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

Current situation

Total volume (2013): 200 332 tonnes
Total value (2013): 693 million euro
France’s contribution to EU aquaculture: 16.5% volume 17% value

Main species by volume

- **Mussels**
  - 74 139 t
  - 39.5%
- **Oysters**
  - 77 510 t
  - 41.3%
- **Trout**
  - 31 764 t
  - 16.9%
- **Sea bass & bream**
  - 4 064 t
  - 2.2%
- **Salmon**
  - 414 t
  - 0.2%

Source of data: Eurostat

National Growth Objectives (2014-2020)

- **Production volume** from 218 000 tonnes to **265 000 tonnes** in 2020 (22% increase)
- **Production value** from 682 million euro to **1 025 million euro** in 2020 (50% increase)
  - **Mollusc farming** 12% increase in volume by 2020
  - **Freshwater fish farming** 28% increase in volume by 2020
  - **Marine fish farming** 233% increase in volume by 2020

1 These increases are the maximum values possible and do not take into account external influences such as oyster mortality, price volatility etc. The baseline figures are the average 2007-2012 values.
Response to the strategic guidelines

Simplify administrative procedures:
- Improve the accessibility and effectiveness of administrative organisation through the creation of an aquaculture inter-ministerial expert group (CNIDEXaqua), the consolidation of the existing one-stop-shop, encouragement of a single authorisation regime, and special authorisation for experimental developments.
- Support public-private collaborative initiatives for aquaculture development through signed Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between authorities and private stakeholders.

Coordinated spatial planning:
- Improved use of spatial planning to support aquaculture development in favourable environments.
- Improved knowledge of linkages between aquaculture activities and other regional activities to support inter-sectoral integration in regional development policies.

Enhance competitiveness:
- Promote sustainable exploitation of the aquatic environment through support to collective actions aimed at improving water quality.
- Improve aquaculture techniques to minimise environmental impacts.
- Develop risk-management, sector resilience and product competitiveness.
- Support research and development (R&D) project identification through joint scientific-private-public coordinated approaches.
- Develop market opportunities through an improved image of aquaculture products, regional product identification and adding value to by-products.
- Foster the development of processing industries serving aquaculture production.

Level playing field:
- Develop attractiveness of jobs in the aquaculture industry, encourage evolution from part-time employment to full-time employment through diversification of activities, support installation of young entrepreneurs and improved access to training.
- Promote sanitary certification and safety of aquaculture products, e.g. with regard to the water quality or other external environmental factors.
- Respond to the specific research needs of the aquaculture sector in outermost regions.

Best practices
The plan identifies three best practices which inspired some of the measures detailed above:
- Adoption by some regions of a Regional Scheme for the Development of Marine Aquaculture (planning document).
- Signature of a MoU between authorities and producers for coordinated monitoring.
- Encourage coordination within regions consisting of joint committees between operators, scientific institutes and public authorities to coordinate research needs.

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