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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

Progress Report



JANUARY 1 - MARCH 31, 2017



Hen Mpoano



SNV SMART DEVELOPMENT WORKS



This publication is available electronically on the Coastal Resources Center's website at http://www.crc.uri.edu/projects_page/ghanasfmp/

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Cover photo: The Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, Mrs. Elizabeth Nana Afoley Quaye (fourth from left) in a pose with Best Fisheries Practices Awards Winners and Participants at Nungua on March 7, 2017. Credit: Kingdom Photography Agency, Ghana

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ACRONYMS

BFPA	Best Fisheries Practices Award
CCM	Centre for Coastal Management
CCPC	Community Child Protection Committees
CLaT	Child Labor and Trafficking
CEWEFIA	Central and Western Region Fishmongers Improvement Association
CLaT	Child Labor and Trafficking
CRC	Coastal Resources Center
CSLP	Coastal Sustainable Landscape Project
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DAA	Development Action Association
DQF	Daasgift Quality Foundation
DFAS	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
F ₂ F	Fisherman to Fisherman (Dialogues)
FC	Fisheries Commission
FCWC	Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea
FoN	Friends of Nation
FSSD	Fisheries Scientific and Survey Division of the Fisheries Commission
FWV	Fisheries Watch Volunteers
HM	Hen Mpoano
GITA	Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association
GIFA	Ghana Inshore Fishermen's Association
GIS	Geographic Information System
GNCFC	Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council
IR	Intermediate Results
IUU	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (Fishing)
LEK	Local Ecological Knowledge
LUSPA	Landuse and Spatial Planning Authority
MOFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NAFPTA	National Fish Processors and Traders Association
NFMP	National Fisheries Management Plan
NMFMP	National Marine Fisheries Management Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
ODK	Open Data Kit
PAH	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SNV	Netherlands Development Organisation
SSG	SSG Advisors
ToT	Training of Trainers
UCC	University of Cape Coast
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
URI	University of Rhode Island
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association
WARFP	West Africa Regional Fisheries Project

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1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY

Table 1. Sustainable Fisheries Management Project Summary

Program Name:	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
Activity Start and End Date:	October 22, 2014 to October 31, 2019
Name of Prime Implementing Partner:	Coastal Resources Center University of Rhode Island
Agreement Number:	AID-641-A-15-00001
Name of Sub-awardees:	Hen Mpoano Friends of the Nation SNV Netherlands Development Organisation SSG Advisors Spatial Solutions Central and Western Fishmongers Association (CEWEFIA) Development Action Association (DAA) Daasgift Quality Foundation
Major Counterpart Organizations	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Fisheries Commission
Geographic Coverage (cities and or countries)	Ghana: Central Region, Western Region, Greater Accra Region, Volta Region
Reporting Period:	January 1 – March 31, 2017

1.1 Program Description / Introduction

The objective of the USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP), a five-year project (October 2014-October 2019), is to rebuild marine fisheries stocks and catches 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. Working closely with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) and the Fisheries Commission (FC), USAID/Ghana SFMP aims to end overfishing of key stocks important to local food security through achievement of the following intermediate results:

- Improved legal enabling conditions for co-management, use rights and effort-reduction strategies
- Strengthened information systems and science-informed decision-making
- Increased constituencies that provide the political and public support needed to rebuild fish stocks
- Implementation of applied management initiatives for several targeted fisheries ecosystems

More than 100,000 men and women involved in the local fishing industry are expected to benefit from this project and tens of thousands of metric tons of additional high quality low cost food supply from fisheries can be regained via improved and sustainable management of the marine fish stocks in Ghana’s waters.

The Coastal Resources Center (CRC) at the University of Rhode Island’s Graduate School of Oceanography is the lead implementer of the SFMP and works in consortium with other international and local partners. The SFMP is focusing efforts on small pelagic fisheries

along the entire coastline as well as the demersal fisheries and essential mangrove fish habitat in the Western Region. Additionally, improvements in the value chain of smoked fish, important to tens of thousands of women fish processors is supported. The project is also undertaking actions towards reducing child labor and trafficking in the Central Region of Ghana. Support is provided to a number of local NGOs and women's associations that are active in fisheries management issues and serving either as core or supporting partners in the implementation of this project.

This progress report hereby details activities, results, and lessons learned during the second quarter of Project Year 3 (FY17)

1.2 Summary of Results to Date

Highlights of activities and achievements during this reporting period are outlined below.

In support of improved enabling conditions for fisheries management:

The framework for a fisheries co-management policy took a major step forward with the success of the stakeholders review meeting held in March 2017, engaging more than 20 groups. A final version of the policy will be submitted to the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development.

The SFMP convened a panel of the four Fisheries Commission Regional Directors, the Ghana National Canoe Fishers Association, Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association, Ghana Inshore Fishers Association, the National Fish Processors and Traders Association to deliberate on the challenges of implementing the current laws and areas needing revisions.

