

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 29 June 2021 16:45 GMT +05:45
DIALOGUE TITLE	Ocean Solutions: Regenerative Farming
CONVENED BY	Karlee Schynder and Vanessa Boura, Real Food Systems
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/25820/
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

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

18 0-18 19-30 31-50 51-65 66-80 80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

8 Male 10 Female Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

5	Agriculture/crops	6	Education		Health care
2	Fish and aquaculture	3	Communication		Nutrition
	Livestock		Food processing		National or local government
	Agro-forestry		Food retail, markets		Utilities
	Environment and ecology		Food industry		Industrial
	Trade and commerce		Financial Services	2	Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

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

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

To ensure that the dialogue principles were incorporated, reinforced, and enhanced, we organized the dialogue in the following way: 1. The call to participate in the dialogue was open and inclusive. We reached out to (including but not limited to) the youth ambassador community within Real Food Systems and also youth stakeholders of United Nations Food Systems Summit. 2. The whole dialogue process was quite engaging as it included briefing from the speakers first and then followed by the smaller discussions in breakout groups followed by reporting in the main plenary.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Our dialogue reflected the specific aspects of the principles as: 1. Act with Urgency -Ocean is part of the solutions to the food systems problems but there has been less attention to it. So, our dialogue gave a message to the participants about how ocean solutions and regenerative farming could be a driver to achieve the 2030 agenda, and how different stakeholders need to act urgently. 2. Commit to the Summit -We have committed to the vision of the summit with the principles of inclusivity and mobilization, acknowledging that this is a People's summit. We believe that the outcomes of our dialogue would be properly integrated into the summit process. We have followed all the protocols of the summit. 3. Be Respectful -The dialogue was conducted with the principles of respect and inclusivity so that everyone's voice is heard and acknowledged. 4. Recognize Complexity -We also noted that one-size solution doesn't fit in all systems and areas thus, we also recognized the complexities of our system and challenges on the way. 5. Embrace multi-stakeholder inclusivity -Our participants were from diverse groups and backgrounds, from science, non-governmental organizations, students, young people, and people from both land-locked countries and countries with ocean, which helped to embark interesting discussions and unique insights. 6. Complement the work of others -One of the main objectives of the summit is to work together and build synergies around each others' works, which our dialogue also acknowledged. Our speakers and participants had different experiences and work areas, which we totally acknowledged. 7. Build Trust -If there wasn't trust, the dialogue wouldn't have been pulled together. Within the Real Food Systems, we always value the importance of trust and respect, and the dialogue also held the principle of trust.

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

Since all the dialogue convenors go through the preparatory training and handbook, we all are quite aware of the Principles of Engagement so, we just want to advise that, be prepared, follow the principles of the summit, and follow the principles of engagement for the dialogue. Be generous, inclusive, and participatory!

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

Major focus:

Ocean Solutions: Regenerative farming. Exploring the current problems in our exploitation of oceans and given sustainable farming examples, suggest solutions to the crisis in our ocean. Speakers highlighted the main threats facing our oceans and provided ethical farming solutions (model being The Seaweed Company). Another focus was "In relation to the session topic, what actions can you recommend and how best can they be supported at personal, community or government level that help both ocean biodiversity and human food supply?"

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

Main Findings:

Part 1:

- The ocean is under threat - discuss five drivers- heating, deoxygenation, acidification, marine plastic, and chemical pollution

- o Global ocean heat content change in the upper 2000m is rising - fish follow warm currents which flux around the globe with currents so these changing currents and temperatures will greatly change fish migration in an arguably unpredictable manner. And we depend too heavily on these stocks of food.

- o Also we mentioned deoxygenation. Can be activated by ocean warming from climate change. Heating from climate change leads to increasingly separated water columns as water doesn't mix. So, the circulation of cooler oxygenated water occurs less, and less oxygen is exchanged from the atmosphere into the seas. This causes stress on marine life. Deoxygenation also occurs due to runoff from human activities like in agriculture. Excess nutrient runoff from fertilizers, untreated sewage cause eutrophication and the manifestation of dead zones in our oceans. The ocean lost 2% of its oxygen from 1960-2010. This by extension affects humans, not just aquatic life. Deoxygenation reduces biodiversity, biomass and habitat for fish, leading to reduced fish landings, lower economic profit and adversely affects smaller scale fisheries limited in technology and ability to fish elsewhere.

