

Aquaculture the big picture

*We formed this Coalition
to fix the chronic problem
of policy makers, budget
writers and
philanthropists forgetting
about the potential of
aquatic foods to be an
integral part of the
climate and nutrition
solution set*



**AQUATIC
BLUE FOOD
COALITION**

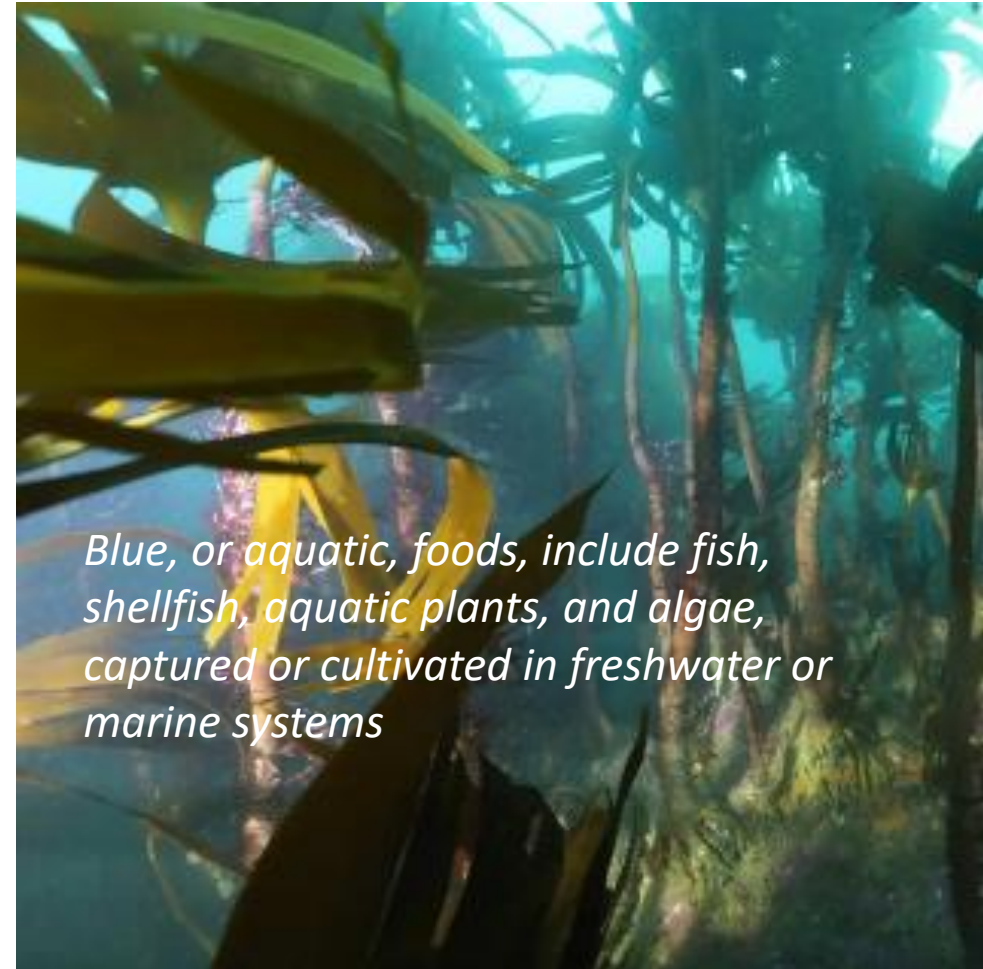


Stefán Jón Hafstein, Chair Aquatic Blue Food Coalition, Special Envoy for Ocean Affairs, Iceland



Advocacy is needed

- Sustainable Development Goal 14 - Life under water - is the least funded of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Aquatic blue food is:
- *underappreciated* in dialogues on nutrition,
- *undervalued* by funding agencies, governments and investors,
- *underrepresented* by decision takers and policymakers when it comes to the climate/biodiversity/food systems transformation process.



Blue, or aquatic, foods, include fish, shellfish, aquatic plants, and algae, captured or cultivated in freshwater or marine systems

The promise

OECD:

Total figure of Overseas Development Aid

- just about one percent goes to Ocean programs, and only a fraction to food production.

