



SOUTHERN SHRIMP JSC: SCALING MANGROVE SHRIMP FARMING IN THE MEKONG DELTA



Partners: Southern Shrimp JSC, Vietnam Sustainable Shrimp Alliance



Sectors: Shrimp, Mangroves



Services: Sustainable Financing, Investment

Unplanned and unregulated shrimp farming, driven by growing international demand, has had a devastating impact on the mangrove forests of the Mekong Delta. The large-scale clearance of mangroves has exposed the Ca Mau Peninsula to accelerated erosion, as trees no longer attenuate waves and bind the soil, making it increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Integrated Mangrove Shrimp (IMS) is a method of aquaculture farming in brackish water, where shrimp and other produce (crabs, snails, and timber) are farmed with a high-level of mangrove cover. It provides a biodiversity-friendly and resilient farming practice when meeting organic certification standards.

Symmetry is a lead partner of the "Scaling climate resilient mangrove shrimp farming in the Mekong Delta" initiative funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. The partnership works with the Vietnam Sustainable Shrimp Alliance (VSSA) and Southern Shrimp JSC (SVS) to scale IMS across 3,000ha in a highly vulnerable region of the Mekong Delta. The project is helping to protect biodiversity and ecosystems services, improve smallholder farmers' livelihoods, and sequester greenhouse gas emissions.

Key interventions:

- Outreach/training for 700 smallholder farmers for IMS certification practices.
- SVS is supplying high-quality inputs, off-take agreements, and access to certified markets for the farmers.
- VSSA provides a platform to drive the transition to a more sustainable and inclusive shrimp industry.
- Symmetry is designing sustainable financing mechanisms and helping to mobilise investment to further scale the IMS model.