

Mini Conference

Aquatic Foods for Resilient Food Systems

Host: Global Action Network – Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition, Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries.

Date: 20th April 2026, **Time:** 13.00 – 17:00 (CEST) on-site*, **Venue:** Statsraad Lehmkuhl, Bradebenken 2, Bergen, Norway

*Streaming will start at 09.45, Part 1 will start online and include a livestream to the One Ocean Summit. Part 2 will be held on-site. Part 3 will follow a hybrid format, and Part 4 will take place on-site and will be by invitation only.

Concept

This mini-conference marks renewed momentum following the extension of the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition to 2030. Aquatic foods are vital for sustainable food systems, global food security, and nutrition. We will highlight the role of aquatic foods for resilient food systems, bridging with the UN Decade of Ocean Science (2025-2030). Moreover, identify important actions and opportunities to accelerate impact and scale solutions, showcasing knowledge and actions across the core dimensions of food security - improve access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious aquatic foods that meet dietary needs and food preferences, leaving no one behind. By providing a platform for stakeholders across food security, nutrition, fisheries, aquaculture, ocean science, and sustainable development, we facilitate the integration of aquatic foods into strategies for sustainable food systems, food security, and nutrition.

Program

Introduction to the kick-off conference (streaming)		
09.55	Introduction to Global Action Network participants joining online about program of the day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head of Global Action Network, Specialist Director, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, <i>Anita Utheim Iversen</i>
PART 1: Connection to One Ocean Summit (streaming)		
10.00	One Ocean Summit in Haakonshallen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On site by invitation only / [streaming link will be shared]
PART 2: "Fiskesprell" (on site)		
13.00	Primary school students participating in the Norwegian government's dietary program "Fiskesprell" will serve Bacalao lasagna – a dish created based on the culinary traditions of their hometown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invited high level guests, speakers and audience
PART 3: Mini conference - Aquatic Foods for Resilient Food Systems (On site / streaming)		
Welcoming session Moderated by Anita Utheim Iversen , Head of Global Action Network, Specialist Director, Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries H.R.H. Crown Prince Haakon of Norway will be present during the session		



14:00	Introduction to the Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Head of Global Action Network, Specialist Director, Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, <i>Anita Utheim Iversen</i>
	High Level Opening Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Policy, Norway, <i>Marianne Sivertsen Næss</i> Minister of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources, Sri Lanka, <i>Ramalingam Chandrasekar</i> Brazil's Ambassador to Norway, Embassy of Brazil in Norway, <i>Rodrigo de Azeredo Santos</i>
	High Level Remarks by the leadership of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition and the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Director of Department of Nutrition and Food Safety, World Health Organization (WHO), <i>Luz Maria De Regil</i> Director of the Food and Nutrition Division, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), <i>Lynnette Neufeld</i> Ocean Decade Coordinator, Head, Marine Policy and Regional Coordination Section, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO/IOC), <i>Julian Barbière</i>
	Young voices Fiskesprell - Norwegian government's dietary program on seafood consumption in line with dietary advice. Message in a bottle - Global school project of the One Ocean Expedition, amplifying students' voices on ocean, climate and sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Policy, Norway, <i>Marianne Sivertsen Næss</i> Young voices from 'Fiskesprell' Young voices from 'Message in a bottle'
Thematic Dialogue Session - Aquatic foods for Food Security Moderated by Geir Huse , Research Director for Departments Marine Ecosystem and Resources and Seafood, Nutrition and Environmental State, Institute of Marine Research, Norway and Maximilian Schwarz , International Affairs Officer, European Bureau for Conservation and Development		
14.55	Sufficient aquatic foods Protecting the aquatic food supply - Blue Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blue Justice Secretariat Lead, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries, Norway, <i>Gunnar Stølsvik</i> Team Lead and Partnership Specialist, Nordic Representation Office, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), <i>Ann-Cathrin Pedersen</i> Peru's Ambassador to Norway, Embassy of Peru in Norway, <i>Rolando Ruiz Rosas</i>
15.15	Nutritious aquatic foods Treasures in the ocean - nutritional yield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Nutrition Expert, CGIAR, 2021 World Food Prize Laureate, Chair, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub's Scientific Advisory Committee



		<p>(SAC), and UN Food Systems Champion, <i>Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical Officer, World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office Europe, <i>Clare Farrand</i> ▪ Senior Advisor, Ministry of Health and Care Services, Norway, <i>Liv Elin Torheim</i>
15.35	Safe aquatic foods Risk benefit assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries, Aquatic and Ocean Resources, Sri Lanka, <i>Bedigama Kankanamge Kolita Kamal Jinadasa</i> ▪ Chief Impact Officer, Ocean Stewardship Initiative, <i>Nina Jensen</i> ▪ CEO, Institute of Marine Research, Norway, <i>Nils Gunnar Kvamstø</i>
Short Break		
16.05	Food preferences Aquatic food consumption - including launch of new working group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Research Scientist, University of São Paulo, Brazil, <i>Juliana Galvão</i> ▪ Global Communications Head, WorldFish, CGIAR, <i>Rajita Majumdar</i> ▪ CEO, Nofima, Norway, <i>Bente E. Torstensen</i>
16.25	Leaving no one behind	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special Policy Officer, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany, <i>Henrice Stöbesand</i> (virtual) ▪ Head of Section, Section for Oceans, Norad, <i>Per Andreas W. Larsen</i> ▪ Senior Nutrition Expert, CGIAR, 2021 World Food Prize Laureate, Chair, UN Food Systems Coordination Hub's Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC), and UN Food Systems Champion, <i>Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted</i>
16.50	Closing Remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Policy Director Institute of Marine Research, Professor Geophysical Institute, University of Bergen, and Chair JPI-Oceans, <i>Peter M. Haugan</i>
PART 4: Reception		
17.00	Summing up – Key messages from today's parallel sessions at the One Ocean Week	Speakers from One Ocean Week parallel sessions

