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Global Action Network  
Sustainable Food from the Ocean and Inland Waters for  
Food Security and Nutrition

# Transforming food systems with aquatic foods

Advancing equitable livelihoods for healthy people and planet

Friday, 25 June 2021  
13:00-14:30 (GMT+2)



## Transforming food systems with aquatic foods: Advancing equitable livelihoods for healthy people and planet

An Independent Dialogue exploring the actions needed to drive aquatic food solutions as part of the UN Food Systems Summit.

**Friday, 25 June 2021**

**13:00-14:30 (GMT+2)**

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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](#) are holding a series of three [Independent Dialogues](#) in an effort to include aquatic foods as key solutions for food and nutrition security - bridging the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition and the Decade of Ocean Science to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals. The events are co-hosted by the Norwegian leadership of the Global Action Network and WorldFish.

In this third dialogue, cross sectorial representatives, including high level, will come together to explore possible solutions and important actions for aquatic foods to be key in food systems transformations, as part of the summit's Action Track 4, which aims to advance equitable livelihoods. The panel members will take a holistic approach, combining knowledge on different issues related to equitable livelihoods, food security and nutrition along the aquatic food chain and discuss ways to scale up the good solutions to ensure access to resources, decent work while improving the food and nutrition security.

## Opening remarks



**Lelei LeLaulu**, Chairman, Earth Council Alliance

LeLaulu is a development entrepreneur working at the intersection of climate change, tourism, food security and renewable energy. He leads several NGOs and humanitarian agencies in the Pacific, including the Oceania Sustainable Tourism Alliance.

## Walking the talk: Showcasing possible solutions



### **Benson Obwanga, Lecturer, Laikipia University College**

Obwanga is a researcher in aquatic ecology. His research focuses on the sustainable production of fish feed and explores innovative ways to connect sustainable aquaculture with accessible markets for improved food security.



### **Amy Atter, Senior Research Scientist, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)**

Atter is a food systems researcher with a market-oriented focus on food and nutrition security and food safety in Africa. As part of her work, she helps to develop the innovative integration of small fish in African food systems for improved nutrition.



### **Dr. Emma Witbooi, Project manager, UNDP's Blue Resilience Project**

Dr. Witbooi is a director of PescaDOLUS, an international research network based in South Africa, which focuses on fisheries crime research. She is currently project manager of the United Nations Development Programme's Blue Resilience project. She is the lead author of the Blue Paper on 'Organized Crime in the Fisheries Sector.'

## **Connecting research and policy: How do we scale up good solutions**



### **Aksel Jakobsen, State Secretary of International Development, Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Jakobsen has previously worked as an advisor to GAVI, the Vaccine Alliance. He has acted as senior policy advisor to the Christian Democratic Party's Parliamentary group and as political advisor to the former Minister of Health and the Minister of Labour.



**Dominik Ziller, Vice President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**

Ziller oversees the strategic direction at IFAD, an UN financial institution driving the sustainable, inclusive transformation of rural communities. His work guides efforts to increase access to resources and markets for improved livelihoods.



**Dr. Shakuntala Thilsted, Global Lead, Nutrition & Public Health, WorldFish & Vice Chair, Action Track 4, UNFSS 2021**

Dr. Thilsted's pioneering science on nutrition, fish and aquatic food systems saw her awarded the 2021 World Food Prize. Her work on nutrition-sensitive approaches to food systems has improved the food and nutrition security of millions in Asia, Africa and the Pacific.

## Special message



**Michelle Nunn, President and CEO, CARE & Chair, Action Track 4, UNFSS 2021**

Nunn leads CARE, a humanitarian organization that fights global poverty and provides emergency aid. Under her leadership, CARE is working to support 200 million of the world's most vulnerable people to overcome poverty and social injustice by 2030.

## Moderator



**Nicole Franz, Fishery Analyst, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, FAO**

Franz is a development economist with 18 years of experience in intergovernmental organizations. At FAO, her work focuses on advancing the sustainability, inclusivity and resilience of small-scale fisheries through effective policy and stakeholder engagement.



This event will be opened and closed by the Coordinator of the United Nation's System Standing Committee on Nutrition and the Executive Secretary at UN Nutrition, **Dr. Stineke Oenema**.

Follow [Global Action Network](#), [WorldFish](#) and the hashtag [#aquaticfoods](#) to join the virtual dialogue on Twitter.

We look forward to your active participation.

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