



# Best Aquaculture Practices Certification: Continuous Improvement in Responsible Production

David Dietz, Manager of Standards Oversight

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# Agenda

**Part 1:**  
An Introduction to GSA –  
Best Aquaculture Practices Across  
the Supply Chain

**Part 2:**  
GSA Standards Development -  
What Does it Take to Deliver  
World Class Standards?

**Part 3:**  
Responsible Solutions For All –  
Case Study on Shrimp Projects

## Part 1

# An Introduction to Best Aquaculture Practices Global Standards – Assurances Across the Aquaculture Supply Chain



# Our Vision

A world that embraces the role of responsible seafood in meeting global nutrition needs.

The Global Seafood Alliance (GSA) is an international, non-governmental organization dedicated to advancing responsible seafood practices through advocacy, education and third-party assurances.

# Our Programs



8K+

**MEMBERS**

Our members are from across  
the globe



25

**YEARS EXPERIENCE**

With all of our experience, we  
are the best at what we do



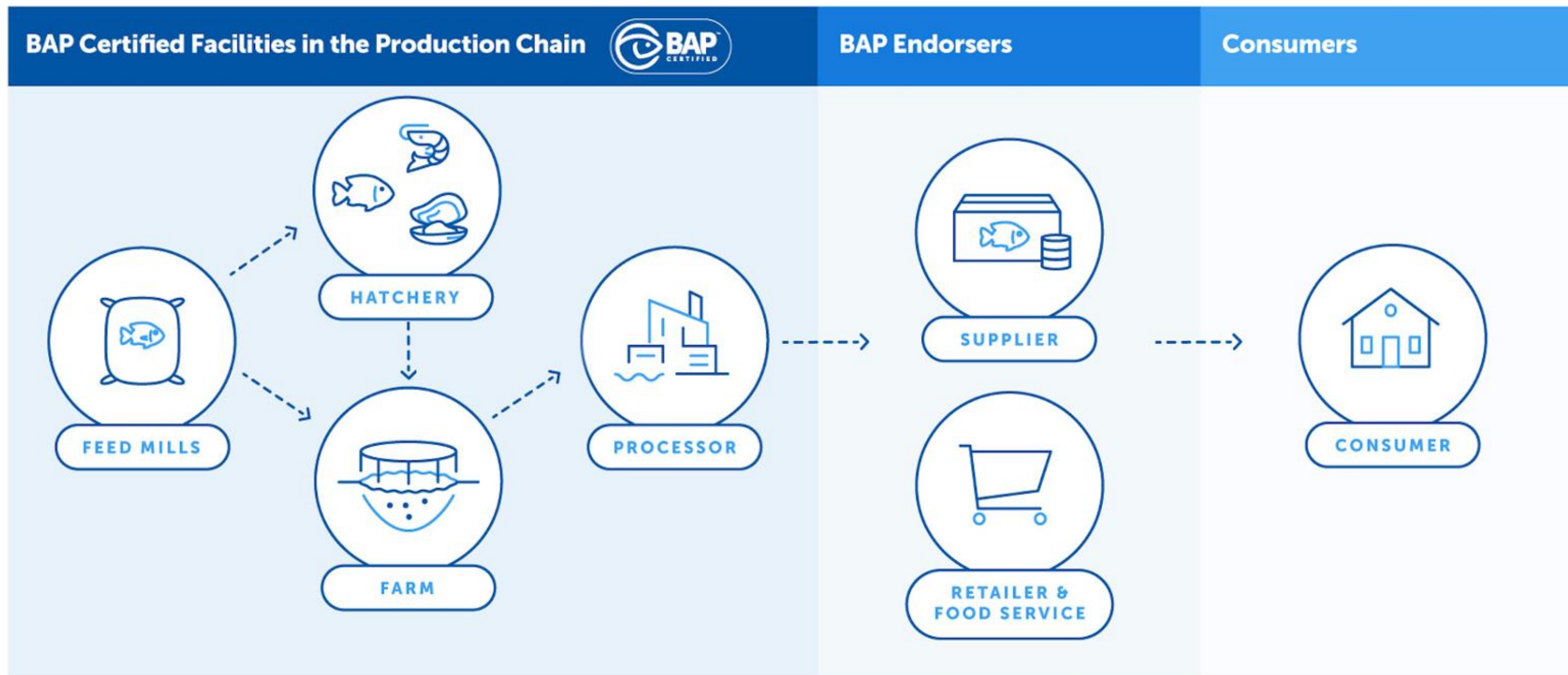
3K+

**CERTIFIED  
FACILITIES**

BAP and BSP certification



# Aquaculture Production Chain



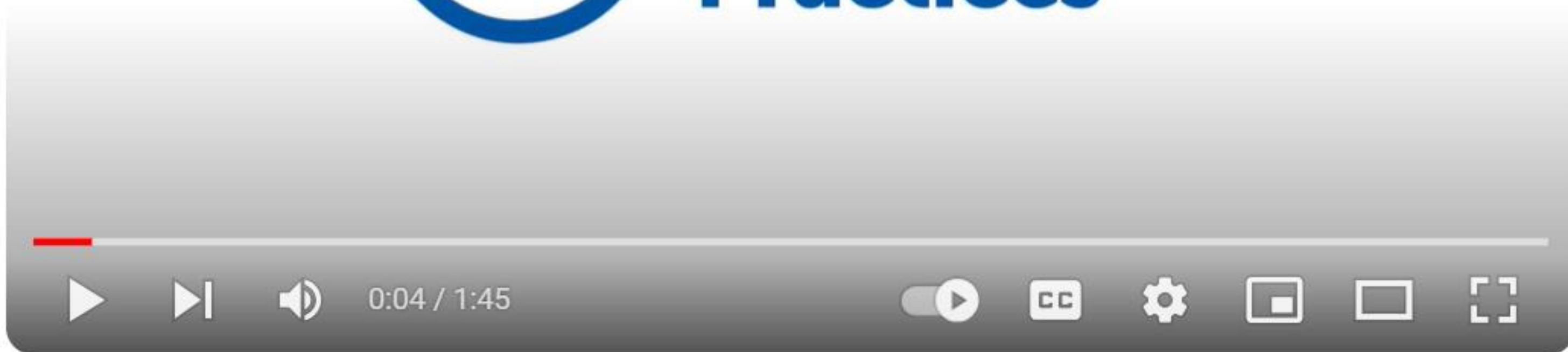


# Vanguard

**What it is:** An initiative created to highlight producers who are going above and beyond what is expected of them

**Who it's for:** Certified producers who are looking to further demonstrate their commitment to using responsible practices

**The end goal:** To continue forward momentum for responsible seafood practices



Why You Should Look for the BAP Label



## Part 2

What Does it Take  
to Deliver World  
Class Standards?  
GSA's Focus on  
Transparency,  
Collaboration, and  
Expert Guidance



# Standard Development Process



## Participation

GSA Leadership  
