

Republic of Liberia



National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority

QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT
3rd - July-Sept 2025

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Glossary of Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
AIS	Automatic Identification System
ARREST	Agriculture, Roads, Rule of Law, Education, Sanitation and Tourism (GoL Development Agenda)
BMP	Best Management Practices
CBSP	Community-Based Seed Producer
CLS	Collecte Localisation Satellites (Vessel Monitoring System Provider)
CPUE	Catch Per Unit Effort
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EICA	Egyptian International Center for Agriculture
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCWC	Fishery Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea
FIMS	Fisheries Information Management System
FMC	Fisheries Monitoring Center
GoL	Government of Liberia
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
IOMS	Integrated Online Management System
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
ILDS	Integrated Fish Landing Site Development Standard
IUU	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (Fishing)
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LEC	Liberia Electricity Corporation
LSMFP	Liberia Sustainable Management of Fisheries Project
MCS	Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance
MFDP	Ministry of Finance and Development Planning
NaFAA	National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority
PPI	Policy, Planning, and Investment Department of NaFAA
PSIP	Public Sector Investment Program
RAS	Recirculating Aquaculture System
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization
RIA	Roberts International Airport
SARTLA	Strengthening Agricultural Resilience and Transforming Livelihoods in Africa Project
SPRFMO	South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization
TCP	Technical Cooperation Program (FAO)
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UL	University of Liberia
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System

WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WorldFish	WorldFish Center (International Research Organization)

Introduction, Mandate, and Strategic Objectives

Introduction

This quarterly performance report summarizes the operational status, progress, and strategic actions undertaken by NaFAA in Q3 2025. It includes an overview of the sector's structure, institutional performance, strategic programs, and financial status

Mandate:

To sustainably manage and develop Liberia's fisheries and marine resources for economic development, social equity, and environmental sustainability.

Strategic Objectives:

Ensure sustainable marine ecosystems, promote responsible aquaculture, enforce compliance, and support the livelihoods of fisherfolk.

Executive Summary

The Third Quarter Report 2025 of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) of the Republic of Liberia provides an integrated assessment of the institution's operational performance, financial execution, and strategic reforms from July to September 2025. The quarter reflects deeper institutional maturity and measurable progress toward sustainable fisheries management and blue economy transformation.

Governance and Policy Reforms

NaFAA's Board of Directors formalized critical sector reforms, including the Semi-Industrial Fisheries Management Plan (FMP) providing a scientific basis for sustainable exploitation of pelagic and demersal stocks. The Department of Environment and Climate Change was created to embed climate resilience in fisheries planning. Canoe licensing fees were reduced to strengthen artisanal fisher compliance, while export and operational fees were adjusted to improve sector competitiveness.

Marine Surveillance and Compliance

Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) capacity was modernized through the Quartermaster System, enabling live offshore monitoring within Liberia's Exclusive Economic Zone. The Fisheries Monitoring Center maintained continuous 89-day operations, tracking 25 vessels, issuing 349 transshipment authorizations, and ensuring 100% compliance with no detected illegal activities. The Observer Program and Inspectorate Unit recorded 38 inspections and supervised 23 landings totaling 8,297 metric tons of fish, evidencing robust governance enforcement.

Production and Sector Performance

Total marine production during Q3 2025 reached 22,471.9 metric tons, with the artisanal subsector contributing 82.9% and the industrial subsector 17.1%. Artisanal fishing remained the backbone of domestic supply, while industrial fishing showed modest export-oriented growth. Seasonal dynamics affected revenue, which totaled USD 426,558.16 for the quarter but USD 1.4 million cumulatively (43.37% of the annual target), aligning with expected cyclical patterns where Q4 delivers the majority of annual income.

Aquaculture Expansion and Data Systems

Major progress was achieved in aquaculture capacity building and digital integration. Over 500 fish farmers (including 38 women) were trained across Margibi, Bong, Nimba, and Lofa counties. The National Aquaculture Database System (NADS) and National Fishmongers Directory were launched to centralize production and post-harvest data. Two hatcheries in Tassah and Klay advanced toward completion, and national aquaculture production reached 245.5 tons, primarily tilapia.

Institutional Strengthening and Decentralization

NaFAA completed a Decentralization Strategy to correct staff imbalances—currently, 169 of 206 employees are based in Montserrado. The strategy provides the basis of establishing four regional hubs for equitable service delivery and local governance. The framework, scheduled for full implementation by 2029, aims to bridge operational gaps across coastal and inland regions, enhance compliance, and improve data collection.

Financial Overview

Despite seasonal declines, NaFAA’s fiscal management remained strong: USD 1.4 million was executed out of USD 3.26 million approved for 2025. The forecast indicates that Q4 access-agreement renewals will raise year-end performance above 95% of budget targets. Expenditures focused on compensation, goods and services, and expanded digital and infrastructure investments.

Outlook and Strategic Priorities

Quarter four of 2025 will focus on access license renewals, expansion of the Quartermaster System, construction of NaFAA’s new Fisheries Complex, and the celebration of Liberia’s first World Fisheries Day. The Authority anticipates achieving its highest annual revenue levels while advancing environmental sustainability, institutional efficiency, and regional collaboration.

Executive Summary Outlook

The third quarter confirmed NaFAA’s transition into a modern, data-driven regulator. Strengthened governance frameworks, digital transformation, aquaculture expansion, and human resource decentralization collectively established a foundation for long-term growth. Liberia’s fisheries sector

is increasingly positioned as a regional model for sustainable blue economy development, integrating scientific management, inclusive growth, and environmental stewardship

Board Decisions

The Board of Directors of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) convened on June 25 and Aug. 27, 2025, and passed resolutions concerning fisheries management, environmental governance, and leadership structure.

Below are the key board decisions :

- Adoption of the Semi-Industrial Fisheries Management Plan (FMP)
- Establishment of the Department of Environment and Climate Change
- Election of a Co-Chairman of the Board

Board Resolutions: Emergency Meeting (Aug 27, 2025)

- **NaFAA Logo Update**

The board approved modification of the official logo to better reflect aquaculture, artisanal, and industrial fisheries. Implementation will be phased for cost efficiency.

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- **Artisanal Canoe Fee Reduction**

Registration and license fees reduced to boost compliance and support small-scale fishers:

- Paddle – USD 30 (from 50)
- 1–15 HP – USD 175 (from 250)
- 16–40 HP – USD 350 (from 475)

- **Disposal of Unserviceable Vehicles**

Approved disposal of obsolete fleet assets in line with GSA policy to cut maintenance costs and improve efficiency.

- **Raw Tuna Export Fee Reduction**

Export fee revised from 10 % of catch value to USD 10.00 per MT to align with regional rates and enhance competitiveness of Liberia's tuna flag.

- **Non-Statutory Board Member Fees**

A quarterly allowance of USD 3,500 approved (subject to Presidential endorsement) per Section 3.14 of the 2017 Act.

- **2025 Recast Budget Approval**

Total projected revenue: USD 3.68 M (NaFAA share USD 3.47 M).

Expenditure: Compensation 2.23 M | Goods & Services 0.91 M | Liabilities 0.19 M | Capital 0.14 M.