The Marine Police Competency-based Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) drafting workshop in March 2017, engaging 38 participants including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Global Maritime Crime Programme. The aim is to assist the Marine Police Unit halt Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated activity in Ghana fisheries.

Final preparations for the public launch of the Fisheries Watchdog Volunteers effort with the Fisheries Commission (scheduled for April, 2017) included preparing a training manual that can be used coast-wide and engaging more than 45 volunteers in Jamestown and Patukope in a training event.

SFMP partners actively advanced the campaign against Child Labor and Trafficking through advocacy and capacity building efforts. Friends of the Nation brought their assessment of the situation with Child Protection Panels and Committees to the attention of representatives from ten Central Region district assemblies and hosted a well- attended inauguration of the Child Labor and Trafficking Hotline in Cape Coast. The premiere of an anti-CLaT film by partner SNV and a five day community awareness initiative in thirteen coastal communities in the Central Region, reached 3,000 men and women.

Supporting strengthened information systems and science based decision making:

An updated review of small pelagic stocks by the Science and Technical Working Group in January included the results of scientific survey conducted by the Research Vessel Fridjof Nansen of FAO led the group to renew its call for a one month closure of the small pelagics fishery in August during peak spawning. Innovative collaborative scientific research involving universities and the private sector is aimed at better understanding the cuttlefish fishery. The Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association is partnering with URI and UCC on the research, which began by carrying out a tagging study of the species in mid-February.

SFMP supported research associates stationed at the Centre for Coastal Management including an emerging opportunity to establish locally managed oyster resources in the Densu delta estuary in collaboration with DAA.

Mobile technology is being increasingly adapted for fisheries management in Ghana. SFMP experts worked with the Fisheries Scientific and Survey Division of the Fisheries Commission, the West Africa Regional Fisheries Project and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization to design and test tablet and cell phone based fisheries data collection. Scaling up from trial sites to coast wide will greatly accelerate and increase the reliability of information collection on fisheries and fish landings and will be used to refine and monitor the effectiveness of policies on fishing effort and effectiveness.

Investments in establishing the Central Region environmental data hub are bearing fruit with the effort led by Spatial Solutions to help planners identify, map and profile coastal issues from selected sites toward preparation of a regional coastal management toolkit for future decision making during a major training event for 19 planners.

SFMP's successful tests of using small unmanned aerial vehicles for highly detailed mapping of coastal communities, fish landing sites and dynamic shoreline features advanced toward scaling up to a coast-wide capability with the initiation of the acquisition process for a much more capable fixed wing UAV system that will be fully operational in Q4.

Building Social Capital and Political Will:

Regional Fisher to Fisher (F2F) dialogues co-sponsored by the Ghana National Canoe Fisherman's Council (GNCFC) and the National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA) were held across the coastal communities during January and early February involving a total of 177 Chief fishermen and 120 women from GNCFC and NAFPTA respectively in attendance. The dialogues provided an effective platform for women to contribute to decision making in the fisheries sector. SFMP organized the Best Fisheries Practices Award, presided over by the new Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development. Eighteen coastal fishing communities, associations and individuals received prizes including citations, solar lamps and plastic chairs.

Supporting implementation of applied management initiatives:

In January 2017, a one-day regional Fisheries Working Group (FWG) meeting in the Central region organized by Friends of the Nation provided the opportunity for fisheries stakeholders to assess the implementation of the November 2016 closed season and make recommendations to contribute to effective implementation. The 35 participants included representatives from Fisheries Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, Women Fishmongers, and Inshore fishers, Ghana Police Service, Ghana Navy, Fisheries Enforcement Unit, CEDECOM and Canoe Fishers. MOFAD was advised to not allow any trawlers to land fish within the closed season as well as improve its communication to all stakeholders on their various roles for the implementation of the next closed season.

Over 290 fishers attended validation meetings of a study drawing upon local ecological knowledge of the *Sardinella* fishery. Local knowledge is also key for initiating a fisheries management plan for the subsistence fisheries of Ankobra estuary. Community members from the Pra River area have contributed to their own fisheries co-management plan by setting objectives, identifying the fisheries to be managed including the jurisdiction, mandate and management actions needed to improve the fisheries in the area.

Thirty (30) Ahotor fish smoking oven hosts located in The Central and Western regions participated in an evaluation of this new technology. Most are very satisfied with the performance of the oven, with two of them totally abandoning the Chorkor stoves and using only the Ahotor oven. The assessment also noted that there is still room to improve on fuel efficiency and reducing PAH levels.

