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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

Trainer of Trainers of Hen Mpoano Site Advocates on COVID-19



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THE
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Hen Mpoano

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Cover photo: The Western Region training workshop in session (Credit: Hen Mpoano)

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FoN	http://www.fonghana.org
Hen Mpoano	http://www.henmpoano.org
Resonance Global	https://resonanceglobal.com/

ACRONYMS

CRC	Coastal Resource Center
FC	Fisheries Commission
HM	Hen Mpoano
MMDA	Metropolitan, Municipal and. District Assemblies
SA	Site Advocates
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
URI	University of Rhode Island
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

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BACKGROUND

The Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) aims at rebuilding marine fisheries stocks through adoption of responsible fishing practices. The project contributes to the Government of Ghana's fisheries development objectives and the US Government's Feed the Future Initiative. Following the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic in Ghana in March 2020 it was considered that this unanticipated development could have dire consequences on the artisanal fisheries sector which is central to the economy and the livelihoods of 300,000 men and women in over 300 coastal communities given the communal nature of landing fish and the related post-harvest activities. It will be challenging to keep fisher folks safe and healthy to sustain seafood supply and distribution, taking into consideration the mode of spread of the virus. If nothing is done, the COVID-19 virus could quickly spread through fishing communities with devastating impacts including loss of lives and erode all gains of fisheries stakeholders towards sustainable management of the resource supported by SFMP.

It is against this background that the SFMP COVID-19 response project became necessary. The project aims at preventing the spread and mitigating the economic effects of COVID-19 among vulnerable households in fishing communities in Ghana. In implementing activities under this project, Community Site Advocates (SAs) have been selected in all the 300 fish-landing sites in Ghana to receive training in order to support the execution and monitoring of the implementation of activities at each landing site. As an implementing partner under the SFMP COVID-19 Project, Hen Mpoano organized training for Community Site Advocates in the Western and Greater Accra Regions.

Workshop Objectives

The objectives of the workshop were to:

- Raise awareness on the SFMP COVID-19 project and activities towards achieving the objective of the project.
- Enhance participants' knowledge on COVID-19, mode of transmission and precautionary measures to avoid the spread of the virus.
- Improve participants understanding and use of SFMP reporting template.
- Agree on common approaches for the monitoring activities of site advocates.

Venue and Participants

Participants for the training were residents of coastal communities selected from six coastal MMDAs in Western and Greater Accra Regions. These Districts are Jomoro Municipal, Ellembelle District and Nzema East Municipal in Western Region; and Ningo-Prampram Ada West and Ada East Districts in the Greater Accra Region. In Western region, Officers of the Regional Fisheries Commission office including the acting Regional Director and the some Zonal officers also participated in the training. In all 61 participants; 33 from Western Region and 28 from Greater Accra Region benefited from the training.



Figure 1 A cross section of participants at the Ada East, Ada West (top) and Ningo-Prampram districts (bottom) training workshop.



Figure 2 The Western region training workshop in session

Table 1 Details on Training Events

Region	Date	Venue	Participating MMDAs	Participants		
				Male	Female	Total
Western	26th August, 2020	Akroma Plaza, Takoradi	Nzema East Ellembelle Jomoro	22	11	33
Greater Accra	20th August, 2020		Ada East Ada West	16		16
	21st August, 2020		Ningo-Prampram	11	1	12

Workshop Methodology

The training methods employed include power point presentations, plenary, role plays and demonstrations. The different sessions of the training were facilitated by Kofi Agbogah, Kusi Boateng, Adiza Ama Owusu Aduomih, Justice Camillus Mensah, Cephas Asare, and Caroline Hammond. The main training material used for the training was the standard PPEs which includes hand sanitizer, soap, tissue and water. All the COVID-19 preventive protocols were strictly adhered too. All the participants were also required to complete a COVID-19 health checklist in order to detect early signs of COVID -19 among participants.

