Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

1984–2024

40 Years of the FAO GLOBEFISH Project: Key Highlights and Way Forward

18 and 19 September 2024

10:00 – 17:00, Rome, Italy, FAO headquarters

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Background

FAO GLOBEFISH, a project supported by multiple donors and operating under the FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division (NFI), was established in 1984 with the primary objective of providing analyses about the trade and market of fisheries and aquaculture products. It also aimed to foster and facilitate the exchange of information among the industry, governments, academia, and other stakeholders on a global scale. In its journey, FAO GLOBEFISH has achieved greater international coordination by establishing the FISH INFONetwork, which links six regional networks across 85 countries. These units – INFOPESCA, INFOFISH, INFOPÊCHE, INFOSAMAK, EUROFISH, and INFOYU – started as FAO projects, delivering technical capacity-building services to their member countries and the industry in their regions. They also organize periodical global trade and technical events, where FAO GLOBEFISH regularly participates, fostering a sense of global connection and collaboration.

FAO GLOBEFISH stands out for its unparalleled 40-year support to the sector, which has resulted in tangible impacts across all regions. Its commitment and extensive experience have enabled it to be constantly present in the ever-changing global fisheries and aquaculture landscape, advancing its activities with resilience and determination.

Consistent with the overarching goal of the Blue Transformation, the FAO GLOBEFISH project promotes sustainable trade of fisheries and aquaculture products, thereby contributing to better access to aquatic food, particularly in areas where food supplies are scarce. FAO GLOBEFISH additionally provides assistance for the enhancement and growth of aquatic food value chains, including mitigating loss and waste, fostering transparency and traceability, supporting market access, and guaranteeing fair and inclusive returns for stakeholders. This multifaceted strategy helps to advance the United Nations 2030 Agenda and FAO's four betters' principles: better production, better nutrition, better environment, and better life.

One tool FAO GLOBEFISH utilizes to reach its goals is the production of regular publications providing market analysis on a wide range of species and markets, combining price information from multiple sources, including reviews on topical issues – the *GLOBEFISH Highlights*, the *European Price Report*, the *GLOBEFISH Insights*, and the *Chinese Fish Price Report*. In addition, the FAO GLOBEFISH Price Dashboard, a robust and user-friendly interface, displays periodic prices of fisheries and aquaculture products in Europe, which FAO GLOBEFISH monitors and updates weekly. The price dashboard and all publications are available on the FAO GLOBEFISH website (www.globefish.org). In addition to other updates related to trade and markets, import regulations and analysis of border rejections of the major importing markets, country profiles providing a snapshot of the sector in each country, and other trade and market-related information are also available.

To commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the FAO GLOBEFISH project, the Fisheries and Aquaculture Division (NFI) of FAO will host a two-day event entitled "**40 Years of the FAO GLOBEFISH Project: Key Highlights and Way Forward**" on the 18 and 19 September 2024, at the FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy.

The 40th Anniversary celebration of the FAO GLOBEFISH project highlights and strengthens the significance of collaboration in the sector. Donors and partners are crucial in supporting FAO GLOBEFISH in its efforts to develop and disseminate market and trade information on fisheries and aquaculture products on a large scale.

The objectives of the event are:

i. To discuss current and future trends in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, with a focus on the critical role of information in the development of business decisions and the formulation of county policies.

ii. To reinforce the importance of up-to-date trade and market information for the fisheries and aquaculture industry and the essential role of FAO GLOBEFISH and other units of the FISH INFONetwork in delivering such information.

iii. To highlight the importance of collaborative endeavors in the fisheries and aquaculture industry for the long-term preservation of resources, society, and the economy, as well as for the widespread dissemination of knowledge and information.

iv. To discuss future strategies of FAO GLOBEFISH and the FISH INFONetwork with a broader audience.

