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The Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Program for the Western Region of Ghana Year 3 Semi-Annual Report

2012

October 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012.

Hen Mpoano

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF OCEANOGRAPHY



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**Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG)
Initiative for the Western Region of Ghana**

**H&N MPOANO (OUR COAST)
Semi-Annual Report 2012
October 1, 2011 – March 31, 2012
Cooperative Agreement No. 641-A-00-09-00036-00**



April 2012



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COASTAL RESOURCES CENTER
University of Rhode Island



WorldFish
CENTER



SUSTAINAMETRIX



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Cover Photo: Beach profiling on a shore front community in the Jomoro District

Cover Photo Credit: Coastal Resources Center – Ghana

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Cooperative Agreement No. 641-A-00-09-00036-00

Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island

In partnership with: The

**Government of Ghana
Friends of the Nation
SustainaMetrix
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April 2012

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List of Acronyms

AFRICOM	United States Africa Command
BALANCED	Building Actors for Livelihoods & Advancing Communities Excellence in Development
BBOP	Business Biodiversity Offset Program
BCS	Behavior Change Support
BUSAC	Business Sector Advocacy Challenge
CBAGs	Community Biodiversity Advisory Groups
CBDs	Community-Based Distributors
CBO	Community Based Organization
CEC	CREMA Executive Committee
CEWEFIA	Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association
COLANDEF	Community Land Development Foundation
CRC	Coastal Resources Center
CREMA	Community Resources Management Area
CRMC	Community Resources Management Committee
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CSG	Coastal Steering Group
DA	District Assembly
DP	Development Partner
DCD	District Coordinating Director
DCE	District Chief Executive
ECHNTS	Essiama Community Health Nurses Training School
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
DfID	Department for International Development
FBO	Farmer Based Organization
FC	Forestry Commission
FCF	Fisheries Co-management Forum
FiC	Fisheries Commission
FON	Friends of the Nation

FtF	Feed the Future
FWG	Fisheries Working Group
GCC – SL	Global Climate Change -Sustainable Landuse
GCLME	Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem
GES	Ghana Education Service
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GNCFC	Ghana National Canoe Fishermen’s Council
GREL	Ghana Rubber Estates Limited
GSBA	Globally Significant Biodiversity Area
HKI	Health Keepers International
IBA	Important Bird Area
ICFG	Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance
ICM	Integrated Coastal Management
IGCC	Interim Guinea Current Commission
LCA	Leadership for Conservation in Africa
LOGODEP	Local Government Decentralization Program
LOP	Life of Project
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCS	Monitoring Control and Surveillance
MEST	Ministry of Environment Science and Technology
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
MTDP	Medium Term Development Plan
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organization
NCRC	Nature Conservation Research Centre
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NSV	National Service Volunteers

PCC	Platform for Coastal Communities
PE	Peer Educators
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
PHE	Population Health and Environment
PM	Presiding Member
PMR	Performance Monitoring Report
PWG	PHE Working Group
RECA	Rural Environmental Care Association
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
STMA	Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly
SUCCESS	Sustainable Coastal Communities and Ecosystems
TBD	To Be Determined
TCPD	Town and Country Planning Department
TORs	Terms of References
UCC	University of Cape Coast
UCSOND	United Civil Society Organizations of Nzema East
URI	University of Rhode Island
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
US-EPA	US Environmental Protection Agency
WAPCA	West Africa Primate Conservation Association
WFC	World Fish Centre
WR	Western Region
WRCC	Western Regional Coordinating Council
WRDF	Western Region Development
YPEs	Youth Peer Educators

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Executive Summary

This summary reflects how the ICFG (*Hen Mpoano Initiative*) is fulfilling project objectives and highlights how the accomplishments so far contribute with a focus on progress in this six- month reporting period beginning Year 3 of the project.

Progress points at the National and Regional Level

The aim of improving governance of coastal and fisheries resources in Ghana, beginning with the Western Region is the building of a stronger constituency for fisheries and coastal management and improving situational awareness. The participatory process adopted has yielded an increasingly dense, powerful web of relationships among civil society, government and private sector actors that spans local, district, regional, national and international levels. These include close working relationships among new combinations of actors, as well as in effect a superhighway of communication channels that are broadly spread in a true network and do not depend solely on the project team to maintain.

Key to this regional and national engagement is the ability of the Hen Mpoano Initiative to demonstrate working examples of how new approaches to governance can work, right down to the local level. This period has focused on the development of these working examples through stakeholder collaboration on coastal vulnerability issues and mapping, GIS capacity building within local government and practical planning actions that are laying the groundwork for adopting more robust local decision making, across districts. This period has witnessed enhanced cooperation of planning and management of the natural resources of regional, notably for the Amanzule wetlands and the Cape Three Points land and seascape. Village needs are being articulated and communicated upwards to districts, regional and national level. International expertise is being leveraged to advance local concerns for example forest management, the green-green problem which is a bi-national concern with Ivory Coast, as well as sustainable financing for marine and coastal habitats.

Finally, engagement with other donor efforts and national programs committed to accelerating decentralization is creating opportunities for advancing both the coastal and fisheries management agendas. Hen Mpoano has helped Districts engage in corporate – supported efforts to support local planning. In essence, the project has begun in earnest to model the nested governance system characteristics that have been drafted in this reporting period. Progress on the national and regional level has focused more on building synergy and courage for piloting actions within the Western Region that have been planned in national policy for some time but have seen no action to date. These include actions that will reinforce the Regional Coordination Council and District Assemblies in carrying out their mandates and further developing constituencies in support of pilot programs. In this reporting period, these actions include:

Building Institutional Capacities at all Levels

- Initiation of training programs for the regional government planners and the six coastal districts (21 planning technicians) enabling them to prepare spatial planning and climate change vulnerability assessments including the provision of equipment and GIS software, establishment of a training center in the RCC, and preparation of base maps and data sets.
- Improving the capacity of University of Cape Coast to provide advisory services and extension programs for districts on coastal planning and the development of a strategic plan for the Center for Coastal Management within this university. The plan is in the drafting stage.
- Continued improvement of the fishery enforcement system in Western region as evidenced by significantly increased convictions rates through the ongoing training of judges and prosecutors and facilitating better communication among the Police, Fisheries Commission, and Prosecutors.
- Ongoing capacity building and training for the regional agents (12) of the Fisheries Commission on communications skills for communities.
- Drafting of the preferred scenario for future management of MPAs by the Inter- Ministerial Commission for Marine Protected Areas.
- Ongoing capacity building of the next generation of coastal managers via support to (4) new graduate students locally, (2) at URI (2) and 6 newly arrived national service volunteers.
- Creation of a curriculum program (adapted from the school's curriculum as well as those developed from the USAID supported BALANCED program on PHE) is being used for community health nurses to articulate population health and environment (PHE) linkages and per education at Essiama Community Nurses Training College (A total 230 out of 560 nurses trained and completing community practicum of which over 95% were female).

Informed constituencies including government, civil society and economic sectors

- Developed a better understanding and awareness of fisheries laws among fisheries stakeholders and communities via translation of 2010 regulations into the predominant coastal language of *Fanti* and widespread communications via rural radio dramas and call in talk shows.
- Civil society engagement improved via the leveraging of resources and partnerships for training programs for the interfaith networks in each of the six coastal districts, the PCC, the GNCFC, and WERENGO.
- Perennial tree crop plantation private sector engaged into developing internal policies and corporate ethics on food security through a policy to ensure 25% of areas put under cultivation remain for local food production and corporate investments in improved production of subsistence crops. To note also that donors supporting out grower schemes of perennial tree crops are also reviewing

their program in light of evolving food security and poverty issues in the Western Region.

- Increased synergy among several international programs in supporting a development of a private-public partnership for a coastal fund that will support priority projects and programs for the six coastal districts.

Improved planning and capacity for community engagement

- Developed a ‘community engagement plan’ to improve targeting of community fisheries fora
- Trained ‘Fisherfolk Communicators’ (12) in communication for social change
- Through recruiting new expertise, built program capacity in community engagement, adaptive co-management, gender issues and participatory action research
- Tested new methodologies for community engagement (e.g. participatory video with youth)

Progress points in Focal Areas

The three focal areas combine important bio-geographic systems that cross administrative boundaries with District (local government) emphasis in order to mainstream natural resources, climate change and natural hazards and livelihood concerns within the evolving context of decentralization. Though ICFG works in all six districts, there has been a need to focus where there are greatest needs or urgent priorities and in relation to other evolving programs which create a niche where ICFG can best contribute. The diverse actions initiated will contribute to case studies for the spectrum of the more common issues facing Ghana’s coastal communities.

Shama

The Shama Focal Area has been in the lead in spatial planning as it was demand driven by the District authorities since the outset of the project, by showing a deep and sincere commitment in developing ICM strategies and addressing critical coastal issues. The coastal and fisheries issues in Shama include high vulnerability to annual flooding and shoreline erosion, loss of livelihoods of tenant farmers to land acquired for industrial projects and over population of coastal communities and problems inherent therein. As a pioneer in District level spatial planning, the Shama District initiative became a show case for participatory planning and district level engagement. It came at the right time as the Town and Country Planning Department had also just begun to roll out training programs for district planners in the Western Region. It also came at a time where many critical issues were heating up in relation to extractive industries and agro-industrial projects, and their related social and environmental impacts.

The main lesson learned from the Shama focal area was that ICFG had to support District wide planning processes before focusing down on coastal areas of concern. In four of the Districts, it was also necessary to fit into the planning processes supported by

others and to develop partnerships whereby ICFG could lead in the coastal belt and steer planning as best as possible so as to ensure broad-based and genuine stakeholder participation as well as some form of ownership among both the District Assemblies and traditional authorities.

Main progress points in this reporting period

- The District is actively taking ownership for development planning and now has the technical capacity and inner solidarity to address issues raised from big centrally proposed development projects. In this period, a proposal for gas storage facilities has been put on hold until the District, with CRC support, completes refined flood plain mapping and zoning.
- Models for participatory spatial planning of the coastal areas, with community engagement, have been continued by District authorities that is serving local planning.
- Models for flood plain and hazard vulnerability assessment and community level are being developed as well as plans for relocating settlements from hazard areas now in place. Technical work is now poised to focus on getting local policies and by-laws adopted on land use, flood plain and wetlands protection and shorefront development/ICM. There is also the potential for using the Shama experience as the source of a model by-law on shore development.
- Collaborative action research has been initiated at the Anlo Beach community with UCC and the WFC to serve as the pilot for combining fishing community resilience with natural hazards protection and cross-partner team collaboration
- Potable water issues and evolving crisis first identified during the land use mapping and issue profile preparation in Shama, is now on the political agenda as a result of collaborative effort of the Hen Mpoano program, the Ghana Water Company, and the RCC.

Reporting of investments for sustainable landscapes/climate change and biodiversity will be done in the annual report.

Cape Three Points

This focal area provides the best opportunity for demonstrating landscape to seascape planning. The natural features and coastline are biologically rich and economically important and not surprising under increasing pressure. Presently this focal area is also experiencing the most concentrated impacts of both off-shore oil and gas production and the rapid expansion of agro- industrial oil palm and rubber projects throughout grower schemes. Though a spatial development plan has been proposed for the area, it was developed upon, and for, a scenario that assumed rapid, dramatic growth in the oil and gas sector and thus a demand for planned urban settlements, water and waste disposal and new transportation infrastructure. Though the plan generated enthusiasm locally, it is weak in addressing the current coastal issues, local needs for livelihoods and food

security, and limited in its understanding of ecological functions and requirements for maintaining a healthy land and seascape. The ICFG approach in this focal area will be to highlight the importance of the coastal belt and sound maintenance of critical habitats and arable land for food security as well as ensuring that the certain development that is already evolving rapidly is done following “best practices” and the current anarchic situation comes under the control of the two Districts concerned, Ahanta West and Nzema East.

Main Progress Points in this reporting period

- Development of partnerships and catalyzing increased political will within the District of Ahanta West for taking ownership of spatial planning and moving beyond the Korean- funded high density development plan to include food and livelihoods security as well as environmental quality and healthy sea and landscapes.
- Strategy and concept for a “greenbelt” linking biodiversity, tourism, and livelihoods that has the engagement of the Districts and forestry commission, and will be integrated into the spatial planning and future bye-laws and medium -term development plans
- Social and physical vulnerability assessments and mapping completed by Hen Mpoano and District Assembly personnel, with additional civil society groups, in all of the coastal communities. This action will feed into District spatial planning and future medium-term development plans.
- Leveraged funds for sustainable permaculture and organic farming training of \$100,000 from private sector rubber company to a farmers extension service enterprise
- Formal presentations and recognition at the national level of the Cape Three Points Working group that is promoting conservation actions around the Cape Three Points Forest and adjacent wetlands areas.
- Baseline ecological studies completed on inshore fish populations and habitats through a collaborative program with the UK based NGO Blue Ventures. These assessments will contribute to localized fisheries management strategies that might include a network of small protected areas. The report of the study was been compiled and a draft will be available in May 2012.

Amanzule

This focal area has the largest landscape areas of special concern, the Greater Amanzule Wetlands that covers the majority of the Districts of Jomoro and Ellembelle. Most of the population lives on a the highly vulnerable stretch of beach where the fishing communities are suffering dire consequences as a result of algae blooms that prevent fishing as well as rapid shoreline change and periodic flooding as the wetlands fill in extreme weather events caused by climate change. For the time being, the focal area has yet to experience the accelerated development of the other four Districts but additional mining ventures and planned gas facilities are set to change that soon. As such, the

spatial planning here has come as welcome relief at the right time and both the Districts and traditional authorities are appreciative of ICFG's efforts.

Main Progress Points in this reporting period

- As in the Cape Three Points focal area, social and physical vulnerability assessments and mapping completed by Hen Mpoano and District Assembly personnel, with additional civil society groups, in all of the coastal communities. The full report will be ready and available in May 2012
- The **green-green** – issue has been highlighted and placed on national agenda as evidenced by establishment of national task force and GCLME placing this as one of their 5 top priorities for action (this is a bilateral issue with Ivory Coast). There is increased cooperation across borders with IC on this issue and through collaborative research, better understanding of the causal mechanisms – where it starts, how it gets distributed along the coast relative to currents and upwelling and likely sources on nitrogen (fertilizer) causing the blooms
- Amanzule – has been assessed for its carbon sequestration potential and the groundwork laid for potential sustainable financing of its conservation through BBOP and/or REDD funds. Traditional authorities are supportive and aware of need to protect this wetland complex and large-scale landscape strategy that crosses two Ghana districts and potential cross border bilateral program.

Through the semi-annual review and monitoring sessions, the program has prepared extensively for the external evaluation by preparing a briefing packet. Within this briefing packet were two summary documents which have been included. The first is included as Chapter 4 of this report and it summarizes the “Expected Results of the Program by September 2013”, or the end of the Program, the results of which are coherent with the original program document and planned outputs. The second is included as Chapter 5 and outline a “Way Forward” for this project after the scheduled end of the present implementation period

Introduction

In September of 2009, a cooperative agreement was signed between USAID/Ghana and URI that established *The Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Program for the Western Region of Ghana*. This program was planned as a four –year initiative with an end date of September 14, 2013 with estimated funding over the life of the program of US \$ 10 million and an estimated match funding support provided by the implementing partners of \$2.5 million. The Program locally known as “*Hen Mpoano*” (Fanti for “Our Coast”) was designed to contribute to the following long-term vision for the governance of Ghana coasts and fisheries:

Ghana’s coastal and marine ecosystems are being developed and conserved in a sustainable manner - the goods and services produced by coastal ecosystems and fisheries are generating a diversity of long term socio-economic benefits for coastal communities while sustaining biodiversity.

Key results articulated in the design to which the program would contribute were organized by CRC’s orders of outcome framework. The aim was to contribute to these results via networking and coordination and direct implementation but not necessarily be fully or directly attributable in all cases to the Project. These are:

1. The enabling conditions for a fresh and integrating approach to coastal and fisheries governance in the Western Region and at the national and regional scale are assembled.
2. Changes in behavior at the local and national level are supporting enhanced social and economic benefits to resource users.
3. Changes in behavior at the local, national and regional levels are supporting the ecosystem approach to coastal and fisheries planning and decision-making and more sustainable forms of coastal resources use.
4. Some examples of improvements in the quality of life and the condition of the environment may be achieved in this initial four-year Program, but no changes in fish stocks are expected.

The Results Frame work (Figure 1) shows the link between the ICFG program goals and result areas and the USAID program objectives of *Feed the Future* and *Biodiversity*.

