

THE INNOVATION AS A TOOL FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT: PEIXE MAIS PROJECT EXPERIENCE IN TOCANTINS, BRASIL

Daniele Klöppel Rosa Evangelista*, Marcela Mataveli, Diego Neves de Sousa, Hellen Christina de Almeida Kato

Embrapa Fisheries and Aquaculture
104 South Block, LO1 Avenue, Number 34
Palmas, TO 77.020-020
daniele.rosa@embrapa.br

Tocantins is the Brazil's youngest state with 139 cities, rich in water availability, which has high potential to aquaculture activity increase, whether in rural properties or in great reservoirs. To promote the freshwater fish farming development in the State, Embrapa Fisheries and Aquaculture, in partnership with Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture developed a project named Peixe Mais (More fish), which uses technology transfer as a tool for rural development, interacting and promoting strategy changes in freshwater fish farming productive chain.

To establish direct contact between farming technologies and technician multipliers, Peixe Mais Project realized a continuous training, divided into three theoretical-practical modules, of 24 hours each, taught in 2014. The technical subjects focused in technological problems like ponds building, high stock density in juvenile phase, inadequate feed management and the lack of water quality monitoring. A demand survey applied to the attendees allowed the content adjustments.

For practical classes were used 'Field Day' and 'Technical Visits' as didactical tools, and the implementation of a 'Technological Learning Unit – TLU' for practical demonstration of Tambaqui pond farming from beginning to harvest. Each attendant was guided to choose a property, make a technological diagnosis and hand in a corrective and mitigate planning of sustainable management. They were presented and discussed with the group of attendees and Embrapa technician.

Other tool was a website, named "Knowledge Portal" (<http://gc.cnpasa.embrapa.br:8080/tambaqui-em-viveiro-escavado>), where didactic materials, pictures, news and technical videos were free to download. The course occurred in Araguaína city, and focused in Tambaqui farming in ponds and there were 47 multipliers from 19 different cities of Tocantins State.

This action aimed to bring different realities of the State to a group discussion, in order to create a communication flow between research and extension, beyond the knowledge and technology transferring of fish productive chain to the multipliers that will be agents of change in rural environment, through innovation.