



Blue Food Partnership Ghana Initiative

CONCEPT NOTE
SEPTEMBER 2023

Context

Blue food – food from aquatic sources – is a fundamental part of the food system, food security and nutrition.¹ Blue food provides over 3 billion people with nearly [20% of their animal protein](#). It is also a main source of other essential nutrients for many vulnerable communities.

The economic role that blue food plays is crucial not only as a critical food source, but in providing livelihoods. Approximately [120 million full-time and part-time workers](#) directly depend on commercial capture fisheries value chains.

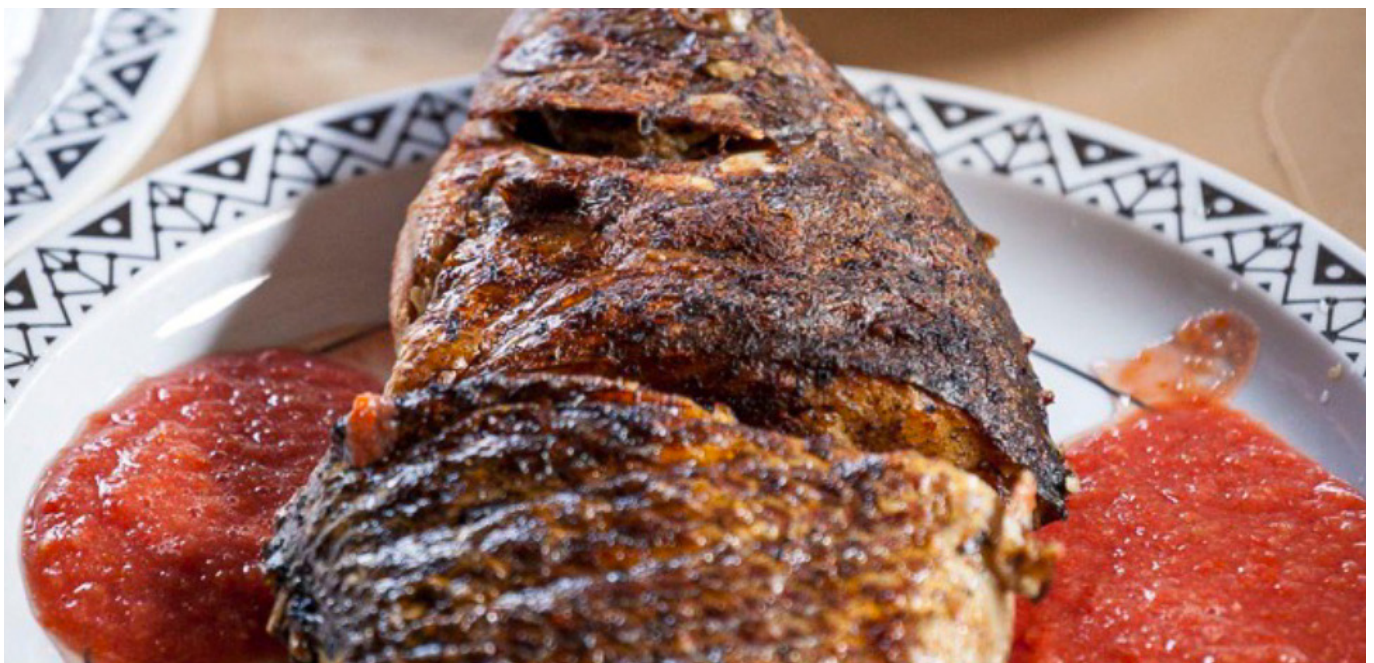
Combined with aquaculture workers and their dependents, it is estimated that [10-12%](#) of the world's population rely on fish for their livelihoods. With a growing world population, blue food faces increased demand and the challenges that go with realizing that increase.

Sustainable aquaculture has significant potential to meet food security in a nutritious way, fight climate change and support biodiversity.

According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, aquaculture is currently driving the growth in global fish production with an estimated increase of 33% between 2020 and 2030, from 87.5 to 106 million in metric tonnes. It is the fastest-growing food sector in the world.

In sub-Saharan Africa, aquaculture production has grown by 11% annually on average since 2000, which is twice as fast as the rest of the world. In the region, Ghana is the fourth-largest aquaculture producer with great potential for growth.

The Ghana National Aquaculture Development Plan aims to achieve a 136% growth in aquaculture production by 2027 and a 10% increase in market share for commercially farmed fish with significant improvements in environmental and aquatic animal health standards.



¹ Ocean Panel definition: All edible aquatic organisms, including fish, shellfish and algae from marine and freshwater production systems (aquaculture and fisheries).

Concept

The [Blue Food Partnership](#) (BFP) is led by [Friends of Ocean Action](#),² a platform of the World Economic Forum. It brings together the private sector, civil society, scientists and governments.

The partnership aims to catalyse science-based action towards healthy and sustainable blue food value chains by identifying and scaling pre-competitive initiatives on priority blue food topics with a current focus on aquaculture.

Since 2021, it has produced the [Global Sustainable Aquaculture Roadmap](#) (GSAR) to help guide the sustainable growth of aquaculture through four transformative pathways: responsible production, better livelihoods, healthy consumption, and an enabling environment.

At the country level, the recommendations of the GSAR are being put into action through the BFP Ghana Initiative. Its goal is to encourage the sustainable growth of aquaculture in Ghana with an industry focus.

The initiative aims to impact companies in aquaculture to be more sustainable in their strategies, operations and value chains, which may then attract further resources and partnerships.

The initiative's objectives are to:

- Establish the BFP Ghana Action Alliance, which is a collaborative multistakeholder platform that will deliver on action.

- Co-create the BFP Ghana Action Plan as the focus of the alliance to develop solutions that are appropriate to the country with guidance from the GSAR.
- Facilitate task forces as part of the alliance that will implement the solutions of the Action Plan.

To facilitate the BFP Ghana Initiative, the World Economic Forum's Ocean Team formally works with experts at the [Chamber of Aquaculture Ghana](#) and [FUTUREFISH](#) in delivering impact.

Engagement

The BFP Ghana Initiative convenes a range of stakeholders as members of the alliance with a specific focus on industry actors along the aquaculture value chain.

Members benefit from this innovative work by putting them at the forefront of sustainability in aquaculture through co-leadership, knowledge sharing, enhancing brand value and trust, amplifying the responsible work being done in one's company/organization, and expanding connections to the networks of the World Economic Forum and its partners.

[Join us!](#)

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² A high level group of over 70 ocean leaders who are fast-tracking solutions to the most pressing challenges facing the ocean. Its members – the Friends – come from business, civil society, international organizations, science and technology. <https://www.weforum.org/friends-of-ocean-action>.