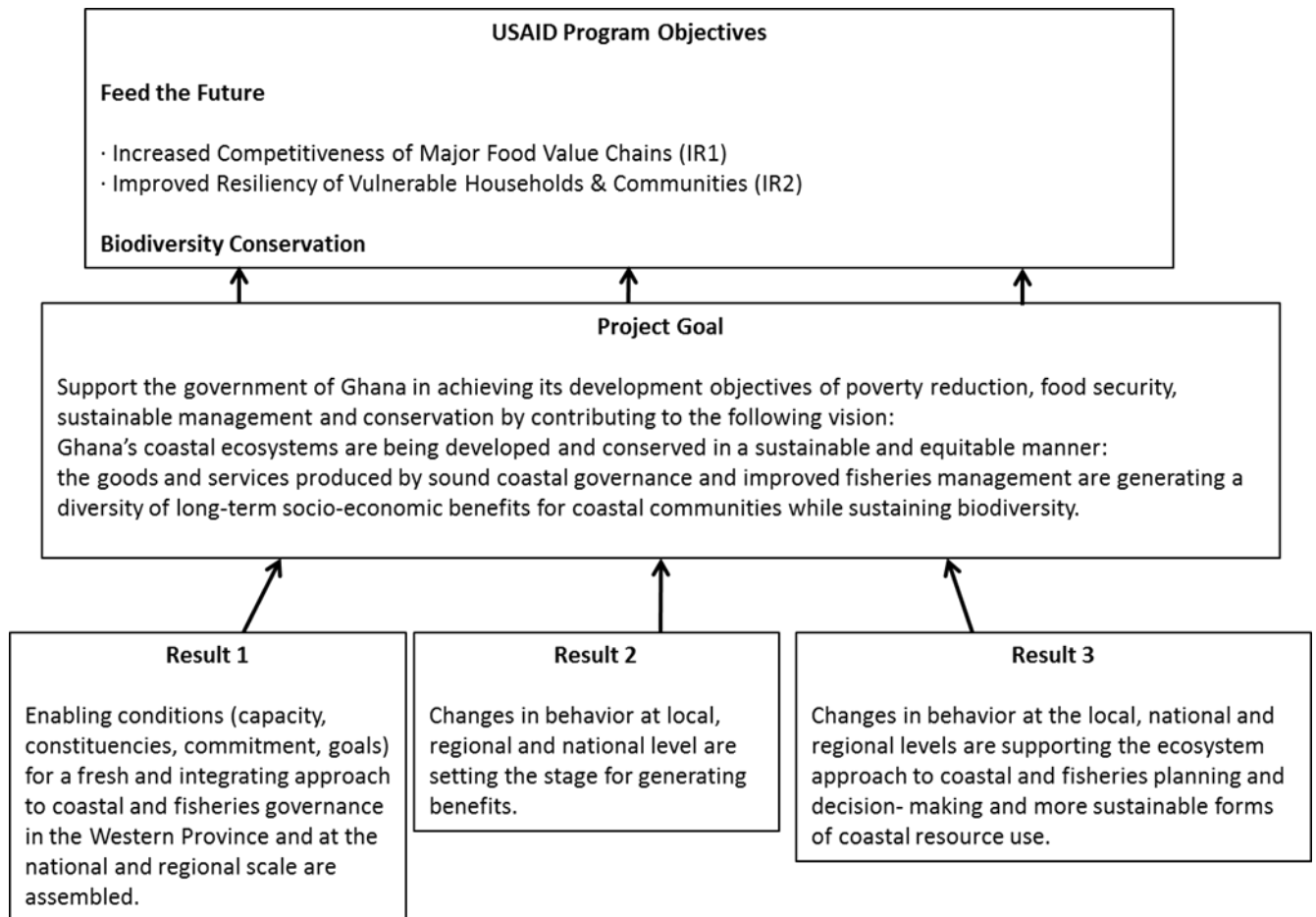


Figure 1: USAID Program Objectives and the Results Framework of the ICFG Initiative

Key Implementing Partners

The project is led by the Coastal Resources Center at the University of Rhode Island with several implementing partners including:

- **Friends of the Nation** – an environmental advocacy group based in Sekondi
- **The WorldFish Center** headquartered in Penang Malaysia and with Africa regional offices.
- **SustainaMetrix** – a private company based in Maryland that supports effective communications and learning based approaches to monitoring and evaluation

Over the course of the project, there have been many other local and international groups that have become involved and have also provided technical and training support as well as leveraged resources. These include among others: the Universities of Cape Coast and Ghana; Blue Ventures; Forest Trends and the Nature Conservation Research Center; the Ghana Wildlife Society and; the US Peace Corps with 5 volunteers serving with the Hen Mpoano Initiative.

The project has also coordinated and networked with a range of institutions and other USAID programs and donor efforts including the World Bank, AFRICOM, LOGODEP, BCS, FOCUS, DFID, and the GCLME, to name a few.

Key Government and Civil Society Partners

Due to the integrated nature of the project across multiple sectors and the focus in the Western region, no one national agency was designated as the key counterpart agency. However, the most important two at the national level are the Fisheries Commission in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA), and the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MEST) with a host of subordinate agencies of interest (e.g. Town and Country Planning, EPA). Key clients in the Western Region, key clients are the Western Region Coordinating Council, the Regional office of the Fisheries Commission and the six coastal districts in the Western region. There are numerous civil society groups that have also been clients and beneficiaries of the project including the Platform for Coastal Communities, National Fisheries Alliance, Alliance of Western Region NGOs (WERENGO), Ghana Canoe Fishermen's Council and CEWEFIA (a women's empowerment group), and others.

Geographic Emphasis

The project design called for a main emphasis of project activities to be centered in the Western Region, but acknowledged the need for some level of coordination at higher levels – nationally and even regionally in relation to the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem where Ghana shares many fish stocks and other resources, (and issues like the green algae bloom) with its neighbors. Within the Western Region, the area of focus was further defined down to the six coastal districts (Figure 1) where all of the marine fishing communities reside and where there are considerable ecosystem linkages between the landscape and seascape.

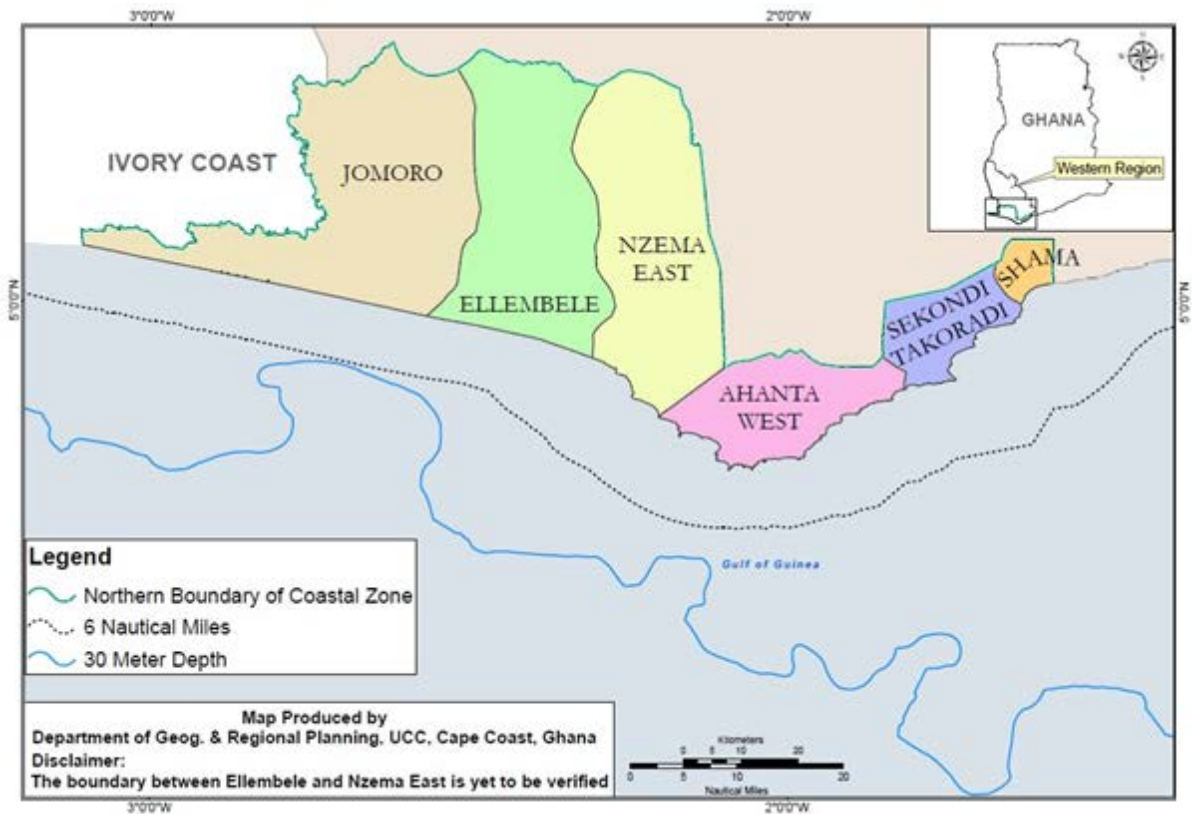


Figure 2: Map of the six focal districts of the Western Region and the adjoining seascape

Overview of Semi Annual Report

This Report covers the period October 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 and focuses on activities designed to build capacity and assemble preconditions for more effective and efficient coastal and fisheries governance in the six districts and nationally. The focal theme activities are summarized in the following sections.

1. Designing Options for Nested Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance Systems

The Year 3 activities differentiate between the different roles and responsibilities of the Districts, Region and National government in supporting ICM policies. The initiation of a design of a nested governance system for coastal planning is targeted at capacity building for key constituency groups to assure that there are Ghanaians with capacities and commitment to carry forward the design options and opportunities for nested governance.

1.1 Options for a Nested Coastal Governance System for the Western Region

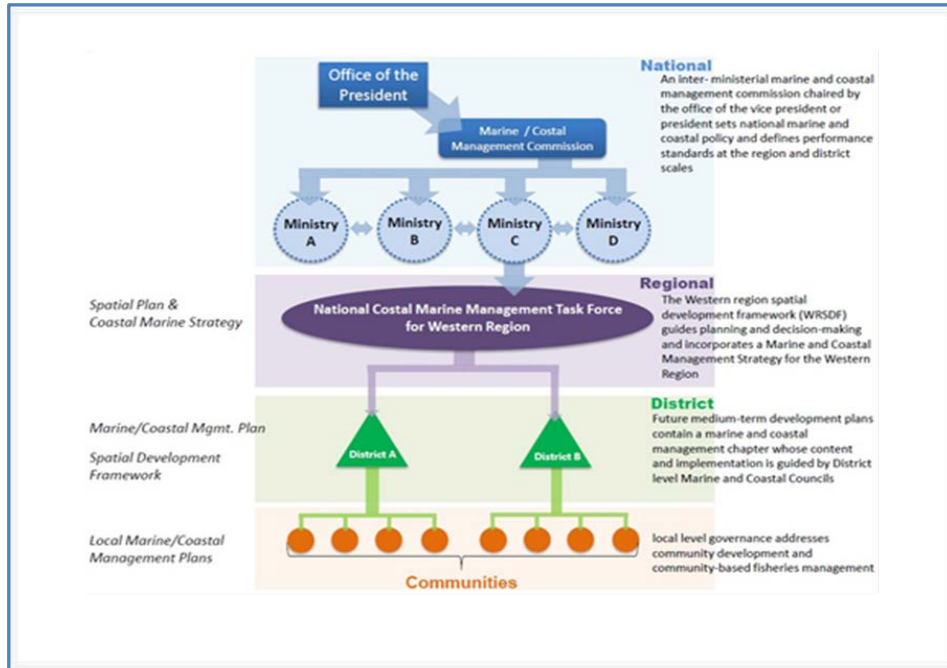
1.1.1 Working Paper on Options for a Nested Coastal Management Program

During this reporting period, a draft *Working Paper* on the Hen Mpoano model for a '*Nested Marine and Coastal Resources Management Program for Ghana*' has been prepared. This proposal is being discussed with stakeholders for further orientation prior to a wider public communication in the following semester. Figure 3 shows the current and the proposed nested governance systems.

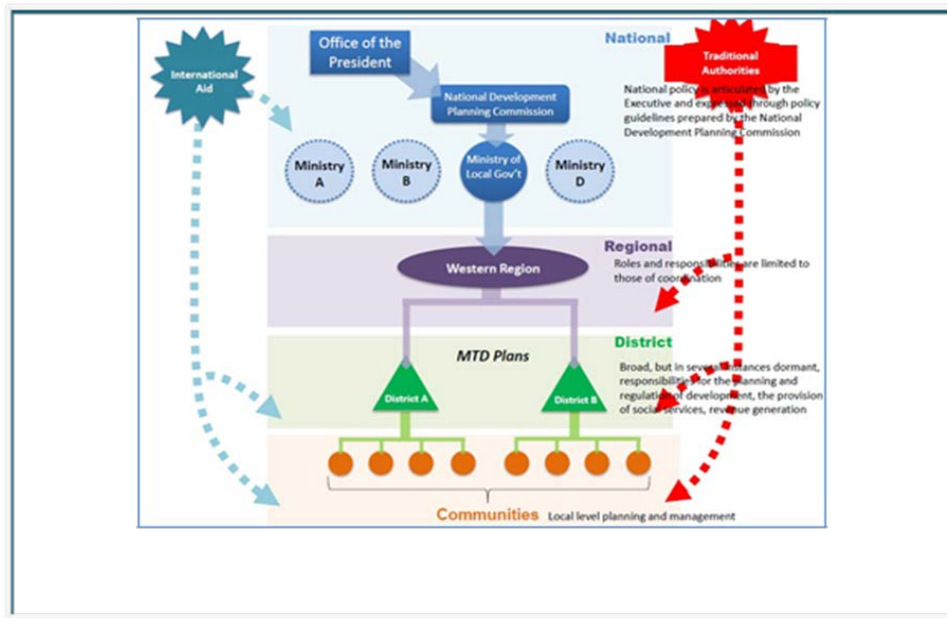
1.1.2 Policy Briefs on Key ICM Issues

The objective of the Year 3 activities is to obtain a governmental commitment for a nested system of governance in the Western Region that provides a model of a future integrated coastal management (ICM) program. A series of short policy briefs, or policy discussion papers, aimed at influencing policy at the national level, or implementing policy at the regional and district levels have been prepared and circulated among targeted audiences including persons working in the various sectors (public and private sector and civil society) knowledgeable in the subject matter for inputs or orientations before a formal proposition to the government. The briefs cover:

- Strengthening Voluntary Compliance and Effective Enforcement of Fisheries Laws
- Best practices for Tourism Development
- Managing Wetlands
- Water Supply and Maintenance of Hydrological Services
- Vulnerability of Coastal Districts in Ghana's Western Region to Impacts of Climate Change and Natural Hazards
- Causes and Management Concerns of the Green-Green Macroalgae Bloom along the Western Coast of Ghana and Ivory Coast



A. Existing Governance Structure



B. Proposed Nested Marine and Coastal Governance structure

Figure 3: The current (A) and proposed (B) nested governance structure for coastal and marine governance for the Western Region (and Ghana)

The policy discussion papers will be published in national newspapers, and widely distributed, in the coming semester together with other media events or field actions that are in direct relation to the specific paper.

1.1.3 Policy Brief for Marine Protected Areas and Support to the MPA Committee

During this reporting period, the draft report on scenarios for establishing marine protected areas completed by the MPA Working Group was reviewed by the Inter-Ministerial Committee and several recommendations were made relative to refinement and completion of the report. The Committee decided that it would be wise to engage a consultant to make the various sections of the report more coherent and to provide more clear recommendations for moving forward. A consultant has been identified. In the coming reporting period, the report will be completed and reviewed again by the Committee. It is expected to be approved. Subsequently, the Committee will convene a meeting of the relevant Ministers to seek approval for the preferred scenario. Given that 2012 is an election year, it is highly doubtful that action will be taken on a preferred scenario until there is a new government in place. CRC will continue to build the foundations in the meantime so that in early to mid-2013, a process can be started for establishing a MPA Authority in one form or another at the national level. The MPA Inter-Ministerial Committee has also agreed, as well as the Directors of the Fisheries Commission and the Wildlife Division, that MPA development processes can also start at the local level using the community based natural resources management legislation (CREMA or Community Resource Management Areas) as MPAs in Ghana will have a high degree of co-management with local communities.

1.1.4 Piloting a Regional Coastal Commission

The Hen Mpoano Advisory Council continues to advise the Initiative on how to move the ICFG Program forward. The focus of the two quarterly meetings during Year 3 has been their support for and orientations on the necessary processes for the establishment of a coastal working group or a committee which will address issues of development along the coast in the Western Region and nationally. This will be seen as a possible legacy of the advisory council. The Council also provided useful ideas to refine the development of the proposed structure for Coastal and Marine Governance system for the country.

In July of 2011, the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD) began funding of the “Oil for Development Program Agreement” with the Government of Ghana. The main thrust of the investment was to assist with the Western Region Spatial Development

Framework (WRSDF), a spatial plan for the Region, as well as a platform for the integration of social, economic, and environmental policies and plans for the Region. A National Technical Committee was set up under the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MEST) and a Regional Oversight Committee was inaugurated for the project under the chairmanship of the Deputy Regional Minister.

