

Devise of Spanish Aquaculture Multiannual Strategic Plan ends

In order to establish guidelines and actions that contribute to the harmonious and sustainable development of aquaculture in the country, the Fisheries General Secretariat of the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Environment (MAGRAMA) ended the development of the 2014-2020 Spanish Aquaculture Multiannual Strategic Plan.

The Plan has four strategic goals emanating from the Strategic Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture Development of the European Commission (EC):

- Simplify and standardize the legal and administrative framework, and strengthen the representativeness of the sector;
- Increase the Spanish aquaculture production by improving sector planning in the context of the comprehensive management of coastal areas and the selection of new zones from an aquaculture viewpoint;
- Strengthen competitiveness in the sector through research, development and innovation (R+D+I), the strengthening of relations between the scientific community and the industry, and empowering aspects related to health management and wellness;
- Boost the aspects related to processing and marketing through innovation, promotion and support of producers' organizations.

For the development of these aims, eight strategic lines were devised, where 37 strategic national activities are integrated and up to 335 actions set by the autonomous communities are included in its regional strategic planning, MAGRAMA reported in a press release.

According to the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), it is necessary for Member States to develop a strategic plan for the development of aquaculture activities on its territory.

Therefore, the Secretariat commissioned the creation of the Strategic Plan to the Spanish Aquaculture Observatory Foundation (OESA) in the framework of the National Advisory Board of Marine Aquaculture (JACUMAR) and the National Advisory Board of Continental Growers (JACUSON).

In these organisms national and regional administrations as well as the autonomous ones and the producer sector are represented.

To prepare the Plan the autonomous communities were convened as well as experts in various fields of aquaculture, producers' organizations, scientific-technical entities and those responsible for the State General Administration related to the development of aquaculture.

Proponents of the initiative hope that by 2030 the Spanish aquaculture is a sustainable, thriving and competitive economic sector, and creator of wealth and quality posts.

"To promote aquaculture in Spain, the strategy defined in the Plan shall have the task of improving the sector planning and management by adopting a specific legal and administrative framework that enhances its abilities and strengths and contributes to offering response to the weaknesses it presents," added MAGRAMA in the statement.

Source : <http://fis.com/fis/worldnews/worldnews.asp?!=e&ndb=1&id=70140> (24/07/2014)