

Project

Environmental Impact Assessment for a shrimp farm in Badagry, Nigeria

Time frame: June – September 2015**Status:** complete**A. Principal**

Primstar BV (Vroko International Holding BV), the Netherlands & Atlantic Shrimpers Ltd, Nigeria

B. Background

Atlantic Shrimpers Ltd, Apapa (Nigeria) obtained a license to establish a shrimp farming project near Badagry, Lagos state for which the project initiators applied for financing from the Dutch Good Growth Fund (DGGF). According to DGGF conditions, financial support requires an environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) to be carried out. Consequently, Atlantic Shrimpers Ltd has commissioned an EIA from FTJ Consults Ltd, a local environmental consulting firm in Nigeria. An EIA statement has been submitted to DGGF for their internal appraisal process in April 2015, but the quality of this statement was found to be too weak for international best practice standards. Therefore a more comprehensive assessment of expected impacts in order to support the proposed project was required.

C. Challenges

The original EIA statement prepared by FTJ Consults Ltd on behalf of Atlantic Shrimpers Ltd had been submitted to the competent authority LASEPA on 17 April 2015 and was approved on 29 April 2015. Shortly after, vegetation clearing, site preparation and construction works started.

In June 2015 ekolibrium was assigned with the task to improve the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process. When the site visits were carried out in July/August 2015, the original site had already been severely altered. Furthermore, due to the advanced development stage, alternatives were meanwhile limited to 'within-project' options.

D. Response / methodology

Field observation, interviews with a variety of stakeholders and extensive research allowed improving of the EIA process. An environmental impact statement (EIS) was prepared and alternatives elaborated. The statement and alternatives were discussed with the project proponent. Since the best alternative from an environmental perspective was not supported by the project proponent, additional alternatives were consequently elaborated. Together with further mitigation measures and a suggested monitoring plan, a solution could be found that addressed the needs of all parties concerned.

E. Main activities

Ekolibrium has carried out the following tasks:

- Coordination of the improved environmental impact assessment (EIA) process
- Site visits, field study, stakeholder interviews and literature research
- Assessment of impacts
- Elaboration of alternatives, mitigation measures and a monitoring plan
- Elaboration of an environmental impact statement (EIS)