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FAO REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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**Advancing fisheries and aquaculture towards sustainability
under the Blue Transformation approach**

Executive Summary

When managed and developed sustainably, aquatic food systems in fisheries and aquaculture have the capacity to produce a sustainable and resilient source of food and drive employment, economic growth, social development and environmental recovery. To assist Members in achieving sustainable, resilient and inclusive aquatic food systems within their own national economic, social and environmental contexts, FAO developed a vision for Blue Transformation based on three core pillars: sustainable aquaculture, sustainable fisheries and sustainable value chains. This document assesses how FAO's Blue Transformation can support the implementation of the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31 in Latin America and the Caribbean to enable more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for *better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life*, leaving no one behind. It presents ongoing efforts in the region's aquatic food systems and identifies potential actions to achieve these aspirations.

Suggested action by the Regional Conference

The Regional Conference is invited to request FAO to:

- (a) provide technical guidance to strengthen the role of aquatic foods in alleviating hunger and malnutrition in national food security and nutrition policies, where fisheries and aquaculture are included as development priorities;
- (b) provide policy support to strengthen visibility of small-scale fisheries and aquaculture in national development agendas;
- (c) increase its support to innovation and investment mobilization to enhance the contribution of aquatic foods to sustainable and resilient agrifood systems;
- (d) support Members in implementing measures to upgrade aquatic food value chains to reduce loss and waste, increase equitable benefits, food distribution and accessibility.

Documents can be consulted at www.fao.org

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), fisheries and aquaculture commodities are vital for the well-being of 85 million people, providing food, nutrition and livelihoods security. Aquatic foods account for about 10 percent of the average per capita intake of animal protein in the region and are crucial sources of omega-3 fatty acids and essential micronutrients critical to cognitive and physical development, especially during early childhood. Aquatic foods also reduce the risk of non-communicable diseases, such as coronary heart disease in the adult population.

2. In addition, aquatic food production has a smaller environmental impact compared to other land-based production systems for animal proteins, resulting in reduced carbon emissions and water usage. However, fish consumption in the region remains at 10.4 kg, about half the global average of 20.2 kgs (in 2020). There is great potential for increasing sustainable aquatic food production, especially within the aquaculture sector.

3. In LAC, small-scale fisheries provide up to 85 percent of aquatic animals consumed in some countries in the region and are also the basis of food security for hundreds of communities, many of them Indigenous, living along the coasts and rivers.¹ According to recent estimates,² of the about 21.6 million people depending on the fisheries sector in the region, about 20 million people (or 93 percent) depend, at least partially, on small-scale fisheries. These data refer to estimates for 2016 and include people directly engaged in fisheries activities (either employed along the value chain or engaged in subsistence activities) and their household dependents.

4. Nevertheless, aquatic food systems in LAC face challenges, including climate change, pollution, ineffective fisheries management, illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing inefficient value chains, and lack of adequate spatial planning to reduce conflicts of interest and competition between land and water users. Hence, it is imperative to implement approaches that build on and improve existing knowledge, frameworks and capacity at the enterprise, local, national and regional levels. Small Island Developing States face additional hurdles, such as extreme weather events, limited technical capacity and high production costs (e.g. high cost of transport and dependence on imports for many goods, often at high prices, among others), combined with a significantly higher dependency on aquatic food systems for economic development, government revenue, food security and livelihoods.

5. To address these issues, FAO's Blue Transformation roadmap³ outlines a vision to expand aquatic food systems in a sustainable manner and increase their contribution to nutritious and affordable healthy diets for the most vulnerable, while fostering equitable growth, especially for those communities that depend on fisheries and aquaculture, and safeguarding the environment. The Blue Transformation roadmap aligns with the FAO Strategic Framework 2022–31 and the 2021 *COFI Declaration for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture*⁴ of the FAO Committee on