Introduction

1.1 Premise

The National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) was formally established on October 9, 2017, through national legislation, marking a pivotal step in the modernization of Liberia's fisheries governance. Operating with full autonomy under the Republic of Liberia's Public Authorities Law, NaFAA succeeded the former Bureau of National Fisheries, which had functioned as a division within the Ministry of Agriculture's Department of Technical Services from 1956 until 2017. The creation of NaFAA reflects Liberia's commitment to strengthening institutional capacity, enhancing regulatory oversight, and promoting sustainable development in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

1.2 Liberia's Marine and Fisheries Capacity: A Strategic Asset in West Africa

Liberia possesses a relatively long coastline of 579 kilometers and an expansive Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of 246,000 km², making it one of the largest maritime jurisdictions among its West African neighbors (Table:1). This EEZ exceeds those of Ghana (218,100 km²), Sierra Leone (155,700 km²), Benin (27,750 km²), and Togo (15,375 km²), highlighting Liberia's comparative geographic and maritime advantage.

Despite its size, Liberia's marine and fisheries sector remains underdeveloped, with significant untapped potential for sustainable fisheries, aquaculture, limited infrastructure, and marine biodiversity conservation. The large EEZ, combined with a relatively small population, translates into higher per capita marine resource availability, positioning Liberia to benefit substantially from well-managed ocean-based economic activities.

Liberia's strategic coastal location, situated along major migratory routes and rich fishing grounds, further enhances its value for regional fisheries cooperation, marine governance, and blue economy investments. However, realizing this potential requires substantial investment throughout the fisheries value chains, strengthening institutional capacity, monitoring and enforcement systems, and sustainable resource management practices.

Table 1: Liberia EEZ comparative analysis

NO	Coastal States	(EEZ km2)
1	Liberia	246,093
2	Côte d'Ivoire	173,764
3	Sierra Leone	159,300
4	Guinea	109,439
5	Senegal	157,705

Key Highlights and Achievements

2.1 Sector update

The National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) continues to strengthen its operational capacity and strategic direction in line with Liberia's development agenda. Presently, NaFAA maintains a fleet of six trawlers and 32 tuna vessels that support commercial fishing activities. However, plans are underway to increase fishing effort following the completion of the ongoing fisheries management strategy and investment plan. This instrument will provide the scientific and policy guidance needed to ensure that expansion efforts are both sustainable and economically viable.

2.2 Revised Licensing Fees

Table 2: Revised fees

Over the past several years, fishing communities across Liberia's nine coastal counties have consistently raised concerns that the previous fee structure placed a heavy financial burden on small-scale operators, particularly those using non-motorized or low-horsepower canoes. Many fishing chiefs and artisanal fishers reported that abrupt increases in license fees in earlier years were economically unfeasible, negatively affecting compliance levels and discouraging formal registration.

In response to these concerns, and following extensive consultative engagements with fishing chiefs and artisanal fishers, NaFAA, through its Board of Directors, approved a revised artisanal fishing fee structure. This reform, aligned with NaFAA's mandate to promote inclusive and sustainable fisheries management, aims to make licensing more affordable and equitable while encouraging voluntary compliance and expanding the licensing base.

Under the new structure, effective January 1, 2026:

- Paddle canoes will see their annual license fee reduced by 40%, from USD 50 to USD 30, providing significant relief to low-income fishers who depend on non-motorized canoes for subsistence and small-scale commercial fishing.
- Motorized canoes (1–15 HP) will experience a 30% reduction, from USD 250 to USD 175.
- Larger motorized canoes (16–40 HP) will see fees reduced from USD 475 to USD 350, representing a 26.3% decrease.
- Recreational Fisher (Marine) fees remain at USD 300.
- Recreational Fisher (Inland) fees remain at USD 250.
- Migrant Fisher fees will increase by more than 100%, from USD 1,500 to USD 3,500.
- Sea Cucumber Fisher fees will increase by 300%, from USD 1,500 to USD 5,000.

By reducing financial barriers for most artisanal operators while adjusting fees for specific high-value categories, NaFAA aims to improve registration rates, enhance the accuracy of data on fishing effort, and strengthen monitoring and management of Liberia's marine resources. This initiative also

supports broader national objectives under Liberia’s Blue Economy and the ARREST Agenda for Inclusive Development (AAID), promoting inclusive participation, socioeconomic resilience, and sustainable livelihoods for coastal communities.

In the long term, the Authority anticipates that these reforms will foster greater revenue stability through expanded voluntary compliance rather than higher individual licensing fees, creating a fair and mutually beneficial framework for both the government and fishing communities.

2.3 Strengthening MCS

2.3.1 Introduction of the Quartermaster System: A New Era in Fisheries Surveillance

During the third quarter of 2025, the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) achieved a major technological milestone with the deployment of the Quartermaster System, a next-generation monitoring platform designed to strengthen the enforcement of Liberia’s fisheries laws and enhance operational transparency.

Overview of the System

The Quartermaster System provides the Government of Liberia, through NaFAA, with the unprecedented capability to receive live high-definition video feeds from vessels operating within the Liberian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This innovation enables real-time observation of fishing activities, offering enhanced situational awareness of vessel movements and maritime operations within national waters.

By integrating live imagery with the existing Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data network, the system establishes a robust surveillance framework that tracks both registered and non-registered vessels, thereby detecting potential breaches or unauthorized operations near Liberia’s maritime boundaries.

Strategic Significance

The introduction of the Quartermaster marks a transformational advance in NaFAA’s capacity to combat Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing — a persistent threat to national fisheries sustainability. The system’s fusion of video intelligence and satellite tracking allows:

- Real-time detection of suspicious or non-compliant behavior.
- Evidence-based decision-making in enforcement response.
- Faster coordination with regional monitoring agencies and fisheries commissions within West Africa.

Impact and Institutional Benefits

This innovation situates Liberia among the leading nations in the region using AI-enhanced maritime monitoring tools. It strengthens collaboration with the Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC), expands NaFAA’s deterrent capacity, and reinforces compliance under international fisheries management agreements. The system also contributes to improved transparency and operational efficiency, aligning Liberia’s fisheries governance with the Global Charter for Fisheries Transparency commitments reaffirmed in 2025.



Figure 1: Quartermaster, visual impression

2.3.2 Fisheries surveillance and Transshipment

Data presented in Table 3 indicate that NaFAA’s Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) maintained uninterrupted operations for 89 consecutive days, providing continuous, full-time surveillance of Liberia’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). During this period, a total of 25 vessels, including 40 tuna vessels and 125 reefers, were actively tracked to ensure compliance with national and regional fisheries regulations, with particular attention to vessel movements in and out of Liberia’s waters. Domestic trawler activity remained consistent, with 6 active vessels conducting 27 port calls, reflecting steady operations under national licensing conditions.

Within the Transshipment Unit, oversight was maintained over 27 Liberia-flagged reefers and 10 registered transshipment vessels, demonstrating active engagement across regional fisheries management zones. During the quarter, a total of 349 transshipment authorizations were issued, predominantly for fuel bunkering (94%), amounting to 66,961.99 metric tons of fuel and 3,941.29 metric tons of squid transshipped. The M/T Jason recorded the highest single-vessel operation, supplying over 17,600 metric tons of fuel.

Importantly, no unauthorized transshipment activities were detected during the quarter, reflecting the effectiveness of monitoring protocols and the high level of compliance among vessels operating under Liberia’s flag and jurisdiction. These results underscore NaFAA’s capacity to maintain robust surveillance, enforce regulatory compliance, and support the sustainable management of Liberia’s fisheries resources.

