OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE DATE	Friday, 30 April 2021 13:00 GMT +02:00
DIALOGUE TITLE	Transforming food systems with aquatic foods: Access to sustainable, safe and nutritious food for all
CONVENED BY	Global Action Network Sustainable Food from the Ocean and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://summitdialogues.org/dialogue/8643/
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 123

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

	0-18	18	19-30	64	31-50	31	51-65	9	66-80	1	80+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

60	Male	62	Female	1	Prefer not to say or Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS IN EACH SECTOR

2	Agriculture/crops	28	Education	1	Health care
57	Fish and aquaculture		Communication		Nutrition
3	Livestock	2	Food processing	11	National or local government
	Agro-forestry		Food retail, markets		Utilities
8	Environment and ecology		Food industry	1	Industrial
	Trade and commerce		Financial Services	9	Other

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

4	Small/medium enterprise/artisan		Workers and trade union
1	Large national business	1	Member of Parliament
1	Multi-national corporation		Local authority
3	Small-scale farmer	36	Government and national institution
	Medium-scale farmer		Regional economic community
	Large-scale farmer	13	United Nations
3	Local Non-Governmental Organization	1	International financial institution
12	International Non-Governmental Organization	2	Private Foundation / Partnership / Alliance
	Indigenous People	1	Consumer group
38	Science and academia	07	Other

2. PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

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

The Dialogue was a webinar related to aquatic foods and the food system summit action track 1 access to sustainable, safe and nutritious foods. We had two panels representing several parts of the globe and various professions along the food chain, both in action and high level. In panel one experts showcased possible solutions related to natural resources, nutrition, food safety. Panel two was a high level panel representing different issues including nutrition, aquatic food production, food summit and value chain knowledge. The panelists presented their view on the topic followed by a discussion in the panel. No group work was included, However, the presentations resulted in considerable activity among the audience in the chat and the Q/A box, in addition there was a questionnaire at the end of the seminar. The invitation and participation was global and various stakeholders joined the webinar. The participants were asked to provide information on where they were joining from. Europe dominated with 60% from this continent, followed by 22% from Asia and the Pacific, 14% from Africa, 3% from North America and 1% from Central and Latin America. The various action tracks are interconnected and the leadership of AT1 and 2 was presented at the webinar. The topics discussed were also related to the other action tracks.

HOW DID YOUR DIALOGUE REFLECT SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF THE PRINCIPLES?

Specifically, the Dialogue was open to all stakeholders. Recognizing the complexity of aquatic food systems, the topics raised aimed to show-case possible solutions and involved discussion to promote the role of aquatic foods in the Food Systems Summit. There was high activity in among the participants (in the chat and Q/A box, and both panelists and audience answered questions. The webinar was a multi-stakeholder event with 20% from government, 18% NGO, 6% private sector, 37% from academia and research and 19% classified themselves as “other”.

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

The time limit of the 90 minute webinar was adequate and allowed enough time for answering most of the questions from the audience. However, more time could be allocated for Q and A, or fewer speakers invited to the two panels.

