

#00:00:16#Speaker1 : Yes. Hello! Am I speaking to Juris Ziemelis?

#00:00:20#Speaker2 : Yup, yup there is such a thing.

#00:00:23#Speaker1 : My name is Madars Urtāns. I am writing a research paper on coastal fisheries at school. Yes, my father Evalds Urtāns recommended me to you. If you are an experienced fisherman on the coast. Yes. Do you have time for a little interview at the moment? Probably we are trying because of the requests for the ZPD. May I record this conversation?

#00:00:48#Speaker2 : I don't know.

#00:00:52#Speaker1 : Then could you please tell us about your work and lifestyle as a coastal fisherman.

#00:00:59#Speaker2 : Well. Here is one more or less based on luck, but with intensive work you can achieve a lot. Of course, it depends on the weather and everything else, but well, let's say from experience, it doesn't matter if it's Ludza, fishing or any other kind of fishing with, let's say, with knowledge. And maybe not so much knowledge at the beginning, Willing, a lot of willing can achieve a lot. If that were the case, because experience, experience shows that if you think about it intensively and work at it, you can catch enough, and if there are no other expenses and no other need, then you work somewhere else or somewhere else. So, let's say, you keep up with the weather and everything else, like in the old days, and then you can, let's say, achieve the goals that you want. The question is how much each desire. because because because the desire is ever in excess of that possible immediate say revenue yield. If you have my boy, my boy included. Well, suppose we went out of the way to understand the hyper, which we put on hold without anybody making mistakes and so on. And then the vision of the future already shines. How do we then realise that everything will go on and happen. But then again, for example, autumn time comes and there is a break and we have to think further. What if after the ban we accept. Well. Of course the weather has the biggest impact on the whole coast, but let's say if there is a big sea and a bay, so basically where there is a lee wind and a wind on the other side, let's say today it is the same morning, we do not have a big sea. We use that situation with a big offshore wind. But let's take what we can catch today. Let's take a wimba, if you understand what kind of a fish is Greenberg?

#00:03:22#Speaker1 : What then? Yes.

#00:03:25#Speaker2 : Yes. Well, they catch enough to make it profitable to take him somewhere. And then the other dilemma starts. Are you prepared for them to go? Because it's not from the fishermen's point of view to fix him immediately and keep him as a commodity, not the way he gets caught somehow. And somehow, somehow, it's not going to work. And that's how the very first spring is coming, but beyond that or any other kind of fishing. You should be prepared. Then the question is do you have the tools, can you actually do the fishing you want to do? One question is above, Where do you have the gear? What kind of gear? There are, of course, the licences and everything else. It's quite a long, long, long story. About everything. Initially nothing comes out of nowhere and slowly it grows up with all this stuff, but at the same time nobody can talk directly about the blocks if you can't

catch anything. We caught two of you. I don't remember exactly 15 tonnes, but 14 tonnes in a season, that's about 3 months. That is a lot, but it means going to sea every other day, no matter what, not even the weather. So basically you have to have the equipment, before the Vessels didn't go out, didn't go in and so if you work and act today, then you also have to form some kind of understanding and at what depth let's say and everything else. And then there were incidents like that when the big ships, like the big ships, like (2 words I couldn't identify).

#00:05:18#Speaker2 : If they, let's say, went, went for us so that they understand that below us we are fishing above them. So it's above them. And so we had a result. But the thing is, it's a tiring, long process. Well, the question is, as has been said simply, what does one want to achieve. If that was the goal we achieved and everything was ok. And then when another kind of activity comes along, then it doesn't add up. For one or the other something else is going on the activity of work stops as once a manor does not go a second time. The third time there's already a seal or something and so on, but so and so basically that's how our system breaks down, breaks down, all the while fighting from one point of view, watching and then each one goes his own way and then you're gone on Saturdays. In your spare time you can say that it's no longer a fishing pastime, an expensive pastime. So that's one of those lessons of life. And the other is that at the same time you have to be ready for it at a moment's notice, if it's a brown trout or whatever we call salmon. And in the spring when they come, it's one or two days, and you have to have the tools ready, and you have to get it working right away, and in the evening you have to get all the guts together. And then you can get first 100 200 kilos and at the same time somebody like me. I heard you had tomorrow yesterday.

