

Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)



Multi-Stakeholder Workshop to Design a Citizen Watch on Water Initiative for Fisheries Co-management in Ghana

> March 17 to 18, 2016 Accra, Ghana





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Cover photo: Participants at the workshop (SSG Advisors)

Forum Description and Objectives

This workshop will allow key stakeholders in the Ghanaian fisheries sector to co-design a framework for a Ghanaian Citizen Watch on Water (CWOW) Program to improve co-management of fisheries in Ghana. During a recent study tour to the Philippines, key stakeholders from the Ghanaian fisheries sector learned about the Philippine *Bantay Dagat* (Sea Watch) program, in which fisherfolk as well as members of local coastal communities volunteer to aid in the detection of illegal fishing as well as the enforcement of coastal and marine laws. Study tour participants recognized the potential benefits of developing a similar community-based monitoring and enforcement program to support effective co-management of fisheries in Ghana. This workshop will draw upon the successes and challenges in the development and implementation of the *Bantay Dagat* program in the Philippines as well as existing policies, plans, programs, and relevant institutional frameworks in Ghana.

The key objective of this workshop will be to create a framework to guide the initial development and implementation of a community-based fisheries monitoring and enforcement program. Following this initial design exercise, SSG will draft a design document and legal framework, to outline the Citizen Watch on Water program at the national level. This design document will be circulated to all participants for comment.

Following approval of the program design, SSG will organize a second design workshop in Ghana, this time to design and plan the initial program pilot.

It is hoped that this new initiative will enhance current fisheries management practices and help to safeguard small pelagic fish stocks in Ghana.

Workshop Activities and Discussion

March 17th, 2016 – Day 1

Overview of Filipino Bantay Dagat Initiative and Study Group Reflections.

Filipino conservation expert Romy Trono presented a brief introduction to the Philippine Bantay Dagat program. He discussed the creation of the program, the program goals and objectives, key components and structure, the incentives and motivations of the Bantay Dagat volunteers, and successes and challenges.

Current Reality.

Each stakeholder group discussed their current reality with regards to illegal fishing and conservation efforts in Ghana and verbally shared one highlight of their discussion.

Legal Review Presentations and Recommendations.

• First, Atty. Mario Maderazo from the Philippines presented an overview of the key policy, legal,

institutional, and regulatory foundations for the Bantay Dagat program in the Philippines.



Figure 1 Romy Trono and Brian Crawford

• Second, Atty. Tuinese Edward Amuzu presented on his review of current Ghanaian laws and policies vis-à-vis the Citizen Watch program, including identified gaps and key recommendations.

Mr. Amuzu shared the following specific **recommendations** for creating a Citizen Watch program in Ghana:

- The Minister of Fisheries in Ghana can establish the Citizen Watch initiative under Sections 2(2)(o) and 94(4) of the Fisheries Act, 2002 (Act 625). This should be done with a clear policy direction specifically requesting recognized organizations, in particular District Assemblies along the coast, to participate in the initiative.
- 2. The Minister of Fisheries and the Minister with responsibility for Local Government and Rural Development should jointly develop a Memorandum of Understanding on the implementation of the Citizen Watch initiative by the various coastal District, Municipal and Metropolitan assemblies.
- 3. To support the Citizen Watch initiative, there should an inter-agency taskforce, to include a police prosecutor(s) and/or lawyer(s) from the Office of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General's Department. The roles of the members of this taskforce should be clearly outlined.
- 4. The Minister of Fisheries should propose amendments to the Fisheries Act to specifically make provision for the Citizen Watch initiative in the Fisheries Act. This provision should identify clear jurisdiction and inter-relationships between institutions, the administrative and programmatic design of the program, and the sources of funding for the Citizen Watch program.
- 5. The Citizen Watch program should commence with a pilot program, to be reviewed and refined for later scale-up.
- 6. Thorough stakeholder analysis should be conducted to secure the buy-in of key stakeholders for the Citizen Watch program.
- 7. A thorough guide detailing the operations, roles and responsibilities, and requirements for the Citizen Watch volunteers should be developed and shared with all new volunteers. Training should be provided to volunteers on the basis of this Operations Guide.
- 8. Ghana should review previous fisheries co-management initiatives in Ghana and elsewhere to inform the establishment of the Citizen Watch program.

