



World Organisation  
for Animal Health



# Launch of the Regional Aquatic Animal Health Network for Southern Africa (RAAHN-SA)

25 – 27 July 2023 Lusaka, Zambia



# Outline

- AWFISHNET – SADC
- AWFISHNET Zambia
- Contribution to the launch of RAAHN-SADC
  - Creating awareness
  - Capacity building
  - Establishing process and links with RAAHN-SADC



# AWFISHNET - SADC

- The AWFISHNET is aimed at contributing to the improvement of the welfare, working conditions and income of women in the fisheries sub-sector within SADC. The network envisions the following:
  - Providing a platform for women in the fish value chain, to facilitate collaboration and cooperation between and amongst women in the fish value chain across the region.
  - Enhance effective advocacy on issues affecting women in the fish value chain influencing the environment for an enabling policy.
  - Building and strengthening of the capacities of members to effectively implement continental policies at local and national levels.
  - Strengthening the role and participation of fish enterprises owned by women as SME's in the fisheries sub-sector with the objective of improving access to markets, as well as expansion of markets and marketing opportunities, and thereby fostering the equitable participation of women fish entrepreneurs in national and intraregional African fish trade.

# AWFISHNET Zambia

- Launched in October 2021 by the Hon. Makozo Chikote
- Legally registered
- Membership of fish producers, processors and traders – fish value chain

# Contribution to the launch of RAAHN-SADC

- Creating awareness
- Capacity building
- Establishing inherent institutional mechanisms to facilitate full engagement of the sectors stakeholders in AAH





# Create Public Awareness

- Reach out to all stakeholders and general public (including those involved in processing, marketing and consumers) with objective of keeping everyone well informed and enabled to make appropriate decisions without causing panic, e.g. consumers knowing not to buy fish with wounds
- Public needs to be educated that aquaculture is ‘managed’ and not all inputs (including veterinary inputs) have negative impacts on product quality and food-safety as their use follows vetted protocols.
- Measures need be put in place to reach out, e.g., posters in market places, media programs, jingles, etc.
- Strategies/plans to ensure a minimum level of awareness is sustained among the population and across value changes – hence long-term system in place that should be sustainably managed within the structure of the RAAHN.
- Easy and wide coverage to ensure easy and affordable access to information by all without marginalization.
- Quality of information should be ensured and assured



# Capacity building

- Appropriate packages and resources to address needs for all stakeholders,
  - Taking a value-chain approach within the context of the general environment region's
  - Biosecurity.
- Tools and packages must be tailored appropriately to the needs of each stakeholder
  - Taking into account their roles in the sector/value-chain, scale of operations, business characteristics (e.g. informal, SME, large scale, consumer, etc)
- As a component of the fisheries and aquaculture value chain, economic opportunities for women and youth to harness economic opportunities within AAH value-chain need be assessed and supported (e.g. sanitizing establishments, private professional practice, transportation of inputs to farms, etc).



# Establish processes/links within RAAHN

- Address the perspectives discussed above
- Foster equity, transparency and accountability for all parties
- Clear guidelines on how each category of stakeholder will be engaged and their roles to mitigate against marginalization
- In addition to the overall sectoral goals and approaches, ensure the needs of each of the region's value-chains are specifically addressed



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