

# Catalyzing Change from Supply to Demand through Public Private Partnerships: The Central American Spiny Lobster Fishery

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Global FISH Alliance

# Panelists

Jimmy Andino – Chief of Party, Spiny Lobster Initiative, Honduras

Glenda Pena – Managing Administrator, Pesca del Atlantico, Honduras

Meghan Jeans - Director of Fisheries and Aquaculture Programs, New England Aquarium



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The Alliance promotes sustainable fisheries and aquaculture practices through the application of a system-wide approach that balances economic, environmental, governmental, and social components essential to enhancing livelihoods and biodiversity.



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# Spiny lobster fishery

- ✓ Honduras exports **\$80 million each year**.
- ✓ Poor harvesting practices hooking and killing **juveniles and egg-producing females threatens the population**. Lobster stocks are **down by 30%** over the last several years.
- ✓ Scuba-diver fishers dive more than 150 feet multiple times a day. Several thousand men in Honduras and Nicaragua have suffered **permanent injury or death** due to unsafe diving practices.



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# Demand side

- ✓ Sustainable seafood appears to be a rising trend among **chain restaurants, retailers, and wholesalers** and each sector sees significant growth in the percentage of their seafood that will be sustainable in five years.
- ✓ All sectors have taken action to **remove seafood items from their product list due to environmental considerations**, and in greater numbers than a few years ago.
- ✓ Food Marketing Institute reports 92% of consumers believe it is important for the U.S. food industry to be more proactive about addressing environmental concerns.
- ✓ 87% of consumers say they want a company to support issues that have the most social and/or environmental impacts.



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# International Attention

International news broadcasts and print media have reported on the lobster diving issue in Honduras

- NBC Rock Center
- New York Times
- SeafoodSource.com
- Unreported World



## Darden, NGO collaborate on lobster sustainability



Image: Global FISH Alliance

*By Christine Blank, SeafoodSource contributing editor*  
29 May, 2012 – The environmental community and corporations such as Darden Restaurants are urging the Honduran government to work toward a ban on industrial lobster diving as the parties meet at the Third Annual Lobster Symposium in La Ceiba, Honduras, on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Honduras has one year left on a two-year exemption from industrial lobster diving, and some groups are wondering whether the country's government will enforce the ban next year.

It may not be the way the government goes. It is really important for the government to stand up and say what the future will be," said Jenny Barker, acting director of Global FISH Alliance.

Global FISH Alliance's Spiny Lobster Initiative, which promotes better management practices to increase lobster populations, provides a consortium of the Honduran government, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), several local groups and partners such as Darden. Based in Orlando, Fla., Darden is the world's largest casual-dining company, with more

**ROCK CENTER WITH BRIAN WILLIAMS**

**Dying and disabled in Honduras, in pursuit of lobster to sell to U.S.**

By Jessica Hopper, Michelle Balani and Alissa Figueroa  
Rock Center

Off the coast of Honduras, divers are dying in search of what they call "red gold." The treasure they're hunting is the lobster that ends up on many American dinner plates.

"Americans should know that every time they eat the lobster, there is a history behind that lobster," said Dr. Elmer Mejia.

Mejia has been treating lobster divers for nearly three years at his clinic in La Ceiba, Honduras. The doctor has the only hyperbaric chamber to treat the men who come to him when they are suffering from decompression sickness, commonly called "the bends."

Thousands of men have become permanently disabled working in the unsafe and poorly regulated lobster industry in Honduras. They dive at depths of up to 120 feet with air tanks that rarely have pressure gauges to warn them when their supply is running low.

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**Rock Center with Brian Williams airs Monday at 10pm/9c on NBC**

**IF BRIAN TWEETS**

LET'S CONVINCE @BRIANWILLIAMS TO START TWEETING.

