

TiSeed project close out workshop and launch of fish farm tracker app



The project “Accelerating aquaculture development in Ghana through sustainable Nile Tilapia seed production and dissemination” [Tilapia Seed Project – TiSeed] was led by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). The TiSeed project was implemented by a consortium of international and national institutions, being (CSIR-Water Research Institute – CSIR-WRI, Fisheries Commission of Ghana, World Fish, KIT Royal Tropical Institute - Netherlands, and private hatcheries, Crystal Lake Ltd. and S-Hoint Ltd). The project focused on tilapia seed research to investigate challenges in the value chain and provide solutions for sustainable fish

production and inclusive aquaculture businesses.

It was originally a 3-year project (February 2019 – January 2022), but extended to September 2022 due to the impact of COVID-19. It was funded by Netherlands' Science for Global Development program (NWO-WOTRO) and CGIAR. The total grant was 1.2 million EURO (1.4 million USD), thus, 1 million EURO from Netherlands' NWO-WOTRO and 197,210 EURO co-funding from IFPRI, WorldFish and CSIR-WRI

Dr. Anthony Y. Karikari, the Deputy Director of CSIR-WRI representing the Director of CSIR-WRI in his opening speech stated that “the TiSeed project was timely, especially during a period when Tilapia seed system had been compromised by the same industry players giving rise to distribution and use of poor-quality fish seed, loss of jobs and threat to food and nutrition security.” He cited that; He had no doubt that the objectives set for the project would be achieved despite the devastating impact of COVID-19, a year after its inception. He congratulated the consortium of partners both local and international for working relentlessly and successfully implementing the project.

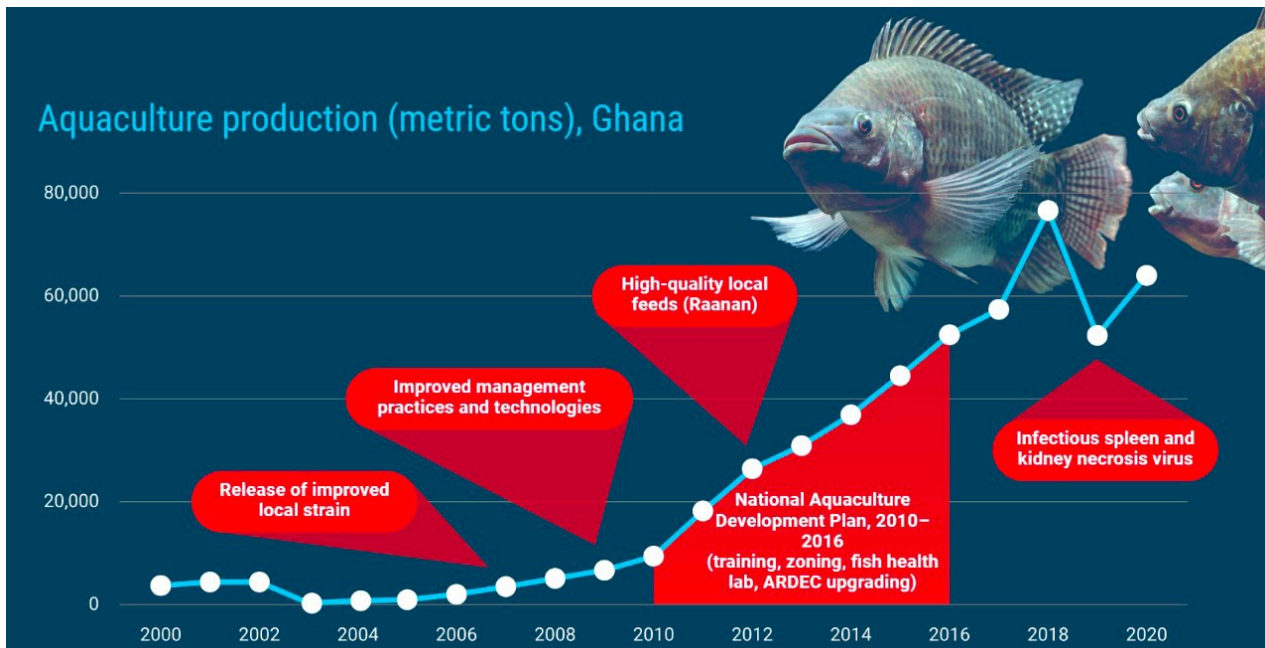
In a speech read on behalf of the Executive Director by Mrs. Jennifer Viglo, a Senior Manager at Fisheries Commission, mentioned that, although the project is ending, he (Executive Director) considered it a defining moment in the history of Tilapia farming in Ghana as we herald sustainable production and distribution of tilapia seed for fish farmers. “Tilapia farming is very important in the country as a major supply of fish and a significant source of employment. Although there has been a significant growth in the aquaculture subsector, bottlenecks such as lack of reliable and quality of fish seed for stocking in grow out facility, as well as inadequate technical know-how among the hatchery operators and farmers slow the pace of fish production in the country”. He thanked the team for the excellent work done in increasing technical knowledge and improving the quality and survival of the tilapia seed through promotion and adoption of research findings.

According to Dr. Catherine Ragasa, the project team lead, “in sub-Saharan Africa, the aquaculture sector is relatively small but has seen significant growth over the last two decades albeit with some challenges.”

Tilapia Seed

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