

Aquaculture Stewardship Council – MAC membership

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June 05, 2024



**Setting The
Standard for
Seafood**



About ASC

Impact-focused, Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) is driving **the world's leading independent certification programme for responsibly farmed seafood.**

Setting the most robust standards and providing the highest levels of assurance and integrity throughout the supply chain, we are transforming the seafood farming industry transparently towards environmental sustainability and social responsibility.

Ensuring that ASC labelled seafood, available in over 100 countries, covering 59 species from over 50 countries, has been farmed with care.

Setting The Standard for Seafood



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Our Vision

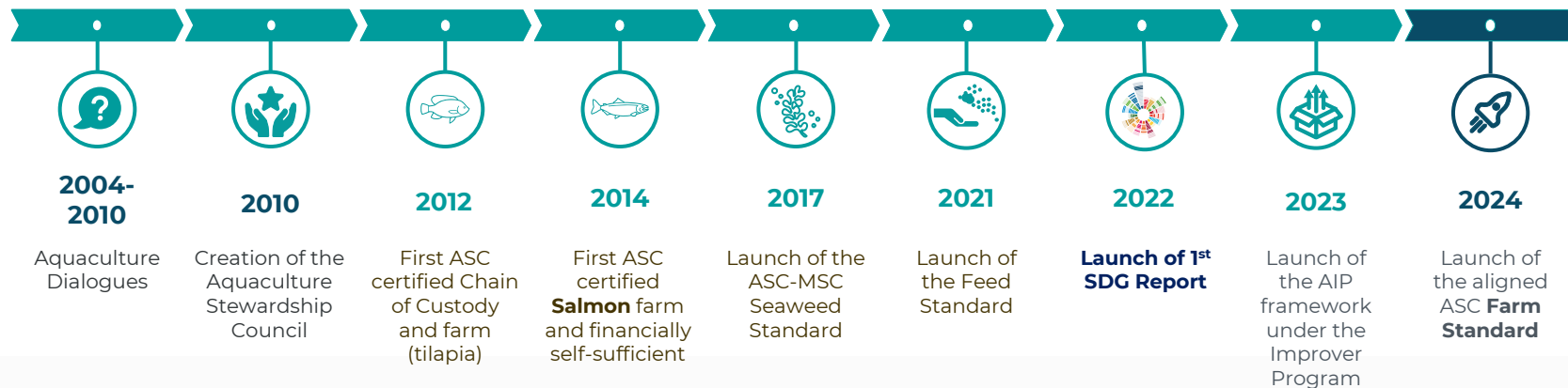
A world where aquaculture plays a major role in supplying food and social benefits for humanity whilst minimising negative impacts on the environment.

Our Mission

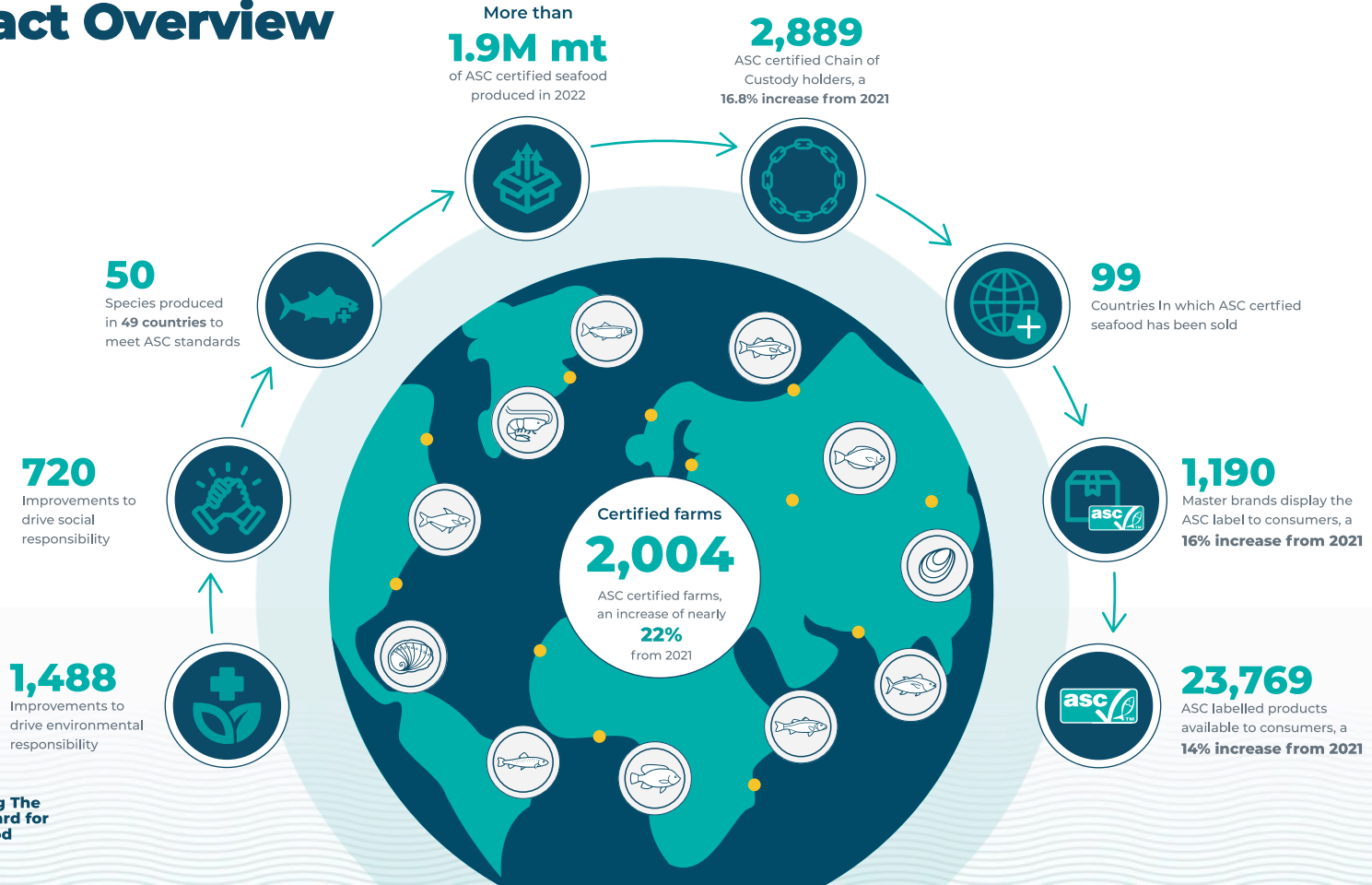
To transform aquaculture towards environmental sustainability and social responsibility using efficient market mechanisms that create value across the chain.