In October of 2011, CRC was formally invited to assist with the Regional Oversight Committee and the Hen Mpoano program has subsequently made important contributions relative to “areas of special concern” in the coastal district that merit particular management and planning strategies, notably for the critical wetlands and vulnerable shorelines. CRC works in close concert with the NORAD funded consultancy team and the Town and Country Planning Department whom are responsible for developing the regional spatial plan in order to integrate the spatial planning and analysis already completed for the districts. The NORAD program was slated to end in May of 2012 but a ten-month extension has been granted to allow for follow-up work on the plan and transiting to an implementation program that could see the Oversight Committee, together with elements of the Hen Mpoano Advisory Committee, morph or evolve into both a Regional Marine and Coastal Commission and some form of a Regional Development Authority. DFID is set to support this move with a focus on the coastal commission/foundation (see the section on the Coastal Fund 1.1.8 below).

1.1.5 Study Tour to the Philippines

This study tour to the Philippines has been planned to share experiences on setting up a coastal commission. Study tour participants representing public and private sectors and civil society have been identified. Logistical preparations made and the study tour design completed. The study tour will take place in the third quarter of Year 3.

1.1.6 Strengthening the Center for Coastal Management at UCC

Within the University of Cape Coast, the Center for Coastal Management, housed within the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, has been assisted in the development of an action plan. This Center will run a second climate change short course in the coming semester as well as finalize curriculum development programs for schools on wetlands conservation, and provide support and advisory services to programs in Fisheries, ICM and District/Regional planning.

1.1.7 Training for Regional and District ICM and Fisheries Professionals

Under an MOU signed in December 2011, CRC is collaborating with the National Office of Town and Country Planning Department (TCPD) in a pioneering training program for the Planners and Technicians from the six coastal districts on using GIS for district spatial planning, structural planning, and local plans. This is the first training program of its kind in Ghana. The TCPD personnel are participating in four two-week sessions that will allow them to use GIS software packages developed for Ghana and to shift from drafting table planning to computer based planning. This activity is expected to support proper physical development planning and to reduce human and physical vulnerability in the face of changing climatic events and its impacts in the coastal areas. The trained technicians who are largely responsible for developing schemes and local plans for the districts will be equipped with the capacity to use of the GIS tools to better zone land resources (land management), especially the siting of structures at inappropriate locations, e.g streams/waterways, valleys, floodplains and wetland, unstable beaches, etc. and reduce the risk and conflict of human development and natural resources.

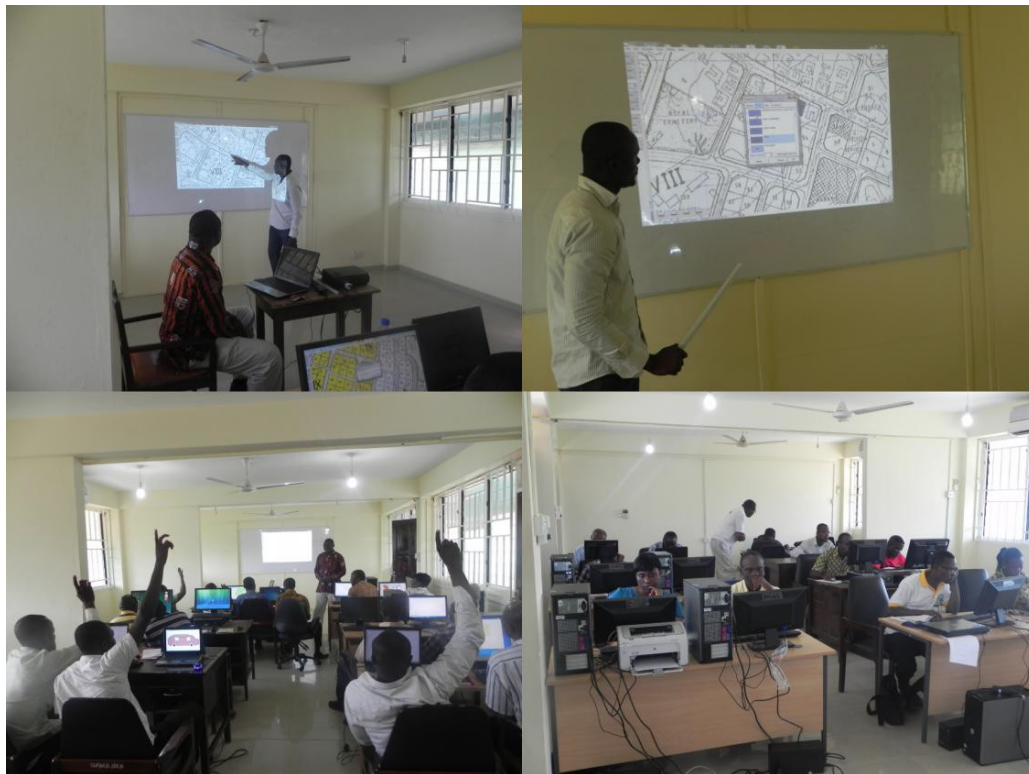


Figure 4: A GIS training laboratory at the TCPD offices in Sekondi (refurbishment and equipment is by the courtesy of the Hen Mpoano Initiative)

A full training lab has been set-up by CRC at the TCPD Regional Offices so that 15 people can be trained at a time. To date, three of the four training sessions have been completed with a total of 21 participants. CRC has also funded computer equipment to the four districts that previously did not have equipment. This program is also supported by the USAID funded LOGODEP in the Shama District as well as the Regional TCPD office. It is important to note that this training lab is also being used to train the agents and officials of the regional Fisheries Commission on computer skills.

Details of trainees (district planners) and the Fisheries Commission staff have been lodged in Trainet and are annexed (Annex 2) to this report.

1.1.8 A Coastal Fund

In the work plan for Year 3, CRC proposed the planning and establishment of a “coastal fund” that could better engage corporations in the planned use of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds. Early in this reporting period, CRC was contacted by a regional NGO named COLANDEF (Community Land Development Foundation) relative to funding they had received from the STAR-Ghana small grants program for engaging CSR funds. COLANDEF had begun to set up a civil society platform that would work with local district assemblies to orient the use of CSR funds to certified projects in district Medium Term Development Plans (MTDPs). Subsequently, the USAID funded LOGODEP program also began collaborating with COLANDEF to assist them in thinking through the platform.

The evolving synergy of the regional actors attracted the attention of DFID consultants who visited the region in order to prepare a large oil and gas civil society support program. DFID’s ideas have converged with those of CRC relative to the establishment of a form of a coastal fund or “foundation”. Whereas LOGODEP and COLANDEF will continue to develop the civil society platform at the base in the six coastal districts, DFID and CRC will collaborate on plans for the establishment of a “coastal foundation” that will leverage funds from both international donors and from the CSR funds of the numerous corporations operating in the Western Region. The idea of this “coastal foundation” also is in harmony with discussions and preliminary planning for a marine and coastal commission and a future regional development authority. Thus DFID is slated to support common ideas coming from CRC and the NORAD funded western region spatial development framework. DFID is expected to invest upwards of 5 million British Pounds in this program. As such, CRC has provisionally slowed setting up a fund until DFID comes in with much more support. In the meantime, some sort of provisional funds might be created in order to support the six coastal districts in completing a rigorous participatory process to revise the MTDPs and to add coastal and marine management chapters. These revised MTDPs, completed for a five to ten year time

frame, would then set the stage for investments from a future “coastal foundation”.

This collaborative program among DFID and CRC, though in its early stages, needs to be brought up to a higher level within USAID and eventually with the UK and USA Embassies. The idea is to have the diplomatic missions encourage corporate investors from their countries to come to the table together relative to planned investments that affect the six coastal districts so that Ghana avoid the “oil curse” and to have coherent and effective CSR investments that are coordinated through a future coastal foundation. This point merits further discussion with USAID.

1.1.9 Communication and Liaison Between Regional and National Scales

The Initiative used its early days to build constituencies, create awareness of issues related to coastal and marine concerns which include weak and dysfunctional ecosystems governance, over-exploitation of fishery resources, threats to biodiversity assets and many more. The project also trumpeted the need to address these issues in an integrated manner, promoted dialogue which encourages two-way learning around them. With the use of billboards, T-shirts, jingles, radio dramas (Biribireba) and other radio discussions as well as community dramas and various forms of sensitization programs, Hen Mpoano and its activities are known in all the coastal communities and beyond in the region.

In the 3rd and 4th Years, the project hopes to support specific and targeted knowledge, attitude and behavior change objectives for key stakeholder audiences that will create the enabling conditions for a nested system of governance for integrated coastal and marine management in the western region of the country. Working around the ‘Population, Health and Environment (PHE) component, the project annexed CSOs and health institutions to propagate the importance of the inter-connectedness of the three issues above in the Shama and the Ellembelle districts.

Biribireba Radio Drama Series

The Biribireba Radio Drama Serial is a year-long, 52-episode entertainment-education program geared towards behaviour change of fisher folks to improve livelihoods. The various episodes are interwoven with stewardship in biodiversity conservation and natural resources, compliance with fisheries laws, climate change impacts on coastal communities, population and reproductive health issues and governance in the coastal communities. The serial and magazine show began airing in October 2011 on GoodNews FM (Takoradi) and Ankobra FM (Axim) which together cover the six target coastal districts of Hen Mpoano. The first season of bi-weekly broadcast of 25 episodes was

completed in March 2012.

The magazine show provided an interactive panel discussion and listener call-in. The serial was well patronized judging from the high traffic from listener call-ins and from diverse communities within and beyond the target districts. Callers brought interesting dimensions and colour to the discussions. Mid program field evaluation allowed listeners to make useful suggestions into subsequent episodes. Suggestions included the need for more entertainment and gradual behavior change in the some negative characters.

Training on the Production of Short Video

As part of the Year 3 work plan, new chapters of communicating the goals and objectives of the Initiative as well as the accomplishments and directions of the project to its numerous audiences were to be opened. One of such is the use of video. To this end, a five day video training was organized for the Hen Mpoano communication team and staff of selected MDAs, CSOs and the private sector (15 people in total). The workshop was co-facilitated by Mike Schuh (who works as a faculty member for the US National News Press Photographers Association and JZ Channel 13 as a news reporter for this Baltimore, MD Television Station. and Creative Storm, a local professional media house based in Ghana.

The goal of the training was to equip participants with the knowledge and skills to tell stories visually and also to be good story-tellers. Participants understood that videoing, like any other skill, needs constant practice. As a sequel to the video training, the Communication Officer of the Initiative underwent a two-day attachment at the offices of Creative Storm in Accra.

Video Documentary

The socio-economic importance of fish can never be overemphasized. In Ghana, over 80% of the animal protein requirement of the human body is derived from fish and in about the same households will declare any day ‘no meals’ if there is no fish in the market. However, the personalities behind the provision of fish to the dining tables are often neglected to the bottom of the social ladder.

To this end, the Hen Mpoano Initiative commissioned Creative Storm, a media house with the niche in Environmental and natural management to produce a documentary on the important role fishing communities play in Ghana. To do this a cross-section of significant personalities and relevant scenes in the fisheries sector were captured. The documentary is in its final stages of completion.

Faith Based Training

Under a collaborative agreement with the UK based Christian conservation organization AROCHA, and their Ghanaian chapter, the training of faith based leaders on conservation and stewardship teachings continued during this reporting period. Two-day training programs were held in each of the six districts with Christian, Muslim, and traditional faith based leaders. Associations of faith based leaders have been established in all six districts to further creation based conservation and stewardship teachings that support the Hen Mpoano Initiative. AROCHA will soon be establishing an office in the Western Region in an effort to expand this program as well as support Hen Mpoano's wetlands conservation programs, notably for the vast mangrove areas along the Ankobra River.

1.2 Developing Nested Fisheries Governance in the Western Region

1.2.1 Key Messages for Diverse Stakeholders

This task involves development of a series of policy briefs to be communicated in the coming semester. The issues briefs are to be on the following subjects: gill nets; data systems and effort creep; nested governance structures; and catch and effort. Much of the background research is complete and the papers are presently being drafted. One paper has been drafted on gill nets.

The fisheries laws bans the use of certain types of nets for fishing in the marine waters of Ghana. This justification for this ban is not clearly understood as most fishermen continue to use these prohibited nets. In late 2011, there were several reported incidences of clashes at the landing beaches across Ghana between fishermen and law enforcement agencies over the use of unapproved nets and other gear. A study was thus conducted at Busua and Akwidaa in the Ahanta West District on why fishermen use certain types of gillnets, the efficiency of these nets and gear selectivity. The results of the study will be presented in a technical report due soon. Meanwhile, the Hen Mpoano Initiative has carried out a global review of the use and implications of monofilament gillnets in open waters. The report *‘Global lessons and information to assist with monofilament gill net management in Ghana’* is available at CRC.

Districts Fisheries Communications Fora

The objectives of the District Fisheries Fora were to communicate issues of concern at the beach level and the roles district assemblies could play to bridge identified gaps between the fisherfolk and the district assemblies and to enhance dialogue at the assembly level. The fora were held across the six districts with participants drawn from the landing beaches (fishermen and fishmongers), district assembly official and assembly members, MOFA Directorate and Fisheries Commission as well as representatives of the Navy and Police. The issues profiled from the meetings included:

- the need to bridge gaps at the inter-ministerial level i.e. MOFA/Fisheries Commission and Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
- mistrust between fishers and the district assemblies and marginalization of fishers
- the role of the district assemblies in the enforcement of fisheries laws, canoe registration and empowerment of chief fishermen
- the necessity for coastal district assemblies to create fisheries subcommittees

- difficulties in gazetting community bye-laws and
- fisheries co-management strategies.

Although some commitments were made to address some of the issues, the absence of District Chief Executives at all the meetings was a setback as Assembly representatives tended to be cautious in making definite commitments.

1.2.2 Building Informed Management Constituency

Using an adaptive learning approach, Hen Mpoano is experimenting with building mechanisms to ensure that in a nested governance system links exist between the local, regional and national scales. The Fisheries Working Group represent a formal ‘institutionalized’ component of this effort, while the creation of Fisherfolk Communicators and the running of community fora are part of this initiative.

Ghana National Canoe Fishermen’s Council

The potential for the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen’s Council (GNCFC) to contribute towards resolving the numerous issues confronting the sector, the potentials remained untapped. Concerned about this the Hen Mpoano Initiative through its engagements with fisherfolks initiated the reorganization of the Council to mobilizing fishermen and women in the Western Region for effective advocacy, greater awareness of fishers rights, access to fisheries information and education. The constitution of the council has been reviewed and women fishers (fishmongers) have been provided with space on the executive committee so that gender issues in the fisheries are also addressed. Through this, the Initiative assisted the GNCFC to access funding of 56,000 Ghana Cedis from the Business Sector Advocacy Challenge (BUSAC) Fund to reorganize, mobilize and advocate on fisheries issues including voluntary compliance with the fisheries regulations.

Platform for Coastal Communities (PCC)

This platform created with Hen Mpoano support is a strong civil society voice for sustained advocacy on coastal and marine management issues/development of the coastal communities in the Western Region. It is legal a entity comprising identifiable groups such as Traditional Authorities, NGOs/CBOs/FBOs and like-minded activists with a general assembly as the highest decision making body. The Platform was outdoored at Agona Nkwanta in December 2011 by the Western Regional Minister. An interim steering committee leads activities while zonal structures (with coordinators) have been established in 5 areas Shama, Takoradi, Dixcove, Axim and Essiama. The zonal offices were established with the support of Hen Mpoano Small Grants facility. LOGODEP has

expressed interest and intends to support its activities. Towards this end, a consultant was engaged to conduct a needs assessment of the PCC.

The PCC has been active in a number of important developmental issues including dialogues on the proposed nested governance structure for the Western Region, water supply issues in the STMA and the Shama District, pollution resulting from illegal mining in the river Pra. The PCC on World Water Day, held a Press Conference to highlight the plight and problems of water in the river Pra.



Figure 5: A representation of the PCC at a General Meeting

Fisheries Commission

The Fisheries Commission is an important stakeholder in the achievements of the fisheries objectives of the Initiative. There has been close working relationship between the two institutions at the national and regional levels. While the Commission has endorsed some important initiatives and programs of Hen Mpoano, (e.g. creation of a Fisheries Working Group and the training of institutions along the prosecution chain for fisheries law enforcement), the ICFG Initiative has provided assistance in various forms- capacity building of staff, support for the Monitoring Control and Surveillance (MCS) activities as well as refurbishment of office accommodation and equipment.

Fisheries Working Group

The creation of the Fisheries Working Group (Western Region) by the Hen Mpoano Initiative with approval from the Fisheries Commission seeks to bridge the communication gaps between stakeholder institutions in the fisheries sector in the Western Region. The FWG engaged with the Chairman of the Fisheries Commission – Hon. Mike Akyeampong and the Director of Fisheries– Mr. Sam Quatey to discuss pertinent issues in the sector including:

- fisheries–petroleum interactions at sea and at landing sites
- inter-agency collaboration on the enforcement of the new fisheries regulations
- potential merits of establishing fisheries sub-committees in the District Assemblies and
- potential alternative structures and roles for fisheries co-management.

