

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Friday, 28 May 2021 13:30 GMT +01:00
<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Food from the ocean, rivers and lakes – essential for our food systems
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Special Envoy of the Food System Summit Dr. Kalibata, Special Envoy for the Ocean Peter Thomson, Friends of Ocean Action, UN Foundation and Norway
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/14796/">https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/14796/</a>
<b>DIALOGUE TYPE</b>	Global
<b>GEOGRAPHICAL FOCUS</b>	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

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0-18	6	19-30	51	31-50	31	51-65	6	66-80	80+
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## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

47	Male	46	Female	1	Prefer not to say or Other
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## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

2	Agriculture/crops	4	Education		Health care
46	Fish and aquaculture	2	Communication	2	Nutrition
2	Livestock	1	Food processing	14	National or local government
	Agro-forestry		Food retail, markets		Utilities
14	Environment and ecology		Food industry		Industrial
1	Trade and commerce		Financial Services	6	Other

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

2	Small/medium enterprise/artisan		Workers and trade union
	Large national business		Member of Parliament
	Multi-national corporation		Local authority
1	Small-scale farmer	27	Government and national institution
	Medium-scale farmer	2	Regional economic community
	Large-scale farmer	10	United Nations
8	Local Non-Governmental Organization	1	International financial institution
20	International Non-Governmental Organization	2	Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
2	Indigenous People		Consumer group
13	Science and academia	6	Other

## 2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

We aimed to invite stakeholders from a wide variety of sectors and geographies to reflect the interconnected and complex nature of aquatic food and food systems – not only with terrestrial food systems but in and between fisheries and aquaculture as well. Having three organisations (Government of Norway, UN Foundation and Friends of Ocean Action) with slightly different networks helped to cast the net across a broader range of expertise and geographies. Having the support of 4SD to connect to national conveners across the globe was also extremely helpful in getting representation from as many different countries as possible and to connect to dialogues going on at the member state level, whether on aquatic food specifically or food systems more generally. We also included partners which have convened, or will convene, an independent Food System Summit dialogue on aquatic food, so that outcomes from those events could be amplified and built upon through this dialogue. We ensured that the framing statements for each of the breakout groups had an ambitious timeline for improvement to reflect the urgent need for immediate action on many of the topics discussed. We also tried to ensure that the break out group topics covered the main challenges facing sustainable aquatic food production, as outlined in a number of existing frameworks, including: the Committee on World Food Security's Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition Policy Recommendations; the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy's Transformations for a Sustainable Ocean Economy: A Vision of Protection, Production and Prosperity; the Global Action Network on Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition and; the Blue Food Assessment. In creating the breakout groups, we tried to ensure a good balance between gender, expertise, sector and geography – although on the day due to some variations in terms of who had registered and who actually attended, the balances may not have quite been as originally planned.

### HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Feedback from the groups suggested that all who participated were respectful even when opinions diverged in some discussions. We believe facilitators benefitted from the training (or materials where they weren't able to attend the trainings) in terms of being able to encourage all those in their group to contribute to the conversation in some way to embrace multi-stakeholder inclusivity and also to navigate tricky conversations. Voices were varied, but some of that variety was lost between those who registered and those who were able to attend on the day. It is clear from the outcomes of the breakout groups that each group grasped and explored the complexities of both the challenges of aquatic food production specifically, and more broadly the complex relationship of aquatic food systems within broader global food systems. It appeared that even where attendees had more of a terrestrial background, there was increased acknowledgment of the importance of including aquatic food systems in broader food system conversations (and particularly in the Food Systems Summit). The conversations around this seemed to build trust and motivation to ensure that 'transforming food systems' includes all types of food production, whether terrestrial or aquatic.

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

We would highly recommend having a range of co-conveners (but not too many!) with different networks to build out an invitation list that is as inclusive and diverse as possible in terms of geography, gender, position in value chain and expertise etc. We would also advise working more informally with other partners, particularly if they have also convened a Food System Summit dialogue, to access wider networks and invite important voices that might otherwise be difficult to include (for example small scale actors). This also allows for conversations that have already happened on similar topics to be built upon, rather than duplicated. Inviting significantly more participants than is required is advisable for virtual events, to allow for those who can't attend, and those who registered but do not join the session on the day. We also found it helpful to have two facilitators on standby who had been involved in organising the event in some way and who had had the training – this allowed for an on the day drop out to be solved quickly and easily. It also meant we were prepared in case more people than anticipated joined on the day.