inquires on new  
standard

GSA Board of  
Directors votes to  
approve standard  
for implementation

Standards Coordinator  
and Standards  
Oversight Committee  
review request

SOC votes to  
approve standard

If agreed, Technical  
Committee is formed  
to develop standard

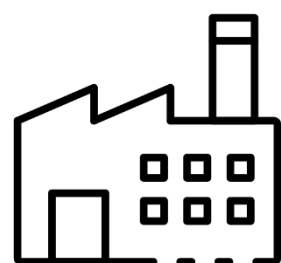
Version published  
and public  
comments requested

TC reviews comments  
and implements  
relevant changes

Start

Finish

# Standards In Process



## Seafood Processing Standard Version 6.0

- Only seafood-specific processing standard
- Undergoing design overhaul in response to industry needs
- Final approval stage



## Vanguard Enhanced Social Standard

- Standalone social audit for processing plants to demonstrate increased focus on social accountability
- Relies on APSCA-qualified auditors
- Final approval stage



## Salmon Farm Standard Version 3.0

- Farm standard specific to marine net pen operations
- GSSI-benchmarked standard
- Technical Committee in revision process



## Vanguard Climate Action & Sourcing Standard

- Newest GSA standard focused on responsible resource usage in aquaculture
- LCA, sourcing, and monitoring requirements for feed mills, farms, and plants
- Requires existing BAP certification
- In Public Comment

# External Oversight

## Standards Oversight Committee



**Dr. Alejandro Buschmann**  
Research and Development  
Center of Coastal Resources  
and Environments



**Birgitte Krogh-Poulsen**  
Independent Social  
Development Consultant



**David Dietz**  
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**Dr. David Little**  
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**Kathy Janiga**  
FSQ Mark Foods, Inc



**Ken Corpron**  
Global Seafood Alliance



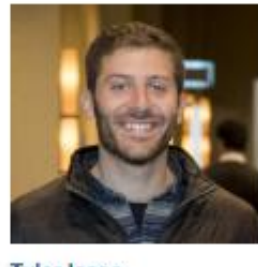
**Lukas Manomaitis**  
U.S. Soybean Export Council



