



OCEANIUM [Pronounced 'Oh-shee-ayn-ee-um']

Interactive Dialogue: Minimizing and addressing ocean acidification, deoxygenation and ocean warming

2 mins (298 words)

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Oceanium is an impact business on a mission to develop and make seaweed-based products – including food and nutrition products and innovative bio-based materials – to benefit people health and planet health.

Oceanium's business model will jump start the industry in the western hemisphere for regenerative sustainably farmed seaweed.

Oceanium's highly technical, proprietary biorefinery process extracts maximum value from sustainably farmed seaweed producing high value products.

Ocean eutrophication and acidification are major threats to ocean biodiversity.

Restorative aquaculture practices, seaweed and shellfish farming, can help to mitigate acidification and contribute to the health of the oceans.

A recent study conducted by the Scottish Association for Marine Science concluded that seaweed farms and shellfish farms soak up excess nitrogen and phosphorous thus reducing acidification and helping to restore balance to the oceans.

In addition to improved ocean health, sustainable seaweed and shellfish farming industries will also ensure food security given increasing drought conditions and soil erosion. Importantly, seaweed farming provides 'blue' jobs in rural coastal regions and throughout the value chain.

It is imperative that the emerging sustainable seaweed industry in the western hemisphere is supported by national and regional governments as well as local communities.

To ensure that a seaweed industry can truly benefit people health and planet health:

- We need science based and data backed impact measurements to ensure the industry grows in a sustainable and responsible way
- Further research is required into site location for seaweed farms for maximum impact on acidification and eutrophication
- And public investment is required in ecological research to better understand the environmental impact of large scale seaweed farming industry.

We are just beginning to measure the numerous environmental, social and economic benefits associated with sustainable seaweed farming and seaweed based products and this sector deserves more attention and resources to Kelp the World!