

CHINA-IFAD SOUTH-SOUTH AND TRIANGULAR COOPERATION FACILITY



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SSTC GRANT

Grant value

US\$500,000

Focus countries

Ghana and Nigeria

Duration

Mar 2020–Mar 2023

Implementation partner

World Fish (ICLARM), a member of CGIAR

Cooperation partners

Fish Hub, Ghana

Orisha Farms, Nigeria

Beneficiaries

500 smallholder farmers

100 cage manufacturers, feed producers and hatcheries

Promoting Sustainable Cage Aquaculture in West Africa (ProSCAWA)

BACKGROUND

Despite their vast water resources, Ghana and Nigeria import most of their fish because of overfishing and a lack of regulation, as demand surpasses supply. Depletion of local fish populations has severe knock-on effects, including reduced food security, especially for communities relying on fishing for income and sustenance. However, cage aquaculture offers a solution to meet the growing demand. It involves raising fish inside mesh enclosures in natural water bodies, an accessible alternative with a lower carbon footprint because it does not use expensive, energy-intensive water pumps.

The project's objective is to empower and transform the livelihoods of smallholder farmers in West Africa through enhanced Sino-African application of knowledge, technologies and expertise in cage aquaculture. The main project components included empowering rural communities through sustainable cage culture, enhancing employment and incomes through productive and sustainable cage farming, and establishing links and partnerships for improved rural entrepreneurship.

ProSCAWA collaborated with two private sector companies, Fish Hub in Ghana and Orisha Farms in Nigeria, to develop the capacity of fish farmers and businesses in sustainable cage culture farming systems.

Improving productivity in cage aquaculture in Ghana and Nigeria through knowledge and technology transfer

18 demonstrations sites established

7.3 metric tons of tilapia produced

500 smallholder farmers trained on best management practices

107 people employed in cage construction, production and fish processing

For more information please visit www.ifad.org/sstcf



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ACHIEVEMENTS

During the one-year project period, the following results were achieved:

Established 18 demonstration sites with cage culture materials for smallholder farmers in Kotorkor, Ghana, and Afowo Lagoon in Badagry, Nigeria.

Provided resources such as Genetically Improved Farmed Tilapia (GIFT) fish seeds, nutritionally balanced feed and water quality equipment.

Produced 7.3 metric tons of tilapia, generating fish sales of US\$16,700 in six months from 12 cage units at the demonstration sites in both countries.

Trained over 500 smallholder farmers on best practices for cage culture operations using a training of trainers approach.

Created employment for seven people in the communities and provided indirect employment for over 100 people in cage construction, production and fish processing, addressing youth unemployment.

Developed an online fish-marketing platform to facilitate market links and business connections.

Demonstrated the possibility of sustainable large-scale fish farming in local water sources using cage aquaculture. It serves as a model for the development of rural coastline communities, particularly vulnerable ones in West Africa.



Water samples being taken and tested in the ProSCAWA Fish Hub in Doffor, Ghana.

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