More than 100 fisher folk and traditional leaders from Tsokomey community, 90 percent of whom were women, participated in the two-day appraisal from January 30th to 31st, 2017 led by DAA and leaders from the TRY Oyster association in The Gambia. The appraisal assessed the status of oyster growing areas in the delta, drew upon local knowledge of the Densu Estuary and included sharing of experiences from The Gambia.

Micro loans valued at \$8,372 were provided to women-led fisheries businesses to improve their business practices and add value to products sold. Individuals receiving short term training in agricultural productivity and food security reached 703 persons (65% women) this quarter. Another 364 persons (61% women) received training in natural resources management, improving their skills and knowledge to sustain and increase the quantity and value of food production from wild caught marine fisheries.

Promoting strategic private sector partnerships:

SSG and partners and insurance partners including Millenium and UT Life Insurance moved closer to implementing the insurance partnership thanks to field scoping exercises in pilot communities of Jamestown, Moree and Shama. Recruitment of sales agents began and a promotional video for the program has been prepared in the Ga and Fante languages. Tigo Ghana has formally agreed to partner with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the Fisheries Commission to establish the Fishers Network Initiative.

Supporting improved capacity development:

SNV organized a session at the SFMP Partners Meeting this quarter in Elmina to get feedback from some of the other CSO partners of SFMP on the usefulness of the OCA process and the results they are perceiving from implementation of their Action Plans. The groups found benefit in developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), focusing on organizational performance and defining clear roles and responsibilities among staff.

Financial audits of the five SFMP CSO local partners that are sub-awardees were conducted by Ernst and Young. Findings will be used to develop action plans for continued improvements and ability to implement all USAID administrative and financial policies and procedures effectively.

Note: The table below has been revised to capture results according to each quarter. Some indicator data were revised to reflect indicator definition at the end of the year as part of internal review process. Also some of the results delayed and were reported in the next quarters as an update of the previous quarter result thereby creating inconsistencies in the way the previous quarter result as reported. The revision of this result table is as a result of project internal review and the adoptive management process. This revision did not change the annual figures reported

Table 2 below summarizes the standard USAID indicators showing results completed in FY 16 vis-a-vis targets. Significant deviations between results and targets are explained in Annex A. Annex A shows both USAID standard and custom project indicators.

Table 2. Summary of Results: Year 3 Quarter 2 (January 1 – March 31, 2017)

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target	Annual Actual	Q1 FY17	Q2 FY17	Q3 FY17	Q4 FY17	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
Number of hectares in areas of biological significance and/or natural resource showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance (EG 4.8.1-1)	0	10 hectares	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	
Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: (FTF 4.5.1(24)) 1. Analysis 2. Stakeholder consultation/public debate 3. Drafting or revision 4. Approval (legislative or regulatory) 5. Full and effective implementation	0	7 • Step 3-Ankobra (CBMP) • Step 3-Densu(CBMP) • CLaT strategy –Step 4 • Fish Act –Step 2 • NMFMP-Step 5 • Co-mgt. policy – Step 4 • Step 3 Pra (CBMP)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of institutions with improved capacity to develop and implement managed access fisheries management plans	0	16 Ongoing, NAFTA replaces FA	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	
Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG 4.8.1-28)	0	704	307	130	177	N/A	N/A	44%	N
Number of information products disseminated in local media reports, radio shows, conference papers, and research studies (Project indicator).	0	36	42	28	14	N/A	N/A	117%	Y
Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance (EG 4.8.1-26)	0	619,473 hectares	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	N
Number of DAs supported with USG Assistance (Ghana CDCS, IR 2.3 indicator)	0	4 (Ongoing)	5	4	5 (4 ongoing, 1 new)	N/A	N/A	125 %	Y

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target	Annual Actual	Q1 FY17	Q2 FY17	Q3 FY17	Q4 FY17	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
Number of climate vulnerability assessments conducted as a result of USG Assistance (EG 4.5.1)	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (FtF 4.5.2)	0	100,000 (assumes national measure for small pelagics adopted)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2)	0	896	590 M-68 F-552	251 M-49 F-202	339 M-19 F-320	N/A	N/A	66% M 12% F 88%	Y
Value of new private sector investments in select value chains (FTF 4.5.2-38)	0	Tracked, No target	S 19,237	\$0	S 19,237	N/A	N/A	S 19,237	Y
Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations(CBOs) receiving USG assistance (RiA) (WOG) (FTF 4.5.2(11))	0	4 (1 new-NAFTA)	4 ongoing	4	4 ongoing	N/A	N/A	100%	Y
Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(27))	0	TBD	618 M-141 F-477	228 M-43 F-185	390 M98 F-292	N/A	N/A	100%	Y
Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of Feed the Future assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(12))	0	1	1	0	1	N/A	N/A	100%	Y
Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation, and climate change, disaggregated by gender (EG 4.8.1-27/ 4.8.2-6)	0	1492	520 M-339 F-181	156 M-85 F-71	364 M-254 F-110	N/A	N/A	35% M-65% F-35%	N
Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance (4.8.1-29)	0	19,959	10,074	2,794	7,280	N/A	N/A	50%	Y
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-1	0	1,987	703 M-273 F-430	0	703 M-273 F-430	N/A	N/A	35% M-39% F-61%	N

