

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 29 June 2021 09:00 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Industry-science collaboration as a driver for food system transformation: the case of SeaBOS
CONVENED BY	Martha Selwyn, Associate, UN Global Compact; Robert Blasiak, Researcher, Stockholm Resilience Center; Wenche Gronbrekk, Global Head of Sustainable Development, Cermaq Group
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/10994/
DIALOGUE TYPE	Independent
GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS	No borders

The outcomes from a Food Systems Summit Dialogue will be of use in developing the pathway to sustainable food systems within the locality in which they take place. They will be a valuable contribution to the national pathways and also of interest to the different workstreams preparing for the Summit: the Action Tracks, Scientific Groups and Champions as well as for other Dialogues.

1. PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

58

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-18

8 19-30

30 31-50

19 51-65

1 66-80

0 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

31 Male

23 Female

4 Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

1 Agriculture/crops

24 Fish and aquaculture

0 Livestock

0 Agro-forestry

6 Environment and ecology

0 Trade and commerce

8 Education

2 Communication

2 Food processing

3 Food retail, markets

2 Food industry

0 Financial Services

1 Health care

0 Nutrition

0 National or local government

0 Utilities

0 Industrial

9 Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

1 Small/medium enterprise/artisan

6 Large national business

8 Multi-national corporation

0 Small-scale farmer

0 Medium-scale farmer

1 Large-scale farmer

1 Local Non-Governmental Organization

10 International Non-Governmental Organization

0 Indigenous People

13 Science and academia

0 Workers and trade union

0 Member of Parliament

0 Local authority

4 Government and national institution

0 Regional economic community

4 United Nations

0 International financial institution

2 Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance

1 Consumer group

7 Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

HOW DID YOU ORGANIZE THE DIALOGUE SO THAT THE PRINCIPLES WERE INCORPORATED, REINFORCED AND ENHANCED?

The dialogue convenors – UN Global Compact, Seafood Business for Ocean Stewardship (SeaBOS) and the Stockholm Resilience Centre- engaged with their own organizations as well as a diversity of facilitators and rapporteurs to discuss the approach to the dialogue. Particular emphasis was placed on ensuring multi-stakeholder participation in a respectful and evidence-based setting. As such, a considerable portion of the dialogue (two thirty minutes sessions) was organized as breakout groups in which the number of participants was generally 10-15 individuals, enabling frank discussions among diverse stakeholders. When inviting participants, youth networks, early-career groups and representatives with networks across Africa and Asia were contacted to seek broader participation. In addition, the Dialogue was planned at a time that enabled participation across Africa/Asian/European timezones. Since the final list of registrants included both familiar names/organizations for the organizers as well as many new ones, remarks from panelists and the main facilitator included basic information about food production, employment and livelihoods associated with the seafood industry and small-scale fishing.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

The Dialogue's main facilitator and the four breakout group facilitators were selected not only due to their professional expertise, but also their demonstrated capacity to engage respectfully and inclusively with diverse stakeholders with a variety of perspectives. Particular attention was paid during the invitation of Dialogue participants to ensure representation from across different stakeholder groups, geographies, and segments of the seafood industry.

DO YOU HAVE ADVICE FOR OTHER DIALOGUE CONVENORS ABOUT APPRECIATING THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT?

Start early with identifying and inviting participants that will ensure a diverse multi-stakeholder discussion in the Dialogue. Organizing a Dialogue in line with the UNFSS guidelines will take more time than you expect, and establishing a core team of co-convenors to share this workload is key.

3. METHOD

The outcomes of a Dialogue are influenced by the method that is used.

DID YOU USE THE SAME METHOD AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CONVENORS REFERENCE MANUAL?

☒

Yes

☐

No

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

The focus of this Dialogue was to convene policy-makers, the seafood industry, retailers, science and civil society in an engaging discussion on the role of the ocean in producing the food we need for a healthy, sustainable, equitable and climate friendly food system.