Table 3: MCS operational highlights

Unit / Area	Indicator	Data / Result	Remarks
Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC)	Operational Days	89 days (24/7)	Continuous national coverage
	Vessels Tracked	25 vessels	Active compliance monitoring
	Tuna Vessels	40 vessels	RFMO compliance tracking
	Reefers (Cargo Vessels)	125 (119 transit, 6 at port)	Monitored port & transit activities
	Domestic Trawlers	6 vessels	All licensed & operational
	Port Calls (Trawlers)	27 calls	Regular domestic operations
Transshipment Unit	Liberia-Flagged Reefers	27 vessels	Regional operations active
	Registered Vessels	10 vessels	Under ICCAT, IOTC, WCPFC
	Total Authorizations	349 (310 fuel, 39 squid)	Strong regulatory output
	Fuel Transshipped	66,961.99 MT	Major bunkering operations
	Squid Transshipped	3,941.29 MT	Product transfer recorded
	Leading Vessel	M/T Jason – 17,643.8 MT fuel	Highest operational volume
	Bunkering Share	94% of all transshipments	Fuel dominates operations
	Unauthorized Cases	None	Full compliance maintained

2.3.3 Observer Program and Inspectorate (Strengthening Fisheries Governance through the Scientific Observer Program and Inspectorate Operations)

Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) Operations

The third quarter of 2025 reflected continued progress in the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority’s (NaFAA) Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance (MCS) activities. The reporting period was marked by tangible achievements in both the Scientific Observer Program and the Inspectorate Unit, reinforcing NaFAA’s commitment to transparent, accountable, and sustainable fisheries management (see Table 4).

Scientific Observer Program

During the quarter, NaFAA deployed eleven (11) scientific observers aboard licensed industrial fishing vessels operating within Liberia’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The primary objective of these deployments was to ensure independent verification of fishing operations, safeguard compliance with fisheries regulations, and generate reliable data to inform management decisions.

The observers systematically monitored fishing effort, gear type, catch composition, and bycatch handling practices. Through their field observations, NaFAA was able to gather robust data

essential for improving national stock assessments and supporting science-based policy interventions.

Key achievements during the period included:

- **Coverage of approximately 300 fishing days**, ensuring consistent and high-quality monitoring of industrial fishing activities.
- **Enhanced reporting accuracy**, leading to improved data reliability and informed decision-making in fisheries management.
- **Strengthened collaboration** among observers, vessel operators, and NaFAA’s Data Management Team, facilitating timely transmission of verified catch and effort data.

The Scientific Observer Program continues to serve as a cornerstone of NaFAA’s evidence-driven management framework, providing critical insights for resource sustainability, compliance verification, and the fight against Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.

Inspectorate Unit and Port Operations

Throughout the quarter, the Inspectorate Unit maintained a strong compliance and enforcement presence at sea and in port. A total of 38 vessel inspections were conducted, ensuring adherence to national fisheries laws, license conditions, and international conservation measures. In parallel, NaFAA inspectors supervised 23 port landings at the Port of Monrovia, promoting operational transparency and traceability within the industrial fishery value chain.

Cumulative fish landings for the quarter totaled 8,297.18 metric tons, distributed as follows:

- **Refrigerated Cargo Vessels (Reefers): 83% of total landings**
- **Domestic Trawlers: 17% of total landings**

Among participating vessels, Guoji 837 recorded the highest domestic landing, while M/V Gabu Reefer led in total imports among reefers.

Compliance Findings and Corrective Measures

Overall, compliance levels remained high across inspected operations, reflecting growing awareness and cooperation from licensed operators. However, monitoring activities identified the incidental capture of non-target species, particularly Yellowfin tuna by Guoji vessels. In response,

NaFAA intensified observer oversight on these vessels and recommended targeted refresher training for crew members on bycatch mitigation techniques.

These corrective actions reinforce NaFAA’s proactive enforcement approach, which emphasizes education, prevention, and compliance support as integral tools for sustainable fisheries management.

Key Insights and Policy Implications

The third quarter’s outcomes demonstrate NaFAA’s steady advancement in strengthening Liberia’s fisheries governance architecture through an integrated MCS framework. Enhanced surveillance coverage, improved data quality, and strengthened interdepartmental coordination all point to growing institutional maturity and operational efficiency.

Moving forward, NaFAA recognizes that sustained progress in MCS implementation will require continued investment in technology, capacity building, and legal enforcement. Strategic priorities for the coming quarters include:

- Expanding real-time vessel monitoring and data sharing systems;
- Strengthening compliance with Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO) standards; and
- Deepening partnerships that promote sustainable blue growth and marine biodiversity conservation.

Through these efforts, NaFAA continues to consolidate its leadership in responsible fisheries management, ensuring Liberia’s active contribution to regional and global sustainability commitments.

Table 4: MCS update

Unit / Area	Indicator	Data / Result	Remarks
Observer Program	Observers Deployed	11 (6 Guoji trawlers, 1 shrimp vessel)	Active monitoring
	Trips Conducted	10 trips / 300 days	Consistent coverage
	Data Collected	Catch composition, fishing methods	Supported management decisions
	Observer Status	All domestic safe; 1 still at sea	Continuous observation
Inspectorate Unit	Inspections	38 (on 18 vessels)	Pre-/post-fishing checks
	Landings	23 at Monrovia Port	Regular oversight
	Total Landings	321,373 cartons (8,297.18 MT)	National total

	Domestic Landings	69,507 cartons (1,401 MT)	Guoji 837 led
	Reefer Landings	251,866 cartons (6,896 MT)	M/V Gabu Reefer led
Observations	Non-Target Species	Yellowfin tuna by Guoji	Closer monitoring advised
Capacity Building	Training / Study Tour	Digital verification; Ghana & Zambia	Improved skills & collaboration

2.4 Marine Production (Artisanal vs Industrial)

2.4.1. Overview of Production Trends

Monthly Production Dynamics

Monthly fluctuations in total marine output reflected natural and operational seasonality. Artisanal landings exhibited relatively stable performance across the period, with peak production recorded in January (2.6 thousand metric tons) and April (2.56 thousand metric tons). These peaks correspond to favorable sea conditions and increased fishing effort during the early dry season.

However, production declined during the rainy months of June and July, when adverse weather, strong currents, and reduced fishing activity typically limit artisanal operations. Despite these seasonal dips, artisanal production maintained a steady overall contribution, demonstrating the resilience of local fishers and the effectiveness of NaFAA’s continuous outreach and licensing programs.

In contrast, industrial production displayed more irregular trends, influenced by factors such as licensing cycles, trawler deployment schedules, port inspections, and regulatory enforcement activities. Periods of lower industrial output often coincided with license renewals, gear inspections, and temporary suspensions for compliance verification. Conversely, spikes in landings were observed following the issuance of new industrial fishing permits and the resumption of trawling operations.

Key Insights and Policy Relevance

The 2025 production data reinforces several key policy insights:

- **Artisanal fisheries remain the foundation** of Liberia’s marine economy and a critical source of employment and food security.
- **Industrial production is expanding gradually**, driven by improved governance, private investment interest, and NaFAA’s enforcement of responsible fishing practices.

- **Seasonal and operational variability** calls for adaptive management approaches, including the introduction of improved data collection systems, weather advisory services, and targeted support to artisanal fishers during low-yield months.

Going forward, NaFAA aims to leverage data-driven planning to optimize production across both subsectors. Efforts will focus on strengthening artisanal fishery infrastructure, facilitating sustainable industrial growth, and integrating climate-resilient practices to enhance national fish supply stability and economic returns.

Table 5: Comparative Production Performance

subsector	Total Production (tons)	Share of Total (%)	Average Monthly Output (tons)	Remarks
Artisanal	18,619.23	82.9%	1,861.92	Dominant, consistent year-round activity
Industrial	3,852.67	17.1%	385.27	Dependent on trawler operations and export demand
Total	22,471.90	100%	-	-

2.4.2 Seasonal and Market Dynamics

Artisanal fisheries demonstrate predictable seasonality, with productivity declining during the rainy months (June–July) and recovering toward September–October. This aligns with the West African upwelling system, where nutrient circulation influences coastal fish abundance. Industrial fisheries fluctuate more sharply, depending on licensing renewals, and access agreements. The value curve mirrors production patterns: high values in April (L\$565 million) and May (L\$523 million) reflect active fishing and favorable pricing, while declines in June–July coincide with reduced effort and lower volumes.

