



# Multi-annual National Strategic Plans for the development of sustainable Aquaculture for the period 2021 to 2030

## Summary CZECH REPUBLIC

### “Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture for the years 2021 to 2030”

#### 1. State of the aquaculture sector

The Czech Republic, as a landlocked country without access to the sea, is linked to freshwater aquaculture. Freshwater aquaculture is still dominated by the production of carp in ponds. Tanks and raceways are also used to a small extent (3%), and marginal production is carried out through recirculation aquaculture systems (1%) and with other methods, such as flow-through systems (1%). The fish production in 2021 was 20 991 tonnes ([for reference](#)). The main fish species reared are: Common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*), Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*), Bighead carp (*Hypophthalmichthys nobilis*), Silver carp (*Hypophthalmichthys molitrix*), Grass carp (*Ctenopharyngodon idella*), Tench (*Tinca tinca*), Pike (*Esox Lucius*), Pike perch (*Sander lucioperca*), European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*), Wels catfish (*Silurus glanis*), African sharptooth catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*), Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*). In 2021, the number of the employees in fishing and aquaculture sector was approximately 1 401.

#### 2. Objectives for 2021 to 2027

- Competitive, resilient and sustainably developing aquaculture.

The vision of Czech aquaculture in 2030:

- Enhancing the importance of traditional and modern forms of aquaculture;

- Maintaining traditional aquaculture production at least at the current level through the modernisation and innovation of existing technologies and farming facilities, including preserving the environmental benefits of fish farming;
- Increasing the production of other fish species, in particular predatory fish, through the creation of new, modern and environmentally friendly fish farms;
- Increasing the share and range of processed freshwater fish for the Czech market, modernisation, innovation and concentration of processing capacity;
- Strong market position of fishing undertakings.

### **3. Objectives for Measures for 2021 to 2027 responding to the 13 key areas listed in the “Strategic Guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for the period 2021 to 2030”<sup>1</sup>**

#### **1. Regulatory and administrative procedures**

The main objective is a reduction of administrative burden, and the measures are:

- Introduction of system data collection for sector management.
- Unification of the environment for the reception of applications and the administration of projects across operational programmes.
- Ongoing revision and adjustment of administrative requirements for beneficiaries of grants.
- Introduction of simplified methods.

#### **2. Access to space and water**

Siting and permitting of reservoir construction: revision, modification, and simplification of relevant legal standards (in particular the Law on Spatial Planning and Building Code, the Law on Water).

#### **3. Producer and market organisation**

Support for the creation of producer organisations and support for the creation of their production plans.

#### **4. Human and animal health and animal welfare**

---

<sup>1</sup> COM(2021)236 final

The main objective of this area is maintaining a high level of protection of human and animal health and animal welfare. The measures to be carried out include:

- Performance testing, performance and assessment and control of the heritability of performance characteristics and health.
- Promoting the farming of genetically important fish species.

## 5. Environmental performance

Conservation of the biodiversity of native species is the main objective and the measures to be carried out include:

- Promoting the biological diversity of fish stocks and other aquatic and water-bound organisms in surface waters.
- Support for the introduction of European eel into inland watercourses in accordance with Eel Management Plans.
- Reducing excessive nutrient input into surface waters.
- Protection of natural pond-linked habitats and water quality management.
- Improving water quality in ponds and reservoirs.
- Management of natural aquatic and wetland habitats related to traditional forms of aquaculture.

## 6. Climate change adaptation and mitigation

The objective of this area is climate mitigation. The measures to be carried out include:

- Implementation of the approach to combating drought implemented by the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture.
- Aid for the construction, rehabilitation, reconstruction and dredging of fishponds and water reservoirs.
- Support for the removal of emergency situations on ponds and reservoirs.
- Support for the removal of flood damage on ponds and water reservoirs.
- Compensation for damage caused by climate change (drought, floods).

## 7. Diversification and adding value

Diversification of fishing activities of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises through eco-tourism, fishing tourism, and direct sales with on-site fish treatment. Developing the diversification of non-productive activities through targeted support will make it possible to further spread the risks associated with fluctuations in primary production and increase additional business revenues, thereby increasing overall competitiveness and resilience, including investment potential.

Increasing the added value of production is a condition for further sustainable development and increasing overall competitiveness and resilience. In aquaculture conditions, this is possible in particular through the further processing of production and, above all, the production of fish products with a higher added value. The development of processing facilities will make it possible to reduce producers' dependence on sales of primary production and develop processing activities with higher added value and gradually create the conditions for increasing demand for such production.

#### 8. Communicating on EU aquaculture

The main objective is raising awareness of the benefits of farming and fish consumption. The measures to be carried out include:

- Implementation of awareness-raising and educational activities on aquaculture.
- Implementation of regional, national, or transnational information campaigns on aquaculture products and other communication campaigns to improve public awareness of the aquaculture sector.
- Promotion of the benefits of eating fish meat and products and of the aquaculture industry as a whole.

#### 9. Innovation, consultation, and education

The main objective is improving the development and application of innovations in aquaculture and levels of consultancy and educational services. The measures to be carried out:

- Testing innovative technologies under conditions close to production conditions in order to obtain technical or economic knowledge of new technologies.
- Promoting scientific cooperation and sharing of scientific knowledge, including examples of good practices.
- Aid advice and specialist advice.
- Aid applied research.
- Aid in improving teaching in fisheries.

#### 10. Control

The objective is improving the traceability of fisheries and aquaculture products and the measure is promoting the traceability of fishery products and aquaculture.

### 11. Competitive and sustainable developing aquaculture

- Modernisation and construction of new ponds, fish hatcheries and industrial fish farms, investment in pond de-watering and other facilities.
- Diversification of the activities of micro, small and medium-sized fishing enterprises through ecotourism, fishing tourism, direct sales with the possibility of on-site fish processing.
- Support for new farmers setting up aquaculture businesses.
- Compensation for the provision of non-productive functions of ponds and compensation for damage caused by piscivorous predators.
- Modernisation and construction of recirculation facilities for fish production.
- Expansion, modernisation and construction of new processing capacities.
- Acquisition and modernisation of production processing technologies.
- Reducing the energy intensity of production processing.

## 4. Funding

Measure	Source of funding
Regulatory and administrative procedures	Programme Fisheries (PF), State Agricultural Intervention Fund (SAIF)
Siting and permitting of reservoir construction	National resources
Consumer information	PF, National resources, etc.
Communicating on EU aquaculture	PF, Klasa Programmes, Regional Food, etc.
Producer and market organisations	National resources, PF
Human and Animal Health and Animal Welfare	National resources
Environmental performance	PF, National resources, Programme Environment (PE), Strategic plan of the Common Agricultural Policy
Climate change adaptation and mitigation	Multi-source financing, National resources, PF, Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic (MOE)
Innovation, consultation and education	PF, National resources
Control	PF
Diversification and added value	National resources, PF
Competitive and sustainable developing aquaculture	National resources, PF, etc.