



Catalyzing Innovation into Smart Aquaculture in Mtwara Region for a Better Tomorrow.

Partnering to provide access to the digital Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) technology.



KEY INFORMATION

Sector: Trade Investment and Big Data
Lead Partner: UNDP
Implementing Partners: Regional Commission office, Fishery education training agency (FETA)
Budget: USD 500,000
Duration: 2021 - 2022

BACKGROUND AND PROJECT DETAILS

Aquaculture in Tanzania is still largely a small-scale activity and usually not practiced as a stand-alone economic activity, but rather as subsistence farming integrated with other agricultural activities. The Tanzanian government has actively supported an enabling environment for aquaculture sector growth by developing a dedicated aquaculture development policy under the blue economy banner. A dedicated unit in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to support the sector, and an aquaculture working group also testify to the government’s strong ambition and commitment to the sector. The government’s main goal is to support commercial fish farms that will produce quality fish products in large quantities for both export and the domestic market. Despite the aspirations and ingenuity of small-scale aquaculture producers, the production and productivity potential are heavily curtailed by factors such as access to technology, improved knowledge on aquaculture management, access to modern and affordable aquaculture extension services, as well as finance and markets. Addressing these factors may hold the key to unlocking the potential for scaled-up and sustainable growth of aquaculture in Tanzania.



Women fishmongers in Mtwara.

PROJECT DETAILS

While responding to the challenge for improved and sustainable aquaculture livelihoods and economic transformation, UNDP through the “**Catalyzing Innovation into Smart Aquaculture in Mtwara Region for a Better Tomorrow**” project seeks to build on the bold and inspiring efforts made in the region. UNDP partners with local community groups, regional and local government, and key stakeholders to play a catalytic role in providing access to the digital Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) technology in Mtwara Region. RAS technology is a new form of fish production systems which actually bridge the gap between fish demand and supply. It is an intensive mechanism where the culturist has provided the biological needs for the organism to grow and develop. RAS technology demonstrates the ability to largely or fully eliminate factors that limit carrying-capacity and productivity. The RAS technology has tremendous potential to increase yield, raise incomes, whilst reducing occupational and environmental-related hazards. Through this technology and the broader transformative approach Mtwara can provide a bold and inspiring lesson for the country.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Facilitating access to innovative aquaculture technology that improves productivity from subsistence to market-oriented production.
- Increase access to finance through the Business Development Services (BDS) that will impact investment readiness principles and capacities as well as relevant linkages to financial institutions.
- To facilitate linkage to markets through bundled services of the BDS provider and, innovator in aggregation and distribution of fresh produce via digital platform including for regional trade (AfCFTA).

EXPECTED RESULTS

- The project will be impacting directly and indirectly more than 1,200 youth and women in the project areas.
- Youth and women led aquaculture farmers leverage the technical and financial support to tap into RAS technology opportunities and increase their income.
- 1200 beneficiaries increase their productivity and production.
- Strengthened capacities of aquaculture farmers to build resilience to external shocks, increase productivity and competitiveness.

BENEFICIARIES

- Women, and Youth.
- Value chain actors (suppliers of fish feed, fishery equipment, suppliers of fingerings, transporters.)

PARTNERS



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