

Future of seafood under climate change

CHRIS FREE

Ocean fisheries and aquaculture are highly vulnerable to climate change but many negative impacts could be reversed or mitigated through effective adaptations. In this talk, I will describe how climate change has already altered marine fisheries and aquaculture and the lessons learned for enhancing resilience to future change. I will then present national-scale projections of the impact of future climate change and alternative climate change adaptations on fisheries and aquaculture. I identify countries that (1) could see gains in food and profits with adaptations, (2) could offset losses in capture fisheries through the expansion of ocean aquaculture; and (3) are likely to suffer inevitable losses in food from the ocean. I will conclude with recommendations for effectively and equitably adapting each type of national ocean food system to climate change.