

Title: **Is Aquaculture a Sustainable Source of Food and income in Nigeria?**

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Abstract: Aquaculture is an industry regarded as being uniquely placed to reverse declining supplies from capture fisheries in many developing countries. There is a growing consensus that this industry offers potential in meeting key components of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) around the globe. While drawing analogue from national statistical data and various studies on aquaculture production in the country for past ten years, the study assess whether the industry is sustainable enough to provide new livelihood opportunities to Nigerians. To this end, we found evidence of potential inherent in aquaculture production to enhanced national nutritional security most especially as a major player in augmenting the supply of fish protein for consumption in the country. We also found that the industry is a viable source of income for households in the country and foreign exchange earnings for the country. Likewise we observed its untapped opportunity to increase rural employment and reduce poverty. The article identified challenges impeding its development in Nigeria which can be categorized as; economic (e.g., credit, high cost of inputs), technical (e.g., lack of information on aquaculture techniques and inadequate management strategies), ecological and institutional factors (e.g., lack of capital). Another significant problem is the presence of production inefficiency that characterized this industry. In order to reposition the industry, the present study suggests policies that will enhanced technical know-how of the farmers, reduce cost of inputs and provision of needed credit as counterpart in crop subsector often enjoy. We concluded that these policies should be vigorously pursued and implemented.