

#3

Newsletter
April 2015

monaco

BLUE INITIATIVE



01 . Edito

02 . Feeding and
fueling the world
through sustainable
aquaculture?

Roy Palmer

04 . Local communities
implication in MPAs

Sandra Bessudo

06 . General information

Edito

The Monaco Blue Initiative is an annual meeting between marine experts under the presidency of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco. It is co-organized by the Oceanographic Institute, Foundation Albert I, Prince of Monaco and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation.

Stay in touch with our secretariat:
secretariat@monacoblueinitiative.org

www.monacoblueinitiative.org

Its members discuss the most current global challenges for ocean protection and preservation.

It is an effective platform for communication and exchange between the different sectors of activity and stakeholders concerned with the sustainable utilization of the ocean and its resources.

The aim is to create synergies between the protection of marine ecosystems and socioeconomic development.

Seafood is now a source of food and income for one quarter of the world population. Today fisheries catch remains stable but the production of aquaculture continues to rise. World production of seafood from aquaculture has more than doubled in 12 years, from 32 to 67 million tons in 2012.

Beyond the sole production of seafood, the development of marine plant production between 2000 and 2012 has also been notable, in particular in Asia.

Whilst the ocean is becoming an area for large-scale cultivation, it is crucial to consider the implications of this new situation in terms of environmental protection, regulation and collaboration.

Indeed, these new challenges once again highlight the importance of involving scientists, industrialists, NGOs, etc., to the establishment of a sustainable production system and make the best rather than the most of these new resources.

The last edition of the Monaco Blue Initiative in Chile questioned the status and feedback from aquaculture in America, towards a sustainable approach to its development. The 2015 edition will pursue these discussions with experts and decision-makers worldwide on the theme: Feeding and fueling the world through sustainable aquaculture?

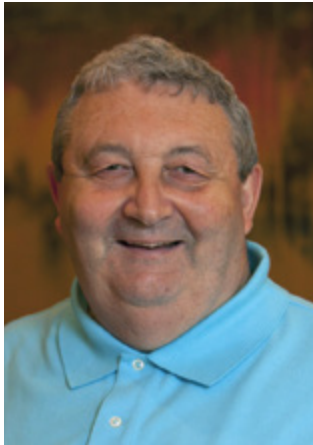


Robert Calcagno
CEO Oceanographic
Institute, Foundation
Albert I, Prince of
Monaco



Bernard Fautrier
Vice-President
and CEO - Prince
Albert II of Monaco
Foundation

Feeding and fueling the world through sustainable aquaculture?



Ever wonder why our planet is called Earth? It is after all 72% ocean and water is one of the most valuable and finite resources that we have. Would it have been wiser to call our planet, Ocean? Would we have built our food systems around the oceans as against the land if we had done that?

Maybe we would have adopted the aquatic ape theory - a proposition that the evolutionary ancestors of modern humans spent a period of time adapting to a semiaquatic existence. The hypothesis was first proposed in 1942 by German pathologist Max Westenhöfer. This was built on in 1960, independently by English marine biologist Alister Hardy, and later by Welsh writer Elaine Morgan who wrote a series of books on the topic. It is a theory backed by a number of high profile people like Sir David Attenborough.

Choose what you believe but archaeologists have regularly discovered shell middens in coastal zones all over the world dating back thousands of years. Consisting mostly of mollusc shells, they are interpreted as being part of the aquatic ape hypothesis highlighting the waste products of meals eaten by nomadic groups or hunting parties as they moved around the coasts.

The history of aquaculture often cites S. Y. Lin, a noted Chinese aquaculturist, that the earliest beginnings of aquaculture as during the period 2000-1000 B.C. This indicated that aquaculture has a long history dating as far as 4000 years ago. There is now also much evidence that the Australian Aborigines some 6-10,000 years ago were creating aquaculture with their husbandry of eels. And yet in today's world aquaculture is seen as the 'new' agrifood industry!

If we now switch to look at the issues relating to food and fuel into the future, we have to understand that we are going to more than double global food output by 2060 and yet we will need to do this with:

- half the present fresh water
- far less land
- no fossil fuels (eventually)
- scarce and costly fertilisers
- less education, research & technology e.g. innovation
- inadequate investment in AgriFood
- increased chronic disease & mental issues
- growing climate instability

We must never forget that the major building block of the brain, the omega-3 fatty acid docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) is critical for optimal brain health and function at all ages of life. Researchers have found that DHA provides brain-boosting benefits in infants and aging adults.

Recognizing DHA's crucial role in neurological and visual development, adults seeking to stave off chronic diseases, psychiatric and neurological ailments such as depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and even Alzheimer's disease are now paying careful attention to their DHA intake. But that is only part of the incredible story that sees seafood as being an essential in today's human diet. Recent evidence has highlighted that popping fish oil capsules is not the answer and eating the whole fish provides a wealth of nutrition giving you selenium, iron, zinc, iodine and EPA and DHA and a range of vitamins and micro-nutrients to more than cover your daily needs.