Meanwhile, some members of the FWG also received training on *Adaptive Fisheries Management and Fisheries Communications*, thereby enhancing the manner in which the Group undertakes community engagements. The objective of the work undertaken with the Fisheries Working Group (FWG) was twofold:

- a. An introduction to the concept of adaptive management. Using the example of the Atlantic cod collapse in Canada, the importance of learning, experimenting and the role of fishers was highlighted.
- b. To offer a space for reflection on the role and objectives of the FWG. This was followed by a planning session in groups. The first part of this session focused on the basic concepts of advocacy and a reflection on what the FWG should be. Based on the work of Marshall Ganz and the New Organizing Institute¹, we used the “story” approach as a tool to capture participant’s perception of their role and the FWG’s role

Fisherfolk Communicator Training

Two training sessions with Fisherfolk Communicators were conducted by WorldFish staff. The first was a general introduction to the role of communicators, and the directions of the project. The second focused more specifically on communication skills, and messages to be communicated. This training was followed up by ‘pilot testing’ with a fisheries forum held at Akwidaa, which enabled trainers to provide feedback to communicators, and asses further training needs.

¹ <http://www.hks.harvard.edu/about/faculty-staff-directory/marshall-ganz>

Targeted Community Engagement: Youth Workshop

The Senegal study tour highlighted the importance of youth and women involvement in fisheries co-management. Participatory observation during past community forum in Hen Mpoano raised the issue of women and youth being marginalized in discussion surrounding fisheries. After discussion a participatory digital story telling workshop was put together. The objective of the workshop “Hen Dzi” (Our Voice) on March 4th was to document issues around fisheries in Dixcove from the perspective of young people. The event was an opportunity to explore issues in Dixcove and learn advocacy skills. Participants were highly diverse and included fishermen, fishmongers, students and teachers. A report including lessons from this activity is currently being finalized.

1.2.3 Governance Dialogue Process

Planning and resourcing the imminent Fisheries Governance Dialogue has been a considerable focus of activities in recent months. Running from April 23 to 26, the Dialogue will bring together around 50 diverse stakeholders from the community level, fisheries interest groups, and fisheries managers, as well as national, regional and international governance researchers and practitioners. The objective of the Dialogue is to take a substantial step towards a shared vision for nested governance amongst key stakeholders.

1.2.4 Promoting Compliance and Enforcement of Fisheries Laws

Since the passing of the Fisheries Regulations LI 1968 of 2010, the Chief Justice of the Republic of Ghana designated some circuit courts to adjudicate cases on fisheries violations. The Hen Mpoano Initiative in March 2011 used the opportunity offered to train and enhance the capacity of some institutions in the prosecution chain in the Western Region on the ecological justifications of the regulations and gaps in the chain that had rendered prosecution of most cases ineffective. Box 1 below reviews the strides/achievements in fisheries prosecution in the Western Region.

Marine Police Unit

The Hen Mpoano Initiative through negotiations with stakeholders received the mandate to train the proposed Marine Police Unit of the Ghana Police Service. It also received a waiver from the US Mission in Ghana to conduct such training. The training which is expected to start in the third quarter will be held in collaboration with the Fisheries

Commission. An initial 25 personnel of the service have been selected for the training and they are being vetted by the US Mission. The course content of the training has been developed and reviewed by the Fisheries Commission, Police Headquarters and USAID. Broad topics to be covered are on social aspect of policing, understanding the ecological justification of the fisheries regulations and general fisheries communications.

Box 1

Training on Fisheries Laws Enforcement.

Since the promulgation of the Fisheries Regulations (LI 1968) in August 2010, its enforcement has remained a challenge. Against this background a 3-day capacity enhancement workshop was organized in March 2011 for some stakeholder institutions including the Fisheries Commission, Police, Navy, Attorney General's Department, EPA and other Civil Society Groups to streamline the prosecution chain.

A review session in January 2012 assessed the performance of the institutions in the prosecution chain. The session included the participation of two other High Court Judges. It was noted that actors in the chain had performed creditably and that led to a relatively high success in prosecution due to the improved levels of collaboration and co-operation among the institutions as well as improved knowledge of their roles and duties after the March 2011 training.

Since this workshop was implemented, improved coordination and cooperation among all the actors in the enforcement and prosecution system has resulted in much higher success rate of enforcement actions. There have been 36 arrests made in the Western Region between March 2011 and January 2012 and of those, 16 have been sent to court with 5 successful convictions, while 11 cases were pending. This is much higher level of arrests and convictions than the other regions along the coast where together only 4 arrests were made and none has been processed for court.

Lessons learned: Fishermen in the Western have become acutely aware that the State has become more aggressive and successful in prosecuting fisheries violations and are conscious of their possible arrest and conviction can lead to loss of fishing gear and payment of fines. These more effective deterrence factors are resulting in improved regulatory compliance among fishermen.

2. Improved Coastal Governance at the District and Coastal Settlement Scale

2.1 Shama

2.1.1 District Level Coastal Management

The Shama District (focal area) has been the lead district in spatial planning and development of ICM strategies in addressing critical coastal issues. A *District Advisory Committee* on Development and Planning has been created with membership from private sector, government and civil society with the mandate to deepen interaction with other stakeholders and to seek common solutions to land use and development issues. During the period, the Shama district Advisory committee and coastal steering group provided advice and orientations on how the spatial development framework process should evolve in order to be relevant to current development issues facing the district. The Committee also held:

- working sessions with the Coastal Steering Group
- consultative meetings with traditional authorities
- community level outreach and public education on land use and spatial planning
- workshop on translating science-based information into district scale policies, regulations and administrative procedures

In February 2012, the information generated through these stakeholder consultative processes were compiled and combined with existing analysis of district-wide coastal issues. These information and data on the district's coastal zone have been provided as initial contributions to the ongoing work aimed at preparation of spatial development framework for the Shama district, with funding support from the Jubilee Oil partners. Since November, 2011 the Initiative have supported ongoing training of technicians and planning officers at the district's town and country planning department on the application of GIS in spatial planning.

Priority issues emerging from the consultative meetings have included the need to conserve undeveloped portions of the Anankwari floodplain and the potential relocation of some structures within the floodplains, impacts of flooding, sand winning and poor sanitation. Outreach/public education programs provided opportunities for communities to examine and validate the findings of earlier participatory mapping exercises. Views gathered from the communities were being incorporated into ICM policies and plans of the Assembly.

The Committee advanced engagements with faculty of the Department of Geography and Regional Planning (DGRD) of the University of Cape Coast to develop tools and procedures for enhancing spatial and land use decision-making. Information and tools critical for the processes included shoreline classification maps, flood risk and warning maps (Figure 6) and simulation tools.



Figure 6: Faculty member of the University of Cape Coast discussing flood simulation maps with statutory committee members of the Shama District Assembly

Box 2

Lessons from the Shama Spatial Planning Exercise

The outreach by the Coastal Steering Group (CSG) provided the opportunity for the views of local stakeholders to be incorporated into district level planning and land use decision making as well as for beneficiaries of the planning process to participate in the identification of potential solutions to the critical coastal issues. Technical information, tools and maps available to the planning department of the district assembly has caused a dramatic shift in the way development plans are reviewed by the statutory planning committee. Permitting decision are now based, among other considerations of the maintenance of functional landscapes and ecological services and now responding to broader coastal landscape issues resulting from the stakeholder dialogues and technical assessments.

2.1.2 Anankwari River and Flood Plain

The Coastal Steering Group (CSG) held series of outreach and public education meetings in the months of November and December targeted at the Chiefs and community folks within the 3 communities abutting the Anankwari floodplain – Lower Inchaban, Upper Inchaban and Aboadze. These outreach meetings provided opportunity for local stakeholders to examine and validate the results of earlier participatory mapping exercises and for the CSG to address local misunderstandings regarding the causes of flooding in these communities. Key among the issues that emerged from these consultative meetings was the need to conserve the undeveloped portions of the Anankwari floodplain (Box 3).

As part of providing capacity building support to the district government to address coastal issues including vulnerability of people and property to flood hazard, a workshop was organized in December 2011 at the University of Cape Coast that brought together scientists from the Department of Geography and Regional Planning of UCC and selected members of the district Statutory Planning Committee. This workshop generated awareness and improved knowledge of district planners on the relevance of existing science-based information and tools for land use and spatial planning in the Shama district. This information is now being used by the district planning officers and is contributing to improving the quality of the development permitting decision making processes through for instance, incorporation of ecological considerations. The workshop also generated understanding among district planners on the need for a zoning bye-law to regulate land development and enhance response to flood emergency on the Anankwari floodplain. They also indicated the need to develop collaborative program with the Ghana Meteorological Authority relative to the development of flood early warning systems for communities abutting the Anankwari floodplain and other flood prone areas in the district.



Figure 7: A community member expressing her views at a forum in Shama

In February 2012, the Hen Mpoano team honored an invitation from the District Chief Executive of Shama to share information on the potential impacts of flooding on a proposed petrochemical storage facility to be sited on the Anankwari floodplain. This current development has heightened interest of the district assembly in the formulation of bye-laws to regulate development on the Anankwari floodplain. In support of the formulation of the bye-law, the Initiative commissioned a study in March 2012 that is assessing the suitability of the floodplain for different intensities of uses and the implications for flooding adjacent communities due to modification of the landscape. This assessment will provide the base information and data for the bye-law that will be developed with district officials over the next two quarters.

Box 3

Echoes from community engagements in the Shama District

Chief of Lower Inchaban: 'Human life in the community should be protected. This takes precedence over any other justification for addressing the issue of perennial flooding on the Anankwari floodplain'

Widow: 'It will be an impossible task for me, if I am asked to relocate to an alternative site simply because I am a widow and have no support to enable me build a new house'.

Elderly man: 'Generally, the cost of swampy lands are low, consequently we are tempted to acquire these areas for constructing our houses as opposed to highly priced lands'

Migrant woman: 'We the migrants are disadvantaged because we are invariably given the swamps to put up are houses'

2.1.3 Shama Shorefront Management

An initial approach to shoreline management is the collaborative program between a waste recycling company and a local NGO - Daasgift Quality Foundation supported by the Initiative to address solid waste management in the coastal communities in Shama district. The result of this collaboration has been series of community sensitization meetings held since November 2011 to mobilize and involve coastal households in plastic waste collection. Adult household members have been involved in this waste collection exercise and usually receive financial rewards for certain quantities of waste collected. To date, over 2,500 kg of plastic waste has been collected by the recycling company from the coastal communities in Shama district.

At the district level, there is interest in formulating shoreline management guidelines to guide development decision making. In December 2011, the meetings held with members of the district statutory planning committee – the committee responsible for reviewing and permitting development applications- highlighted the existing shoreline classification and feature identification work as useful starting point and basis for shore management guidelines and bye- laws which will be formulated with district planners over the next two quarters.

2.1.4 Livelihood Resilience at Anlo Beach

With the focus of fisheries governance activities shifting to pilot implementation of community- based systems in 4 pilot communities, gaining a fundamental understanding of household structure, livelihoods and vulnerabilities is critical. A survey addressing

this requirement and providing critical baseline data for assessing change based on project activities or changes in the fishery was developed, tested and implemented. The comprehensive, 30 page survey instrument covers household structure, migration, education, risks, shocks and vulnerabilities, means of income, access to productive assets, group membership and nutrition.

Training and piloting

Training was provided in 2 parts. First, the new group of National Service Volunteers was provided with background training to familiarize them with the Hen Mpoano project, and their expected roles. A comprehensive training on the survey and survey techniques was conducted for the National Service Volunteers and staff of CRC/FoN and the Fisheries Commission in January. The purpose was to discuss, familiarize the questionnaire with the team and revise adapt it to the Ghanaian context. A manual was developed covering all the topics on the training.

The sampling strategy was developed in which target communities were divided into clusters by using a grid on aerial photographs. Four communities, Anlo Beach (Shama District), Akwidaa and Dixcove (Ahanta West District) and New Town (Jomoro District) were selected for the survey. Sampling has recently been completed in the 4 communities. A database has been designed and data entry has begun.

Population Health Environment (PHE)

The Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association (CEWEFIA) continued with its education and sensitization programs in PHE with collaboration from chief fishermen, market queens, Ghana Health Service, the District Assembly, Environmental Health Department and Department of Social Welfare. Accomplishments have included:

- retraining of Peer Educators (PEs) and 30 youth leaders
- cultivation of 800 moringa seedlings in the communities for ‘enhanced nutrition’
- home visits to nursing and pregnant women
- advocacy linked to potable water and nutrition as with relevant partners.

Shama communities allocated two structures to be renovated to enhance access to Family Planning services and community meeting locations for women’s groups to demonstrate the preparation of nutritious local dishes for infants, nursing mothers and pregnant women.

Additonal Shama Event

Visit of US Delegation

In January 2012, a US delegation of important opinion leaders led by Congressman Johnson and supported by USAID Ghana Mission Director, Ms Cheryl Anderson visited Shama to see at first hand some of the issues being addressed by the Hen Mpoano Initiative and partners. They were hosted by the chiefs and people of Abuesi (Shama) and treated to a local drama by CEWEFIA on the benefits of birth control, maternal and child health and nutrition. This was followed by a quick tour of livelihood activity sites and the Abuesi shore front to observe the impacts of coastal erosion on the community.

Challenges, Constraints and Measures Adopted

The presence of several actors working on various aspects of land use and spatial planning in the Shama District presents potential challenges of uncoordinated activities and duplication of efforts. The District Planning Advisory Committee, which was created through the support of the ICFG, is harmonizing the efforts of all development actors to the benefit of overall planning at the district level. This Advisory Committee now coordinates the investments and actions of a consultancy group funded by the oil companies to support spatial planning as well as the USAID funded LOGODEP project that also support spatial planning as a tool for internal revenue generation for the District.

2.2 Greater Cape Three Points

This focal area provides the best opportunity for demonstrating landscape to seascape planning. The natural features and coastline are biologically rich and economically important but are under increasing pressure from development activities (oil and gas related development, rubber and oil palm expansion). The ICFG approach in this focal area was to highlight the importance of the coastal belt and the sound maintenance of critical habitats and arable land for food security and ensuring that certain developments that are evolving follow ‘best practices’ within the two districts of Ahanta West and Nzema East. The ultimate objective is to propose a ‘green’ plan for the area which ensures that developments do not impact unnecessarily on natural ecosystems. . . A number of activities undertaken were aimed at empowering local stakeholders for improved and efficient management of natural resources while ensuring food security.

2.2.1 District Level Coastal Management

Coastal Vulnerability Assessment

A participatory process to assess the social and physical vulnerability of coastal communities was conducted in 31 communities in the two districts of this focal area (Ahanta West (22), Nzema East (9)). The process of data gathering involved District Assemblies and National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) staff, community members, traditional authority, civil society groups and representatives of the Hen Mpoano Initiative.

The social assessments covered four thematic themes: a) governance and leadership, b) coastal resources management, c) risk awareness and emergency response, d) economy and society, e) exposure to hazards damage to human settlements while physical vulnerability included shoreline erosion, coastal, river and wetland flooding.

The involvement of stakeholders in the exercise led to the following:

- raised awareness in the districts on the vulnerability of the coastal villages to natural hazards and climate change
- identified priority communities for follow-up action
- recommended priorities for hazard mitigation and adaptation planning
- regional and national level communication on the reality of coastal community vulnerability

Spatial Planning

Discussions were held with the two District Assemblies and the consultancy group funded by the oil companies (Spatial Dimensions) relative to planning for revisions of the District spatial plans initially prepared by a consortium of Korean institutions. The Korean Korean-funded plan was centered on planned high density development coming from the anticipated oil sector boom. It has become clear that the plan needs also to consider food and livelihoods security for the people of these Districts as well as environmental quality and healthy sea and landscape. The plan also needs to fit into the prescribed format which has come out for District spatial planning from the Town and Country Planning Department.

The vulnerability assessments discussed in the previous section, as well as accompanying issues identification for the coastal zone, will be integrated into revised spatial plans and form the bases for a chapter in future MTDPs for both Districts. One priority identified through the assessments is the need to assist the Ahanta West District in developing a local plan that incorporates climate change adaptation strategies and re-location plans for the Akwidaa community. In addition, ICFG intends to develop the plan for the green

coastal belt that will include specific best practices for tourism development of the Cape Three Points coastline. The spatial plans, the Akwidaa adaptation plan, and green belt planning will be the focus for the coming semester.

2.2.2 Conservation of Critical Sea and Landscape Habitats

Cape Three Points Forest Reserve and Peripheral Zone

The *Cape Three Points Forest Working Group* was created by Hen Mpoano in 2011 with membership from civil society organizations, traditional authority, the private sector, Forestry Commission and Ahanta West District Assembly. As a result, there has been a strengthened collaboration between the Forestry Commission and stakeholders for the protection of the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve and its resources.