# 3. METHOD

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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

For the most part, the dialogue was curated using the method suggesting. However, we had an additional element in the form of an extra high level panel discussion a few days before the Global Dialogue itself. This was because one of the co-conveners (Friends of Ocean Action), were hosting a series of Virtual Ocean Dialogues, including one to discuss the role of aquatic food in food systems. Connecting the Global Dialogue and one of the Virtual Ocean Dialogues provided the opportunity to highlight the interlinkages between the Food System Summit and other major policy events taking place this year (UN FCCC COP26, CBD COP16, launch of UN Decade of Ocean Science) – and to illustrate how the ocean is central to all these agendas. It also helped to consolidate messages and present a united front on how crucial aquatic food systems are without running the same event twice. Having a panel discussion separate but connected to the Global Dialogue enabled us to have a little more time for the panellists to make their points without making the Global Dialogue itself too long. The extra time during the first event allowed for a slightly larger number of panellists, enabling us to include more perspectives. The panel discussion was then referenced at the Global Dialogue three days later, with two of the panellists (who were co-conveners – Dr. Agnes Kalibata and H.E. Peter Thomson) opening the dialogue and setting the scene for following breakout group discussions. Representatives of the other co-conveners also gave opening remarks – allowing all involved in the convening of the event the opportunity to highlight differing but interlinked perspectives on the topic of aquatic food production and its importance in broader food systems. We felt this gave a good foundation for our participants to then discuss key topics themselves.

# 4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

## MAJOR FOCUS

Foods from the ocean, rivers and lakes play a vital role in food systems but are often missing from global discussions on food security and nutrition. This Dialogue aimed to address that. A healthy ocean means healthy people – the ocean and other aquatic ecosystems are critical to the global food system and often indispensable in local food chains, but they are at risk if not transformed to be more sustainable, nature-positive and accessible. It is vital that food systems are composed of sufficient, safe and nutritious foods - including food from the ocean and other aquatic sources - that meet the dietary needs and food preferences of a growing population.

Public and private support for food systems – including policies, regulations, aid, investments, and markets – must better recognize the critical role of food from the ocean, rivers and lakes and the people who produce them. This requires not only direct support for sustainable, climate-smart fisheries and aquaculture, but also recognition of the interconnection between land and ocean food production. This means explicit efforts to ensure land-based food production does not negatively impact the production of aquatic foods or the people who depend on them (e.g. through run-off, erosion, or unsustainable use of fish meal).

The Dialogue highlighted to participants that the upcoming UN Food Systems Summit provides an opportunity to address these gaps and develop solutions to feed the world through systems that are good for the land, good for the climate, and good for the ocean.

We provided participants a ‘vision for the future of aquatic food production’, in the form of a framing statement: By 2030, aquatic food is fundamental to global food security, with policies and investments in place to ensure sustainable management of the resources and with minimal impacts from climate change and land-based activities.

The objectives of our Dialogue were to:

- Raise awareness of the importance of aquatic foods to the global food system, and of the importance of protecting the fragile ecosystems they are a part of, in particular the ocean.
- Build consensus around the need for making public and private investments in land- and aquatic-based food systems that are ocean- and climate-smart, allowing us to make progress against multiple SDGs.
- Ensure just and equitable access to and benefits from ocean and other aquatic-based food systems.
- Contribute to the elaboration of a framing ‘vision’ for the future of blue/aquatic foods.