Our seafood harvests from wild catch are now limited and it is very unlikely to increase in tonnages too far above the current status so the future is all about how we can sustainably grow aquaculture ensuring that we do not damage the environment; that we do so caring for the animals we are growing; that we do this in an economical manner to ensure that we are providing value for all in the chain and that we are focused on monitoring, reporting and enforcement whilst maintaining the habitat conservation and shared stewardship of the resource.

The subject of feed always comes up as the most important element of cost in aquaculture and we need to understand where we are at and where we are going. Of course, feed is the food for humans and the animals creating our fuels of life. With enormous time, effort and money going in to research of algae for not only feed but also for fuel, it is now very possible that we could see the whole model as we know it change forever.

To make inroads into these immense challenges we need a level playing field for both developing and developed countries. In an ideal world we would have some consistent rules to ensure we have a level playing field but alas we are far from that. Developed countries rely on developing countries resources for much of the world's food but then impose developed country standards - is this fair and reasonable? Maybe we will sort this out in the ensuing years when Asia becomes the centre of the world and has over 60% of the world's middle classes - let us hope they are kinder to us than we have been to them.

Roy Palmer

Association of International Seafood Professionals (AISP) & Aquaculture without Frontier (AwF)



Local communities implication in MPAs

In developing countries, MPAs must fulfill an essential role in the fight against poverty and inclusion of local communities that derive their livelihoods from coastal marine resources.

An integrated management of marine protected areas should aim not only to ensure the conservation of marine biodiversity but also to improve the living conditions of local communities living within or in the area of influence of such zones

Artisanal fishing and nature tourism are two essential activities in a healthy relationship of win - win between environmental authorities and local communities.

The protection of fishing stocks should include increasing environmental authorities' alliances with associations of fishermen for the conservation of protected marine and coastal areas as well as their buffer zones. Do not forget that fishing is the marine resource most linked to overcoming poverty and the largest contributor to food security in coastal areas.

On the other hand, tourism activities such as responsible whale watching and diving symbolize the must be of a rational and sustainable management of marine landscapes. They point to the dual goals of preserving emblematic marine species and income generation, benefiting local communities in many countries like Colombia.

In Colombia, the national subsystem of Marine Protected Areas is in the process of strengthening, in terms of extension, ecological representativeness and effectiveness in handling. With this purpose, we are clear that local communities are main actors who are actively involved in different ways, including co-management schemes.

Examples of active involvement of local communities in conservation and sustainability can be seen in marine protected areas as Uramba - Bahía Málaga, Utría in the Colombian Pacific, or Tayrona, Old Providence or the newly created Portete Bay, in the Caribbean.

Uramba - Bahía Málaga Park has a very close location to the largest Colombian port in one of the regions with the highest poverty level. For this reason, the coordinated work between National Parks of Colombia, as environmental authority, and the five community councils (La Plata - Bahía Málaga, Ladrilleros, Juanchaco, La Barra and Puerto Spain - Miramar) is very important for the region.

In addition, the «Collective Community and Institutional Conservation of Natural and Cultural Values Bahía Málaga» was created by some key social and institutional actors in the region, including stakeholders from the collective territories of black communities and Embera indigenous reservations.

Likewise, valuable experiences can be identified in various countries of Latin America, Africa and Asia. We need to strengthen and expand these experiences and canalize cooperative efforts towards them.

Hopefully in the next 15 years, as part of development agenda post 2015, local communities inhabiting the coasts are at the center of the work that governments and private actors made on the basis of Sustainable Development Goals and national policies relevant to marine and coastal areas.



Sandra Bessudo
General Director - Colombian Presidential Agency
for International Cooperation
President - Malpelo Foundation

Contact

www.monacoblueinitiative.org

Secretariat of the Monaco Blue Initiative
secretariat@monacoblueinitiative.org

Press contacts:

- Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation:
Isabelle Peters +377 98 98 44 44
- Oceanographic Institute:
Pauline Hérouan +377 93 15 36 39

Monaco Blue Initiative 2015 - 6th edition 25th & 26th June - Yacht Club - Monaco

monaco
BLUE INITIATIVE

Co-organized by



PRINCE ALBERT II
OF MONACO
FOUNDATION



Oceanographic
Institute
Foundation Albert I, Prince of Monaco

With the support of



"Feeding and fueling the world
through sustainable aquaculture?"

25th June 2015

18h00 - 21h Social evening - film projection and cocktail

26th June 2015

9h00 - 9h15 Opening speeches

9h15-11h00 Aquaculture to feed the world

11h15-12h45 New frontiers for aquaculture

14h00-15h30 The struggle between quantity and quality -
the path to sustainable aquaculture

16h00-17h30 MPAs and Blue Carbon - Leading towards
Ocean & Climate

17h30-18h00 Conclusions by the session moderators
Address by HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco

