The SeaWeb Summit Scholars Program is aimed at developing future sustainable seafood leaders from emerging sectors and geographies and supporting them at the Summit to ensure that their unique perspectives are heard.

Summit Scholars Program 2017

The 2017 Scholars Program has been designed to help every Scholar fully contribute at the Summit, and to serve as an ambassador of sustainable seafood when they return home.

Support includes covering travel and Summit costs, introductions to potential sustainability partners, and mentoring to encourage Scholars to take part in Summit discussions and to ensure their perspectives are heard.

The 2017 program is targeting specific stakeholder groups whose voices can add new perspectives to the Summit:

- **Community & labor organizations** or fishing organization representatives
- Representatives of organizations or institutions working on social issues related to seafood
- **Asia and Latin America** – both aquaculture and wildcaught fisheries
- Representatives of key stakeholders groups in the **Pacific Northwest**

At the SeaWeb Seafood Summit, promising leaders from these groups will learn about issues, contribute to solutions, and create collaborations that allow them to build a movement in their home countries.

In addition to participating in the Summit, Scholars meet for orientation, networking, and Q&A sessions with experienced sustainable seafood leaders. Before leaving, Scholars run a workshop to identify lessons from the Summit that they can share with colleagues in their home communities.

Sponsor a Summit Scholar

Please consider sponsoring a Scholar for the upcoming **SeaWeb Seafood Summit** from 5-7 June 2017 in Seattle, Washington USA. Sponsors are recognized on SeaWeb's website and at the Seafood Summit in signage and in the official conference app.

Sponsorships average **US $5,000** per Scholar, depending upon personal circumstances and country of origin of the Scholar.

For more information, please visit [http://www.seafoodsummit.org/seaweb-scholars-program](http://www.seafoodsummit.org/seaweb-scholars-program) or contact Marida Hines, Scholars program manager, at mhines@seaweb.org.

To sponsor a Scholar, please contact: [Alexis Valauri-Orton](mailto:avalauriorton@oceanfdn.org) at avalauriorton@oceanfdn.org.
Kota Katano is a Japanese college student whose passion for sustainable seafood was inspired by his father, Seafood Champion Award winner Ayumu Katano. As a Scholar, Kota was introduced to high-ranking NGO managers and Japanese fishing industry executives, whom he engaged in a lively debate about needed change in Japanese fisheries. Back home, Kota presented his findings to an international marketing management seminar at Waseda University. The young people he spoke to learned for the first time about sustainability and the Japanese fisheries crisis. Kota returned to the Summit the following year to act as an advisor to new Scholars.

“I met many people, and many said ‘good luck’ to me as I work to change the Japanese fishing system....I feel I want to live up to their expectations.”

—Kota Katano

Momo Kochen is Director of Research and Programs at MDPI, a nonprofit working to improve the financial, social, and environmental sustainability of fishing communities in Indonesia. Momo’s experience implementing grassroots campaigns in a developing nation brought a valuable perspective to the Summit, where she was a panel speaker on “Certification, Traceability and Consumer Awareness in the Global South.” At the Scholars Speaker’s lunch, Momo learned how to get restaurants to source directly from sustainable small-scale producers. Back in Indonesia, Momo has been successful in working with restaurants in Bali to purchase and promote MDPI’s certified seafood.

“Momo’s presentation about the Summit was directly applicable to my work... because we have to improve our knowledge about what is happening in the fisheries sector.”

—Indah Rafiati, MDPI Communications Officer

Recent Scholars

2016—St. Julian’s, Malta
Mandy Doddema (Graduate student, Wageningen University, Netherlands)
Cintia Miyaji (Professor, Centro Universitário Monte Serrat, Brazil)
Ayumu Katano, Sustainable Seafood for the Future, Japan
Minerva Perez Castro (Atenea en el Mar, Mexico)
Jacqueline Claudia (LoveTheWild, USA)
Beverly Wade (Belize Fisheries Ministry)
Cui He (China Aquatic Products Processing and Marketing Alliance, China)
Richard Boot (FishChoice)
Christopher Chin (COARE, USA)
Alistair McDonnell (Interpol, Europe)

2015—New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
Daren Coulston (Worker advocate)
Momo Kochen (Masyarakat Dan Perikanan, Indonesia)
Lance Nacio (shrimpboat captain, Gulf of Mexico)
Kota Katano (student, Waseda University, Japan)

2015—Hong Kong
Sarah Michael Curry (Journalist)
Shehu Lautunj Akintola (Professor, Nigeria)
Felipe Ignacio Alveal Tejos (Small scale fisherman, Chile)
Qin He (Graduate student, China)
Robert Paul Tkacz (Journalist)

Rinto Andhi Suncoko (Professor, Indonesia)
Rene David Loaiza Villanueva (Fisheries extension agent, Mexico)
Vladimir Smirnov (Fisherman, Russia)
Andrei Sukhotin (Fisherman, Russia)
Dmitry Lisitsyn (NGO, Russia)
Sergei Didenko (NGO, Russia)
Sergei Siyanov (NGO, Russia)
Denis Semonov (NGO, Russia)
En Su Bak (Fisherman, Russia)
Arun Panemangalore Padiyar (Aquaculture specialist, India)
Sophie Benbow (NGO, Madagascar)
Christopher Chin (NGO, USA)
Irendra Radjawali (Researcher, Indonesia)