During this period, the Working Group visited and shared its aspirations with the top echelons of the Forestry Commission in Accra while it sought the Commission's mandate to legitimize its activities in the Cape Three Points area. An MoU between the FC and the Working Group has been drafted for signing. Community associations – (Community Biodiversity Advisory Group (CBAGs) and Community Resources Management Area (CREMAs)) have been reorganized and strengthened. The CREMAs have been expanded to cover more communities (from 11 to 20 communities) and the mandate of the C3P working group was expanded to include planning and management of wetlands within the area. A needs assessment conducted on the CREMA and CBAGs in the fringe communities of the Forest Reserve was conducted in order to better assess training needs and priorities. The process resulted in the reconstitution of the CREMA committees in each community.

Six members from each of the 20 communities were trained in rudimentary skills in forest monitoring and boundary patrols to prevent illegal activities in the reserve. The training was facilitated by staff of the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission. The Hen Mpoano brokered a deal under which Tullow Oil agreed to support the Group's activities over the next five years. Additional capacity building programs on leadership, the CREMA concept, awareness creation on the CREMA constitution and by-laws will be held in the next quarter under this support program.

Wetlands Conservation

The Hen Mpoano Initiative through the Small Grants program continued to partner with the Conservation Foundation, a local NGO based in the Ahanta West District for conservation and restorations of wetlands within the focal area. Over a dozen communities which abut wetlands within the focal area were engaged on conservation activities with the objective of establishing a CREMA to manage wetlands in the focal area through capacity building for the Community Resources Management Committees (CRMC) and the Community Environmental Committees (CEC)

Public awareness and educational programs on wetlands and wetland resources were held in 14 communities and programs were initiated to restore degraded mangrove areas. Constituencies built around the conservation activities include fishmongers, fishermen, fuel wood sellers and charcoal burners and private sector operators and tour guides.

Schools Wetland Conservation Program

Four schools from Butre, Busua, Akwidaa and Cape Three Points are participating in the conservation program. Lead teachers have been identified to mobilize the school children for the field work. The effort is supported by a youth leader from Butre and two Peace Corps Volunteers engaged under the Hen Mpoano Initiative.

Baseline Marine Ecological and Habitat Surveys with Blue Ventures

Under a sub-contract with the UK based NGO Blue Ventures, a team of four marine scientists joined the Hen Mpoano program for over two months from January to March of this reporting period in order to complete baseline marine ecological and habitat surveys in selected locations off-shore in the vicinity of Cape Three Points. The research area covers the coastline that stretches from the Ankobra River on the western side of the Nzema East District (4°53'49.47"N; 2°16'18.68"W), to the community of Butre in the Ahanta West District (4°49'26.09"N; 1°55'2.87"W).

A total of 14 underwater habitats sites were surveyed (see Figure 8, also see Annex 3 for full names of the sites), using standard research protocols for determining habitats types, vertebrate and invertebrate species diversity and biomass, floral compositions, and the correlations among them which allows for a better understanding of the ecology and level of degradation. This survey work is the first of its kind in Ghana and will provide invaluable information for testing management scenarios in the future. Blue Ventures held briefings of their work both in the Western Region and in Accra for the Fisheries Commission and other interested stakeholders. The final report is expected in May of 2012 and it will be widely distributed.

Blue Ventures is also collaborating with Hen Mpoano on proposals to the European Union for follow-up work on developing small marine management units for both the coastal wetlands and other critical off-shore habitats. Concepts have also been developed for the Jubilee consortium of oil and gas partners whom have expressed interest in this program.



Figure 8: Satellite Image showing locations of the 14 survey sites

In the meantime, CRC will leverage funding from private sector corporations for follow-up survey work in the coastal wetlands in order to incrementally build the foundations for coastal and marine management units that will be co-managed with local communities.

2.2.3 Livelihoods Resilience at Fish Landing Sites

This is covered in section 2.1.4 above. In the Cape Three Points focal area, the communities are Dix Cove, which is a representative large fishing community and landing site, and Akwidaa which is highly vulnerable to flooding and will need to re-locate in the near future.

Small Grants

The second round of the Small Grants program allocated an additional nine grants to ongoing and worthy initiatives in middle of Year 2. Some of these grants are still ongoing in the Cape Three Points Focal area. Two of these beneficiaries (OLIVES and Conservation Foundation) in the Cape Three Points focal area continued their program activities with expanded roles. OLIVES continued to work with more women to grow chicken while Conservation Foundation covered 9 more communities under its wetlands conservation program. Also in the Ahanta West Districts two, new organizations Merhans Foundation and OGSFORD were supported. Merhans Foundation has been involved with

women to raise rabbits and grasscutters for improved nutrition and diversified livelihood while OGSFORD used rural drama to mobilize and educate fisherfolk on the fisheries regulations for compliance.



Figure 9: Visitors admiring rabbits on display at the Hen Mpoano stand

OLIVES and Merhans Foundation in collaboration with the Hen Mpoano Initiative participated in the Ahanta West District celebrations of the National Farmers Day on December 2, 2012. An exhibition was held alongside the official ceremony and prize presentations.

Box 4

Dixcove Fisheries Co-management Forum

In May 2011, CRC, Ghana, small grants supported OGSFORD, an NGO based in the Ahanta West District to implement a project titled “West Coast Green Acts”. Through 3 community drama performances, the project sought to engineer the needed change in attitudes and practices of fishers in communities within the districts. The rural drama was staged in Dixcove, a fishing community. It provided a unique, effective and culturally appropriate platform for the dissemination and sharing of information on the provisions in the 2010 Fisheries Regulations and highlighted the devastating effects of the bad and unsustainable fisheries practices.

The resultant awareness created led to the formation of a community voluntary group in November 2011 - Fisheries Co-management Forum (FCF) supported by OGSFORD to educate the fishers on the need to comply with the fisheries regulations. Subsequently, the FCF mobilized the fishing community to agree on a code of conduct for sustainable fisheries. The FCF has presented the code of conduct to the Bye-Laws Review Committee of the Ahanta West District Assembly for adoption in this reporting period.

The development of the code of conduct and its subsequent presentation to the District Assembly marked a major turning point in the co-management of fisheries resources in the Dixcove area. The Fisheries Co-management Forum is not an imposition from or by any organization. It is a voluntary action by a group of resource users which needs to be encouraged and promoted in all fishing communities. The FCF is developing plans to transform itself into a multi-purpose community organization in future.

The grantees exhibited chicken, grasscutter and rabbit projects from the small grant diversified livelihood in the District as well as other products from the Initiatives activities including publications, posters and pictures of interventions. Visitors to the acknowledged the exceptional importance of these Hen Mpoano interventions in the communities especially the contribution being made towards food security in the district. The Hen Mpoano Initiative was encouraged to expand the small grant projects to cover more beneficiaries.



Figure 10: Rural drama at Dixcove on vexed issues in the fisheries

2.3 Greater Amanzule

The Greater Amanzule² Wetlands which straddles the coastal plains of the Ellembele and Jomoro Districts is a special area of concern but yet to have formal recognition as a conservation area of importance. Most of the population of this focal area lives on a highly vulnerable stretch of the beach where fishing communities are also suffering from the consequences of the algae blooms, shoreline change and periodic flooding. The relatively small population and the low immediate threats within the wetlands favor the establishment of a large community co-managed protected area. This area is yet to experience the accelerated development like in the four other districts, but new mining ventures and planned development of oil and gas facilities will undoubtedly have a significant impact on the area in the near future.

² At a meeting on 28-29 March 2012 at Axim Beach Hotel to discuss the Greater Amanzule Wetlands, the Chiefs and people of Nzemaland noted, resolved and proclaimed that the pronunciation and spelling **Amanzuri** is erroneous and that the correct name and spelling is **Amanzule** (translated to mean '*the people's water or community water*')

2.3.1 District Level Coastal Management

Coastal Vulnerability Assessment

As with the Cape Three Points Focal Area, an identical participatory process to assess the social and physical vulnerability of coastal communities was conducted in 48 communities in the two districts of Ellembele and Jomoro. These will also be integrated into District Spatial Planning as well as future MTDPs. Figure 11 shows some of the exercise conducted during the field assessment while Figure 12 is a sample of the results generated from the field assessment exercise.



Figure 11: Training of participants during the beach profiling exercise

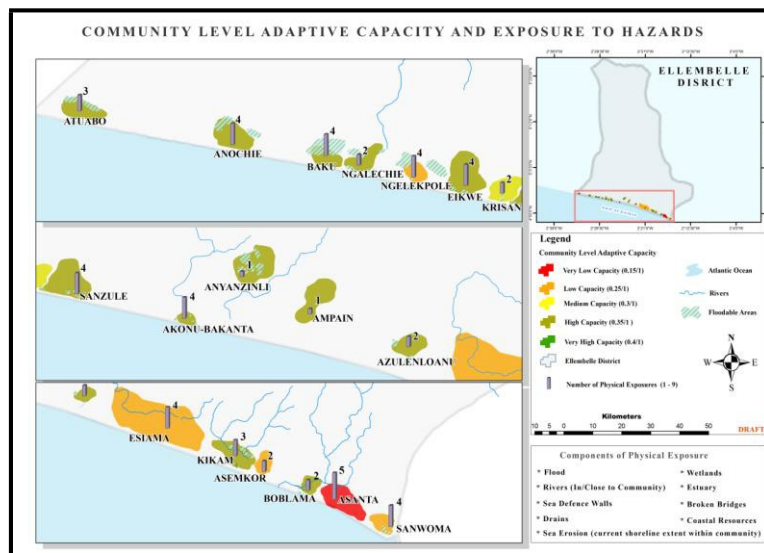


Figure 12: Variations in adaptive capacity and exposure to hazards across coastal communities in the Ellembele District

Population Health Environment (PHE)

The PHE activities were also intensified in the Amanzule focal area with the support of the Essiama Community Health Nurses Training College and the 2 district assemblies. A total of 560 students completed intensive training on promotion of PHE and are presently completing field practicums in communities in collaboration with the Ghana Health Service. This program is led by a US Peace Corps Volunteer, Ms. Leslie Lucas. In addition to the program focus on family planning and using the school and students as the basis for community extension, plans have been made for the incorporation of nutrition dimensions into the project. This will be achieved through deepened cooperation and collaboration between the Hen Mpoano Initiative and the US Peace Corps, and the USAID supported program on Behavioral Change Support (BCS) of Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health Centre for Communication Programs.

2.3.2 Conservation of Wetlands, Natural Areas, and Coastal Lagoons

Habitat Characterization

The Amanzule wetlands and surroundings have been largely inaccessible. Using GIS tools, two experts Y.Q. Wang and Chris Damon, from the University of Rhode Island (Figure 13) supported the Initiative to conduct habitat characterization in 4 of the six target districts, especially in the Greater Amanzule focal area.



Figure 13: Chris Damon and Y.Q. Wang of the University of Rhode Island discussing maps with faculty members of the Department of Geography and Regional Planning (University of Cape Coast)

Ground-truthing assessments were used to refine pre-classified satellite images of the area into vegetation and other resource classes. The exercise resulted in a refined classification and extent of different vegetations, habitats and other land features within and outside the greater Amanzule focal area (see figure 13). The maps generated assist in the Initiatives work and communications with stakeholders within the districts and communities.

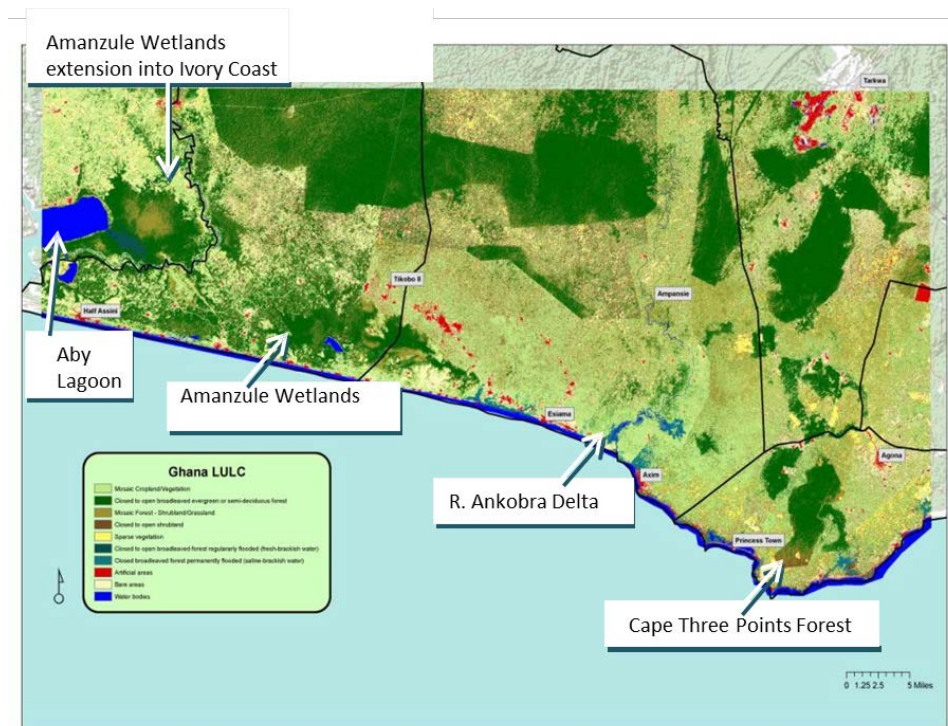


Figure 14: Refined image showing different habitats

Carbon Stock Assessment

The Greater Amanzule wetland covers over 20,000 hectares. These pristine wetlands with high potential for carbon sequestration also provide important ecosystem services including fish nursery grounds and coastal protection.

Forest Trends/NCRC (consultants hired by the Hen Mpoano Initiative) continued to work on the mangrove vegetation and wetlands in the Amanzule to assess their potential for carbon sequestration. Initial results show that the mangrove ecosystems have extremely high carbon content in above and below ground biomass as well as in the soils, over 5 times more, on average, than the tropical rain forests to the north in Ankasa Park. The carbon stocks of the peat forests, to be assessed in the coming semester, are expected to be even higher. These initial results are a positive sign for the potential for accessing carbon markets.

The way forward for the conservation of these wetlands was discussed at a 3-day information sharing forum which brought together the Nzema Manle Traditional Council (the umbrella council for traditional authorities in Nzemaland), the district assemblies within which the wetlands are situated, Environmental Protection Agency, Forestry Commission (Wildlife Division) and other civil society organizations working within the wetlands and the Leadership for Conservation in Africa (LCA), a private sector interest group.

The Nzema Manle Council endorsed the process which provided the grounds and bases for potential sustainable financing for conservation through BBOP and or REDD funds. Further studies were being carried out on soils associated peat bog forest in the wetlands.

Trans-Border Community Wetlands Conservation

The Amanzule Wetlands as an ecological unit also stretches into Ivory Coast but separated by an imaginary international boundary (see Figure 13) and over 10,000 ha of which is in the Ivory Coast. The West Africa Primate Conservation Association based in Ghana, RASAP-CI, an Ivorian conservation group and Community Conservation, a US based group led by Dr. Rob Horwich carried out a cross-border collaborative assessment on primates and other biodiversity resources in the Amanzule. With the support of the Hen Mpoano Initiative, the results of the studies were presented to the Chiefs, people and communities in the Eastern and Western Nzema Traditional Councils and the Ellebelle and Jomoro District Assemblies as well as a representation of communities from Ivory Coast. Important observations of the study include the speculated presence of the Miss Waldron monkey *Ptilocolobus badius waldronae*, a species which is on the IUCN highly endangered species list or even feared to be extinct. Options for patching up the wetlands on both sides to be considered as one ecological, conservation and management unit was seen as important and requiring further attention.

The Green-Green Story

Blooming of the Green Algae *Enteromorpha (or Ulva) sp* (green-green) in the immediate coastal waters on the western coast of Ghana and the eastern shores of Ivory Coast is a major food security concern. The phenomenon impacts negatively on fishing activities and other coastal livelihoods. When it occurs, the bloom blankets the whole shorefront making near shore fishing unproductive. It also has implications for fishery related livelihoods, tourism, navigation and recreation and even sea turtle nesting.

Box 5

Green Algae *Enteromorpha* or (*Ulva*) *clathrata* in the Coastal Waters of Ghana and Ivory Coast

The bloom has been an annual occurrence since 1993, usually lasting between 6-12 weeks. In years of good rains, the phenomenon could last several months and it forms a verdant blanket all over the shoreline and the sea water for many kilometers remains green and eutrophic. This menace has been of concern to both the Ghana and Ivorian governments. Until 2010, scientific investigations by the government of Ghana yielded no conclusive results. The lack of, or inadequate information and communication led to widespread speculation among the coastal dwellers, linking the phenomenon to deposition of toxic materials (cotton waste) into the sea. The bloom event of 2010 lasted the whole year and coincided with the entry of the CRC (Hen Mpoano) Initiative into the Western Region.