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

## MAIN FINDINGS

The main findings were:

1. Getting the right narrative and amplifying it – Aquatic food is key for the future: it's highly nutritious and vital to diets and livelihoods in some parts of the world, it can be sustainable (with the right practices, in the right place, at the right time) and it can help to take pressure off the land to produce more food for a growing population. It must be recognised in global conversations about the food system and be central to food system decision-making.
2. Integration - We should promote aquatic food systems that are integrated, circular and sustainable. When they are not, something is going badly wrong. The integrated approach has to link together land and water and must connect multiple actors. That means that integration needs to be part of the communication for the future.
3. Inclusion is vital - Include everyone, from all parts of the value chain and whether a small scale actor or large industry. Small scale fishing is absolutely critical and to protect those small scale actors and the environment, the FAO's Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries must be properly implemented. Inclusion must be a key stone of any approach and not just not a token - that means giving the possibility for all voices to be included in food system decision-making. Efforts on including and recognising women in aquatic food production must be scaled.
4. It is all about jurisdiction - The jurisdictional approach is key. Space must be created for the less powerful to have the option to engage in decision-making when it comes to what happens in and around aquatic ecosystems, ensuring that structures/frameworks allow that room for participation. Entitlements for participation should be based on people's roles and responsibilities. Good regulations are needed, with particular attention needed on local contexts given the regional differences when it comes to aquatic food. A good quality jurisdictional approach is where trade-offs are worked through on a local level. It must also be designed to handle and work through tensions.
5. Values – There is beginning to be a shift from investment for profit to investment for value, where value is defined by the local community. This must continue and be scaled up. The jurisdictional approach is linked to this.
6. Indicators of success matter for accountability - We cannot measure success without indicators, such as the health of fish stocks and broader aquatic ecosystems, the level of socioeconomic benefits are retained locally etc.
7. Management - It is all about management, we have to manage for conservation, manage for preservation, manage for equity and for sustainability. There are a number of basic principles that all stakeholders must have access to: data, science, modelling and capacity building to help implement accessible, inclusive and sustainable food systems. Stakeholders need to be connected to each other and able to access levers and encourage value-based innovation. Accountable partnering will be important in achieving this across geographies.

### ACTION TRACKS

- ✓ Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 1/10

Group 1: Food security, nutrition and sustainable consumption of aquatic foods

Discussion framing statement: By 2030, aquatic foods are recognised by policy-makers as a safe source of nutrients that can help end malnutrition.

We need an intentional, directed transformation so that blue food can serve critical social objectives. Fisheries are going through a huge transformation at the moment without any direction, so we need a “blue transformation” – a directed way to transform the sector so that it is geared towards the key objectives (nutrition, social, environmental) we want to achieve. This “directed transformation” must include moving away from a model of production that only harvests a few species and instead should shift to the production of smaller, local fishes. It must also focus on changing consumer demand through education, awareness raising, innovation, and social safety programs. Dietary guidelines also have an important role to play. Currently, only a small percentage of dietary guidelines include blue food and these guidelines often fail to include the full diversity of possible aquatic food sources. We need to promote the full diversity of foods especially in the lower tropics where blue food also has a lower environmental impact.

This transition will also require attention to the blue food value and supply chains and the improvement of traceability. In addition, the private sector has an important role to play in innovation and in investing in cold chain so that blue food can be safe and accessible everywhere. We must also take care of the ecosystems and environmental resources where aquatic food comes from and ensure that aquaculture is done in a safe and environmentally friendly way. In the same vein, we must broaden the frame of our overarching objectives: it is not just about ensuring access to safe food but also to food that is healthy, efficient, and sustainable.

Undoubtedly, there are a number of obstacles we need to overcome to achieve these goals. One of the challenges is that it is difficult to change people’s perceptions and dietary habits with public campaigns. Though it may be challenging to overcome this barrier, people are now more aware of sustainability and climate change considerations, which can make blue food more attractive. Another key issue in many countries is the lack of access to electricity, which has implications for food safety and transportation. Finally, food safety is critical and it is connected to issues like marine pollution and contamination. These intersecting challenges must all be addressed in a coordinated manner. All actors – governments and the private sector alike – have a role to play in overcoming these issues. We must also ensure that the voices of fishermen are incorporated in these conversations and that they can effectively inform policy making.

