

**Abstract of Sub-project Submitted by Tamilnadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences  
University (TANUVAS), Thoothukudi**

**1. Title of the Project:** Export oriented Marine Value Chain for Farmed-Seafood Production using Cobia (*Rachycentron canadum*) through Rural Entrepreneurship

**2. Component:** Component-2

**3. Consortium Leader:** Tamilnadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TANUVAS), Thoothukudi

**4. Consortium Leader and Consortium Partners:**

S. No.	Partner	Name	Designation	Full address with Phone Fax E-mail
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## **5. Objectives**

- Domestication of cobia breeders and standardization / validation of breeding protocol to produce quality seeds for coastal farming for Indian conditions.
- Evolving appropriate farming methods for fish production using raceways, marine floating cages and coastal lined ponds.
- Production, popularization and marketing of fresh, frozen and value added-processed fish products of innovative and aesthetic dimensions and ranges to exploit the domestic as well as export market potential.
- Dissemination of cobia seed production, farming technologies and processed fish product development for achieving rural entrepreneurship in maritime districts.

**6. Duration of the Project:** Three Years and Ten Months

**7. Cost of the Sub-project:** Rs. 264.89 lakhs

## **8. List of Innovations:**

- For cobia seed production, interventions such as the quality brood stock maintenance, nutrient-rich feeding regime and disease management strategies could be standardised to enable the cobia seed production by establishing cobia hatcheries and nursery management using raceway technologies.
- Standardisation of farming technology for the fast growing - cobia using marine net cages in near shore waters and coastal lined ponds.
- Innovative technological interventions in processing of cobia meat could enhance the product quality by value addition for domestic and export marketing.
- For the produce such as cobia seeds and the value added processed fish products, suitable marketing strategies would be evolved with the help of appropriate agencies. Further, the existing trade network for marine shrimp will be utilized in marketing of cobia with the guidance of MPEDA.
- Securing IPR for the production (hatchery and farming), processes and the innovative products evolved through this project.
- Line department viz. State Fisheries Department, Rural Banks and the Extension wings of the University are to be adequately sensitized to carry forward the technologies to the grass root level by involving the SHGs, Fisheries co-operative societies, etc.

## **9. Expected outcome/ impact/ Deliverables**

- Cobia, a fast growing potential marine candidate species for the future, which has already been gaining momentum in China, Taiwan, Indonesia, USA, Vietnam, Australia , etc. could be introduced in India to domesticate and to develop the package of technologies for seed production and farming of cobia.
- Encourages more farmers to undertake production of marine candidate species (hatchery and farming) due to its expected high economic returns.\*

- 20% of the currently unutilized shrimp farms could be converted into productive cobia farms with minimum investment.
- Effective utilization of near shore waters for cobia farming using marine cages.
- Innovative and high quality marine processed and value added fish products will be introduced in domestic and export markets.
- Technologies developed would be transmitted to the fisherfolk in order to inculcate rural entrepreneurship in them.
- Improved economic status would in turn can induce social reformation in rural regions.
- CIBA and CMFRI will be producing cobia seeds to the tune of 0.1 million / year each from 2<sup>nd</sup> year onwards.
- Cobia fish products in innovative containers (@ 500 kg / yr) can be prepared and marketed from 2<sup>nd</sup> year onwards by FC&RI.
- Farmed cobia production to the tune of 1.0 ton / yr can be achieved from demonstration ponds and cages by FC&RI and CMFRI from 3<sup>rd</sup> year onwards.