¹ FAO. 2016. *Informe de la XIV reunión de la Comisión de Pesca Continental y Acuicultura para América Latina y el Caribe*. Lima, Peru, 1-3 February 2016. In: <https://www.fao.org/3/bl621s/bl621s.pdf>

² Estimates based on data collected through FAO, Duke University and WorldFish. 2023. *Illuminating Hidden Harvests – The contributions of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development*. Rome. In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc4576en>

³ FAO. 2022. *Blue Transformation - Roadmap 2022–2030: A vision for FAO's work on aquatic food systems*. Rome. In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0459en>

⁴ FAO. 2021. *2021 COFI Declaration for Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture*. Rome. In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb3767en>

Fisheries (COFI), and it focuses on elements to maximize the contribution of aquatic food systems to the Sustainable Development Goals.

II. BLUE TRANSFORMATION

6. Blue Transformation is a targeted effort through which agencies, countries and stakeholders harness existing and emerging knowledge, tools and practices to secure and sustainably enhance the role of aquatic food systems in ensuring food security, nutrition and affordable healthy diets for all.⁵ FAO estimates that by transforming global aquatic food systems, global fisheries and aquaculture production of aquatic animals could increase from 182 million tonnes in 2021⁶ to nearly 250 million tonnes per year, with per capita consumption of aquatic foods potentially reaching 25.5 kg/year by 2050.⁷

7. Blue Transformation is based on three core objectives:

- (a) **Sustainable intensification and expansion of aquaculture:** to address the growing global demand for aquatic foods by focusing on sustainable growth and expansion of aquaculture.
- (b) **Effective management of all fisheries:** to maintain healthy stocks and secure, equitable livelihoods by ensuring that an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) is consistently and regularly applied to management practices.
- (c) **Enhanced value chains:** to ensure aquatic food systems are socially, economically and environmentally viable through the upgrading of aquatic value chains.

III. BETTER PRODUCTION FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION PATTERNS

8. LAC has great potential for the sustainable intensification and/or expansion of aquaculture production, although production patterns within the region are uneven. In 2021, South America contributed 88.5 percent of total aquaculture production in LAC (3.8 million tonnes), Central America contributed 10.8 percent, and the Caribbean 0.7 percent.⁸ In the same year, Brazil, Chile and Ecuador, dominated aquaculture production in the region.⁹

9. Focusing only on a few species, aquaculture production has grown steadily in LAC, witnessing a recent slowdown, particularly in the Caribbean, where despite the growing production of emerging aquaculture species, such as seaweed, the sector has experienced a downward trend since 2017. Moreover, there are validated aquatic species and cultivation systems within the region, such as agroaquaculture (integration of agricultural, livestock and aquaculture crops), aquaponics (aquaculture and agricultural crops) and agricultural systems using organic waste from aquaculture ponds as fertilizer.

10. Fish stocking in waterbodies is widely used in the region to enhance inland fisheries, particularly in reservoirs. There is potential for increased success by applying a more scientific approach to monitoring and evaluation of stocking.

⁵ FAO. 2023. *Blue Transformation – In Brief*. Rome. In: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc6646en/cc6646en.pdf>

⁶ FAO. 2024. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture - FishStatJ - Software for Fishery and Aquaculture Statistical Time Series. In: FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division [online]. Rome. [Cited 9 February 2024].

In: <https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/topic/166235?lang=en>

⁷ FAO. 2022. *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022. Towards Blue Transformation*. Rome. In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc0461en>

⁸ FAO. 2023. *Blue Transformation – In Brief*. Rome. In: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc6646en/cc6646en.pdf>

⁹ FAO. 2023. *Blue Transformation – In Brief*. Rome. In: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc6646en/cc6646en.pdf>

11. Regarding capture fisheries, LAC's total production reached 13.9 million tonnes in 2021, with South America contributing 83.5 percent, Central America 15.5 percent and the Caribbean 1 percent.¹⁰ However, challenges exist in fisheries management at national and regional levels. Generally, sustainable management is applied only to highly valued fisheries, leaving other fisheries, in particular most small-scale fisheries, largely unmanaged.¹¹ The region has improved national fisheries legislation and policies, including the adoption and implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) in many countries, in an attempt to combat IUU fishing. Further strengthening monitoring, control and surveillance will increase governments' capacity to combat IUU fishing and promote compliance with fisheries management measures.

