



GLOBAL ACTION NETWORK
Healthy Waters | Healthy People

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

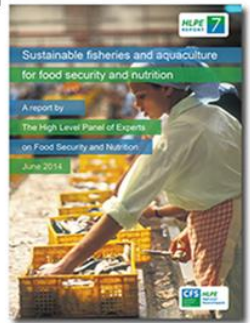
Anita Utheim Iversen

Head of the Global Action Network and Specialist Director at the Norwegian Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries.

Background Global Action Network 2014-2016

Invisible Seafood

- "Fish deserves a central position in food security and nutrition strategies"
- "Fish is strikingly missing from strategies for reduction of micronutrient deficiency, precisely where it could potentially have the largest impact"



<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i3844e.pdf>

Committee on World Food Security (CFS):

CFS 41



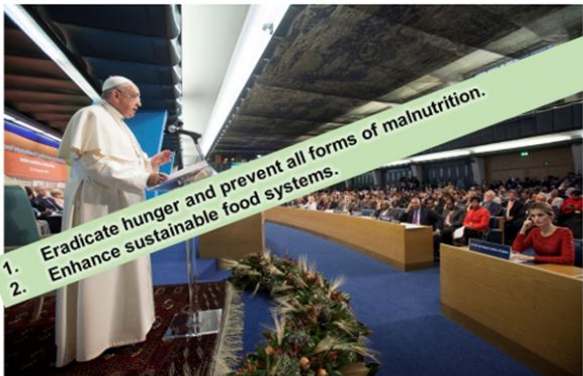
Recognize the contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to food security and nutrition



ICN2 Second International Conference on Nutrition

better nutrition better lives

19-21 November 2014, Rome, Italy



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms
- Goal 2: End hunger, achieve for improved nutrition and pro-r agriculture
- Goal 12.3 reduce food'
- Goal 14: Conserve seas and marine res