CRC-Ghana through media campaigns brought up the issue to the national attention and in December 2010, started our own investigations in collaboration with the Graduate School of Oceanography (GSO/URI) and US-EPA. A field mission, limited to Ghana's coast due to the political unrest in the Ivory Coast was endorsed by the Ministry of Environment Science and Technology (MEST). A national task force, with CRC as a co-opted member was set up by the Minister to conduct a social assessment of the bloom in the impacted areas. In December 2011, after the political situation had thawed, a second field mission was undertaken by CRC to the impacted areas and worked closely with institutions and scientists from the Ivory coast. The results of the second field mission which are expected in April 2012, will refine our knowledge on the drivers of the bloom which starts in the shared Aby Lagoon and spreads into the coastal waters of Ghana and Ivory Coast through the Aby lagoon breach way.

CRC-Ghana has made useful inputs into the deliberations and work of the task force and widely shared the results of the analyses of its investigations with stakeholders. CRC on numerous occasions used local radio, community meetings and visits to the District Assemblies to explain, educate and inform the affected communities on the progress at finding solutions to the algal bloom menace. The national task force also compiled and presented its findings to the government of Ghana for further action.

These efforts resulted in two international (bilateral) meetings which were held in January and February 2012, in Abidjan between scientists and politicians from Ghana and Ivory Coast to discuss the common problem caused by the algal bloom and set up a joint committee (including a representation of CRC) to address the issues. The two governments have now mandated the Interim Guinea Current Commission (IGCC) formerly GCLME to prioritize and develop proposals for investigations into the algal bloom menace. The IGCC has recruited consultant Chuck Chaitovitz to assist the two governments in developing a proposal to further investigations on the algal bloom menace. The proposal development will in part depend on the results of the December 2011 investigations undertaken by CRC.



Figure 15: Dragnet fishermen in Jomoro District (Ghana) harvesting green-green instead of fish



Figure 16: A bilateral meeting of Ghanaian and Ivorian scientists and administrators discussing the algal bloom issue in Abidjan - Ivory Coast

3. Program Management

3.1 Program Leadership and Structure, and Staffing

CRC Personnel Changes

There were several personnel changes at CRC that should be noted. Mr. Godfred Ameyaw took up a position within the ICFG project for the WFC. His replacement as the new Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist is Ms. Patricia Mensah. Ms. Sally Deffor, formerly Communication Officer, has left to the UK to pursue her studies and has been replaced by Elvis Addae who worked on the ICFG Initiative for Friend of the Nation in 2010 (and subsequently for LOGODEP).

WFC Personnel Additions

As WorldFish activities focus increasingly at the fishing community level, it became apparent that a capable in-country ‘fishery focused’ team would be a necessary addition to the program—conducting this type of work on a fly-in/fly-out basis would not be productive. To this end, a team of 3 staff based in Ghana has now been established:

Dr Tendayi Mutimukuru Marivanyika – has been recruited as a post-doctoral fellow for the remainder of the project duration. Tendayi is a community engagement expert, with a history of implementing and building capacity for community-based management of natural resources. She will lead training and participatory research components of community pilot trials.

Mr. Godfred Ameyaw – has moved from being CRC staff to fill the role of coastal fisheries expert on the WorldFish team. His skill set in fisheries will complement well that of Dr. Tendayi Marivanyika in community work and capacity building

Mr. Cephas Asare – Cephas first worked with the fisheries team as a national service volunteer. He will serve as research assistant to the fisheries team, and having been involved in community research and gill net experiments, now has a broad basis of experience.

In other staffing changes, Dr Marie-Caroline Badjeck completed her engagement with the project with a trip in January, as she has left WorldFish. Dr Froukje Kruijssen will take on extra duties with the project to fill this gap.

Financial Management

During this period, upon internal audit, some financial irregularities were reported. The University Office of Compliance Director, Eileen Tobin traveled with the CRC Business Manager, Cindy Moreau to investigate and document the anomaly. As a result, standard operating procedures were tightened, financial support personnel were terminated and a new more experienced finance administrative manager was hired. There were funds that were embezzled totaling less than \$5,000. This amount is being charged to university institutional funds and no project funds will be charged to USAID for this incident. Comprehensive internal audit of monthly accounts has isolated the problem and we are confident that this problem has been identified and there are not additional incidents that have gone unrectified.

Specific procedures that were not followed that lead to this unfortunate problem related to the delinquent advance ledger posting(s) and weakness in the management of cash. The advance ledger is now up to date, which was a contributing weakness. Both issues have been addressed and are being monitored closely. Internal audit did not uncover any other incidence of mismanagement of funds. Cash management practices have been strengthened to address the weakness.

There has been a through on-going internal audit of expenditures as a well as The University of Rhode Island has an A-133 audit annually for research funds. CRC is working with URI Office of Compliance Director, Eileen Tobin to schedule an independent audit on site, however the recommended firms submitted bids that are in excess of \$60,000 USD, and not affordable under our current project budget. URI is modifying the specifications slightly and re-bidding to include vendors that are A-21/A-133 literate but not limiting the bid search to USAID IG listed firms.

3.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation activities of the Hen Mpoano Initiative were based on the Orders of Outcome framework and the USAID indicators. Governance scorecards for the three focal areas as well as Fisheries were updated to guide subsequent priorities and actions. These scorecards will be annexed to the annual report in October 2012. They are summarized in this report as the USAID Indicator Number 1 (custom indicator for the project) in Annex 1.

During the period, a two member team (Mrs Adeline Ofori-Bah and Mr. Saaka Adam) from the Ghana METSS Project visited the ICFG Initiative and conducted assessed the M and E systems in place and to recommend ways of improving data quality reported. After the exercise, ICFG has received the report and recommendations of the mission. Some

weaknesses were identified in the M&E system of the ICFG Initiative. Subsequently, the ICFG will work the METSS team to streamline the weaknesses identified and fix them. Also the PMP will be revised to include all the suggestions and recommendations of the METSS team. The PMP will thus be resubmitted to USAID.

The semi-annual M&E internal review process happened during two different retreats in February and March of 2012 and included many of the partnering organizations of the Hen Mpoano Initiative as well as key stakeholders. In addition to reviewing progress to date relative to the work plan, these sessions refined the expected results by the end of the project and outline the “way forward” if the Initiative were to continue. Summaries of these “expected results” and “way forward” sessions are included as Sections 4 and 5 of this report. The planned external evaluation and mid-term evaluation of the Initiative in the coming reporting period will effectively review the status of the project and further orient what the project should achieve by September 2013.

3.3 Other Challenges and Measures Adopted to Address Them

District Spatial Plans

Up until the end of 2011, CRC was collaborating closely with the Jubilee Partner’s consultant contractors, Spatial Dimensions, on the preparation of spatial plans for the three western-most districts of Ellembelle, Nzema East, and Jomoro. Unfortunately, the contract and financial support to Spatial Dimensions ended abruptly at the end of the year and they were unable to complete the district plans.

To date, neither Spatial Dimensions nor the Jubilee Partners have provided any information to the Districts and no follow-up plans have been prepared. This has created a rather unfortunate situation for the districts as they embarked on a process that has apparently been dropped by the Jubilee Partners and yet CRC was slated to integrate the coastal vulnerability and critical issues assessment into these spatial plans.

However, this situation provides an opportunity for Hen Mpoano to assume a lead role in following through with district spatial plans in conjunction with the ongoing GIS training of the TCPD planners in the districts. In addition, CRC has taken a pro-active role in engaging the Jubilee Partner’s CSR team to do the responsible thing and provide additional resources for their contractors Spatial Dimensions to continue their work in the three districts. It is expected that the spatial planning process will be re-started together with the Jubilee Partners but now with Hen Mpoano in a more prominent steering role so as to ensure an appropriate participatory process and local ownership with the District Assemblies.

Oil and Gas Supply Vessel Port Facility and Gas Processing Plant

In February of this reporting period, plans were unveiled to build a large oil and gas supply vessel support facility and gas processing plants to the east of Atuabo in the Ellembelle District. The port was to be built by the UK based corporation Lonrho and the gas facilities as part of the Chinese loan facility with Sinotec. The siting of these facilities has created a stir both locally and nationally in that there are perceptions of political influence and the site plans were hastily put together. Serious questions are also emerging as to the sincerity of the site selection process used and the EIA process which has been fast-tracked for the port facility while there is no discussion on the associated gas facilities for which the contracts are signed with Sinotec.

Aside for the extremely vulnerable shoreline in the Ellembelle District that has yet to be taken into consideration by the investors, the project risks impacting the coastal drainage of the Amanzule Wetlands. The social impacts will also be significant, especially during the construction phase. As the Ghana government has decided that this project will go ahead prior to the start of the EIA, CRC can advise the government on what should be considered in the EIA and diplomatically engage the investors in an attempt to promote voluntary “best practices” if this development moves forward. This project has posed a significant challenge for the Amanzule focal area as well as to ongoing regional planning processes which have been circumvented. This illustrates the need for more proactive land use and development planning by the district and in cases such as this large facility siting, provides additional rationale for what a coastal authority or commission is needed.

4. Expected Results by June 2013

This section of the report will serve to outline and briefly summarize the main results that Hen Mpoano will achieve by the middle of 2013 and prior to the planned closure phase of the project. It is important to again highlight the multi-level approach as Hen Mpoano seeks to: orient policy discussion and implementation at the national level; strengthen the coordination role among actors at the regional level; and address a spectrum of coastal issues at the District and local scale that are representative of the main issues across Ghana's coastline. Each point mentioned below involves a series of actions that will halt where Hen Mpoano is confident that local actors can sustain the initiatives and follow-through immediately, or when other resources are made available through such programs as the coastal fund or the World Bank project. The models and for nested governance, resilience interventions, and for improved governance of natural resources will be well developed and prepped for implementation if they have yet to begin.

National/ Regional level

Goals

- Proposal for new **governance and co-management and decentralization strategy/policy** for fisheries with strong support from stakeholders.
- A proposal for some form of a **Western Regional Development Authority with marine and coastal commission** under it. This will either or not be formally established, but with proposed and detailed roles, responsibilities, membership and issues with strong constituency and political support.

Commitment

- Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development – work towards endorsement of a **new chapter within medium term development plans** (MTDP) with coastal / natural resources component. This is piloted in 5 of the 6 coastal Districts of the Western Region.
- Mechanism established for a **coastal fund** as part of the Marine and coastal commission as noted above. – Coastal fund will have FOAT type application with DFID and CSR fund contributions.
- **Fisheries working group – formalized as a permanent advisory group** to the Western Region Fisheries Commission and as a model for other coastal regions in Ghana.

Capacities

- Enhanced **coastal belt planning** within the regional spatial plan.
- Regional **Town and Country Planning – GIS database / hub** established

- within the Regional Coordinating Council headquarters in Sekondi.
- Strengthened / **enhanced Western Region Canoe Fishermen’s Council** with a new charter, newly elected executive committee, and an action plan that is being implemented.
 - Fisheries **enforcement and prosecution system as a model** for rest of nation. Lessons learned document and training/exchange programs prepared.
 - **Fisheries Commission strengthened** through targeted training programs focusing on outreach and extension services for co-management, appropriate social approaches for promoting compliance and enforcement, and additional technical and material support.

Constituencies

- Methods of **community engagement and communication strategies tested** and documented
- Key **stakeholders at all governance levels have increased understanding of co- management**, and pathways to implementation

Focal Areas

Shama

Goals

- **ICM component in the district spatial development framework** that would be adopted by the district assembly.

Commitment

- **Chapter of marine and coastal resources management** in the revised MTDP for the district.
- Zoning **bye-laws for ecologically sensitive floodplain** (Anankwari floodplain) for the district.
- Model **shoreline management bye-law** for the district.

Capacities

- Community-based **flood risk plans** for climate change impacts and adaptation and early warning systems created among district stakeholders.
- Model **NGO based Population-Health-Environment (PHE) program** established that works with the Ministry of Health on nutritional education programs and monitoring.

Cape 3 Points

Goals

- **Chapter of marine and coastal resources management** in the MTDP for the districts of Ahanta West and Nzema East.
- **Best practices for eco-tourism development guideline** (Simple Guide Book).
- Proposal of a **coherent wetland protection and management bye-laws** with attached maps of critical wetlands areas.
- Proposal for a **pilot land trust** for Ahanta West District.
- Ecological and social surveys completed for a **future MPA network**, focusing on fisheries objectives, in the coastal areas around C3Ps.

Commitment

- Complete **revised management plan for the C3P forest reserve** and a signed MOU for the adoption of the C3P Forest Reserve working Group.
- **Revised district spatial plan** with a “green belt” strategy adopted by the District Assemblies of Ahanta West and Nzema East.
- **Model local (spatial) community adaptation plan for the Akwidaa community** that incorporates vulnerability assessment and adaptation measures.

Capacities

- **Expanded C3P CREMA** to cover more communities around wetland areas (including rivers, estuaries and lagoons systems) with associated management plans.

Amanzule

Goals

- **Chapter of marine and coastal resources management in the MTDP** for the districts of Jomoro and Ellembelle incorporating vulnerability assessment and climate change impacts.
- A **conservation scenario for the Greater Amanzule Wetlands** endorsed by traditional leaders and local government via wildlife department and establishment of the Working Group (with a bilateral component).
- **Carbon stock assessment for wetland areas** completed and recommendation for voluntary offsets/ REDD or other forms of long-term conservation financing.

Commitment

- **Local plan (spatial) completed** for New-Town community.
- Proposed **shoreline management plan for Ellembelle and Jomoro** as part of

district spatial plans.

Capacities

- Support GCLME with input to draft **action plan on “Green Green”**
- **A PHE training program established** and being implemented in Essiama Community Health Nursing School and a program for community based practical work implemented. For training student-nurses and the faculty in PHE, training material were assembled from 3 existing USAID funded publications namely:
 - a. Syllabus of Ghana Nurses and Midwifery Training Council
 - b. BALANCED PHE Training manual for Youth Peer Educators
 - c. BALANCED PHE Training manual for Community-Based Distributors

Since these are existing documents produced with USIAD funds from other programs it was finally decided that the use of these 3 documents was prudent instead of developing a new one.

Fisheries

Goals

- **Assessment completed for livelihoods resilience** for Anlo, Akwidaa, Dixcove and New- Town communities.
- **Models for community-level governance institutions tested** in focus communities.
- Objectives and **methods for community-based fishery monitoring** developed.

Capacities

- **Capacity of fisheries stakeholders** in 4 focus sites enhanced.
- Selected **pilot-interventions to increase fisheries livelihood resilience** tested.

5. The Way Forward

The Hen Mpoano Initiative has made great headway in achieving the ambitious goals and objectives that were laid out in the initial Program Design. However, in trying to address the challenges we took on, it has taken longer than initially anticipated to get to where we are today. While the last Phase of the project as planned will leave some lasting legacies, there are many opportunities where, given the present time-frame, the Hen Mpoano Initiative will not have the time and resources to bring to full fruition and conclusion. Given the nature of many of the governance approaches and models being piloted, sustainability is still at risk.

The way forward will consolidate the gains Hen Mpoano has achieved by developing proposals for a nested, increasingly decentralized governance system for fisheries and coastal landscapes. The focus of actions will be on maintaining healthy land and seascapes that support local livelihoods and food security. This will provide both models and practical experiences and windows as to what food security and pro-active planning for climate change mean for West African coastal zones.

Given an expanded time horizon, Hen Mpoano will ensure adoption, implementation and sustainability of these proposals in the Western Region. Hen Mpoano will also lay the groundwork for replication in other coastal regions and districts, by obtaining national recognition and support for piloting these innovations and through expanded awareness and identification of new coastal regions and areas of particular concern ready to adapt and test the approach. The Fisheries Working Group model will be fully tested in the Western Region to improve understanding of fisheries issues, support for policies, compliance and enforcement and the experience shared in the three other coastal regions, in support of the new World Bank fisheries program. The aim of efforts at better enforcement coastal-wide and tests of decentralized co-management approaches in the Western Region is to increase fishing community resilience including fish stocks, settlements and food security throughout the supply chain including nursery grounds and coastal ecosystems, fishing and farming locations, to low- income, vulnerable consumers.

On a parallel but carefully interwoven track, Hen Mpoano will help operationalize and strengthen a decentralized nested-system approach to land and sea-scape management in the Western Region. This will provide a clear, working model of how coastal issues, especially those tied to community resilience, notably food and livelihoods security, and sustainable use of natural resources, can be addressed from multiple perspectives by a carefully arranged decision making system that builds strength and greatly expands participation from policy and decision making that fully engages communities, districts and the region, each playing a critical and appropriate role. Hen Mpoano will also will also lay the groundwork for replication in the neighboring Central Region, by obtaining national recognition and support

for piloting these innovations and through as expanded awareness and identification of issues areas of particular concern ready to adapt and test the approach, following the model set by Our Coast, Our Future and the work of the Western Region Coordinating Council.