To achieve food security, nutrition, and sustainable consumption goals, we must create a new and positive narrative for fisheries - one that focuses on their contribution to social and environmental objectives. Specifically, we need to ensure that people know that blue food can be good for their health and the environment. It is also important to elevate the role of freshwater aquaculture and ensure that its contributions to nutrition are not overlooked.

### ACTION TRACKS

✓	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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✓	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

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 2/10

Group 2: Food security, nutrition and sustainable consumption of aquatic foods

Discussion framing statement: By 2030, a greater diversity of sustainable, nutritious aquatic foods are available for consumption.

It was a very energetic and engaged group with thoughts voiced by almost everyone present. The participants rallied around a number of key points. One point is that we need to establish the benefits of blue food, with special focus on small fish and other low input species such as bivalves and seaweed, in policies and dietary guidelines, which will require engagement with both government and business.

Importantly, we also need to engage consumers in shifting their diets to consume more sustainable blue food through advocacy, awareness raising, and the leveraging of influencers through various media and marketing channels. Effectively, we need a consumer revolution around blue food by emphasizing nutritional value, removing traditional stigmas (e.g. small fish as a “poor man’s meal”), diversifying offerings and ways of consuming and incorporating them into our diets, and enabling the scaling of production in order to meet and generate more demand. In terms of diversification, the emphasis was not so much on diversifying the types of species we consume, but how we use and consume the species that are already available in the market through products such as fish powder and fish sausage.

Furthermore, the group delved into how to minimize blue food loss and waste through various traditional and modern techniques, with the conclusion that by using the whole fish, we would derive more nutritional value overall from our meal. While the group agreed on points discussed the majority of the time, there was a divergence in terms of whether small scale producers should join forces with bigger companies to scale their production and get their products to market or to organize amongst themselves in cooperatives with institutional support. Ultimately, these two strategies are not mutually exclusive and can be complementary. Overall, it was a robust conversation with plenty of food for thought!

### ACTION TRACKS

- ✓ Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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### KEYWORDS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 3/10

Group 3: Supporting and protecting small-scale and subsistence producers of food from the ocean, rivers and lakes  
Discussion framing statement: By 2030, small-scale and subsistence actors (from fisheries and aquaculture sectors and including women and other vulnerable groups) are included in blue food decision-making and policy, and trade and economic policy takes account of their roles in providing equitable economic opportunity and nutrition.

The discussion was rich, but structured. There were few points of divergence and most participants agreed on the following points.

### Vision

The participants would like to see that by 2030, the FAO's small-scale fisheries guidelines are implemented at the district (local), national and regional level. In addition, support to all sectors was deemed necessary to reach the SGDs.

Therefore, the following points should be prioritised:

- Local communities need to be included from the start.
- Enable SSF-actors to participate in discussion. To do this it is important to have the right language and the right format. The International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture is one such opportunity. Their knowledge and experience must be incorporated in policy development.
- Must ensure that any support provided benefits local food security and that economic benefits are retained locally.
- Need to change the narrative. There is a positive story to be told that we can greatly benefit if we take care of our ocean.
- Address post-harvest losses in the small-scale fisheries value-chain.
- Better coordination of support, in order to reach the stakeholders whom most need support.
- Enforcing fishing and proper management plan for small-scale fisheries is critical. Important to share best practices in order to do this. Difficult politically for governments to take action to enforce and manage fisheries, because they can become unpopular, but this can be resolved with more data, which would show the cost of inaction. Some governments already working on this through initiatives like the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, under which Panel member countries' plan to sustainably manage 100% of the ocean under their jurisdiction.
- The small-scale fisheries sector is vulnerable to climate change and need tools for adaption, disaster management and preparedness.

To ensure that there is progress and success, the following indicators could be envisaged:

- Changes to policy and assessments to ensure compliance.
- Health of fishing stocks.
- Assessment to ensure local socioeconomic benefits are retained locally from local fisheries value chains.

### ACTION TRACKS

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|---|--|
| ✓ | 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 |

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 4/10

Group 4: Supporting and protecting small-scale and subsistence producers of food from the ocean, rivers and lakes

Discussion framing statement same as Group 3.