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF
ACTION ON NUTRITION

Sustainable, resilient food systems for healthy diets



UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF **ACTION ON NUTRITION**

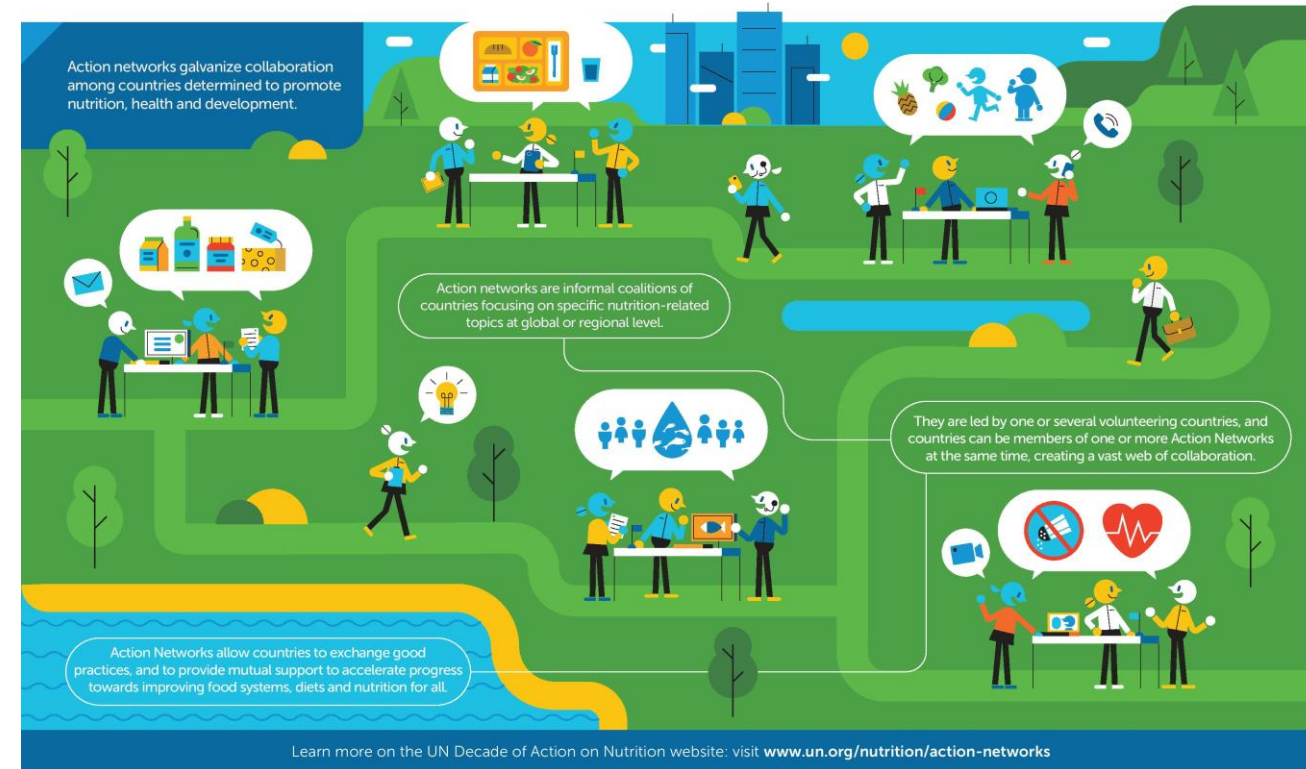


- **"Sustainable, resilient food systems for healthy diets"** one of six action areas
- **Action Networks** to accelerate implementation
- The **Global Action Network activities** are reported to the **UN General Assembly** by the **WHO/FAO secretariate**
- **WHO/FAO secretariate** supports the action networks

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF
ACTION ON NUTRITION
2016-2025

UN Decade of Action on Nutrition Secretariat
Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations
World Health
Organization

**ACTION
NETWORKS**



Norway launching Global Action Network on Sustainable Food from the Ocean for Food Security and Nutrition

(Government)
#OceanAction41615

DESCRIPTION SDG PROGRESS REPORTS FEEDBACK

Description

By 2050 the world population may reach 10 billion. To meet the world's future need for food, the world must produce more food, more sustainably.

The Norwegian Government is calling for global action in efforts to improve global food security.

Norway will establish a Global Action Network on Sustainable Food from the Ocean for Food Security and Nutrition which is a direct follow-up to the UN General Assembly Resolution No. 70/259 on Sustainable Development Goals 14 and 16. Sustainable, resilient food systems contribute to food security and nutrition, high quality employment, well as income and livelihoods for local communities.

Actions for sustainable oceans and inland waters are a prerequisite for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture to deliver sustainable, sufficient, safe, and nutritious foods, meeting dietary needs and food preferences - for all

At the UN Ocean Conference in 2017, Norway initiated the Global Action Network - Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition. At the UN Ocean Conference 2022 Norway commits to continue the Global Action Network until 2030.

The commitment aims at bridging the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) and the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030).

Join our network to promote increased sustainable production and consumption aquatic food for food security and nutrition. Together we can achieve Sustainable Aquatic Food Systems From Healthy Waters to Healthy people.

Interested or want to learn more?
Please e-mail to the Norwegian Secretariate:
foodfromtheocean@hi.no
or visit our webpage
<https://nettsteder.regjeringen.no/foodfromtheocean/>



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2016-2025



Action Network



THE
OCEAN
CONFERENCE
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, 5-9 JUNE 2017



UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF
ACTION ON NUTRITION
2016-2025



Sustainable Oceans
(Healthy Waters
– Prevent pollutants, micro plastics,
fight and adapt climate change etc.)

Sustainable fishery/aquaculture
(increased sustainable production,
ecosystem-based management,
prevent overfishing, IUU, discard,
improve technology etc.).

Sustainable handling from harvest to people
(keep quality, food safety, monitor,
reduce loss/waste, HACCP,
traceability, logistics, cooling
systems etc.)

Sustainable aquatic foods
(Healthy People – Healthy Planet:
increased seafood consumption, availability,
affordability, preferences, safety, nutritious,
quality, taste, origin, ethics, knowledge:
healthy eating habits, food preparation etc.)

Sustainable fishery

Harvesting

Healthy Waters



Fish available

Catch on board

Port landing

Food available

Transport

Storage

Processing

Packaging

Market

Consumer

Transparent science-based advise systems for management, policy and business

Each link influence availability, safety, quality, nutrients, ethics, taste etc.



Value Chain

Healthy People



Sustainable aquatic foods



Food security:

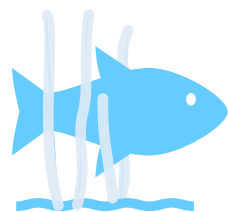
- access
- sufficient
- safe
- nutritious
- dietary needs
- food preferences



Sustainable aquaculture

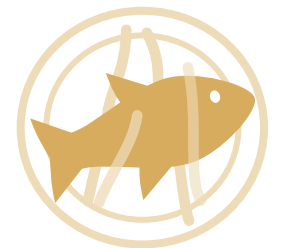
Harvesting

Feed, medication, gear



Aquatic food must come from healthy waters and make it all the way to the healthy people

Sustainable Food from the oceans and inland waters for food security



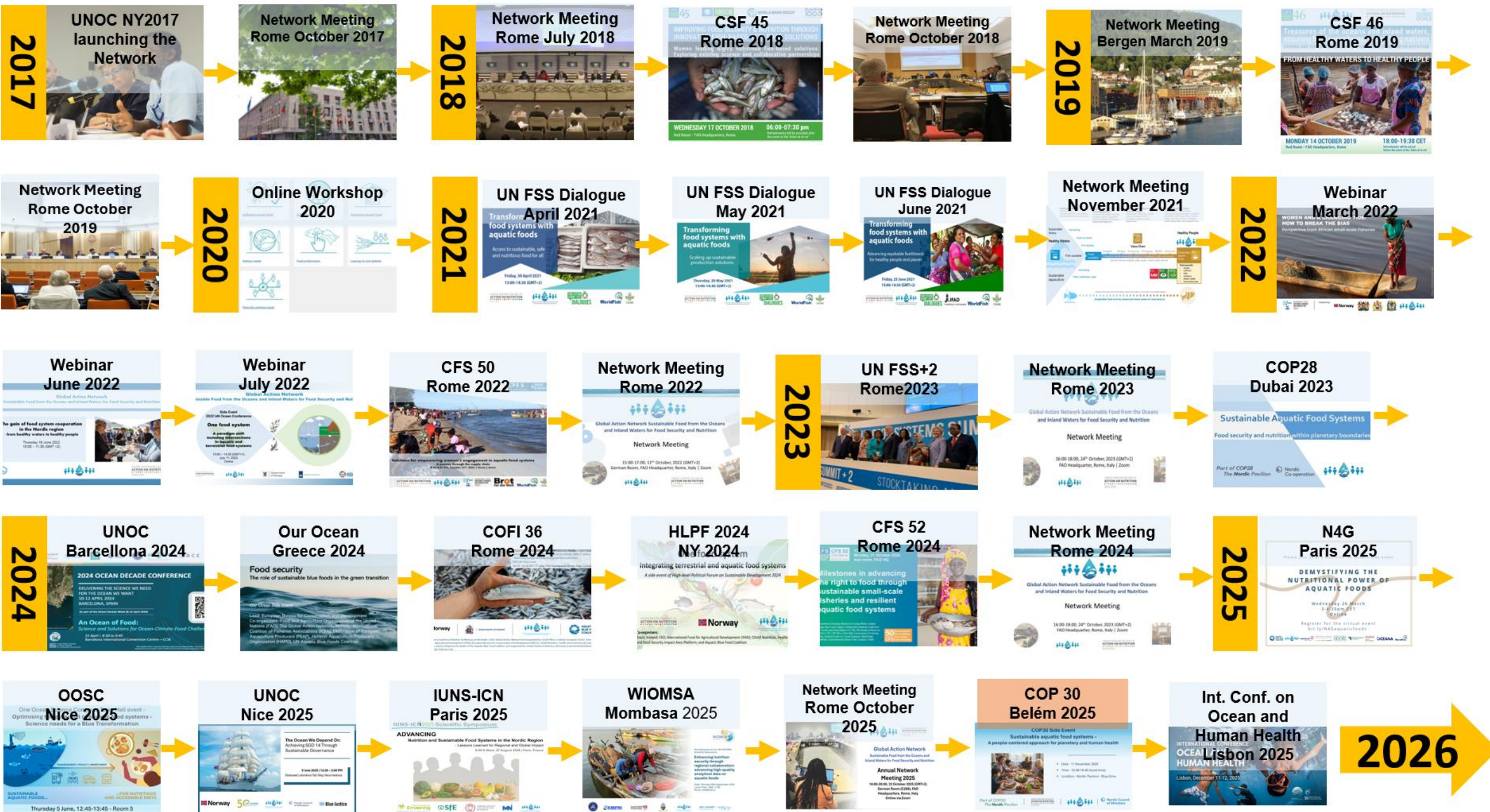
Network Task Force and Working Groups

- Task force –actively sharing news and planning activities
- WG- Bridging the Decades
- WG- One Food System
- WG- Small Scale Fisheries
- WG- Food Composition Data

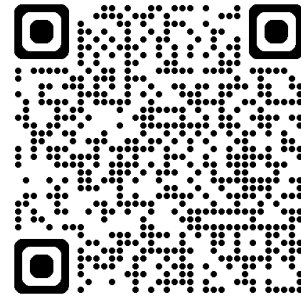
New 2026:

- WG Food Composition data African region
- WG Aquatic foods consumption





Webpage:



Network in Action

Events

-  [Online Meeting 23 January: Planning for Kick-off final five years of the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition.](#)