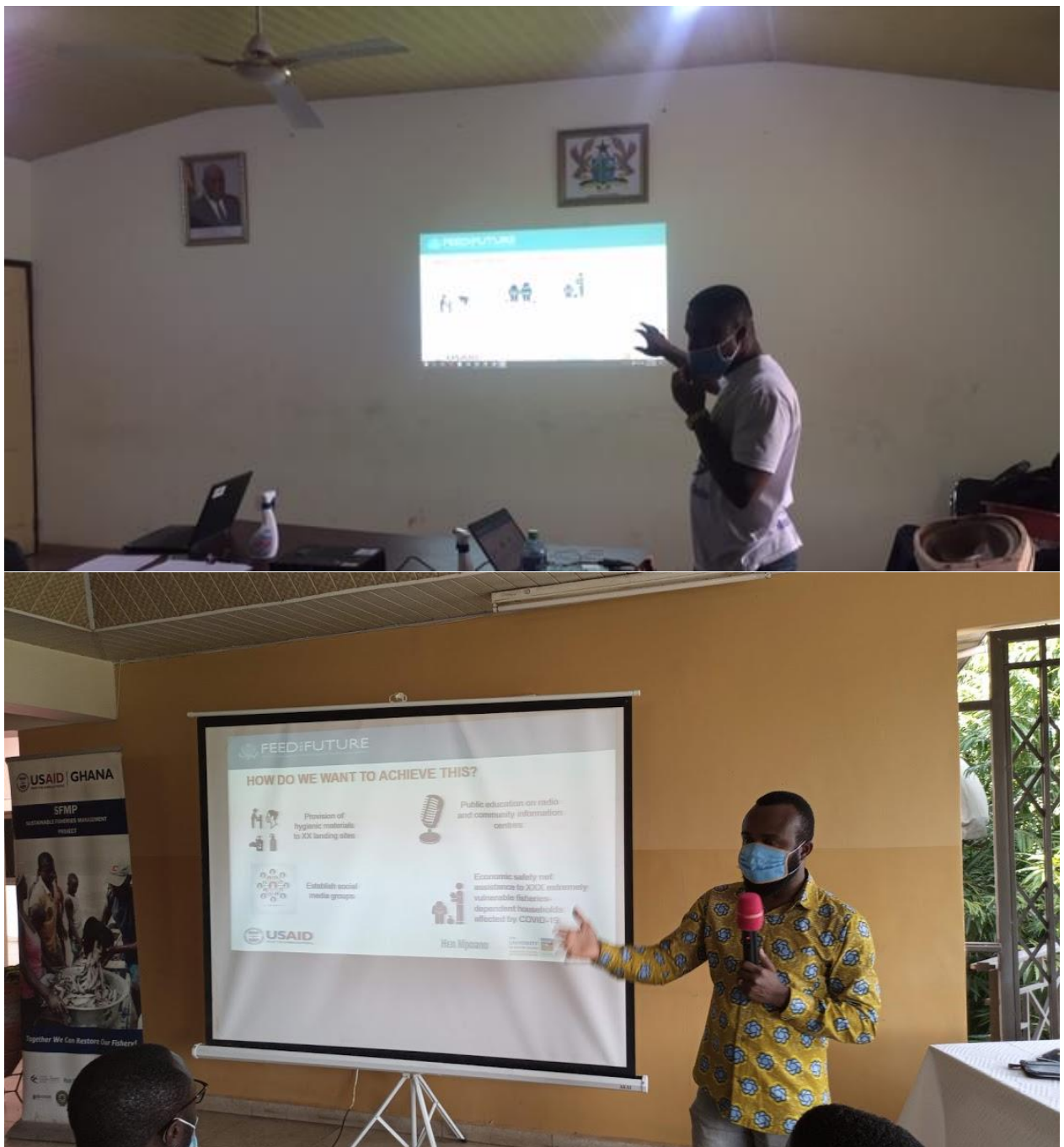


Figure 3 SFMP and HM staff facilitating different activities during the Greater Accra (top) and Western Regional workshops

WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

Participants were welcomed to the training workshop and were briefed on the SFMP COVID-19 Project goal and their responsibilities as site advocates. Participants were taken through the objective of the training and what the learning outcome will be. The Acting Regional Director of Fisheries Commission, Mr. Arafat Salifu briefed the Western Region participants on the ongoing collaboration between SFMP and the Commission and urged Site Advocates to call on the Zonal Officers for assistance whenever necessary.

Participants were taken through the following

- What Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) is about and the need for responsible fishing.
- The COVID-19 pandemic outbreak and its impact on over 300,000 fishers in the coastal communities.
- Why the SFPM intervention and what it is expected to achieve?
 - lessen the spread and mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on vulnerable households/
 - Livelihood assistance in fishing communities - 27 districts in 4 coastal regions.
 - Catalyze behaviour change at the landing beaches.
- Hen Mpoano as a partner of SFMP is working in 6 coastal districts and 91 fish landing site.
- There will be the provision of hygienic materials – hand washing stations, soap, sanitizers, face masks, etc.
- Establish social media groups to discuss issues around the pandemic and the intervention.
- Public education on TV, radio and community radios and other communication channels.

