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

Current situation

- **Total volume (2013):** 226,222 tonnes
- **Total value (2013):** 429 million euro
- **Spain’s contribution to EU aquaculture:**
  - Volume: 18.6%
  - Value: 10.7%

Production volume from 267,000 tonnes in 2012 to 320,000 tonnes in 2020 (20% increase).

Production value from 436 million euro in 2012 to 550 million euro in 2020 (26% increase).

- **Freshwater fish farming:** 27% increase in volume by 2020
- **Marine fish farming:** 32% increase in volume by 2020
- **Mollusc farming:** 17% increase in volume by 2020

Main species by volume:

- **Oysters:**
  - 1,021 t
  - 0.5%

- **Mussels:**
  - 162,012 t
  - 76.1%

- **Trout:**
  - 15,799 t
  - 7.4%

- **Sea bass & bream:**
  - 34,075 t
  - 16%

Source of data: Eurostat
Response to the strategic guidelines

Simplify administrative procedures:
The Spanish administration is divided between the central government and the autonomous regions. In Spain coastal and continental waters, including aquaculture, are administered by the autonomous regions. Therefore Spain will:
- Simplify and unify administrative procedures required to get a farming license in different autonomous regions of Spain.
- Harmonise Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedures amongst the different autonomous regions.
- Change the marine aquaculture law so that national entities are better able to operate in the autonomous regions.
- Harmonise taxes, port administration and waste legislation.
- Improve aquaculture information systems in order to support planning, organisation and monitoring of the sector.

Enhance competitiveness:
- Spain will reinforce the transfer of R&D-derived knowledge, design a national plan and create a new financial instrument that boosts R&D in small to medium-sized enterprises.
- Boost eco-friendly aquaculture by financing the conversion of conventional infrastructures into ecologically-sensitive farms, reinforced by assessments of the environmental impact, carbon footprint and a full life cycle assessment, etc.
- Enhance animal welfare in Spanish aquaculture.
- Promote training and coordination between training entities and the sector, including promoting distance-learning through online platforms.

Level playing field:
- Improve the collaboration between different partners by co-financing activities for enhancing production and marketing.
- Promote the creation and acquisition of collective certificates.
- Improve the marketing of aquaculture products both at the national and international levels.

Coordinated spatial planning:
- Establish common criteria to identify areas of aquaculture interest in the different autonomous regions.
- Plan access to water resources for terrestrial fish farms and promote the reuse of inactive facilities.
- Develop a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the spatial planning of the Spanish aquaculture.
- Support productive investments in new sites and the creation of new aquaculture companies.
- Reinforce positive interactions within Natura 2000. Characterize the farms that are located inside Natura 2000 areas, their interactions and strengthen and replicate their positive impacts on the environment.

Best practices
The Plan identifies a number of examples of best practise covering different species, production systems and scales, including:
- Quality certificates: ISO 9001:2008 (quality management), ISO 22000:2005 (food safety);
- Productivity certificates: Denominación de Origen Protegida (DOP), GAA, ACC, ASC, etc.; and
- Social responsibility certificates: ISO 26000 (SR), Fair Trade, ETI, SA 8000.

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