MAAIF
Ministry of Agriculture
Animal Industry and Fisheries

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL INDUSTRY & FISHERIES, UGANDA

Overview of Aquaculture in Uganda

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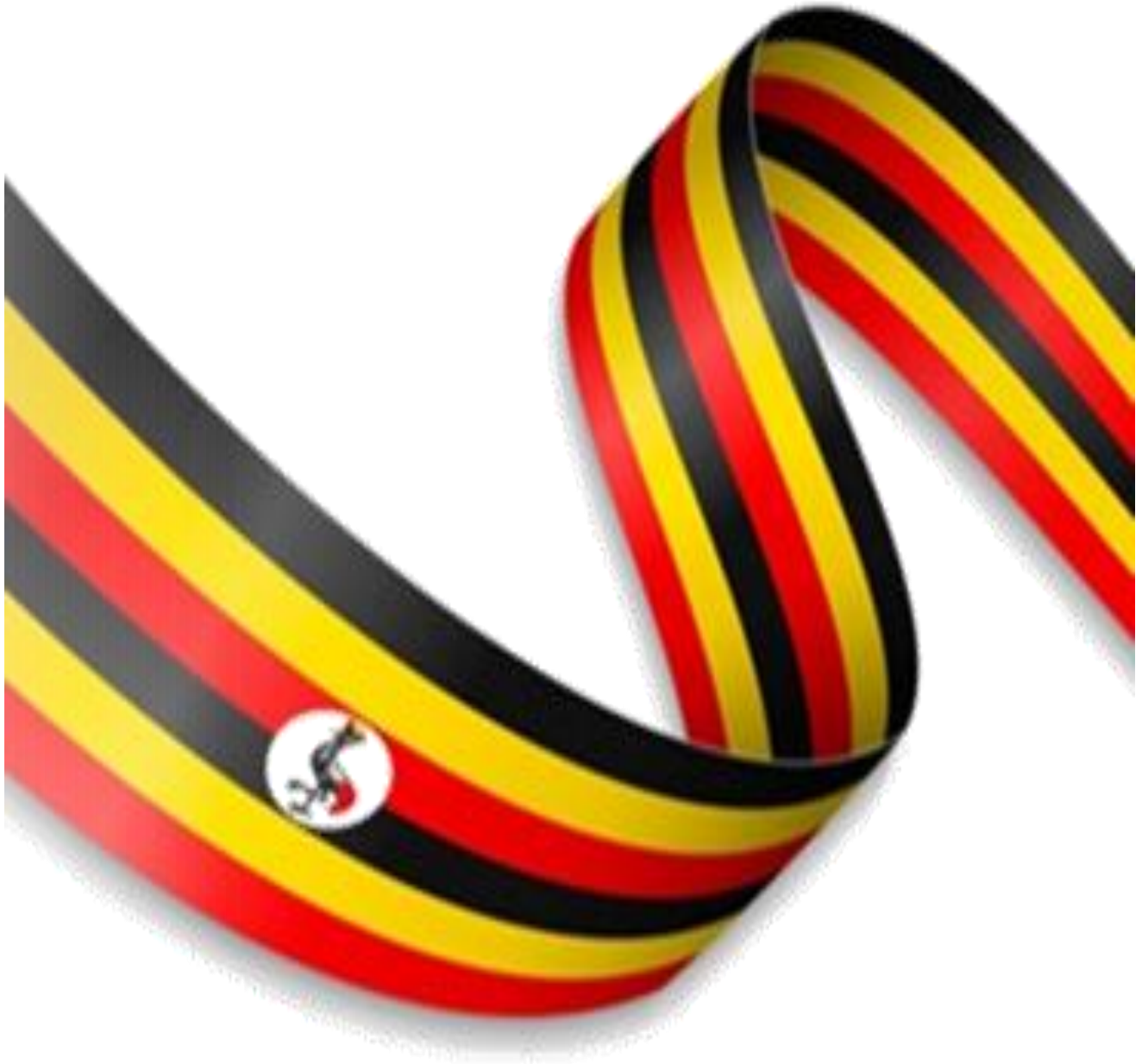
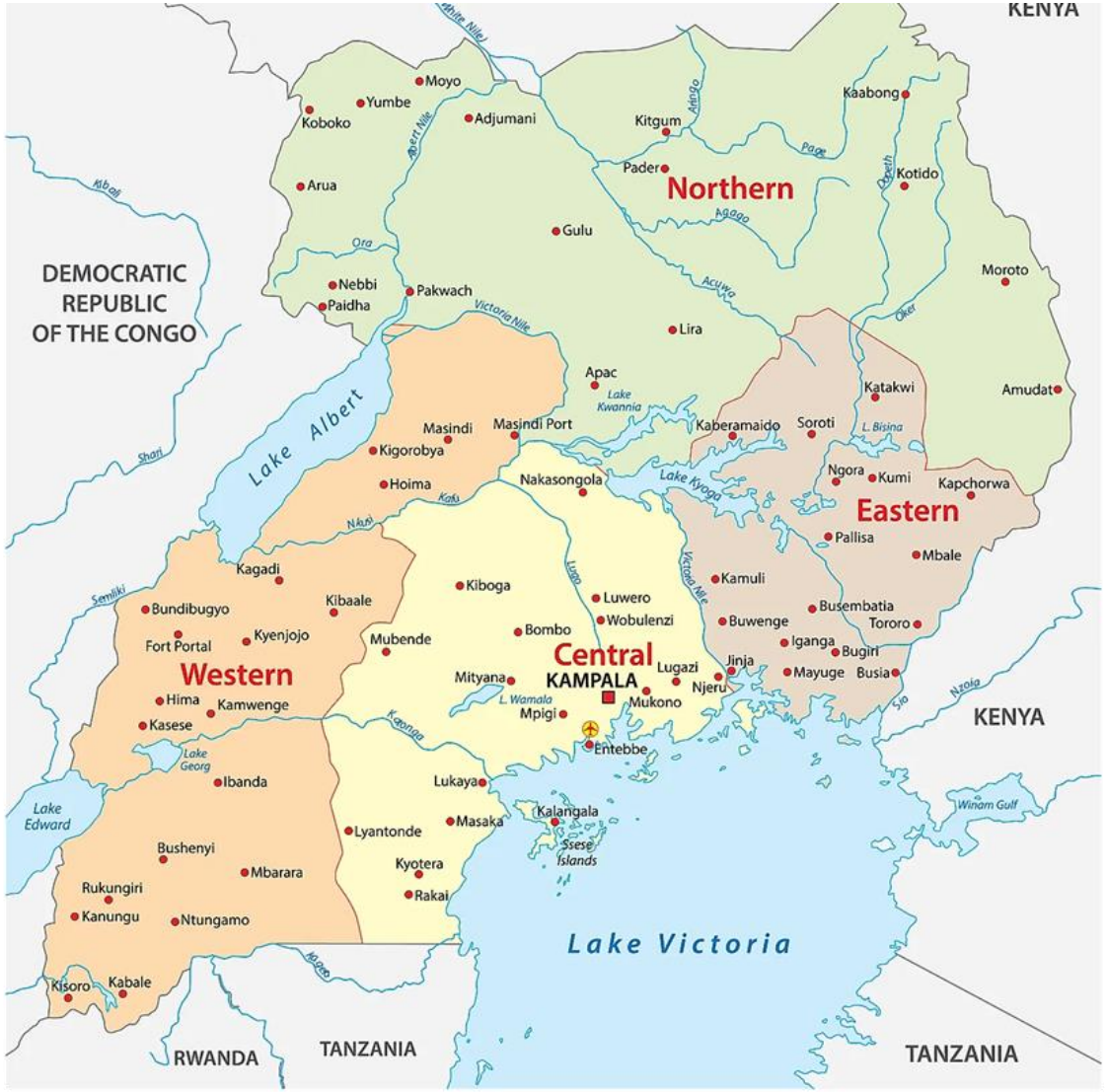


About Uganda

- Located in Eastern Africa, alongside Kenya (East), Tanzania (South), DR Congo (West), South Sudan (North) and Rwanda (South-west)
- Total area is 241,000 km2, of which about 20% is freshwater (wetlands, rivers and lakes)
  - 5 major lakes and more than 150 smaller lakes
  - River Nile flows from Lake Victoria in Uganda
- Population is 45 million people (est).



