Fish farming innovation to meet food needs
FISH FARMING: A WORLDWIDE BOOMING ACTIVITY

Aquaculture keeps growing globally. It balances the combined effects of population growth and the stagnation of fishing activities. In 2014, aquaculture supplied more than half of the global fish production for human consumption.

(AFAO Data)

A SIGNIFICANT DEMAND IN AFRICA

In sub-Saharan Africa, fish is a staple food. In many countries, it represents the main source of animal proteins. The vast majority of fish consumed is supplied by marine fisheries. It is sold on markets as smoked, salted or frozen, although its conservation and transport are often problematic in rural areas.

HIGH POTENTIAL FOR FISH FARMING IN RURAL AREAS

Well-designed fish production units integrated to smallholder farms in rural areas enables a sustainable intensification of local agriculture:

- In humid tropical environments, the development of ponds enhances inland valley that are often poorly exploited or unexploited;
- In rice fields, fish farming optimizes the use of land and water resources and improves soil fertility;

Integrating fish production in existing farms offers very interesting results in humid tropical areas.

A PROFITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE ACTIVITY

Investing in fish farming is paid off within a few years in humid tropical environments.

It also enables farmers to recycle agricultural by-products and grow flooded rice. In rice fields, rice-fish farming ensures the availability of animal proteins throughout the year, thus contributing to achieve food security as well as to increase, diversify and secure the income of farmers and their families.

When fitted to its particular environment, fish farming is an innovation accessible to farmers.

AN ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY ACTIVITY

The types of fish farming that APDRA promotes do not put additional pressure on resources:

- The low-input fish farm is a water reserve with positive effects for agriculture and climate;
- Fish production reduces the pressure that fishing and hunting put on the environment;
- Rice-fish farming reduces the need to add fertilizers and pesticides.

Aquaculture as promoted by APDRA is deeply rooted in agro-environmental practices.
AN NGO THAT SERVES PROFITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE SMALL-SCALE FARMING

APDRA Pisciculture Paysanne supports the development of small-scale fish farming in the South and raises awareness among stakeholders in the North of its positive impacts for the sustainable development of small-scale farming.

OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WITH PEASANT ENTREPRENEURS

APDRA Pisciculture Paysanne is a non-profit international aid organization created in 1996. It is supported by an international team made up of employees, fish farmers, volunteers members, as well as local technicians and partners.

The objectives of APDRA Pisciculture Paysanne encompass:

- Strengthening food security;
- Increasing and diversifying sources of income in family farms;
- Supporting professional organizations representing the rural world.

SHARED TECHNICAL REFERENCES

APDRA Pisciculture Paysanne regularly publishes references and capitalization documents:

- Repository for small scale commercial aquaculture based on tilapias; for carp breeding in rice fields;
- Establishment of a core of independent fish farmers able of producing themselves their fish-seed;
- Demonstration of the advantages of associating different fish species (Heterotis / Tilapia / Hemichromis);
- Over 20 scientific publications.

RESULTS IN THE FIELD

Settlement and training of more than 4000 fish farmers and rice-fish famers, who now produce autonomously

Fish yields between 500 and 1500 kg/ha/year for low input production practices

Guiding of more than 200 groups of fish farmers in their professionalization

Strengthening of 15 African NGOs and 10 regional or national federations of fish farmers

Training of 120 aquaculture professionals in the construction of new fish farms

APDRA Pisciculture Paysanne has an approach that aims to allow for properly handled fish farming activities that can also easily be reproduced by other farmers.

HOW TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR ACTIONS

- Integrating social and economical contexts
- Integrating fish farming into the existing farming system, designing interventions at the inland valley scale
- Managing fish farming innovation in a participatory, empowering and collective way
- Enhancing know-how and establishing technical and organizational skills at the local scale
- Helping the dissemination of fish farming by refusing to subsidize the initial investment and the functioning of the farm
- Promoting networks of producers as well as professional and responsible organizations
- Supporting local NGOs in their capacity as promoters of this approach and involving local authorities in project monitoring
ACTIONS AND PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD

Guinea
Completed project
Madagascar
Democratic Republic of the Congo
Central African Republic
Liberia
Ivory Coast
Togo
Benin
Cameroon
Republic of the Congo

Ongoing project
Studies and appraisals

MAIN FINANCIAL PARTNERS

NETWORK AND REGIONAL OFFICES IN FRANCE

APDRA Pisciculture Paysanne has established a network of regional branches in order to work hand-in-hand with local authorities: regions of Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Normandie, Centre-Val-de-Loire, Pays-de-la-Loire, Grand-Est, Hauts-de-France...

APDRA is a member of Group Initiatives, Coordination Sud and is part of the Sarnissa network. It also collaborates with scientific bodies such as CIRAD, INRA and ISTOM in the North, as well as with various research institutions in the South: Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Congo, Madagascar, Guinea...

Contact us!

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