**Patrick Blow**  
Marks and Spencer



**Dr. Simon Bush**  
Wageningen University



**Tyler Isaac**  
Monterey Bay Aquarium



**Dr. Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted**  
Worldfish



**Jenna Stoner**  
Sustainable Fisheries  
Partnership



**Duncan Leadbitter**  
Fish Matter



**Mike Park**  
Scottish Whitefish Producers  
Association



**Toby Middleton**  
Marine Stewardship Council

## GSA Technical Committees



**Mike Platt**  
TC Chair – Seafood Processing  
Standard

**Darrell Green**  
TC Chair – Salmon Farm Standard



**Dr. Richard Newton &  
Dr. Neil Auchterlonie**  
Co-TC Chairs – Vanguard  
Climate Action and Sourcing  
Standard

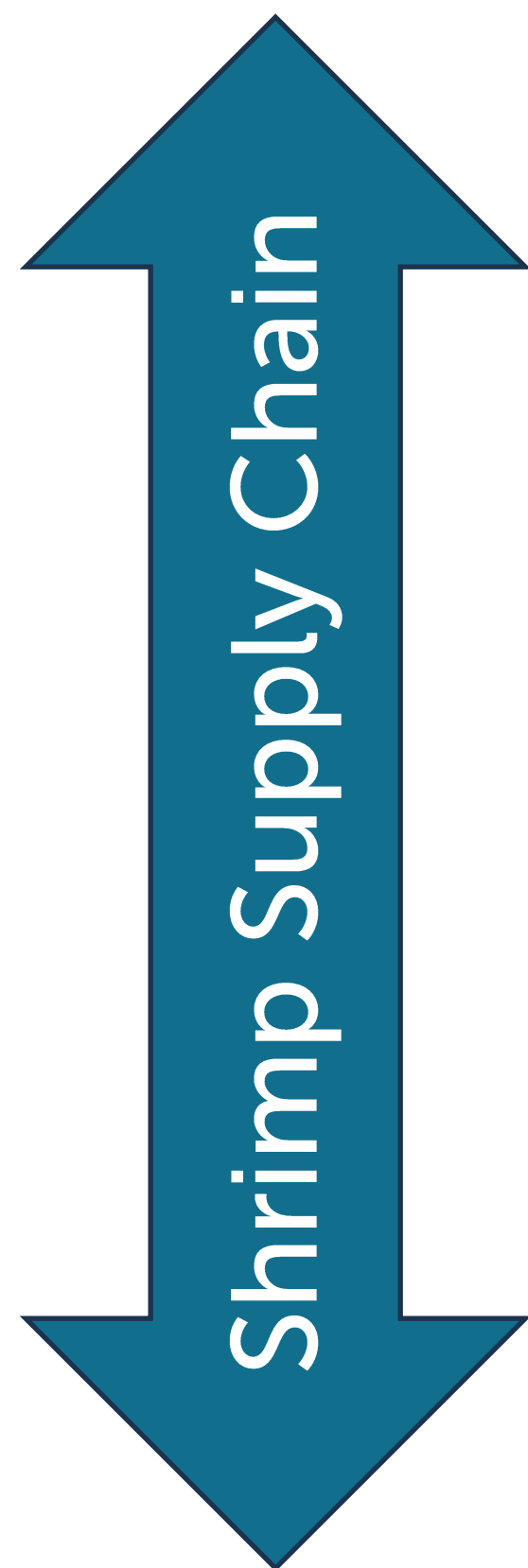


## Part 3

# Case Study on Shrimp: Creating Access for All in Responsible Seafood Production and Consumption



# Challenging Landscape



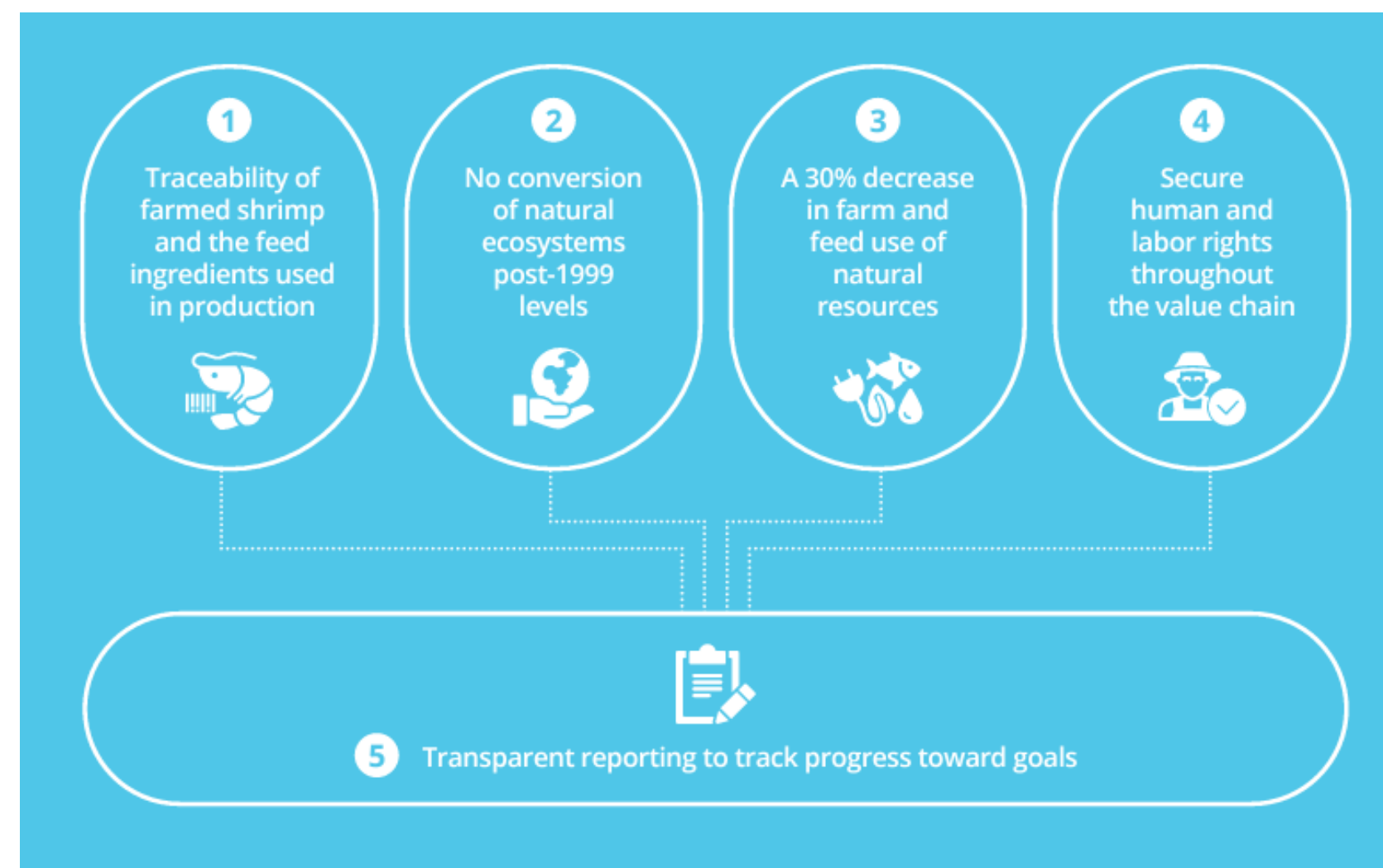
Global conflict  
and inflation

Stagnant demand  
and lower prices

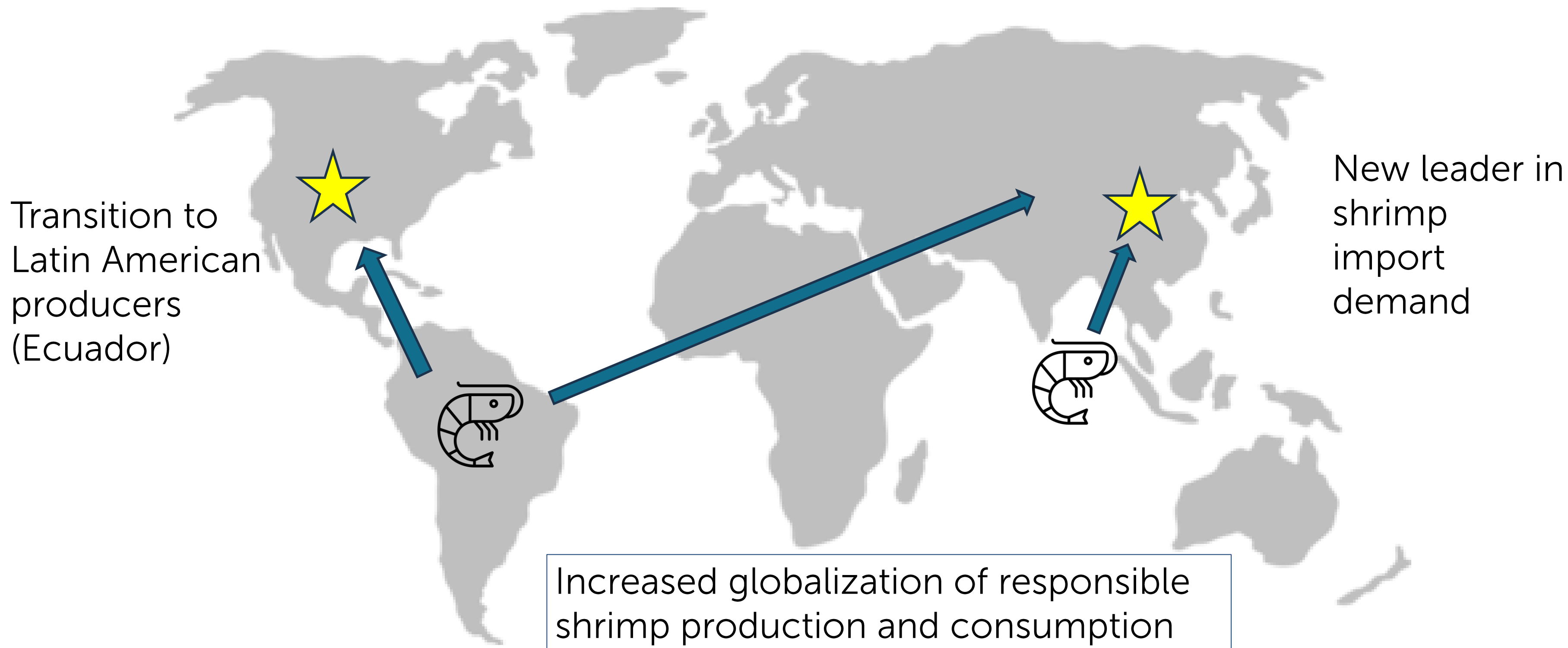
Rising input costs (feed,  
electricity, transportation,  
labor)

Environmental  
Conditions (El  
Nino)

