

Enhancing smallholder fish farming by agro-ecological intensification and integration into inclusive commercial value chain (FishLib)

Liberia has the desired natural resources required for aquaculture development and an unlimited production season but its aquaculture sector is under developed. From 2010 to 2013, APDRA Pisciculture Paysanne and its partner Catalyst Liberia Inc. supported the development of fish farming in the Bong, Nimba and Lofa Counties. The on-going dynamics spread-off but some key training points are lacking, and farmers cannot mobilize local inputs and training to intensify their fish production.



Project identity

Duration

4 years, 2019 - 2023

Localization

Bong, Nimba and Lofa Counties

Financement

European Union (EU)

Local partner

Catalyst Liberia Inc.

Expected beneficiaries

400 fish farmers, 25 aquaculture small and medium profitable enterprises, 30 women involved in fish marketing activities

Outcomes

- 1 Through collective fish farming trainings and provision of individual advisory services, **increase productivity** of existing ponds and **number of new fish farmers** based on **agro-ecological technics** and as **commercial activity**
- 2 Support the **structuration of fish farmers' groups and unions** to assist the development of inclusive farmed fish value chains at local level and the **recognition of importance of fish production** in local development strategies
- 3 Implement a Fish-farming Development Platform to develop **public-private partnership delivering advisory services and expertise** for private sector on external inputs-based production and value chains (SMEs in production, hatchery, feed mills, and commercialisation)

Co-funded by
the European Union



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September 2021

Component 1 : Increase productivity and number of fish farmers

- Supporting the pond construction and improving existing ponds
- Fish farming trainings in order to adapt progressively pond constructions and farming techniques to expectations and situations of new and young farmers
- Support to aquaculture SMEs in semi-intensive production systems
- Innovation tests to improve integrated fish farming systems
- Training of local partner technicians



➔ A development based on agro-ecological technics and as commercial activity

Component 2 : Organize fish farmers' groups and unions



- Sponsorship of experienced fish farmers to address the needs of new and young farmers and exchange between experienced fish farmer's groups and new groups
- Networking and sharing best practices of aquaculture SMEs in semi-intensive production systems
- Training to service providers
- Promoting proximity services by farmers' groups and SMEs
- Training on selling the freshness fish as possible
- Support to fishmongers and fish processors

➔ Recognition of importance of fish production in local development strategies

Component 3 : Implement a Fish-farming Development Platform

- Accompaniment of NaFAA in the appropriation and evaluation of the approach in integrated fish farming development
- Elaboration of a sectoral orientation document for the fish farming development in Liberia
- Contacts with NGOs, SMEs, estates, mine industries, etc., to organise advisory services and training
- Support to networking between fish farmers' groups and SMEs/Cooperatives in inputs supply
- Organisation of periodic meetings to strengthen the networking capacity of the platform



➔ Advisory services and expertise for private sector