Liberia has the desired natural resources required for aquaculture development and an unlimited production season but its aquaculture sector is underdeveloped. 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)
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

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

Component 3: Implement a Fish-farming Development Platform
- Accompaniment of NaFAA in the appropration 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

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Recognition of importance of fish production in local development strategies