

Press Release

27th, October, 2025

Sustainable Seafood Summit 2025 Concludes Its First Osaka Edition **Accelerating the Future of Sustainable Seafood Through Cross-Sector Collaboration**



Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd. and Nikkei ESG (published by Nikkei BP, Publisher: Tomohisa Takei) co-hosted The Sustainable Seafood Summit 2025 in Osaka (TSSS2025)—Asia’s largest conference for advancing sustainable fisheries—on October 1–2, 2025.

A total of 48 speakers took the stage, with approximately 463 participants attending over the two days. (Co-hosted by: The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, The Walton Family Foundation)

This year’s theme, “Navigating the Future of a Sustainable Seafood Industry Through Global Collaboration,” reflected the understanding that no single organization can shape the future of fisheries alone. The summit provided a platform for diverse stakeholders to share insights and explore new guiding principles—acting as a compass for achieving the 2030 goal “Make sustainable seafood the mainstream.”



Fisheries Agency Commissioner Hitoshi Fujita Presents “The Fisheries Resilience Plan”

In the opening keynote, Mr. Hitoshi Fujita, Commissioner of Japan’s Fisheries Agency, presented the Fisheries Resilience Plan—a comprehensive set of policy recommendations to ensure vibrant fisheries that continue to fulfill their social and economic roles for generations to come.

He introduced bold measures, including the review of existing regulations, the eradication of IUU (Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated) fishing, and related legal reforms. Fujita also emphasized collaboration with fishers to improve stock assessments through better use of data collected in the field.

While global demand for seafood continues to rise, IUU fishing remains a major threat to global food security. In a session on combating IUU fishing—joined by officials from Japan and South Korea—participants discussed Japan’s unique responsibility as a major importer of diverse seafood species. The dialogue highlighted the need not only to ensure imports are free from IUU links but also to strengthen joint electronic monitoring systems between exporting and importing nations.



Ahmed Mudzakir of FOSPI Speaks on Human Rights at Sea

IUU fishing is also a breeding ground for human rights violations. In a session focused on labor issues, Mr. Ahmed Mudzakir of Forum Silaturahmi Pelaut Indonesia (FOSPI) shared a harrowing account of an Indonesian crew member who died aboard a vessel after months of illness and isolation.

He stressed the importance of providing Wi-Fi access on fishing vessels to prevent such tragedies. “If we truly want to eliminate forced labor from the seafood supply chain, we must ensure that no fisher is isolated at sea. Every vessel should have Wi-Fi,” he urged, delivering a powerful message to seafood companies worldwide.



Mr. Yuki Tsuda, President of Fisherman Japan Marketing Co., Ltd.,

In the Session of "Future of Small-Scale Fisheries", Mr. Yuki Tsuda, President of Fisherman Japan Marketing Co., Ltd., emphasized that Southeast Asia and Japan—both nations with rich coastal fishing communities—must foster collaboration between fishers, researchers, technologists, and investors to build resilient local fisheries.

Discussions highlighted the importance of trust-based data sharing between fishers and researchers, and ideas for workshops that encourage fishers' active participation.

Examples of low-cost electronic monitoring (EM) and AI tools were also introduced as accessible digital transformation (DX) solutions for small-scale fisheries, offering practical insights for communities facing aging and depopulation challenges.

Across all sessions, a recurring theme emerged: collaboration.

Speakers repeatedly emphasized that ensuring the sustainability of our shared ocean requires cooperation across borders, sectors, and disciplines.



Maruha Nichiro's Yusuke Sato, General Manager of the Sustainability Strategy Department, emphasized the importance of non-competitive collaboration among companies.

This year, the TSSS became a stage for unveiling numerous new partnerships, further accelerating cross-sector collaboration.

Launch of Japan's First "Responsible Seafood Procurement Roundtable"

A major announcement at TSSS2025 was the establishment of the Responsible Seafood Procurement Roundtable, Japan's first cross-industry platform for seafood companies.

As demand grows for responsible sourcing, individual companies face challenges they cannot tackle alone. This new initiative brings together Japan's leading seafood distributors to collaborate toward shared solutions.

Details: <https://prtimes.jp/main/html/rd/p/000000067.000067392.html>

Japan Sustainable Seafood Award 2025

On September 30, the 6th Japan Sustainable Seafood Award (JSSA2025) ceremony was held at the Blue Ocean Dome (ZERI JAPAN) at the Expo 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan..

Out of seven finalists, two projects received Champion Awards and one received a Special Recognition Award.

Leadership Category: The “Shakotan Method” Seaweed Bed Regeneration and Blue Carbon Project

Collaboration Category: Suisan Mirai Summit: Fisheries Frontline Workers Shaping the Future of Japan’s Oceans

Special Award: Indonesia Shrimp Aquaculture Improvement Project (AIP) Phase III

Details: <https://prtmes.jp/main/html/rd/p/000000063.000067392.html>

Leadership Category



Chefs for the Blue: Passing Down Our Seafood Resources and Culinary Culture

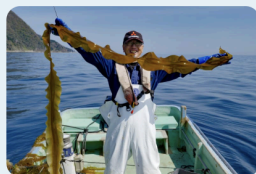


Paving the Way for Sustainable Aquaculture: Japan’s First ASC-Certified Feed Producer



The Shakotan Method: A Positive Cycle of Restoring Sea Urchin Populations and Blue Carbon Cycles by Restoring Resource-circulating Kelp Beds

Collaboration Category



Exploring New Possibilities of Seaweed: A Project Initiated from Sado Island



Suisan Mirai Summit: Fisheries Frontline Workers Shaping the Future of Japan’s Oceans



Indonesia Shrimp Aquaculture Improvement Project (AIP) – Phase III



Yamakawa “Mother Sea” – Ibusuki Blue Carbon

As the flagship platform bringing together diverse stakeholders to accelerate the mainstreaming of sustainable seafood by 2030, TSSS will continue to evolve and expand its impact.

We extend our deepest gratitude to all partners, speakers, and participants who contributed to the success of this year’s summit.

The next Sustainable Seafood Summit 2026 will be held in Tokyo from October 21–23, 2026.

We look forward to seeing you again next year!



Event Overview

- Date: October 1st (Wed) - 2nd (Thu), 2025
- Venue: Grand Cube Osaka (Osaka International Convention Center) Conference Hall
- In-person all days.
- Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English and Japanese.

<https://sustainableseafoodnow.com/2025/en/>

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■ About Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd.

Seafood Legacy is a social enterprise that provides sustainable and responsible seafood consulting and platforming with the aim of passing on an abundance of seafood, a symbol of the connections between marine ecosystems, economy, and society, to the next generation (legacy). As a pioneer of seafood sustainability in Japan, we accelerate the sustainable seafood movement to Asia and the world, with national and international companies, financial organizations, NGOs, and governments, by harnessing our global network and foremost expertise in Japan.

Official Website: <https://seafoodlegacy.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/seafoodlegacy>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/13721028/admin/dashboard/>

■About Nikkei ESG: Nikkei ESG is a premier Japanese monthly magazine that is published by Nikkei Business Publications, Inc and features original articles regarding corporate ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) initiatives and institutional investor trends. Nikkei ESG also runs annual membership forum Nikkei ESG Management Forum and has monthly on-site study programs with respect to domestic and global ESG policies, investor trends, latest corporate strategies as well as new business or corporate governance which aims to achieve SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals).

Contacts: Seafood Legacy Co., Ltd.

Yukino Tomizuka: yukino.tomizuka@seafoodlegacy.com

Mariko Arikawa: mariko.arikawa@seafoodlegacy.com