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target	Annual Actual	Q1 FY17	Q2 FY17	Q3 FY17	Q4 FY17	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) EG.3.2-2	0	5 Continuing	5 M-1 F-4	0	5 M-1 F-4	N/A	N/A	100% M-20% F-80%	Y
Value of agricultural and rural loans as a result of USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-6	0	\$30,497	\$8,372 M-\$0 F-\$8372	0	\$8,372 (27%)	N/A	N/A	27%)M- 0% F-100%	N
Number of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving agricultural-related credit as a result of USG assistance (RAA) EG.3.2-3	0	TBD	65 M-0 F-65	0	65 M-0 F-65	N/A	N/A	100 M-0% F- 100%	N/A

¹ This indicator is similar to the Feed the Future indicator: Number of rural households benefiting directly from USG interventions (FtF 4.5.2-13)

Note: the following Indicator data were revised

- a. Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG 4.8.1-28) was updated to captured number of days spent in Q2 but was reported during Q3.
- b. Value of new private sector investments in select value chains (FTF 4.5.2-38) data was revised to capture only capital investment after internal review during Q4.
- c. Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(27)) data was revised to capture results after internal review was conducted at the end of the year.

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

Progress Narrative & Implementation Status

IR 1: Strengthened Enabling Environment for Marine Resources Governance

This component employs a combination of legal and policy reform initiatives to be carried out at the national level with significant stakeholder engagement through a blend of bottom-up and top-down approaches. The SFMP works closely with the Ministry and the Fisheries Commission to support the development of improved enabling conditions for sustainable fisheries management.

1.1 Addressing Key Policy Issues in the Marine Fisheries Sector

The transition arrangement after the last general elections in Ghana gave impetus and further boost to SFMP activities. The National Activities Manager of the SFMP participated in an examination of the current fisheries situation to provide support and advice on the fisheries policy and other reviews during the transition.

Fisheries Co-Management: The government of Ghana has hinted in many policy documents on the need to devolve fisheries management to industry players at the lower levels of governance. Under the WARFP program, the Ministry tasked a consultant develop a policy framework for fisheries co management in Ghana. In 2015, the Minister requested the SFMP to support Professor Martin Tsamenyi, to consider further review and update of the document.

The review and finalization of the document required a number of stakeholder engagements to solicit further inputs to address emerging issues. During this Quarter, another stakeholder meeting was held to examine the completeness of the document, involving more than 20 stakeholders from Fisheries Commission (Deputy Directors) WARFP Consultants, GNCFC, GITA, GIFA, NAPFTA, Inland Fisheries, Academia, Inshore, Individuals and SFMP staff. The document will be subjected to a last round of national stakeholders and beach level outreach discussions before submission to the Hon. Minister for adoption and implementation

Legal Reform: In 2016, the MoFAD secured Cabinet approval to revise and consolidate the Acts and Regulations governing the fisheries sector of Ghana. Currently, there exist a number of Acts and Regulations (Fisheries Act, Act 625 of 2002, Fisheries Act 880 (Amendment Act) of 2014, Legislative Instruments LI 1968 of 2010 and LI 2217 of 2015). The preponderance of these many laws and emerging issues in the sector including IUU fishing, traceability, post-harvest and aquaculture development, devolution and collaborative management has necessitated the revision and consolidation of the laws. A new framework Act which will consolidate all the laws of the fisheries sector is underdevelopment and the Drafting Instructions have been prepared by a consultant. The review process of the expert group as reported in Q1 of FY 3 was stalled due to government transition and the appointment of a new minister to drive the process. Meanwhile, a panel discussion among SFMP partners and other stakeholders including four Fisheries Commission Regional Directors and representatives of GITA, GIFA, GNCFC and NAPFTA was held in Elmina to deliberate the challenges of implementing the current laws and areas needing revisions. The drafting instructions were again circulated for the study and written comments or memoranda for the consideration of the expert group reviewing the drafting instructions. Also, two meetings have been held with the National Executives and one with Greater Accra Regional Executives to discussion the revision of the laws..

1.2 Strengthened Law Enforcement

Marine Police Competence-Based Integration and SoP development Planning Meeting: The project held a Marine Police Competence-based Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) drafting workshop in Accra, in close collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Global Maritime Crime Programme with the aim to assist the MPU in their

implementation of sustainable fisheries enforcement program to halt IUU in Ghana fisheries. It provided a platform to share and discuss the content of the draft competence-based SoP developed for the MPU. Key competences identified for Field enforcement officers and supervisors were drafted and refined for the SoP.

