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# SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

## Monitoring of CLaT Activity Report in Elmina and Moree



JUNE, 2017

THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND  
GRADUATE SCHOOL  
OF OCEANOGRAPHY



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**Citation:** Takyi M. (2017). Monitoring Of CLaT Activity Report .The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Central and Western Fish Mongers Association  
GH2014\_ACT168\_CEWEIFIA 9 pp.

**Authority/Disclaimer:**

Prepared for USAID/Ghana under Cooperative Agreement (AID-641-A-15-00001), awarded on October 22, 2014 to the University of Rhode Island, and entitled the USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP).

This document is made possible by the support of the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The views expressed and opinions contained in this report are those of the SFMP team and are not intended as statements of policy of either USAID or the cooperating organizations. As such, the contents of this report are the sole responsibility of the SFMP team and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

**Cover photo:** a cross section of Moree traditional authority at the inauguration of the Community Action Plan (CAP) (Credit: Michael Takyi)

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## **ACRONYMS**

CCM	Centre for Coastal Management
CEWEFIA	Central and Western Region Fishmongers Improvement Association
CRC	Coastal Resource Center
CSLP	Coastal Sustainable Landscape Project
DAA	Development Action Association
DFAS	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Science
DMFS	Department of Marine Fisheries Sciences
DQF	Daasgift Quality Foundation
FtF	Feed the Future
GIFA	Ghana Inshore Fishermen's Association
GIS	Geographic Information System
GNCFC	Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council
HM	Hen Mpoano
ICFG	Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance
MESTI	Ministry of Environment Science and Technology
MOFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
SSG	SSG Advisors
STWG	Scientific and Technical Working Group
UCC	University of Cape Coast
URI	University of Rhode Island
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WARFP	West Africa Regional Fisheries Development Program

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We thank the almighty God for giving us the knowledge and strength to work on this report. We acknowledge the support of the management, board and the staff of CEWEFIA for their technical support to making this report a success. Appreciation goes to the CoP, management and M&E team from Accra and the enumerators for making the monitoring a success . We say thank you for good work done.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As part of the communication strategy and monitoring activities of The Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) to create awareness to prevent child labor and trafficking (CLaT) in Elmina and Moree, CEWEFIA formed both Anti-CLaT advocacy and Community Child Protection Committees (CCPCs) to create awareness on the prevention of CLaT in Year 1 of the project. The CCPCs initially received training on how to go from house to house, use community information centers, FM stations, conduct focus group discussions, one-on-one interaction and school visits to give talks on child protection. Every quarter, CCPCs and advocates are called for refresher training to upgrade their skills on child protection. All these were done to make the communities aware of the dangers of CLaT and collectively come out with a lasting solution to the problem.

## **SECTION 1 BACKGROUND**

Central and Western Regional Fishmongers Improvement Association (CEWEFIA) as part of its monitoring activities visited two hundred and forty five (245) households to evaluate the efforts and presence of Anti-CLaT Advocates and Community Child Protection Committees presence in Moree and Elmina.

In the Central Region, Elmina and Moree are among the communities where Child Labor and Trafficking is prevalent. As part of CEWEFIA's Anti-CLaT activities and strategies to combat Child Labor and Trafficking in the Central Region (specifically Elmina and Moree), CEWEFIA established a Committee known as Community Child Protection Committee (CCPC) and Anti-CLaT Advocates in Elmina and Moree since these communities are among the CEWEFIA's project Communities; and it is believed that Child Labor and Trafficking is going on there. This Committee is to help combat CLaT in their communities through advocacy; community sensitization, awareness creation via radios, information centers, etc.

In order to measure the progress of CCPCs and Anti-CLaT Advocates activities towards achieving the project goal, a monitoring survey was conducted on 28th June - 3rd July, 2017 in Elmina and Moree Communities. The survey was conducted for six (6) days.

