



## Protecting ocean biodiversity to sustain healthy aquaculture >>>



Marine populations have halved in the last four decades due to widespread overfishing. Aquaculture has been the fastest growing food production sector for more than 40 years, producing over 50 per cent of the fish consumed by humans across the world. The UK and the GCC are collaborating to build resilience against antimicrobial resistance in Gulf waters, because healthy oceans are critical to a thriving biodiversity and sustainable aquaculture.

The UK is home to a thriving aquaculture sector whose products are highly regarded for their provenance, superior quality and the integrity of the supply chain. Aquaculture is particularly strong in Scotland and includes the farming of salmon and other species, and the harvesting of mussels, oysters and seaweed. The sector also includes companies that supply goods and services to fish and shellfish farmers, including engineering, fish health and feed solutions.

### UK fishing and aquaculture expertise for the Middle East

#### Cefas

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a growing global public health concern, driven in part by the overuse of antimicrobial agents in human and animal health and food production. AMR can develop and spread in the environment, including in freshwater and marine environments. The UK Government's Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas) has created an AMR task force as part of the wider UK-Gulf Marine Environment Partnership Programme which works with partners in all the countries of the GCC: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE. The task force looks to build capacity and understand the environmental and veterinary components of AMR to further enhance Gulf States' response to AMR in line with their national strategies.

#### SafetyNet Technologies

SafetyNet Technologies creates solutions that enable precision fishing and sustainable practices in the fishing industry. One of its products is a pioneering new artificial light technology that can alter the behaviour of fish and other marine species. It is designed to deter unwanted species away from fishing nets and instead attract the correct target fish, increasing yield, reducing sorting time, and facilitating compliance with fishing regulations.

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