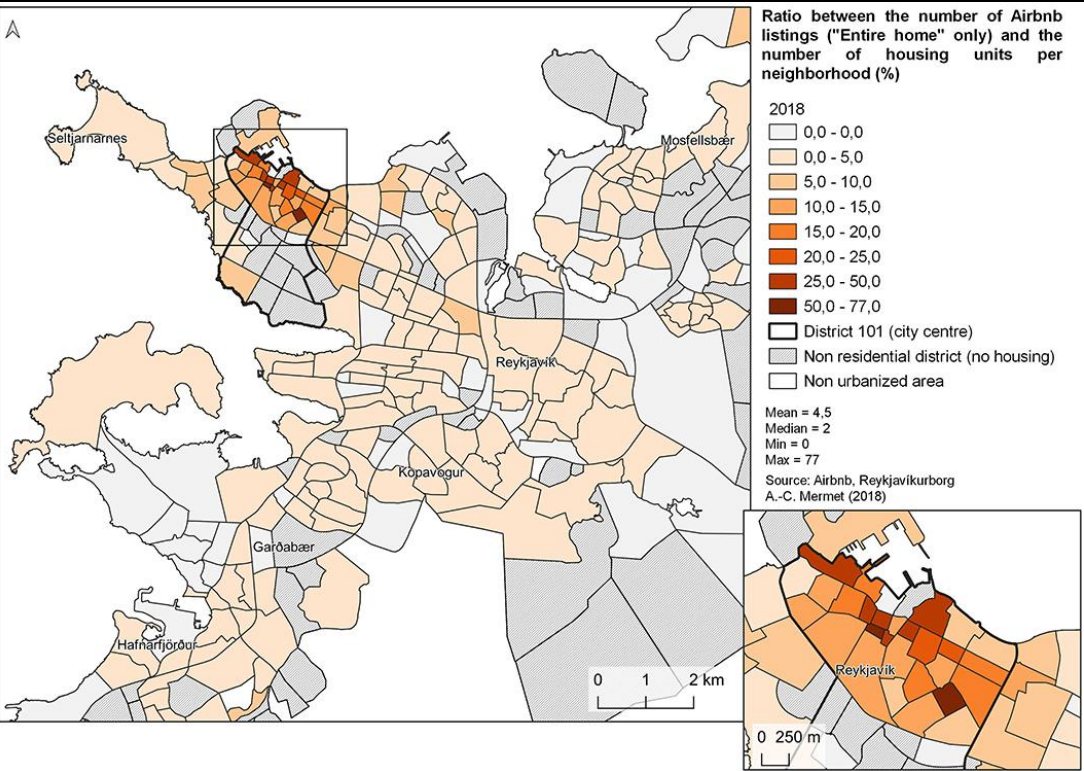
	Country	Population	Tourist Arrivals	Number of Tourists per Inhabitant	Land Area in Km <sup>2</sup>	Number of Tourists per Km <sup>2</sup>
1	Andorra *	77,001	2,831,000	36.8	468	6049
2	Macao SAR (China)	622,585	17,255,000	27.7	115	150,043
3	Northern Mariana Islands	56,562	656,000	11.6	464	1414
4	British Virgin Islands	29,577	335,000	11.3	153	2190
5	Turks and Caicos Islands	37,115	416,400	11.2	616	676
6	Aruba	105,366	1,070,500	10.2	180	5947
7	Sint Maarten (The Dutch part)	40,574	402,000	9.9	34	11,824
8	Guam	164,281	1,544,000	9.4	540	2859
9	Monaco	39,392	355,000	9.2	2	177,500
10	Bahrain	1,494,074	11,370,000	7.6	780	14,577
11	Palau	17,808	123,000	6.9	459	268
12	Cayman Islands	63,382	418,000	6.6	264	1583
13	Iceland	343,400	2,225,000	6.5	103,775	21
14	Virgin Islands * (U.S.)	107,268	667,000	6.2	346	1928
15	Malta	467,999	2,274,000	4.9	316	7196
16	Bermuda	63,874	270,000	4.2	53	5094
17	Croatia	4,124,531	15,593,000	3.8	56,594	276
18	Hong Kong SAR (China)	7,391,700	27,884,000	3.8	2755	10,121
19	The Bahamas	381,761	1,439,000	3.8	13,878	104
20	Seychelles	95,843	350,000	3.7	459	763

\* Data from 2016, not available from 2017. Derived from data in: [11].





# Tourism- gentrification, social fabric and demographics



## Majority of Residents in Mýrdalur Are Foreign Citizens



Vík í Mýrdal, Morgunblaðið/Sigurður Bogi

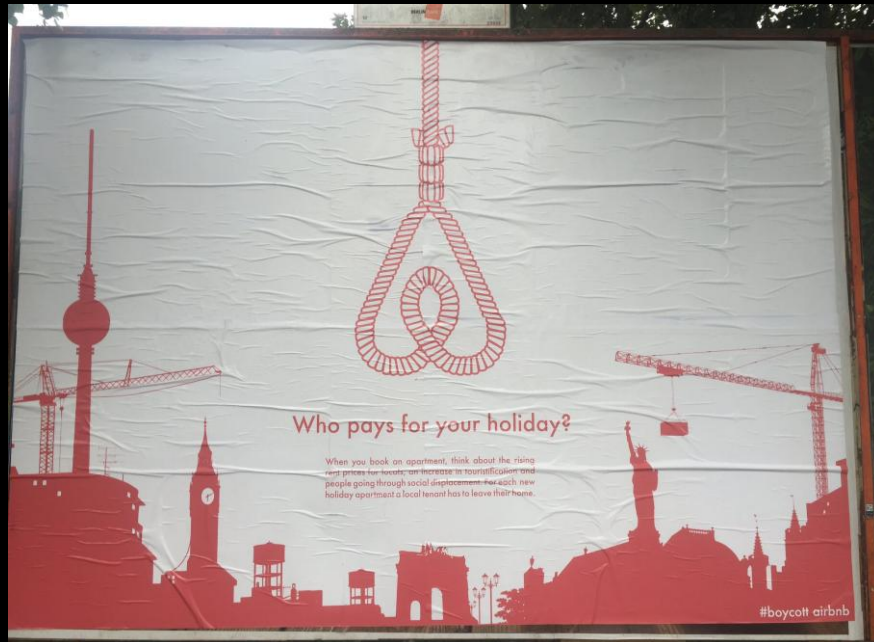
Foreign citizens make up more than half of the population of the municipality Mýrdalur, South Iceland, according to new figures from Statistics Iceland, [Morgunblaðið](#) reports. They constitute 51 percent of the population, or 412 residents out of a population of 808. Of those 808, about 540 people live in the village Vík, which is a major tourist attraction.

Vala Hafstað  
vala@mbi.is

Source: Söderström, O., & Mermet, A. C. (2020). When Airbnb sits in the control room: Platform urbanism as actually existing smart urbanism in Reykjavik. *Frontiers in Sustainable Cities*, 2, 15./ screenshot:

[https://icelandmonitor.mbl.is/news/culture\\_and\\_living/2022/01/17/majority\\_of\\_residents\\_in\\_myrdalur\\_are\\_foreign\\_citiz/](https://icelandmonitor.mbl.is/news/culture_and_living/2022/01/17/majority_of_residents_in_myrdalur_are_foreign_citiz/)





# Tourism- gentrification, social fabric and demographics



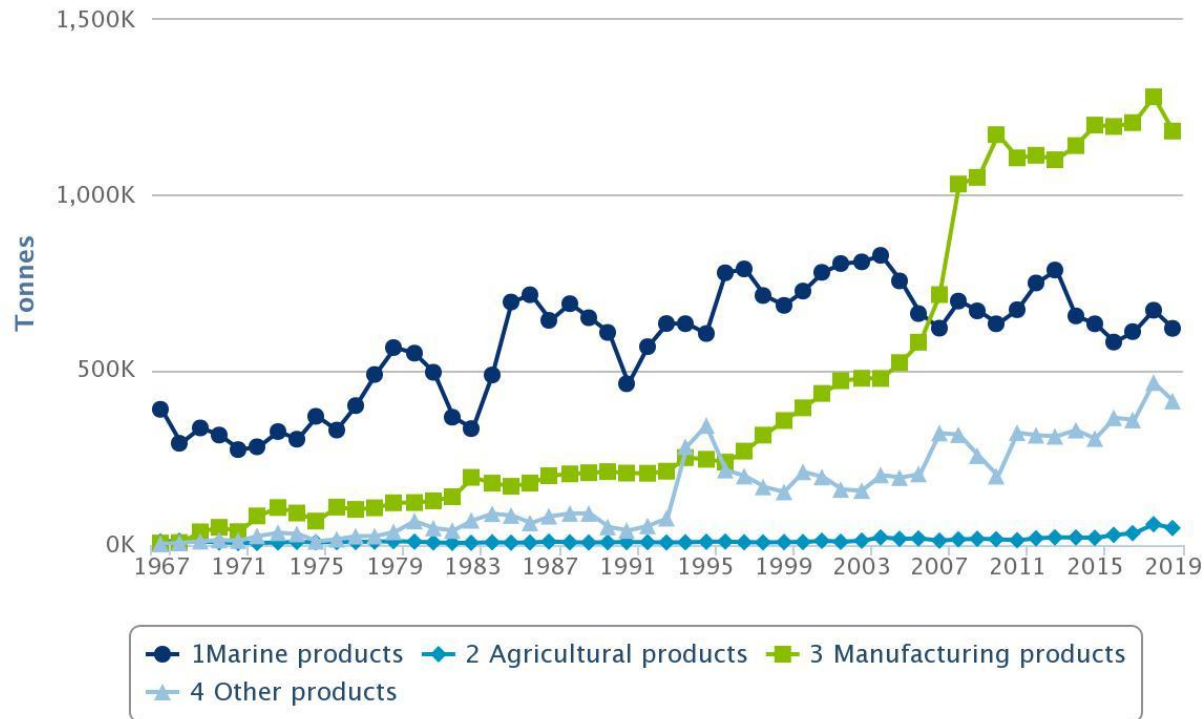


Energy in small and remote communities – and beyond

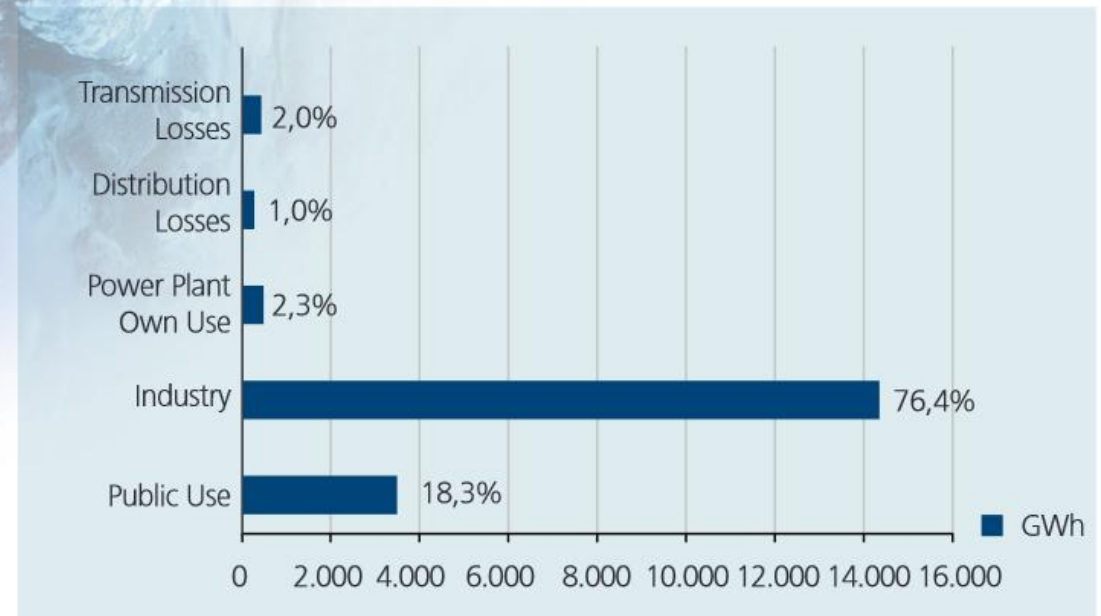


# Energy consumption in Iceland

Exports by some major commodities  
Tonnes

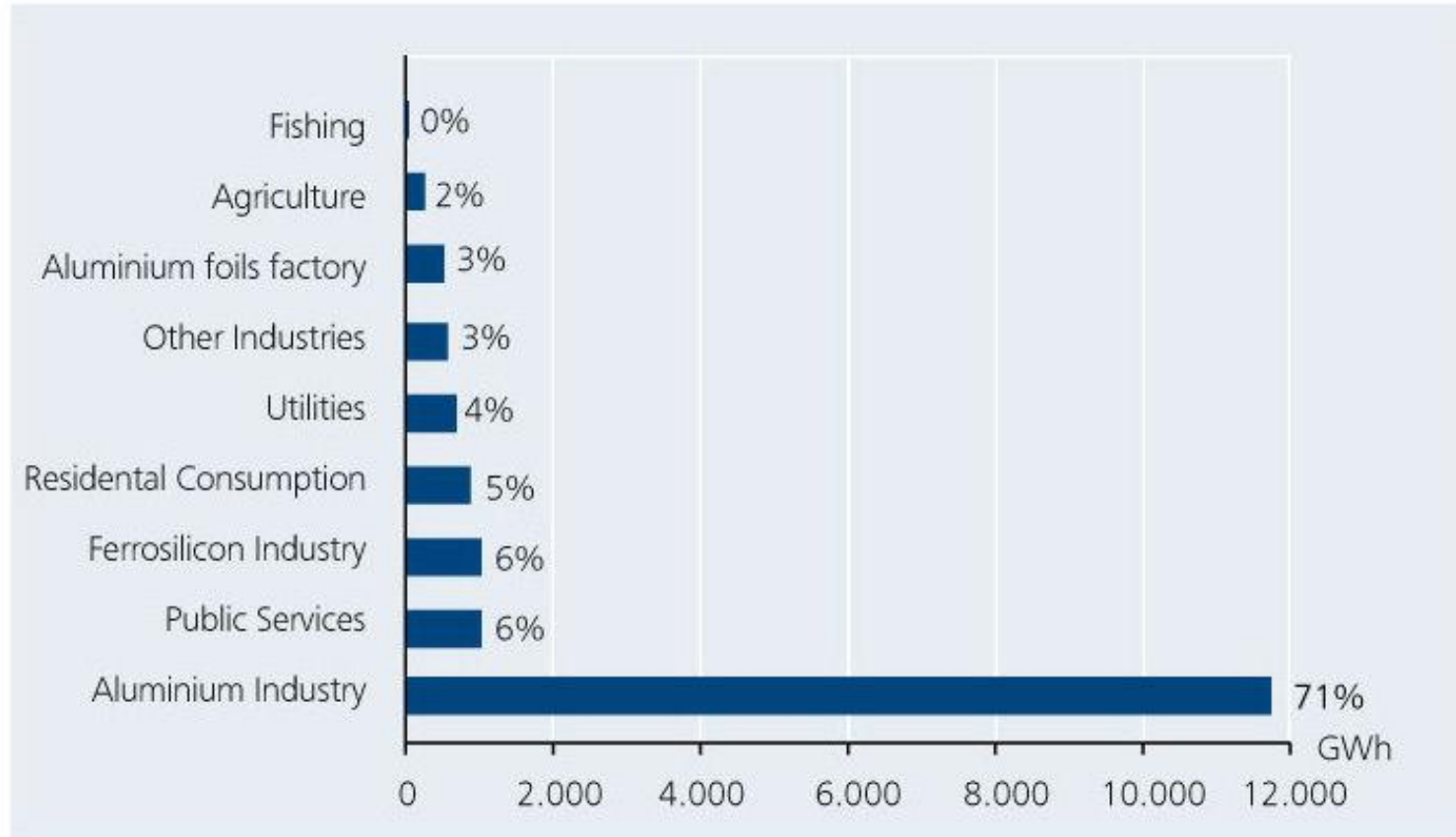


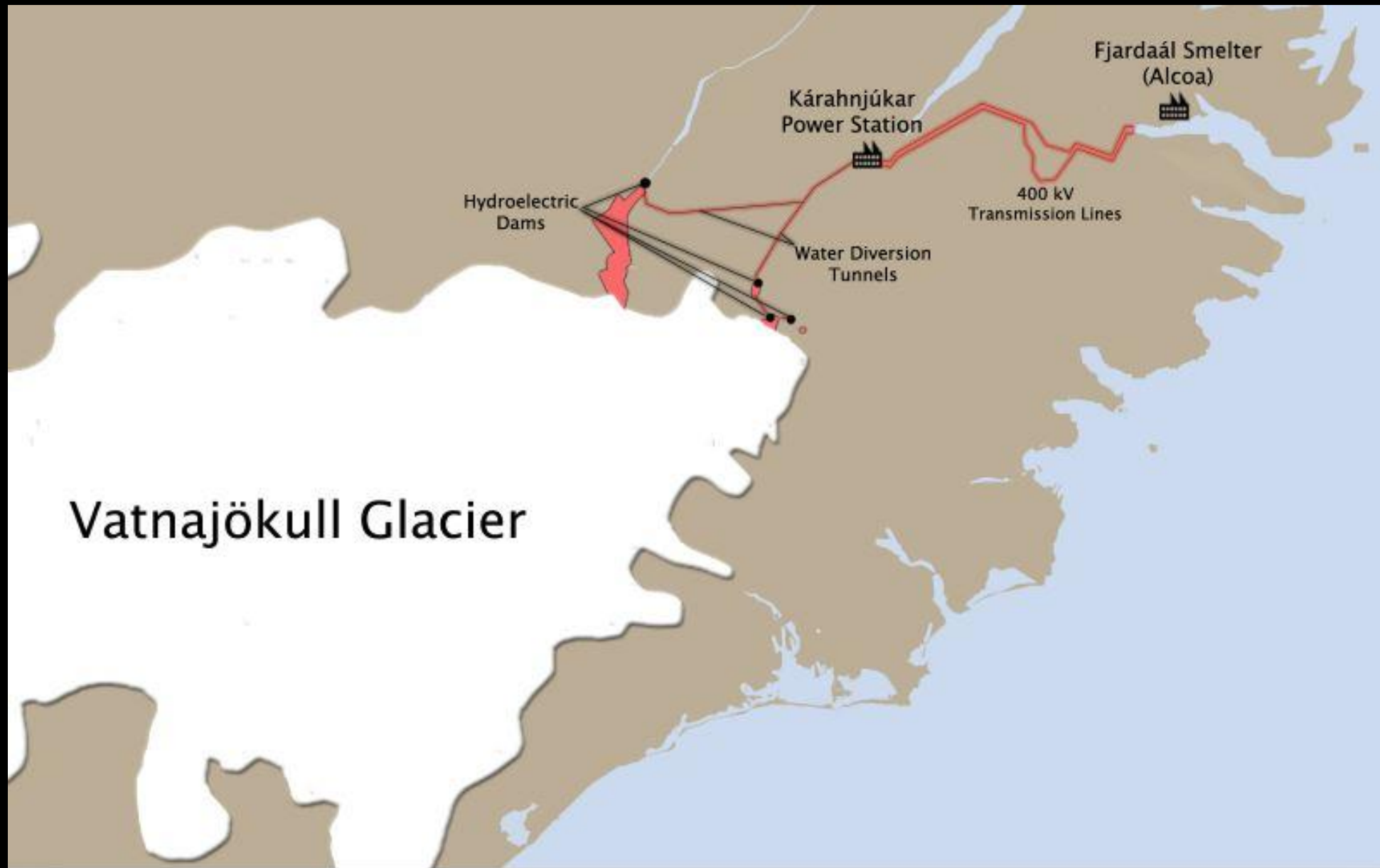
Electricity consumption 2015



Source: Orkustofnun

