Global Dialogue on Seafood Traceability — Progress Update

Moderator: David Schorr (WWF)
Speakers: Tejas Bhatt (GFTC)
Kimberly Gorton (Slade Gorton)
Eric Buckner (Sysco)
Focus of this session:

- **Why is it important** to be able to trace seafood to safe and responsible sources?

- What are the **key challenges** to achieving this routinely, reliably, and affordably in a globalized market?

- What are some of the **solutions** being discussed?

- How will the “**Global Dialogue**” help?
Traceability – a priority becoming more urgent:

Necessary for . . .

• health & safety
  • supply chain security
    • brand risk reduction & consumer relations
      • sustainability

• and increasingly . . . for access to markets

WWF = connecting markets to sustainable supply + disconnecting from IUU & labor abuses
Two key challenges:

1. **Alignment of commercial systems**
   - traceability systems
   - basic fisheries control data

2. **Alignment of national regulations**
   - border measures (EU, US, . . . + ?)
   - catch documentation
   - national traceability laws
A Global Dialogue

- Mainly B2B !!
- Driven by industry and experts
- In dialogue with governments
- Towards a global framework to facilitate seafood traceability
- Aiming at alignment of:
  - data demands & quality standards
  - data communication systems
  - alignment of data access rules
  + advice to govts on regulations
Global Dialogue – Preparatory Phase

- 10 workshops in 20 months
- held on 3 continents
- 100s of participants
- from leading companies
Today’s session:

Tejas ➔
Overview of technical issues + update on GFTC “architecture” project

Kim & Eric ➔
Views from industry leaders on needs, challenges, & solutions
Towards a Global Framework for Interoperable Traceability

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Introduction to IFT

- For 75 years, the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT) has unlocked the potential of the food science community by creating a dynamic global forum where over 17,000 members from more than 100 countries can share, learn and grow.
Introduction to GFTC

Vision

To become the global resource and authoritative voice on food traceability.

Mission

A program to serve the agriculture and food sectors, by providing applied research, objective advice, and practical expertise about data collaboration and food product traceability for business benefit and public good.
GFTC Sponsors

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Partnership on the Global Dialogue

- **Traceability as a foundation**
  - Advancing the science of food traceability
  - Applications like food safety, sustainability, IUU

- **Common goals**
  - Helping the industry simplify and improve capabilities
  - Pragmatic value driven solutions to solve complexity

- **Participants not owners**
  - To serve as catalysts
  - To be an equal stakeholder in the dialogue
Global Dialogue: Key Issues

What do we need to know?

What is the role of policymakers?

How do we talk about it?

How do we verify it?

Who gets access?
Global Dialogue:
Key Questions on Data Needs

- To identify a basic set of consistently defined “key fisheries control data elements” (KfcDEs) to be routinely collected and associated with wild-caught seafood products

- To define/identify authoritative sources of data for these KfcDEs

- To identify best practices in both the public and private sectors for the verification of information contained in KfcDEs

- To promote strong and coherent (aligned) industry demand for best practice public and private sector mechanisms to ensure the reliability and verification of information contained in KfcDEs
GFTC Architecture Project: Key Progress on Data Needs

- Data
  - Critical Tracking Events (CTEs)
  - Key Data Elements (KDEs)

- Definitions of data
  - Ontologies
  - Taxonomies

- Sources of data
  - Supply chain
  - Regulatory
  - NGO

- Best practices in data
  - Learn from others
  - Meet future needs
Global Dialogue:
Key Questions on Data Governance

- To achieve global agreement on a basic IT architecture for seafood traceability

- To standardize meaning and semantics for “critical tracking events” (CTEs) and KDEs (including KfcDEs)

- To standardize data formats, security and communications protocols/mechanisms for handling KfcDEs at all CTEs

- To achieve agreement on a set of routine B2B practices and a framework for legal relationships governing data sharing and data integrity within a global framework for seafood traceability

- B2G: To design a model approach to providing routine access B2G to full CoC information and KfcDEs by governmental import inspectors
GFTC Architecture Project: Key Progress on Data Governance

Data ownership retained by businesses
Global Dialogue: Anticipated Outputs

“Hard Outputs”

• A blueprint/framework for interoperable traceability
• Standards ready for industry use
• Agreed upon list of key data elements and their authoritative sources
• Guidelines and templates for establishing data access rights
Global Dialogue: Anticipated Outputs

- “Soft Outputs”
  - Recommendations on role of technology
  - Aspirational guidelines on long term industry collaboration
  - Best practices in data verification
  - Advice for regulatory harmonization
Thank You!

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http://www.globalfoodtraceability.org