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**

In the lead up to the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, the Global Action Network - Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition will arrange a series of three Independent Dialogues in an effort to include aquatic foods as a key food source for food and nutrition security - bridging the Decade of Action on Nutrition, the Decade of Ocean Science and the Decade of Action to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals. The events will be co-hosted by the Norwegian leadership of the Global Action Network and WorldFish. In this first dialogue, cross sectorial representatives, including high level, came together to showcase possible solutions and discuss important actions for food systems transformation with aquatic foods as part of the summit's Action Track 1, which aims to ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all. The panels took a holistic approach by combining knowledge on different aspects of food security: access for all to sufficient, safe, nutritious foods, meeting dietary needs, food preferences, and discussing the key actions needed for aquatic foods to be part of the solution for sustainable food systems. The webinar was arranged in two sessions: the first showcasing possible solutions for transforming food systems with aquatic foods for food and nutrition security, and the second session on connecting research and policy; how do we scale up good solutions. Two polls were conducted to engage participants, and a post-event questionnaire was posted to receive feedback from the participants. Open-ended questions were included to enable participants' to share their views. The audience was encouraged to partake actively in the chat and post questions in the Q&A box. Event Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement • 657 participants registered for the event and received an event recording and links to other learning materials. • 303 people tuned in live to the event, predominantly from Europe (60%), followed by Asia and the Pacific (22%), Africa (14%), North America (3%) and Central and Latin America (1%). • With a 46% attendance rate, participants were predominantly from Academia and Research (37%), followed by Government (20%), NGO or Not for Profit (18%), Private Sector (6%) and Others (19%). • Participants sent in a total of 46 questions, which were mostly answered during the live event by our panel speakers. • In the post-event survey, a majority of the participants said they enjoyed the webinar, gave an average rating of 8/10 and are interested in future webinars on the topic of food system transformation with aquatic foods.

4. DIALOGUE FOCUS & OUTCOMES

MAJOR FOCUS

In the lead up to the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, the Global Action Network - Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition will arrange a series of three Independent Dialogues in an effort to include aquatic foods as a key food source for food security and nutrition - bridging the Decade of Action on Nutrition, the Decade of Ocean Science and the Decade of Action to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals
The aim of this webinar was to showcase important actions for aquatic foods to be a part of the solution to the food system summits action track 1 (access to sustainable, safe and nutritious food for all) and raise awareness on the importance of a cross sectorial approach. Combining knowledge on food composition data, nutrients, contaminants and dietary needs with knowledge on the role of sustainable aquatic foods in a sustainable diet, and present important actions for aquatic foods to become integrated in food and nutrition policies as part of sustainable and healthy diets. The outcome of the webinar will feed into the UN Food Systems Summit Action Track 1.
The virtual dialogue brought together UN Member States representatives from ministries and other public institution that covered areas related to healthy oceans, sustainable seafood, food security, nutrition and health. Stakeholders such as private sector, civil society, including academic institutions, and regional and intergovernmental organisations could also attend. The program brough together actors from Government, UN Food System Action Track leaders, research institute directors and policy specialists to explore impactful aquatic food system initiatives led by research experts from around the world. The panel discussed innovative ways to connect research with policy and action to ensure aquatic foods are recognized as part of game-changing solutions in the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit. The panels took a holistic approach by combining knowledge on different aspects of food security: access for all to sufficient, safe, nutritious foods, meeting dietary needs, food preferences, and discussed key actions needed for aquatic foods to be part of the solution for sustainable food systems.
.
In this first dialogue, cross sectorial representatives, including high level, were gathered to showcase possible solutions and discuss important actions for food systems transformation with aquatic foods as part of the summit's Action Track 1, which aims to ensure access to safe and nutritious food for all.

Themes:
- Food systems transformation with aquatic foods
- Access to sustainable, safe and nutritious aquatic foods for all
- Connecting research, policy and action to achieve food system goals

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

Aquatic foods offer game-changing solutions in line with the UN Food System Summit Action Track 1: Access to sustainable, safe and nutritious food for all.

Sustainable production and consumption of aquatic foods are an important key to ending poverty and hunger, and to ensure food security and health for all. We must keep our oceans and waters renewable and clean, ensure a variety of aquatic foods and fully use what we harvest, without loss and waste. To release the potential of aquatic foods, in a sustainable way, we have to work together across borders. The importance of international cooperation also applies to combat fisheries crime and to maintain sustainable management of all marine resources.

Aquatic foods are
1 a) a vital source of nutrition, micronutrients vitamins, minerals omega fatty acids -
b) they have a lover environmental impacts than many terrestrial food systems,
c) they employs many of the worlds most vulnerable and many of them are women. If we get the productions right we get supply of nutritious foods, lower environmental footprints and generate livelihoods for the most vulnerable and support womens income.
2) We can increase the production of aquatic foods within the planetary boundaries,
3) How can we increase the consumption? Many factors: peoples income is to low to afford it, prices to high, need to work on that from the production side to the retail side, low demand might be due to worries about many issues such as safety, taste etc. There are worries about sustainability.