To ensure smallholders within the value chain are positioned more centrally in decision-making processes there is a need to understand how to enable these small-scale representatives and producers voices while also shifting the decision-making process to a system that will work within the existing local context. Often times, decisions in the value-chain are centered on the asks of those who hold power. To ensure this shift happens, there needs to be engagement in a diverse set of voices throughout the process. This will require capacity development and training as well as a breakdown of existing barriers such as power differentials.

Decision-makers should recognize the value that small-scale fishers and aquaculture provide for a local community and beyond. An option which has been seen within the irrigation sector has been governments devolving power down to small-scale holders so then the decision-making is out of their hands. Although there are problems with this approach, it can be a start to empower local groups, recognising that this approach would also need capacity building as well as infrastructure to support. NGO's have been successful at this level of organisation and can be important levers to make strategic shifts.

Within small-scale fisheries and aquaculture there may be a lack of unity as many groups remain informal. These can become difficult when existing systems at the local, national and regional level require formal registration and recognition for inclusion in discussions. After forming groups and possibly formalizing, in order to be recognized, it is important that groups identify champions within their members who can present their collective voice to government.

Informal or formally recognizing groups can also work within their own communities to find solutions to local problems, which in turn can create empowerment and awareness with greater visibility when they approach governing bodies. This could then create a meeting in the middle of top-down and bottom-up approach- marginalizing the power imbalance

We need to ensure the participation of these stakeholders in each step of the planning and management process to ensure it is a collaborative process as well as to ensure buy-in as well as local ownership. There is the broader issue of this need for legal status as a group to participate in government dialogues which results in lack of inclusion for some of these unrepresented voices.

Additionally, there is a need for context mapping as issues will vary depending on location and the stakeholders involved. There needs to be greater transparency in the implications that decision making will have on stakeholders at the community level as advocacy and policy influence can have a profound impact (i.e. China's monetary influence of ports/fish processing in Africa on local communities water and fishing resources)

Implementation of voluntary guidelines, created by agencies or intergovernmental organisations like FAO can unite users under one system or network and allows the sharing of experiences due to commonality. The national implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure (VGGT) and the Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries would be critical to ensure a step towards prioritising value-chain holders rights.

5 Summary Points:

1. Recognize the value and vital contribution that small scale actors along the value chain play in shepherding blue foods through the food systems
2. Make inclusive governance participation the norm and not just the nice to have but the must have
3. Devolve existing power structure to make decision making power more equitable
4. Ensure there is commitment and capacity to implement existing voluntary guidelines such as the FAO Tenure and Small Scale Fishing guidelines
5. Build capacity and facilitate coordination amongst small-holders to demand, and take opportunities for, representing their views, strategies, solutions, and the values they bring

## ACTION TRACKS

- Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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## KEYWORDS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 5/10

### Group 5: Promoting investment in aquatic and “ocean-smart” land-based food systems

Discussion framing statement: By 2030, public and private investments in land- and water-based food systems will be climate and ocean “smart”, ensuring the rights of small-scale producers and minimizing impacts on land and water ecosystems.

In summary, the group discussion provided three bottom line messages:

1. Increasing blue food consumption is vital. Our attention must be channeled towards the water systems. This will reduce the pressure on terrestrial production systems.
2. Aquatic and “ocean-smart” land-based food production systems have a great regenerative opportunity integrated with natural ecosystems.
3. Policy and capital flow to big scale production does not always produce the value we want. We need to focus more and channel capital to small-scale producers. Blended finance is key.

There is an issue of capital not reaching the small-scale-producers. There is private capital available, but it is difficult for investors to find investment ready projects they can support. Many investors are looking for high returns. There are opportunities around blended finance.

It is important to work on both sides. Restructure investors to reach the projects, but also work on the small-scale-fishers side. The small projects often need to be aggregated. We also need more data and evidence of the importance of small-scale-fishers in the system.

The role of the government is important to enable investments in small-scale producers. The EU-taxonomy will also cover fisheries and fish farms. This is where governments set clear policies on how to invest. If we want the money to go to the right places, government, not only private sector needs to be involved.