The SoP when completed will serve as a training manual for 170 marine police personnel and contribute to strengthen fisheries enforcement. This will further enhance improvements in staff capacity and organizational performance as well as contribute to enforcement and compliance to the fisheries laws which are key requirements to rebuilding Ghana's fish stock and food security.

Fisheries Watch Volunteers: Past enforcement of harvesting rules has produced widespread confusion, anger, and in some instances, violent conflict. The SFMP has worked to test a successfully implemented approach to enforcement in the Philippines which was encountered during the study tour in Year 1. In January 2017, a joint team of SFMP and the Fisheries Commission personnel developed a framework manual to guide the operations of the FWV. Subsequently one day training programs were held for over 45 volunteers at Jamestown (AMA District, Accra) and Patukope (Ada East District) on the contents and use of the manual. Also, the volunteers were taken through practical exercises in the use of binocular, camera, and GPS kits at the beaches. This was part of the preparation program towards their certification.

Discussions have been held with the new Minister of Fisheries on the Fisheries Watch Volunteers program and agreement has been reached with the Minister to formally inaugurate the FWV Program at Ada in April, 2017. This will pave the way for scaling up the program to the Western and the Volta Region. Other donor programs, the WARFP and a EU support Initiative on VGGT in the Central Region have considered complementing the SFMP/MOFAD/Fisheries Commission FWV initiative. The program once fully implemented is expected to substantial increase fisherfolk understand of fishing laws and the rationale beyond regulations as well as improve compliance with the existing laws.

Writing meeting on consolidation and adoption of training manuals: A 3 day materials writing workshop was held at Tutu, Akuapem in the Eastern Region for a joint team of SFMP and Fisheries Commission staff to draft an operations manual for the FWV. In subsequent trainings the manual was found to be lacking some essential details and illustrations which would aid the understanding of the issues by the volunteers. The revised manual will presented to the FWV as part of logistics during their inauguration in April 2017.

1.3 Harmonizing Regional Fisheries Policies

SFMP continues to coordinate project activities with inter-governmental fisheries science and management bodies, mainly the Food and Agricultural Organization and the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea. This is to ensure synergy with member countries within the Gulf of Guinea relative to fisheries science and management activities for the West Central Gulf of Guinea.

1.4 Informing the US Government on Key Fisheries Policy Issues in Ghana

During this reporting period a new Minister was appointed to the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development. The SFMP coordinated with the World Bank and other donors in the fisheries sector on making recommendations as to areas of concern and suggested priorities in the fisheries sector for the new administration. This brief was shared with the USAID Mission. At the end of March, the USAID Mission Director also visited a number of project locations including the Development Action Association interim Training Center in Tsokomey and meeting with women oyster gathers, a meeting in Moree focused on anti-child labor and trafficking actions, and a visit to Sawoma and site of a mangrove nursery at the mouth of the Ankobra river.

1.5 Reducing Child Labor and Trafficking in Fisheries

One-day Validation Meeting for the Appraisal of Child Protection Panels/ Committees

According to the Children Act, 1998 ACT 560. Child Protection Panels (CPCs) are the constitutionally mandated bodies within the District Assembly structure that deliberates on issues of child welfare and security rights, and responsibilities of parents, to propose recommendations to ensure effective protection of children. FoN organized a one-day validation meeting in January 2017, providing a platform for stakeholders to validate information gathered from an assessment of Child Protection Committees/Panels (CPCs). The meeting brought together a total of 63 participants (23 women and 40 men) drawn from the ten (10) coastal-fishing District Assemblies of the Central Region. Information gathered from the validation workshop was used to develop a training program to strengthen the CPCs. Effective functioning of the CPCs will contribute to addressing Ghana's classification as a Tier 2 Watch List country.

Support to Child Protection Panel and Social welfare Dept.: 3-Day Training of Child Protection Panels/Committees (CPCs)

Child Protection Panels/Committees (CPC), a key institution at the District Assembly are weak and non-functional in addressing CLaT issues. In view of this, a 3 day training workshop was organized for the (CPCs) selected from five Coastal Districts in the Central Region. A total of 47 participants (13 women & 34 men) were trained at this workshop in Cape-Coast. providing the platform to engage and provide information of the legal and regulatory framework for child protection. The panels were supported to develop specific annual action plans for their respective Districts. The Action plans indicated how the knowledge from the training will be used to address child labor and trafficking issues in their respective districts.

SNV in collaboration with CEWEFIA launched the CLaT documentary on GTV for nationwide coverage and outreach and awareness creation on the critical issues of child labor and trafficking. The aim is to harness the support of stakeholders within and beyond the target districts against child labor and trafficking. SNV conducted training for 48 participants (17 women, 29 men). on anti-CLaT strategies, community action planning (CAP), use of systematic referral mechanisms and protocols developed under the Child Protection Compacts. Participants increased their knowledge of key anti-CLaT processes including Community Action Plans (CAPs). Participants followed through with an excellent exercise to create a CAP.