Some of the value chain activities

Sector timeline

1940s

Aquaculture started in 1940s largely as a subsistence strategy to address household malnutrition (source of protein) using small ponds (300-500m2)

Early 2000s

Advent of commercial aquaculture was in the early 2000s through entry of large-scale commercial cage farms on Lake Victoria

Today

Production then rose from a few hundred metric tons to ≥ 100,000mt/year today (to be validated thru national survey).

Current status

- Uganda's fisheries value chain employs about 2.5% of national population
- Contributes 3% to National GDP and 12% to agricultural GDP.
- Annual aquaculture production is ≥100,000 metric tons
- Main farmed species: Nile Tilapia, African Catfish and Mirror carp.
- Main production systems are ponds (on wetlands) and cages (on large water bodies). Tanks are emerging.
- ≥25,000 ponds (average size 500m2) and ≥4000 cages
- Current installed fingerling production capacity is 400 million fingerlings/yr mostly private sector hatcheries.

National action strategies (on-going and future)

- Long-term policy target is sustainable fisheries production of 1.7m mt/annum
  - 0.7m m/tons from capture fisheries
  - 1m m/tons from aquaculture
- *Thus current aquaculture production deficit of 900,000 tons per annum.*
- Objective is to increase commercialisation through both small-scale and large scale (semi-intensive and intensive) systems, using PPP and VCA.
- Key strategic actions include:
  i) Development of aquaculture parks and mini-aquaparks on land and water bodies.
  ii) Promotion of domestic industrial feed sector to reduce import feed costs
  iii) Improvement of brood stock genetics to raise grow-out fish performance and eco-climatic resilience.

Action strategies cont'd

iv) Improving access to investment finance through various modalities (such as PDM for small holder farmers and Agricultural Credit Facility for large commercial operators).

v) Strengthening producer organisations (fish farmer groups, associations and cooperative societies) for collective value chain activities.

vi) Promoting home and export-oriented markets (through customer specific quality assurance certification schemes-eg EU and Hilal) and value addition.

vii) Strengthening bio-safety/bio-security through systems and diagnostic infrastructure for fish health management.

viii) Promoting ecological, environmental and social sustainability of the sub-sector.

Key constraints

The sub-sector still presents overall lower productivity and profitability, affected by:

i. Under-developed domestic industrial feed segment (≥90% of good quality feed is imported, hence costly and affect C/B ratio)

ii. Poor seed genetics, slow growth performance esp Tilapia.

iii. Technology and skill gaps esp in production segment.

v) Climatic change effects (floods and drought)

vi) Value chain disjointedness (poor inputs-production-market chain linkages)

Anticipated role for ANAF

- Promote inter-African collaboration in technical and technological capacity building, using successful peer mechanisms, esp:
  - Improvement of seed genetics
  - Feed development
  - Bio-safety management
  - Production systems improvement
- Advocate for/support coordinated spatial planning of shared water bodies.
- Advocate for transboundary trade in farmed fish and fish products (removal of unwarranted trade barriers).
- Mobilising area-wide aquaculture development financing modalities.

Way forward/Recommendations

To drive aquaculture to its full potential we must focus on the following:

- **Increase access to affordable high quality feed and seed.**
- **Prioritize sustained research and development in feed and seed (domestic feed industry, selective improvement of seed).**
- **Promote mechanization and technology in production systems (design, construction and operation)**
- **Strengthen technical knowledge and skills of good aquaculture practices**
- **Ensure robust bio-safety/fish health management.**
- **Promote sustainable market access mechanisms**
    a. **Quality management, SPS compliance and international certification**
    b. **Processing and value addition**
    c. **Market promotion activities (domestic/export)**
- **Public sector should play catalytic roles, with Private sector as leaders in scaling-up investments.**

Thank You!