SEA CUCUMBER SPECIAL SESSION

WORLD AQUACULTURE 2026 TANZANIA · AFRAQ26

THE ARCHITECTURE OF BLUE TRANSFORMATION

Sea Cucumber Ecosystems across Africa, the Mediterranean and the Asia-Pacific

01 | HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Two Centuries of Recorded Extraction

Documented resource extraction, international market demand and shifting sourcing regions.

02 | TÜRKIYE EXPERIENCE

Overharvesting and Resource Governance

Nearly 25 years of overharvesting, scientific research and public resource-allocation decisions reveal the growing need for lasting value.

03 | SSC ECOSYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

Connecting Existing Value

Connecting existing scientific, institutional, community and production capacities through collaboration, value creation and final-market integration.

SESSION PROGRAMME | SCIENTIFIC AND REGIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

14:00–14:10 | SSC OPENING — THE HISTORICAL VALUE PARADOX

Dr. Khalid Salie · Director, SSC Africa · Stellenbosch University

Why have centuries of sea cucumber harvesting and trade not produced lasting benefits in resource-origin regions?

P1 | SOUTH AFRICA 14:10–14:30

Three Decades of Abalone Experience

Achievements, challenges and scientific, technological and institutional lessons transferable to sea cucumber hatcheries, cultivation and marine ranching.

Prof. Peter Britz
Rhodes University, South Africa

P2 | TANZANIA–ZANZIBAR 14:30–14:50

Coastal Communities & Lasting Local Value

Marine-area access, coastal participation, hatchery and cultivation initiatives, marine ranching and durable benefits for resource-origin communities.

Mr. Geoffrey Rucho
Aquaculture Association of Tanzania (AAT)

P3 | TÜRKIYE 14:50–15:10

Nearly 25 Years of Overharvesting: Resource Governance and the Emerging Need for Lasting Value

Scientific evidence, public allocation decisions and sector practices; sustainable governance.

Prof. Deniz Çoban
Aydın Adnan Menderes University, Türkiye

P4 | EGYPT & MEDITERRANEAN 15:10–15:30

Mediterranean Knowledge & Cooperation

Research, species and resource knowledge, public measures, field initiatives and complementary scientific and institutional capacities.

Prof. Zaki Sharawy
National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF), Egypt

COFFEE BREAK | 15:30–15:50

P5 | CHINA · GENETICS & AQUACULTURE 15:50–16:10

Germplasm, Genetics & Aquaculture

Genetic diversity and breeding, broodstock improvement, juvenile production and advanced sustainable sea cucumber cultivation.

Prof. Libin Zhang
Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IOCAS), China

P6 | CHINA · BIOLOGICAL VALUE 16:10–16:30

Processing & Biological Value

Advanced processing, bioactive compounds, functional products and scientific preservation of biological and functional properties.

Prof. Qiancheng Zhao
Dalian Ocean University, China

P7 | MODERATOR 16:30–16:50

Environmental Challenges & Governance

15 min: aquaculture ecology, governance and public perception in multi-use marine systems.
5 min: comparative regional recap and synthesis.

Prof. Catriona Macleod
University of Tasmania, Australia

FORUM | INTERNATIONAL OPEN FORUM 16:50–17:30

The Quest for Lasting Value

Science, Society and Regional Collaboration.
40-minute moderated dialogue on shared priorities, capacity needs and practical scientific cooperation.

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE
Moderator and international contributors

17:30–17:40 | SSC ECOSYSTEM ARCHITECTURE & CLOSING

Mr. Henk Stander · Director, SSC Africa · Stellenbosch University

Preserve existing natural value, support recovery of diminished value, and develop lasting scientific, productive, institutional and community capacities through a connected ecosystem.

EXPECTED CONFERENCE OUTCOMES

Identify shared priorities for multinational, multi-university and multi-species research, aquaculture, advanced processing and regional development. Share findings with universities, research institutions, public authorities and industry to support future cooperation, subject to partner agreement and resources.

3 DECEMBER 2026 | 14:00–17:40 (EAT)
JNICC | DAR ES SALAAM | TANZANIA

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME MANAGER
Prof. Peter Britz
Rhodes University

SESSION MODERATOR
Prof. Catriona Macleod
University of Tasmania

SESSION MANAGER
Mr. Henk Stander
Director, SSC Africa
Stellenbosch University

Scan with SSC