



DOCUMENTARY REPORT ON

ABDP BENEFICIARIES WITH MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FOR NYANZA AND WESTERN REGION

@ April 2024



Sponsored by



Investing in rural people

SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FOR NYANZA AND WESTERN REGION



Background information and introduction

The Aquaculture Business Development Program (ABDP) is an eight (8) years joint Government of Kenya (GoK) and International Fund for Agriculture (IFAD) funded program with an overall goal of “Reduce poverty and increase food security and nutrition in rural communities” while the corresponding development objective is “To increase the incomes of poor rural households involved in aquaculture in the targeted Counties and the food security and nutritional status of the wider communities”. The programme aims to directly benefit 35,500 households, including 5,500 beneficiaries who are youth. The program is targeting counties with high potentials of aquaculture activity, high production, existing sectoral infrastructure (processing, marketing, and research), adequate water resources, and marketing potentials. The programme Counties are; Migori, Kakamega, HomaBay, Kisii, Kisumu, Busia, Siaya and Vihiga (8 Counties in the Western Region), and Nyeri, Meru, Kirinyaga, Tharaka-Nithi, Embu, Kiambu, Machakos and Kajiado (8 Counties in the Central/Eastern Region).

ABDP has three main components that are supported by a strong program coordination unit that provides backstopping and program management services.

Component 1: Smallholder aquaculture development, aims to strengthen the capacity of smallholder farmers, to increase production and improve productivity as well as to create opportunities for non-fish farming actors interested to develop micro-enterprises along the aquaculture value chain. The component also contributes to the improved diet of the Kenyan population by ensuring increase in consumption of fish, fish products, and dietary diversity.

Component 2: Aquaculture value chain development, aims to support the expansion of the subsector by promoting the establishment and scaling up of agribusiness enterprises of all sizes, including rural groups that “graduate” to a more advanced and stable business model. The Programme also consists of an implementation support structure.

Component 3: Project management, monitoring, and evaluation that aims at providing physical and financial management, and proactive knowledge management, monitoring, and evaluation functions.



Empowering Communities: The Inspiring Journey of Kabondo West Smallholder Aquaculture Group

Step into the world of Kabondo West Smallholder Aquaculture Group, a dynamic community of 30 members registered by social services and located in the thriving Aquaculture Development Area of Kabondo West (ADA). This group, comprising men, women, and youth, is a beacon of innovation and sustainability in the aquaculture sector

Pre-ABDP Challenges and Transformation:

Before joining the ADBP program, the group grappled with challenges like lack of quality feeds, theft, and predatory threats. However, through ADBP's intervention, they underwent a remarkable transformation. They gained crucial knowledge in farm management and best practices for growing fish, enabling them to overcome these challenges and significantly improve their operations.

ABDP's Impact and Partnerships:

One of the key turning points for the group was their partnership with the Pamoja Africa Association, facilitated by ADBP. This partnership enabled them to acquire machinery for manufacturing their own quality feeds, a game-changer that not only addressed their feed challenges but also empowered them to become self-sufficient.

Community Impact and Triumphs:

The ripple effects of the group's success are felt far beyond their farm gates. They have not only educated the community on the benefits of fish consumption but have also created jobs for 60 individuals from the community. Their ability to produce 50 units of quality fish feeds daily, weighing 20 kgs each, is a testament to their triumphs and commitment to growth.

Future Aspirations and Call for Support:

Looking ahead, the group aspires to expand their impact by encouraging more people in the community to engage in

fish production. They aim to change livelihoods by employing more individuals and increasing the number of ponds per member. To achieve these goals, they seek support from NGOs and donors to enhance their production capacity and empower more youth and women in the community.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, the story of Kabondo West Smallholder Aquaculture Group is a testament to the transformative power of community-driven initiatives and sustainable practices in aquaculture. Their journey of resilience, innovation, and dedication to shaping a brighter future for aquaculture is an inspiration to us all.



THE STORY OF SUSAN MAJUMA

The story features Susan Majuma, a fish farmer from Lugari Sub-county in Kakamega County, Kenya. Susan is a beneficiary of the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP) and has achieved tremendous success with her aquaculture enterprise since joining the program in 2022. Previously, with her husband, they practiced tomato and maize farming on their farm but they did not get profits as expected since their farm is made up of murram soil. When they heard about ABDP, they joined the programme under the Banabeingo group.

