



RCE AFRICA

REPORT

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1.0 Regional Status Report

The Regional Centers of Excellence (RCE) continued to perform its role in building community among all CRSP participants; identify potential additional partnerships with the public and private sector, NGOs, USAID, and others; and bridging the knowledge gap from local-regional perspectives to global development outcomes.

Dissemination Strategy: RCE targeted 4 general audiences for its dissemination strategy, each requiring different levels of investment and approaches for effective communication.

RCE has facilitated Networking with global scientists interested in African aquaculture through SARNISSA, WAS, NEPAD and ANAF meetings and conferences.

Specific approaches included:

- Personal contacts/relationships;
- HC PI networking in each respective countries;
- Collaborative research and institutional linkages.

Rural Community Benefits Stemming from RCE activities: In the past, Aquafish CRSP has brought new technologies to rural communities and helped build support structure for aquaculture extension. Farmers adopting CRSP technologies and management practices designed for their local conditions in Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Uganda and Tanzania have already begun to experience dramatic fish yield increase. In Kenya for example Aquafish has contributed to increased production from 1, 100 MT in 2006 to 4,500MT reported in 2007. Through CRSP intervention as well as other development partners such as FAO, pond fish production has risen to over 20,000 metric tons as reported in the 2010 Ministry of Fisheries statistical Report. RCE involvement goes beyond the usual project activities and leverage on additional work that helps to raise awareness, linkship and foster collaborations among host country professionals, policy makers and extension agents among other key stakeholders.

The RCE CRSP AquaFish used on-farm trials wherever possible to expedite the adoption of results and technologies. RCE office advanced research and extension technologies and practices in Kenya, Mali, Uganda, Ghana and Tanzania whose impacts have been reported in Aquafish technical reports, peer review journals, student's dissertations and theses. RCE has continued to facilitate regional Networking mainly through SARNISSA forum exchange, Aquafish Newsletters, website, developed aquaculture fact sheets and teaching modules. In addition, the RCE office maintains strong support to graduate students in their theses work and conference attendance and mentoring undergraduates as well. Aquafish CRSP funded and supported setting up of the ANAF regional office in Jinja and RCE office has hence been a key player of ANAF by attending and participating in ANAF annual meetings.

1.1 Assessment of opportunities and gaps in technology

Technology transfer is frequently more efficient if end-users can see firsthand the results of novel technologies and management strategies. Resulting from this, the consumer adoption of technology lags availability of innovations. Through Collaborative Research in Aquaculture, RCE has endeavoured to work with all stakeholders in this region.

Fingerling production is major challenge with several important dimensions: quantity of seed produced, quality of seed produced, cost of seed produced and means of seed distribution to farmers. A recurring weakness, which places sustainability of aquaculture in jeopardy, is the fact that rural freshwater aquaculture in most African countries is still dependent upon government support for seed.

It can be argued that fingerling and food fish supplies should come from the private sector because private farms make the best demonstrations. Thus, with a more channeled vision, these stations should be seen as being justified only for training and research.

Poor quality seed means disappointing harvests and abandonment of the fish pond by farmers. Although a wide variety of fish have been tried in culture environments, the most common pond-raised fish in the Region are tilapias (i.e. various fish from the genera *Oreochromis* and *Tilapia*), common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*) and catfishes (i.e. *Clarias*, *Heterobranchus* or their hybrid). Initially both the carp and catfish were victims of the scarcity syndrome, both requiring extraordinary hatchery techniques. Fortunately, today it is now possible to produce *Clarias* seed using farmer-friendly techniques. Carp in Cameroon and Rwanda are spawning naturally while *Clarias* fingerlings are being produced by farmers in Kenya, Uganda and Mali.

In spite of this, tilapia remains the most frequently cultured fish, and the fish about which more complaints are made with respect to small harvest size, stunting, etc. To attempt to address this problem, a variety of techniques have been used in countries around the Region, including Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire and Zambia, to raise all male tilapia which grow to a larger size (than females). Hand sexing to obtain an all-male stock is the most user-friendly method. In Some countries such as Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria and Uganda, sex reversal using methyl-testosterone is employed, but this requires access to the hormone and slightly higher technology.

