The Global fishing village; a need for education and research

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Fish is one of the major export commodities in the world as around 40% of harvested fish is exported. Value of fish export (trade) is greater than for all types of meats combined as two third of seafood trade (in value) originates from the developing countries to the developed. Sustainable food production from fisheries and aquaculture is essential in the face of population growth. Aquaculture has been growing fast while capture fishing has in many cases stagnated. Both fishing and aquaculture are facing environmental challenges as global warming is affecting capture fishing with stocks moving as the sea is warming, causing changes that might take a more dramatic turn than anticipated. Aquaculture is constantly under pressure due to environmental effects of the growth process.

Other global challenges that fisheries and aquaculture is facing are a global economic stagnation and stricter trade barriers that could affect the industry and countries relaying on international trade. For the arctic region these challenges are added to the necessity of operating economically feasible fisheries that can sustain the local society. To meet these challenges multidisciplinary knowledge of business, marketing, biotechnology, biology, engineering, environment etc. is required to be able to successfully meet the differ needs and demands. Living in a global fishing village we must be aware that bad reputation of fish products, unsustainable fishing or old-fashioned culture methods can easily affect competitive status of all fish products competing with other food protein on the global market.