The 2025 production dataset (Table 5 & 6) reaffirms that Liberia’s fisheries economy is still largely artisanal, yet industrially promising. Artisanal fisheries provide the backbone of national fish supply, while industrial fisheries present an avenue for structured growth and export diversification. Through NaFAA’s decentralization program, and various infrastructural investments, the Authority is balancing policy interventions, enhancing artisanal productivity, and promoting responsible industrial expansion.

Table 6: Economic Analysis (Production Value in LRD)

Subsectors	Total Value (LRD)	Share of Total (%)	Estimated Value per Ton (LRD/ton)	Remarks
Artisanal	3,537,653,700	82.8%	LRD 190,000	High domestic demand
Industrial	732,006,350	17.2%	LRD190,000	Export-oriented
Total	4,269,660,050	100%	-	-

2.5 Data Expansion and Aquaculture Development

2.5.1 FishMonger Database

During the reporting period, NaFAA advanced the National Fishmongers Directory initiative, a strategic intervention aimed at addressing a long-standing institutional and policy gap within Liberia’s fisheries value chain. Historically, the sector has lacked a centralized database capturing the identities, demographics, and operational characteristics of fishmongers across the country, limiting visibility, planning, and integration of these critical post-harvest actors.

Women constitute the majority of post-harvest stakeholders, playing essential roles in fish processing, transportation, and marketing. Despite their central contribution, these actors have largely remained undocumented, restricting their inclusion in value chain development, sector planning, and gender-responsive policy formulation.

To address this, NaFAA developed a comprehensive fishmonger directory during the period under review. The database is designed to support evidence-based planning, gender inclusion, and value chain enhancement, in alignment with NaFAA’s institutional mandate and broader sector development objectives. Once fully operational, the directory will:

- Enable data-driven decision-making for post-harvest fisheries management;
- Improve traceability and compliance monitoring within the value chain;
- Enhance the socioeconomic visibility and empowerment of women, strengthening their participation in fisheries governance and economic activities.

Overall, the establishment of the National Fishmongers Directory represents a critical step toward modernizing sector data management, promoting gender inclusion, and facilitating more effective, sustainable development of Liberia’s fisheries value chain.

2.5.2 Aquaculture database

The Authority achieved a significant institutional milestone with the development of the National Aquaculture Database System (NADS) (Figure 2), a transformative digital platform designed to centralize, manage, and analyze aquaculture data across Liberia. This achievement marks a critical step toward the modernization and digitalization of the country’s aquaculture governance framework. The NADS serves as a centralized repository for comprehensive data on aquaculture operations, including farm registration, production statistics, input use, biosecurity measures, and market linkages. By consolidating data from counties, private farms, research institutions, and extension services, the system provides policymakers, researchers, and investors with timely and accurate information to guide sector planning and development. NaFAA can now more effectively monitor national aquaculture growth trends, assess productivity, and identify emerging challenges or opportunities within the value chain.

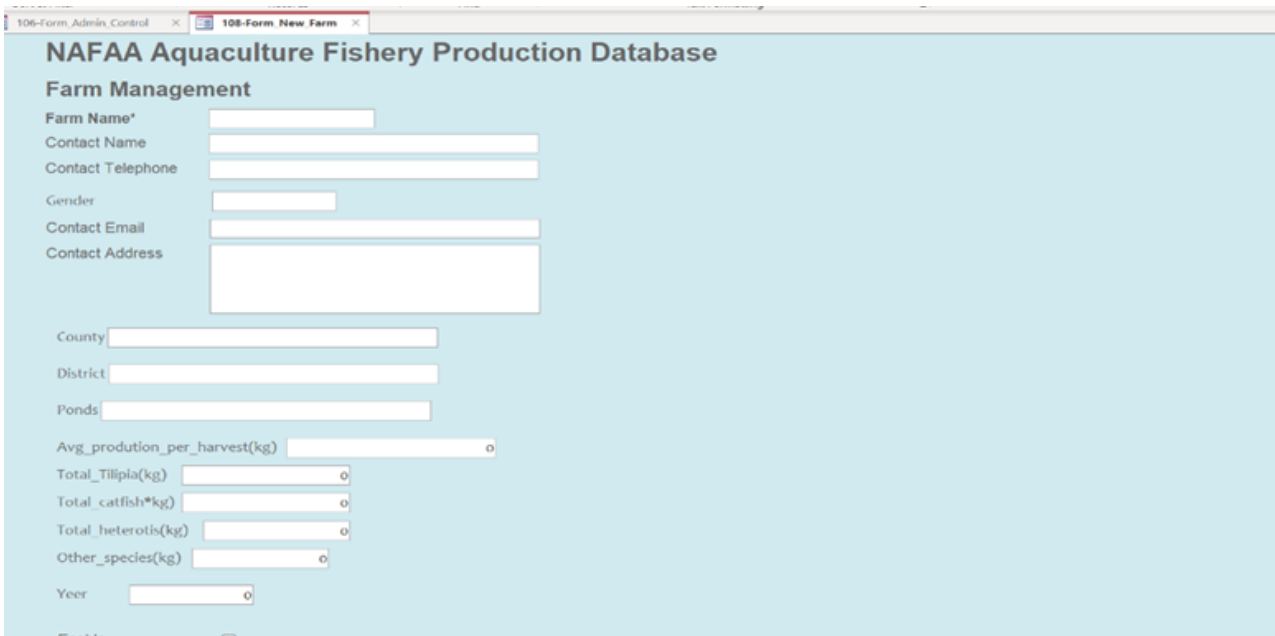
The image shows a web browser window with two tabs: '106-Form Admin Control' and '108-Form New Farm'. The active tab displays a form titled 'NAFAA Aquaculture Fishery Production Database' with a sub-heading 'Farm Management'. The form contains several input fields: 'Farm Name*' (text), 'Contact Name' (text), 'Contact Telephone' (text), 'Gender' (text), 'Contact Email' (text), 'Contact Address' (text area), 'County' (text), 'District' (text), 'Ponds' (text), 'Avg_production_per_harvest(kg)' (text), 'Total_Tilapia(kg)' (text with a dropdown arrow), 'Total_catfish*(kg)' (text with a dropdown arrow), 'Total_heterotis(kg)' (text with a dropdown arrow), 'Other_species(kg)' (text with a dropdown arrow), and 'Year' (text with a dropdown arrow). At the bottom left, there is a partially visible 'Enable' checkbox.

Figure 2: Aquaculture Database

2.5.2 Aquaculture Development

During the third quarter of 2025, NaFAA recorded notable progress in aquaculture development, emphasizing farmer training, geographic expansion, and infrastructure growth. Table xxx reflects an increasingly organized and data-driven subsector, supported by multi-institutional collaboration and improved production outcomes.

2.5.2.1 Capacity Building and Gender Inclusion and Geographic Expansion

A total of 500 fish farmers were trained, of which 38% were female and 62% male. They were trained across multiple aquaculture disciplines, including pond management, hatchery operations, and biosecurity.

Activities during the quarter extended across four counties (Margibi, Bong, Nimba, and Lofa), reflecting NaFAA's growing outreach beyond coastal areas. Two new hatcheries in Tassah and Klay are under construction during the period, marking an important step in decentralizing seed production and increasing fingerling access for inland fish farmers.