Participants then split up into their stakeholder groups to discuss and share their reactions to the Legal Recommendations:

Enforcement Group	Fishermen Group	Government Group	Fish Processors Group
 Preferred Recommendation: No. 4 – the mandate/legal authority Outlined responsibility Funding to Operate Barriers Source of funding Political Interference Institutional Rivalry Suggestions Sustainable fund for the FEU Capacity building More training Effective collaboration Share resources & info Clear distinctions of the core roles of Institutions involved 	 Preferred Recommendation: We agree with all recommendation s provided they go through cabinet approval under the name CBFMCs Barriers or Concerns GNCFC should be given the legal rec. to be able to operate effectively 	 Preferred Recommendation: Send communique to MOFAD containing the following: Request for the amendment of the Fisheries Act 625 Development of National Policy Issue regulation for CWOW MOFAD to issue a draft regulation on CWOW Draft regulation to be consulted with national agencies and other structures MOFAD to issue regulation for CWOW Draft regulation to be consulted with national agencies and other structures MOFAD to issue regulation for CWOW Barriers or Concerns: Inadequate legal framework (not precise) Amend and make regulations Fisheries mgmt. is not decentralised to the districts 	 Preferred Recommendation: Generally agree to all. Emphasis placed on high participation of women in the initiative Barriers or concerns CF/KonKohemaa conniving to sell illegally caught fish Challenges in the Filipino experience or learning/collaboration (asked to hear more about challenges) Suggestions Processors/ Traders to be sensitized to not patronize illegally caught fish CF who allow illegal activities must be sanctioned EPA, oil companies

Participant Feedback to Legal Recommendations

Practical Shared Vision

Next, participants worked together to develop a shared vision for the Citizen Watch program in the near term.

"In the next 2-3 years, what are the key elements of a successful Citizen Watch initiative that would involve fishing communities, enforcement agencies and government representatives for the co-management of fisheries and marine resources?"

No political	Holistic,	Regular and	Clear legal and	Adequate and	Continuous	Effective	Availability
interference	effective	adequate	institutional	appropriate	and effective	stakeholder	of Quality
	fishers'	logistics	framework	incentives	education	collaboration	Fish
	empowerment						
Nie	Mara fieb			Aurondo	Education on	Callabaration	Quality figh
• No	 More fish 	Logistics	• Well-	• Awards,	Education on	 Collaboration 	 Quality fish
political	processors	available	established	rewards	fisheries	among	to reduce
interferenc	participating	 A sustainable 	legal regime	schemes	laws and	stakeholders	poverty
е	in CWOW	funding	 Clear legal 	 Documentati 	regulations	 Interagency 	through
	 Empower 	system	mandate to	on of success	 Frequent 	collaboration	proper
	GNCFC	 Prescribed 	operate	stories and	and visual	 Police and 	fishing
	 Legal 	uniforms	Develop	awards	education	chief	• Fish
	Recognition	 Hotlines for 	appropriate	 To attract 	events	fishermen	processors
	for chief	easy	policy	youth into	 OPS manual 	collaboration	and
	fishermen	communicatio	framework for	improved	 NGO training 	 Improved 	traders
	 Woman 	n	co-	processing to	and support	interagency	stop
	empowerme	Private sector	management	reduce	Periodic	collaboration	buying
	nt	funding, e.g.	Mandate to	poverty	training	 Well-defined 	illegal fish
		Telecos, oil	arrest		 Study tours 	roles of	
		companies	 Mandate for 		 Improvement 	institutions	
			members' roles		More	involved	
			and functions				
					education		
					about new		
					ovens		



Figure 2 Workshop participants

March 18th, 2016 – Day 2

Morning Context Questions:

Pilot CWOWs:

- What are the conditions/ requirements for 1-2 successful CWOW Pilots?
 - o Conditions:
 - Mandate from Ministry (written) and ID of competent orgs to pilot with (existing group GNCFC, NAFPTA)
 - Criteria for site selection/individuals
 - Consensus on roles and functions
 - Criteria to evaluate if org is competent
 - Communications strategy
 - Capacity development of org and individuals at pilot site level
 - Support from traditional authorities, district assembly and chief fishermen
 - Legal space defined per rules
 - Fisherfolk willing to participate
 - Additional stakeholder engagement and analysis
 - Logistics/resources needs identified and sourced
 - Operational plan for pilot area
- What are some critical initial steps?
 - Next Steps:
 - From workshop participants → communique with recommendation to Minister & follow up meeting, requesting written permission with workshop results and directive to proceed
 - Draft up action plan with M&E framework to pilot with informal working group (FC/Stakeholder/SFMP)
 - Lawyer to review mandate/roles of CWOW group
 - Decide on criteria for selecting pilot sites



Figure 3 Legal Consultants ,. Macki Maderazo and Tuinese Edward Amuzu

CWOW Mandate

What are the prioritized roles and responsibilities of volunteers? Short-term vs. long-term?

