Aide memoire

Session	Session 4 – Interlinkages between biodiversity and agriculture: Part II – Policies and institutions
Title of presentation	Food from the ocean. Sustainable use and biodiversity considerations in fisheries and aquaculture management
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Abstract

The UN 2030-agenda includes ocean issues and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14 urges us to strive to *Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development*. The importance of food from the ocean is sometimes overlooked although fish and seafood gives an important contribution to achieving food security (SDG 2). Target 14.1 stresses the need to reduce pollution and marine litter, and this is important for all life in the oceans and for food safety. The challenge for policy-makers and managers is to ensure that harvesting and increased food production can take place in a way that does not pose a threat to marine biodiversity. Norway invests heavily in research, mapping and monitoring in order to get the best possible input for decision-making. The goal for managers is not to avoid human footprints, but to minimize the negative impact on the environment. The development of more environmentally friendly technology and methods can contribute to this. The Aichi targets 6, 7 and 11 deals with sustainable practices for fisheries and aquaculture, as well as area-based management measures. Biodiversity considerations is an integrated part in Norwegian fisheries- and aquaculture management. The Marine Resources Act is based on key environmental principles such as an ecosystem approach and the precautionary principle. The Act shall also ensure sustainable and economically profitable management of wild living marine resources and promote employment and settlement in coastal communities. Fisheries- and aquaculture management must take into account the three pillars of sustainable development, and produce food in a manner that "meet the need of the present without thereby compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

Key considerations

- Sustainable fisheries management can stop the decline in global catches, the North East Arctic cod is one example of a stock that performs well after previous decline.
- Sometimes economic and social considerations lead to restrictions on a fishery, when a ban could be an alternative. Weighing these considerations is a difficult task.

Key discussion points and conclusions

- Increased food production can put pressure on the marine ecosystems. New technology and better utilization (reduce discards, post-harvest losses and waste) may help, but will this be sufficient? Will new forms of aquaculture solve current challenges or pose new?

Key question/s that you would pose at the roundtable discussions

- Knowing that we must expect an increased world population and increased demand for food, how shall we decide on acceptable environmental footprints?