#00:07:05#Speaker2 : You can go and get nothing. Basically, there's a balance to everything. You have to sit on the pulse all the time. You can't work two jobs. Somewhere on duty somebody passes and then when it says well then it's free time. And it's called expensive, expensive fun. Yo yo yo yo alone. Then it's like you have to count on some other people, then it's hard. It's hard because somebody needs the same thing for my son. He needed something immediately. Well, then you have to wait, you have to wait. So I don't sit, I don't wait. I want something sooner. Well, the thing is, you're on call all the time for the next You know, on those dates it's going to be plus or minus again, let's say down by the river. And again there is nothing to do. On this side, let's say on the Kolka side, you have to go to the Lielupe to fish. Then again, if there are buttes, let's say, you have to run quickly to the buttes in Kolka, but immediately, not like Riga and something, as everything has to be ready under all circumstances. And not at the same moment, if one wants to reach the goal. And if not, then unfortunately it comes as it comes, then in life it's purely leisure time precious time exactly. Nobody is counting on you. Hence, as fish suppliers and nobody can count on that. So it's superficially like that.

#00:08:53#Speaker1 : So how did it go when you first went fishing and when was it you say? When you went fishing for the first time.

#00:09:04#Speaker2 : Life in general?

#00:09:06#Speaker1 : Yes.

#00:09:07#Speaker2 : Bye. I think at 11 12 maybe something like that.

#00:09:17#Speaker1 : Was it scary? How did you feel? Were you ready at that time?

#00:09:23#Speaker2 : No, it's already happening. It was already happening in Russian times. We didn't have it now in Soviet times. But if you're old enough, I'd have you hardened by now coming from nothing, from Soviet times, where there were border guards and everything else that was illegal fishing. Shall we say that? And that's where all those skills come from. And how was all this done? Now everything goes to a different version.

#00:09:59#Speaker1 : Do you think that the number of fishermen has decreased from Soviet times to the present.

#00:10:08#Speaker2 : Decreasing or decreasing? No, as in Soviet times they were collective farm fishermen. They were, say, brigade kolkhoz fishermen who had several boats and so on. We were not only on the coast, but you could say that, illegal fishermen were not legal, there was nothing you could do legally. To be more precise, that's how the whole thing was. Well, they ran, they grabbed, they got away. So you could say it like that.

#00:10:44#Speaker1 : How is this illegal? Are you talking about restrictions? Are there closures for fishermen causing big problems nowadays?

#00:10:55#Speaker2 : Well, how is it possible to get out of the institute? Sure, permits and of those also have to be set up during the closure, but there is none. There is no closure for the time being. The problems and issues will probably come from Europe who will introduce the fact that the marine protected area as such is long term, but the closure is in spring and autumn. There are reserves and closures and at those times you can fish with certain gears. So basically you could not really say that it is a problem because you cannot take different types of fish species where you need to or you cannot take salmon in the autumn reserve and then you cannot take them in the spring. And then again you have the rock, the butei reserve and so on. But hardly. Maybe if everybody understands how to do it, then you can't complain, no. It's not, let's say, that the closure is interfering with some sort of terrible, let's say development or it's been there since the end of time and that it's not having any terrible effect on anything. Yes, it's not that crazy. It is not that crazy. Everything is normal if the euro is not introduced. At the moment, what are they going to introduce yes? For the marine life of the reserve, not seasonality, but by life, then it will be a problem. Of course it will be a problem globally, but given that we are in the context of good big money projects, then it is not understandable how it can at all. We can go on living as we simply are. It is either a dead end or it will be. For the moment, no, for the moment it is all right, but if you have to work hard, then it is all right. The fishermen who are doing more fishing at the moment, like me, also have other jobs and so, shall we say, are forced to do something else.