Programme support:

ABDP supplied her with a pond liner, fish feed, and 1000 fingerlings to begin her aquaculture business. Susan then added 500 more fingerlings.

Harvesting (investment success):

Susan successfully harvested 1200 fish valued at Kshs. 93, 700. Her family also consumed 300 fish. The proceeds from the fish have supported in paying school fees for her children. Susan has also been able to acquire a sunculture water pump for water extraction. As a family of 8 members, she has been able to acquire maize and now they have food in their household.

Expansion of the business:

Susan was able to construct another pond and populate it with 2000 fingerlings in November 2023 thanks to the profits from her business. This boosted her production capability while sustaining the fish population.

Integrated farming:

Susan and her husband own a kitchen garden around the fish ponds. From the vegetables she is able to obtain poultry and fish feeds.

Marketing/Sales/Delivery:

Susan and her husband; Francis Odieyo, sell fish to local schools, communities, and churches. Initially, they provided fresh and deep-fried fish to five schools. To develop their business, they hired transportation workers to deliver the fish, which created job opportunities. During harvest, they hire local youths to help in the harvesting, preparation, and packaging of fish. This business not only provides essential products to the community, but it also promotes local employment and economic development.



Impact to local community:

Francis Odieyo, Susan's husband, provides consultancy services on pond construction to individuals interested in starting aquaculture businesses. He also stated that they offer employment opportunities to local youths in various roles such as security, fish preparation, and transportation. Their efforts have made it possible for the community to have access to fresh fish.

Conclusion:

Susan Majuma's experience with her business exemplifies the significant impact of the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP) on smallholder farmers. Through capacity building, extension services, and community involvement, Susan has enhanced her livelihood and become a successful beneficiary of the ABDP in Kakamega County. Her entrepreneurial spirit and the support she receives from her community serve as an inspiration to other women farmers, showcasing the potential for sustainable livelihoods in aquaculture. Susan expressed her gratitude to the ABDP for its assistance and suggested that more extension services be provided, particularly on feed formulation, to address the challenge of accessing high-quality fish feeds. Susan's story underscores the impact of ABDP on individuals and communities involved in aquaculture.



EVERLYNE ANYONJE - BULOLWE AREA, BUTERE SUB COUNTY, KAKAMEGA COUNTY

Everlyne Anyonje began fish farming in 2010 without any instruction. She would conduct fish farming in her ponds without appropriate expert knowledge, and at the time, she generated little profit because she only harvested once per year. She was also a small-scale vegetable farmer before starting fish farming. She learned about ABDP through Lunza Fish Farmers, a small aquaculture company in Butere, which she joined through extension services. The group underwent training in pond management, feed formulation, different fish culture methods, and marketing. ABDP then supported each member with 1000 fingerlings, 200 kilograms of fish feed, and predator nets.

Since 2022, Alice has harvested her fish twice and currently has three ponds. She practices partial harvesting in her ponds to avoid running out of fish stock. According to her records, her first harvest brought in approximately Kshs. 80,000. Her family also consumes at least 8 fish whenever they wish to eat it. Her main issue with this enterprise is dealing with floods. She expressed concern about floods because her ponds are located in a low area (valley). However, she plans to increase the number of ponds from three to five in order to increase her revenue.

Everlyne owns a kitchen garden with the proceeds from fish farming. She stated that she learned about vegetable cultivation after being invited by the regional fisheries officer to attend the World Food Day at Bukura Agricultural College. They were taught how to create keyhole, kienyeji, and classic kitchen gardens. She demonstrated to the team how to build a kienyeji kitchen garden with cow dung, compost, chicken, and dried leaves to produce a fertilizer feeder capable of nurturing 220 vegetable seedlings. She stated that this approach is viable for three years.

She grows vegetables in her kitchen garden, which she planted on March 6, 2024, to supply her family's needs and also sells them to locals in the community.

She used the money she earned from her fish farming to buy a cow and a goat to diversify her income stream by selling milk.

She engages local youths to assist with pond



maintenance and harvesting through her venture. She mentioned that when she is absent, she sends her daughters to aquaculture-related training to educate them on aquaculture skills. She also provides consulting services to her community. She then concluded by encouraging farmers to invest in aquaculture and emphasizing the need to train farmers how to fish as opposed to simply providing them with fish.





