



IDH Aquaculture program in Haiti

Haiti is the most food insecure country in the Western hemisphere. 38% of the Haitian population fall below the recommended minimum daily food intake of 2,240 Kcal per day. Dietary diversity is poor, with most families consuming predominantly starches and oils but little fruits, vegetables and protein. Haiti imports more than 50% of its foods, whereas in the 1980s only 19% was imported. There is a need for sustainable local produced proteins. IDH supports the aquaculture sector of Haiti to become the provider of cheap, sustainable and local protein.

The Aquaculture industry in Haiti began in the 1950s by stocking fish in rivers, lakes and irrigation canals. In the 1960s, more than 4000 ponds were built in various regions in Haiti. Fish farming weakened in Haiti but revived from 2006 onwards, although on a very small scale.

Aquaculture is hampered because of several issues. Feed is expensive since it needs to be imported. Disease issues increase fish mortality, and the distribution system is very basic. It is very hard to start a formal business in Haiti, as the country ranks 180 out of 183 on the World Bank's Doing Business database 'for ease of starting a business'

For a sustainable aquaculture industry to develop, a hub for sustainable aquaculture is needed that can help SMEs on starting a business and can provide high-quality fingerlings and feed to surrounding farmers.

Current Program in Haiti

IDH partners with Taino Aqua Ferme (TAF) to develop a sustainable aquaculture sector in Haiti. TAF is a tilapia producer on Lake Azuei, that owns a hatchery, nursery, grow-out,

processing plant and several distribution points.

The company has the potential to become a hub for SMEs and out growers to also farm fish, whereby TAF can provide training on how to farm fish, high-quality fingerlings, high-quality feed, process the fish and offer smallholders access to markets.

IDH and Taino have started a project on improving their health management, by for example piloting vaccinations. We support them to become more efficient producers: if less fish die because of diseases, less (expensive and imported) feed is needed and the production costs decrease. This has a positive impact on the environment and on job creation. We also support TAF in professionalizing their distribution channels, so that more high quality and affordable fish can reach markets in Haiti.

Since 2010 IDH is orchestrating change towards responsible aquaculture. We co-founded the ASC together with WWF and accelerated ASC certification. We upgraded 630.000 MT, an equivalent of 250 Olympic

swimming pools, of tilapia, shrimp and pangasius production towards sustainability.

IDH, The Sustainable Trade Initiative

IDH brings together businesses, companies, governments and NGOs to combine their interests and power in sustainable production and trade of tropical commodities. We co-finance new approaches to sustainable production and trade, and when successful organize new financial arrangements that mix public and private investments to scale them. By working together with companies, we ensure that new models are economically viable and replicable. We make sure there is sufficient demand for sustainable products.

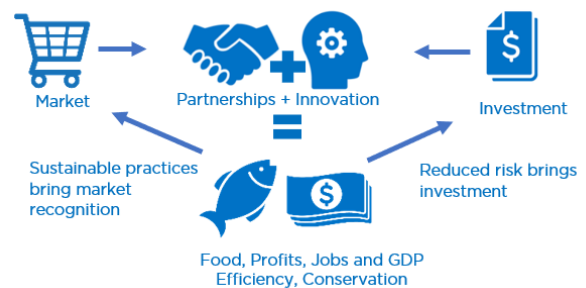
We are endorsed and (financially) supported by numerous European governments and global institutions. Our head office is in the Netherlands. The goal of the [IDH Aquaculture Program](#) is to **develop** and **mainstream** responsible aquaculture that feed people and has social benefits and low environmental impact.

Our Approach

In aquaculture, we improve production by strengthening **partnerships** as to develop joint strategies. We organize cooperation

between producers and local governments and with experts that can support in health management or can conduct market, gender, or carrying capacity studies. We support **innovation** by promoting the use of technology and data to increase sector efficiency, traceability and transparency.

By strengthening **partnerships** and **innovation** we can reduce production risks, hence attracting **investments**. Together with financial institutions we can share risks and increase the profitability of aquaculture.



We encourage the development of local, national, regional and international **markets** by taking a [Value Chain Development](#) approach. We want to increase regional trade through creating competitive advantages for markets.

Partners

Taino Aqua Ferme
Aqua-Spark

More Info?

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