-  [International Conference on Ocean and Human Health](#)
11-12 December 2025, Lisbon
-  [COP30 Side Event](#)
11th November 2025
-  [Network Meeting 2025](#)
22nd October 2025

Actions and Knowledge

-  [HLPE-FSN Call for experts and consultation](#)
-  [The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World.](#)
-  [WOAH Mobile App: Aquatic Animal Diseases Field Guide](#)
-  [Towards 2030: Advancing Nutrition on the Global Agenda](#)
-  [FAO E-learning Academy](#)

Related Events

- [Global Forum for Food and Agriculture](#), 14-17 January, Berlin, Germany
- [World Seafood Congress](#), 9-11 February, Chennai, India
- [Cofi Sub-Committee on Fisheries Management](#), 23-27 February, Iceland
- [NASF conference](#), 3 March, Bergen Norway
- [One Ocean Week](#), 18-24 April, Bergen Norway
- [Our Ocean Conference 2026](#), 16-18 June, Mombasa, Kenya
- [COP 17-Seventeenth meeting of](#)





Newsletter from the Global Action Network

Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition

We are happy to send you our Spring 2025 Newsletter, sharing ongoing work and news from the Global Action Network.

To feature your activities, solutions or relevant events supporting the Global Action Network [mission](#) in future newsletters, please contact us via foodfromtheocean@hi.no.



The Global Action Network [Action Plan](#) includes arranging annual meetings, workshops and events, recognizing interested parties, and establishing connections to promote collaboration and interaction among cross-sectorial actors focusing on the important elements for food security *from Healthy Waters to Healthy People*.