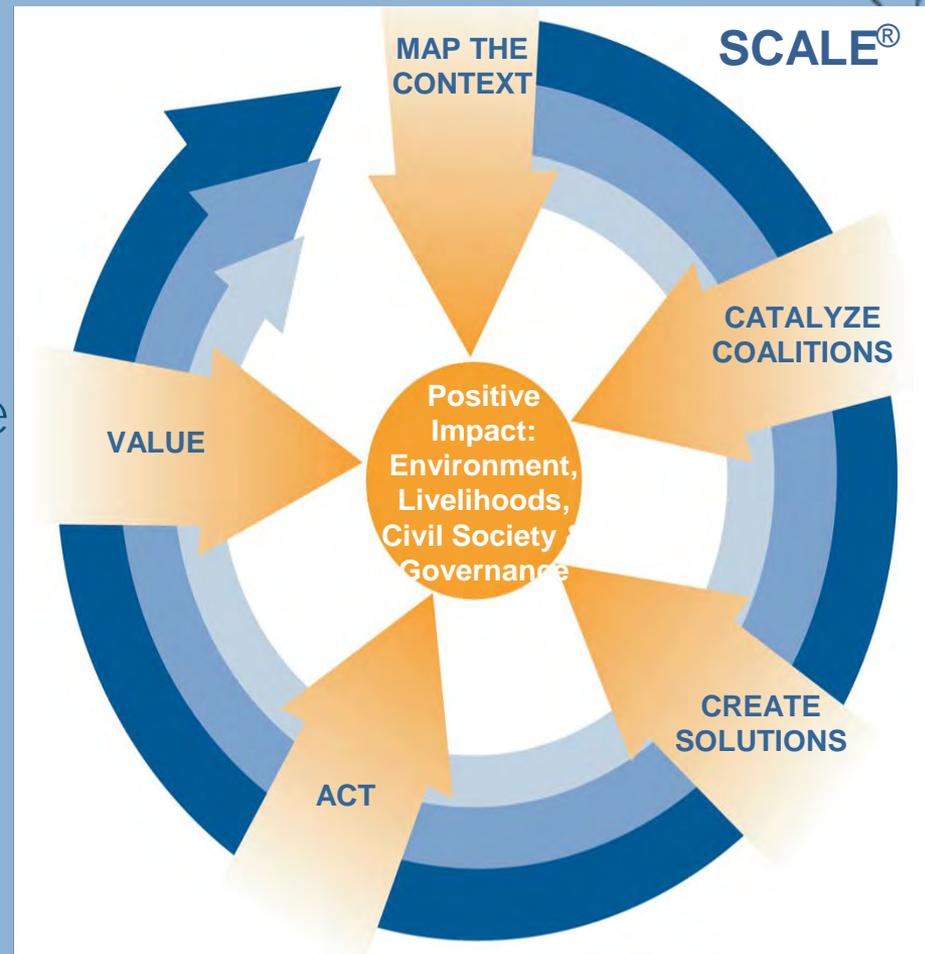
33,190



# SCALE Application | HONDURAS



SCALE is a methodology with a set of tools and techniques that catalyze system-wide change resulting in enhanced conservation, biodiversity, and livelihoods, improved governance of the resource increased community participation, and the adoption of best practices.



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# SCALE Application Around the World



# Why SCALE ?

- Tragedy of the commons - natural resource management requires adaptability
- Limited resources for implementation
- Changing global priorities
- System Approach (Human/Social)
- Early Participation Across Sectors
- Transparent and Real-time Information Sharing
- Local Capacity Building (Human, MSMEs, Institutional)
- Partnerships and Collaboration (Synergy)
- Stakeholder commitments and ownership of the process
- Demand-driven

"Our partnership with FHI 360, USAID and the Honduran Government for the Global FISH Alliance's Spiny Lobster Initiative in Honduras has successfully demonstrated the importance of engaging all of the stakeholders in the value chain - from divers to boat owners to processors to buyers - to promote long-term solutions. We are proud to be a part of the Alliance to demonstrate how industry, government, and nonprofits can come together to promote solutions."

***Roger Bing  
Vice President, Seafood Purchasing  
Darden Restaurants, Inc.***





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