• Panelists highlighted how the vast array of aquatic food systems, from ocean to inland water bodies, can produce diverse aquatic food species critical to the food and nutrition security of communities in low- and middle-income countries.
• Holistic knowledge and food system approaches are needed to ensure access to sufficient amounts of aquatic foods that is sustainably produced, nutritious and safe to eat and consumed as part of healthy diets for generations to come.
• The benefits derived from giving aquatic foods greater recognition in the food systems agenda can contribute to building the sustainability, resilience and inclusivity of aquatic food systems and related value chains.

Innovative and holistic approaches to aquatic food systems hold significant opportunities for boosting health, livelihoods and wellbeing, especially of the poor and vulnerable.

· Aquatic foods provide essential micronutrients to the diet of millions of people, therefore reducing the risk of micronutrient deficiencies and non-communicable diseases.
· Panelists pointed to the importance of accurate information on the nutrient-content of locally available aquatic foods for consumers to understand their impacts on food and nutrition security.
· By combining sustainable intensification of aquaculture, improved management of capture fisheries while increasing the development of fish value chains and reducing significant fish loss and waste, improvements can be made to the provision of food and to nutrition while keeping within planetary boundaries.
· Innovative solutions, such as knowledge tools and mobile applications that are efficient, cost-effective and accessible, are critical to bridge technical gaps and develop consumer knowledge and understanding of diverse aquatic foods and their benefits.
· Mobilizing government interests towards developing meaningful dietary guidelines, such as school-feeding programs, is key to boosting local consumption of healthy and nutritious aquatic foods, especially among the poor and vulnerable.

Creating an enabling environment for research to connect with policy to ensure sustainable production and consumption of safe and nutritious aquatic foods.
• Panelists explained that sustainable resource management of aquatic food systems, from production all the way to consumption, is key to environmental sustainability and food systems resilience.
• For instance, making full use of low-trophic aquatic foods that have low-environmental impact but contain high nutritional value, such as jellyfish and mussels, must be recognized in upcoming national food-based dietary guidelines.
• Fisheries and aquaculture also support the livelihoods of around 820 million people around the world, 90% of whom work in the small-scale sector and half of which are women.
• Women-centric policies are thus critical in aquatic food systems to create employment opportunities that are equitable, inclusive and can contribute to the growth in household income.
• This can best be achieved through a close collaboration between the Food Systems Summit, industry, research and policy to ensure aquatic foods play a central part in sustainable food systems transformation for 'healthy ocean and healthy people.'

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

• The vast array of aquatic food systems, from ocean to inland water bodies, can produce diverse aquatic food which is critical to food and nutrition security and which can contribute to combat the triple burden of malnutrition (SDG 2 and SDG3).

• Aquatic foods are a biodiverse food group, provide essential nutrients such as protein, omega 3 and 6 fatty acids, vitamins and minerals to the diet of millions of people, therefore reducing the risk of micronutrient deficiencies and non-communicable diseases.

• There is a lack of open access analytical data on nutrients and contaminants in aquatic foods following the value chain. The importance of accurate information on the nutrient-content of locally available aquatic foods is a prerequisite for consumers to understand their impacts on food and nutrition security.

• Holistic knowledge on food system approaches is needed to ensure access to aquatic foods that is sustainably produced, nutritious and safe to eat and consumed as part of healthy diets for generations to come.

• Discussions are commonly dominated by agriculture. There is an urgent need for the recognition of aquatic foods as a game-changing solution in the food systems agenda.

• Innovative solutions, such as knowledge tools and mobile applications that are efficient, cost-effective and accessible, are critical to bridge technical gaps and develop consumer knowledge and understanding of diverse aquatic foods and their nutritional benefits.

