



The Royal Thai Government



Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



UNEP



Side-event to the Ocean Conference

Oceans, Overfishing and Sustainable Gastronomy

CR-12, 6 June 2017, 15:00 – 16:30

Background

Our Oceans, their biodiversity and the essential marine ecosystem services they provide, are in decline due to overfishing, amongst other factors including climate change, acidification, and pollution, which pose grave threats to people, planet and prosperity. The United Nations is called to promote a comprehensive, coherent and effective response, including by achieving SDG14 of the 2030 Agenda and thus conserving and sustainably using the oceans, seas and marine resources. The latter provides specific targets for, inter alia, effectively regulating harvesting and ending overfishing, prohibiting forms of fisheries subsidies contributing to overcapacity, and providing access for small-scale artisanal fishers to marine resources and markets.

Consistent with the integrated approach of the 2030 Agenda and the indivisible nature of the SDGs, to ensure efficacy, meeting SDG14 entails addressing its interlinkages with other SDGs. The conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources is highly interlinked with other developmental issues such as food security, education, economic growth, employment, industrialization, climate change, effective and inclusive institutions, healthy lives, global partnership and access to means of implementation including science and technology.

Of particular relevance to effectively tackling overfishing is SDG12, intended to ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns. This goal entails targets on, inter alia, reducing food waste, raising awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles, promoting sustainable tourism, including local culture and products, sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources, management of chemicals and wastes, and significantly reduce their release to water in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.

Focus on alimentary industries, including fisheries and gastronomic industries, is therefore of great importance. Gastronomy, defined as the practice or art of choosing, cooking, and eating good food, constitutes a particularly dynamic cultural expression to which all individuals and countries, including coastal populations, can relate. Consistent with the 2030 Agenda, the

notion of sustainable gastronomy can be mainstreamed to effectively raise public awareness on how all cultures can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development.

In this vein, the United Nations General Assembly has recently established June 18 as Sustainable Gastronomy Day.

A growing number of replicable good practices are actually being pursued all over the world and from the very local level. Led by renowned chefs and civil society organizations, gastronomic industries are expanding their scope, involving all relevant stakeholders and raising an influential voice by incorporating to people's diets sustainable patterns such as "the catch of the day", highlighting our shared responsibility in conserving and sustainably using marine resources as well as the role of small-scale artisanal fisheries.

The side-event should provide an opportunity for further sharing experiences and good practices towards the achievement of SDG14.

Programme

1. Opening remarks by moderator (TBC)
2. H.E. Mr. Bruno Giuffra, Minister of Production of Peru – *Peruvian national regulations and campaigns for promoting small-scale artisanal fisheries and marine superfoods.*
3. H.E. Vice-minister of the Environment of Italy (TBC)
4. H.E. Mr. Kriangsak Kittichaisaree, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to the Russian Federation – *Importance of healthy oceans and fish to Thailand and the Thai people, measures undertaken to tackle overfishing, and promotion of partnerships and gastronomic tourism.*
5. Mr. Árni M. Mathiesen, Assistance Director-General for Fisheries and Aquaculture of the Food and Alimentation Organization of the United Nations – *Nexus between the importance of fish for food security, over-fishing, and the role of small-scale artisanal fisheries.*
6. Ms. Heidi Huusko, Senior Manager of Government Affairs/Environment and Climate of the United Nations Global Compact
7. Representative of UNEP (TBC)
8. Representative of UNESCO (TBC)
9. Q & A