

Aquaculture for Madagascar's Food Security

Sustainable small-scale fish farms have successfully contributed to the transformation of agricultural and food systems

The challenge

In Madagascar, poverty among the rural population, combined with the limited availability of food rich in proteins and essential nutrients, represents a major challenge in terms of malnutrition, particularly among children. In Madagascar, fish, particularly fish from aquaculture, plays a crucial role in the diet as a source of protein and nutrients. However, access to aquaculture resources remains a major challenge due to their limited availability in local markets. Per capita fish consumption is estimated at 4 kg per year, which is below the African and global averages (FAO 2024, *Aquaculture growth potential in Madagascar*). Although demand for quality fish is higher than supply, development of the aquaculture sector is progressing slowly due to structural constraints, limited access to inputs and relatively weak technical capacity in both the public and private sectors.

The project is part of the special initiative of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) “SI AGER: Transformation of agri-food systems”. The projects under this initiative contribute to reducing extreme poverty and hunger by implementing several global projects in various sectors. Within its implementation framework, GIZ is working in several areas: food security, innovation and job creation, soil protection and adaptation to climate change, guaranteeing land policies, livestock farming and agroecology, fisheries, and aquaculture.

Project name	Aquaculture pour la Sécurité Alimentaire de Madagascar (ASAM)
Commissioned by	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Project region	Haute Matsiatra, Amoron'i Mania, Atsimo Atsinanana
Duration	03/2024 – 02/2028
Budget	EUR 4,218,300

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS The programme contributes to achieving these sustainable development goals:



Our approach

The project adopts a three-pronged approach, combining technical and institutional interventions to build the capacity of fish farmers and producer groups, while supporting the updating of the regulatory framework for the sector's sustainable development. To facilitate the spread of fish farming and increase the availability of aquatic products in the target areas, the project strengthens the capacity of small-scale fish farmers and fry breeders. The intervention aims to increase fish production and make it easier to market on local markets. The goal is to help improve local livelihoods and meet the demand for highly nutritious food.



Photo left: A fish farmer feeding fish in a rice field.

Photo right: Fishing with net in Haute Matsiatra.



Photo left: Harvest in Haute Matsiatra

Photo right: A fisherman holds a carp (spawner) in Amoron'i Mania.

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The project is strengthening the organization of producer groups to promote their professionalization and integration into the sector, by supporting cooperation between local players and facilitating the establishment of new economic networks. This professionalization of producer groups contributes to the sustainability and resilience of the aquaculture sector.

As part of a regional approach and in order to promote the development of sustainable aquaculture and the preservation of natural resources, the project, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Fisheries and the Blue Economy (MPEB), contributes to updating the environmental regulations and developing an environmental monitoring tool tailored to aquaculture. The aim is to promote sustainable aquaculture that conserves natural resources while meeting the food and economic needs of local communities. The technical and organizational innovations tested and validated on the scale of the project will be presented by our partners at an international policy forum to facilitate the scaling-up of these innovations and contribute to the sustainable transformation of food systems.

Project results

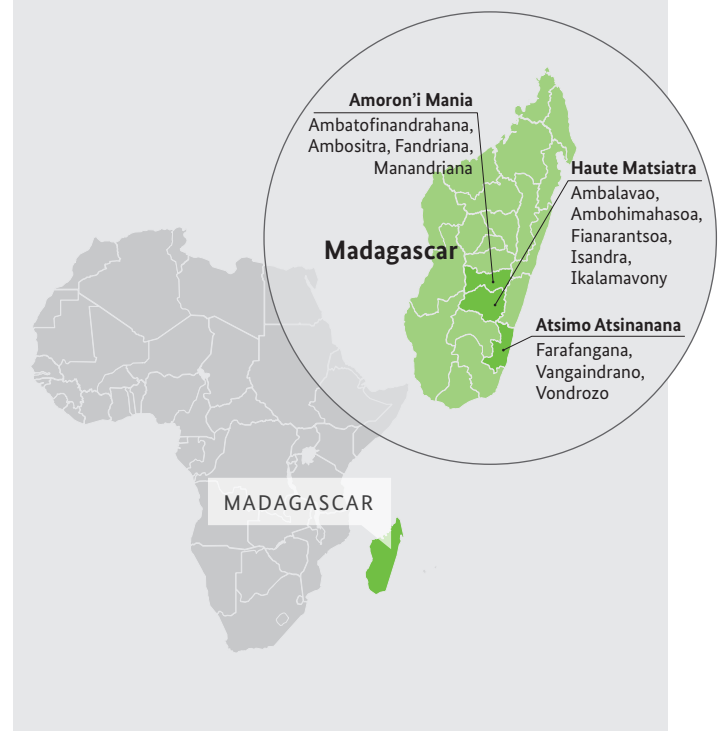
The project aims to:

- Increase the quantity of food from sustainable aquaculture available on local markets by 125 tonnes per year;
- Implement a regional measure to promote sustainable aquaculture and the preservation of natural resources;
- Contribute to the international debate on sustainable aquaculture by supporting the presentation of a project outcome by our partners in an international policy forum.

The target group

The project's beneficiaries are groups of fish farmers and fish farms run by women and men in rural areas.

The intervention areas



This geographical map is for informational purposes only and does not constitute recognition of international boundaries or regions; GIZ makes no claims concerning the validity, accuracy or completeness of the maps nor assumes any liability resulting from the use of the information therein.

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