Demystifying the Nutritional Power of Aquatic Foods

Global Action Network is glad to co-organise this exciting [N4G Paris](#) side event together with Aquatic Blue Food Coalition, Meridian Institute, Walton Family Foundation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, Global Seaweed Coalition, Stanford Center for Ocean Solutions, Oceana, and WorldFish. The multi-sectorial experts will highlight how diverse aquatic foods can address malnutrition and its impacts like stunting while supporting sustainable and equitable food systems, highlighting aquatic food's scalable role as a key source of essential nutrients.

[Read more](#)

Newsletters



Newsletter from the Global Action Network

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For more Network news and information, follow us on [LinkedIn](#).



Relevant Actions

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Introducing Budstikke

The Global Action Network is launching a *budstikke*, a traditional wooden stick used to carry important messages. Through this effort, we aim to encourage boundary-crossing and spur actions to include aquatic foods as a key source for achieving food security and improving nutrition.

[Read more](#)



Newsletter from the Global Action Network

Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition

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Relevant Actions

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IUNS-ICN2025 Scientific Symposium

Together with Nordic nutrition societies from Norway, Iceland, Finland, and Denmark, the Global Action Network co-hosted a scientific symposium entitled 'Advancing Nutrition and Sustainable Food Systems in the Nordic Region – Lessons Learned for Regional and Global Impact'.

[Read more](#)



Newsletter from the Global Action Network

Sustainable Food from the Oceans and Inland Waters for Food Security and Nutrition

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Relevant Actions

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Network

22nd October,

We held our Annual Meeting in collaboration with CFS 53 in October. This was a hybrid event with participation at FAO headquarters and virtually. Bringing together 250 registrants from 68 countries, including representatives from the EU and UN. Participants included members of governments, NGOs, and industry.

[Read more](#)

COP30 Side Event at the Nordic Pavillion

11th November 2025, Brazil

At COP30 in Belém, we brought aquatic food systems into the heart of the climate conversation. Experts, policymakers and youth voices gathered to spotlight how healthy oceans and inclusive blue food strategies can drive resilient, climate-smart and equitable food systems for people and planet.

[Read more](#)

WIOMSA 2025 Mini-Symposia

29th September, Mombasa, Kenya

The Global Action Network co-hosted a mini-symposium at WIOMSA 2025, contributing to discussions on key challenges and opportunities. The symposium brought together international experts and stakeholders. Read the summary and view highlights from the event [here](#).

[Read more](#)



News from Network participants



Gain and Share tool

Gain and Share

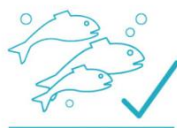
The Global Action Network will continuously identify challenges, exchange knowledge and solutions related to the key elements of food security: "Sufficient", "Safe", "Nutritious", "Dietary Needs", "Food Preferences", "Leaving No One Behind", and "Towards Common Goals". References to the relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and recommendations from the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) are added. Examples of SMART commitments (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Timebound) by network members will also be included. More links are required, especially for topics where no links are present yet.

[DOWNLOAD Global-Action-Network_Gain-and-Share-Documents_v14](#)
pdf - 849 KB

Want to contribute to the Gain and Share Document?



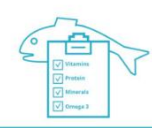
Key Element



[Sufficient Aquatic Food](#)



[Safe Aquatic Food](#)



[Nutritious Aquatic Food](#)



[Dietary Needs](#)



[Food Preferences](#)

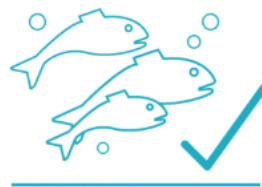


[Leaving No One Behind](#)



[Toward Common Goals](#)

Sufficient Aquatic Food



The key element SUFFICIENT aquatic food refers to the amount of food from oceans and inland waters available for human consumption and relies on: the amount of food we can harvest, produce and preserve; the reduction of food loss and waste; and the access to affordable aquatic food.

