Nigeria

**FISH4ACP** supports Nigeria’s efforts to make its catfish sector more resilient and efficient in providing affordable food for its population, creating jobs and business opportunities, while reducing harm to human health and lessening the burden on the environment.

**WHAT WE focus on**

- **Value chain analysis** to help the catfish sector improve production and self-sufficiency.
- **Help producers adopt** better practices and improve their infrastructure.
- **Improve markets and marketing practices** along the catfish value chain.
- **Help processors adopt** improved and cleaner smoking methods.
- **Help businesses to access** additional sources of finance and investment.

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**VALUE CHAIN AT A GLANCE**

**African catfish** *(Clarias gariepinus)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRODUCTION METHOD</th>
<th>VOLUMES *</th>
<th>VALUE *</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>farmed (intensive and semi-intensive)</td>
<td>1 million tonnes (est.)**</td>
<td>USD 2.6 billion (est.)**</td>
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*Estimate FISH4ACP value chain analysis, primary production  ** Preliminary findings
With over 223 million people, Nigeria is Africa’s most populous nation, and fish makes up over 40 percent of people’s animal protein intake, of which at least one-quarter is catfish. Nigeria is also the world’s largest producer of African catfish with annual production that could be as high as one million tonnes in 2021 worth around USD 2.6 billion.

Nigeria wants to become more self-sufficient in fish production, as demand significantly exceeds domestic production. Nigeria prioritizes aquaculture, and catfish in particular, because of its potential to create jobs and business opportunities, particularly for women and youth.

FISH4ACP is helping to make Nigeria’s catfish sector more resilient and efficient in providing affordable food to Nigeria’s people, creating jobs and business opportunities, while reducing the impact on human health and lessening the burden on the environment.

In supporting improved practices in feed, fingerling and fish production, management and distribution, FISH4ACP strives to bring down production costs and make catfish more affordable. It is also supporting the introduction of innovative smoking kilns that use less wood and reduce people’s exposure to smoke.

Facts & figures

According to preliminary findings of FISH4ACP’s value chain analysis, annual catfish production could be as high as one million tonnes in 2021 worth around USD 2.6 billion.

Catfish represents an estimated 90% of Nigeria’s fish farming activities.

Fish makes up over 40% of Nigeria’s protein intake, of which at least one-quarter is catfish.

There are an estimated 285,000 catfish producers, 60% of which are small-scale farmers.

The catfish sector supports an estimated one million direct and indirect jobs.

FISH4ACP is an initiative of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) aimed at making fisheries and aquaculture value chains in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific more sustainable. It is implemented by FAO and partners with funding from the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

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