12. Globally, there is a pressing need to enhance the efficiency of aquatic food value chains to increase production without adding more strain on natural resources. FAO, for instance, has launched feasibility projects in Barbados and Saint Kitts and Nevis to explore how fish waste or silage can be used in livestock/fish feed.

13. Strengthening the knowledge base for decision-making and using the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries (EAF) for the sustainable and efficient use, management and conservation of living marine resources are important policy priorities for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) Member States. In this context, the CRFM Ministerial Council at the 37th Session of the FAO Regional Conference for LAC in 2022 reiterated the request for assistance by the FAO-Norway EAF-Nansen Programme to conduct fisheries surveys in the region. FAO is currently developing a concept note for a project to address data gaps with CRFM and the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC).

14. Recommended initiatives to transform fisheries and aquaculture include improving governance through robust policies and effective regulations, applying spatial planning for promoting sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture, and reducing climate risks. Furthermore, promoting stronger cooperation on technical matters among countries in and beyond the region, and strengthening the knowledge base for decision-making and implementing adaptive fisheries management systems, along with developing national capacity in aquaculture statistics systems are essential steps. Additionally, increasing public acceptance and support for aquaculture is key. It is also important for decision-makers to recognize the significant role of small-scale aquaculture as a low-risk system for food production and livelihood diversification in agriculture, and to improve the circularity and decarbonization of aquatic food value chains.

15. The FAO Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture, endorsed by the FAO COFI Sub-Committee on Aquaculture in May 2023,¹² provide the sector with the first global normative instrument to sustainably expand aquaculture production and outcomes. The Progressive Management Pathway for Improving Aquaculture Biosecurity (PMP/AB), a risk-based, progressive and value-chain approach, holds the potential to curtail aquatic disease introduction and spread in the region, which is critical to the sustainable development of the sector. The Blue Transformation Roadmap 2022–2030, the One Health strategy, the FAO Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) 2021–2025, and the Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture are important instruments that support the PMP/AB.¹³

¹⁰ FAO. 2024. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture - FishStatJ - Software for Fishery and Aquaculture Statistical Time Series. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division [online]. Rome. [Cited 9 February 2024].

In: <https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/topic/166235?lang=en>

¹¹ Hilborn, R., Amoroso, R., Anderson, C., Baum, J., Branch, T., Costello, C., De Moor, C., Faraj, A., Hively, D., Jensen, O., Kurota, H., Little, L.R., Mace, P., McClanahan, T., Melnychuk, M., Minto, C., Osio, G., Parma, A., Pons, M., Segurado, S., Szuwalski, C., Wilson, J. & Ye, Y. 2020. *Effective fisheries management instrumental in improving fish stock status*. PNAS 117(4), 2218–2224.

In: <https://doi.org/10.1073/PNAS.1909726116>

¹² FAO. 2023. *Report of the Twelfth Session of the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture, Hermosillo, Mexico, 16-19 May 2023*. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Report No.1414. Rome. In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc7093t>

¹³ FAO. 2023. *The Progressive Management Pathway for Aquaculture Biosecurity – Guidelines for application*. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper No. 689. Rome. In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc6858en>

IV. BETTER NUTRITION TO END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVE NUTRITION IN ALL ITS FORMS

16. In LAC, disparities exist in food production and levels of undernourishment and malnutrition.¹⁴ Despite progress, the region still counts 34 million undernourished people, with over 6 million of them being children under the age of five. Additionally, more than 134 million people suffer from overweight problems due to inappropriate eating patterns; this issue is of particular concern in rural areas where malnutrition and obesity prevail.

