#### **Workshop Introduction** Sacred Waters: The future of human cultures and livelihoods in a sea of change **Cyr Couturier**

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#### Workshop Introduction - Sacred Waters Water IS the *essence* of life:

- It sustains <u>ALL</u> life forms on earth
- Is the medium for transporting carrying all nutrients required for life, for sustaining life functions (biological processes), for providing gases for life processes, for providing <u>ALL foods</u>



### Workshop Introduction - Sacred Waters Water IS the *essence* of life:

- Water is responsible for shaping our land and seas and for providing structure to physical bodies in living forms (humans, cells, plants, animals)
- Most organisms 80% + water
- Most organisms can not survive long without compared to food (e.g., humans 3 d vs 30 d)



- 80% of the world's 7 billion humans live within 100 km of a coast
- Aquatic food, whether hunted or farmed, is the single largest source of essential animal proteins for human development on the globe (19.2 kg/person/year,

**UNFAO 2014)** 

### 3. Fisheries Impacts of Climate Change \*\*Fish is the single largest source of animal protein consumed by human beings on earth\*\*

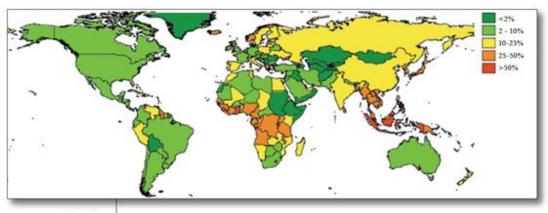


Figure 1.
National averages
of fish protein as a
percentage of total
animal protein

- More than 50% of our aquatic food now comes from farmed sources
- Farmed seafood supply exceeds beef as a food source since 2012
- Over 3 billion seafood meals are consumed daily on the planet, over 1 trillion annually for a planet of 7 billion inhabitants
- There will be a deficit of 40 billion kgs of seafood by 2030 to feed to the world aquaculture is critical to feeding developing nations in particular (food security, income, social integrity, and population health)(UNFAO)

- Over 90% of the "arable" land and "available" freshwater resources on the planet are utilized at present
- Quick fact: over 20 million aquaculture farmers, 95% of production by families, men and women
- Quick fact: salmon farming accounts for 1.8% of global aquaculture, occupies 0.000001% of our aquatic "space" and provided 14 billion meals in 2014
- Quick fact: aquaculture in total occupies less than 0.00001% of our aquatic environment, compared to 90% for arable land for agriculture, and 50%+ for fisheries

 Seafood production, farmed and wild, are the least environmentally costly methods of producing food

| <b>Aquacu</b> | lture vs | agricul | ture ( | (FAO) | H |
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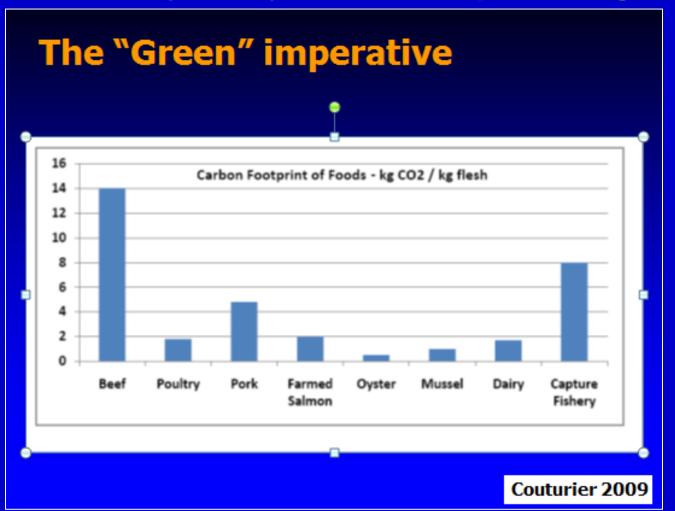
Agriculture:

- Requires > 90kg / ha fertilizer for continued production in developed areas
- Pesticide useage increasing
- Contribute green-house gases (methane, cattle)
- organic impoverishment
- inefficient energy conversion

**Aquaculture:** 

- No fertilizers; efficient converters of primary production
- very low to nil pesticides
- low organic loading (< 1 kg / m<sup>2)</sup>
   in most intensive, but renewable
   environmentally with Good Practices

 Seafood production, farmed and wild, are the least environmentally costly methods of producing food



 Workshop will focus on MI efforts in sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development around the world

 Only where the 3 pillars of sustainability intersect do we have true sustainability

