

Overview of policy developments on aquaculture

AAC Working Group 3
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Strategic Guidelines

- **New e-learning module:** Access to space and water for freshwater and land-based aquaculture published
- **Online trainings:** Climate adaptation- April 2026
Energy Transition - Autumn 2026
- **Mid-term assessment**

Strategic Guidelines: Upcoming Documents

- **SWD on environmental performance**
- **Mapping of reporting obligations for the aquaculture sector under EU legislation**
- **Attracting investment to EU aquaculture production**
- **SWD Ecosystems and climate services of aquaculture:** Works
- **Guidance document on predators**
- **Study on feed for Aquaculture**
- **Document on bivalve molluscs:** Challenges + options for action. Under EC review
- **Code of good practices on fish welfare and fish welfare indicators:** AAC webinar. Upcoming Infographic
- **Circular economy in aquaculture:** Apply principles + benefits + barriers

Animal Health and Animal Welfare

Animal health

- **SWD on the evaluation of the EU Animal Health Law** soon to be published.

Animal Welfare

- **EURCAW aqua**: working on its WP 2025-2027
- **DG SANTE's Study on animal welfare indicators**:
 - work ongoing
 - Consultation coming: two rounds of focus groups
- **Transport proposal**: Irish presidency to adopt Council position by end 2026
- **Overview report on farmed fish welfare**

European Ocean Pact

- **Ocean Eye:** 3 June 2026

UPCOMING:

- **Coastal Communities Communication and Islands communications**
- **European Ocean Act**
 - **MSP Directive implementation report:** published 29 April 2026
 - **Evaluation of the MSP Directive**
 - **Impact assessment for the Ocean Act** - consultation: **16 July**.
- **EU communication campaign on aquatic food**
- **EU Sustainable Aquaculture Partnership**

Other Communications

Evaluation of the CFP → DIAGNOSIS (published 30 April 2026).

Implementation Dialogue: 30/June

Chair by Commissioner: Industry, authorities (nat.+reg.), NGOs

Conclusion will be available online

Vision 2040 for fisheries and aquaculture:

- Stakeholder consultation finalized
- CfE closed. We have received **171 submissions (81 on aquaculture)**
- Publication foreseen **Autumn 2026**

Energy Transition

- **ETP Recommendations for aquaculture**
 - **High-level conference:** 17 February 2026 – Recommendations presented
 - **ETP workshop:** 16 April 2026.
- **Study “EU Aquaculture: GHG Reduction Costs and Pathways to Net Zero by 2050”** : mid-February > inform the roadmap.
- **Roadmap on the EU Energy Transition Initiative for fisheries and aquaculture:** Vision 2040.

EU Blue Bioeconomy

- **Ocean Pact**
 - **Blue Bioeconomy Innovation Partnership** to be launched by the end of 2027
- **EU Bioeconomy Strategy :**
- **EU Algae Initiative**
 - **EU4Algae**
 - **EU Algae Awareness Summit**

MFF and Crisis mechanisms for aquaculture

MFF Discussion

- The political processes are ongoing
- Council's partial general approach expected mid-June
- The Parliament's position is unclear at least until Autumn

Crisis mitigation for aquaculture:

- **EMFAF crisis mechanism** was triggered.
- **The Middle East crisis Temporary State aid Framework (METSAF)**- 29 April. The framework covers aid to undertakings active in the primary production of fishery and aquaculture products.

MORE...

EU FUNDED PROJECTS

Horizon Europe

“Diversifying aquaculture production with emphasis on low-trophic species”

- **DIVERSIFY4Future** – 1st of June
- **AQUALICIOUS** – 1st September

Review of the **Water Framework Directive**

- **Guidance for implementation** - 22 May

THANK YOU