### **1.1 Objectives**

In order to fully assess the impact of the CCPCs and Advocates the following four objectives were set out:

- Assess the level of understanding among the communities; and the causes of Child Labor and Trafficking.
- Assess the level of awareness in Government Policies that protect Children in the communities.
- Assess the awareness in the Community; the extent of dangers, consequences, and effect of Child Labor and Trafficking.
- Community level understanding of the forms of Child Labor and Trafficking

### **1.2 Expected Outcomes**

The purpose for the CLaT Monitoring Survey was to measure the impact the Community Child Protection Committees (CCPCs) and Anti-CLaT Advocates have within their communities in which they have been working on Anti-CLaT issues. This is to assess the progress made so far towards achieving the project goal.

## **SECTION 2 FINDINGS**

Large family size is a leading cause of child labor and trafficking; and the rate of child birth is very high in Moree and Elmina. The average family size is six and majority of them are single mothers. This puts pressure on the women who are compelled to sell off some of their children to strangers.

The great number of respondents in Elmina is female-single headed households. This confirms the findings on the baseline survey conducted in Central Region by USAID/Ghana SFMP (2015), which indicated that among the 762 households sampled, a significant number of them were female single-headed households.

Children of less educated parents are at a higher risk of Child Labor and Trafficking. This was evident in the responses gathered from the respondents. Some of the respondents with less educated background asserted that there is nothing wrong with children working hard enough to earn money to support family expenses when necessary. To them, children do not have the right to say no to parents who traffic them. Nevertheless, there are few who though less educated, object the idea of Child Labor and Trafficking. These are the ones who had been survivors of CLaT in their childhood. They strongly opposed the idea of sending their under-age child to someone in the same community or other country to work in the name of apprenticeship training.

A lot of people in both communities are not aware of the right to free compulsory universal, basic education policy (FCUBE).

Both communities are aware of the feeding program in public schools but most children are in private schools because public schools do not have adequate teaching and learning materials to keep children in school.

The existence of CEWEFIA is much known in Moree and then Elmina, but the awareness of CCPCs activities is less known.

CCPCs are not visiting households to advertise. Both the organization and association are very selective in whom to accept into the association. Some association members have also stopped because of the above reason.

Children who are out of school or have never been in school due to financial situations engage in early fishing activities and early parenthood.

Children are taken to other towns and villages into forced labor, leaving behind old people in the community.

It was observed that the accepted child work was a child helping the household with domestic activities. The worst forms of child labor identified were street hawking, child working in the canoe at sea; and child trafficking was child transferred from her/his permanent destination to someone in another community or country to be engaged in fishing or prostitution to earn money for the family. It was further observed that CLaT was more prevalent in Moree Community than in Elmina. A number of respondents have heard of CEWEFIA but have not heard of its anti-CLaT activities. Some of the respondents have identified the presence of CCPCs and Anti-CLaT Advocates but they have not been visited by them yet. Most all the respondents have not heard of the Community Action Plan (CAP).

### **2.1 Challenges**

People were hostile especially in Elmina where most of them were not willing to talk because organizations come to write names, take photos, make promises and never show up.



There were difficulties in understanding the concept behind the questionnaires although it was simplified to their understanding.

## **2.2 Recommendations**

It is recommended that health education and health promotion actions on family planning should be taught to help curb the menace of unwanted pregnancies and large family sizes.

The executive committee or leaders should review the appointment of CCPCs or educate the CCPCs on their roles and work.

Help in improvement of school infrastructure, provision of teaching and learning materials, desks, library, and classrooms.

Skills training to generate additional income; and for children who cannot further their education into S.H.S and the universities, this would go a long way to enhance the income situation of parents and combat unemployment and child labor.

Recommended that there should be more awareness raising events in Elmina; and maintain the level of awareness in Moree.

## **SECTION 3 CONCLUSIONS**

The survey was successful despite the challenges encountered. Some of the respondents were happy about the interview and wished that the education on anti-CLaT issues would be done more often.