



AQUACULTURE AFRICA 2021
Alexandria Egypt, Dec. 11-14, 2021

Aquaculture Africa 2021 (AFRAQ21)

December 11 – 14, 2021

Alexandria, Egypt



FINANCING & INVESTMENT: UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF AFRICAN AQUACULTURE

December 13, 2021

13h40 – 17:40PM

1. Background:

The potential of aquaculture development for Africa's economic growth is well recognized and supported. A great deal of projects both globally and in Africa, have been financed with mixed results. Africa's aquaculture sector is relatively small, accounting for less than 2% of global farmed fish production but is a rapidly growing industry on the continent. While the potential for aquaculture development in Africa is large, the continent lags behind the rest of the world, in spite of a considerable "blue food" demand that is consistently unmet by capture fisheries. As a result, Africa remains a net importer of fish and the per-capita consumption of fish and aquatic products remains one of the lowest in the world. Most experts agree that poor quality seed, feed and limited technical knowledge is hampering the development of the sector. In spite of countless projects aimed at addressing these needs the sector has yet to deliver on its potential.

2. Rationale

Financing and Investment in sustainable and resilient aquaculture development in Africa holds potential for substantial contribution to economic growth, empowerment, youth and women employment, sustainable food supply, and supplementation of the dwindling wild-capture fish resources. Aquaculture is one of the fastest growing food production sectors globally. Given its growth potential, aquaculture has been earmarked as a priority sector by many African governments.

African Chapter of the World Aquaculture Society (WAS-AC)

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Rising global fish demand means that increased production is required and it is estimated that more than 60% of this demand will be met by aquaculture production, thereby increasing the need for new and targeted investments in aquaculture. There is increasing interest by the private sector, development finance institutions and governments to invest in the aquaculture value chain in Africa. Global investment companies are exploring opportunities to establish financing and investment mechanisms to further support aquaculture businesses in the African continent, including those that are not yet of direct commercial interest to the commercial companies. A coordinated, strategic and innovative approach to financing and investment is needed to ensure that national, regional and continental policies, strategies and aspirations are met and that initial investments are used to catalyze additional financing to fully realise aquaculture value chains in a viable and sustainable manner.

3. Goal and Objectives:

The overall goal of this session is to serve as a platform to share information, lessons and best practices on financing and investment for development the aquaculture industry on the continent

The objectives of the session are to:

1. Share best practices and lessons learnt about investment in sustainable aquaculture in Africa
2. Stimulate discussions, in a coordinated way about investing in sustainable aquaculture in Africa
3. Agree on priority actions and roles and responsibilities to increase investment in sustainable aquaculture in Africa.

4. Intended Outcome:

The Financing and Investment session at AFRAQ21 will identify innovative mechanisms in which respective stakeholders can engage with and support development of the industry over the medium and long term.

5. Date and time:

The session will be held on December 13, 2021, at a time to be determined.

6. Language:

The webinar will be held in English

7. Approach:

The approach to the session will be based on 3 main principles:

1. Geographically Representative of the African continent
2. Short presentations and a sufficient time for discussion/brainstorming
3. Action-oriented with practical recommendations

8. Format and Content:

The format of the session will be designed as outlined below

Moderation: AUDA-NEPAD

Session 1: Keynote address

Keynote address to set the scene and provide an overview of the landscape and challenges (Aqua-Spark)

Session 2: Presentation Session

Presentations of 10mins each with a focus on issues around investment and finance:

- i. WAS African Chapter:
- ii. African Union
- iii. Governments:
 - South Africa,
 - Malawi,
 - Seychelles
- iv. Regional Economic Communities:
 - SADC
 - IGAD
- v. Investment partners:
 - Aqua-Spark
- vi. Development Finance Institutions:
 - AfDB
 - World Bank
- vii. Research Community:
 - Worldfish
- viii. Producer representatives and farm videos
- ix. Feed manufacturer:
 - AllerAqua
- x. EU representative
- xi. Philanthropy:
 - Rockefeller Foundation

Session 3: Roundtable Discussion Session

The Roundtable discussion session will respond to the key issues and opportunities arising out of the presentation session and will yield key recommendations for taking forward.

Detailed agenda under development