

# VEGA VOLUNTEER PROFILE



**Marty Riche**

**Research Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute**

Location: Fort Pierce, FL

**Career Summary:** Marty has 30 years aquaculture experience in the public, private, and academic sectors working with cool, cold and warm water species in both freshwater and marine environments. Marty served as a volunteer for two years in the U.S. Peace Corps in Sierra Leone, West Africa, as co-manager of the country's tilapia fingerling production center, and a rural extension agent.

After receiving a Ph.D. degree in aquatic animal nutrition at Michigan State University, he has worked for 14 years researching system design, larval and post-larval fish nutrition, and fish physiology for the USDA Agricultural Research Service and Florida Atlantic University.

**Area (s) of Expertise:** Aquatic animal nutrition, and fish physiology, recirculating aquaculture system design and operation, fish culture, and larval culture

**Education:** PHD, Aquatic animal nutrition, Michigan State University

**Languages Spoken:** English, Krio

## **ASSIGNMENT OVERVIEW**

**Name of project:** Farmer to Farmer – Small Grant Project for Aquaculture in Tanzania and Kenya

**Country:** Kenya

**Duration of Assignment:** July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016

**Volunteer Assignment and Impact:** This volunteer assignment is in support of the Farmer to Farmer - Aquaculture without Frontiers program. The assignment is to work with the Kenyan government, Eldoret University, and several Non-governmental organizations to provide training for other local trainers as well as direct training and advice to small and medium scale farmers.

**Take-away messages/quotes:** It is recognized that in addition to the health benefits of fish, aquaculture can contribute to poverty alleviation, food security, and social well-being. By teaching and training farmers to grow native fish species, to incorporate locally available feed ingredients, to develop and follow bio-security protocols and to reuse fish effluents to irrigate row crops, vegetables, and tree crops, fish farmers can develop truly sustainable farming methods.