Blueprint to “future proof” shrimp supply chains

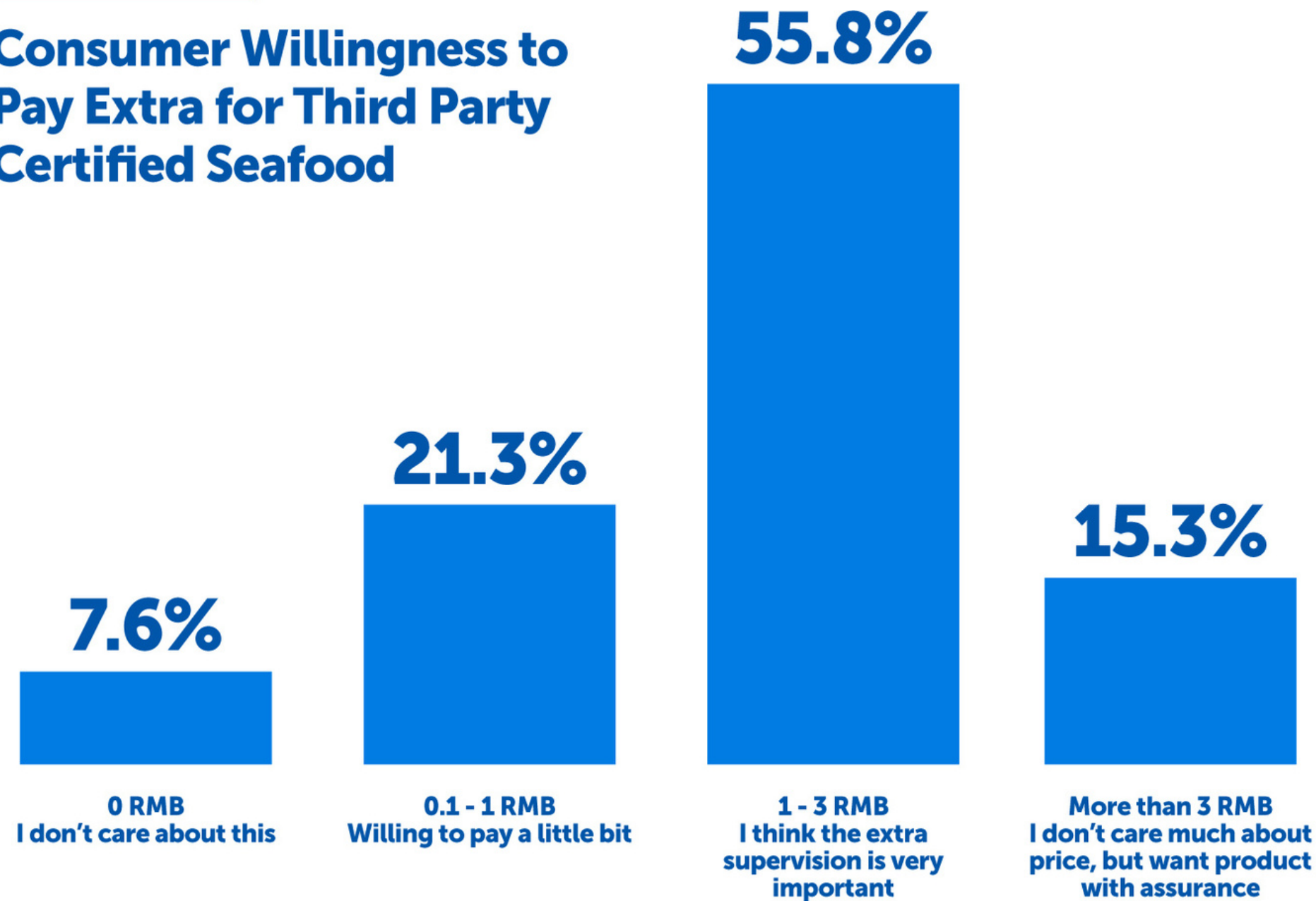


# Where are we headed?

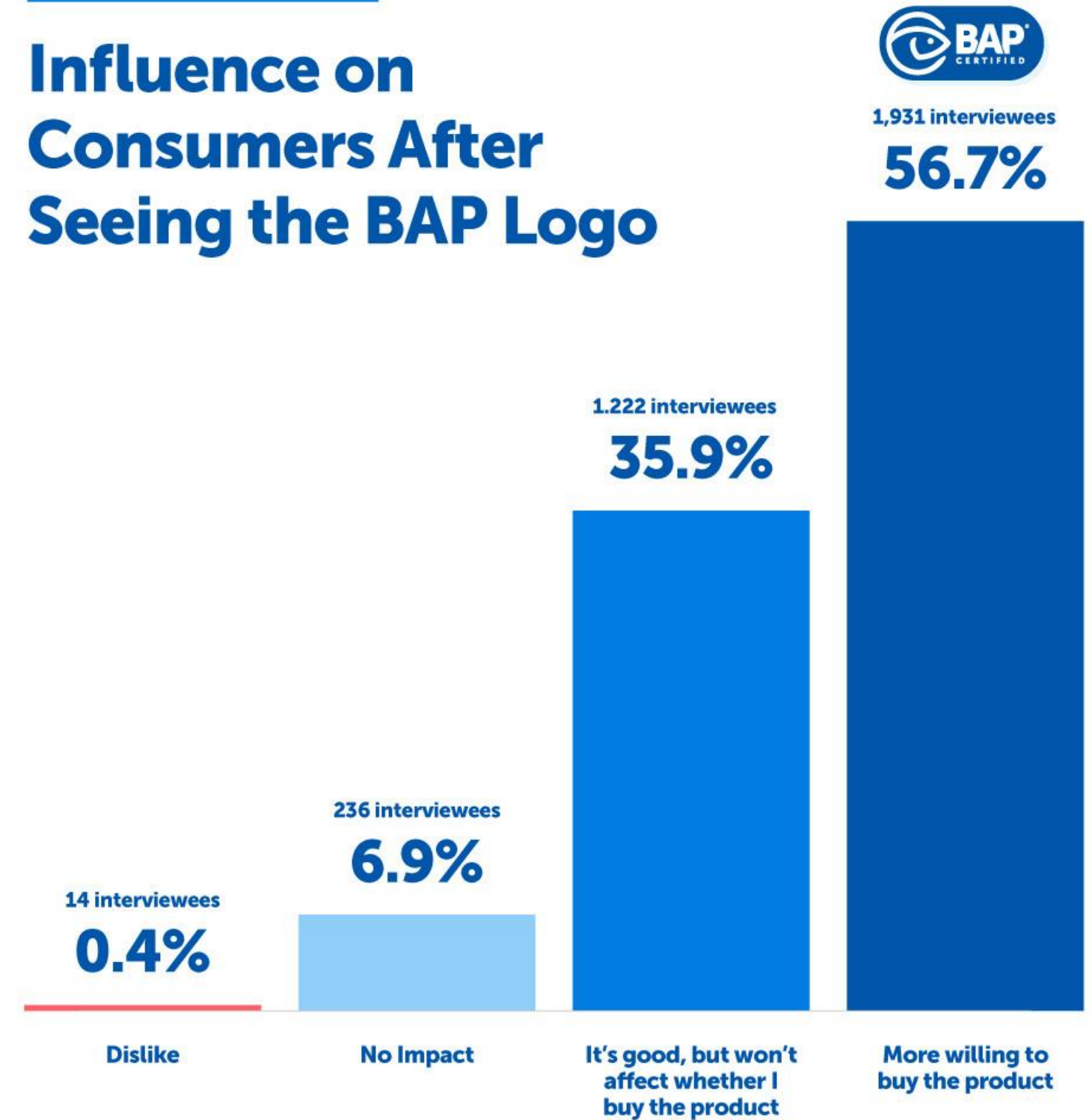


# Chinese Consumers Care About Responsible Seafood

## Consumer Willingness to Pay Extra for Third Party Certified Seafood

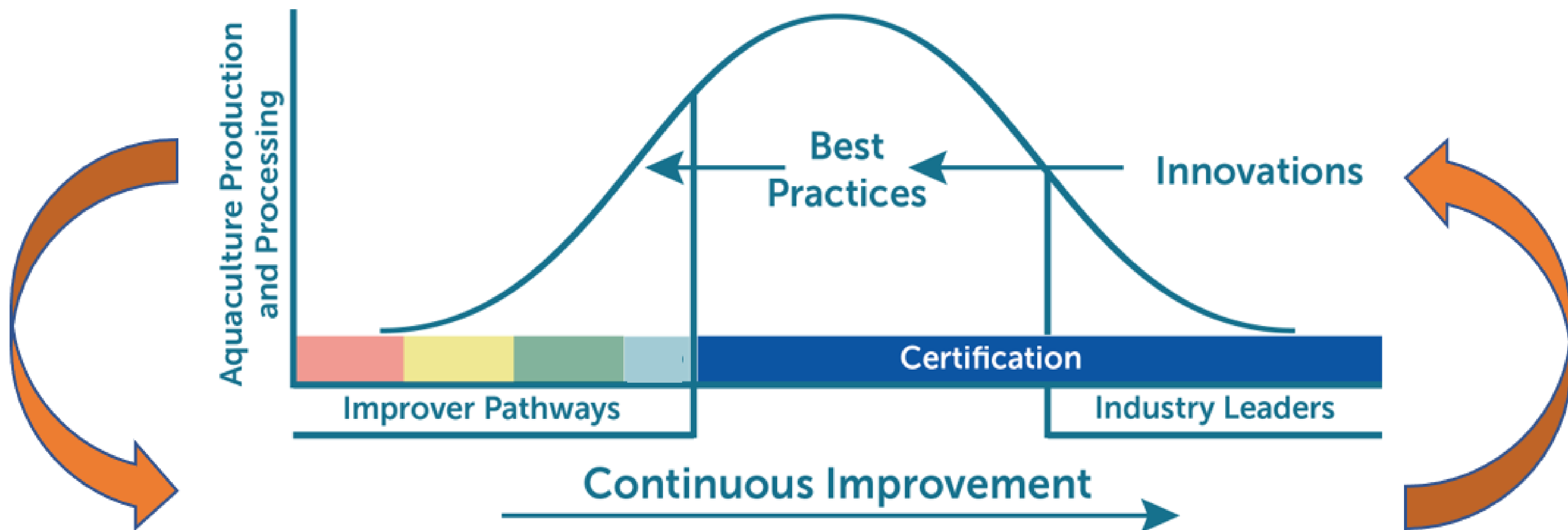