35% growth

- In recent years aquaculture has grown two times faster than the population of the planet.
- And there is room for more: *The Blue Transformation Strategy* of FAO estimates that 35% growth in aquaculture is possible until 2030.

While fisheries peaked in 1990s.

- Amount of blue food is from aquaculture and fisheries is about 180 million tonnes per annum and the volume from each sector almost equal, 90 million tonnes each.

The Food Systems Summit created:

- **Coalitions:** Maybe 12-15 still active
No duplication of efforts please, identify gaps. No funding role.
- **150 National convenors,** food czars, charged with making the food system transformation happen in-country. Uncertain mandate and authority.
- **UN (FAO) Coordination Hub**
Big task!

Forming an „ecosystem of support“ to integrate food systems transformation internally in countries and link with climate and biodiversity actions.



Food Systems Summit 2021

Your ambassador for aquatic and blue food

Multistakeholder Coalition

- The Coalition has brought together close to 40 members that have expressed their commitment to blue foods as a priority.
- Members, Countries, Intergovernmental organizations, Academic institutions
- NGOs/ Civil Society, Private sector and Industry.

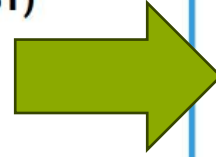


How does the Coalition work?

- The Coalition members are coordinating action with a consistent and action-oriented aquatic foods agenda and message.
- The Coalition is closely linked to the UN FSS Coordination HUB hosted at FAO and will engage with Convenors of the national pathways that came out of the UN FSS.
 - The Coalition has experts from many perspectives who can bring their skills and contacts to bear to help one another.

New linkage at COP 28

- UNFSS+2: Highlights the **interlinkages between food systems transformation (FST) and climate action.**
- Food systems contribute to:
 - Over **1/3** of greenhouse gas emissions.
 - **80%** of biodiversity loss.
 - **70%** of freshwater resources consumption.
- Extreme weather events due to climate change lead to **food insecurity and reduced water security.**
- Africa, Asia, LAC, LDCs, Small Islands, the Arctic, as well as Indigenous Peoples, small-scale food producers, and low-income households are **disproportionally affected by climate change.**