2.5.2.2 Production Performance

Aquaculture output reached 245.5 metric tons (Table 7), dominated by tilapia. This production level signifies ongoing growth and stabilization within the sector, driven by improved input supply, better management practices, and enhanced technical assistance from NaFAA's county extension network (Table 8).

Table 7: Aquaculture production performance

Indicator	Q3 2025 Achievement
Total Fish Farmers Trained	500 (189 Female / 311 Male)
Counties Covered	4 (Margibi, Bong, Nimba, Lofa)
New Hatcheries Under Construction	2 (Tassah & Klay)
Total Farms Recorded in Database	533 Farms
Total Ponds Mapped	1,156 Ponds
Total Fish Production Recorded	245,489 kg (Tilapia Dominant)
National and Regional Trainings	2 Programs (Liberia & Egypt)

Table 8: Aquaculture performance matrix

No.	Thematic Area	Intervention	Key Achievements / Results	Partners	Remarks / Outputs
1	Capacity Building	National farmer training (Margibi, Bong, Nimba, Lofa)	500 trained (38% female); improved BMP and technical skills	NaFAA / World Bank / Aqua Biotech	Nationwide skill improvement
2	International Training	EICA aquaculture training (Egypt)	2 technicians trained; enhanced knowledge in RAS, feed, disease control	Egypt / EICA	Strengthened technical capacity
3	Tassah Hatchery	EU “Seed4Liberia” project	8 cohorts built, borehole, hatching tanks, 15-ft tower installed	NaFAA / EU / WorldFish	Continuous seed and broodstock system
4	Klay Hatchery	World Bank LSMFP rehabilitation	Contract awarded for reconstruction;	NaFAA / World Bank / APT	Revamped national hatchery system
5	Integrated Agri-Aquaculture	Rice–fish farming project in 10 communities in Bong County.	Social economic survey and need assessment has been conducted and analysis is ongoing, 10 demonstration sites for rice fish culture has been identified and reconstruction is ongoing; 150 beneficiaries (fish farmers) have been identified; and seed rice (NERICA 19) has been distributed to the beneficiaries.	NaFAA / FAO / Future Fish	Promotes circular, eco-smart farming
6	Data System	Aquaculture database development	533 farms, 1,156 ponds, 245.5 tons recorded; digital data system	NaFAA / LSMFP	First structured aquaculture database
7	Extension Support	On-site farm assessment	Feasibility study conducted for the construction of concrete tanks for tilapia and catfish farming, One tank(416 m2) has been constructed and stocked with Nile tilapia.	NaFAA / Private Sector	Improved private farm performance
8	JICA Partnership	Sector assessment ToR	5-county study ToR; roadmap	NaFAA / JICA	Supports policy and roadmap design

3.1 Revenue Performance

3.1.1 NaFAA Financial Performance Analysis (January–September 2025)

As of September 30, 2025, NaFAA executed USD 1.4 million, representing 43.37% of the approved annual budget of USD 3.26 million. While this appears below the expected three-quarter benchmark of 75%, the outcome is consistent with Liberia’s fishing seasonality and revenue calendar, where the bulk of annual income is generated in Q4 through industrial and tuna access fees (Table 9).

Table 9: Revenue performance

Metric	Value (USD)	Interpretation
Approved Annual Projected Revenue	3,264,552.30	Total approved financial plan for 2025 operations, programs, and institutional commitments.
Actual Q1 (Jan–Mar)	483,207.88	Represents 14.8% of the annual budget executed in the first quarter.,
Actual Q2 (Apr–Jun)	505,932.49	Slight growth in Q2, reflecting continued execution of planned activities and steady disbursements.
Actual Q3 (Jul–Sep)	426,558.16	A slight decline from Q2, primarily due to the seasonal downturn in fishing activity and delayed access agreement renewals.
Actual YTD (Q1–Q3)	1,415,698.53	Cumulative funds realized through September 2025.
YTD Performance vs Budget	43.37%	Indicates that less than half of the annual target was achieved by Q3; however, this aligns with the sector’s cyclical revenue pattern.

3.1.2 Comparative Quarter Analysis

The slight improvement from Q1 to Q2 in Table 10 reflects operational consistency and effective coordination across departments. However, the Q3 decline is not a sign of inefficiency; it aligns with the natural off-season of the fisheries calendar when sea conditions worsen, and many industrial operators suspend activities pending Q4 license renewals.

The observed decline in revenue in the third (Q3) quarters of 2025 is largely attributed to the seasonal nature of fishing activities and the timing of access agreement renewals, which significantly influence NaFAA’s

revenue flow. Fishing in Liberia is inherently seasonal, driven by climatic conditions, oceanographic patterns, and regulatory management measures that determine fishing effort throughout the year. During the mid-year period (June–September), fishing activities typically decline due to unfavorable sea conditions and the onset of the rainy season, which limits both industrial and artisanal operations. Consequently, associated revenues from Tuna license fees,

Moreover, licenses under access agreements, which constitute a major share of NaFAA’s total annual revenue, are predominantly renewed during the October–December NaFAA revenue season. As a result, limited inflows occur in Q3, since major payments are scheduled for the final quarter.

Therefore, the decline in revenue in Q3 reflects the expected off-season pattern and follows the cyclical revenue pattern of the fisheries sector, where income generation peaks in the last quarter of the year following license renewals and access fee collections. With the access agreement renewal period (October–December) approaching, significant revenue inflows are anticipated, which will elevate total performance to above 95% of the annual target by year-end

3.2 Human Resources: Decentralization Strategy and Plan

NaFAA has made significant strides in developing a decentralization model designed to strengthen its operational presence, improve service delivery, and deepen stakeholder engagement across Liberia’s coastal and inland regions. At the core of this framework is the establishment of four regional hubs, each functioning as a central coordination and service center for local fisheries operations.

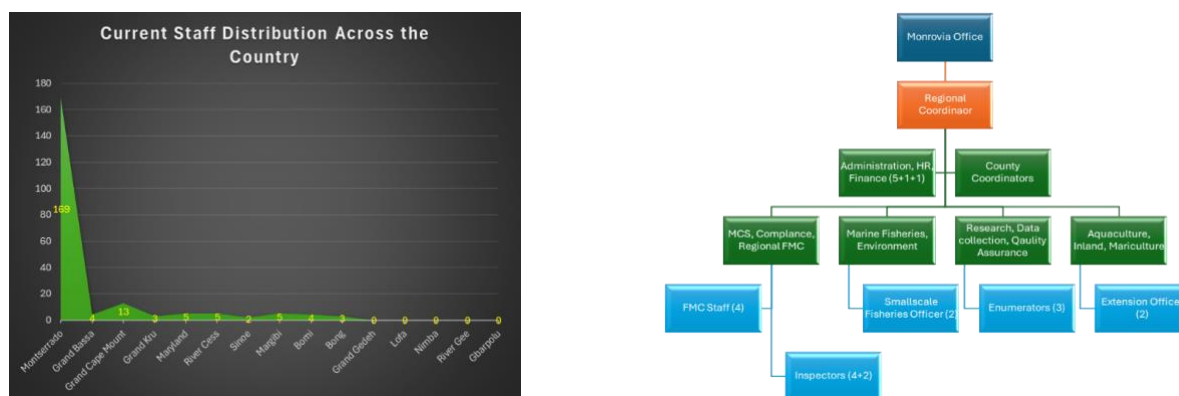


Figure 3: Decentralization strategy and plan

This initiative addresses a longstanding staffing and resource imbalance, whereby 169 of NaFAA’s 206 national staff are concentrated in Montserrado County, leaving most other counties with fewer

than 10 staff, and several with none (see Figure 3). Such centralization has historically limited NaFAA's ability to provide effective licensing, monitoring, and aquaculture support, particularly to rural and coastal communities that depend heavily on fisheries for food security and livelihoods.