Our ASC Journey

As an impact-driven NGO, we drive the world's leading programme for responsibly farmed seafood; which increasingly provides value and additional impact beyond certification.



Impact Overview



Robust and Relevant Standards Covering All Key Environmental and Social Impact Areas

7 Principles:

1. Compliance with national and local laws and regulations
2. Conservation of natural habitats, local biodiversity and the ecosystem
3. Conservation of water resources and quality
4. Responsible use of feed and other resources
5. Conservation of the wildlife population
6. Ensuring fish health and controlled, responsible use of antibiotics and chemicals
7. Respect for workers and neighboring communities while operating in a socially responsible manner



Human Rights in the ASC Standards



All ASC's 11 species-specific Standards and the Feed Standard contain criteria that work for the protection of the human rights of employees and those who live in communities surrounding the farms and feed mills.



The ASC Farm Standard, which will be released in 2024, further strengthens human rights protections.



ASC is Not Just About the Standards



- ISEAL's three Codes of Good Practice provide a globally recognised framework, defining practices for effective and credible sustainability systems.
- Those fully compliant with all three codes become an ISEAL member
- ASC is full member as of 2015 – voluntarily scrutinized by peers

1. The ISEAL Standard-setting Code

Defines how a standard should be developed, structured and improved over time. The Code addresses multi-stakeholder consultation and decision-making, and ensures the standard contains clear requirements that can be measured and assessed.

2. The ISEAL Assurance Code

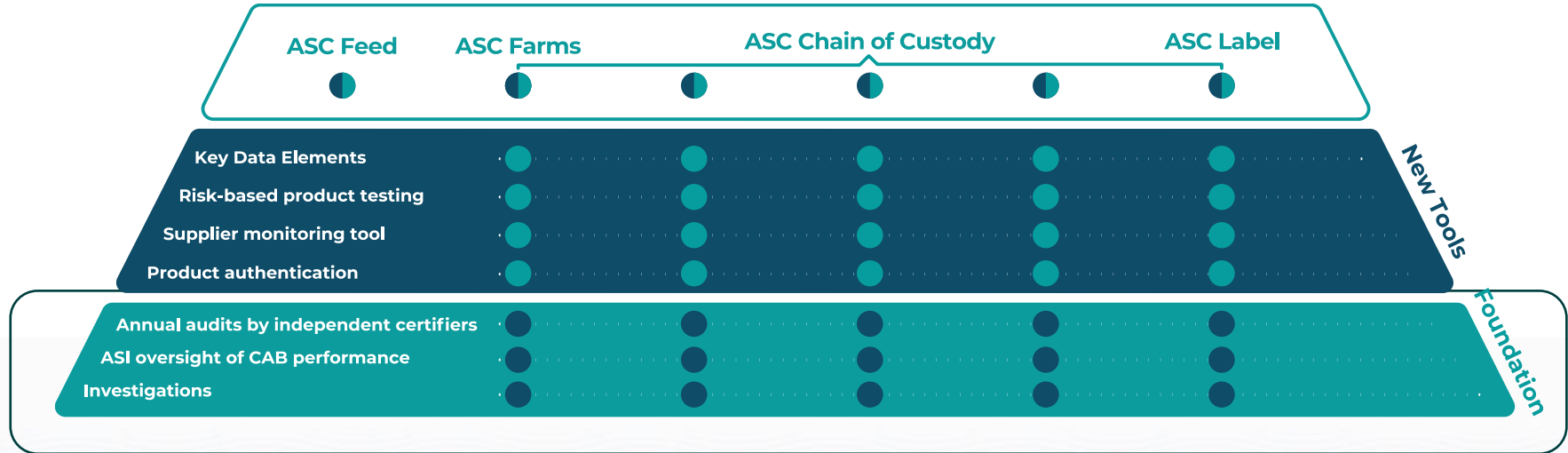
Provides a framework for assessing compliance with standards, so that consumers, supply chain partners, investors and other stakeholders know they can trust the results of assessments. It encourages assurance that is rigorous and accessible, providing accurate and transparent results.