17. Fisheries and aquaculture have a significant potential to make a substantial contribution to food security and nutrition in LAC. However, a large portion of both capture fisheries and aquaculture production is exported, limiting the availability of fish and shellfish in the region.

18. LAC countries are net exporters of aquatic animal products, with total exports of aquatic animals reaching 13.6 million tonnes live weight equivalent (LWE) – USD 23.8 billion - in 2021.¹⁵ This makes up 20 percent of the world's exports. In 2021, LAC exports increased by 18 percent in quantity terms compared to 2020, reflecting the recovery from COVID-19 related disruptions. In 2021, the top exporters in the region were Peru (6.4 million tonnes LWE), Chile (2.9 million tonnes LWE), Ecuador (1.9 million tonnes LWE), and Mexico (1.0 million tonnes LWE), with Peru being ranked as the second major exporter of aquatic animals in the world and Chile as sixth.¹⁶ During the same year, LAC imports of aquatic animal products reached 2.7 million tonnes LWE, marking an 8.7 percent increase compared to 2020.¹⁷ LAC's aquatic animals imports accounted for 4.1 percent of the world's imports. The major importers were Mexico (0.6 million tonnes LWE), Brazil (0.5 million tonnes LWE), Colombia (0.3 million tonnes LWE) and Chile (0.2 million tonnes LWE).¹⁸

19. Several LAC countries have collaboratively developed strategies to incorporate fish into school feeding programmes and nutrition policies, aiming to enhance nutritional well-being of children and foster adoption of healthy eating habits that can be transmitted to families. Additionally, FAO has published a comprehensive update of the status and trends of inland fisheries in LAC, highlighting their role in food security and the challenges they face.¹⁹

20. To transform fisheries and aquaculture, it is recommended to adopt a holistic approach to food systems, engage markets and consumers in sustainable practices, foster innovation for fisheries and aquaculture, and recognize the importance of aquatic foods in policies and programmes aimed at increasing the availability and access to high-quality nutritious food, and eradicating hunger and malnutrition among vulnerable groups such as women, children, Indigenous Peoples and the elderly.

¹⁴ FAO, IFAD, PAHO, UNICEF and WFP. 2023. *Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition – Latin America and the Caribbean 2022: Towards improving affordability of healthy diets*. Santiago.

In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc3859en>

¹⁵ FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture - FishStatJ - Software for Fishery and Aquaculture Statistical Time Series. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division [online]. Rome. [Cited 9 February 2024].

In: <https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/topic/166235?lang=en>

¹⁶ FAO. 2024. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture - FishStatJ - Software for Fishery and Aquaculture Statistical Time Series. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division [online]. Rome. [Cited 9 February 2024].

In: <https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/topic/166235?lang=en>

¹⁷ FAO. 2024. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture - FishStatJ - Software for Fishery and Aquaculture Statistical Time Series. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Division [online]. Rome. [Cited 9 February 2024].

In: <https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/topic/166235?lang=en>

¹⁸ FAO. 2023. *The Progressive Management Pathway for Aquaculture Biosecurity – Guidelines for application*. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper No. 689. Rome. In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc6858en>

¹⁹ Baigún, C.R.M. y Valbo-Jørgensen, J. (dirs.). 2023. *La situación y tendencia de las pesquerías continentales de América Latina y el Caribe*. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Papers N.º 677. Roma, FAO.

In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc3839es>

V. A BETTER ENVIRONMENT TO PROTECT, RESTORE AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE USE OF TERRESTRIAL AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS AND COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE

21. LAC boasts diverse marine and coastal ecosystems, extensive hydrographic basins, a wide diversity of natural resources and diverse climates that offer ideal conditions for various aquatic species. If developed responsibly and sustainably, these assets have the potential to guarantee self-sufficiency in aquatic food production. Well-planned and managed sustainable aquaculture can play a significant role in realizing this vision, provided it adheres to sustainable principles and practices, as it offers a viable way to produce animal protein with low carbon footprint.
22. The FAO Guidelines for Sustainable Aquaculture provide practical guidance on sustainable aquaculture development, emphasizing the reduction of environmental risks.
23. For marine fisheries, other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) represent spatially defined management and conservation strategies distinct from protected areas. These measures may not only achieve intended fishery outcomes but also generate positive and longer-term biodiversity outcomes.²⁰ The Commission for Small-Scale and Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture for Latin America and the Caribbean (COPPEAALC) organized a technical workshop on identification, assessment and reporting on OECMs in March 2023, but further capacity in the region is required.
24. Fisheries and aquaculture transformation in the region requires measures and policies that focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation. A review of the situation of climate change adaptation policies and plans in aquaculture in LAC was prepared (*forthcoming*). Additionally, FAO produced the second edition of the online course on Fisheries Management with an Ecosystem Approach,²¹ and provided technical assistance to help countries prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing.
25. Recommended initiatives to transform fisheries and aquaculture involve approaches that integrate the management of land, water, and living resources for conservation and sustainable use. These include developing guidance on climate change mitigation and adaptation; ecosystem restoration, researching non-conventional feed ingredients for aquaculture; promoting seaweed aquaculture to contribute to global food production through low environmental impact farming practices; promoting best practices for aquaculture management; enhancing technical innovations in fishing operations to reduce ecosystem impacts; reducing the impact of marine litter for example through the GloLitter Partnerships;²² promoting circular economy; the development of a Voluntary Code of Conduct on the sustainable use of plastics in agriculture (including all agricultural subsectors: crop and livestock production, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture); and improving value chains.

VI. A BETTER LIFE TO PROMOTE INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH BY REDUCING INEQUALITIES

26. In 2021, 2.4 million people were engaged in fisheries and aquaculture, including part-time and occasional workers. Among them, nearly 1.6 million were small-scale artisanal fishers and fish farmers.²³ Notably, small-scale fisheries provide up to 85 percent of the aquatic animals consumed in

²⁰ CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity). 2018. Decision Adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity 14/8. Protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures. In: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-08-en.pdf>

²¹ Ordenamiento pesquero con enfoque ecosistémico (2da edición). In: <https://capacitacion.fao.org/> [Cited 9 February 2024].

²² IMO (International Maritime Organization). 2023. *Proyecto de asociaciones GloLitter*. London. In: <https://www.imo.org/es/OurWork/PartnershipsProjects/Pages/GloLitter-Partnerships-Project-.aspx> [Cited 9 February 2024].

²³ FAO, Duke University & WorldFish. 2023. *Illuminating Hidden Harvests – The contributions of small-scale fisheries to sustainable development*. Rome. In: <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc4576en>

some countries. For many riparian communities, especially Indigenous ones, fish is the primary source of animal protein.

27. FAO's Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication (SSF Guidelines) is one of the guiding instruments that can support the rights of women and men in the fisheries and aquaculture sector. With FAO support, elements of the SSF Guidelines are gradually being incorporated in national legislation by countries. A regional forum identified strategies to include small-scale fishers and fish farmers in national social protection systems and strengthen aquaculture extension programmes. During the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYafa 2022), various activities promoted inclusive economic growth and reduction of inequalities in the region,²⁴ in line with FAO's *four betters*. Furthermore, the Mesoamerican Network of Small-scale Aquaculture Farmers (REMAPE), which aims to foster collaboration and sharing of knowledge and experiences to promote the inclusive development of the sector, was launched.

28. Enhancing aquatic food production, processing, trade and consumption also carries significant social implications including promoting resilient and self-sustaining communities that depend on fisheries and aquaculture, reducing vulnerability to economic downturns and fostering social cohesion. Additionally, it contributes to social inclusivity by offering employment and economic opportunities, particularly for marginalized populations and women in rural areas, promoting gender equality and reducing the risk of social exclusion. Moreover, it plays a crucial role in cultural preservation by safeguarding traditions associated with fishing and seafood consumption, thereby maintaining cultural diversity and heritage, and creating a sense of pride and continuity among communities.