Through decentralization, NaFAA aims to redistribute staff, resources, and decision-making authority closer to the field via regional and county offices. Each hub will be equipped with dedicated personnel and digital systems, enabling enhanced real-time data collection, improved enforcement and compliance, and more responsive service delivery.

By bringing technical support and administrative services closer to fishing communities, NaFAA's decentralization strategy is expected to:

- Promote participatory fisheries governance, allowing communities to actively engage in decision-making;
- Strengthen compliance and monitoring, reducing illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) activities;
- Enhance efficiency in licensing and aquaculture support, ensuring equitable access to services; and
- Foster sustainable fisheries development, supporting long-term economic growth and food security across all regions of Liberia.

3.2.1. Roles and Strategic Benefits of Regional Hubs

Each regional hub will serve as a decentralized operational center equipped with dedicated staff, digital systems, and infrastructure to manage key fisheries functions at the local level. The hubs will handle vessel registration and licensing, data collection and reporting, inspection and enforcement, aquaculture development, and community engagement. Through collaboration with county authorities, fisher groups, and local communities, the hubs will strengthen participatory governance and service delivery. By decentralizing operations, NaFAA seeks to improve field presence, reduce administrative bottlenecks, enhance real-time data communication, and promote inclusive fisheries management that increases stakeholder confidence and compliance.

3.2.2 Implementation and Structure

The decentralization framework will be implemented in three phases between 2025 and 2029, beginning with the establishment of two regional hubs (Western and Central), followed by expansion to the Southeastern and Northeastern regions, and concluding with full nationwide integration. Each

county fisheries office, led by a County Fisheries Officer (CFO), will function as a one-stop service center with specialized units for administration, licensing, MCS, research, aquaculture, M&E, and community relations. Regional offices will be headed by a Regional Director supported by deputies for administration and technical operations. This structured and phased approach ensures effective coordination, improved accountability, and sustainable delivery of fisheries management services across Liberia.

3.2.3 Training programs

During the third quarter of 2025, the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) prioritized institutional learning and human capacity enhancement as a cornerstone for sustainable sector growth. In pursuit of this goal, several staff members participated in a series of international training programs and study tours designed to strengthen technical expertise, foster cross-country collaboration, and align national fisheries management practices with global standards (Table 11).

A total of fourteen (14) NaFAA personnel benefited from five major training and exchange programs held across six countries—China, Ghana, Zambia, Nigeria, Egypt, and Morocco. These engagements provided participants with hands-on experience in modern fisheries and aquaculture techniques, value addition, and policy implementation frameworks.

In **China**, three staff members attended a specialized training on **Value-Added Fishery Product Development**, which focused on modern fish processing, preservation, and marketing techniques. The program enhanced participants' understanding of post-harvest management and product diversification, equipping them to promote higher-quality and more competitive fishery products within Liberia's domestic and export markets.

Under the Liberia Sustainable Management of Fisheries Project (LSMFP), NaFAA also organized two separate study tours. The first tour, conducted in Ghana and Zambia, exposed participants to best practices in semi-industrial fisheries management, aquaculture governance, and co-management models. The second study tour to Ghana and Nigeria provided practical insights into fisheries data systems, fish landing site management, and private-sector engagement in artisanal fisheries value chains.

In **Egypt**, two technical officers participated in a Freshwater Small-Scale Aquaculture Training Program hosted by the Egyptian International Center for Agriculture (EICA). The training covered advanced topics such as Recirculating Aquaculture Systems (RAS), feed formulation, fish health

management, and disease prevention—areas critical to the development of sustainable inland aquaculture in Liberia.

Collectively, these international capacity development initiatives have contributed significantly to strengthening NaFAA’s human capital base and technical readiness. The exposure gained by staff is expected to translate into improved operational efficiency, enhanced policy delivery, and stronger partnerships with regional and global fisheries institutions.

Table 11: Training and Study tour

Training/program	# of persons	COUNTRY	DATE
Value-added Fishery Product development	3	China	July 11 – 31, 2025
National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority	3	Ghana & Zambia	July 14 -26, 2025
Study Tour			
National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority	4	Ghana & Nigeria	July 14 -26, 2025
Study Tour			
Freshwater Small Scale Farming	2	Egypt	August 18, 2025
Training in Maritime Fisheries	2	Morocco	September 29 – October 8, 2025

3.3 Update on the Liberia Sustainable management of fisheries project

During the third quarter of 2025, the Liberia Sustainable Management of Fisheries Project (LSMFP) continued to record notable progress across its key thematic areas (Table 12). The project focused on advancing livelihood support programs, institutional capacity building, and infrastructure development, all aimed at strengthening Liberia’s fisheries governance and promoting sustainable economic growth. Activities during this period reflected NaFAA’s commitment to empowering fishing communities, enhancing policy frameworks, and laying the groundwork for long-term private sector participation in the blue economy

Enhancing Fisheries Governance and Service Delivery through Digital Innovation

The establishment of NaFAA’s Call Center is progressing steadily. The Call Center is being developed to enhance the effective implementation and user support of the Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS)—a transformative digital platform introduced in 2023 to modernize fisheries governance and service delivery in Liberia.

The FIMS provides real-time access to critical fisheries-related information for a wide range of stakeholders, including fisherfolk, cold storage operators, investors, and development partners. It

also facilitates online applications for fishing licenses and permits through the portal <https://fims.nafaa.gov.lr>, thereby streamlining administrative processes, improving transparency, and reducing transaction time.

In addition, the system functions as a centralized repository of fisheries data, enabling evidence-based decision-making and improved sector monitoring. Following its official launch, NaFAA commenced the operational use of the FIMS on August 1, 2025, marking a significant milestone in the digital transformation of Liberia's fisheries management framework. <https://liberianinvestigator.com/news/nafaa-digital-fisheries-management-system-liberia/>

Development of the Mesurado Industrial Fishing Pier

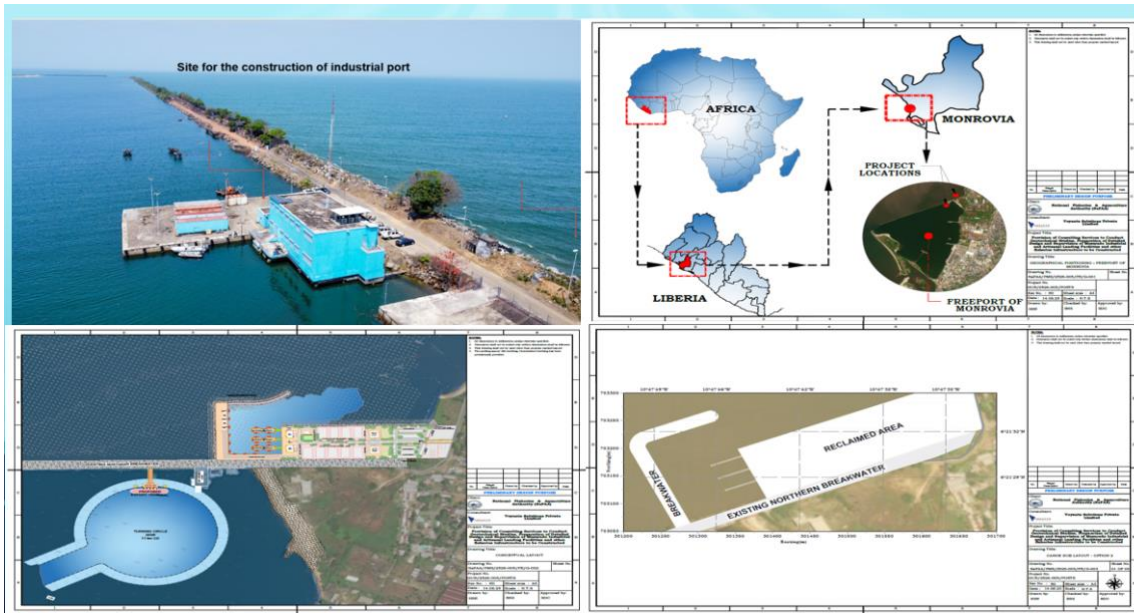
During the period under review, significant progress was achieved toward the development of the Mesurado Industrial Fishing Pier, a flagship infrastructure project aimed at revitalizing Liberia's industrial fisheries subsector. Following a rigorous and transparent international procurement process, Voyants Solutions Pvt. Ltd., an India-based engineering and design consultancy firm, was competitively selected and awarded the contract to undertake the geotechnical investigations and architectural design of the new fishing port facility.