In view of the lack of reliable supplies of fish feeds especially extruded or floating pellets, most small-scale semi-intensive systems have relied upon natural food (e.g., zoo- and phytoplankton) production enhanced with fertilization (most often organic fertilizers) and supplemented by farm and household by-products (e.g. kitchen wastes, etc.). Such systems have demonstrated their productivity when farmers use an adequate variety of inputs in sufficient quantity. However, the promotion of semi-intensive systems does not directly address the issue of feed. In numerous countries formulation of more complete fish feeds has been attempted. Currently countries such as Kenya (Sigma Feeds) and Uganda (Ugachick) have witnessed feed companies setting up extruders. More commercially produced feeds are available in some countries (e.g. Nigeria, South Africa, Côte d'Ivoire and Zimbabwe) but these require the country's agricultural sector to

produce large quantities of by-products that can be available for feed fabrication. However, many countries in Africa do not have such supplies available. Yet, as one looks to the future, the current aquaculture forecasts mean that more and more countries should provide opportunities for more fish feed production at an affordable price.

1.2 Activities supporting women involvement

RCE has made every effort to address gender integration within the planned scope of work through training and involvement in project implementation. Presently, we factor in procedures for monitoring and evaluating gender integration in Aquafish projects in the region; I relay this information to all host country PI within the region. Among some of the activities women have been roped into include training on production of catfish as bait fish for Lake Victoria fisheries and several workshop as well a visit to Uganda fish farmers in 2009. Within the present Aquaculture CRSP in Kenya for example, more than 40% of the students educated through formal training opportunities are women; the two graduate students on the Kenya project are both girls.

The increase in the value of fish combined with increased production on both a global and regional scales implies a continued sustained demand for fish and fish products. This is quite expected, particularly for Africa where population growth rate far exceeds the rate of food production implying that aquaculture still has the potential for further development of aquaculture. In the recent past, the accelerating pace of growth of aquaculture in sub-Saharan Africa has received much positive appraisal because of the potential of the industry to contribute to development and food security by providing jobs (for the youth) and supplementing wild fish protein. In Kenya for example, the government has recognized aquaculture as a sub-sector with great potential to contribute towards the national economy. It is for this reason that the Government of Kenya under the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) developed an aquaculture support program to fast track development of the sub-sector. The first phase got a huge allocation of Ksh 1.1 billion ((\$14.7m) for the Kenya aquaculture support program in the 2009-2010, followed by a second phase in 2010-2011 financial years were with an allocation of Ksh. 2.7 billion (\$35m). Similar attentions although at different scale of funding are occurring in Malawi, Ghana, Uganda, and Mali among a host of other African countries.

Women generally play a major role in the production, processing and marketing of fish and fish products in Africa. This realization has brought about a growing concern about gender issues in aquaculture with governments and developing organizations focusing attention on improving the condition of women, especially those in the rural and semi-urban areas. One of the broad strategies of CRSP activities is to implement intervention strategies that assist and improve the lives of women relating to equality and empowerment. A better integration of women is in value chain of marketed fish products leading to improved economic wellbeing and help overcome inequalities and poverty for women.

In our endeavour to accomplish this realization, CRSP work in Kenya and Tanzania has established excellent working relationships with private operations and NGOs such as Women in the Fishing Industry Programme (WIFIP) working in the areas of fisheries, aquaculture and the environment. WIFIP is a not-for-profit, non-Governmental organization working towards empowerment of marginalized communities with a focus on women. WIFIP is based in Western, Kenya and has been working on education and training of women and other vulnerable groups in the fishing industry for the last eight years. The key programme interventions focus on socio-economic and sustainable development through development and delivery of contextually distance learning programmes particularly packaged as educative radio and audio programmes. Their collaboration has contributed to the successful innovations of ACRSP and AquaFish CRSP work and in Kenya. It has resulted in the government funding construction of over 35,000 fish ponds in 160 constituencies throughout the country.

We will continue and extend these partnerships such as Women in the Fishing Industry Programme (WIFIP) by involving women in our activities through workshops and training. We anticipate that some activities will focus solely upon gender-related issues in the context of aquaculture and fisheries development. HC PIs are reminded that they need to consider effects of specific activities on gender and ensure that any possible negative effects are mitigated. We have therefore made deliberate attempts to promote the participation of women in formal and informal education and training opportunities provided through the AquaFish CRSP in the region. We have endeavored to include equal numbers of men and women within all AquaFish CRSP activities.