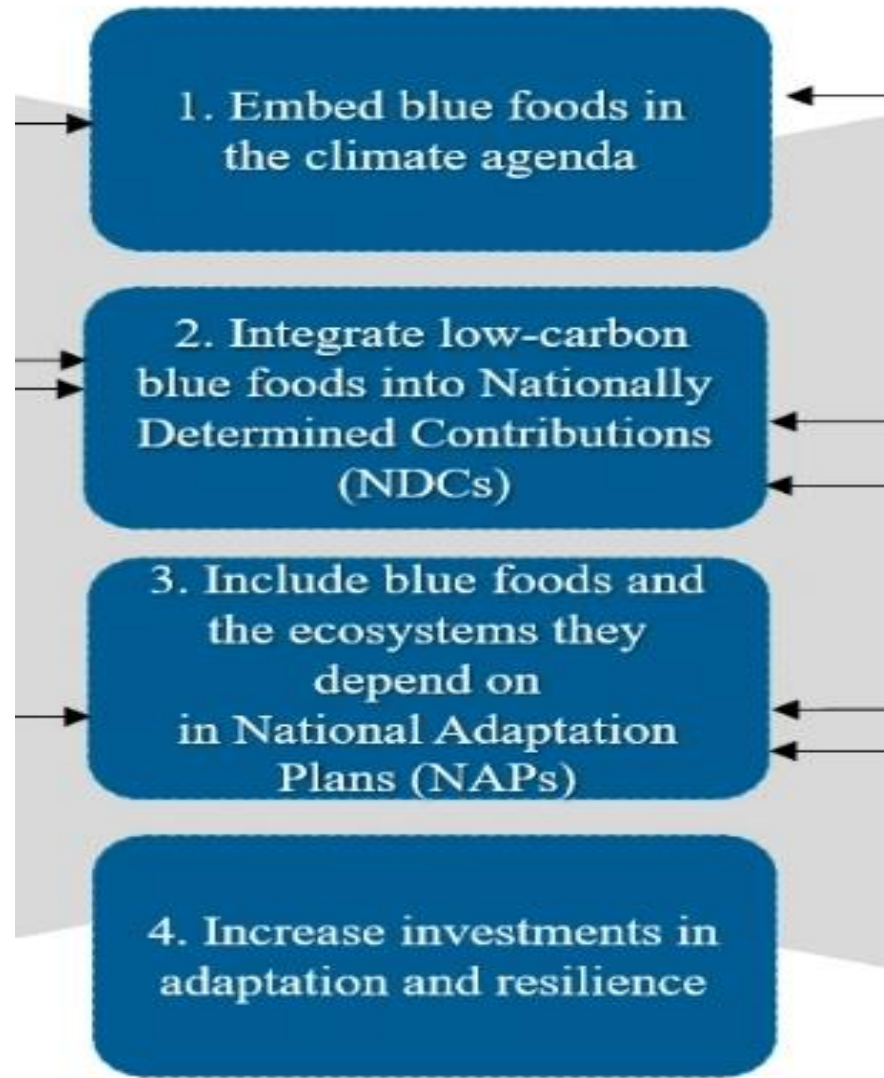


PRESS RELEASE - COP28 Presidency and UN Food Systems Coordination Hub Join Forces to Harness the Power of Food Systems Transformation for Climate Action

A new strategic partnership will elevate the role of food systems as one of the most impactful accelerators of the SDGs and a critical area for Climate Action.