The contractual agreement between the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) and Voyants Solutions was formally signed in July 2025, marking a critical milestone in the preparatory phase of the project. Since then, the consultancy has completed key components of the geotechnical assessments and has submitted the preliminary architectural design for review and validation. As of the reporting period, a few additional technical details remain under discussion prior to the finalization and approval of the comprehensive port design.

The design of the Mesurado Industrial Fishing Pier holds strategic importance for Liberia's fisheries sector. It will serve as the backbone of the country's industrial fishing operations, enabling improved landing, handling, and processing of fish and related products. Once completed, the facility is expected to:

- Enhance post-harvest infrastructure, thereby reducing post-harvest losses and improving the quality and safety of fish landed;
- Facilitate the establishment of cold storage, ice-making, and fish processing facilities, essential for value addition and export readiness;

- Support job creation and private sector investment in fisheries logistics, maintenance, and services; and
- Strengthen Liberia’s compliance with international sanitary, safety, and port standards, paving the way for potential access to regional and international markets, including the EU.



NaFAA livelihood initiatives: Matching Grant

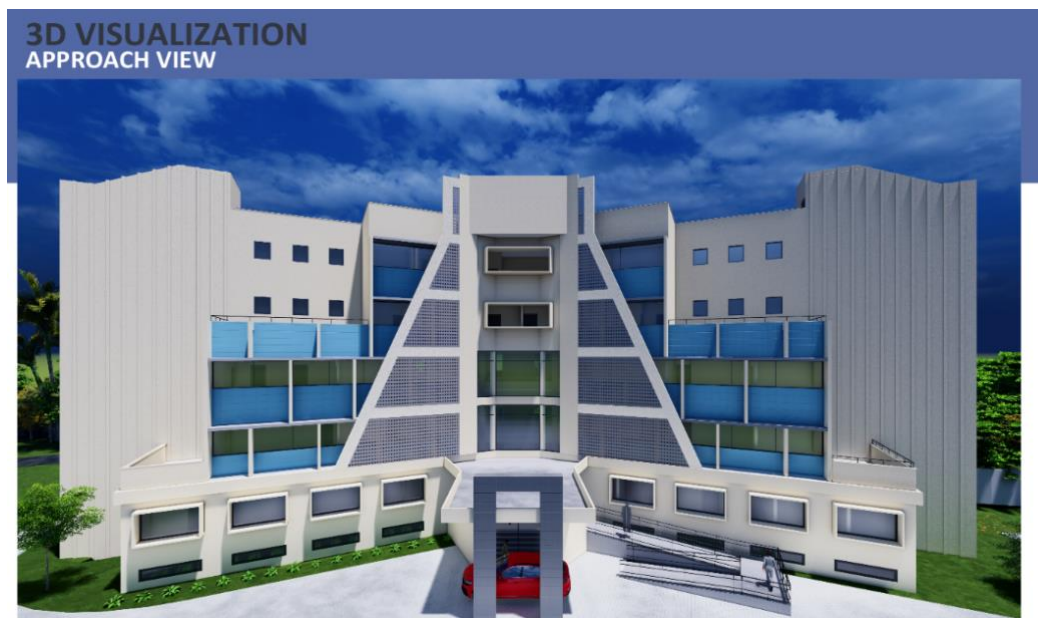
During the reporting period, NaFAA made significant progress in promoting inclusion and gender equity through the Gender Empowerment and Small Grants Program. The initiative supported 1,409 small and 13 large grant recipients, including 250 new women beneficiaries across key coastal counties. By providing financial support, business training, and mentoring, the program strengthened small-scale enterprises in fish processing, aquaculture, and community fisheries management. These interventions enhanced local livelihoods, expanded enterprise development, and increased women’s economic participation—demonstrating NaFAA’s commitment to inclusive growth and social empowerment

Infrastructure and Policy Development Progress

Substantial advancements were recorded in the Klay Hatchery development, with engineering designs finalized and site works progressing toward the construction of a commercial fish-feed mill.

Similarly, the University of Liberia Aquaculture Research Facility concept was validated by stakeholders, reinforcing the Department of Fisheries to conduct applied aquaculture research and development.

The preliminary design (Figure 4) and Bill of Quantities (BoQ) for the fisheries complex(NaFAA Headquarters) were completed and reviewed jointly by NaFAA and the World Bank, with final designs scheduled for submission by late October 2025. Once completed, the Fisheries Complex will serve as a modern administrative and operational headquarters, unifying all NaFAA departments under one roof to enhance coordination, efficiency, and service delivery. The facility will integrate offices, laboratories, training centers, and digital systems essential for effective fisheries governance, thereby strengthening NaFAA’s institutional capacity and contributing to the long-term modernization of Liberia’s fisheries sector



On other fronts, work began on a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Strategy and Fisheries Management Roadmap. The geotechnical and engineering studies for the Mesurado Industrial Fishing Port was also completed. In preparation for 2026, NaFAA also finalized the concept for a Fisheries Investment Forum aimed at mobilizing both domestic and foreign private sector investment in the fisheries and aquaculture subsectors.

Strengthening Collaboration

During the third quarter of 2025, the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) continued to strengthen partnerships and coordination with its national and international development partners as part of efforts to enhance alignment, resource mobilization, and collective action in the sustainable management of Liberia’s fisheries sector.

A key highlight of the quarter was the successful hosting of NaFAA’s Second Fisheries Development Partners Coordination Group Meeting, which served as a platform to review sectoral progress, share updates on ongoing initiatives, and deepen institutional collaboration. The meeting brought together representatives from government institutions, donor agencies, technical partners, and private-sector stakeholders to assess progress under NaFAA’s strategic priorities and identify emerging areas for joint intervention.