# Energy consumption











# Energy



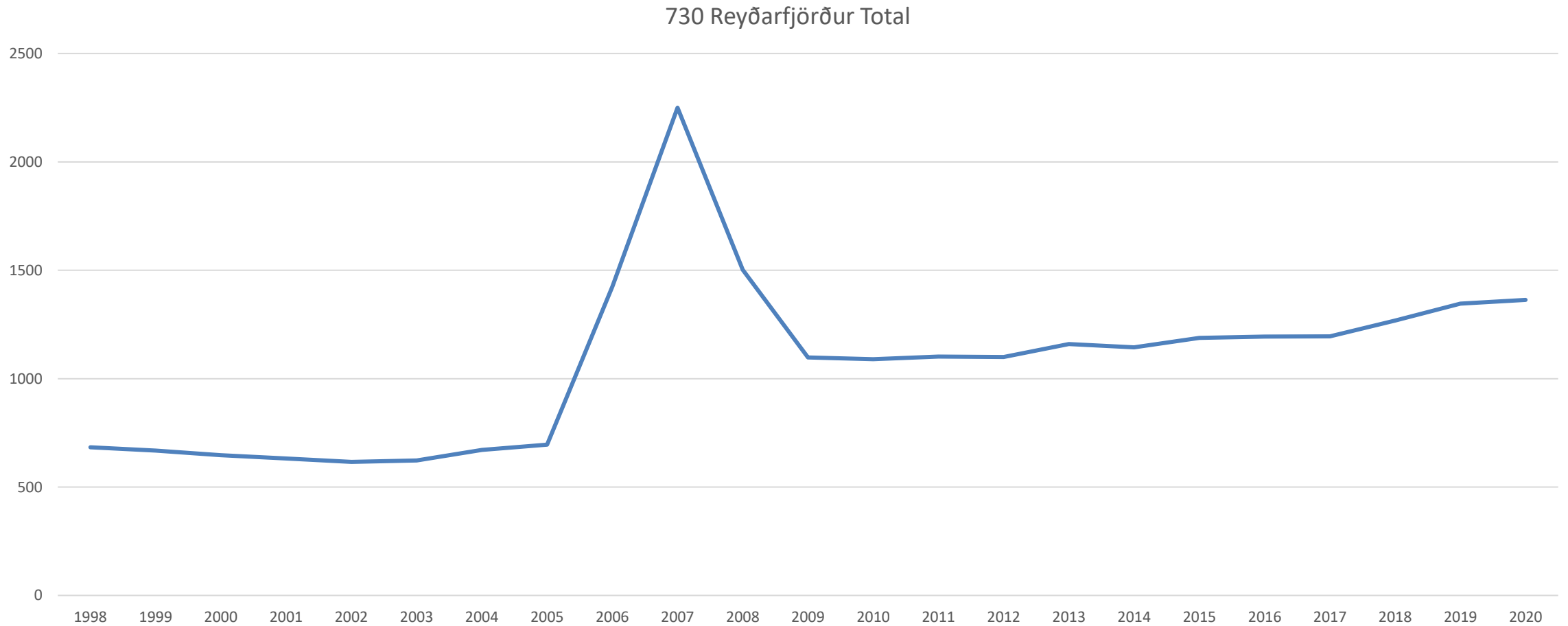




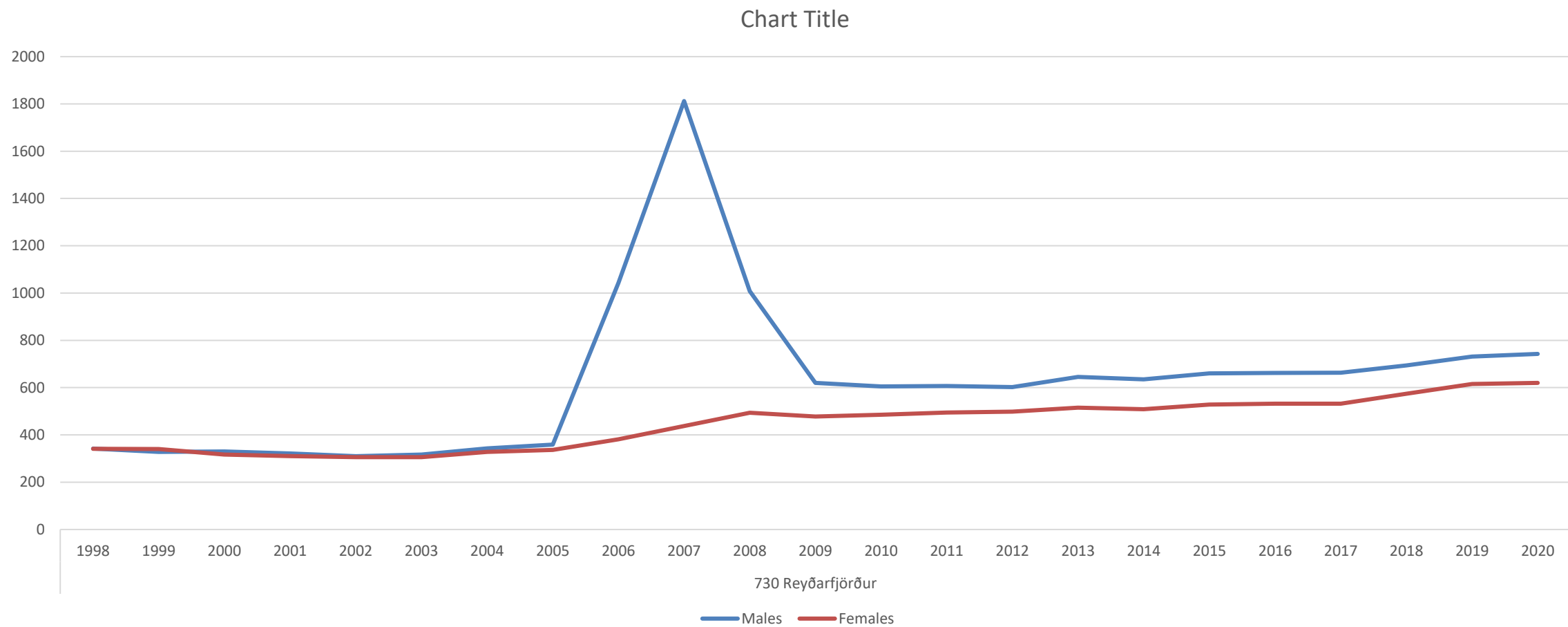
# Environmental Impact?



# Population trends



# Gendered migration







SDG and the future



An aerial photograph of a port area. A large ship is docked at a pier. The foreground shows a parking lot with several cars. A semi-transparent blue overlay covers the middle part of the image, containing text and a bulleted list.

# Looking ahead...

- **Impact of climate change**
- **Energy transition:**  
**proximity revisited?**
- **Technological advancements**





**THANKS FOR  
LISTENING**

**MATTHIAS@UW.IS**