



Small Scale Aquaponics launched in Ethiopia by FAO SmartFish project

Two to three aquaponic demonstration units were built in Ziway and ShewaRobit in Ethiopia. These feature two different methods of aquaponic food production, including the Food and Drain and the Nutrient Film Technique.

After the units had been designed and installed, two three day training courses were conducted covering the essential topics for small scale aquaponic food production. The sites hosted over forty trainees including local beneficiary farmers, university students, along with staff from local CBOs and NGOs. The



training courses were full of lively, informed debate and discussion amongst all attendees on the essential topics of aquaponics and the most applicable forms of the technology in various parts of Ethiopia.

The next step is the installation of six beneficiary units in the surrounding villages of the demonstration sites.

At Addis Ababa University (AAU), a final demonstration unit will be constructed by the staff parallel with the existing research unit. This unit will showcase all three methods of aquaponics including the Deep Water Culture method.

Finally, to mark the end of this first phase pilot project with aquaponics in Ethiopia, AAU will host a public awareness event demonstrating the fully functioning demonstration unit to the public. The event aims to spark informed discussion with stakeholders and practitioners/ researchers on the future of aquaponics in Ethiopia on how and where this new technology is most applicable.