

## Aquaculture is the solution

***Our vision is to close the gap between consumption and production of seafood with healthy and sustainable products for EU citizens.***

***Our mission is to ensure that EU aquaculture reaches at the least the global growth rate in a way that is environmentally sound, socially acceptable and economically viable.***

### For increased growth

- European environmental legislation must be streamlined to ensure a transparent interpretation that supports aquaculture production growth by sea and by land.
- A competitive level playing field with imported seafood must be established no later than 2020.
- Zones for both marine and inland aquaculture should be allocated no later than 2020.
- The European Commission should create a best practice platform by 2020 to foster knowledge transfer and closer collaboration among Member States.
- Compensatory measures integrating the farming of low-trophic species should be facilitated and promoted for marine finfish aquaculture to support 'more food from the oceans'<sup>1</sup>.
- Consumer information at sale points should be improved so as to ensure responsible purchasing decisions.

### For more efficient and sustainable food systems:

- Research is needed to optimize new and conventional production technologies at land and sea, to improve prevention and treatment of fish diseases and to improve fish welfare.
- Promoting increased use of life cycle analyses to support fact-based information to consumers and to point to ways of increased sustainability and reduced carbon footprint.
- Through easier sourcing of ingredients for compound feed and research into alternative raw materials.
- The EMFF must be introduced in a timely manner.

### To climate change:

- Climate change adaptation plans must assist the sector in forecasting potential hazards and ways to mitigate impacts at the farm level.
- Science based policy must allow for the selection of more robust sites for aquaculture.

### To a socially acceptable aquaculture

- Societal acceptance could be achieved through an EU-wide communication campaign of farmed products highlighting their low carbon footprint, their efficient use of natural resources and high nutritional value. This should also go hand in hand with the promotion of aquaculture educational programmes.
- Training and capacity-building programmes will be key to attracting a future generation to the sector.

***In 2030, the vision will have developed a diversified and innovative European aquaculture industry with an annual output of 4.5 million tons of sustainable food products, worth € 14 billion, and supporting more than 150,000 jobs in coastal and rural Europe.***

<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/research/sam/pdf/sam\\_food-from-oceans\\_report.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/research/sam/pdf/sam_food-from-oceans_report.pdf)