



PAPUA NEW GUINEA
NATIONAL FISHERIES AUTHORITY

OVERVIEW OF THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA TILAPIA INDUSTRY

2015 TILAPIA CONFERENCE, KUALA LUMPUR

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INFOFISH

Overview

- ▶ History
- ▶ Constraints in Aquaculture
- ▶ Government Programs and Strategies
- ▶ Current Production Status
- ▶ Tilapia farming developments
- ▶ Way forward

History of Aquaculture in PNG

- ▶ Aquaculture was introduced in PNG in the 1950s to alleviate high malnutrition levels in the inland areas of PNG
- ▶ Out of 100+ species introduced that time for both stocking and aquaculture purpose, Common Carp (1959), Tilapia (1954) and Rainbow Trout have succeeded in aquaculture at very extensive levels.
- ▶ There has been very little growth in the aquaculture industry ever since and is mostly regarded a hobby activity



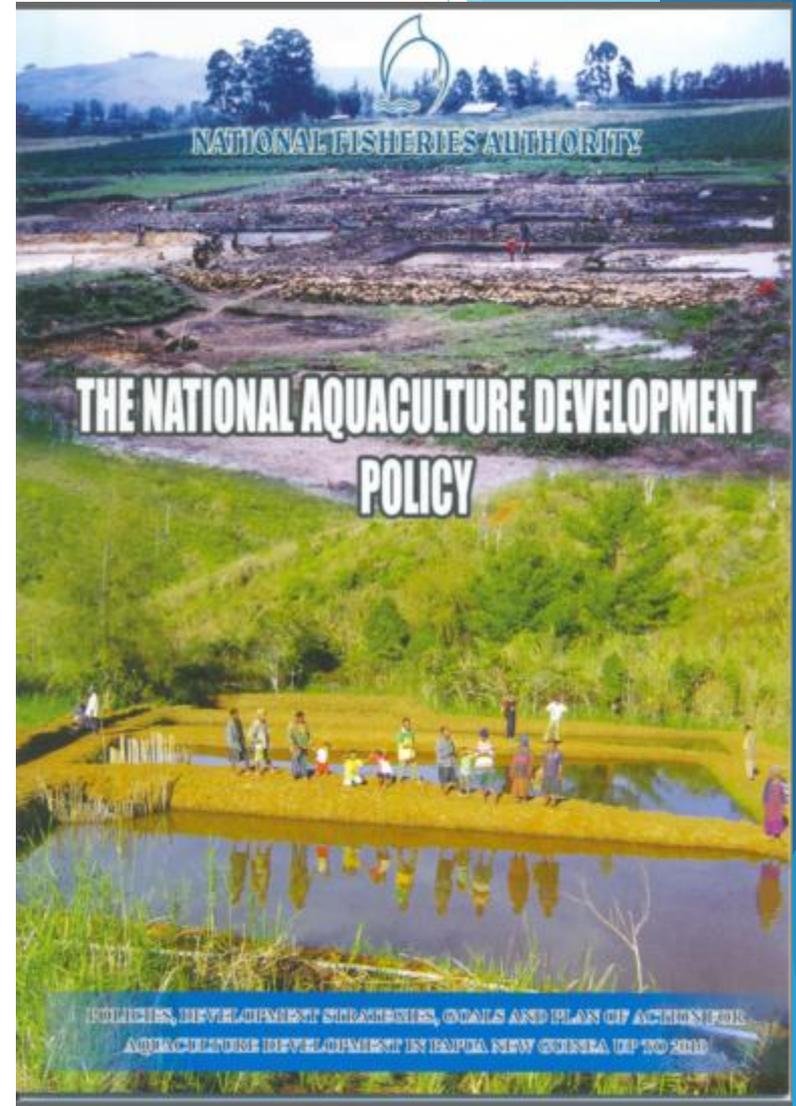
AQUACULTURE CONSTRAINTS

- ▶ Lack of farmer and extension officers technical capacity, research and development.
 - ✓ Limited skilled technical officers
 - ✓ High level of primitive extensive farming practices
- ▶ Access to quality, affordable and readily available feed.
- ▶ Access to good supply of fingerlings
- ▶ Economic potential not realized
 - ✓ Aquaculture economic and business capacity lacking
- ▶ OTHERS - financial capacity, resource ownership, etc.



