

Concept Note

From Strategy to Implementation

SADC Aquaculture Strategy

Cage Culture Regulations

GIZ Special Session at World Aquaculture 2026 Tanzania

Background / Relevance:

Aquaculture is one of the world's fastest-growing food-production sectors and an increasingly important source of aquatic food. Yet the SADC region has so far captured only a limited share of this growth. Production remains concentrated in a few Member States, while many others continue to rely mainly on capture fisheries, which are often stagnant or declining. The SADC Regional Aquaculture Strategy and Action Plan (RASAP) 2016–2026 provides a shared regional direction for sustainable growth, aiming to strengthen cooperation, attract investment and build institutional capacity, while increasing aquaculture's contribution to food and nutrition security, livelihoods and economic development.

An important pathway for scaling aquaculture production is cage aquaculture. Cage farming is expanding rapidly across Africa in suitable lakes and reservoirs. Its growth calls for effective regulation with clear, workable rules to support investment while safeguarding water quality, aquatic ecosystems and other users of shared waters. However, regulations are effective only when implemented, monitored and enforced. Without this, expansion may ultimately threaten the sector's productivity and long-term viability.

Objectives

This session as part of the regional policy dialogue will present the process for revising the SADC Regional Aquaculture Strategy and Action Plan (RASAP) and explore how country-level experience can inform a strategy that is both regionally coherent and responsive to national contexts. Practical examples from Madagascar, Malawi, Zambia and Uganda will highlight lessons and innovations from aquaculture development and the challenges of translating regional priorities into national policies and practice. While Uganda is not a SADC Member State, its experience offers a useful comparative perspective.

The development of cage aquaculture regulations is a concrete example of how regional objectives can be “domesticated” and put into national practice. The session will identify the key steps and institutional arrangements needed to develop and apply such a framework, clarify the roles of relevant actors, and consider how regulation can enable responsible sector growth while safeguarding environmental and social sustainability. Together, these discussions provide a roadmap from a regional strategy to a national implementation.

Who Should Attend

- (i) **SADC Members and Delegates as well as National Delegations**
- (ii) **Private Sector and Civil Society**
- (iii) **Development partners, Academia, Research and Innovation institutions**

Session Details

SADC Aquaculture Strategy

- Date & Time **03 December 2026 | 14:00 AM – 14:40 PM**
- Location: **Mikumi, Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre**
- Format: **Input presentations and panel discussion open to the audience**



Cage Culture Regulations

- Date & Time **03 December 2026 | 16:10 AM – 17:50 PM**
- Location: **Mikumi, Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre**
- Format: **Input presentations and panel discussion open to the audience**