

# EU Vision 2040 for fisheries and aquaculture

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EU shapes its 2040 Vision for fisheries and aquaculture

Call for evidence: [Fisheries and aquaculture – Vision 2040](#)

## Update

The European Commission's 2040 Vision for fisheries and aquaculture sets a 15-year strategic framework to guide policy and address systemic challenges affecting the fisheries, aquaculture, and processing value chain. The 2040 Vision will also provide the overarching framework for the [European Union \(EU\) strategy on fisheries external action](#).

## Impacted products

Fisheries and aquaculture

## What is changing?

The 2040 Vision for fisheries and aquaculture complements the [EU Vision for Agriculture and Food](#), but for the fishery sector.

Agriculture and fisheries face similar systemic challenges in ensuring sustainability and long-term competitiveness, food security, and preserving resources. The European Commission seeks to address these challenges through simplification, digitalisation, innovation, and coherence with its other initiatives.

The vision will provide an overarching strategic direction for all EU action in the area of fisheries and aquaculture. It will also provide the overarching framework for the [EU strategy on fisheries external action](#), which will be adopted at the same time as the 2040 Vision.

As announced in the [European Ocean Pact](#), the EU has been inviting contributions to help shape its 2040 Vision for fisheries and aquaculture.

## Why?

Seventy per cent of aquatic food consumed in the EU today is imported. The EU aims to strengthen the sustainability of imports while improving the competitiveness and resilience of its fisheries and aquaculture sectors, including processing.

## Timeline

The European Commission intends to publish the 2040 Vision in the autumn of 2026.

## Recommended Actions

This consultation via the European Commission's Have Your Say webpage [Fisheries and aquaculture – Vision 2040](#) closed on 24 March 2026. It formed part of a series of public consultations that the EU will hold on many of the initiatives foreseen in the Ocean Pact, which will also be open to feedback from stakeholders in non-EU countries.

## Background

The 2040 Vision will complement the EU's [Vision for Agriculture and Food](#) and build on the [Fishers of the Future foresight study](#), the [European Ocean Pact](#), and the ongoing evaluation of the [Common Fisheries Policy Regulation](#). It also fits within the Commission's current agenda for [simplification](#), the proposed [EU budget for 2028–2034](#), the [Competitiveness Compass](#), the [Union of Skills](#), the [2030 Consumer Agenda](#), the [Bioeconomy Strategy](#), and the [Nature Restoration Regulation](#).

## Resources

Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (2024) [Foresight study on Fishers of the Future – overview](#). European Commission

Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (2025) [Commission launches call for evidence to shape the EU strategy on fisheries external action](#). European Commission

European Commission (2025) [2030 Consumer Agenda](#)

European Commission (2025) [Bioeconomy Strategy](#)

European Commission (2025) [Communication](#): A Vision for Agriculture and Food Shaping together an attractive farming and agri-food sector for future generations

European Commission (2025) [Communication](#): The European Ocean Pact

European Commission (2025) [Competitiveness compass](#)

European Commission (2025) [Nature Restoration Regulation](#)

European Commission (2025) [Simplification](#)

European Commission (2025) [The 2028-2034 EU budget for a stronger Europe](#)

European Commission (2025) [Union of skills](#)

Regulation (EU) No [1380/2013](#) on the Common Fisheries Policy

## Sources

Call for evidence: [Fisheries and aquaculture – Vision 2040](#)

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