



Global Aquabusiness Investment Guide: Use & Application



September 26, 2024 | 8:00-11:00 AM EST

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The World Bank's Aquabusiness Investment Advisory Platform, supported by [PROBLUE](#), has developed the "[Global Aquabusiness Investment Guide](#)" in collaboration with [Advance Africa Management Services](#). The Guide provides a living framework to support sustainable aquabusiness investment and business development.

Join us for this session to learn more about the Guide and how it can be applied to real-life cases.

AGENDA

Opening Conversation

Christopher Brett, Lead Agribusiness Specialist, Global Department for Agriculture & Food, World Bank

Fred Formanek, Co-founder and Managing Member, Advance Africa Management Services

Module 1: Overview and Introduction to the Guide

Thomas Hecht, Head of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Advance Africa Management Services

Nyiko Mabasa, Consultant, Advance Africa Management Services

Module 2: Public & Private Sector Guide Principles

Rachel Wright, Consultant, Advance Africa Management Services

Module 3: Expert Opinions: How the Guide Can be Used and Adapted to Real-Life Cases

Asharf Bouajina, Operations Officer, International Finance Corporation (IFC)

Michael Phillips, Co-Founder and Director, FutureFish, UK

Tom Shipton, Chief Technical Advisor, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Asia Division

Closing Remarks & Moderator

Christopher Brett, Lead Agribusiness Specialist, Global Department for Agriculture & Food, World Bank

BIOS:



Christopher Brett was appointed as the Lead Agribusiness Specialist with the World Bank in November 2016 and joined the Global Department for Agriculture & Food, now based in Rome. He has a Master's Degree in Management for Agricultural Development from Cranfield University in the United Kingdom. He has forty years' experience of working within the public, private and voluntary sectors in Africa, Asia and Latin America.



Fred Formanek is a founding member of Advance Africa and is the Managing Member of the Group. He has over 30 years' experience in project and business development in Africa, the Western Indian Ocean region, Europe, Asia and the Middle East. He has served on numerous boards in Southern Africa for companies specializing in aquaculture and agriculture. Fred has extensive experience in the design and specification, capital costing, construction supervision, and project management of aquaculture facilities, as well as fund raising and market development in Asia.



Thomas Hecht is regarded as a leading authority in global fisheries science and aquaculture, with over 45 years of experience in fisheries and aquaculture research, teaching, and industry development in both the consulting and academic domains. Professor Hecht's career began in academia where he was the Head of the Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science at Rhodes University, South Africa. Upon retiring from this position, he became a consultant to the private and public sectors, which allowed him to explore and advise on fisheries and aquaculture strategy and private sector implementation opportunities.



Dr Nyiko Mabasa holds a PhD in Ichthyology and Fisheries Science, and has expertise in aquaculture research, teaching and curriculum development in academia. Her skills include aquaculture, scientific research, report writing, experimental design, fish feed formulation and manufacture, design and construction of aquaculture recirculating systems, treatment, recycling and reuse of wastewater in aquaculture and

aquaponics, statistical analysis of data, life cycle assessment, training course design and development, and international project coordination and management.



Rachel Wright holds an MSc in Ichthyology and Fisheries Science. Her skills include fisheries science, comprehensive research and data analysis, preparation and hosting of training courses, and GIS mapping and spatial data analysis. She has been responsible for infrastructure planning and design, operational support, human resource mentorship and training, in-depth research and report writing, market research, design of experimental protocols for industry-relevant aquaculture trials, and the design of aquaculture database management systems.



Ashraf Bouajina joined IFC in June 2020 as an operations officer in the Global MAS Upstream team. In this role, she has developed programs of opportunities across Health and Education, and Agribusiness. In Agribusiness, she has developed and supported the design and implementation of innovative global delivery platforms in insect protein, aquaculture, agrivoltaics, and grain storage and logistics. In Aquaculture, she is developing several opportunities across the MCT region with clients in both production and aquafeed.



Michael Phillips is the Co-Founder and Director of FutureFish, a UK company specialising in sustainable aquaculture innovation and investment in Asia, Africa and the Pacific. Mike has a PhD in aquaculture and fish behaviour from the University of Stirling, and a career that spans over 30 years of research, development and educational work on aquaculture and aquatic systems in Asia, Africa and the Pacific. He is based in Thailand, and has been working on aquaculture in Asia for many years, as a researcher and teacher at the Asian Institute of Aquaculture, as R&D manager at the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific and as a Director of Aquaculture and Fisheries Science at WorldFish in Penang, Malaysia.



Dr Tom Shipton has over two decades of experience in aquaculture development, with key focus regions including Southern and Central Africa, and Central Asia. This experience ranges from small-scale farmer initiatives to large industrial operations in both finfish and shellfish aquaculture and mariculture. His expertise spans project conceptualization, technical systems design, research needs assessments, financial planning, and securing funding. He has been instrumental in donor and governmental support programs aimed at promoting sustainable aquaculture development, engaging in strategic sector planning, institutional assessments, and technical due diligence.

This event is part of the [Blue Academy learning series](#), a training program supported by PROBLUE, which offers World Bank Group staff and external experts the opportunity to learn about blue economy tools and activities. [PROBLUE](#) is the World Bank's blue economy program that supports a sustainable and integrated development of marine and coastal resources in a healthy ocean.

For any questions about the event please contact [Dijana Ferizovic](#).