Participants were also taken through preventive and case management protocols. There was a question and answer sessions which clarified a number of issues. Site advocates also understood the reason why they were selected and the roles they were expected to play in the SFMP COVID-19 response project.



Figure 4 Community Site Advocates participating in the different training activities.

Participants were engaged on the EngageSpark telephone reporting/monitoring protocols, an intervention provided by Bob Bowen and Ted Donovan from CRC. Finally, the participants were provided with hard copies of the project reporting template which they will fill on weekly basis and submitted to Hen Mpoano/SFMP.

CONCLUSIONS

The training, generally, achieved its expected outcomes. The Site Advocates and FC Zonal Officers became aware of the SFMP COVID-19 project and activities towards achieving the objective of the project. Participants also became enlightened on the COVID-19, mode of transmission and precautionary measures to avoid the spread of the virus. More importantly, the Community Site Advocates have better understanding of reporting template and are able to complete it independently.

APPENDIX 1 COVID-19 HEALTHCHECKLIST

COVID-19 Health Checklist

Name of visitor/participant:

Residence of visitor/participant:

Company Name:

Company Address:

Temperature (Celsius): ____ Signature of employee who took temperature:

If an official visit, please provide Company Name and Company Address

Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms? *Please check all that apply*

Sore throat

Aches and pains

Headache

Fever (within the past few days)

Cough

Congestion or runny nose

Loss of taste or smell

Nausea or vomiting

Have you been in contact with anyone exhibiting the above symptoms in the past 14 days?

Yes No

Have you been in contact with any confirmed COVID-19 patients in the past 14 days?

Yes No

Have you traveled outside the country in the past 14 days?

Yes No

I hereby authorize the SFMP to collect and process the data herein for the purpose of effecting control of the COVID-19.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

If the participant is experiencing any of the above symptoms, or answered yes to any of the questions, they should be politely refused entry/ participation in events. In such a case, 14 day self-quarantine measures for this individual should be advised, and the individual should seek medical advice/treatment if available/appropriate and consider calling the Ghana Health Service COVID Hotline.

APPENDIX 2 DRAFT PROGRAMME

Training of Site advocates SFMP COVID 19 Project

No.	Time	Activity	Facilitator
1.	10:00am	Registration of participants	
2.		Introductions, overview of agenda, expectations, logistics announcement and pre-evaluation	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
3.		Presentation: Overview of the SFMP COVID-19 project and the role of Site Advocates Questions and Answers	Project Coordinator
4.			
5.		Presentation: Brief education and demonstration on COVID-19 handwashing techniques and use of PPEs Questions and Answers	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
6.		Presentation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone Polling survey • M&E reporting template for site advocate 	Bob (SFMP-URI)

		Questions and Answers	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
7.		Group Work: Understanding the task and developing common approaches for execution	Project Officer
8.		Role Play : Completing the M&E reporting template	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
9.		Post - Evaluation	Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
10.	2:30pm	Wrap up, Close and lunch	Project Coordinator

APPENDIX 3 SITE ADVOCATES DAILY MONITORING SHEET

**USAID/GHANA SFMP
SITE ADVOCATES DAILY MONITORING DATA SHEET
Required in English
Please Print**

COVID RESULT AREA 1: Behaviour Change at Beach Landing Sites, Processing Centers, Fish Markets

Name of Site Advocate: _____

Implementing Partner: _____

Landing Beach Name /Name of Site: _____

Telephone Contact of Site Advocate: _____

Date (dd/mm/year)	How many veronica buckets or washing stations are there at your site?	Did the veronica bucket hand washing stations have a supply of water and soap today? (1 for soap or water not enough, 2 for soap and or water running low, 3 for soap and water adequate)	Veronica buckets are being used by how many people at the site? (few, about half, most)	Are people staying 6 feet apart from each other, especially when fish are being landed, processed or sold? (few, about half, most)	How many people are wearing face masks? (few, about half, most)	The number of people using the handwashing stations today was (mostly men (M), mostly women (W), about equal number of men and women (BOTH))

Any other comments by Site Advocate (issues, challenges, insights, attitudes of people, or other observations of interest):