- Priority Roles
 - Education in communities and classrooms
 - Intelligence gathering & reporting
 - Witnessing /detecting illegal fishing
 - Fisheries and environmental protection
 - Promote conservation
 - Promote compliance
 - Sea and foot patrol within local communities
 - If making arrests, must include composite teams (community and enforcement)
 - Independent CWOW teams will primarily focus on reporting and deterrence
- o Other longer-term potential roles
 - Fisheries protection
 - Food processors monitoring beach and market
 - Women monitoring good hygiene
 - Traders/processors report violations to police (illegal nets, lights)
 - Trained as court-recognized fish examiner
 - Management agents for marine resources
 - Promote alternative forms of income generation
 - Promote conservation
- Not appropriate
- Making arrests alone better to report, aid and assist
- Would need a stronger legal framework before this deputized role could be appropriate.



Figure 4 Women processors contributing ideas



Figure 5 Gifty Dorkenu, a fish processor from Elmina

Action Planning: Key Action Areas

"In the next 12 months, what are the key actions to successfully launch CWOW in Ghana?"

Develop and Implement Capacity Building Strategy	Pilot Sites	Legal Mandate	Monitoring & Evaluation	Operations
 Conduct training for community leaders e.g. NAFPTA, fisher groups, executives Develop and implement capacity building strategy Educate fishing communities to accept the concept Sensitize members of the communities on fishery laws Education through audio visuals Strengthen local organizations Build capacity of volunteers Develop training program Sensitization and training Conduct training needs assessment Conduct training activities 	 Short list Possible sites Select pilot communities Identify and launch pilot in two communities 	 Obtain mandate from MOFAD Minister Obtain legal mandate Establish grounds of noninterference Develop National Policy Statement 	 Monitor and evaluate performance of pilot CWOWs Develop Monitoring and control mechanism 	 Enforcers and fisher leaders work hand in hand Develop action plan Conduct campaigns against illegal methods/bad fishing practices Develop communication strategy Develop logistics and incentive requirements Provide adequate logistics Assist in prosecutorial processes as witnesses Identify resource needs/ funding sources Identify sources of funding Set up working group Provide logistics for efficiency in operations Provide logistics for effective and continuous training Outline TOR for CWOW Identify sustainable funding source Develop administrative and operational framework
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 Obtain Legal Mandate Amend the Fisheries Act 625, providing for CWOW Submit communiqué to MOFAD Request the Minister to amend the Act/Developmental Policy Draft regulations for the CWOW Finalize the draft after consultation with stakeholders 	 Pilot Sites Develop criteria for selecting pilot sites Shortlist pilot sites Conduct a rapid appraisal of shortlisted sites Select pilot sites Conduct a baseline survey/ needs assessment Sensitize committee of volunteers/ mobilize volunteers Launch CWOW
Operations (Key Areas: Logistics & Funding, Training)	Develop and Implement Capacity Building Strategy
 Logistics and funding Stakeholder mapping Fisheries Commission NGOs Many others Resource Mapping Sharing of information Financial contributions Assets (vehicles, patrol vessels, etc.) Training Stakeholder engagement plan Training Manual Expertise Curriculum 	

Action Planning Part II. Per Key Action Area- Participants Generated First Year Tasks

Idea Factory on Key Questions:

Involvement : What are appropriate incentives for volunteers?	Sustainability : How can we provide for sustainable funding?	Training : What are the selection criteria/ suggestions for CWOW?
 Insurance % of fines Study tours Life insurance Award schemes: performance-based awards/ recognition Limited legal authority Uniforms Educational support Scholarships for children Health schemes (National Health Insurance) Transportation support Allowance, rations Honorarium Free pre-mix for patrols Literacy training for illiterate participants 	 National Fisheries Development Fund Provision in Fisheries Act requirements - budget line items Public-Private Partnerships - "Adopt a CWOW" Call and Contribute Fundraising Parliamentary Appropriations Oil Fund User-fees Sponsorship package Encourage District Assembly contribution Self financing from communities Pre-mix proceeds 	 Age 18 years or older Education – OK if limited, but helpful if volunteers can read and write (but not a requirement) Mentally/physically fit Men, Women and young adults Members of a Fishery stakeholder group

Final Reflections:

Group reviewed topics of discussions over the 2-day workshop. Group discussed why they felt this work is important (expected impact) and expected next steps.

Impact of Success:	Next Steps:
 Fisheries will recover Voluntary compliance Salvaging fishermen's livelihood, employment Wholesome fish Cleaner beaches Fewer fish imports Fewer conflicts at sea Fewer infractions of fish laws Improved co-management Fishers become good stewards Improvements in processing 	 Report of Workshops a. Concept paper b. Recommend nominations: Nii, Kofi, Emmanual, Que, Elijah, Thomas, Leonard
11. Improvements in processing12. Respect of international community	

Suggested Names for CWOW Ghana:

Unity	EMDF – Eco Marine Defense Force	Норе	Agua Eye Ghana	Sea Crabs
Sea Guards Ghana	Sea Angels *	CWOW: Save our Sea	CWOW: Fish for the Masses	Mpoano Abrafo **
Sea Wow *	CWOW! *	Pap Ye *	Sea Watch ****	Nam Resa



