



THE 8TH AFRICA REGIONAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (ARFSD 8)

Theme: Increasing Women's economic empowerment, through aquaculture cage fish farming in Bugiri District Uganda,

Venue: UN Women Board Room, UN Women Country Office Kampala

Wednesday 02nd March 2022 Time: 2:00-3:20 PM

Programme

- 2:00-2:05** **Opening and Introductions**
- 2:05- 2:25** Welcome remarks by Permanent Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister and the UN Women Uganda Country Representative a.i.
- Video Presentation of the Aquaculture /cage fish farming in Bugiri Uganda**
- 2:25-2:35** Presentation by OPM official
Topic: SDG and Gender Perspective in Uganda
- 2:35-2:45** Presentation by Ms. Immaculate Were, Fisheries Officer, Bugiri District Local Government.
How Rural Women have increased their productivity in cage fish farming in a changing climate and what resilience plans are in place to counter effects of climate change?
- 2:45-2:55:** Presentation by Production Officer Bugiri District
Topic: People are one of the most critical facets of Sustainable Development. In relation to 1,400 Women Economic Empowerment Bugiri (WEEB), what have been the challenges and success factors for people management?
- 2:55-3:10:** Presentation by Cage fish farming beneficiary

Topic: Sharing experience on opportunities provided by the cage fish farming project for beneficiaries to move up the value chain and its impact on social and cultural norms and power structures in the community?

3:10-3:15

Session on Q&A

3:15-3:20

Closing Remarks by official from Office of the Prime Minister

CONCEPT NOTE

1.0 Introduction

The aim of the eighth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD 8) is to review progress, share experiences and lessons learned and build a consensus on policy options and actions in the form of key messages to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063. Accordingly, the Forum serves as an important mechanism to ensure integrated monitoring and evaluation of the impact and supporting countries in unlocking bottlenecks in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 as stipulated in the AU – UN Framework on implementation of the two agendas. The theme of the eighth session of the Regional Forum is “Building forward better: a green, inclusive and resilient Africa poised to achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063”. The ARDFSD will be held in Kigali, Rwanda from 3 to 5 March 2022, preceded by virtual Side Events running from 1-2 March 2022, where UN Women plans to participate.

2.0 Objectives of the Virtual Side Event

(a) The side event aims to share the innovation, experiences and lessons learned in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. Under Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, UN Women in Uganda will share experiences, best practices, and innovative from its the open water fishing/ cage fish farming by women of Bugiri district.

2.1 Outcomes of the Side Event

(a) An open space and opportunity for the exchange of cutting-edge ideas, experiences and lessons learned in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. And implementation challenges were overcome during the COVID-19 pandemic.

3.0 Background

Cage fish farming is a low volume–high density production technology (30 - 40kg m⁻³ of water) compared to the semi-intensive pond fish farming (4-6kg m⁻³). It utilizes fish that has a high Carbon turn over (FCR < 1.5) and short production cycles of 7 – 9months. UN Women in partnership with the Bugiri District Local Government is implementing an aquaculture project cage fish farming.

The objective of this project is to Increase of Women Economic Empowerment through Cage Fish Farming in Bugiri District. The goal of the project is to ensure that 1,400 rural women have increased their productivity in a changing climate besides increasing food and nutritional security of their households. This project has caused a cultural shift; ruling out that ‘women cannot work on waters’ and eliciting equitable utilization of the water resources and narrowing the existing aquaculture production gap.

This intervention was in response to the findings of the study on the cost of gender gap in agricultural productivity carried out by UN Women, UNDP, World Bank in 2017 and was inspired by and aligned to several international, regional, and national policies and programs including SDGs, FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, Agenda 2063, Uganda Vision 2040, National Development Plan III. It also addressed a UN Women priority area; “Women have income security, decent work and economic autonomy. “The project came at a critical time of a renewed recognition of the fundamental importance of fisheries and aquaculture and its central role in the attainment of food security, economic growth and poverty reduction globally. It is unique; the first of its kind to be implemented by UN Women under a Private, Public Partnership (PPP) UN Women, private sector and Bugiri District.