Moving Forward Nationally

The fisheries and coastal landscape models will be set in motion during the present implementation phase, based on the idea that ongoing support, notably for capacity building, will greater enhance rapid results and impacts as well as shorten the learning process for scaling up to other coastal regions. National government approval will be sought for (1) piloting decentralized fisheries policies and management in the Western Region, and, (2) consolidating and operationalizing coastal spatial planning and addressing cross-cutting issues such as climate change adaptation in the coastal districts, targeted mainly at fishing communities and their associated food systems.

Fisheries

In collaboration with the Fisheries Commission, consolidate improved stakeholder participation and enforcement mechanisms for marine fisheries. This would likely be some form of new national policy or decree on fisheries governance.

- Obtain a clear national mandate to proceed with pilot decentralized fisheries management model for the Western Region based on new governance arrangements proposed in the previous phase of the project
- **Scale up successful models tested in the Western region** including the Fisheries Working Group and improved enforcement and prosecution systems by assisting in establishing similar arrangements in the three other coastal regions. This will be undertaken in close collaboration with World Bank supported project which has considerable funding to roll out these approaches nationwide.

Spatial planning and community resilience

- Clarify and strengthen Hen Mpoano collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, including the Town and Country Planning Department, and selected other agencies to proceed with fully operationalizing the nested coastal landscape governance proposal for the Western Region
- Obtain a clear national mandate to initiate the issue analysis, capacity building and identification of areas of particular concern for the Central Region
- **Strengthen the Center for Coastal Management (CCM)** within the

University of Cape Coast to provide capacity building assistance to districts in the Central and Western Regions to embark on outreach/extensions programs for coastal habitat management, monitoring of wetlands and rivers, integrated coastal zone management planning (ICM) including the issue analysis and identification of areas of concern, and climate change adaptation and planning.

Moving Forward Regionally

At the regional level, a proposed focus is further strengthening of the coordination mandate of the Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) through support for regional coastal commission, in one form or another, that is part of a larger regional development authority. This will be done through improved coordination and engagements with both private sector and civil society, and better collaboration between the RCC and traditional authorities on the development agenda and management of natural resources.

Fisheries

- Provide continuing support for the Fisheries Working Group in the Western Region with the aim of stabilizing its role and sustaining its operations over the long term
- Strengthen and operationalize a **citizens** watch program and law enforcement on fisheries is effective to promote compliance.
- Prepare outreach and training materials and conduct a systematic education and awareness campaign, as well as provide technical assistance to the Fisheries Management Council, and the World Bank fisheries program

Spatial Planning

- **Western Region Coastal Commission model developed and operationalized** so as to provide the necessary guidance on strengthening district and local decision making with information, policy analysis and deliberation on issues of regional concern, and potentially serve as a model for a national coastal commission.
- The Platform for Coastal Communities (PCC) and other **civil society groups will be strengthened** as part of the coastal fund and provided punctual technical support as they seek to address other pertinent coastal issues such as the evolving potable water crisis or social inequities created by an evolving extractives industries sector.
- Financial sustainability for coastal landscape management and community resilience will include rolling out the **Coastal fund** in partnership with DFID and private sector corporations with funding links to revised MTDPs and performance criteria in expanded FOAT (Functional Operational Assessment Tools) in the six coastal districts.
- Technical support will be provided to an improved process of siting facilities of

- regional concern and impact on the coastal zone, through technical information, training and carrying out one or more large scale project siting planning efforts, for either the gas facilities in the Jomoro District of the refinery project in the Ahanta West District (with a focus on spatial planning to manage the secondary impacts of coastal industrial facilities outside of the “fence” of the infrastructural projects.
- Fully establish the Regional information and data center for coastal landscape and seascape decision support based on the GIS hub now operating with Town and Country Planning, and provide ongoing training for ongoing revisions and updates on spatial planning for the Western Region.
 - Provide increased support to establish Coherent byelaws for shoreline management among all six coastal districts established and communicated to the other coastal regions of Ghana based on models emerging in Years 3 and 4 of the Hen Mpoano program, as part of the decentralized nested governance proposal..
 - Increase community resilience in high-risk low-capacity communities by addressing region-wide need for a Pro-active flood and hazard mitigation plans and early warning systems developed for the Western Region.

Moving Forward in the Districts or Focal Areas

As concerns the Districts, more time would benefit completing coastal management planning and implementation in the six coastal districts as well as embarking upon planned interventions (that require more time than is remaining in the present time-frame).

- At the District level, Mid-Term Development Plans, **MTDPs, with fully completed marine and coastal management chapters** will be completed and will include evaluation criteria used for funding allocations (FOAT as previously mentioned) in all six districts.
- **Piloting of small scale Locally Managed Marine Areas, LMMA, management units** (that form a network of marine protected areas) that form a coherent sea to landscape green belt plan for the Cape Three Point focal area (unified approach to forest-wetlands- farmland-seascape).
- Full implementation of **community resilience building actions** in at least one representative, high-priority fishing community locations in each coastal District in the Western Region, combining physical hazards, adaptive capacity and fishing community resilience elements.
- **Cottage industries supported** for bamboo production, coconut production, and selected value chains for other products that can produced in the coastal belt.
- **Amanzule conservation management plan endorsed** by the government of Ghana so thus allowing for leveraging of funding from diverse sources for an implementation. The plan will demonstrate a bi-District approach to natural

resources management, possibly a trans-border conservation program with the Ivory Coast, and also addressing the needs of fishing communities along the coastal barrier strip in terms of livelihoods. These plans will also address flood and erosion hazards likely to be intensified by climate change, and incorporating major oil & gas/ industrial facility siting.

- **Model for a land trust** related to food production lands at risk of disappearance due to land speculation and overheated urban development, rolled out in Ahanta West District in order to further promote food security objectives for the local population in the coastal belt.

6. ANNEXES

Annex 1: Hen Mpoano Results to Date (FY 10 – March 31, 2012) and Targets for FY 13

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (mid-year)	FY 13 Target
1	Improvements on a governance scorecard covering, goals, constituencies, commitment and capacity dimensions.	Areas for score carding determined	4 areas selected for baselining Western Region baseline completed	Increasing	Shama Baseline completed March 2011. Cape Three Points baseline completed Western Region Time2 scorecard planned for July 2011	Increasing	Scorecards for Shama, Cape 3 Points and Amanzule completed with increasing scores Scorecards for fisheries compliance and enforcement completed with increasing scores Western Region scorecards planned for July 2012	Increasing

Comments: Four initiatives are being tracked with the ecosystem governance process and outcome scorecards: Western Region as a whole and 3 focal areas: Shama, Cape Three Points Forest Reserve and the Amanzule wetlands. Scorecard is also being used to track progress of Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance and Rural Radio Drama but not as performance targets. Western Region baseline was established in FY10 and published in the Our Coast, Our Future Document. At the review workshop in July 2011, Shama, Cape Three Points forest reserve and the Amanzule wetlands baselines were developed. Pilot models for Integrated Coastal Management and conservation have been developed for the 3 focal areas and the Western Region as a whole. Some of the pressing issues identified in Shama were unregulated shorefront development resulting in conflict among coastal communities, pressure on land use due to the discovery of Oil and Gas in the Western region and more people moving from the STMA to Shama due to congestion in the city, lack of portable water supply, flooding, population growth, construction in flood plains, competing land uses and poor urban development. The Shama participatory land use mapping and planning facilitated by Hen Mpoano and the District Assembly was a clear case of a demand driven process, where local chiefs and community people also participated fully. The learning and experiences gained from the Shama process would serve as model for Cape Three Points and Amanzule Focal Areas in FY 2012 and FY 2013. Work has started in the Cape Three Points Focal Area where issues of expansion of perennial tree crops (rubber, Palm) have been underlined as major threats to food security as well as loss of livelihoods as tenant farmers lose their lands to rubber out grower schemes and other infrastructural development being driven by the oil sector. Interventions such as Vulnerability and Resilience Surveys have been completed for both the Cape 3 Points and Amanzule Focal Areas and results are feeding into a larger spatial planning process at the district level for both focal areas. It is good to note that support is building up for the Initiative in both Focal Areas and traditional authorities and key district assembly representatives as well as government agencies such as Forestry Commission have endorsed and are committed to the cause

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
2	Evidence of ICM and fisheries strategies, plans, policies, bylaws adopted by govt. with time bound quantitative environmental & socio-economic targets	Areas requiring management plans, strategies, policies and bye-laws determined	Areas selected: 3 STMA wetlands Shama Cape Three Points Amanzule	3 wetlands in S.T.M.A targeted	Work on management plans, policies and district bye-laws underway in STMA and Shama.	4 (Cape 3 Points and community wetlands)	Gazetting of 3 STMA wetlands - Socio economic survey completed. Boundary survey underway Work on management plans, policies and district bye-laws underway in Cape Three Points.	1 (Amanzule)

Comments: Scientific studies have been conducted to inform decision makers about the importance these wetlands have for food security, flood control and bio-diversity significance. Several meetings have been held with town planners at STMA and legal consultants as well as the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission to legally establish ordinances at the district level as protected areas. Maps are being prepared for each of the three wetlands. Consultative processes on the way forward are still ongoing amongst the different institutions for the purpose of gazetting the 3 STMA wetlands but the process has not been smooth due to issues of bureaucracy. Hen Mpoano local partner Friends of the Nation have also conducted a series of social studies using graduate interns from the University of Cape Coast to do a stakeholder analysis of the wetland areas. The next process is to assemble a team of district government personnel to undertake an assessment of existing social and economic conditions to inform the regulations that will finally be gazetted. There are plans to also include other wetlands of biological significance in the STMA under improved management in FY 2012 and 2013. After the socio-economic studies followed by the technical land survey there would be validation engagements and negotiations to have a proposal tailored before the Assembly to consider for promulgation. For the Cape 3 Points Focal Area, CREMAs have been revived for 20 fringe communities of the Cape 3 Points Forest Reserve for the protection of wetland areas as well as the forest reserve. Leadership training for the CREMA Executives has been completed. Collation of data for the amendment of management plans; constitution and byelaws have also been completed. Next steps include application for a certificate of devolution of authority from the Wildlife Division headquarters.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
3	Amount of private sector and/or government resources allocated for planning and implementation of ICM and fisheries management plans or strategies	Tracked but no target	No data available – see comments below	Tracked but no target	No data available – see comments below	USD 400,000.00	To be estimated Co-funding for feasibility studies or payment of ecosystem services engaged through partnership with Forest Trends	Tracked but no target

Comments: Tracked but no targets, expected to be increasing annually. Government personnel and Private Sector operators have spent time and efforts to attend Hen Mpoano resource management meetings and workshops on several occasions and even contributed office space and conference facilities to hold such meetings and workshops. The Shama District Assembly provided personnel for the Land use management planning exercise in Shama. Budget allocated for planning and implementation of ICM and fisheries management plans or strategies by the Government of Ghana in the Western Region have been difficult and so far impossible to obtain from the agencies particularly the Fisheries Commission. Therefore we are recommending that this indicator be eliminated or a qualitative measure of effort via narrative description be provided as evidence. Planning is ongoing to look at how best to quantify time and effort put in by private sector and/or government resources allocated for planning and implementation of ICM and fisheries management plans or strategies.

For instance time and transportation costs committed by members of the Fisheries Working Group and Cape 3 Points Working Group as well as for the Shama Advisory Council (for spatial planning purposes in Shama) members have been difficult to quantify. Office spaces given out for monthly Hen Mpoano meetings at the Ahanta West District Assembly and others are also good examples for this indicator.

Through a partnership with US-based NGO – Forest Trends – and Swiss funding, feasibility studies for payment for watershed services have begun for the Pra River Basin. This involves co-funding also with the Ghana Water Company.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
4.	Number of CSOs and govt. agencies strengthened such as local NGOs, alliances of NGOs, trade associations or community management committees or advocacy groups (biodiversity), district natural resources offices, etc.	53 targeted, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened	Not Applicable as target just set in FY10	53 targeted	58 strengthened, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened	16, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened	13 strengthened for first half 2012, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened	53, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened

Comments: 53 organizations were targeted for strengthening as the main targets. The Initiative has worked with most of these in Year 2 but expects strengthening to continue through to end of project so no annual increase in targets. Friends of the Nation, WERENGO (association of 45 NGOs in the Western Region), Hotel Operators Association, Oil and Gas platform, NGOs/CSOs are receiving small grants to conduct resource management and livelihood development activities (~15), Fisheries Commission, Coastal districts (6), University of Cape Coast Department of Geography, Centre for Coastal Management and Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences, Community Health Workers college. The number of organizations receiving assistance is now at 58. University of Cape Coast and Community Health Workers College are also receiving contracts for specific work. The strategy here is to have these organizations learn by doing and mentors or advisors are assigned to each group. Many of these organizations are also being strengthened via training of the personnel and these results are captured in Indicator No. 6 – see below. Other forms of strengthening include the provision of working equipment and enhancement of office space. Partnerships have been formed with these organizations and Memorandum of Understanding have been developed and signed with all. The Western Regional Town and Country Planning Department has been strengthened by refurbishing their main drawing room with computers and accessories and training sessions organized for them. The conference room of the Western Regional Fisheries Commission has been refurbished as well as an office space to be fitted with computers and accessories where Hen Mpoano will be coordinating some of their fisheries activities. The Platform for Coastal Communities has received support for the establishment of district offices. Others include mentorship, direction and financial support for CREMA executives in the Cape 3 Points Focal Area to carry out education/sensitization of residents. The Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council has also received support in the form of funds to revive the Association for enforcement and compliance activities in the area of fisheries. Hen Mpoano has also assisted them to draw up their constitution. The Initiative has also (for some communities) revived and constituted (new ones) 20 CREMAs in fringe communities of the Cape 3 Points Forest Reserve. Hen Mpoano has also supported WAPCA to conduct a series of primate surveys and to spearhead bilateral collaborations amongst fringe communities of the Amanzule in Ivory Coast and Ghana for conservation and protection of wetland areas which are key to food security.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
5.	No of stakeholders participating in resource management initiatives, workshops, regional meetings, exchange visits.	Tracked but no target	512 persons Males – 390 Females – 122	Tracked but no targets	753 persons Males – 605 Females – 148	Tracked but no targets	393 people have participated in resource management meetings, 335 males and 58 females	Tracked but no target

Comments: Tracked but no target

Several resource management initiatives, workshops, meetings and trainings involving stakeholders such as the District Assemblies, Fishermen’s Associations, Fishmonger Associations, Community Resource Users, Spatial Planners, the Fisheries Commission, Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission and the Environmental Protection Agency were organized during the reporting period. Hen Mpoano has also constituted the Western Regional Fisheries Working Group which is a 12-member group made up of representatives from the Navy, the Police, the Judiciary, the Artisanal, the Semi-industrial and the Industrial fisheries sectors, Ghana National Canoe Fishermen’s Council and the Cooperative Fishermen’s Service Center. The Fisheries Working Group meets monthly to discuss fisheries issues in the Western Region and look at ways to improve fisheries management in the Western Region. The Group advises the Western Regional Director of Fisheries on fisheries issues in the Western Region. Several participatory land-use management meetings and workshops were also held in the Shama focal area with the Shama District Assembly, traditional chiefs and the local people of Shama. Several stakeholder meetings have been conducted with the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission and other relevant stakeholders on the Cape Three Points Reserve and the Amanzule wetlands. Exchange visits on Integrated Coastal Management, fisheries co-management, fisheries compliance/enforcement, Marine protected Areas and co-management for forest protection to Rhode Island, Senegal, the Ivory Coast, Tanzania and northern Ghana respectively have been undertaken and an Action Plan workshop organized to implement some of the lessons learned in the Western Region of Ghana. Bilateral discussions have also commenced amongst fringe communities of the Amanzule wetland area in Ivory Coast and Ghana on possible conservation program for the area. Press meetings and dialogues have also been carried out (and still ongoing) to catalyze actions for water quality and supply issues.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
6	Number of government personnel, community leaders and private sector stakeholders trained	100	216 Males - 170 Females – 46 (Investigating whether a better corrected estimate can be provided)	100	Total number of people trained in FY 11 is 393; 280 males and 113 females.	500	235 people have been trained, 191 males and 44 females	100

Comments: Year 1 results seemed high and it is due to the fact that some meetings were being counted as training workshop when they probably should not have been. Measures to rectify this situation underway and only truly training events and training workshops or study tours captured here.

As at the end of March, 2011, 260 people (government personnel, National Service Volunteers, graduate students, community leaders and private sector stakeholders - 171 Males and 89 Females) had been trained. A total of 99 people were trained between March and July 2011; 82 males and 17 females. 32 people were trained between July and September, 26 male and 6 females and 2 graduate students, 1 male 1 female started Maters training at URI.