On-the Ground Child protection and prevention activities: Community Child Protection Committees (CCPCs) and Community Anti-CLaT advocate groups were created in Moree and Elmina as interventions to build capacities to address the menace of child labor and trafficking. Thirty women and fifty-six men were trained during a two-day Workshop in leadership skills and the use of referral mechanisms. The impact has created awareness on the dangers of CLaT and has motivated some community members to search for their children. The CCPCs and Anti-CLaT Advocates with support from SNV and CEWEFIA developed a community action plan for Moree and Elmina to solve child labor and trafficking issues. This plan has the support of all the Traditional leaders will be incorporated into the District Assembly plan when finalized, to be implemented by the community. Two hundred and ninety-five (295) anti-CLaT advocates (202 men and 93 women) in Apam and Winneba were trained through audio-visual sensitization/video shows during 5 public events. This created awareness and impacted on the menace of child labor and trafficking of the victims from their communities. The exposure created shock and panic in the communities about dangers the victims encountered, to such an extent that some vowed never to involve their children in this wicked act.

IR 2: Science and Research Applied to Policy and Management

Ghana's small pelagic fishery is at the edge of collapse according to numerous scientific reports and observations from fisher folk. The canoe fishery's annual *sardinella* catch plummeted to less

than 20,000 metric tons in 2015 from a high of 120,000 metric tons almost two decades ago. Weak governance, overcapacity and an open-access fishery caused this crisis. At risk are not only the livelihoods of more than 160,000 Ghanaians directly engaged in the fishery sector, but also food security, as these stocks are an important high quality low cost protein source for the nation and region. A combination of fisheries management actions based on the best scientific information available are necessary to end overfishing by implementing effort controls through canoe registration and licensing, closed seasons and additional weekly fishing holidays. in this direction

2.1 The Scientific and Technical Working Group (STWG)

The STWG convened a meeting in January 26-27 to review the status of the stock reports on small pelagics and demersal fisheries in Ghana. Results confirmed that the status of the small pelagic fish stocks remain severely overfished. Fishing mortality continues to increase (Figure. 1) and biomass has reached the lowest level since 1990, estimated to be at a tenth of the sustainable level. A scientific survey conducted by the Research Vessel Fridjof Nansen of FAO in April 2016 estimated similar levels of biomass for small pelagic stocks. The decline in average size of the fish landed, from 16 cm in 1998 to 9.5 cm in 2016, is also an indication of heavy overfishing. Actions called for in the national fisheries management plan must be implemented immediately in order for fish stocks to be rebuilt. The STWG reiterated its call for a seasonal closure of the fishery for one month every August because it coincides with the peak spawning of *sardinella* and anchovies. The STWG demonstrated that this action will allow the spawning stock to produce the maximum spawning and contribute significantly to the rebuilding the stock.

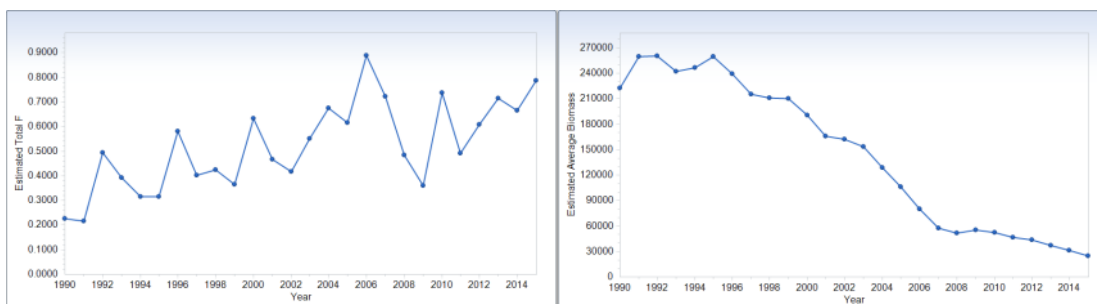


Figure 1. Trends of fishing mortality and biomass for small pelagic stocks in Ghana

2.2 ICT Innovations for Fisheries Management

SSG is continuing discussion with potential ICT private partners to conceptualize the Hotline initiative to aid in fisheries enforcement. Six (6) potential private partners have been interviewed and SSG plans to interview more in quarter 3. So far, discussion with Tigo Ghana looks promising. In Quarter 2, SSG supported Vodafone and BIMA (an insurance provider) to continue development of the technical platform that will be used by fishers for payment of insurance premium and receipt of claims under the fisher micro-insurance program. The technical platform is currently at the feasibility stage and projected to be ready in April 2017.