#00:13: 07#Speaker2: Because they evolve, more need to be processed and sold with added value.. Yeah, at the moment, again, location doesn't allow. Specifically, where I am, I'm at the top and away from the center. That is to say, away from both the articles and Lapmezciems and so on. So that's the problem again. Because no buyer actually, except in summer, maybe for a couple of months, comes this way. The rest you do your own things,

what do you want to know about the volume? If the volume, then you can take it to Montblanc or to the Riga Central Market and so on. But if there is no volume then who will they take with them They have to work intensively to be able to get the volume. Well, it's kind of hard. It's hard to see how it all worked out, but as they say. First of all the location we have good fishing both in the bay and in the big sea right next to it. If you compare 20 kilometres apart it is positive, but just as a realisation. So it is again a problem because we are far from the epicentre. Well, how far is Lapmežciems 100 kilometres? Riga 150. Well, okay, so that's the way it works. Yes. Somehow I can't. What more can I say? Anything positive or negative? It's yes, the plus side of this is that we have one big problem, let's accept now. We are talking about whether to buy in Vecdaugava to bring the boat to Roja, where you have to go with more serious boats, so that the weather does not affect the whole process and you can make, as they say, a more serious amount of learning, because there are so many licences and the fee is plus or minus a total of a licence under 4000 a year.

#00:15:19#Speaker2 : But if it's a serious, serious investment, let's not talk about a survey every year and everything else for a boat survey so there's nothing else left that you need to know. And today the positive is that it is huge. The price is high enough and the buttes are high priced and so it is profitable to do it. But for everybody else around, those who want to maybe don't have a licence, those who maybe want to but don't have a licence Those who still have something, that's over with them too. With other fishing gear from boats or something like that and so it's pretty wasteful on the coast. How about Lapmežciems? Where the centre there is more people and more crowds. The young people there will see the whole thing and go to one and realise that they can make money for that season. Of course they go elsewhere in the winter to work in Norway or wherever they work during the summer. That would be the right thing to do. In reality, they work on the riser, or the herring, and they leave. That is not the case in Lapmežciems again. Bute or vimba, they are very poor. Well, we have it, we have to work for it again, but it does not make sense to take a lot and a little bit of quantity to Lapmežciems. Well, actually, think about it properly, if you catch 50 kilos.

#00:16:51#Speaker2 : Either way, there's a calculation of what his share of the cost. And where did you take him? Where to? Well to Lapmežciems 100 km round trip to 200€? Well, but how much will it cost? Well, that's that. That's how it works. How do they count? If it's a purely mathematical calculation, then yes. Then it's just a case of either increase, or stop fishing, or have no fun just yet. Well, let's put it this way. Given that we have the funds available, we are, shall we say, forced, but at least we take advantage of the fact that we are given the opportunity to buy a variety. Let's say there, in material terms, it comes out that way through the funds. There is no need for own co-financing at all. Well, they give it to us, we won't say, but they give it to us for the benefit of the work Well, and so there is an excuse to keep on doing it, because they can't do it any more. If the monitoring is five years, no matter where you take it and now you've taken it and the solar cells are cooling and. You can't stop any more. You have five years. Supervision You have to reach your goals. Because basically you have to fish more and more every year, otherwise you get taken away and it ends badly for those who are involved with the funds, I cannot back down at all. That includes me and everyone else. But how? Well, how does who use? One can waste the same

funds and no contribution is meaningless. OK, let's have solar cells they are self-evident that for electricity it is obvious and cool.

#00:18:51#Speaker2 : Well, I don't know, the Buggy is my tractor. Instead of a tractor, it looks like a buggy. Well, how will he be able to do and how will he be durable and how will he show his life? Will he be useful? Or will it just be a burden and a problem? Because it is not for fun. Just the real action of dragging a boat inside the canals of your jeep. So I'm thinking of moving to the port of Rojas next year, then there's space. As I said, there are fishermen out there, because nobody. The price was so low for herring and bute that nobody had any sense and everybody has had a meal on our shore right in Roja. Yes, something like that. There is one fisherman left who actually fishes and actually works, and Hondas and the others have packed up as well. As I personally have 3 firms and 3 3 firm licences under management. Basically it has to somehow now accept human recruitment but they don't automatically provide something coherent. It's that they have to be able to live up to the weather and the immediate action. Rather than my leg hurting and being sick. I've got tomorrow, so something has to be right now. Call and pack up and go. Either that's it or I'm telling you all this in a terribly rude way. Subtle too, be yourself on the spot, just look at what real looks like and what problems are faced. If the boat sinks and immediately has to be pulled out the outboard motor has to be replaced again, The motor has to be another one. Put. To что это to. Well, there are such things. If you don't have them, then that's the problem with this one.