Daniel Juma - Nyaputo Youth Group

Daniel youth form Siaya County, began aquaculture in December 2017 december. He started with only 1 pond after researching fish farming from the internet. He learnt about ABDP while visiting Dominion farms in Siaya. After several training sessions.

ABDP impact and support:

Through ABDP, he learnt about fish farming, ABDP did an assessment of beneficiaries and he was supported with a liner, predator control nets and feeds. From the harvests, Daniel has sold 85000 fingerlings valued at KES.850,000. From the proceeds he was able to build his mum a house and pay school fees for his siblings.

Daniel has undergone comprehensive training through the Start and Improve your Business training(SIYB) , focusing on business idea development and creating a bankable and viable plan. He has also trained on GALS Training which is based on a set of principles that cover gender justice and inclusion, leadership, action for change and sustainability. Daniel has 6 ponds consisting of nursing , sex reversing, broodstock, post fingerling and table size fish ponds. Other than that he practices free range hatchery. He also cultivates dark weed which he uses to feed his fish. He noted that the dark weed contains 43-45% of protein. He highlighted that the advantage of the dark weed is that it does not require money to cultivate it because it has a faster growth rate and is harvested on a daily basis.

Daniel has also trained youths in his community and hires them when harvesting fish and when he needs to construct or renovate ponds.

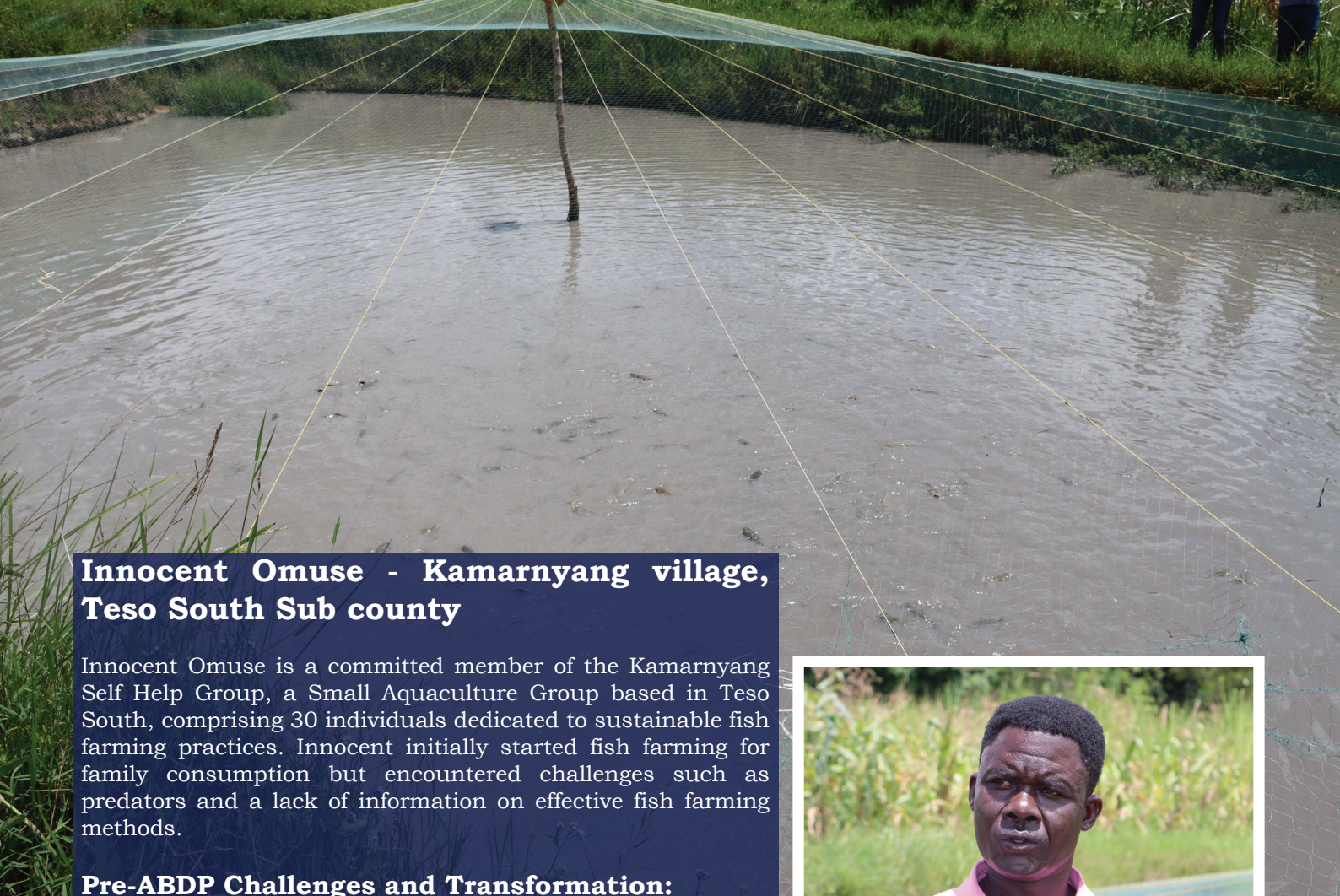
Future aspirations and call for support:

Daniel looks forward to getting funding from his various business proposals that he has presented to several donors and wishes to own a modern fish hatchery

Conclusion:

Daniel encourages others to follow in his footsteps and engage in aquaculture for the purpose of creating wealth.





Innocent Omuse - Kamarnyang village, Teso South Sub county

Innocent Omuse is a committed member of the Kamarnyang Self Help Group, a Small Aquaculture Group based in Teso South, comprising 30 individuals dedicated to sustainable fish farming practices. Innocent initially started fish farming for family consumption but encountered challenges such as predators and a lack of information on effective fish farming methods.

Pre-ABDP Challenges and Transformation:

Before joining the ADBP program, Innocent faced difficulties including poor-quality feeds, theft, and predatory threats. However, through ADBP's intervention, he underwent a transformative journey. With ADBP's training, Innocent shifted from basic practices like feeding fish with Ugali to adopting advanced farm management techniques.

ABDP's Impact on Expansion and Harvesting:

ABDP provided critical support to Innocent, including a pond liner, seeds, and feeds, enabling him to expand his operations from 1 to 5 ponds and focus on farming marketable catfish. By implementing improved practices learned through ADBP, Innocent now harvests fish four times a year and earns KES. 20,000 weekly through partial harvesting.

Community and Family Impact:

In addition to benefiting his own family through improved nutrition from fish consumption, Innocent trains his community members in pond management and integrated farming techniques involving maize and vegetable cultivation alongside fish farming.

Job Creation and Economic Impact:

Innocent's successful venture has created employment opportunities within his local community, including roles in pond construction, fish feeding, harvesting, and marketing. This job creation contributes to economic growth, reduces unemployment, and enhances livelihoods.



Future Aspirations and Call for Support:

Looking ahead, Innocent aims to encourage more community members to engage in fish production and expand his agricultural ventures to include vegetable farming. He advocates for consultancy services in aquaculture, highlighting its comparative ease and potential for sustainable income generation.

Innocent's story exemplifies the positive impact of aquaculture on livelihoods and community development, demonstrating the transformative power of sustainable farming practices supported by initiatives like ADBP.

Phoebe Oketch - Awendo Sub County, Migori County

Phoebe Oketch, a widow from Awendo Sub County, served as the secretary for Kakmasia Fish Farmers. She inherited her passion for farming from her late husband. Through the Kakmasia Fish Farmers group and county extension officers, she learned about the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP). Despite coming from a polygamous family, her husband had initially allocated each wife their own pond. Unfortunately, Phoebe's pond was later taken from her by another family member. Undeterred, she sought guidance from her sub-county extension fisheries officer, who assisted her in constructing a new pond. Located on a previous banana plantation farm, Phoebe's pond collects rainwater from her house for use in her fish farming activities..

ABDP's Impact on Expansion and Harvesting:

Phoebe underwent several training sessions courtesy of ABDP, including field extension tours, pond management, aquaculture training, and the Gender Action Learning System (GALS) training. Through ABDP's support to her group, she obtained a pond liner. Additionally, county extension services facilitated by ABDP provided fingerlings, which Phoebe stocked in her pond in June 2023, totaling 1000 fingerlings. Phoebe then acquired fish feeds independently and in March 2024, she harvested fish valued at KES. 86,000.