## Influence on Consumers After Seeing the BAP Logo





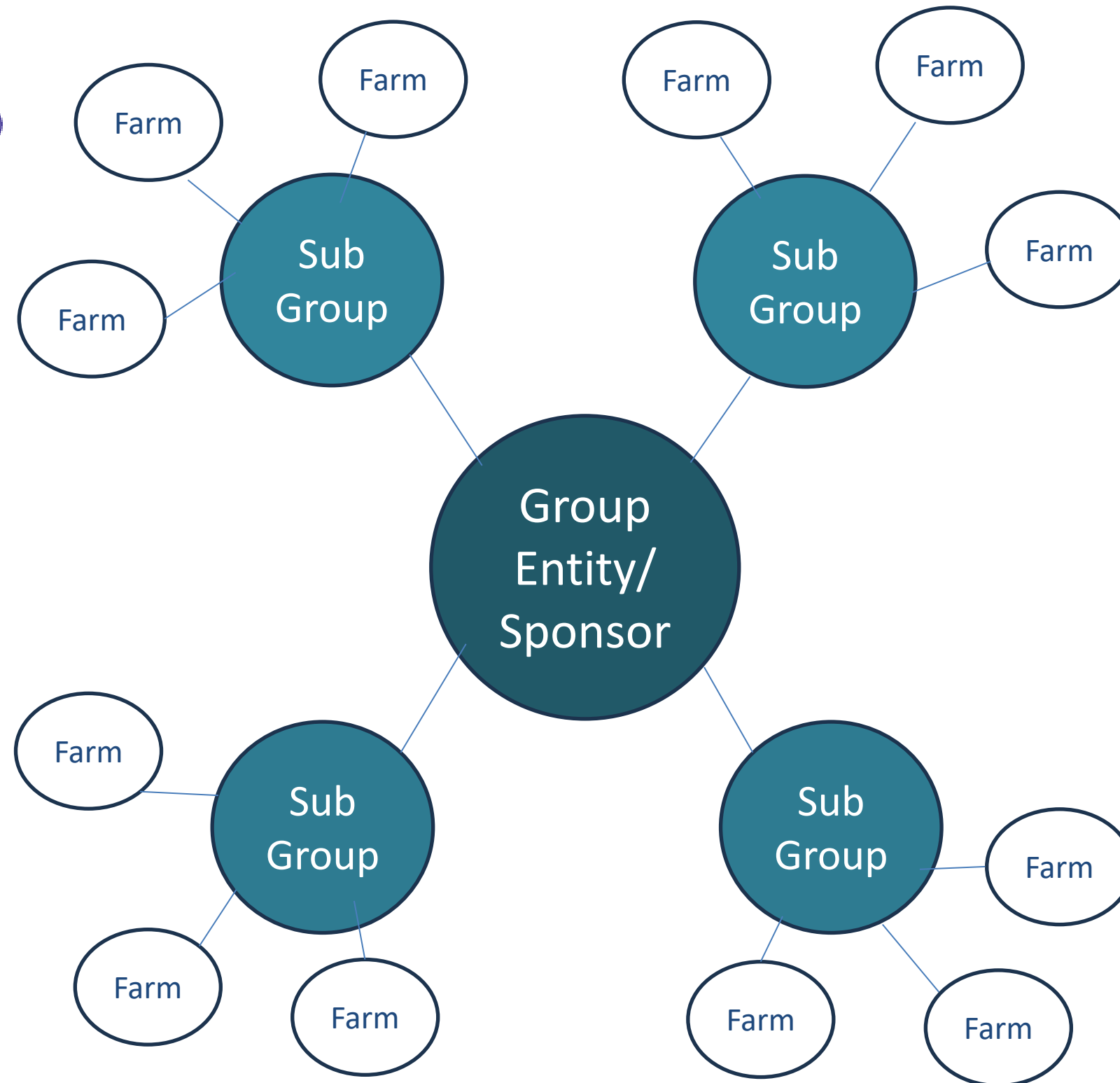
# Responding at all Levels



# Small farmer Engagement and Certification



- New small/family farm sub-group model
- Extensive Black Tiger Shrimp operations
- Certified 11 Sub-Groups, comprising 380 farms, in June 2023



July, 2023  
GSA, Choice Canning, and TCRS sign MoU to engage small-scale farmers in India on responsible solutions

# Progressive Vanguard Assurances



## Climate Action and Sourcing Vanguard Standard

*For Feed Mills, Farms and Processing Plants*

Audits conducted at BAP certified Feed Mills, Farms, and Processing Plants to demonstrate best practice material sourcing, resource efficiency, and data collection/monitoring.

### Highlights:



Strong focus on Feed Mill requirements, as large portion of carbon footprint exists at this node



Strict requirements on marine and terrestrial ingredient sourcing for aquaculture feed



Lifecycle analysis and carbon emission reduction demonstration through supportive database



Commitment to continual improvement as part of certification