1.3 Associate Award and other leveraged activities

Lead with Associate Award project

In Mali USAID mission funded the Lead with Associate, award project on “Aquatic Resource use and Conservation for Sustainable Fresh water Aquaculture and Fisheries”. In Kenya, we have worked with USAID Mission through Kenya Business Development Services (KBDS) and recent discussions on future collaboration were held during the visit by Dr. Kwamena Quagraine in June 2009 and a second visit April 15, 2010 at the USAID mission offices in Gigiri, Nairobi, Kenya.

Developed Proposals submitted for Research and Leverage:

- Kenya, South Africa linked with Brazil and wrote a proposal in August 2008. Funds for this project have been release and activities have begun. RCE coordinator has been invited to give a key note address at the annual aquaculture conference in Brazil
- Research-into-Use Programme- Call for ‘Best Bets’ Concept Notes: Agricultural Development in East and Central Africa. We have received funding for a pilot project on Setting up Aquashop in western Kenya (see the attached file).
- Basic Research to facilitate Expansion of Aquaculture in Developing (BREAD) regions of Brazil and Kenya using indigenous and local resources – NSF –Gates foundation
- ASARECA - Enhancing fish farmer – led enterprise for sustainable productivity and

livelihoods in East Africa – that was not funded

1.3.1 RCE Contacts in Ghana, Kenya, Mali, Uganda and Tanzania

Charles has established links and contacts with senior government officers in these countries

- In Ghana, We are working with FAO Africa Representative John Moehl on information exchange.
- In Kenya we are in close collaboration with The Ministry of Fisheries Development and have been invited to several meetings to discuss the Aquaculture stimulus programme and the Aquaculture development plan
- In Tanzania, the Assistant Director of Fisheries member of ANAF attended the meeting in Jinja and I linked him to FAO and SARNISSA
- In Uganda we have established linkage with Kajanssi Research centre and the Uganda Commissioner for Fisheries who attended the ANAF meeting in Jinja.

1.4 Outreach documents for mission and other stakeholders

See Document attached

2. 0 Quarterly Site/Linkage Visits

Quarterly Networking visits held in Bunda, Malawi

Charles attended the SARNISSA Stakeholders Workshop held on 10-11 February 2009 in Lilongwe, Malawi. The objective of the annual SARNISSA Stakeholders Workshop was to build research coalitions among public research and private sector producers to develop fundable programs of action research around key technological problems facing the aquaculture sector in sub-Saharan Africa.

This was the second workshop having had the first such workshop, in Cameroon in 2008, which established partnerships to work on feeds in West Africa, periurban aquaculture production systems in the DR Congo and women's freshwater prawn farming in Cameroon.

Each of these teams has evolved since the Yaoundé meeting through cross-site visits and teambuilding exercises and is currently developing research grant proposals. The Lilongwe meeting brought together stakeholders from Eastern and Southern Africa to develop similar programs of work. The major output was a group of concept notes for funding to regional, collaborative, public-private research partnerships. In addition, SARNISSA is developed a sustainability plan that would build it firmly into the evolving institutional framework within the sub-Region.

We also discussed collaboration with NEPAD and the Aquaculture Network for Africa (ANAF) and how these might engage with SARNISSA. A second important output of the meeting was developing a framework for further consideration, development and presentation to the Committee for the Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture of Africa (CIFAA) in their next meeting.

During this meeting, we appreciated with pride SARNISSA's Achievements, outputs, challenges and way forward into the final year. We reviewed and discussed performance of each work package and also monitoring of project impacts. Charles as RCE for the region plays a key role in SARNISSA and provides a vital link with Aquafish CRSP.

2.1 Fostering Linkages and Collaboration

Host Country decision makers were engaged so that aquaculture and fisheries policies would incorporate relevant research findings. Charles received invitations to participate in local stakeholder meetings. Charles as Regional Centers of Excellence, provided input on research directions while also accessing up-to-date information on research and outreach activities from government agencies and other stakeholders. Within this period, RCE helped host country PIs establish linkages with, USaid country Missions, (such as in Ghana, Mali, Uganda and Kenya), FAO mission and region offices, NEPAD/COMESA, ANAF, and SARNISSA among other stakeholders.

