



DG MARE current policy developments

EMFAF Monitoring Committee meeting

12 November 2024

Dobrinka Dimova

DG MARE, Unit D2

Current context

- **New College of Commissioners for the period 2024-2029**
- **A number of ongoing evaluations**
- **Next Multiannual Financial Framework under preparation**
- **A number of ongoing policy initiatives**

New College of Commissioners 2024-2029

- European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen presented to the European Parliament her **Political Guidelines** for the next European Commission 2024-2029
- **Mission Letters to all Commissioners-designate**
- **Commissioner-designate for Fisheries and Oceans: Mr. Costas Kadis**
- **Hearing of Commissioner-designate Mr. Costas Kadis on 6 November 2024**

Evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) Regulation

- **Evaluation objective:** to provide an evidence-based assessment of whether the CFP Regulation is still fit for purpose or where lessons can be learned for improving
- **In line with Commission's Better Regulation Standards; assessment five key evaluation criteria:** efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, coherence, EU added value
- **Public feedback** was collected till 6 September on the “**Have your say**” portal, **87 responses**
- **12 weeks public consultation will be launched by end of 2024** via e-survey questionnaire
- **Study supporting the evaluation will be conducted by an external Contractor**
- **Final product is the evaluation report – a staff working document drafted by the Commission**

EMFF and EMFAF evaluations

- **EMFF ex-post evaluation and EMFAF mid-term evaluation in parallel**
- Supported by **external studies** conducted **over the past year**
- Application of **various methodological tools and approaches**
- **Reach-out to the wider public** (call for evidence, public consultation, surveys, targeted interviews and consultations, validation workshops etc.)
- **Evaluation studies expected to be finalised by end 2024**
- **Results of the studies and staff working documents to be published in spring 2025**

Other studies and consultations

- **Foresight study “Fishers of the future”**: launched in November 2023, expected delivery by November-December 2024
- **Training and Certification of Fishers across EU coastal Member States**: launched in 2024, expected delivery by December 2024
- **Management of EU fishing capacity**: initiated in 2024, expected delivery by June 2025
- **Common Market Organisation (CMO) provisions labelling and producer organisations**: launched in October 2024, duration of 10 months (until July 2025)
- **Consultations on social indicators and quota allocation closed**: ongoing assessment of responses related to Fishing Opportunities and upcoming engagement with Member States and stakeholders

Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)

- Commission to present a **proposal on the next MFF Regulation by 1st July 2025**
- MFF proposal determines the **overall EU budget allocation**
- DG MARE's evaluation work specific to the funding and CFP helps define the **best use of the budget available to the specific policy area of DG MARE in the next funding period**

Updates on Aquaculture Policy (1)

- Continued implementation of the “Strategic Guidelines for EU aquaculture”
- Three publications since May 2024 on the EU aquaculture website:
 - ✓ Regulatory framework and administrative procedures (including e-learning module): [Regulatory and administrative framework for aquaculture | EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism \(europa.eu\)](#)
 - ✓ Access to space and water for marine aquaculture (including e-learning module): [Regulatory and administrative framework for aquaculture | EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism \(europa.eu\)](#)
 - ✓ Good husbandry practices for aquaculture: [Good husbandry practices | EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism \(europa.eu\)](#)
- **Other documents in progress:** Access to space and water for freshwater and pond aquaculture; Climate change adaptation; Environmental performance; Energy transition; Code of good practices on fish welfare and fish welfare indicators.

Updates on Aquaculture Policy (2)

- **Recent publications on the EU webpage [Media | EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism \(europa.eu\)](#):**
 - ✓ Infographics on shellfish farming, finfish farming, EMODNet and aquaculture
 - ✓ Video on the “Open Method of Coordination and EU aquaculture policy”
- **Launch of EU-wide campaign on aquaculture:**
 - ✓ Aim: to raise awareness, understanding and acceptance of aquaculture among citizens and those who have a say at local level on the development of the sector
 - ✓ Commission will prepare tools that can be used by Member States
 - ✓ Planned kick-off - March 2025

Nature Restoration Law (NRL)

- **NRL adopted** by European Parliament in February 2024; respective Regulation **published in the EU Official Journal** during summer 2024
- **NRL directly applicable in the Member States**
- Each Member State to develop and submit to the Commission a **National Restoration Plan within two years from the entry into force of the Regulation** (August 2026)
- **Interplay with the CFP:** where the protection of coastal and marine habitats requires that fishing or aquaculture activities are regulated
- Financial support: **current EMFAF programming period remains unaffected**
- **Close collaboration within the national administration** is required

Thank you