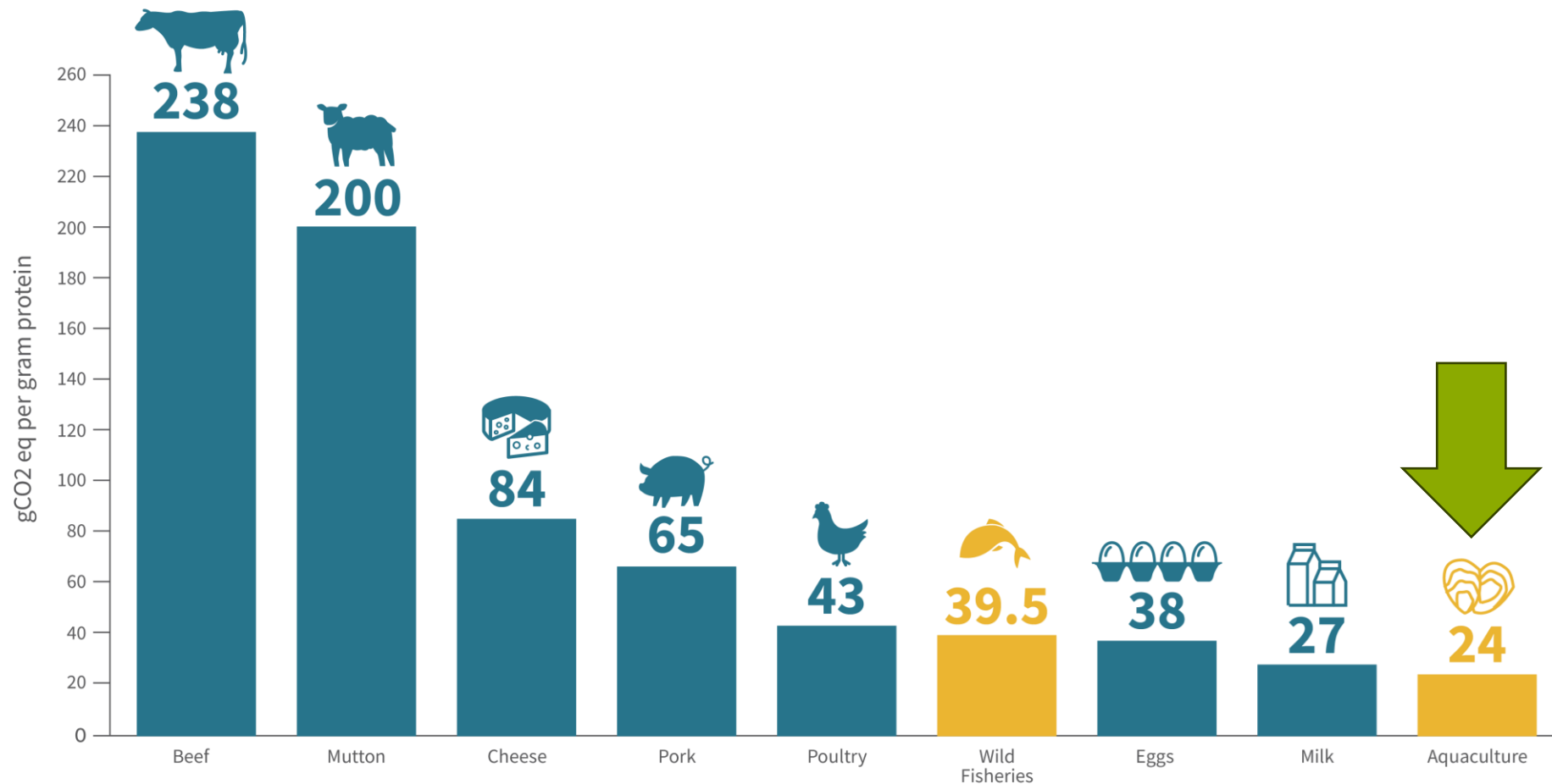
Opportunity for aquaculture



Example from Defra (UK)

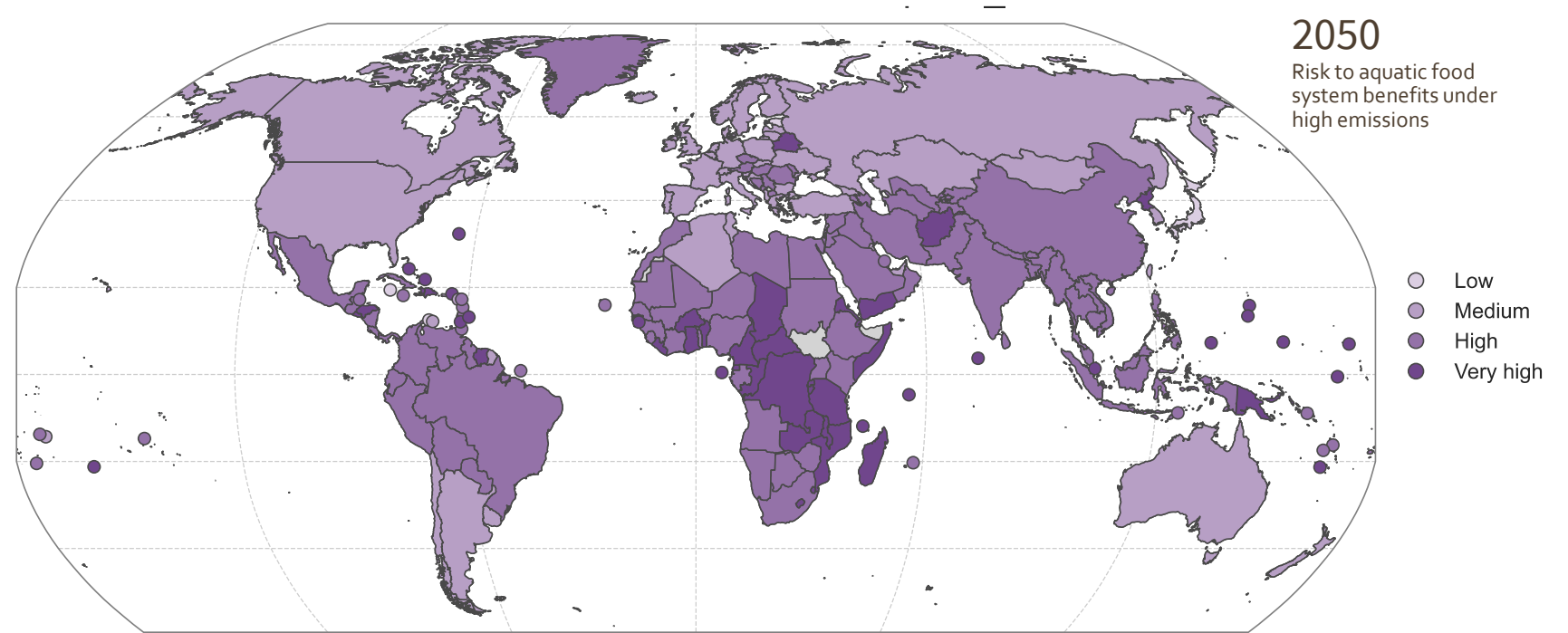
Aquatic foods have a lower carbon footprint than many other animal-based foods – key part of sustainable diets

