

Partnership for Aquaculture Development in Timor-Leste



Client: New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Location: Timor-Leste

Duration: 2014-2019

Services: Marine and freshwater aquaculture development, government capacity building, hatchery development & training, community & farmer training, marketing & business development

Timor-Leste has significant levels of malnutrition particularly in rural communities. The Timorese Government has identified in their 20 year plan that aquaculture will play a significant role in alleviating this. The priority for the Partnership for Aquaculture Development in Timor-Leste (PADTL) is to help develop a sustainable aquaculture industry which can fulfil the Government's aims of reducing malnutrition while also improving rural livelihoods.

NIWA and Worldfish are working with the Timorese Government, with support from the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, to implement the PADTL project. The project aims to:

- Formalize the aquaculture planning process through adoption of the Aquaculture Development Strategy Implementation Plan (ADSIP) as a planning tool.
- Guide aquaculture development through the National Department of Aquaculture (NDA) led, producer and stakeholder group.

- Increase aquaculture capability in the NDA at all levels to ensure they are sufficiently skilled to support industry development.
- Introduce new technologies, establish improved fish strains, develop appropriate husbandry techniques and ensuring these technologies are widely adopted by rural farmers and Small Medium Enterprises.
- Encourage community and private sector enterprises through training, and by improving co-operation and co-ordination amongst stakeholders at village, regional and national levels.
- Develop seed and feed supply systems with private sector partners.
- Identify value chain processes that can connect producers to markets.

Achieving these project outcomes will firmly underpin the long term implementation of NDA's Aquaculture Development Strategy, increasing both the Timorese Government and farmer's capacity to establish and maintain a sustainable aquaculture industry.