

STATEMENT

Support for the draft Shanghai Declaration

19 September 2021

The FEAP warmly welcomes the Shanghai Declaration and expresses its support for it.

Our federation fully adheres to the vision for an aquaculture sector that leads the way towards more productive, efficient, resilient, climate-smart and socially responsible food systems, fulfils its potential to meet the increasing demand for safe, healthy and affordable aquatic food and aquatic products, with reduced impacts on the global environment, contributes to human well-being and helps to eradicate poverty, malnutrition and hunger, and matures in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable way.

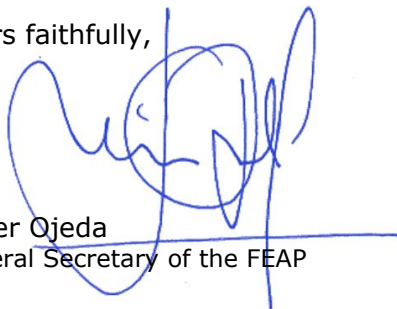
The FEAP agrees with the overarching commitments to achieve the vision of the Declaration and expresses the comments, pledges and commitments that can be read below. This contribution is structured following the Strategic priorities of the Shanghai Declaration.

- The FEAP is committed to drive European aquaculture to be one of the most sustainable food-producing sectors in the continent and pledges to share its experience with other aquaculture farmers in the world. Europe is expected to carry out the transformation of its food systems to make them fair, healthy and environmentally friendly, as stated in the Farm to Fork Strategy. However, this federation is concerned that the relevance of aquaculture to reach the Sustainable Development Goals is not sufficiently taken on board by some departments of the European Union governing bodies, by some elements of national governments and by some sections of regional governments. The FEAP commits itself to intensify its relation and communication with those public administrations and policymakers to fully unlock the potential of aquaculture.
- The FEAP commits itself to continue promoting the benefits of fish in diets.
- The FEAP is aware of the benefits and need to develop aquaculture in coordination with other activities. The FEAP commits itself to pursue the best results in the development of the Blue Economy. This will strengthen not only aquaculture but also the sustainable development of remote coastal and rural areas.
- The FEAP is aware of the relevance of research in this collaborative area and for this reason pledges to continue promoting the work of the research and innovation organisations such as the European Aquaculture and Innovation Technology Platform (EATiP).
- The FEAP pledges to continue driving aquaculture towards the most efficient use of natural resources by promoting sound science and its timely implementation at farm level.

- The FEAP commits itself to assure the consideration of physical, ecological and social carrying capacity when participating in aquaculture planning exercises.
- The FEAP pledges to continue exploring the positive ecosystem services of aquaculture in fresh and marine water lagoons and disseminating their values to the wider public.
- The FEAP commits itself to continue collaborating with the European aquaculture value chain to optimize it and enhance traceability and market competitiveness. The main efforts will continue to be carried out within structured forums such as the EU Market Advisory Council.
- European fish farmers, assembled under the FEAP, will continue undertaking actions and efforts promoting gender-equal opportunities and empowering women in aquaculture.
- European fish farmers will continue undertaking actions and efforts to offering attractive employment to young women and men.
- The FEAP pledges to continue communicating the capacity of aquaculture to mitigate the impact of climate change both in freshwater and marine environments. At the same time innovation will be pursued to adapt aquaculture systems and fish farm spatial planning to the consequences of climate change.
- The FEAP is aware of the great relevance of data on aquaculture and works to improve aquaculture data collection and information systems. This federation has recently promoted and contributed to the development of an EU Aquaculture Advisory Council recommendation on the EU Data Collection Framework and its improvement for the sustainable development of aquaculture and the reaching of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The aforementioned commitments of the FEAP are aligned with reaching the Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 12, 13 and 14 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Javier Ojeda', written over a horizontal line.

Javier Ojeda
General Secretary of the FEAP

The Federation of European Aquaculture Producers is an organisation that represents the European fish farming profession and is based in Brussels. FEAP is composed of 24 national fish farming associations from 23 countries, both EU and non-EU. The combined yearly production of FEAP members surpasses 2,5 million tonnes of nutritious, safe, delicious and environmentally sustainable fish.