Employees from the Fisheries Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the District Assemblies, Fishermen Associations, the Civil Society Platform for Oil and Gas, Friend of the Nation, the University of Cape Coast Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences and the Department of Geography and Regional Planning all benefited from Hen Mpoano trainings. 4 graduate students from the University of Ghana and the University of Cape Coast were awarded field research grants and were trained to undertake research in the Western Region for their Masters' thesis. 10 National Service Volunteers were also trained to assist the Initiative to collect fisheries data to strengthen the information base on fisheries in the Western Region. Hen Mpoano in collaboration with the World Fish Center also organized training on Adaptive Management of Small-scale fisheries for staff of the Fisheries Commission and local fishermen. There was also a Population-Health-Environment training on Youth Peer Educator Trainer-of-Trainers which took place in the Ellembelle and Nzema East districts of the Western Region. There was a training for faith-based leaders (Muslims, traditionalists and Christians) in all 6 coastal districts for the purpose of management of coastal resources in Takoradi. There was a training on primate monitoring and survey in the Ahanta West district of the Western Region. There have also been several trainings on Integrated Coastal Management and just recently a training on Adaptive Responses to Climate Change in collaboration with the University of Cape Coast that targeted Western regional District Planners and the Western regional branch of the National Disaster Management Organization as well as for all Hen Mpoano technical staff. Two graduate students have been awarded scholarships to study at the University of Rhode Island beginning the 2011/2012 academic year. District Fisheries representatives in the 6 districts as well as town and district planners and technicians in the 6 districts are also undergoing training in GIS proficiency and use. Some community artisans (woodcarvers, graphic designers, etc) have also received capacity building for the development of business plans and for records/keeping and good management skills.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
7	Number of hectares in areas of biological significance under improved management	Areas of biological significance to be considered for improved management determined (See indicator No 2 above)	Targets set	600 hectares (3 wetlands in S.T.M.A.) targeted	Butuah lagoon – 27.3 hectares Whin estuary – 204.9 hectares Essei lagoon – 8.0 hectares Total Area = 240 hectares.	11,100 hectares Cape Three Points 5,100 hectares CREMA wetlands 6000 hectares	11,100 hectares Cape Three Points 5,100 hectares CREMA wetlands 6000 hectares underway in Cape 3 Points	Amanzule – 21,000 hectares

Comments: 32,700 hct (initial estimates but more precise estimates provided on UCC has district and focal area GIS mapping completed). We plan to disaggregate this by hectares under planning, adoption and implementation phases Amanzule – 21,000 hectares Shama - hectares TBD, S.T.M.A. wetlands 600 hectares, Cape Three Points 5,100 hectares, Community-based (CREMA) wetlands – 6000 hectares

Hen Mpoano is working closely with the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission, S.T.M.A. and the Survey Department to demarcate the 3 wetlands in S.T.M.A. for improved management. The Survey Department is in the process of budgeting for the demarcation while the S.T.M.A. and the Wild life Division are also working with Hen Mpoano to draw management plans, policies and to enact district bye-laws to govern these wetlands. The same process is being followed in the Cape Three Points forest reserve and the Amanzule wetlands in FY 2012 and FY 2013 respectively. Actual hectares of the three wetland areas in STMA (water + vegetation area only) is 240.2hct only as per GIS mapping done by consultants from CCU – see Tech report – Rapid biodiversity assessment on Essei and Butuah lagoons and Whin River Estuary – so the initial estimate of 600hct was wrong. A conservative estimate of size using only the water extent in 2010 and vegetated area in 2010 was used in the calculation.

In the Cape 3 Points Area, 20 Community Resource Management Areas (CREMAs) have been reconstituted for the wetland and forest areas and are already carrying out community sensitization and education program as well as collection of data for amendment of management plans and byelaws. For the Amanzule Area initial carbon stock assessment has been completed for over 18 mangrove sites in the area.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
8	Number of rural households that benefit directly from USG Assistance	0	70	50	70 (cumulative number) Second round of Small Grants have been let in July 2011 and new beneficiaries are yet to be determined.	260	125	150

Comments: Life of project numbers are cumulative. Rural households were supported through the Small Grants Program of Hen Mpoano to undertake different projects in the fishing communities of the 6 coastal districts of the Western Region. Small grants have been awarded to qualified applicants again for the following fiscal years. Households that benefitted are beneficiaries or recipients of the small grants program. Three small grants focused on livelihood development and included: Batik and soap making for 20 women; improvement of fish monger stalls for 30 fishmongers and assistants; training of 20 women and supply of inputs for poultry production. In these cases number of households benefiting for each activity were 20, 30 and 20 respectively. In the second round of small grants, 100 community persons benefitted from training and inputs for the poultry project while 10 others benefitted from training and inputs for rabbi try and grass-cutter household project.

There are suggestions from the USAID’s METSS team to report on number of beneficiaries of study tours for this indicator but concerns remain that rural households might not necessarily cater for, for example, Fisheries Commission and District Assembly reps who benefit from Hen Mpoano study tours – because they do not represent rural households.

5 care givers each from 25 communities benefitted from training on nutrition values and Population-Health-Environment for the well-being of families/households.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
9	Number of Public-Private partnerships formed	Not reported on	Cumulative – see FY12 Results	Not reported on	Cumulative – see FY12 Results	Tracked but no target	42	Tracked but no target

Comments: The Initiative has formed a considerable number of PPPs which have over the years proved very useful for effective implementation of Hen Mpoano activities aimed at producing mutual benefits. Some of the partnerships have contractual agreements, while others are just by mutual understanding. The Initiative has about 40 partners which could translate to over 150 groups and agencies (A cumulative number gleaned from beginning of 1st Phase of ICFG program). The Western Region Network of NGOs (WERENGO) is one such group with over 60 NGO members that the initiative supports with trainings and Small Grants. Tullow Oil and Jubilee Partners are in partnership to support Cape 3 Points CREMAs for conservation projects aimed at promoting food security. LOGODEP (USAID IP) is working with ICFG for establishment of Coastal Fund (together with COLANDEF) and is supporting Platform for Coastal Communities (formed with support and direction of Hen Mpoano) with needs assessment program. Fisheries Commission, Forestry Commission/Wildlife Division, the 6 coastal District Assemblies are all partners of the Initiative. Working Groups include Fisheries WG, Cape 3 Points WG, GNCFC, Hen Mpoano Advisory Council Members and Shama District Steering Committee. Other groups include the Destination Management Organization (for tourism best practices), hoteliers for turtle conservation, Environmental Journalist Group and 2 local radio stations for Hen Mpoano radio drama series. A Rocha is a faith-based organization for conservation activities; they collaborated with Hen Mpoano for training of faith-based leaders – 6 Interfaith based groups have been formed to carry out resource management messages in each of the 6 coastal districts. Other partners include Blue Ventures, NCRC and Forest Trends for wetland conservation and carbon offset programs as well as for establishing baselines for Ghana’s first MPA. The Peace Corps program, Babson Artisans (artisans supported by Initiative with business plans and management trainings), Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology (MEST), GCLME and Ivory Coast Environment Ministry and Fisheries Commission are all partners for the promotion of livelihood resilience and for catalyzing actions for algal bloom menace. Agric-based partners for the promotion of food security and reduction of impacts of perennial tree crops (rubber/palm) include B-BOVID (a local agro-based company) and Ghana Rubber Estates. Other groups for advocacy purposes include Fisheries Alliance and the Community Environmental and Monitoring Advocacy Groups (CEMAGs). The West African Primate Conservation Action (WAPCA) and Central and Western Regions Fishmongers Improvement Association (CEWEFIA) are also key partners for carrying out resource management and population, health and environment objectives respectively.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
10	Quantity of greenhouse gas emissions sequestered	Not reported on	Not reported on	Not reported on	Not reported on	Tracked but no target	Assessments and estimates are ongoing	Tracked but no target

Comments:
 Activities of CREMAs and Wildlife Division in the Cape 3 Points area are aimed at carbon sequestration, management tools are being put in place. Activities include conservation and establishment of mangrove nurseries for replanting, etc. quantity of carbon sequestered is yet to be determined.
 Activities of Forest Trends, NCRC and Cameroonian Consultant (carbon stock assessment) are initial steps aimed at assessing potential of carbon credits for marine payments for ecosystem services. Sequestration is yet to be determined.

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
11	Number of climate change vulnerability assessments conducted	Not reported on	Not reported on	Not reported on	Not reported on	3 focal areas covering 5 districts	3 Focal Areas covering 5 Districts: Cape 3 Points Area – Ahanta West and Nzema East districts Amanzule Area – Ellembelle and Jomoro Districts Shama District	Tracked but no target
<p>Comments: In Shama Focal Area, the spatial planning process has identified vulnerable areas and byelaws are being crafted to arrest development there. Early warning systems for vulnerable areas that are settled are being developed in partnership with the Meteorological Service and NADMO</p> <p>For the Cape 3 Points Area, the Vulnerability and Resilience survey covered 33 communities – Ahanta West (22) and Nzema East (11). Issues have been identified, discussed and prioritized with stakeholders. Key issues in the focal area include flooding and high erosion impacts, loss of main livelihoods – fisheries and farming due to decline in fish stocks (as a result of illegal fishing methods, increase in efforts, impact of oil industry) and conversion of farmlands into rubber plantations and other infrastructural developments.</p> <p>For the Amanzule Focal Area, the survey covered 47 communities – Ellembelle (18) and Jomoro (29). Issues have been identified, discussed and prioritized with stakeholders. Key issues include erosion and sea level rise leading to loss of properties and landing sites, markets, etc. The algal bloom phenomenon which threatens the fisheries livelihood is a major issue where fishermen catch green algae in nets instead of fish. Other issues include flooding and loss of land for farming and settlement due to influx of investors tapping into oil industry.</p> <p>Results from the survey would feed into a larger spatial planning process at the district level.</p>								

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 12 Results (Mid-Year)	FY 13 Target
12	Number of institutions with improved capacity to address climate change	No target set as this was not yet an indicator	Not reported on	No target set as this was not yet an indicator	9 Institutions RCC 6 Districts NADMO UCC	10 additional institutions	7 Institutions for first half FY12 (RCC + 6 Districts) currently being trained – TCPPs & District Planners 2 nd Climate Change Adaptive Course is in preparation for July 2012	Tracked but no target
<p>Comments: 6 town and country/physical planners (TCPPs) & district planners and 15 technicians from the Western Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) and the 6 coastal district assemblies are currently undergoing GIS proficiency and use aimed at beefing capacity to better address ICM issues.</p> <p>District representatives from the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) across the 6 districts have also undergone training aimed at better preparing them for proactive measures to disasters as opposed to reactive measures. The University of Cape Coast's (UCC's) Centre for Coastal Management and Geography departments are all receiving capacity building – in terms of training and provision of equipments – for addressing climate change issues.</p>								

Annex 2A: List of Physical Planning Staff Trained in Computer/GIS Tools

No	Name	Designation	District	Telephone No	Gender	Email
1	ASIEDU-BEDIAKO Kwabena	Planner	Nzema East		Male	asiedubediako@yahoo.com
2	SARKODIE Isaac	Technical Officer	Ahanta West	+233-243326592	Male	
3	ARHIN Joseph	Technical Officer	Ahanta West	+233-208601540	Male	
4	DADSON Robert Ekow	Technical Officer	STMA	+233-244364994	Male	
5	SACKEY Olivia	Technical Officer	Shama	+233-244077755	Female	
6	APPIAH Daniel	Technical Officer	STMA	+233-243250700	Male	
7	GBEXEDE CEPHAS	Technical Officer	Nzema East	+233- 541020303	Male	
8	ESSIEN MARK	Technical Officer	Western Regional Office	+233-277676113	Male	
9	SENYO CHARLES	Technical Officer	Ellembelle	+233-273940097	Male	
10	BOAFO KOFI	Technical Officer	Shama	+233-208196759	Male	
11	GHANSAH CORDILIA	Technical Officer	Shama	+233-276749147	Female	
12	AFETSU PETER DOE	Technical Officer	Shama	+233-203906633	Male	
13	AMUZU Sophia Dela	Technical Officer	Western Regional Office	+233-208995683	Female	
14	YARTEL Benjamin	Technical Officer	Western Regional Office	+233-242568879	Male	
15	ESILFIE Raphael	Technical Officer	Ellembelle	+233-244620001	Male	chiczo2010@yahoo.com
16	AFFUM Isaac	Planner	Ahanta West	+233-244618689	Male	zeka4795n@yahoo.com
17	NAKOJA Isaac	Planner	Western Regional Office	+233-246633174	Male	nakojco2005@yahoo.com
18	AGYEPONG Justice	Planner	Brong Ahafo Regional Office	+233-243039605	Male	jkagyapong@yahoo.com
19	OSEI-MENSAH Anthony	Planner	Shama	+233-246746335	Male	anthony.gh78@yahoo.com
20	BAFFOE Ashmond	Planner	Jomoro	+233-249450970	Male	ashmondb@yahoo.com
21	NSIAH NANA KUSI	Planner	Ellembelle	+233-247108985	Male	kusinice@gmail.com

Annex 2B: List of Fisheries Commission Staff, Western Region Trained in Computer Skills

	Name	Designation	Station	Gender	Telephone
1	Adolf Taylor	Principal Technical Officer	Half Assini, Jomoro District	Male	0208 176 193
2	Daniel Awuku-Nyanteh	Principal Technical Officer	Takoradi, STMA	Male	0244 157 991
3	Emmanuel Ocran	Principal Technical Assistant	Sekondi, STMA	Male	0273 341 932
4	Emmanuel Marfo	Deputy Director of Fisheries, Western Region	Takoradi, STMA	Male	0244 677 689
5	Rhoda Obeng	Technical Assistant	Half Assini, Jomoro District	Female	0543 258 516
6	Amiah Johnson	Principal Technical Assistant	Dixcove, Ahanta West District	Male	0246 439 621
7	Sarah Quansah	Secretary	Takoradi, STMA	Female	0208 078 429
8	Andrews Adjekum	Technical Officer	Takoradi, STMA	Male	0244 829 868
9	George Assefuah	Principal Technical Assistant	Shama District	Male	0246 465 237
10	Alex Sabah	Director of Fisheries, Western Region	Takoradi, STMA	Male	0244 517 498
11	Mary Sackey	Accountant	Takoradi, STMA	Female	0244 447 290
12	Desmond Avonnu Baiza	Trainer	Takoradi, STMA	Male	0209 121 663
13	Johnson Domey	Trainer	Takoradi, STMA	Male	0244 521 046

Annex 3: Site Names and Assigned Codes

Site Name	Site Code
Abokwe Leeward	ABO_L
Abokwe Seaward	ABO_S
Akitakyi Bay Big	AKE_B
Akitakyi Bay Small Left	AKE_SL
Akitaky Bay Small Right	AKE_SR
Atwiwa	ATW
Cape Three Points	C3P
Miemia	MIE
Miemia Inner Patch	MIEMIA INNER
Miemia Outer Patch	MIEMIA OUTER
Mutrakni Point	MUT
Paradise Beach	PAR
Princess Town Fort	PTF
West Point	WPT

Annex 4: List of Graduate Students and their projects

Name	Institution	Project	Status
Justice Camillus Mensah	University of Rhode Island, USA	Application of Geographic Information Systems in Coastal Zone Management (In Preparation)	Initiated and Underway
Adiza Ama Owusu Aduomih	University of Rhode Island, USA	Communication Strategies in Human Uses of Mangrove Ecosystems (In Preparation)	Initiated and Underway
Linda Boamah	University of Ghana, Environmental Science Program	Analysis of Selected Chemical Contaminants in Three Demersal Fish Species Caught by Artisanal Fishers Landed in the Western Coast of Ghana	Completed and Submitted
Daniel Doku Nii Nortey	University of Cape Coast, Integrated Coastal Zone Management Program	Baseline Studies on the Conditions of the Cape Three Points and Whin Estuary Mangrove Ecosystems in Ghana	Completed and Submitted
John Paul Annan	University of Cape Coast, Sociology and Anthropology	Conservation and Management of Wetlands – A Socio-Cultural Study of Anyinase, Western Region	Completed and Submitted
Francis Aning Anokye	University of Cape Coast, Sociology and Anthropology	Alternative Livelihood Strategies Among Selected Fishing Communities in the Western Region, Ghana	Completed and Submitted
Evans Kwasi Arizi	University of Cape Coast, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences	Aspects of the Biology and Culture Potential of Cichlids in the Dominli Lagoon, Western Region, Ghana	Initiated and Underway
Margaret Dzakpasu	University of Cape Coast, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences	Comparative Ecological Assessment of the Nyan Estuary (Western Region) and Iture Estuary (Central Region), Ghana Based on Benthic Macrofauna Diversity	Initiated and Underway

Annex 5: List of National Service Personnel with the ICFG / Hen Mpoano Initiative

Name	Institution
Victor Owusu Appiah	University of Cape Coast, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
Ephraim Adams Nii Kotey	University of Cape Coast, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
Papa Yaw Amankwah	University of Cape Coast, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
Enoch Quartson	Kwadaso Agricultural College, Kumasi, Ghana
John Kofi Donkor	University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Faculty of Agriculture
Nathaniel Oboubi	University of Ghana, Legon, Oceanography and Fisheries