

Call for contribution
Fisheries and Food Systems: Cross-pollinations and Synthesis
A Special Issue of *Agriculture and Food Security*
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This special issue explores the importance of small-scale fisheries to food systems and food security at local, regional, and global levels. Fisheries, whether large or small, wild or farmed, commercial, artisanal, subsistence, or otherwise, contribute in multiple important ways to the lives and livelihoods of billions of people world-wide. According to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), fisheries, aquaculture, and related activities provide the primary livelihoods for ten to twelve percent of the world's population (Food and Agriculture Organization 2012). In addition, the products of these industries account for a significant portion of the global diet, providing about 3 billion people with almost 20 percent of their intake of animal protein, and 4.3 billion people with about 15 percent (ibid). Fisheries are also important to culture and well-being in numerous coastal communities worldwide (Coulthard *et al.* 2011; Loring and Harrison 2013; Ray-Gadamus 2013; Biedenweg *et al.* 2014). Further, both small-scale fisheries and aquaculture have been identified as key development venues for raising people out of poverty and food insecurity (Food and Agriculture Organization 2005; Hall *et al.* 2013; Olson *et al.* 2014; Troell *et al.* 2014).

Cross-pollination among fisheries and food systems/food security literatures has been limited, though recently, a handful of important publications have been released that share in an assumption that food security of fishing communities and the sustainability of fish populations and aquatic ecosystems are linked outcomes (Loring, Gerlach, and Harrison 2013; McClanahan, Allison, and Cinner 2013; Olson, Clay, and Pinto da Silva 2014). An important observation made by these authors is that fisheries, by and large, have been left out of the food systems discourse, and vice versa, and at the peril of developing more sustainable solutions. As Olson and colleagues (2014) assert, "until fish is seen as food, managers, consumers, and researchers will never truly understand fishermen or even begin to manage fish as a part of sustainable food systems."

This special issue will provide a survey of the current state of science on fisheries, food security and food systems, and bring forth perspectives on how to better link and integrate fisheries in food systems discourse. It seeks contributions that fall into multiple categories:

- Papers that are evocative of linkages and parallels among fisheries and agricultural systems, which, though often treated separately, display numerous parallels;
- Papers that explore the role of fisheries and aquaculture in outcomes of food security and health at multiple levels and scales;
- Papers that discuss the role of fisheries in food culture, including regional traditions for preparation, sharing, and other dimensions of cultural significance; and
- Papers that address policy and governance issues preventing an integration of fisheries in food systems.

The contribution could be **conceptual in nature** or **empirical case studies** from different countries and localities. In all cases, they must have a **direct and explicit link to *how important fish are as food for human nutrition and for food security***.

Timeline:

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|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| September 15, 2015: | Submission of Abstracts (500 words) |
| December 31, 2015: | First Draft Paper due |
| February 29, 2016: | Peer review complete |
| March 31, 2016: | Paper Revision due |
| April 30, 2016: | Final MS to journal for publication |

Please submit the abstract of your case study, with information about all authors as an **email attachment** to toobigtoignore@mun.ca.