



AFRAQ25 Special Session



Public-Private Partnerships in Aquaculture Industry in Africa: Successes and Challenges

Session Chairs: Lanre Badmus & Azuka Chekwube

Invitation for Contributions

The World Aquaculture Society - Africa Chapter (WAS-AC) invites contributions from private sector players, government agencies, aquaculture enterprises, researchers, and development partners for a special session at *AFRAQ 2025, Uganda*. This session will explore the role of Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) in transforming Africa's aquaculture industry, highlighting both successes and challenges.

We seek experience-based presentations, case studies, and policy insights that examine:

- **Successful PPP models** that have positively impacted aquaculture development.
- **Challenges to PPP implementation** such as policy gaps, financial constraints, and technical capacity limitations.
- **Innovative solutions and strategies** to strengthen PPP frameworks in aquaculture.
- **The role of PPPs in sustainable aquaculture development, food security, and economic growth.**

Concept Note

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) have become an essential blue economy strategy for fostering growth, innovation, and sustainability in Africa's aquaculture industry. These partnerships enable collaboration between governments, private investors, research institutions, and development organizations to enhance production, market access, and sectoral competitiveness. While PPPs have the potential to transform Africa's aquaculture industry by leveraging private sector efficiency and public sector support, they are still a relatively new strategy with mixed outcomes in various countries. Identifying and addressing the existing challenges through policy harmonization, capacity-building initiatives, and strategic investments will be critical to maximizing the benefits of PPPs in aquaculture. Strengthened partnerships will contribute to food security, job creation, and economic resilience across the continent.

The PPP special session will analyse successful PPP models that have significantly contributed to the aquaculture sector; as well as the lessons learned from challenges to implementation such as inadequate policies, inappropriate institutional arrangements, financial constraints, and technical capacity gaps.

Experience papers on PPP implementation in aquaculture will be presented followed by a facilitated panel discussion and audience Q&A.

Objectives

The interactive PPP session is expected to address the following objectives:

1. Evaluate the role and impact of existing PPP initiatives in Africa's aquaculture sector.
2. Identify key success factors and best practices for sustainable aquaculture PPPs.
3. Analyze challenges affecting effective PPP implementation and suggest viable solutions.
4. Promote policy frameworks that encourage private-sector investment in aquaculture.
5. Strengthen collaboration among government bodies, private enterprises, and research institutions to drive innovation and market expansion.
6. Develop strategies for financial sustainability and improved access to funding for PPP-driven aquaculture ventures.

Expected Outcomes

A synthesis of the PPP discussion will be compiled together with the submitted abstracts to provide:

1. An assessment of successful PPP models in African aquaculture.
2. Policy recommendations for governments to create an enabling environment for private sector investment.
3. Recommendations for strengthened collaboration frameworks between public and private stakeholders in aquaculture.
4. Identification of sustainable financing mechanisms for aquaculture PPPs.
5. Increased awareness and participation of investors, policymakers, and entrepreneurs in PPP-driven aquaculture projects.
6. Recommendations for the development of PPP action plans to enhance aquaculture business profitability, sustainability, and global competitiveness.

Draft Agenda:

1. Session Introduction: context and objectives. 15min
2. PPP Case study #1 10min
3. PPP Case study #2 10min
4. PPP Case study #3 10min
5. PPP Case study #4 10min
6. PPP Case study #5 10 Min
7. Facilitated panel discussion and Q&A. 55min

Who Should Contribute?

We welcome contributions from:

- ✓ **Private sector stakeholders** (aquaculture investors, processors, feed manufacturers, exporters, and service providers).
- ✓ **Government agencies** involved in fisheries and aquaculture regulation, policy, and development.
- ✓ **Aquaculture enterprises** engaged in production, value chain development, and market expansion.
- ✓ **Financial institutions and development partners** supporting aquaculture financing and investment.
- ✓ **Researchers and academia** working on PPP models, governance, and innovation in aquaculture.

Submission Guidelines

Interested contributors should submit a **300-word abstract** summarizing their proposed presentation, including key findings, case studies, and policy recommendations. Submissions should be sent to Dr. Lanre Badmus lanre2ola@gmail.com for inclusion in the session by **15 April 2025**, and submitted online on the conference website <https://was.org/Meeting/code/AFRAQ25>. If your presentation cannot be accommodated in the PPP special session, it will be allocated to another suitably themed session.

For inquiries, please contact Prof. Peter Britz and Dr. Lanre Badmus at p.britz@ru.ac.za, lanre2ola@gmail.com, respectively.

We look forward to your valuable contributions in shaping the future of aquaculture PPPs in Africa!