CO₂e Emissions of Protein Sources



Source: Stanford, Blue Food Assessment

(Very) high levels of climate risk by 2050 across Africa, S/SE Asia, Indo-Pacific, SIDS

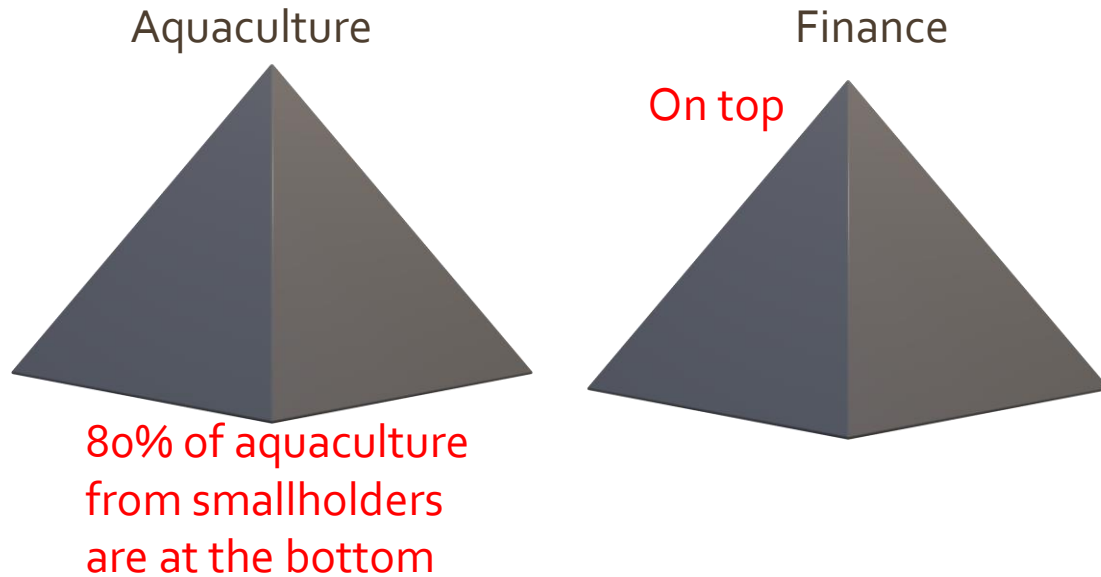


Tigchelaar *et al.*, 2021



Finance

The two pyramids



Climate financing example:

- In climate financing, agrifood systems received a tiny fraction (4.3%) of total global climate finance (average of USD 28.5 billion/year)...