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40 Years of the FAO GLOBEFISH Project: Key Highlights and Way Forward

Tentative Agenda

Venue: Iran Room, Building B, room 016
FAO headquarters, Rome

DAY	TIME	Programme
18 September 2024	09:30 – 10:00	Coffee break
	10:00 – 10:10	Opening remarks *Mr Manuel Barange, Assistant Director -General and Director, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division (NFI)*
	10:10 – 10:20	Initial Address *Mr Audun Lem, Deputy Director, FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division (NFI)*
	10:20 – 10:35	FAO GLOBEFISH *An overview of the FAO GLOBEFISH project, its activities, and range of analysis, publications, and information products.*
	10:35 – 11:15	FAO GLOBEFISH and the FISH INFONetwork (FIN): Past and Present - *A testimony of Helga Josupeit, Former Senior Fishery Industry Officer and Former Coordinator of the FAO GLOBEFISH, and Erik Hempel, Former Project Director of INFOFISH and INFOPÊCHE, and Former Director of INFOSA* - *Launch of the publication "The Legacy of GLOBEFISH and the FISH INFONetwork"*
	11:15 – 12:30	FAO GLOBEFISH Donors and Partners *Donors and Partners of FAO GLOBEFISH will share their experiences collaborating with the FAO GLOBEFISH project.*

	12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break
	14:00 – 15:30	The FISH INFONetwork units *Units of the FISH INFOnetwork (INFOPESCA, INFOFISH, INFOPÊCHE, INFOSAMAK, EUROFISH, and INFOYU) will present their work and activities.*
	15:30 – 15:40	Coffee break
	15:40 – 17:00	FAO GLOBEFISH Dialogue with Donors *(by invitation)*

DAY	TIME	Programme
19 September 2024	09:45 – 10:00	Coffee break
	10:00 – 11:00	FAO GLOBEFISH Dialogue on cross-cutting themes *The current trends in fisheries and aquaculture extend beyond the realms of trade and markets. FAO experts will engage in discussions including sustainability, innovation, enhancing data collecting, minimizing loss and waste, establishing traceability, and incorporating small-scale fisheries into the global market. These discussions will be conducted with a focus on recognizing and promoting gender inclusion.* *Moderator: Joseph Zelasney, Fishery Officer, FAO* *Panellists:* - *Ms Stefania Vannuccini, Senior Fishery Officer, FAO* - *Mr Omar Riego Peñarubia, Fishery Officer, FAO* - *Ms Nada Bougouss, Fishery Officer, FAO* - *Ms Nicole Franz, Fishery Officer, FAO* - *Mr Matteo Luzzi, Gender Consultant Fisheries and Aquaculture, FAO*
	11:00 – 12:30	Open Dialogue about the Future of Fisheries and Aquaculture Products. *A platform to engage in conversations on the present challenges, prospects, and outlook of fisheries and aquaculture production in light of contemporary issues.* *Moderator: Mr Audun Lem, Deputy Director, FAO* *Panellists:* - *Mr Alessandro Pititto, Coordinator of EMODnet Human Activities, EUMOFA* - *Mr Iván M. López Van Der Veen, Chair and Cepesca Executive Committee Member, Cepesca* - *Mr Giuseppe Palma, Secretary General, Assoittica Italia* - *Mr Jose M. Fernandez Polanco, Professor of Marketing and Economics, University of Cantabria* - *Mr Fabio Massimo Pallottini, President, ITALMERCATI* - *Mr Eloy García Alvariza, President, CONXEMAR*
	12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break

	14:00 – 15:30	Seaweed Dialogue: current status of the industry, markets, demand, emerging trends, and technological advancement for seaweed products. *An assessment of the current state, market dynamics, and future trends of seaweed production and trade, with a specific emphasis on food and non-food uses.* *Moderator: Mr David Vivas Eugui, Chief of Section a.i., Trade, Environment, Climate Change & Sustainable Development Branch, UNCTAD* *Panellists:* - *Mr Vincent Doumeizel, Senior Advisor on the Oceans, UN Global Compact* - *Mr Philip GU, Founder & CEO, ASX: SCU* - *Ms Debra Sadranu, Managing Director, Essence of Fiji Group* - *Ms Hoa Doan, Head of Impact and Sustainability, Notpla* - *Mr Nima Bahramalian, Industrial Development Expert, UNIDO*
	15:30 – 15:40	Coffee break
	15:40 – 17:00	FAO GLOBEFISH Dialogue with Partners *(by invitation)*

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