

Assessment of the growth of the Vietnam fisheries sector during the period 2001-2011 and forecasts for the period 2012-2020

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This study evaluated the growth of the fisheries sector in Vietnam during the period 2001-2011 and growth forecasts for the period of 2012-2020 based on the theory of production of Charles Cobb and Paul Douglas. The results indicate that in the period of 2001-2011, the total fisheries production in 2011 was 5,432.9 thousand tons, an increase by 2.4 times compared to 2001, in which, the capture fisheries production was 2,502.5 thousand tons, up 1.5 times and the aquaculture production reached 2,930.4 thousand tons, a 5 fold increase. The growth of aquaculture has been 16% per year, which is more than the growth of capture fisheries 3.8% per year, and in 2007 the total production from aquaculture exceeded the capture fisheries.

Results of the forecast for the period of 2012-2020 indicate that capture fisheries production will remain stable and will not increase during the forecast period. However, aquaculture will continue to increase with an average growth rate of approximately 5% per year and will reach 4,500 thousand tons in 2020. The total fisheries production in 2020 will reach 7,000 thousand tons and the average growth rate in the period of 2012-2020 would be close to 3% per year. Forecasts for the growth rate of the fisheries sector upto 2020 is an important basis to guide the development of specialized sectors, including of development planning, investment capital resources, human and scientific technology. Growth rate of total fisheries production in the future will depend on the growth of the aquaculture. In the context of adverse climate change, disease and the production not being able to expand forever, in order to maintain the growth rate of 5% per year, aquaculture in the future will not be easy. This responsibility weighs heavily on the shoulders of policy makers, scientists, entrepreneurs and farmers involved in aquaculture.

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