2.3 UCC/DFAS/CCM Capacity Development

Progress in building extension capability at the Centre for Coastal Management continued when SFMP hired under contract two junior research associates from UCC to serve as fisheries extension agents for joint activities between SFMP and UCC-CCM. During this quarter, the extension agents assisted with several of CCM's activities focused on short courses delivered for fisheries professionals. The workshops were conducted at UCC under the UCC-Capacity Building project funded by USAID.

Professional development workshops: The new CCM extension agents assisted in the design and delivery of a series of workshops. They were offered for early-career professionals from public and private agencies, universities and graduate students. They focused on coastal and fisheries management tailored to inform practitioners on the new and modern management tools and techniques.

Guide on Illegal Fishing: The use of chemicals in fishing and processing is spreading unchecked in many coastal communities in Ghana, putting citizens' health at risk and jeopardizing an entire fishery system from harvest to consumer. SFMP and UCC-CCM are addressing this problem by preparing a practical guide to aid in detecting these chemicals in fish. CCM extension agents collected data in two coastal communities (Axim and Dixcove) in the Western Region and organized focus group discussions. Fishers were pleased and supportive of the idea of a guide to raise awareness and deter against this illegal fishing. They identified the following major illegal practices used by fishermen and processors:

- Use of insecticides to preserve fish
- Use of dyes to preserve fish
- Use of formalin to preserve fish
- Use of Omo and Gari to catch fish
- Use of Carbide and Dynamite to catch fish

The fishers stated that, dynamite and light fishing are mostly done together since the light attracts a lot of fish and the dynamite is used to kill them. The dyes are used in the preservation of fish to make the fish appear fresh to consumers. In the discussion a description of how these illegal methods are applied in the catch and will be documented in the final draft.

Oyster management in Tsokome: One CCM extension agent is leading a project with women harvesters and processors of Tsokome to improve their livelihoods through good fishing and processing practices. A two-day workshop on participatory rural appraisal was organized at Tsokome. Women harvesters were trained on the use of water quality material such as thermometer, optical salinometer, secchi disk and primary production viewer. This is part of the participatory monitoring approach where the women will monitor water quality parameters of the Densu estuary themselves and share results with users and CCM.

Organize Focus Group Discussions on Local Ecological Knowledge on cuttlefish

A team from the URI-Fisheries Center visited Ghana from February 2-15, 2017 to initiate collaborative research between UCC and the industrial fishing association (GITA). An initial project was initiated on cuttlefish tagging which was identified by fishermen during their study tour to URI in October 2015. The team from URI and UCC constructed cuttlefish collectors and trained four research assistants from UCC on tagging techniques and tag-recovery strategies through awareness campaign and reward schemes (See Figure 2). A total of 60 tags cuttlefish were released in and around Elmina. As of today, one tag was recovered and reported by an artisanal fisherman.



Figure 2. Tagging cuttlefish

Age and Growth Lab: SFMP completed the installation and operation of the age and growth laboratory at UCC. The purpose of the laboratory is determine the true age of fish for educational purposes and for fisheries management. The SFMP continues to provide technical support for the UCC’s age and growth laboratory, as students and staff of FSSD continue to process sample of scales and otoliths to determine the ager structure of the catch from 2015 and 2016. SMFP is planning to provide additional material for the laboratory ahead of the training for FC staff scheduled in the next quarter.

2.4 Improving FC Data Systems and Stock Assessment Capacity

Piloting mobile technologies: Coordination is needed fisheries data collection for the benefit of Fisheries Commission in collaboration with the Ghana Fisheries Commission (FC), Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), Food and Agriculture Organization-TCP project (FAO-TCP), West Africa Regional Fisheries Project (WARFP) and the University of Cape Coast. The goal of a workshop held to address this need focused on designing and submitting an action plan for the implementation of a pilot project on the use of electronic tools (tablets and smartphones) to collect fisheries data. SFMP is designated to coordinate this activity. Each of the three donor projects (WARFP, USAID, FAO) provided a complementary support for this initiative. The consultant from FAO designed an application on the Android system open data kit (ODK), specific to the fisheries data collection program of Ghana.

Following the workshop, FAO organized a Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop for four fisheries officers of FSSD lead by the consultant and sponsored by FAO and FCWC. The training focused on technical aspects of the data collection, use of the Android application and data transfer and uploads into Open Artfish program (used by FSSD to manage and analyze data). After the ToT, SFMP organized and funded a training workshop for 14 technical officers from FSSD on the use of smartphones for fisheries data collection.. Smartphones were distributed to each technical officer and data collection began in mid-March 2017. A refresher training is expected in May 2017 to be organized by SFMP and an evaluation of the data flow and uploads is expected to be conducted by the IT expert of URI in mid-May 2017.