During the meeting, NaFAA presented several major institutional and programmatic milestones, including:

- The introduction of NaFAA’s new official logo, symbolizing institutional renewal and modernization;
- The launch and operationalization of the Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS), enhancing data collection, analysis, and reporting for improved governance;
- The downward revision of artisanal canoe license fees, demonstrating NaFAA’s responsiveness to small-scale fishers’ concerns and promoting regulatory compliance;
- Preparations for the 2025 World Fisheries Day Celebration in November, emphasizing awareness and stakeholder engagement;
- The announcement of the forthcoming Fisheries Investment Conference, scheduled for February 16–17, 2026, aimed at attracting private investment and fostering a blue economy–driven growth agenda;
- Progress on the development of an Aquaculture Database, which will centralize information on fish farms, production systems, and operators to support evidence-based planning;
- Updates on NaFAA’s Decentralization Plan and the establishment of a Fishmongers Database, designed to improve coordination and inclusion of women and traders within fisheries value chains; and
- The introduction of new Fisheries Monitoring Center (FMC) technology—“Quartermaster”, which will strengthen real-time vessel tracking, surveillance efficiency, and enforcement capabilities within Liberia’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Development partners also used the platform to share updates on new and ongoing projects being developed or implemented in collaboration with NaFAA. Discussions emphasized the importance of harmonizing donor support, fostering institutional synergy, and aligning interventions with NaFAA’s strategic objectives.

The Coordination Meeting reaffirmed NaFAA’s leadership role as the central coordinating institution for Liberia’s fisheries development agenda. It also reinforced the shared commitment among partners to advance sustainable fisheries management, aquaculture development, and coastal livelihood improvement through improved collaboration, transparency, and strategic alignment.

Key challenges and mitigation measures

Table 13: Key Challenges and Mitigation Measures – Q3 2025

NO	Challenge	Explanation	Mitigation
1	Poor interagency coordination on fish importers	<p>It has come to the attention of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA) that a number of fish importers are bypassing the Authority and importing fish into Liberia without obtaining the requisite permits as mandated by national fisheries laws and regulations. Several of these importers have asserted that securing an Import Permit Declaration (IPD) from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) automatically authorizes them to import fish into the country. This interpretation, however, is incorrect and inconsistent with the legal framework governing the fisheries sector, which requires prior authorization from NaFAA before any fish or fishery products are imported.</p> <p>To address this growing concern, NaFAA has formally communicated with the Liberia Revenue Authority (LRA), requesting access to relevant importation documents and customs records to identify and regulate non-compliant importers. However, the Authority has yet to receive the</p>	Urgent inter-agency collaboration among NaFAA, MoCI, and the LRA is therefore essential to harmonize procedures, enforce existing laws, and safeguard the integrity of Liberia’s fisheries governance and international commitments. NaFAA will keep engaging the authorities at the LRA and MOCI to strengthen this collaboration

		<p>requested documentation. The absence of this coordination continues to expose the fisheries sector to significant risks, including revenue losses, regulatory breaches, and the potential importation of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fish into the Liberian market.</p> <p>Given that Liberia remains under the European Union (EU) Yellow Card status, this situation presents a serious compliance risk that could escalate to a Red Card sanction if not addressed promptly. Such an outcome would have severe implications for Liberia’s international trade reputation and its access to key export markets.</p>	
2	NaFAA is losing revenue to the Ministry of Post and Telecommunication	<p>It has been observed that a significant volume of processed fish products is currently being exported through the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications without the oversight of the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority (NaFAA). Under the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority Act of 2017, NaFAA is the sole regulatory body mandated to approve, assess, and monitor all imports and exports of fish and fish products in Liberia. This legal framework empowers NaFAA to ensure compliance with fisheries regulations, maintain accurate records of trade volumes, and safeguard the integrity of Liberia’s fisheries sector.</p> <p>The current practice of exporting processed fish outside NaFAA’s regulatory oversight has two critical implications. First, it results in revenue losses for the Authority, as fees and levies that should accrue to NaFAA are bypassed. Second, it prevents accurate tracking of the quantity and quality of fish exports, undermining both resource management and Liberia’s ability to</p>	Engagement with the Minister of Post and Telecommunication has commenced, and I hope this can be handled.

		<p>demonstrate compliance with international standards, including those required by the European Union and other trade partners.</p> <p>To address these challenges, it is imperative that all agencies involved in trade and export coordination align with NaFAA’s statutory mandate. Implementing a harmonized monitoring system will ensure that all fish and fishery products are properly documented, assessed, and exported under the Authority’s supervision, thereby enhancing revenue collection, improving sector governance, and safeguarding Liberia’s international trade reputation.</p>	
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Progress Expected for The Next Quarter

Table 14: Q4 expected output

No.	Priority Area	Key Planned Actions	Expected Outcome / Deliverable
1	Revenue & Licensing	Launch Q4 Access Agreement Renewal Campaign for tuna, trawler, and industrial licenses.	Achieve $\geq 95\%$ of annual revenue target; expand licensing compliance base.
2	Decentralization Rollout	Commence the reconstruction of the Maryland Regional Office	NaFAA’s first regional office renovated
3	MCS Strengthening	Expand Quartermaster System coverage and upgrade FMC connectivity.	Enhanced real-time vessel monitoring and data integration
4	New Fisheries Complex	Finalize procurement for the recruitment of a firm to construct the NaFAA’s Fisheries Complex	Firm recruited for Fisheries Complex construction
5	NaFAA’s Website	Modernize the NaFAA’s website to enhance visibility	NaFAA’s website modernized and officially launched
6	World Fisheries Day celebration	Host Liberia’s first World Fisheries Day	World Fisheries Day hosted and Fisheries awareness enhanced

7	Aquaculture Development	Commence the ESIA in Nimba County for the Integrated Industrial Aquaculture offtaker farm	Expression of Interest for ESIA published
8	Fish Monger & Post-Harvest Data	Intensify the data collection for fishmongers in additional two counties	Gender-responsive post-harvest data integrated into NaFAA's information system.
9	Institutional Collaboration	Finalize Peace Corps Volunteer Deployment Plan and sign MoU with CARI and UL.	Strengthened research, training, and extension collaboration.
10	Climate & Environmental Governance	Develop policy/ strategy for the Department of Environment and Climate Change	Resilience into fisheries and aquaculture planning Mainstreamed
11	Infrastructure & ILDS Implementation OPEC FUND	Complete feasibility studies for priority landing sites under the ILDS program of the Integrated Fisheries Sector Strengthening Project.	Feasibility study completed
12	Digitalization & Data Systems	Integrate the National Aquaculture Database System (NADS) with the central Fisheries Information Management System (FIMS).	Real-time data accessed for policy and management decisions.

Conclusion

The third quarter of 2025 marked a period of institutional consolidation and sectoral advancement for NaFAA and Liberia's fisheries sector. During this period, the Authority achieved significant progress across key areas, including policy reform, surveillance enhancement, aquaculture development, and institutional decentralization, all of which reinforce NaFAA's pivotal role in driving the country's Blue Economy transformation.

Through the implementation of the Semi-Industrial Fisheries Management Plan (FMP), NaFAA strengthened evidence-based resource management, ensuring that expansions in fishing effort are grounded in sustainability and scientific modeling. The Quartermaster System further enhanced surveillance capabilities, enabling real-time maritime monitoring and improved compliance across the sector. Aquaculture development also gained momentum through the modernization of hatcheries, establishment of digital databases, and comprehensive farmer training programs, laying the foundation for self-sustaining inland and aquaculture production.

Institutionally, the ongoing decentralization strategy has significantly improved service delivery and participatory governance. By deploying technical staff and establishing regional hubs, NaFAA is

closing service gaps, strengthening coordination across counties, and fostering inclusive sectoral engagement. While financial performance in Q3 was seasonally lower, projections indicate that annual targets will be met and potentially surpassed following Q4 access-fee renewals.

Overall, NaFAA continues to evolve into a modern, transparent, and data-driven institution, effectively balancing conservation with economic growth. Through its commitment to innovation, strategic partnerships, and inclusive development, the Authority is positioning Liberia's fisheries sector as a key driver of national food security, livelihood improvement, and sustainable economic advancement.