By sharing seafood industry perspectives on ocean stewardship and lessons learned from the science-industry collaboration SeaBOS (Seafood Business for Ocean Stewardship), the objective was to contribute to positioning seafood at the heart of the food system debates and help mobilize the broader seafood industry to take an active part in food system transformation. Furthermore, the dialogue was designed to help identify key priorities for science-industry collaborative action to accelerate sustainable seafood production towards 2030.

Much of the event involved active participation by invitees in facilitated conversations in breakout rooms with a focus on two topics. (Topic 1): How do we arrive at a global food system in 2050 that has fully integrated sustainable seafood from fisheries and aquaculture? (Topic 2): How can the SeaBOS science-industry model help support the seafood industry, its value chain and policy makers to take action towards accelerating more sustainable seafood production?

The event was moderated by Martin Exel (Managing Director, SeaBOS), with keynote presentations by: Dr. Henrik Österblom (Professor, Science Director, Stockholm Resilience Centre), Dr. Darian McBain (Global Director of Corporate Affairs and Sustainability, Thai Union), Dr. Audun Lem (Deputy Director, Fisheries Division, FAO), Wenche Gronbrekk (Global Head of Sustainable Development, Cermaq Group, and Senior Advisor, Oceans, UN Global Compact) and Helena Delgado Normann (Responsible Sourcing Manager, Tesco).

Action tracks: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Keywords: Seafood, Ocean, Finance, Policy, Governance, Environment and Climate

ACTION TRACKS

- ✓ Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
- ✓ Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
- ✓ Action Track 3: Boost nature-positive production
- ✓ Action Track 4: Advance equitable livelihoods
- ✓ Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress

KEYWORDS

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ✓ Finance | ✓ Policy |
| Innovation | Data & Evidence |
| Human rights | ✓ Governance |
| Women & Youth Empowerment | Trade-offs |
| | ✓ Environment and Climate |

MAIN FINDINGS

- The seafood industry can contribute significantly to the UN's vision of a healthier, more sustainable, equitable and inclusive food system for all – it has a fantastic story to tell on all aspects. Its problem is that it is not good at communicating this story. The UNFSS can contribute to change this and create an integrated arena for food from both land and sea.
- In the food system debates, there is a need to connect land and ocean.
- Food industry leadership based on science can result in climate resilience
- Aquaculture has a big role to play in the future of food, and it is necessary to push the frontiers of aquaculture towards more mariculture and a diversification of species, so that aquaculture also can be an ecosystem service provider.
- Regeneration of oceans is a key component in scaling sustainable Blue Food.
- Guidance from science is effective, it creates a snowball effect through the food value chain
- Science-industry collaboration allows for the development of global frameworks that enable a sustainable development of seafood as well as access to funding.
- Science provides the 'guardrails' for the seafood industry – paving way for a long-term strategy
- Role of Blue Food in the low carbon economy is also an important narrative, particularly in the context of COP26 and Food Systems Summit
- Co-production of knowledge creates conditions for action (on climate, antibiotics, endangered species, etc)
- "Ocean stewardship" is becoming mainstream concept in the seafood industry (e.g. in the High Level Panel for Sustainable Ocean Economy, UN Global Compact)
- Nobody owns the oceans, but if we all collaborate, we can make real change and avoid tragedy of the commons
- There is a clear role of science for achieving the SDGs – without science-based decisions/data, we cannot have effective fisheries management and won't achieve the targets
- Retailers are furthest from the "problems" of the seafood industry, but closest to the public eye – they have a crucial connecting role as closest to scrutiny and consumers
- Retailers have role of creating "safe space" – need to be able to ensure there is right due diligence in place along supply chains, and need to be able to adequately respond to customer and investor requests and questions, which are getting progressively more detailed, and science is key in responding
- The industry-science collaborations that have worked well, share some characteristics: a clear task at hand, a clear and time bound strategy and goals that are aligned with other initiatives including the SDGs as a common anchoring point.
- To really enable a sustainable food system, it is necessary to take a step back to understand the global food system distribution (e.g. local vs global, effect on diets of different policies).
- Many of the main findings emerged during two breakout group discussions, which are described in detail in the following section.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/2

(Topic 1): How do we arrive at a global food system in 2050 that has fully integrated sustainable seafood from fisheries and aquaculture?