• Food Composition Data forms the basis of many programs and policies, making it more nutrition-sensitive and cost-effective, and enable the development of meaningful guidelines for improving dietary adequacy. Mobilizing government interests towards developing meaningful dietary guidelines, such as school-feeding programs, is key to boosting local consumption of healthy and nutritious aquatic foods, especially among the poor and vulnerable.

• There has been limited attention to the use of highly nutritious, low-trophic aquatic foods for human consumption. It is part of UN Nutrition's mission to encourage policy frameworks to leverage aquatic foods for their untapped potential in national food-based dietary guidelines.

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

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There were no strong divergence among the participants. This is a summary of open ended questions answered after the webinar.

Q1: What are the key actions to be done for aquatic foods to be a part of the solution for a sustainable food system?
There are 5 main themes suggested by the participants that can be a part of the solution for a sustainable food system, including: science & technology, sustainable practices, supply chain, awareness and overall governance.
In the theme of science & technology, participants called for publication of scientific data, with particular emphasis on its availability, transparency and readability. These further encourage the data to be acquired and understood cross-sectionally, cross-regionally and internationally. There are several specific areas which require advancement: understanding in productivity, accessibility, safety, traceability, accountability and transparency of aquatic food at regional and global scales, technologies to increase productivity and farmer-friendly technologies. For aquaculture specifically, AMR, seed development and quality feed are essential and all required attention. Lastly, a special focus on the waste and loss of product is needed including food process and storage.
Improving sustainable aquatic food production is crucial, in particular, diversifying target species (e.g. non-traditional species, seaweed and low trophic position species), promoting native species and avoiding the introduction of invasive species, reducing environmental impacts, and establishing and managing MPAs and sustainable fisheries.
The majority of the participants agree that the awareness of aquatic food should be raised to increase consumption and provide job opportunity. The scientific knowledge about aquatic food should be communicated to the general public such as the health benefit and combating global food insecurity. This can be done through public figures and social media influencers. Such information should also be made aware cross-sectionally. These together will enhance the reliability and accountability of aquatic food and thus its value chain at both regional and global scales, thus, leading to encountering ongoing biased opinion against aquatic food.
In terms of governance, the participants indicated the important role of governments in market management, pricing vs affordability management, implementing quality standards, advertising aquatic food (e.g. health and economic benefits), integrating aquatic food into the current food and nutrient policies, especially in the global food system dialogue, providing support (e.g. investment and other public resources) and equal opportunity for fishermen, particularly those in the small-scale fisheries, improving the rights of fishermen, including younger generations in relevant dialogues and practices.

Q2: How are aquatic foods included and weighted in the ongoing general debate and policies on food security, sustainable healthy diets and sustainable food systems?
There is only one participant who thinks that aquatic food receives high priority while the rest believe that it is either inadequate, increasing, or varying.
The participants who chose 'inadequate' suggested a few reasons including; aquatic food was not sufficiently accredited; lack of data, particularly for small-scale fisheries; insufficient technological advances; insufficient discussions, food strategies or measures to incorporate fishery organisations into UNFSS, for example, in the recent UNFSS, the discussion of terrestrial agriculture dominated; lack of funding; lack of sustainable development strategies, especially for the wild catch; lack of actions; issue with GMOs; and misleading information.

Q3: How do we scale up the good solutions?
There are 5 main themes suggested by the participants including: advancing science & technology;, policy making and reinforcement;, improving awareness and education; enhancing collaborations and business development.

Improving the science and technology including research on nutrient benefits, environmental impacts, data transparency and sharing, policy making, diversifying marine resources (e.g. seaweed), technologies of food processing and knowledge transfer.
Policy making, which includes developing incentives, financing relevant industries, strategies for different time and spatial scales, equal opportunity for small scale fisheries, following the 3 pillars of FAO, and incorporating aquatic food into policies.

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

ATTACHMENTS

- **Event Summary**
  https://summitdialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/UNFSS-Dialogue-1_Event-Summary.docx