



GQSP: SMART-Fish II (Global Quality and Standards Programme: Sustainable Market Access through Responsible Trading of Fish in Indonesia II)

Country/region
Indonesia

Executing agency
United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)

Project duration
2019-2022

Budget
EUR
1,539,000



A seaweed farmer in South Sulawesi assisted by SMART-Fish presenting his seaweed (© UNIDO)

Rationale

The fisheries and seafood sector constitutes an important pillar of the Indonesian economy through export revenues, income generation, and employment. Contribution of the fisheries sector to the national GDP has grown in the past decade. While the sector's growth rate has been consistently exceeding the GDP growth rate, the share of fisheries products in the overall export from Indonesia is not more than 2%.

Against this background, the SMART-Fish project (2013-2019) was developed aiming at strengthening pangasius, seaweed and pole-and-line

tuna value chains within the Indonesian fisheries export sector. SMART-Fish supported the sector to increase value of exports through providing advice to the government on enacting policies for creating favourable framework conditions for exports, improving competitiveness of products in terms of price and quality, enhancing compliance with international market requirements and facilitating entry into global value chains.

SMART-Fish II is the continuation of SMART-Fish. It is a country project within the Global Quality and Standards Programme (GQSP). Continuing on the work of Phase I, Phase II intends to improve better market access for Indonesian aquaculture products by strengthening Indonesia's capacities to comply with internationally recognized quality standards, resulting in increased recognition of the quality and compliance of Indonesian selected aquaculture and seaweed products to international markets and buyer standard requirements.

Objectives and activities

SMART-Fish II will look at systematic approach to strengthening quality and standards compliance capacity to facilitate SMEs in the fisheries sector gain better market access.

The expected impact of the programme is to improve the competitiveness of the selected Indonesian aquaculture and seaweed products. This will be pursued through three outcomes, each of which will address the main compliance challenges in Indonesian fisheries sector:

- Outcome 1: Technical competence and sustainability of National Quality Infrastructure enhanced
- Outcome 2: Compliance of fisheries aquaculture and seaweed producers enhanced
- Outcome 3: Quality awareness enhanced and reflected in conducive policies.

Seaweed, shrimp, pangasius, milkfish, and catfish are the five value chains that will be supported by the programme in Indonesia. Twenty-six main producing districts of the selected five value chains in eight provinces, have been identified as the main locations for the programme implementation.

Governance Structure

A Steering Committee (SC), which includes UNIDO, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF), National Standardization Agency (BSN) and SECO, is in charge of the strategic management responsibility. The SC meets semi-annually and is responsible to make all strategic decisions, such as changing programme components or budgets, approving implementation and financial reports, and changing key beneficiaries.

Results to Date

The year of 2020 has been a challenging period largely due to the global pandemic COVID-19, which has strongly affected all of the programme partners in ministries, institutions, farms and processors. On the other hand, the crisis has emphasized the importance of digital transformation and, as a result, has created new opportunities to accelerate digitalization. Shifting activities to virtual mode, engaging local government and private institutions, as well as deploying local assistances and extension officers are among the measures taken by the programme to adjust to the new normal, all of which have resulted in good progress.

In 2020, 19 out of 25 main activities were implemented, including: 10 activities under quality infrastructure (outcome 1); 6 activities under SMEs (outcome 2) and 3 activities under quality awareness (outcome 3). These activities are focused on the following:

- Quality Infrastructures: Indonesian Good Aquaculture Practices (IndoGAP), policy advises on streamlining and harmonizing quality and safety assurance system in fisheries (QSAS), standards and standardization, development of reference material producers (RMPs), COVID-19 mitigation measures and LabNet (GQSP Knowledge hub)
- Support to SMEs: Developing and piloting SOPs as well as establishing collaboration with public and private partners
- Quality awareness: policy advises and FGDs on standards and quality related issues

Among the notable results made in 2020 are: three Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) for IndoGAP have been established and are ready to be accredited; five written policy recommendations have been submitted; eight national standards have been revised; two RMPs have been developed and are being piloted; and 27 fisheries testing laboratories have joined LabNet. Hundreds of aquaculture auditors, fish inspectors, quality assurance coaches, lab personnel, and standard conceptors were also trained within the same year. Furthermore, as an affiliate partner of FAO, the programme has established a formal agreement with Global Seafood Sustainability Initiatives (GSSI).