Discussions across four breakout groups addressed this question from different dimensions, with some of the key points and recommendations in bullets below:

- Seafood sector is not good at telling stories. Its image is not good, and huge potential exists here, including by communicating its role in relation to other food systems, and its potential as a nutritious and healthy food option
- But fundamental questions like “what is seafood” need to be effectively communicated – this encompasses a huge diversity of species – over 3,000 – and each has its unique environmental footprint and nutritional value.
- Aquaculture is playing growing role, but must be sustainable, and need to push frontiers to more mariculture and develop more sustainable feed ingredients
- Focus on sustainability should be consistently broadened – it’s not just about environmental sustainability, but also social sustainability and human rights dimensions.
- Large corporations have a responsibility to incorporate this into their criteria, policies, and practices, and in this regard, science based frameworks serve as an effective guide (e.g. ASC, MSC, Global GAP)
- Large-scale / industrial and small-scale fisheries (SSF) shouldn’t be considered in isolation or as binary opposites, but require novel thinking related to their interconnections and attention to existing positive examples.
- While industry, NGOs, civil society and others have a large role to play, ultimately leadership also needs to be taken by governments (and regional fishery management organizations, for instance)
- Through engagement with entrepreneurs and clearer guidance by financiers and governments, there is more potential to fully incorporate seafood as an element of the global food system
- Cold chains and transport of seafood should be a focus when considering how to achieve a more sustainable system that is transparent and traceable based on interoperable systems
- Countries could consider establishing “Food Ministries”, rather than having separate ministries for agriculture and fisheries, to ensure holistic food policies. This can also be established through cross-governmental task forces.
- Private sector needs to integrate local ecological knowledge, which may be something unfamiliar and challenging for companies.
- Important to consider equity dimension of achieving food security goals and SDGs
- Adequate and inclusive ocean management, using tools such as Marine Spatial Planning, is important to advance seafood in an increasingly busy marine environment

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/2

(Topic 2): How can the SeaBOS science-industry model help support the seafood industry, its value chain and policy makers to take action towards accelerating more sustainable seafood production?

- Science-industry collaboration is "crucial", "very important" and "essential".
- Representing 10% of global seafood production, SeaBOS can create ripple effects through the value chain, as the companies start to implement measures for enhanced sustainability and transparency
- Science has a cost – expensive – should not be a one-time thing, so is a continuous investment and cost
- Role of policy is to support that science so it can support a long-term sustainable and equitable seafood system
- Potential to set up a Global Fund to support developing nations implement science-based food systems
- Science should be integrated into operations of companies – should help to identify and solve problems and set priorities
- Companies and scientists should promote species with higher nutritional value and lower environmental footprint.
- In policy frameworks for sustainable food production, it is worth considering developing indicators for industry to provide data on nutrition per kg/ton produced as well as climate or biodiversity footprint per kg/ton produced
- Greatest impact (and snowball effect through value chain) possible when science, industry and policy come together.
- Time-bound strategies and goals need to be aligned with macro-goals as anchor points (e.g. SDGs)
- Key standards set up in seafood industry (e.g. ASC, MSC) are based on science
- Important to take a step back and consider global food distribution system, and implications of keeping some aspects more localized, and what type of impacts this would have on diets
- Role of Blue Food in low carbon economy is also an important narrative, particularly in the context of COP26 and Food Systems Summit
- 2050 is too far away, and action is needed now.
- COVID19 is showing the importance of science in enabling transparency and traceability across value chains, including to small-scale production levels so that monitoring is possible throughout.
- Potential for companies to seed incubators to develop and grow technology solutions
- Benefits of SeaBOS are evident, particularly from a global focus, but important to also take regional focus when relevant
- SeaBOS is helping to shift social norms within the seafood industry related to labor abuse, illegal fishing, etc.
- Ultimately, science communicates how biosphere is the foundation for humanity and as well as all corporate activities, so underscores the need for stewardship by all

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

ACTION TRACKS

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	Action Track 5: Build resilience to vulnerabilities, shocks and stress				Environment and Climate