Government Strategies & Programs

- ▶ The National Fisheries Authority is responsible for all aquaculture developments and activities in PNG
- ▶ NFA also regulates and manages all fishery in PNG
- ▶ The National Aquaculture Development Policy - guides all aquaculture research, development and extension activities
- ▶ Closely collaborates with national and regional bodies for aquaculture development in PNG (ACIAR, SPC, etc.)
 - ✓ Limited technical officers
 - ✓ More research and extension needed



- ▶ Most funding for our aquaculture programs are derived from the tuna fishery and negotiations
- ▶ Aquaculture and fishery development programs that tilapia farmers benefit from include:
 - ✓ Provincial project grants - infrastructure and capacity development (US\$13.5 Million)
 - ✓ Small scale fishing and fish farming grants (US\$4 Million)
 - ✓ Fishery credit facility for Small to Medium Enterprise (US\$1.5 Million)
- ▶ Other programs put in place to support tilapia farmers:
 - ✓ Fish for schools and prisons program
 - ✓ Farmer extension and support with feed and fingerlings
 - ✓ Establishment and support of Mini-feed mill and hatcheries for farmers
 - ✓ Farmers training and exposure
 - ✓ Technical information distribution (manuals & pamphlets)
 - ✓ Formation of Tilapia farmer Cooperatives
- ▶ Establishment of the National Aquaculture Advisory Committee to plan delivery of programs and strategies



CURRENT PRODUCTION STATUS

- ▶ Most farms located inland PNG and are still at extensive levels
- ▶ There is a slow increase in number of people engaging in Tilapia production
- ▶ Survey was carried out in 2013 and estimated a total of 22,000 farmers with a total annual production of 15,000 MT for domestic marketing and consumption
- ▶ Increasing interest from people to engage in Tilapia Aquaculture

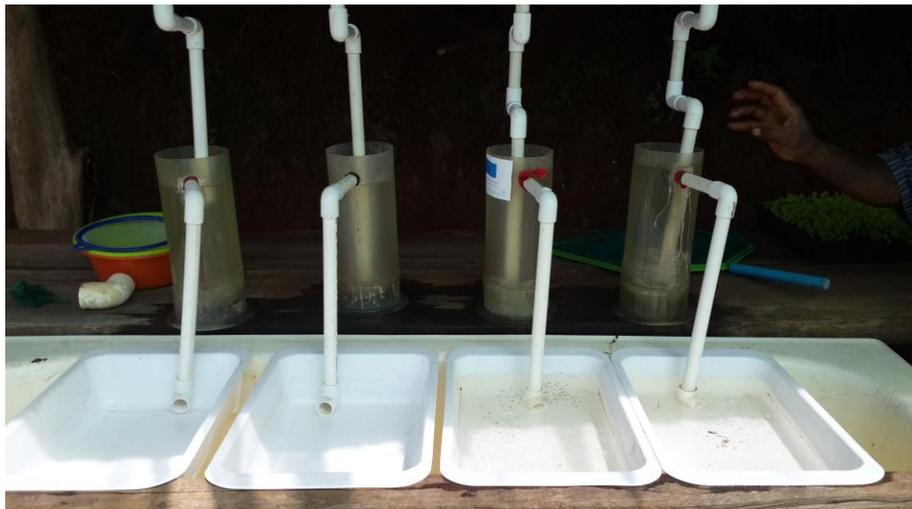


- ▶ Domestic market potential is great and farmers do generate income from tilapia sales at local market
- ▶ Farmers can make between \$4-\$7/kg on fresh or cooked tilapia
- ▶ The captured tilapia fishery by small-scale fisherman in lakes and rivers is small.
- ▶ Frozen wild captured tilapia is sold in local stores stores at \$6-8/Kg.



DEVELOPMENTS IN TILAPIA FARMING

- ▶ Few farmers have realized the potential and have progressing into more semi-intensive farming cage farming of Tilapia.
- ▶ Recent advances in hatchery operations and all-male tilapia production has increased in a couple of semi-intensive cage culture establishments.
- ▶ Selected lead farmers have been exposed to international hatchery, farming and marketing trainings to increase their production.



- ▶ More research in affordable feed production has been made and a policy is being developed to retain some percentage of fishmeal from canneries back in PNG to develop fish feed.
- ▶ Plans of establishing feed mill in PNG
- ▶ Increased technical and financial support to farmers to increase tilapia production.



WAY FORWARD

- ▶ Increased collaboration with regional and national partners in research and development
- ▶ Establishment of feed mill in PNG using local ingredients
- ▶ Establishment of satellite all-male production hatcheries with good tilapia strains.
- ▶ More training for farmers especially with the economics of aquaculture
- ▶ Easier access to credit facilities for farmers to gain access to funding
- ▶ More farmer exposure to the global trend of tilapia aquaculture
- ▶ Encourage fish farmer cooperatives to meet local market demands consistently



THANK YOU!!