For financing to be attractive, policies that provide trust and risk reduction is needed. These policies need to be informed through research and data. Further, they need to take several aspects into account (environmental, but also social and economic). Local stakeholders, especially small-scale producers must be heard when policies are developed.

How can we feed this into the Food Systems Summit?

- We must pay attention to small-scale producers and how to invest in them. Politics are volatile in many countries, which makes this difficult. The Philippines serves as a good example on management of aquatic resources and protection of small-scale producers.
- There is a lack of recognition of the contribution of fisheries. Particularly the contribution of small-scale producers to the economies. This must change and investments must be promoted. The contribution is financial as well as positive for climate resilience.
- There must be an integration between the wet and the dry. Oceans are driving weather systems, affecting the dry systems and therefore ecosystem goods and services.
- Land is often the topic during discussions. But we need more focus on aquatic systems and to ensure that access to finance is equitable. Recognize the need of developing countries and SIDS. Public sector finance will help unlock private sector finance. There should not be a fight between agriculture and the ocean – it is connected.
- Too much of the finance goes to big players. We need to shift the policy and investment focus to look at small-scale producers. The solution is not either/or, but blended.
- We must create an enabling environment.
- Blue food is essential for domestic food security, as well as an important trade commodity.
- Small-scale production must complement the large. We cannot take for granted that the potential of the small-scale production will be realized.
- Let’s learn from where the agriculture went wrong.
- Many fishers are driven from their land due to large-scale production. Can’t drive people further.
- We need clear policy attention on both aquatic and terrestrial or we will fail to meet SDG2.
- Regenerative production systems are a big area of growth. Seaweed is the fastest growing plant on the planet.
- It is important to not only focus on the ocean, but also on rivers and lakes.
- Blue food broadly speaking - it affects a majority of the SDGs (10 out of the 17)

## ACTION TRACKS

- ✓ Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
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## KEYWORDS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 6/10

Group 6: Promoting investment in aquatic and “ocean-smart” land-based food systems

Discussion framing statement: By 2030, public and private investments in land- and water-based food systems will be climate and ocean “smart”, ensuring the rights of small-scale producers and minimizing impacts on land and water ecosystems.

The themes discussed included the fact that foods from the ocean are not getting the same government attention within ministries and regulations as terrestrial food and this can be contributing to lack of investment and governance. Changing consumption was also discussed, looking at historical change in places like Japan and what we need to envision moving forward in the future. How we directly start to invest in those diets in the future is important. Investing in infrastructure is also needed to minimize waste. If we are looking to the ocean to produce protein, how do we minimize negative impacts and what type of planning, policy and reform should be pushed for? Science needs to be rooted in the planning. The push for women within the sector is also important. The importance of storytelling in influencing food pattern consumptions and driving investment was also discussed.

We need to get the story right: blue food is nutritious and it employs women. The story is not getting the attention it deserves. We need policy and governance that supports this. We need to focus on science-based research to develop planning and ultimately lead to sustainable policy. We need to invest in technology.

### ACTION TRACKS

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## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 7/10

Group 7: Connecting land and ocean-based food systems for food security, environment and climate gains

Discussion framing statement: By 2030, land-based agricultural systems will be designed and managed to maximize production while minimizing impact on the land, climate, and waters (e.g. minimizing nutrient and pollution run-off and erosion and use of unsustainable fish meal as feed).

There was much diversity between the different nations and regions represented by the participants in this discussion. Some countries were more agriculture focused, some more fish focused. There was consensus that there are many issues related both to land-based and water-based agriculture that impact oceans and other bodies of water. For example, using sea products to feed animals on land is affecting both ocean ecosystems and local food security. We discussed a wide array of people who need to be involved in changing both land and water-based food systems including governments, private sector and local communities. In order to transform these systems we need to focus on capacity building, notably for government staff to create conditions to get everyone to the table to make local decisions. We discussed the need for integrated approaches across watersheds and the need to break down silos. The way we structure ourselves works against integration. We also focused a lot on the need to empower women, youth, and other local stakeholders.

