



FACT SHEET

Promoting Sustainable Cage Aquaculture in West Africa (ProSCAWA) project

Introduction

In 2020, WorldFish launched the Promoting Sustainable Cage Aquaculture in West Africa (ProSCAWA) project. ProSCAWA is a two-year project funded by China-IFAD SSTC Facility. ProSCAWA seeks to increase poor rural people's productive capacities by enabling them to undertake sustainable aquaculture that will increase the productivity of their waterbodies and provide them with more benefits through enhanced participation in the aquaculture value chain.

Project goals

The main objective of this project is to empower and transform livelihoods of smallholder farms in West Africa through enhanced Sino-Afro application of knowledge, sustainable technologies and expertise in cage aquaculture. The project will demonstrate and popularize environmentally friendly methods of fish preservation and processing for consumption and storage, including improved solar drying, salting and fermenting, among others, and thus benefit consumers.

Background

Food insecurity is critical in Africa because 21 out of the 36 global countries currently facing food insecurity and malnutrition are in Africa (UN 2012). Furthermore, about 235 million of the over 923 million people facing hunger worldwide are in sub-Saharan Africa (FAO 2008). Ghana and Nigeria are two prominent West African countries that depend on fisheries as major sources of animal protein. In Ghana, fish is the preferred and cheapest source of animal protein, and about 75% of the total annual catch in the country is consumed locally (Sarpong et al. 2005). Nigeria is the most populous nation in Africa, with almost 186 million people in 2016 (UNICEF 2017). By 2050, Nigeria's population is expected to grow to a staggering 440 million, which will lead to increased scarcity of resources and land in rural areas. While Ghana has a smaller population, fish supply remains small and has not kept pace with the demand for fish, and the same goes for Nigeria.



Project

Promoting Sustainable Cage Aquaculture in West Africa (ProSCAWA)

Donor

- International Fund For Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- China – IFAD South South and Triangular Cooperation Facility

Collaborators

- Ghana: Sugarland Farms Ltd
- Nigeria: Orisha Farms NG

Duration

March 9, 2020 to March 31, 2022

Location

Ghana and Nigeria

Project components

1. Develop capacity of farmers, policymakers and businesses for sustainable cage culture farming systems in Nigeria and Ghana.
2. Enhance employment, incomes and nutritional status of rural households through productive and sustainable cage farming in water bodies.
3. Establish links between Chinese and West African aquaculture entrepreneurs for transfer of knowledge and development of viable business partnerships.

The project will undertake exchange visits to China for first-hand experience of Chinese success in cage culture and will connect with Chinese providers of cage aquaculture implements. And the Chinese will come to Africa to train more participants on available new technologies and reach more participants than could be accommodated in trips abroad.

Refresher training will enable extension officers to understand aquaculture principles and new fish production techniques necessary for successful cage culture. Policy dialogues and discussions will be used for dissemination and awareness creation and offer a platform for advocacy and debates on sustainable cage aquaculture.

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