In addition to the large number of Aquafish Family, RCE has through SARNISSA established contacts with over 1,500 stakeholders who are enrolled members of SARNISSA. You may wish to know that partners within SARNISSA are pleased of what has been achieved over the last two years – we can still do much more – and in retrospect and analyses put this down to essentially having very clear and specific objectives – and associated activities – right from the proposal stage of the project – clearly knowing what we wanted to do. As William Leschen put it, we wished to create an information sharing network with materials and information relevant to African users, a community of individual members from a wide stakeholder base, and then to encourage and bring about sharing and potential collaborations between the different members towards positive change in African aquaculture. I think and hope this has provided individuals with something they need and can actually benefit from. I think these initial clear plans have stood us in good stead and I happy proud as Aquafish CRSP -RCE to be associated with this success. Through this initiative, member countries have received invitations for meeting, conferences and scholarship support from institutions such as the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. Through an earlier collaboration with Purdue University, we successfully submitted two project proposals and have received funding that will include support for two graduate students as well as run one on-farm trial for fish farmers.

RCE have made every effort to source leverage funds from USAID mission, EU, CIDA, DFID, and Government Ministries among others in support of aquaculture development for the region. Currently there are FAO/ TCP aquaculture projects going on in Uganda, Kenya and Ghana. Most recent undertaking has been the FAO support in Ghana. The “Aquaculture Investments for Poverty Reduction in the Volta Basin: Creating Opportunities for Low-Income African Fish Farmers through Improved Management of Tilapia Genetic Resources – Regional Project GCP/RAF/417/SPA”. The USaid funding in Uganda, World Fish Center funding in Malawi, NEPAD/Comesa project at Bunda College in Malawi, Leader with associate award in Mali, EU-SARNISSA funding for Cameroon, Malawi and Kenya, DFID Aquashop projects in Kenya among a host of other projects in the region.

2.2 Meeting with Feed Manufactures

In April 2009 I visited Ugachick Factory in Uganda and held discussion with the owner on the possibilities of Ugachick supplying extruded feed to Kenya fish farmers. This new extrusion line began in July 2008 when the first equipment order was placed. Installation began in April 2009 and was completed along with several other feed mill additions by November 2009. A small trial was run in November but the real testing began in January. Following more recent data on input quality, the formulation was altered and commercial production began towards the end of January 2010. Farmers have already begun purchasing the feed. Ugachick feed is now available to Kenya farmers and is being distributed by the Ministry of Fisheries Development under the Economic Stimulus programme. Enquiries for sales can be sent to: ugachick@infocom.co.ug

In November 2009, Karen Veverica and I visited Sigma Feed factory located in Nairobi to assess the potential for supply of extruded feeds that Sigma planned to sell to fish farmers in Kenya.

In yet another attempt to assist fish farmers source quality feeds and enhance pond fish growth performance, I visited Unga Feed Factory in Nakuru in June 2010. I had a discussion with management regarding need for the company to diversify into fish feed production. They informed me that in 1980s through 1990s they were producing trout pellets but due to reduced demand, they stopped producing fish feeds. They assured me however that they would consider holding a discussion with the Minister for Fisheries development so as to explore possibilities of making extruded feeds for the economic stimulus programme.

2.3 RCE Linkage with DFID/ Farm Africa RIU Project

Research-into- Use (RIUP) is a DFID funded programme aimed at catalysing agricultural innovation as a follow-up to DFID's £220m investment in the Renewable Natural Resources Research Strategy (RNRRS). It represents a shift in emphasis away from generating new knowledge and towards ensuring that existing research with potential is promoted and scaled up successfully to achieve lasting development impact.

The implementing team comprises of representatives from Natural Resources International Limited (England), Farm Africa (UK), University of Stirling (Scotland), Kenyatta University (CRSP), and Imani Development (East Africa). This team is collaborating with Ministry of Fisheries Development and Women in Fishing Industry (WIFIP).