3. The ISEAL Impacts Code

Supports robust monitoring and evaluation that helps systems to understand how effective their standards are in achieving what they set out to do. It provides standards with a roadmap to measure progress against sustainability goals and to improve practices over time.

Multi-Dimensional Layer Approach to Assurance

Needed throughout the supply chain



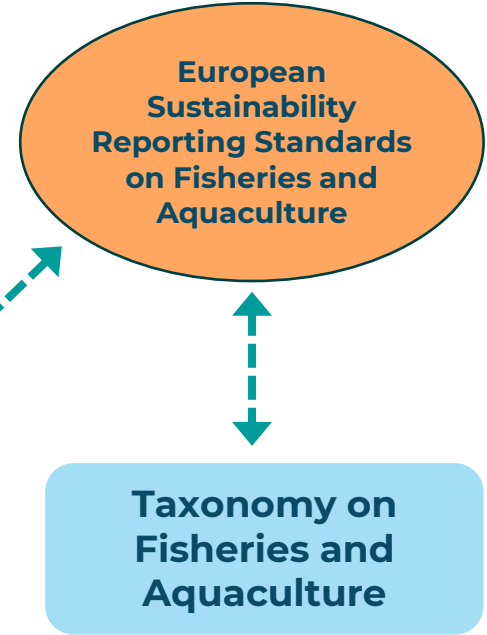
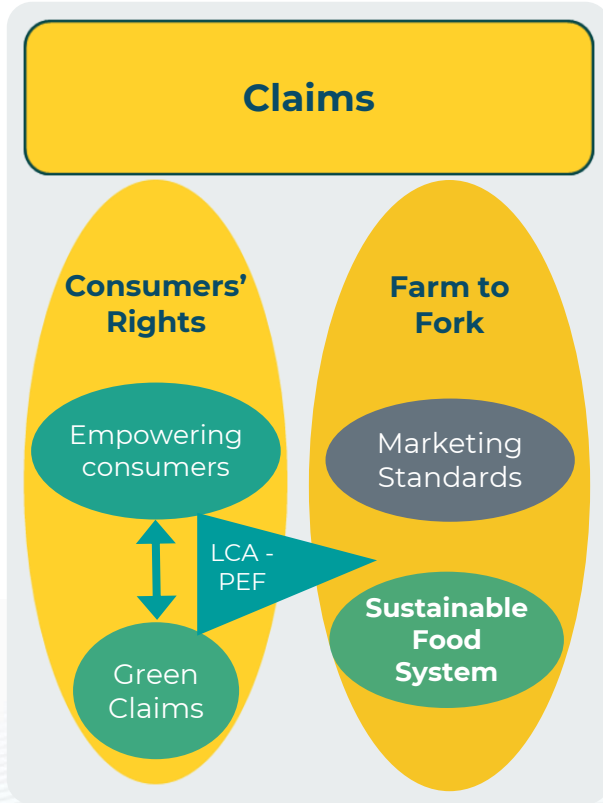
ASC Farm Certification Process

Independently done by 3rd parties –
without any involvement from ASC

- ✓ **ASC has set out clear rules for the certification process that is done by a team** of qualified auditors (social & environmental)
- ✓ Certifiers are supervised by ASI to assure consistent performance of audits
- ✓ **Stakeholder consultation** during on-site audit & on draft audit report
- ✓ System of major and minor non-conformities; they **need action** to be **closed**
- ✓ **Transparency**: announcement, audit report & certification decision (even failed audits)
- ✓ Annual surveillance and **unannounced audits** on at least 10% of single site certificates



Top EU files for ASC



Thank you



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Aquaculture Stewardship Council, 2016

<https://asc-aqua.org/sdg-report-2022/>