With her earnings, Phoebe prioritized paying for her children's education and covering the basic needs of her family. Furthermore, she reinvested in her fish farming venture by restocking her fish pond with another 1000 fingerlings.

Phoebe also maintains a kitchen garden, a practice she adopted through the training she has undergone. This kitchen garden complements her fish farming activities by providing fresh vegetables for her family and reducing the need to purchase produce from markets. Through the knowledge gained from ABDP training, Phoebe has integrated sustainable farming practices into her agricultural ventures, emphasizing the importance of holistic farming methods. Her commitment to both fish farming and vegetable gardening showcases her dedication to maximizing productivity and sustainability on her farm.

Community and Family Impact:

Phoebe's impact extended beyond economic benefits to her community. By creating employment opportunities for local community members, she contributed to economic growth and reduced unemployment. Phoebe hires youths and women to assist on the farm, particularly during harvesting time, providing valuable income to individuals in her community. Her dedication also led her to share her knowledge and skills with fellow community members through training sessions and demonstrations, empowering others to engage in



sustainable aquaculture practices. Additionally, her family benefits from consuming the fish, enhancing nutrition within her household.

Future Aspirations and Call for Support:

In the future, Phoebe aims to encourage more community members to participate in fish production and expand her agricultural ventures to include vegetable farming. She highlights that fish farming offers higher profitability compared to other agricultural practices, especially for those with limited farm space. Phoebe also plans to expand her fish farming operations by increasing the number of ponds from 1 to multiple ponds. Her story exemplifies the positive impact of aquaculture on livelihoods and community development, demonstrating the transformative power of sustainable farming practices supported by initiatives like ABDP. Through her journey, Phoebe has not only improved her family's livelihood but has also inspired her community to embrace fish farming as a viable and sustainable venture.



George Mike Nyamboro - Marani Ward, Kisii County

George Mike Nyamboro, a resilient fish farmer living with a disability, faced numerous challenges before joining the ABDP program. Starting with a small pond on his farm, George encountered issues like predator challenges, theft, and a lack of aquaculture knowledge. Despite these obstacles, George remained determined to improve his farming techniques and maximize his fish farming venture's potential.

Pre-ABDP Challenges and Transformation:

Before joining ABDP, George struggled with poor-quality feeds, theft, and predatory threats. Learning about ABDP through the subcounty's fisheries officer, George joined the Eagle Fish Farmers Self-Help Group in 2021. Under ABDP's guidance, George underwent extensive training in aquaculture farming, gaining valuable knowledge in organization, fish feeding techniques, financial literacy, and more. ABDP supported him with 1000 fingerlings and a predator net, which he successfully incorporated into his farming practices. Today, George manages three ponds with catfish and tilapia, showcasing his commitment to sustainable and diversified aquaculture practices.

Challenges and Major Impact:

Despite the progress in his fish ponds, George faced a setback when herbicides were introduced into the



pond inlets, resulting in the loss of 586 fish. Swift action allowed George to save 374 fish, which he sold for KES 54,000. With this income, George addressed a longstanding challenge by purchasing an in-calf cow, providing a regular supply of milk for his family. The proceeds from milk sales are used to acquire fish feeds. George also leased a pond from a neighbor, strategically expanding his fish farming operations.

Community and Family Impact:

George has trained and inspired four community members to practice fish farming, expanding sustainable aquaculture in the area. His efforts improved local food security and nutrition by providing access to fresh fish. Beyond economic benefits, George's impact extends to creating employment opportunities for local youths and women, fostering valuable skills development. George's dedication includes sharing his knowledge through training sessions and demonstrations, empowering others to embrace sustainable aquaculture practices. His family directly benefits from consuming fish, enhancing nutrition and well-being.

Future Aspirations and Call for Support:

George's journey underscores aquaculture's transformative impact on livelihoods and community development. By expanding into fish and vegetable farming, George enhances food security and creates economic opportunities for his community. Scaling up his operations and selling beyond Kisii demonstrates George's commitment and potential for greater success. Sustainable farming practices supported by ABDP have inspired more community members to embrace fish farming, improving individual livelihoods and contributing to regional economic development.





ABDP BENEFICIARIES WITH MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE FOR NYANZA AND WESTERN REGION



Sponsored by