The Aquaculture Research into Use project aims to build services by sharing the Best Practice and by supporting policy. This is an initiative that will build aquaculture development services through Aqua Shops. It is intended for the Aqua shops to be hubs for commercial and small-scale fish farmers to conveniently access aquaculture inputs, technical support and links to markets. The initiative will also share best practices in aquaculture through the development and provision of packages of information essential to profitable and sustainable aquaculture enterprises. It propose to build a business in Western Kenya that refines and actively replicates this Aqua Shop model and develops a wide network of franchised outlets delivering a range of

affordable, quality-assured products and services to farmers interested to expand their livelihood options to include fish farming.

2.4 The Kenya Farmers Helpline

Recently, a donor funded extensive research study was carried out aimed at establishing the availability of information sources for Small Holder Farmers (SHFs) in Kenya and how the information is accessed. Findings from the study show that the farmers have a range of sources but which are not readily available and not always dependable. As a result of these findings, KenCall leveraged its technical and customer service management expertise to launch the revolutionary Kenya Farmers' Helpline – Huduma Kwa Wakulima, a unique and innovative service that aims to provide agricultural and horticultural information, advice and support over the phone to small holder farmers who are living on or around the subsistence level.

KenCall is a new concept in Kenya. It is the largest contact center operating globally and providing call center and Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) services to organizations worldwide. KenCall offers unrivalled experience in customer care, telesales, technical support, customer acquisition, web chat services and BPO. Its business is built upon world-class technology infrastructure and operations.

2.5 Information dissemination through conference participation

The RCE office is proud to announce that the Africa team submitted several papers at the World Aquaculture Conference a few are listed below with their titles:

- Charles Ngugi and Kwamena Quagraine 2010. Efficient Pond Design Strategies for a Variety of Environments. World Aquaculture Conference, San Diego, California 1-5 March 2010. Oral Presentation.
- Judith Amadiva and **Charles Ngugi** 2010. Marketing farmed fish in Kenya: Opportunities and Challenges. World Aquaculture Conference, San Diego, California 1-5 March 2010. Oral Presentation.
- Maria Celia Portella, Hillary Egna, James Bowman, Remedios Bolivar, Wilfrido Contreras, Laurens De Wet, Khalid Salie **Charles Ngugi** and Nguyen Thanh Phuong 2010. Transferring Cichlid Culture Technologies to Brazil: Yang Yi's Legacy. World Aquaculture Conference, San Diego, California 1-5 March 2010. Oral Presentation.
- James Bowman, Lisa Reifke, Hery Coulibaly, **Charles Ngugi**, Yang Yi, Liping Liu, Nancy Gitonga, Peter Nzungi and Hillary Egna 2010. Towards the Development of Sustainable freshwater Aquaculture and Fisheries Management Practices in Mali: Collaborative work under the Aquafish CRSP. World Aquaculture Conference, San Diego, California 1-5 March 2010. Poster Presentation.

3.0 Quarterly Visits to USAID Mission

3.1 First quarterly visit with the USAID Mission in Nairobi

We had the first USaid mission visit in June 2010. During this visit attended by, Kwamena Quagraine (US PI – also referred to as DTAP), John Bower on a consultancy with USaid, Washington and Charles Ngugi met and discussed Aquafish CRSP involvement in Africa. We briefed the AID mission on the projects that were being implemented and also thanked them for finding time to review CRSP proposals sent to them for comments.

Since then, we have made attempt to inform USAID personnel Kenya and Mali the option to receive AquaFish CRSP publications, including *Aquanews*, Annual Administrative and Technical Reports, manuals, fact sheets, etc. to keep the Mission properly informed of AquaFish CRSP activities. The AquaFish USAID personnel were also invited to participate in planning and assessment meetings to remain completely informed of progress and constraints facing the Project.

3.2 Second quarterly visit with the USAID Mission in Nairobi

During my second visit, I was accompanied by Mrs Nancy Gitonga of African Union Aibar desk on 15th April 2010. We held a very successful meeting whose deliberations are summarized below:

Present:

Mr. Phares Ratego, USAID-KENYA
Prof. Charles Ngugi, AQUAFISH CRSP
Mrs. Nancy Gitonga, AU-IBAR

AU-IBAR and Fisheries

Mrs. N. Gitonga gave a brief summary of the reason for the meeting, which was basically to establish collaboration mechanisms with USAID to expedite aquaculture development in Africa.

