

## Greenhouse gas emissions – industry meeting

Megaro Hotel, London, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013

**Attendees:** Maria Varbeva-Daley (BSI); Jonna Fry (ERM); Chris Leftwich (Fishmongers Company/Billingsgate market); Huw Thomas (Morrisons); Alex Olsen (Espersen); Angus Garrett (Seafish)

**Apologies:** David Anderson (Aberdeen Fish Producers Organisation); Lucy Blow (New England Seafoods); Chris Brown (ASDA); Dominic Collins (Coldwater); Matthew Couchman (Southbank Fresh Fish); William Davies (Icelandic UK); Ally Dingwall (Sainsbury's); Nigel Edwards (Seachill); Ian Gatt (Scottish Pelagic Fishermens Association); Tracey Heyworth (Birds-Eye/Iglo Group); Dan Lee (GAA); Andrew Nicholson (Lyons Seafoods); Ben Norbury (Cooperative Group).

### Main points of the discussion

#### 1. Broadening remit of the group

- It was agreed that the remit of the group should be extended to address issues of GHG emissions and energy more generally. This would support industry's concern for longer term issues (climate change) with near term imperatives (costs)
- Recap on what we're trying to achieve:
  - Management of reputation and risk (issue of misperception, e.g. food miles, and communicating relatively good performance in GHG emissions)
  - Identifying opportunities for improvement actions and cost reductions (dealing with supply chain hotspots).

#### 2. Progress on key issues and work threads in Collective Action to address GHG emissions in seafood

##### *Common Methods*

- A second FAO workshop "*Expert workshop on Strategies and practical options for GHG reduction in the fisheries and aquaculture sector*" was held in Bergen, March 2013.
- Conclusions included recognition of limited examples developed across sectors for GHG reduction and the need for documented experiences; the potential for mapping and baselines; and the potential value in developing practical guidelines.

##### *Common Standards*

- The BSI PAS2050-2 standard for assessing GHG emissions in seafood and other aquatic food products has been made available free of charge (<http://shop.bsigroup.com/en/Browse-By-Subject/Environmental-Management-and-Sustainability/PAS-2050/PAS-2050-2/>).

- The standard was published in December 2012, the standard has resulted in over 1,000 downloads across 82 countries worldwide. It is too early to comment on the level of uptake amongst the UK seafood industry.
- It is important to be able to demonstrate performance and improvements so although the focus of this is business-to-business we must put 'communication' on the agenda.

#### *Understanding GHG emissions in key seafood systems*

- See item 4

#### *Data sharing*

- See item 5

### 3. Where to invest in profiling GHG emissions in seafood

- Profiling seafood species by UK volume and value highlights key species of interest (Whitefish - cod; Pelagics - tuna, herring, mackerel; Salmon - Atlantic salmon; Shellfish – Nephrops).
- The review of LCA in seafood in the last ten years shows; inconsistent coverage of the life-cycle; considerable research in wild capture whitefish (in North Atlantic and in cod particularly) and in farmed salmon and trout. Findings may be dated, for example fuel related emissions in North Atlantic cod may be lower due to larger stock sizes in recent years.
- Characterise broad groupings (Whitefish; pelagic - large and small etc)
- Produce selected cases in each grouping, start with domestic cases (whitefish, small pelagic, shellfish, and salmon) before producing international cases. Liaise with big international producers in each grouping to co-ordinate efforts that may be occurring in parallel.
- Within domestic whitefish, there may be merit in looking at flatfish. If use a mixed fishery (North Sea and South West) then that will generate multiple case examples.
- Need short and focussed case studies covering energy, changes in practice, GHG emissions.

### 4. Developments in energy and engaging specific industry groups

- In general this GHG emissions work has been communicated to various groups (Aquaculture Common Issues Group, Common Language Group, Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers, and British Retail Consortium).
- There are immediate opportunities to engage with pelagic, whitefish, and shellfish groups in the domestic industry over the next six months.
- There are also opportunities to present and engage industry at international conferences later in the year e.g. World Seafood Congress.

- Related work is currently underway analysing energy trends and identifying opportunities, threats and forward prospects for the seafood industry.

#### 5. Industry collaboration to share data

- An online tool has been produced in prototype to profile GHG emissions based on the PAS2050-2 standard. After finalising the prototype, the weblink for this tool should be sent to the circulation list and comments invited.
- The online tool can be used to reduce the costs of producing spot estimates for GHG emissions in the supply chain. This leaves scope for analysis to consider a broader range of data and time series trends.
- Industry could be invited to use the tool to provide and share data confidentially.
- The standard, the online tool, and other initiatives (like fuel use data and the responsible fishing scheme) could be used to produce a series of seafood cases and baselines.

#### 6. Any other business

- The next 6 monthly meeting to be held in September/October 2013, to review progress and next steps.
- Following the meeting, a suggestion was made for a phone conference meeting mid-way between 6 monthly meetings for updates and engagement.