29. To boost productivity and competitiveness of fisheries and aquaculture, the region must establish locally produced seed and feed supply for fish farmers, increase investment in the aquaculture sector, and diversify the species being consumed. Other approaches include generating opportunities for seaweed, molluscs and crab farming, particularly to support livelihoods in low-income coastal communities; support the implementation of the SSF Guidelines; promote IYafa 2022 recommendations to empower small-scale artisanal fisheries and aquaculture; enhance the involvement and access of fishers, fish farmers and fish workers, including women and youth, to resources, finance and services, through decent work and social protection; and provide capacity building and specific training development to improve participation in decision-making, and enhance resource management.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

30. Addressing the future of aquatic food systems requires a holistic approach that takes into consideration multiple factors, including climate change, biodiversity conservation, value chain efficiency, social inclusion and gender equity, nutrition and human well-being. Land-based food systems alone cannot meet the growing demand for food and nutrition. Therefore, aquatic food systems are essential to bridge this gap. Enhancing the production, processing, trade and consumption of aquatic foods is a crucial part of a broader agrifood systems transformation; a reform that would make them more sustainable, efficient, resilient and inclusive. FAO's vision for this advancement is encapsulated in the Blue Transformation roadmap.

31. While this document outlines common needs and priorities for countries in LAC, it is essential to recognize that specific solutions should be tailored to each country or subregion. Leveraging the Blue Transformation roadmap, FAO can support key actions with a focus on the *four betters*:

Better production

- (a) Strengthen the inclusion of small-scale artisanal fisheries and aquaculture in national development agendas to stimulate the required attention and support, based on

²⁴ FAO. 2023. *Regional closing event of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture in Latin America*. FAO Aquaculture News. June 2023, No. 67. Rome. pp. 19-21.
In: <https://www.fao.org/3/cc6639en/cc6639en.pdf>

sector-specific needs and constraints, to ensuring their sustainable contribution to aquatic food production.

- (b) Improve data for decision making on marine and inland fisheries and aquaculture, including stock assessments, fisheries economics, production, climate change impacts and projections, livelihoods, nutritional contributions, and governance.
- (c) Continue strengthening adaptive fisheries management at national and regional levels, including improving legislation and policies, cooperation, information exchange monitoring, control and surveillance, and the capacity to combat IUU fishing.
- (d) Advance disease prevention and control, addressing zoonotic diseases and AMR, ensuring food safety, aquatic animal health and adherence to international standards on sanitary and phytosanitary measures in aquaculture.

Better nutrition

- (a) Promote the role of aquatic foods in alleviating hunger and malnutrition through national development policies, that prioritize fisheries and aquaculture and allocate budgets commensurate to the challenges the sector faces.
- (b) Develop public health and nutrition policies to enhance the contribution of aquatic foods in healthy diets.
- (c) Improve aquatic food distribution and availability ensuring they reach those who need them most, across diverse communities and individual needs.
- (d) Transform and upgrade fish value chains to reduce loss and waste; increase and share benefits equitably; promote professional associations and facilitate interactions with other networks; and increase access to markets and information.

Better environment

- (a) Support the sustainable use, conservation and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems, and reduce the impact of climate change, pollutants and other stressors of anthropogenic origin.
- (b) Support the implementation of integrated and coordinated multisectoral, evidence and ecosystem-based management approaches, as well as temporal and spatial planning.
- (c) Enhance public access to information and integrate adaptive fishery management with OECMs and biodiversity conservation initiatives.

Better life

- (a) Strengthen the central role of women in fisheries and aquaculture by supporting their access to resources, training, financial services and social protection.
- (b) Strengthen small-scale fisheries policies, institutions and organizations, including the support to the development of National Plans of Action to implement the SSF Guidelines, and promote social dialogue with fishers during decision-making processes.
- (c) Promote decent work and social protection systems to support small-scale fishers and fish farmers.