



# The Case Study of The Young, Innovative Fish Farmer

*Benjamin Warusa, Kakamega County*



Investing in rural people

# **The Case Study of The Young, Innovative Fish Farmer Benjamin Waswa.**

## **Abstract:**

This case study highlights the remarkable journey of Benjamin Waswa, a talented youth fish farmer from Navakholo subcounty, Kakamega County, Kenya. Benjamin's success in fish farming can be attributed to his participation in the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP). Since joining the program in June 2022, Benjamin has received crucial support in the form of fingerlings, fish feeds, and a PVC liner. He has achieved significant milestones, harvesting 500 pieces (equivalent to 200 kilograms) of fish valued at KES 60,000. With his earnings, Benjamin diversified his income by investing in poultry farming and restocking his pond with feeds and fingerlings. Additionally, he attended Start & Improve Your Business (SYIB) training, where he acquired valuable business skills and shared his knowledge with fellow youths. Benjamin also plans to register an Aquaculture Support Enterprises (ASE) group and expand his innovative live fish marketing approach, providing a solution for fish theft and extending the benefits to other farmers in his ward.

## **Introduction:**

Benjamin Waswa, a passionate youth fish farmer residing in Navakholo Sub-County, Kakamega County, Kenya, has transformed his life through the support of the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP). This case study showcases Benjamin's journey and the significant impact of the program on his farming enterprise.

## **Program Support:**

ABDP has played a crucial role in Benjamin's success by providing him with essential resources for fish farming. He received fingerlings, fish feeds, and a PVC liner, which were instrumental in establishing and maintaining his productive fish pond.

## **Progress and Achievements:**

Since joining the program, Benjamin has made remarkable strides in his fish farming venture. He has harvested a total of 500 pieces, equivalent to 200 kilograms of fish, with a value of KES 60,000. Benjamin's dedication and hard work have paid off, resulting in a significant increase in his farm's productivity.



## **Diversification and Income Generation:**

Using the earnings from his fish harvests, Benjamin ventured into poultry farming. He invested his money in purchasing 50-day-old chicks and the necessary feeds, expanding his income sources. This diversification strategy ensures multiple streams of revenue and further secures Benjamin's financial stability.

## **Restocking and Sustainability:**

Benjamin recognizes the importance of maintaining a healthy fish population in his pond. With his earnings, he has wisely reinvested in his fish farming enterprise by restocking the

pond with feeds and fingerlings. This approach ensures the continuous productivity and long-term sustainability of his farming operation.

### **Entrepreneurial Skills and Knowledge Sharing:**

Benjamin actively participated in SYIB training, which equipped him with essential business skills and knowledge. Inspired by his experiences, he took the initiative to train other youth farmers, sharing his expertise and empowering them to succeed in their own ventures. Benjamin's commitment to knowledge sharing demonstrates his role as a youth champion and an advocate for the growth of the local farming community.

### **Innovation in Live Fish Marketing:**



To address the challenge of fish theft during partial harvesting, Benjamin devised a unique solution. He implemented a live fish marketing approach by pumping oxygen into a tank, preserving the fish's freshness. Benjamin plans to expand this innovative method to serve other farmers in his ward, as it eliminates the concern of fish spoilage and provides a lucrative market for live fish.

### **Future Endeavors:**

Looking ahead, Benjamin intends to register an Aquaculture Support Enterprises (ASE) group, formalizing his entrepreneurial efforts and creating more opportunities for collaboration. With his determination and innovative thinking, Benjamin is poised to achieve even greater success in the aquaculture sector.

### **Conclusion:**

Benjamin Waswa's inspiring journey as a youth fish farmer showcases the transformative impact of the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP). Through the program's assistance, Benjamin has achieved significant milestones, including diversifying his income through poultry farming and implementing an innovative approach to live fish marketing. His participation in SYIB training and dedication to knowledge sharing highlight his role as a youth champion and an agent of change within the farming community. With his entrepreneurial drive and commitment to sustainability, Benjamin is paving the way for a prosperous future in the aquaculture industry.

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