#00:20:45#Speaker1 : Thank you very much for the opportunity.

#00:20:48#Speaker2 : Just to throw and some more questions. You already know, a more precise answer to something, but we're being awfully superficial, it's just not the case. Not terribly difficult. You've got to start telling something from one end, say, all at once. Because if you asked specifically, maybe there's a whole 6 lectures you can read out letter by letter and what would be, where would be the big one, who would have it? Otherwise it would be completely different. 1 Species subspecies subspecies to be precise, species would be pure anyway, but species, if it is tasty, it doesn't taste. Why is that? Do they look like the size and how do they spawn and how big? That is what the Institute recognises. But they can't really articulate where and how many regions they live in, where they don't live. But we as locals know that and let's take it as it is, Let's buy a palm letter as we call palm. Now the size of a palm. Let's have Liepaja letters or Ventspils letters. Our people often don't eat or eat at all, but if they choose to have ours on their palm. Yes, because they're fatter and completely different tastes it. Well vot it is purely by letters. And then there are the times when the long kisses and all sorts of otherwise inedible and all sorts of things.

#00:22:20#Speaker1 : Different ways.

#00:22:22#Speaker2 : How can there be one whole story, or even angels and everything else. Yes, it's very superficial at the root. That's how you approach things. If you take it seriously, it's ok. But there can't be any other connection with some other works and activities. What is there to focus on if you focus purely on the immediate moment-to-moment reaction to yourself. If that is not the case, then it is a Game of Happiness. Yes, the whole is the Happiness Game of knowledge. That is also a fact. Well, it is. You have to

understand from all sides what you want to do. Yes, it isn't. Let's put it this way, there will always be medals, for better or for worse, not the way you perceive it. But if you're not in the mood, it's all bad and happy. It all ended up being a good mood you're ok.

#00:23:15#Speaker1 : Yes, it is.

#00:23:17#Speaker2 : Well yes, but given that it's from another book, it also stands out as special. Especially for Rudy. People who are into fishing, who can go despite anything, do. Do you have a child at home who is or isn't whining? Are they asking to come in? There is no question just enter. If you don't go in, then still the same strange feeling as it's been that you're late and yet somehow all the glass starts blowing dirty, whatever Or else somehow call the flu. Well, then, it's his own fault. So that's something you can say globally at once. Of course, immediately outlining what needs to be asked in order to make it easier to understand, because I just kind of drag it from one end to the other.

#00:24:13#Speaker1 : I thought it was disturbing enough, but I think as you tell it you can understand well enough.

#00:24:26#Speaker2 : Well, in any case, you have some questions to understand what is most important to you. Understood what yourself? What are you putting on paper or saying or doing next? It just is. Whine everywhere and everywhere and be happy about everything. If that's the point, of course, you can do everything from a little bit, no matter if you catch the same thing, no matter if it's a herring or a wimba or a sail. If they were able to process and deliver normally to a potential prey and not know where to put inside all sorts of Facebook and so on, that is already one of the innovations. Let's put it this way. How can you sell your product at a high enough price? Are they ready to buy? But can you do one job and then the other job at the same time? Either you fish and clean, or you prepare and sell that way, or you try to sell. And then you end up with neither. No, of course it's time to prepare, to realise that cut off the head, gut it, put it in a nice styrofoam box and take it to a particular place they keep longer, they keep. They are prepared to pay for it, but to be delivered, let's say, at three in Riga near Spice. Do it yourself will do it. Sit in the car and drive there still your customers will be all ok, but at the same time you go to sea. So how are you going to do it? So you know, one more person to take right? Right.

#00:26:08#Speaker2 : That means that the volume will be missing because that person will have to pay. Well, there you go, so they didn't put the fish in the package and will send it away. Well, somehow. Well, that's clean. Well, you don't even have to be very clever. It's just that life just forces you. Well yeah, if anyone thinks that's where the location is bad for you in Liepaja that's a completely different story. If the former co-workers of the port are calling it what they want. Then we used to work with cod, which was 80% of the cod caught in Latvia. For example, I used to buy it in the 1990s. Fourth, fifth and sixth up to seven years ago, plus that defolt. Well, then we are working. Then there was cod liver and cod roe and so on. But it was once and it was a very high volume of 20 tonnes, even the liver came in a month. And then, starting from the fact that 10% maybe even less is cod liver, that is the volume of the family that went through our hands, whether we cut, whether we filleted, whether we sweetened, whether we sold to the Swedes, whatever we did to the situation of the moment and the next moment comes. Then it comes up again. Freezing to Russia, where

we need the certificate again and we buy the factory again, where we freeze again and we do Russia again. Again, everybody seals up everything they have earned. Everybody leaves the whole factory And started to write something.

#00:27:49#Speaker2 : Well, unfortunately it's industrial. But it's all tied together, unfortunately, because purely from fishing and film fishing there are, shall we say, coasts that follow. So it's all very frivolous, but given that it's European aid, well then you can't complain. Well, the millionaire didn't stay, but it could have been with the slogan if you have no obligations and so on, then you can live well under our conditions there are no problems. If you have a commitment to somebody you have to pay off leases, loans and so on. Then, yes, it was daunting. Well, the main thing is to like the whole thing. If you don't like it, you won't have to understand anything, someone has to think like a fish thinks about how they think they should behave. It's a bigger, bigger spell Someone catches, someone else doesn't catch just like the fishermen. Why does one catch, one does not catch? Because that is where it all begins. No, well, of course it depends on a lot of what I expect from the tools and the knowledge, the time and everything. But it all comes together in little things and forms some kind of opinion positive or negative. Where are we left here on this side? Well, in Kolkata. Let's say 1. 1. The groups, like me, have three firms and two firms, and the others have finished because they have not passed. So that's sort of the most I can say.

#00:29:34#Speaker1 : Thank you very much for your time.

#00:29:38#Speaker2 : No problem, because I need something that's very chaotic. Probably didn't come easy, but now I have a specific question I can answer, but this is such a broad question.

#00:29:48#Speaker1 : I know what I know. It's a broad question, but.

#00:29:53#Speaker2 : Well yes, I say it under one of the letters one here you can tell half a day how, where, why and when the same argument is not 3 at the same time but a discussion with bior. Why is that? And why not so and so, but buy and so on. And then it's been studied for a long time, but it's not officially recognised. It's this and there's a lot of questions about the size of this and that and the times when a little bit is off limits here and there and so and so. And so. So yeah, something like that. Somehow, if you need something more specific, something else, there's probably no problem, because see, it's like I say, it's probably, if there's, let's say, one global problem that's common to everybody, what are the problems in fisheries in general? Well, but many of them are already old people who have those problems, if they are different. But there are also specifics, for example, in Liepaja, Ventspils, although right next door, but they are a bit different, but we are different and a bit similar, and from Ventspils to, say, Lapmežciems, there are similar problems. Well, let's say the same, then further on different kind of problems. And further on at Kuiviži. Well, similar there. Well that's somehow the biggest problem and they don't occur. Then all say very happy we live and the seal exists. Whereas before there was none, I believe we regarded everybody as a cute little animal, today because of it fishing is threatened, but so is the compensation we get. So, again, from the other side, we cannot complain about it. On the one hand, we get compensation, but we cannot say how old it is when it is eaten and eaten. We only get compensation for the fish we catch. If the group doesn't catch it, then we

can't get anything. So the compromise is when we pay for the fish caught and the fish that is caught. If only a fish is caught. On the one hand we can't complain everything is supposedly ok, we just have to work where there should be no tax arrears and penalties for all passes. But somehow I can say it. Nothing more.