### 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

- |                                     |                           |                                     |                         |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Finance                   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Policy                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Innovation                | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Data & Evidence         |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Human rights              | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Governance              |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Women & Youth Empowerment | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Trade-offs              |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            |                           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Environment and Climate |

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 8/10

Group 8: Connecting land and ocean-based food systems for food security, environment and climate gains

Discussion framing statement: By 2030, land-based agricultural systems will be designed and managed to maximize production while minimizing impact on the land, climate, and waters (e.g. minimizing nutrient and pollution run-off and erosion and use of unsustainable fish meal as feed).

### Key Messages:

- Innovation is required: looking for new ways to do aquaculture to increase production with minimal degradation and waste. For example, is there any way to innovate on fish feed? Can feed be produced from waste?
- Encouraging greater biodiversity and ecosystem restoration/rehabilitation are vital
  - o Using mangroves to capture carbon; selling the carbon to the external market instead of selling the tree
  - o Using seagrass to conserve and rehabilitate
- Must be mindful of downstream effects and the linkages between all parts of food systems
  - o We need to become much better at talking very explicitly about the links between oceans and climate—for example, the effects of agriculture run off impacting aquatic ecosystems and food
  - o It is important to reduce pollution from mining; with shared bodies of water, mining pollution flows across borders and into shared water supplies.
- We need to expand consumer's palates and cultural preferences to include a broader diversity of aquatic foods
  - o Do we have food safety regulations put in place for new types of aquatic foods that aren't conventionally eaten?
  - o How to get more young people to eat aquatic foods?
- Important to have policies to support small-scale fisheries, women, and youth
- Implementation of new practices is often the biggest challenge.
  - o In Africa, the implementation of changes has been a challenge
  - o What existing instruments could the FSS help implement?
  - o Important to not create another new system, but work within what already exists
  - o There is often a lack of education and awareness.
- There are "more than triple wins" that we can commit to; we need to look at multi-stakeholder engagement; conservation, rehabilitation, consumption, nutrition

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



## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 9/10

Group 9: Managing fisheries for climate change – reducing emissions and enabling adaptation (climate-resilient fisheries)

Discussion framing statement: By 2030, aquaculture and wild caught fisheries are managed to minimize GHG emissions and maximize resilience in the face of impacts of climate change.

The panellists agreed that the 10-year timeline delineated in the framing statement was unlikely if not impossible to follow. However, they discussed some opportunities for adaptation and mitigations that could be implemented even if the 2030 deadline is not met:

- Moving to an electrified fleet
- Providing and/or changing infrastructure
- Expand the number of small-scale fisheries
- Implementing safety and security standards at sea using coastguards
- Hosting more workshops/ expanding understanding of adapted fisheries management in response to climate change
- Climate proofing new innovations into mitigation or resilience so that you are not working with soft science
- Technical innovations, in terms of engines and improving the gears to make them more fuel efficient

Improving management of fisheries was described as “the cornerstone of improving the GHG emissions in wild caught fisheries.” In many regions where countries shared waters, their management plans are completely different, which has led to lack of coordination at a regional level. More cooperation forums between different nations are needed, as is a shift to the regional management of fisheries, so that stocks are jointly managed and rather than governments trying to make the best use of the catch individually. Fisheries management was also discussed in terms of ensuring equity and climate change adaptation. From a broader socioeconomic perspective, this means thinking about individual harvesters who operate their own vessels, and whose livelihoods depend on the vessel. Instead of rationalizing the vessels, we must think about how to green the vessels. In terms of climate change adaptation, this means understanding trends that are occurring in ocean conditions and how they affect fish stocks, but also understanding how the ocean’s carbon storing function can be maintained to benefit the ocean and its marine ecosystems’ health. This is where the mitigation efforts such as Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) play an increasingly important role.

Another topic of discussion was food loss since 8% of GHG emissions come from seafood loss. This led to a debate on consumer power, although there was disagreement on the extent to which consumers had real power to transform the sustainability of the fishing industry. They did point to increasing consumer awareness on specific issues in the fishing sector and consumers understanding of their role in changing or influencing the larger food system. Opinions differed as to whether changing consumer behaviour would create the necessary change in the system, particularly since sustainably sourced products tend to have a higher price point, often people putting off. But others believed that more money and politicians getting involved in changing consumer behaviour would help. A combination of promoting a product that is sustainably sourced with low climate impact while at the same time implementing regulations and a global standard for what a country can import was suggested. This also means tackling fishing subsidies for large vessels and focusing instead on subsidizing just green or sustainable fisheries.