The Strategic Partnership for Sustainable Investment Fund (SPFIF) project is housed by AU-IBAR, which is an AUC regional office that deals with annual resources issues in Africa. The SPFIF project development included elaborate stakeholders' consultation process. As a partnership initiative the SPFIF is designed to facilitate sustainable fisheries management in the large marine ecosystems. The project through the RAC Secretariat thus endeavors to forge collaborators and partnerships with institutions and programmes and therefore the main reason for this meeting is to discuss on fisheries areas for collaboration between AU and USAID.

It is important to note that the AU has very little information on donor funded projects that occur in Africa because the reporting of the projects' progress and outcomes is direct

to donors. This needs to change and the process can be expedited through development of a collaboration mechanism, coordinated by AUC.

3.3 Aquaculture development in Africa

It is important to develop synergies in aquaculture and therefore due to the role Aquaculture CRSP has played in the continent, through USAID funding, AU envisaged that there is need for projects' coordination and information sharing. Fortunately, the Regional Centre of Excellence (RCE) initiative created by Aquafish CRSP provides a very good avenue for aquaculture networks and information sharing. Prof. Ngugi of Kenyatta University is the coordinator of RCE in East and Southern African region.

There has been concern that the USAID country offices do not appear to be aware of the USAID – USA funded projects. This meeting seeks to discuss ways to change this so that African Union can play a more coordinating and central role in aquaculture projects. In this regard, the RCE would play a catalytic role on aquaculture information dissemination.

3.4 Aquafish CRSP and RCE

Prof. Ngugi gave a brief report on the Aquaculture CRSP regional projects that he is involved in and his role as a RCE co-coordinator. He reported that there are 3 RCEs; one is SE Asia, one in Africa and another in Latin America. The idea of RCEs is to provide a network mechanism for dissemination of Aquafish CRSP regional aquaculture with a view of influencing governments and collaborators to leverage and replicate the CRSP outputs in order to expedite the sub-sector growth.

On Aquafish projects that he is currently involved in, there is collaboration with countries' Fisheries Departments and projects were reviewed by USAID – Kenya as required, but beyond that there has been no more contact with USAID. The current projects include:

Pond cage farming of Nile tilapia in Western and Central Kenya and. Value chain development for tilapia and catfish development: opportunities for women participation.

Some information was given on the ongoing Economic Stimulus Package where Kenya government is giving 1.1 billion Kenya Shillings for aquaculture development. It is a good step forward towards development of aquaculture for government of Kenya to recognize sub-sector and give it so much prominence as one of the areas that can expedite economic development. This development is based on the confidence that the sub-sector can perform well with proper inputs and marketing systems. This confidence in aquaculture can be traced back to the involvement of Aquaculture CRSP in Africa, where it laid foundation for small scale fish farming development through technology transfer and capacity building for both government extension officials and stakeholders (farmers) themselves.

3.5 The Kenyan Aquaculture Economic Stimulus Package includes the following:

Construction of 200 ponds in each of 140 constituencies, each costing KES 25,000
Stocking of ponds from 27 identified and certified fingerling producers. Each pond costing KES 3,000 (+ KES 2,000 for transportation)
The total money given to farmers per pond by government is therefore KES 40,000.

The success of this Aquaculture Economic Stimulus Package will boost fish farming in the continent through lesson learning.

3.6 USAID-Kenya

Mr. Phares Ratego gave a brief insight on the USAID activity planning processes: The USAID mission develops strategies that state what they want to do for economic growth through selected sectors. This is long term and general. An operational plan for the year with specific allocated and locked in the activities. This process usually takes place in March for the following year's activities.

This, he explained makes it difficult for the mission to have any extra resources for any other activity not included in the operational plan. He however, agreed that the mission should provide some level of oversight but this is impeded by shortage of staff. It is important that Aquafish CRSP and the African Union continue to engage with USAID through sharing information especially on activities of other projects funded by USAID.

