

UN Ocean Decade Satellite Activity ‘A Productive Ocean: Resilient aquatic food systems for a productive ocean

Wednesday, 1 June 2022

10:00-11:30 (CEST / Berlin, Germany) / 16:00-17:30 (UTC+8 /Malaysia)

Event Summary and Takeaways

Host: WorldFish.

About the Event:

A virtual event held under the umbrella of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Laboratory for ‘[A Productive Ocean](#)’ to catalyze partnerships and co-design Decade Actions to create the oceans we want via the framework of WorldFish’s 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy ‘Aquatic Foods for Healthy People and Planet.’

Moderator and Speakers:

NAME (FIRST, LAST)	TITLE
Essam Yassin Mohammed	Interim Director General, WorldFish & Acting Senior Director, Aquatic Food Systems, CGIAR
Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio	Senior Adaptation and Resilience Advisor, World Resources Institute & Board of Trustees
Delvene Boso	Senior Research Analyst, WorldFish
Neetha Shenoy	Aquaculture Specialist, WorldFish
Ime S. Umoh	Director Fisheries, Federal Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Government of Nigeria
Shakuntala Thilsted	Global Lead, Nutrition and Public Health, WorldFish & Member of ‘A Productive Ocean’ Laboratory, UN Ocean Decade
Reinier Hille Ris Lambers (Moderator)	Global Lead, Strategic Planning, WorldFish

Key Points and Takeaways:

This event was held in celebration of the 2022 World Oceans Day and the International [Kick-Off Conference of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development \(2021-2030\)](#), under the auspices of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

The invited speakers focussed on the rationale, objectives and insights from the 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy ‘Aquatic Foods for Healthy People and Planet’ and highlighted the success stories from the Solomon Islands and the state of Odisha in India that have contributed to a productive ocean system for food, nutrition and livelihood security.

The discussions also explored key areas of research and investment in Nigeria that could enable transformations for healthier, just and environmentally sustainable food systems and a prosperous future for aquatic food sector actors in the emergent ‘blue economy.’

Event Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement

- 255 participants registered while 75 people tuned in live to the event. With a 30% attendance rate, they will receive an event recording and links to other learning materials.
- In the post-event survey, it was revealed that a majority of the participants were male, around the age of 31-50 and work in the field of fisheries and aquaculture.
- Participants also stated 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.

Speaker Quotes

The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development outlines seven outcomes for an ocean we want, one of which is a productive ocean. Working with partners, WorldFish aims to deliver a triple win for nature, people and climate through science and innovation to transform food, land and water systems.”

Essam Yassin Mohammed
Director General (a.i.), WorldFish & Senior Director (Acting), Aquatic Food Systems, CGIAR

The WorldFish 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy recognized the importance of interconnected systems to provide low carbon, climate-resilient, safe and nutritious food from the world's oceans while employing millions of people with safety, dignity and secure rights, and protecting biodiversity.

Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio
Senior Adaptation & Resilience Advisor, World Resources Institute & Board of Trustees, WorldFish

The awareness of enhancing the livelihoods of people who catch, process, or trade with aquatic foods can be a pathway to poverty reduction and food security in island populations. Listening to the ideas of people involved in all aspects of the supply chain can provide a foundation for new fish innovations in the Solomon Islands.

Delvene Boso
Senior Research Analyst, WorldFish

Accelerating women's inclusion in the marine fisheries supply chain can lead to a transformational change in coastal resource-dependent communities, strengthening grassroots institutions, lessening malnutrition, and increasing resilience while managing resources sustainably in the state of Odisha, India.

Neetha Shenoy
Aquaculture Specialist, WorldFish

Because Nigeria has a coastline that spans more than 800km, there is an opportunity here for the Government of Nigeria to explore research to policy-investment ideas for sustainable aquatic food production from the ocean, especially to ensure the food, nutrition and livelihood security of coastal communities in Nigeria.

Ime S. Umoh
**Director of Fisheries, Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture,
Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Nigeria**

We seek to inform and empower communities, nations and the international audience, to realize the importance and potential of aquatic foods, leverage the shared knowledge and capacity here to inform and change policies, and increase investments to better protect our aquatic food systems.

Shakuntala Thilsted
Global Lead, Nutrition & Public Health, WorldFish & Member of 'A Productive Ocean' Laboratory