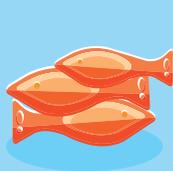




Estonia: Multiannual national plan for the development of sustainable aquaculture an overview

Current situation



Total volume (2013):
733 tonnes



Total value (2013):
1.5 million euro



Estonia's contribution to EU aquaculture:
0.04% volume
0.04% value

Main species by volume

Other fish
223 t
31%

Carp
44 t
6%



Trout
465 t
63%

● Freshwater finfish

Source of data: Eurostat



National Growth Objectives (2014-2020)



Estonia's vision for aquaculture in 2020 is to build up a leading position in their own domestic market and to become a successful exporter of species that suit local farming conditions and have a high demand in foreign markets.



Response to the strategic guidelines



Simplify administrative procedures:

- The beneficiaries' administrative burden will be reduced by through the use of simplified costs options for aquaculture licensing and permitting.
- Administrative requirements and systems will be harmonised in order to assist beneficiaries to easily navigate among the various measures laid down under the application and implementation requirements.
- Changing the fixed-term permits for the special use of water to open-ended permits to encourage large-scale investments in aquaculture.



Level playing field:

- Development of aquaculture producer organisations and product labelling.
- Support, implementation and monitoring compliance with EU and other labelling requirements and relevant provisions.
- Promoting the image of local producers and products.
- Using the competitive advantages of domestic market i.e. local, fresh and healthy products.



Coordinated spatial planning:

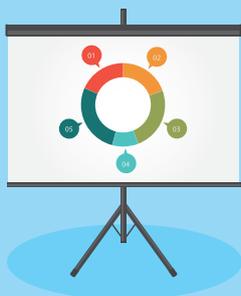
- Areas suitable for aquaculture will be mapped in the coastal sea and on land, whilst at the same time providing for the development of related infrastructure and the feasibility of innovative technologies.



Enhance competitiveness:

Attention will be given to the following activities:

- Achieving greater competitiveness through the use of new aquaculture species and technologies. This will focus on the cultivation of species that are naturally found in the Estonian environment and have a high export demand (e.g. eel, sturgeon, whitefish, perch, pike-perch, crayfish etc).
- Innovation through new models of product development, processing and marketing;
- Cooperation at local and international level.
- Knowledge transfer, research and development work, taking into account prevailing and emerging market developments.
- Support for the aquaculture sector that meets the needs of education and vocational training programs.
- Supporting business growth through the provision of adequate resources for aquaculture. Priority is given to developing the competitiveness of existing businesses and to investing in the expansion of companies which are successful on the market.



Best practices

Best practices identified in the national plan are:

- Availability of professional information and knowledge e.g. Fisheries Information Centre;
- Reducing environmental impacts e.g. the priority is given to the funding of environmentally friendly projects.

