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WorldFish calls for aquatic food systems to be part of COP29 climate plans

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By Responsible Seafood Advocate

WorldFish to push for aquatic food systems in COP29 climate plans to boost global food security and resilience

On November 11 to 22, 2024, world leaders will convene in Baku, Azerbaijan, for the UN Climate Change Conference (COP29).

With global temperatures rising and a critical 1.5 degrees-C threshold in sight, countries are expected to finalize their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for 2025, outlining their pledges to combat climate change. Through its participation at COP29, WorldFish aims to highlight the role of aquatic food systems in addressing climate challenges and fostering sustainable, resilient food systems for all.

“People who rely on aquatic food systems for nutrition and livelihoods are among the most vulnerable in the world – and the hardest hit by climate change,” wrote the international research organization in a [call to action \(https://worldfishcenter.org/cop29\)](https://worldfishcenter.org/cop29). “Ensuring these communities receive adequate support is essential to building resilience and securing a sustainable future for all – equitably and inclusively.”



At COP29, WorldFish will push for aquatic food systems to be included in climate plans to boost global food security and resilience. Photo by [Quang Nguyen Vinh \(https://www.pexels.com/photo/man-casting-white-net-at-sea-2163110/\)](https://www.pexels.com/photo/man-casting-white-net-at-sea-2163110/).

As discussions unfold, WorldFish is calling for a pivotal shift in climate strategies – one that integrates fisheries and aquaculture into these NDCs. The move, the organization argues, is not just a matter of climate adaptation for vulnerable coastal communities, but also an opportunity for sustainable economic growth, food security and shared prosperity in regions hardest hit by climate change. As climate risks escalate, WorldFish says these systems require at least **\$4 billion annually** (https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/llab_Aquatic_Food_and_%20Protein_Transition_CN.pdf) by 2030 to build resilience and support long-term sustainability.

The advertisement features a dark blue background with white text and icons. On the left, there are two small images: one of a person in a yellow protective suit and mask handling seafood, and another of a fishing boat on the ocean. The main text reads: "A comprehensive solution for the wild seafood supply chain." To the right of this text are three checkmarks with corresponding labels: "Crew rights", "Food safety", and "Environmental responsibility". On the far right is the "Best Seafood Practices" logo, which consists of a stylized eye icon and the text "Best Seafood Practices". Below the logo is a "LEARN MORE" button with a right-pointing arrow.

(<https://bspcertification.org/>).

“Without this investment, we risk losing not only a critical source of nutritious food and jobs, but also a powerful solution to climate change,” wrote WorldFish.

How 'local solutions' to climate change may help food security and access to seafood



A new study finds climate change is making it harder to access seafood, but that tapping into local solutions may help enhance food security.



Global Seafood Alliance

At COP29, WorldFish will call for the inclusion of aquatic foods in national climate action plans to secure funding and resources for low-emission, food-secure systems. The organization also emphasizes the need to scale up locally led, climate-smart initiatives, such as aquaculture diversification and early warning systems, which help small-scale fishers and farmers protect stocks and build resilience. WorldFish will also advocate for South-South collaboration to share knowledge and accelerate climate adaptation.

“We will be highlighting the essential role of aquatic food systems in addressing climate challenges and bringing together partners to drive meaningful action toward building sustainable, resilient and nutrient-sensitive food systems that support both people and the planet for shared prosperity,” wrote WorldFish in its call to action.

[Read WorldFish's COP29 call to action here. \(https://worldfishcenter.org/cop29\)](https://worldfishcenter.org/cop29)

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