



ETHIOPIA:

Developing aquaculture and fisheries value chains in Ethiopia

Context

The Government of Ethiopia's Growth and Transformation Plan prioritizes fisheries and aquaculture value chains development, where previous government policies and programmes mostly focused on research and academic teaching on environmental regulation and management of fishing resources and water catchments. The potential of Ethiopia's fisheries sector is limited by low productivity and a lack of support services, including training for value chains development. The country has diverse natural and managed water bodies which are endowed with fisheries resources. These provide for livelihoods in rural fishing communities. There is considerable potential for developing selected commercial species to competitive export value chains.

This project has the objective of promoting institutional capacity building through the establishment or upgrading of a Fisheries and Aquaculture Business Development Centre (FABDC). This will support the development of the fisheries sector of Ethiopia and diversification of the related industry value chains. The project is expected to contribute to the national strategic objectives of economic diversification, efficient use and management of fisheries and aquaculture resources, and improved economic livelihoods. The expected outcome is developed and well-coordinated national institutional capacity with adequate human capacity, therefore providing quality training and support services to develop the respective sector value chains.

Funded by the Russian Federation, this four-year project will be implemented as part of the Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) in Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Ministry of Trade and Industry and the Ministry of Agriculture are the national project partners.

Main approach

FABDC will be established, based on UNIDO approaches of institutional capacity building and value chains development. The Center is envisaged for use in introducing, training and implementing capacity building activities for fisheries. FABDC will be located close to major fish production resources and markets including processing and marketing businesses on Lake Tana with the aim of enhancing the skills and know-how of the established or upgraded vocational training institutes and partners.

FABDC operations will be based on the value chain development approach as the strategic vision to promote an increase in capture landings, aquaculture output and value added fish preservation and processing, reducing post-harvest losses and increasing the quality of the product and its access to markets. The management and professional staff of the Centre will support the development of the training modules, curricula and methodological materials in support of creation of value chains within the aquaculture and fisheries sector. The project also targets the policy-making mechanisms of the fishery sector regulations on Lake Tana in support of capacity building of Ethiopian SMEs in the region.

The project is expected to directly benefit the estimated 3,500 registered fishers on Lake Tana and to enhance services to small-scale enterprises in fish-processing and marketing. It will thereby help increase production from aquaculture, contributing to nutritional food security and creation of diversified employment opportunities.

The project will capitalize on expertise in sustainable fishing and aquaculture at the Institute of Marine Technologies of the Astrakhan State Technical University. It will also enhance biological and scientific collaboration in the context of a joint Russian-Ethiopian Biological Expedition which has been operating successfully in Ethiopia for over 30 years.

At a glance

Project title: Technical and Institutional Capacity Building for increase in the production, development and sustainable management of the aquaculture and fisheries value chains in Ethiopia

Country coverage: Ethiopia

Counterparts: Ministry of Trade and Industry; Ministry of Agriculture; Ethiopian Meat and Dairy Industry Development Institute; Astrakhan State Technical University.

Donor: Russian Federation

Budget: USD 2,260,000

Duration: 2017-2021