THE FUTURE OF AQUACULTURE

In June 2018, GSI and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) co-hosted a thought-leaders’ discussion at the World Bank to examine the Future of Aquaculture. Focusing on questions such as: what barriers and opportunities might the industry face? And what can we do now to help ensure the sector’s future is sustainable? The group set out its vision for the future and identified a number of change levers which it sees as vital in helping the industry achieve this vision.

To help accelerate progress towards achieving this vision, the Future of Aquaculture Network has been formed to bring together organizations that want to work together to help trigger these change levers into action.

Aquaculture is a global industry that involves many regions and species, which all need to be considered.

THE CHALLENGE
Population growth, aging populations, increases in income and wealth, as well as healthier diets are all leading to increased seafood consumption. However, we cannot extract more seafood from our oceans, which is why sustainable growth in aquaculture is needed.

THE VISION
Aquaculture has significant potential in helping provide a healthy and sustainable protein source for future populations. However, to reach this potential, an increase in production is needed. This increased production must be responsibly managed and matched with significant reductions in environmental impact and improvements in resource efficiency.

THE CHANGE LEVERS

INNOVATION
Technological advances and innovations in aquaculture practices are needed to help improve practices, utilize greater efficiencies, and reduce environmental impacts.

TRANSPARENCY & TRACEABILITY
Improvements in transparency and accountability will increase trust in the industry and support growth through greater knowledge and awareness of sustainable choices.

FINANCE
Greater access to financing and broader investor buy-in would increase the opportunities for innovation and technological advances.

DATA & BEST PRACTICE SHARING
Learning from successes and failures supports smarter growth and innovation.

COLLABORATION
Global-and regional-scale collaboration and partnerships are critical for accelerating the speed and scale of progress.

CONSUMER AND MARKET EDUCATION / MOBILIZATION
Education on the benefits of sustainable aquaculture would support more people in demanding responsibly produced seafood as part of a healthy and nutritious diet.

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