Relevant SDGs to this element are SDG [2](#), [3](#), [4](#), [6](#), [9](#), [12](#), [14](#), [16](#) and [17](#). Relevant recommendations from the Committee on World Food Security are [CFS 3](#), [4A.4](#), [4A.5](#), [4B](#), [4C](#) and [4D](#). More links are required, please send input to FoodFromtheOcean@hi.no

Challenges

Sustainable fisheries management



Sustainable aquaculture production



Food loss and waste



Transparency and traceability



Climate change



Impacts of climate change on fisheries



Ensuring biodiversity



COVID-19



Climate change



Knowledge

Research projects

- [WGBAR](#) ICES Working Group on the Integrated Assessments of the Barents Sea

Reports

- ['Cyclone Ockhi - Disaster risk management and sea safety in the Indian marine fisheries sector'](#)
- ['FAO's work on climate change - Fisheries & aquaculture 2019'](#) (FAO)
- [Decision-making and economics of adaptation to climate change in the fisheries and aquaculture sector](#) (FAO)
- [UN Climate report](#)

Guidelines

- [Integrating blue foods into national climate strategies](#) (US)

Solutions

Climate change on aquaculture

- [Integrated multi-trophic aquaculture under climate change](#)
- [Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture Makes Work More Rewarding for Coastal Fish Farmers of Bangladesh](#) (WorldFish)





Budstikke

We adopt the [budstikke](#) as a symbol to carry key messages of events to encourage boundary-crossing between people with different knowledge and perspectives, and to call for actions *from healthy waters to healthy people* to include aquatic foods as a key food source for achieving food security and improving nutrition.

11th November, 2025: COP30 Side Event at the Nordic Pavillion

Aquatic foods are nutrient-rich, low footprint climate solution, core of a just and sustainable food system.

Fishers, aquaculture workers and traditional communities: protagonists and guardians of territorial knowledge, they must shape policy.

Cross-border and cross-sector cooperation builds resilient, low-emission and inclusive aquatic food systems.

Evidence-based, culturally adapted and accessible information and education turn aquatic foods into everyday healthy diets for all.

Reach children early, positive seafood experiences and mindset interventions in schools build lifelong healthy, sustainable habits.

29 September, 2025: 13th WIOMSA Scientific Symposium

Actively engage in partnerships and information sharing across countries to align strategies, harmonize data, and coordinate actions for greater collective impact.

Prioritize the collection, analysis, and application of reliable, locally relevant data to guide evidence-based decision-making and adaptive management.

Support training, mentorship, and long-term institutional development to ensure sustained technical and organizational capability.

Advocate for and embed aquatic foods within national and regional nutrition, food security, and climate strategies to enhance their visibility and impact.

Continue leveraging the EAF-Nansen Programme as a strategic mechanism to connect research, policy, and practice, fostering collaboration and shared learning across sectors.

27 August, 2025: IUNS- ICN2025 Scientific Symposium

Nutritionists should be more visible in food system dialogues.

Food system transformation is a smart investment and requires bundled actions by multiple actors.

Efficient regulations, innovations and shift in mindset and social norms are also crucial.

School meals should follow climate-friendly dietary guidelines and be introduced gradually accompanied by a pedagogical concept.

Safe foods from the ocean with efficient monitoring system are important.

Increase in seafood consumption can promote both human health and sustainability.

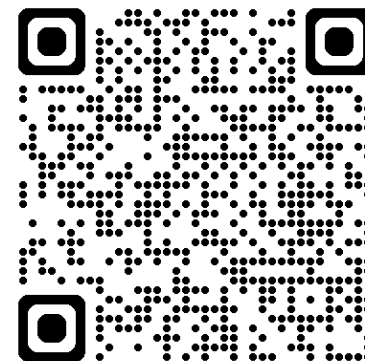
9 June, 2025: UNOC2025 Mini Conference

International and regional cooperation is essential.

Science and evidence-based policy are fundamental to sustainable ocean governance and sustainable aquatic food systems.

Capacity building and inclusion are key to long-term sustainability.

The role of aquatic foods in nutrition and food security must be recognized and strengthened.