...and less than 1% of that goes to fisheries & aquaculture

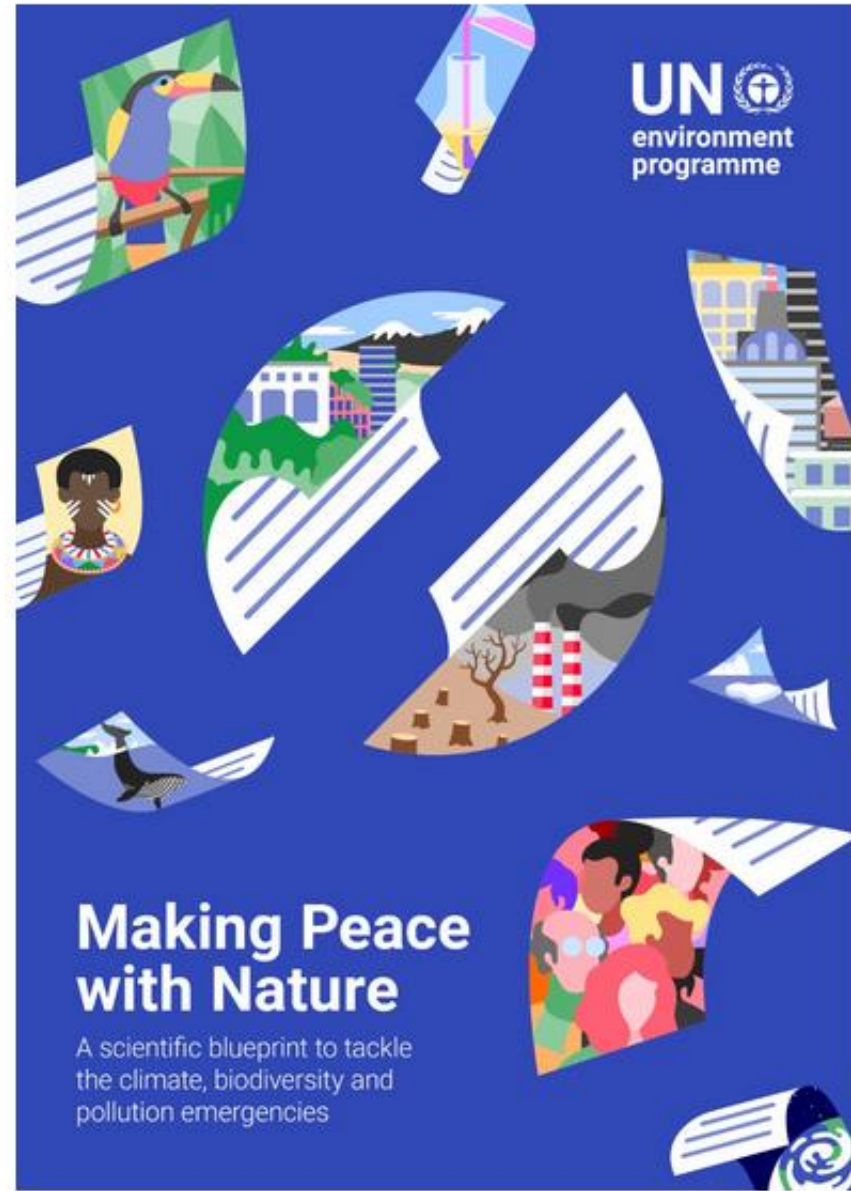
A defining task

ANTÓNIO GUTERRES

United Nations Secretary-General



“
Making peace
with **nature** is the
defining task of
the 21st century.”



The Economics of Biodiversity: The Dasgupta Review



Nature capital

Not so long ago It was natural to focus on the accumulation of **produced capital** (roads, machines, buildings, factories, and ports) and what we today call **human capital** (health and education).

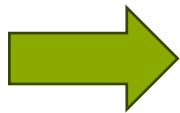
To introduce Nature, or **natural capital**, into economic models would have been to add unnecessary luggage to the exercise.

Natural capital is now an essential part of any serious economic exercise

Parameters for successful aquaculture:

New realities

- Economics of biodiversity
- Ecosystem approach
- True Cost Accounting of food

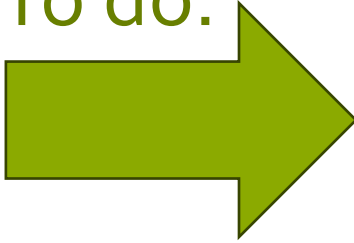


In the Climate context of promise and threat.

True Cost Accounting

- **Total value of food produced on the planet is around 10 trillion USD.**
- **Real cost, in environmental damage, health, and social conditions is twice as much: 20 trillion USD.**

To do:



Points taken from the Informal summary report by the co-facilitators of the Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue:

- *...linking national climate policies with blue food production.*
- *...adopt a systems/ecosystems-based approach that considers the whole life cycle value chain.*
- *...better recognize the role of aquatic food in the carbon cycle*
- *...Decarbonizing the entire value chain of aquatic food production, including fishing vessels and aquaculture practices...*

Season greetings!

