Croatia: Multiannual national plan for the development of sustainable aquaculture - an overview

**Current situation**

- **Total volume (2013):** 13,720 tonnes
- **Total value (2013):** 78 million euro
- **Croatia’s contribution to EU aquaculture:** 1.1% volume, 1.9% value

**Main species by volume**

- **Oysters:** 50 t (0.4%)
- **Mussels:** 1,950 t (14.4%)
- **Bluefin tuna:** 2,616 t (19.4%)
- **Carp:** 2,739 t (20.3%)
- **Trout:** 355 t (2.6%)
- **Sea bass / bream:** 5,804 t (42.9%)

**Source of data: Eurostat**

**National Growth Objectives (2014-2020)**

- **Production volume** from 13,916 tonnes (2012) to **24,050 tonnes** in 2020 (73% increase).
- **Production value** from 78 million euro to **181 million euro** in 2023 (142% increase).
  - **Freshwater fish farming:** 43.7% increase in volume by 2020
  - **Marine fish farming:** 98.3% increase in volume by 2020
  - **Mollusc farming:** 58.7% increase in volume by 2020
Response to the strategic guidelines

Simplify administrative procedures:
- It is planned to shorten the time necessary for the implementation of administrative procedures, with amendments to existing regulations, new regulations and guidelines for users.

Coordinated spatial planning:
- The designation of aquaculture zones in spatial plans and stabilisation of production in accordance with environmental protection and water management needs.

Enhance competitiveness:
- Croatia plans to simplify procedures and coordinate spatial planning, apply environmentally-friendly technologies, promote stock welfare, diversify production and introduce new species.
- They also intend to improve cooperation between industry and the scientific and research institutions, establish producer associations and strengthen the Advisory Services.
- Other activities include developing the domestic market via product promotion strategies, improved waste management and improve working conditions and employment via farmer education.

Level playing field:
- The further harmonization of the Croatian legal framework with other Member States.

Best practices
- Integrated Coastal Zone Management: determining the possible locations for marine farming and integrating this into the local marine spatial plan, such as in the case of Zadar County.
- Impact assessment of marine aquaculture on the environment: special procedures have been introduced for marine farming sites.
- Complete procedures for the granting of permits to marine farming: a unified procedure for aquaculture permitting has been developed.

EU Aquaculture Online: http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/aquaculture/
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