- o The rate of marine acidification is alarming. Since industrial revolution, CO2 emission have made the oceans ~30% more acidic. Although it has been as low as today before, this was 20 million years ago, and current life is not adapted to these levels and many may not adapt fast enough to endure it given the fast rate of pH decline. Shellfish and coral (contain Calcium) are weakening, making species vulnerable to predation, infection and developmental abnormalities that decrease fitness. We depend on these species directly or indirectly for food.

- o Marine plastic and chemical pollution: directly kill all creatures from small invertebrates to large mammals, making food chains less stable and vulnerable to collapse

- Many unsustainable practices that are avoidable continue to occur (overfishing, subsidizing fuel for ships, bottom trawling, squid fishing continuously, shark finning only taking fins and dumping the body overboard, transshipments, slavery, bad practise unintentionally catching birds)

- The biosphere underpins society and our economy. It is in our best interests to support a planet with strong foundations to support development and improvement of our economies. This requires us to radically change aspects of our ocean food systems to move to more sustainable livelihoods.

Part 2:

- CEO of The Seaweed Company which provides an ethical solution to the oceans crisis that supports a biodiverse ocean as well as human food production.

- Farming green red and brown seaweed in geographically suitable conditions for these taxonomic groups and supporting local people to set up these farms so they then buy the harvest off them. Decentralising the practice, providing income, and increasing income for smallholder farmers rather than leaving them behind in the move to more sustainable ocean farming after unsustainable practices or market competition puts smallholder farmers out of business, threatening coastal community livelihoods. It also supports ocean regeneration which benefits human health and wellbeing.

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OUTCOMES FOR EACH DISCUSSION TOPIC

Discussion Topic Outcomes:

Question: "In relation to the session topic, what actions can you recommend and how best can they be supported at personal, community or government level that help both ocean biodiversity and human food supply?"

Overarching themes:

1. Actions that benefit both biodiversity and food supply are possible but often, to see benefits to food supply one must look into the long-term benefits of sustainable actions
2. Biggest difference will come from governmental, top-down policies that better regulate sustainable relationships with the ocean and support sustainable practices whilst not leaving fishermen behind in the transition
 - Governments should shift subsidies to more sustainable farming practices (such as The Seaweed Company) or provide alternatives for farmers to transition to sustainable practises, supporting them economically and not leaving them behind
 - Stop blaming consumers for the broken system
3. However, the collective actions of lots of people and changing consumer behaviour through educating them on the ocean's environmental issues and making it easier for people to live sustainably. This is important as there often exists a vast psychological distance between consumers and the sourcing, journey and impacts of their food.

• Personal level:

1. Sustainable packaging, reducing plastic packaging, reuse grocery bags for routine shopping
2. Exercise purchasing power
3. Purchase in bulk
4. Reduce food waste
5. Stop storage of food in plastic for long term to avoid chemical transfer
6. Positive reinforcement for positive action in plastic reduction and plant-based diet advocacy

• Community level:

1. Cleaning the rivers and water bodies that feed oceans
- Increase advocacy
2. Applaud plastic action in plastic cleaning and proper disposal
 3. Increased Advocacy
 4. Share experiences
 5. Enforce by-laws
 6. Educate fishermen on how to work sustainably or change their methods (e.g., to aquaculture combined with other practices) and financially incentivise them to cooperate

• Government level:

1. Laws to separate organic food from non-organic using non plastic packaging
2. Regulate plastic use for single use (EU single plastic directive)
3. Regulate plastic export since it is now considered hazardous waste like in the UK
4. Incentives to plant-based advocates
5. Invest in better marketing sustainably sourced foods
6. Subsidies for plant-based agricultural production and transition away from subsidizing animal agriculture/ reduce it at least. Importantly, include animal farmers in the transition, help them move to plant-based farming through training, loaning material and supporting them economically
7. Support smallholder farmers more and less support of monopolies, decentralizing the system

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AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Areas of Divergence:

- Participants disagreed sometimes about whether the consumer should have to pay for more ethically sourced food from the oceans or not!
- There was discussion on the ability to live sustainably with the ocean while extracting resources from it, especially for the local people.

ACTION TRACKS

<input type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 1: Ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Action Track 2: Shift to sustainable consumption patterns
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