The importance of equity and socioeconomic solutions to the problems in the fishing sector was frequently raised - in terms of the relationship between how seafood is viewed in a country, as a luxury or a necessity, and the management of the fisheries sector. The importance of looking at the equity of a solution when thinking about any adaptation or mitigation efforts to climate change was highlighted as key. The effects of climate change will not be felt equally around the world - the small island states (or large ocean states) who rely on the fishing sector for work and livelihoods will unfortunately bear a lot of the burden. A solution without taking into consideration larger equity problems cannot be a solution we pick

### 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

## OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC - 10/10

Group 10: Managing fisheries for climate change – reducing emissions and enabling adaptation (climate-resilient fisheries)

Discussion framing statement: By 2030, aquaculture and wild caught fisheries are managed to minimize GHG emissions and maximize resilience in the face of impacts of climate change.

Natural resources from rivers, lakes and the sea must be protected by considering the entire habitats and including human activities.

For the goals to be achieved a management system needs to be in place. For the management system to work it needs to be science based (including traditional knowledge), collect data that can be processed and modelled for foresight to be used in decision making. Both the most important stocks and the habitat need to be conserved using an ecosystem approach integrated into the management system.

Policy and decision making needs to be inclusive and democratic. It needs to take account of equity and rights, including the right to food and nutrition as well as gender issues and the interests of youth and marginal groups.

New technologies and management is important but new management methods and technologies need to be introduced on a time horizon commensurate with the speed of environmental change.

There will be tensions and trade-offs such as between local food production and production for foreign currency earning and ways of production. However, loss and waste need to be reduced, utilization of unused and invasive species needs to be considered in an innovative way and aquaculture, particularly homestead, may be considered as solutions. These trade-offs and solutions need to be managed in the interest of the community as a whole. Taking into account the right to food and the right of the coastal communities.

External actors can and are needed for support with resources for investment but particularly for data generation and policy advice but also with convening power. Support should be long term, secure and inclusive. The outcome should be that more blue aquatic food should be accessible for the most vulnerable and livelihoods of vulnerable communities are strengthened.

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

## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There were some divergences during the break-out groups. These included:

- The extent to which changing consumer behaviour would help in forcing the necessary changes in aquatic food systems, and food systems more broadly when it comes to food loss and waste. Some felt consumer behaviour would prove powerful, others felt that regulations and incentives would prove more successful. The conclusion reached was that all three approaches would be needed to reduce food loss and waste.
- Whether small scale actors should join forces with bigger companies to scale their production and get their products to market or whether small scale producers would receive better food security and livelihood outcomes from organizing amongst themselves in cooperatives with institutional support.
- The extent to which aquaculture can help improve nutrition globally was questioned, with some feeling that developing sustainable aquaculture practices will help remove pressure from both aquatic and terrestrial food systems, while others are skeptical about its role in helping nutrition in low income countries, particularly given lack of finance for technology etc that helps improve sustainability.

### 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 |

# ATTACHMENTS AND RELEVANT LINKS

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## ATTACHMENTS

- **Additional contributions to the Dialogue**  
<https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/Additional-contributions-to-the-Dialogue.docx>

## RELEVANT LINKS

- **Global Action Network Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition**  
<https://nettsteder.regjeringen.no/foodfromtheocean/>
- **High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy**  
<https://www.oceanpanel.org/ocean-action/files/transformations-sustainable-ocean-economy-eng.pdf>
- **Blue Food Assessment**  
<https://www.bluefood.earth/>
- **Committee on World Food Security: Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture for Food Security and Nutrition**  
<http://www.fao.org/3/av032e/av032e.pdf>
- **FAO The Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication**  
<http://www.fao.org/voluntary-guidelines-small-scale-fisheries/guidelines/en/>