ICAR- Central Institute of Fisheries Technology supported Agri-Business Incubation (ABI) Centre supports operations on business projects as a measure of enhancing the foundation for new technology based industries and establishing a knowledge-based economy.

The Incubator at ICAR-CIFT differs from traditional Business Incubators as it is tailored specifically for technology based industries and is operational at an area with a high concentration of fish production. This industry-specific incubator also allows new firms to tap into local knowledge and business networks that are already in place. ABI offers their services to industries not only in Cochin, but also all over India through virtual incubation. Beyond promoting business growth, the Centre is also trying to bring its benefits to all the fisheries communities in India. It focuses on finding new ways of doing business in fisheries and allied agricultural fields by finding doors to unexplored markets. The Centre helps prospective entrepreneurs, by providing pro-active and value-added business support in terms of technical consultancy, infrastructure facility, experts’ guidance and training to develop technology based business ideas and establish sustainable enterprises.

Through this Centre, the Institute has reached out to more than 150 small and medium-sized technology and technology-enabled enterprises and has helped to create good number of jobs. ICAR-CIFT was able to successfully commercialise many technologies through the ABI Centre, and were the first among all ICAR Business Incubators to accomplish an international technical consultancy. Every month, more than 20 people approach the centre for seeking business assistance, linkages, advice and tools. There are more than 100 registered incubatees at ABI. About thirty firms catering to diverse fields in fisheries sector have already graduated from the centre.