[Read key messages](#)

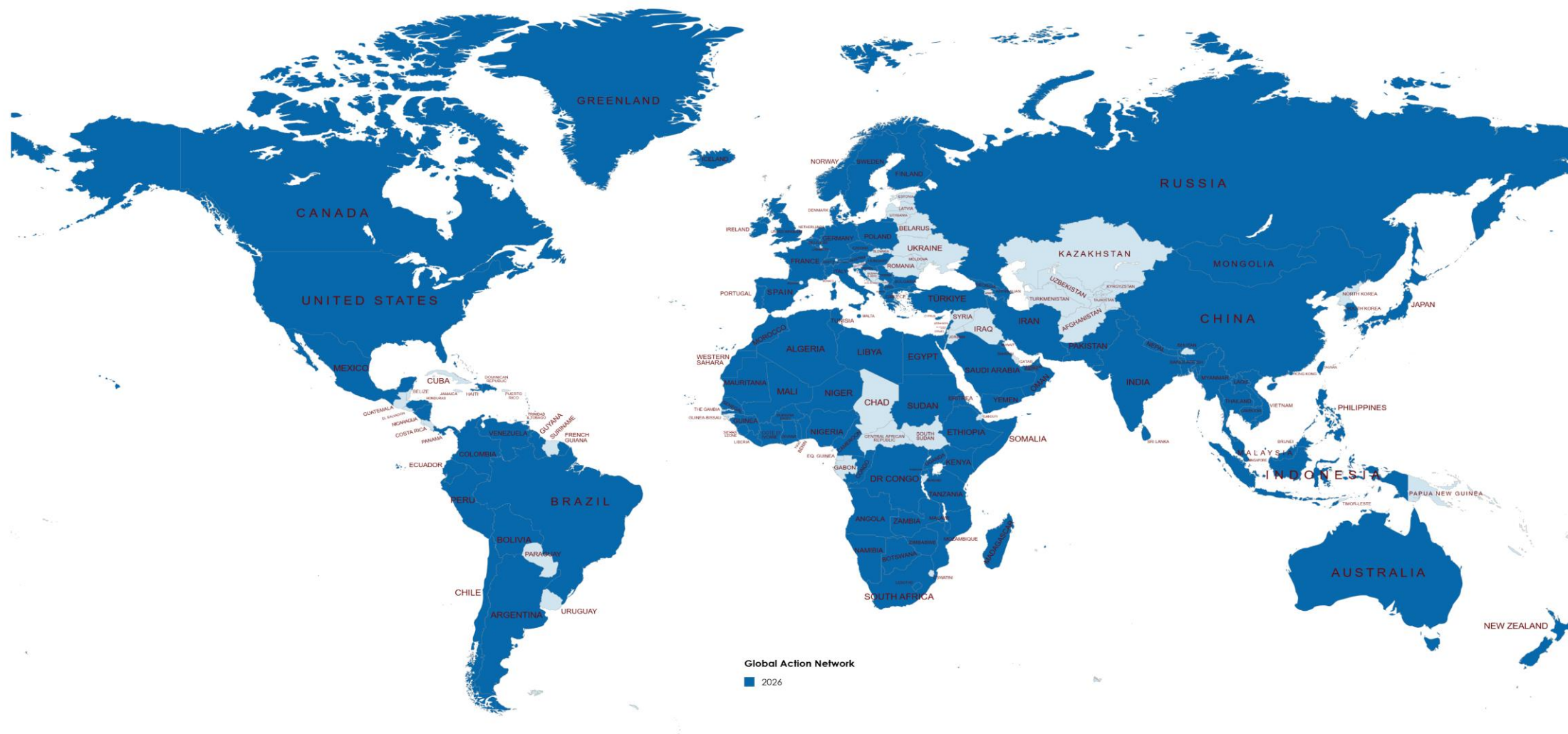


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ACTION ON NUTRITION



2016-2025

Network Participant Map



Created with mapchart.net

