



NAVAC

NEW AQUATIC FOOD VALUE CHAINS

Nutritious and safe aquatic foods for vulnerable people

Amid persistent global hunger and food insecurity, NAVAC is unlocking the potential of aquatic value chains in making nutritious and safe aquatic foods available to vulnerable populations in Africa and Latin America, while stimulating economic growth for local economies.

5 AQUATIC FOOD VALUE CHAINS

OUR FOCUS

Five new or strengthened aquatic food product value chains

Improving market acceptance of safe and nutritious aquatic products

Growing the knowledge base on aquatic foods and their by-products



COLOMBIA
Artisanal tuna



MAURITANIA
Inland fishery



SOUTH SUDAN
Inland flood plain fishery



GUINEA-BISSAU
Oyster



CHAD
Spirulina



FACTS & FIGURES

An estimated **8.2 %** of the global population — roughly **673 million** people — experienced hunger in 2024.

In 2024, more than **295 million** people across **53 countries** and territories faced acute food insecurity.

FAO estimates that **over 3 billion** people get **20%** of their animal protein from aquatic foods.

Aquatic foods provide livelihoods for some **800 million** people.

Despite a recent decrease in global hunger, the world is still off track in achieving the global goal of zero hunger by 2030. Driven by conflicts, economic shocks and environmental emergencies, acute food insecurity left nearly 300 million people in need of food assistance in 2024.

Aquatic food products are often overlooked in responses to food crises. Yet, they represent an important source of nutrient-rich protein and micronutrients such as vitamins and minerals to combat acute and chronic malnutrition.

New Aquatic Food Value Chains (NAVAC) is a five-year project promoting innovative solutions in aquatic value chains to expand the supply of nutritious and safe aquatic foods to vulnerable populations.

Analyzing value chains and creating strategies to upgrade them, NAVAC develops existing or new value chains to ensure that aquatic food reach those who need it most while at the same time providing economic benefits to local communities.

NAVAC will also grow the knowledge base on aquatic foods by conducting research to fill knowledge gaps and identify opportunities for product development, while putting mechanisms in place to share this knowledge with civil society, researchers, policymakers, and nutritionists.

NAVAC works to increase the availability of nutritious and safe aquatic foods for vulnerable populations, while strengthening local economies through innovation in aquatic value chains. NAVAC is funded by the European Union (EU) as a Global Gateway initiative and implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in collaboration with the Technical University of Denmark (DTU).

CONTACT

Fisheries and Aquaculture – Natural Resources and Sustainable Production
NAVAC@fao.org

**Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations**

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