Mr. Ratego informed the members that USAID-Kenya has developed a food security programme targeting staple food. They are promoting what they term as orphan food crops of which fish is included.

Meeting recommendations

Aquafish CRSP to share ongoing Aquaculture projects information with USAID-Kenya – Action Prof. Ngugi; Establish a collaboration mechanism RCE/AU-IBAR/USAID – Kenya

Action: All

Organize for a meeting between Head of AU-IBAR Animal Resources Production unit and the Head of Agriculture, Business and Environment, USAID-Kenya office. Action:

Mrs. Gitonga and Mr. Ratego

Involvement of RECs in aquaculture development initiatives

Action: AU-IBAR and NEPAD (Mrs. Gitonga to initiate)

4.0 Regional Meeting: Aquaculture Network for Africa (ANAF) meeting (Jinja, Uganda)

Charles attended an ANAF meeting organized by John Moehl in Jinja at the beginning of July - which was planned to discuss and see whether SARNISSA and ANAF could merge into one overall network . As you know there have been a number of African aquaculture, fisheries, policy level etc networks set up over the last 3-5 yrs with some progressing further than others in terms of impacts and results – whilst there has also been a certain level of replication in what each was trying to achieve. William Leschen had been having discussions with John Moehl since inviting him and Sloans Chimatiro to our sarnissa annual meeting in Malawi in Feb 2010 (which Charles attended) where the idea of a merger was first broached. After a fairly lively discussions at the Jinja meeting we came to an agreement that ANAF and SARNISSA should try to merge into one overall network - During the negotiations on this we both agreed that SARNISSA should keep its own identity and brand - with - in terms of IT, information sharing, the websites, the discussion fora – the cross over between Fr and Eng speaking SSA aquaculture etc SARNISSA would retain all of these roles - Whilst ANAF would work more within a policy level role – as it had done in the past – whilst also going on to develop a training education based programme.

More Specifically ANAF would focus on prioritized areas addressing the greatest perceived needs within SSA development such as fish farm management, training, outreach, seed production and hatchery management, collaboration with local institution in developing university and college curricula in order to give students more of the skills required for working in commercial or sustainable aquaculture – rather than going on to work for the government in research or administration. In the same vein assist in developing on farm internship programmes, and identifying and strengthening in SSA context “Centres of Excellence” for specific areas e.g. fish genetics, fish propagation, reproduction, nutrition, aquatic animal health etc.

5.0 Activities related to IEHA goals

The AquaFish CRSP Strategy for Achieving Development Impact in sub-Saharan Africa focuses on Research, capacity building, information dissemination, through but not limited to the Presidential Initiative to End Hunger in Africa (IEHA) launched in 2002. The six countries currently included in IEHA are Kenya, Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Uganda and Zambia. Focal areas cut across, improving nutrition and health, maximizing water, soil quality and productivity, broadening market access, increasing incomes, and improving food quality, processing, and safety. The initiative focuses on promoting Aquaculture growth and building an African-led partnership to cut hunger and poverty by investing in small-scale fish farmers.

Presently Aquafish CRSP is focused on complementary themes in different IEHA countries as shown in:

- Kenya –Focus is now on marketing and impact assessment for cage culture in small water bodies
- Tanzania – Fish Production and technology transfer
- Ghana – Fish feed, water quality, environmental impact assessment for cage culture on Lake Volta and marketing



- Mali – Aquatic Resource use and conservation for sustainable freshwater aquaculture and fisheries. This is a leader with associate award project.
- Uganda -Hydrology, Water Harvesting, and Watershed Management for Food Security, Income, and Health: Small Impoundments for Aquaculture and Other Community Uses

6.0 ACRONYMS and ABBREVIATIONS

ACRSP = Aquaculture Collaborative Research Support Program

AquaFish CRSP = Aquaculture and Fisheries Collaborative Research Support Program

ANAF = Aquaculture Network for Africa

CRSP = Collaborative Research Support Program

COMESA = Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa

FAO = Food and Agriculture Organization (of the United Nations)

HCPI = Host Country Principal Investigator

IGO = Inter Governmental Organization

NEPAD = New Partnership for Africa's Development

NGO = Non Governmental Organization

SARNISSA = Sustainable Aquaculture Research Network in Sub Saharan Africa