Figure 9 Ideas for naming the initiative

Workshop Agenda

Day 1: Thursday, March 17th

Time	Activity	Facilitator
8:30-9:00	Arrival and Registration	
9:00-9:10	Welcoming Remarks	Brian Crawford, SFMP
9:10-9:50	Introductions and Review of Workshop Objectives and Agenda	Romy Trono, SSG Laura Johansson,
	Introductions of the participants and review of the objectives and agenda for this workshop.	SSG
9:50-10:25	Overview of Filipino Bantay Dagat Initiative Description	Romy Trono, SSG
10:25-10:45	Study Tour Reflections Description SSG will ask the Philippine study tour participants in the room to come forward and speak briefly about their observations of the Bantay Dagat program from the study tour.	Laura Johansson and Romy Trono, SSG

10:45-11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00-12:00	Participatory Assessment of the Current Reality Description Small group discussion regarding the 'current reality' of illegal fishing and marine conservation challenges in Ghana, and their impacts on each stakeholder group. Output Participants gain shared understanding of current reality of illegal fishing in Ghana.	Laura Johansson, SSG
12:00-1:00	 Legal Analysis – Ghana and the Philippines 1. Framework and Evolution of the Philippine Bantay Dagat: An overview of the Bantay Dagat program in the Philippines and a review of key policy, legal, institutional, and regulatory foundations 2. Legal Context in Ghana: What is Possible? A review of the current Ghanaian laws and policies vis-a-vis the Citizen Watch program, identification of gaps, and key recommendations 	Atty. Macki Maderazo, SSG; Atty. Tuinese Edward Amuzu, SSG; and Laura Johansson, SSG
1:00-1:15	Q&A	
1:15-2:15	Lunch Break	
2:15-3:00	Spectrum of Initiative Scope "What should be the specific mandate and responsibilities of Citizen Watch on Water volunteers in Ghana?"	Laura Johansson, SSG

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	Output As a group, the participants will reach consensus on the scope of volunteer activities under the CWOW program. This consensus will guide discussion of further technical issues.	
	Practical Visioning	
3:00-4:30	<u>Description</u> A large group brainstorming and consensus-building activity for the program. Proposed focus question: <i>"In the next two years, what are the key elements of a successful Citizen Watch initiative</i>	Laura Johansson,
0.00 4.00	that would involve fishing communities, enforcement and government agencies for the co-management of fisheries and marine resources?"	SSG
	As a group, the participants will develop a consensus vision for the Citizen Watch on Water program in Ghana.	
4:30-4:45	Close of Day & Wrap Up	Laura Johansson, SSG
	Optional Homework	Laura Johansson, SSG

Day 2: Friday, March 18th

Activity	Facilitator
Arrival and Registration	
Welcome to Second Day and Recap of Day 1	Romy Trono, SSG
Review Homework & Small Group Gallery Walk	
Determining Strategic Actions	
Description	
The participants will brainstorm strategic actions for the program in Year 1. Together, the full group will develop strategic consensus on a broad overall program agenda and priority action points.	Laura Johansson, SSG
Output	
The group will develop an overall CWOW program agenda and identify up to 10 priority actions and tasks.	
Coffee Break	
Year 1 Action Plan	
Action planning continued, exploring immediate next steps and Year 1 activities in more depth.	Laura Johansson, SSG
Output	
Participants will draft Year 1 action plans	
	Arrival and Registration Welcome to Second Day and Recap of Day 1 Review Homework & Small Group Gallery Walk Determining Strategic Actions Description The participants will brainstorm strategic actions for the program in Year 1. Together, the full group will develop strategic consensus on a broad overall program agenda and priority action points. Output The group will develop an overall CWOW program agenda and identify up to 10 priority actions and tasks. Coffee Break Year 1 Action Plan Action planning continued, exploring immediate next steps and Year 1 activities in more depth. Output

Time	Activity	Facilitator
12:30-1:30	Lunch	
	Citizen Watch on Water Idea Factory	
1:30-3:00	<u>Description</u> Participants will split into 4-5 groups to explore key issues and create recommendations related to program design and implementation. <u>Output</u>	Laura Johansson, Romy Trono, Nii Tackie-Otoo, SSG
	Suggestions for CWOW design and implementation.	
	Reflection and Discussion of Next Steps Description	
3:00-4:00	To close the workshop, participants will have an opportunity to reflect on the discussion over the last days: Are there any outstanding questions? Do additional partners or stakeholders need to be brought to the table?	Laura Johansson and Romy Trono,
	SSG will then summarize the immediate next steps for the program, including drafting a design document and legal framework and planning for an initial pilot.	SSG
	Output	
	List of immediate next steps for program development	

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