Fishing Gear Technology cooperative research: Artisanal fishermen are always in constant process of changing gear, vessel and engine in order to increase fishing efficiency and improve their income. Some gears are illegal and some are destructives to the habitat. SFMP and FSSD are collaborating to provide a gear inventory guide and quantify the illegal fishing gear in use. Work was completed in the Volta Region (Zone 1). Field work is conducted by officers from FSSD, specialized in gear technology. The survey discovered new fishing gear in several landings sites, made of pure sieve of polyester material such as Okelanshwe: (Pure Sieve) surround net made with PES and the Gesu Net: (Tidal range set net used in the flood plains of Ada during high tide). In addition, there seems to be a major scaling up of the canoes across major landings sites, particularly in the Central Region. Some canoes are over 20 meter long and can carry as much as 15 tons of fish. These are still considered canoes, not requiring license or a permit to fish by the FC.2.5 Environmental Planning Data Hubs and Capacity Building Center for the Western and Central Regions

Participatory development of ICM tool kits: Inhabitants including fisher folk families of the Central region's 9 coastal districts are faced with difficult choices when responding to threats of shoreline recession, flood risks and loss of vital fishery habitats due to poor coastal land uses. (see Figure 3) Planners of the region's Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority (LUSPA) need to fully understand the natural dynamics of shorelines and have the tools required for protection of communities and fisheries dependent uses of the coast.

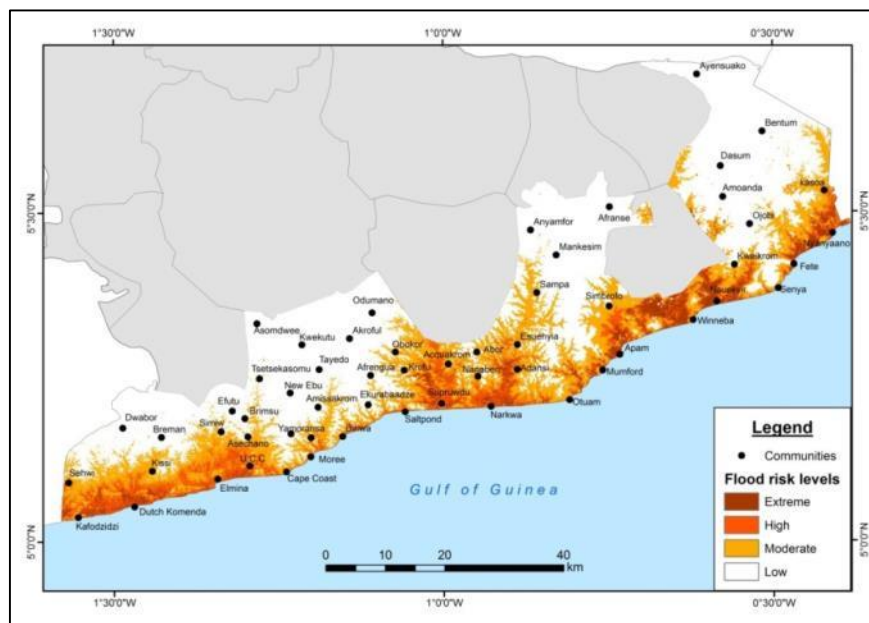


Figure 3. Flood risk sites along the Central Region Coast

Spatial Solutions facilitated sessions in which planners identified, mapped and profiled coastal issues from selected sites along the central region coast. These exercises helped planners to better analyze shoreline change, habitat loss and implications of unplanned physical development on coastal settlement, infrastructure and populations. Some of the analyzed imagery and issues profiled are shown below in Figure 4.

Training in the application of GIS and relevance for coastal planning : Every day, planners deal with land use and permitting issues, yet lack the skills to adequately utilize GIS software to process land use data for decision making. Spatial Solutions trained 19 planners, including 17 technical officers and 2 physical planners from the central region LUSPA. (Figure 5) Other beneficiaries of the training were officials of CEDECOM and SFMP partner staff. During a 3-day event training provided beneficiaries with skills in GIS applications, GPS data collection, mapping and remote sensing. Participants are now applying these skills in the analysis of coastal and fisheries issues with the expectation of making better decisions.

Operational plan and acquisition of advanced Unmanned Aerial Vehicle: URI CRC and the University of Cape Coast agreed upon an operations and sustainability plan “A UAV Based Geographic Data Collection And Processing System For Ghana’s Coastal Regions” and a letter of agreement for implementing the plan. The University of Cape Coast’s Centre for Coastal Management (CCM) and Department of Geography and Regional Planning (GRP) share a vision for building a nationally recognized capability for acquiring, processing and distributing a wide range of spatial information collected using unmanned aerial vehicles in order to improve how coastal zones and landscapes are conserved, managed, and utilized.

URI CRC initiated the acquisition process in March and the expectation is that a vendor will be selected in May.

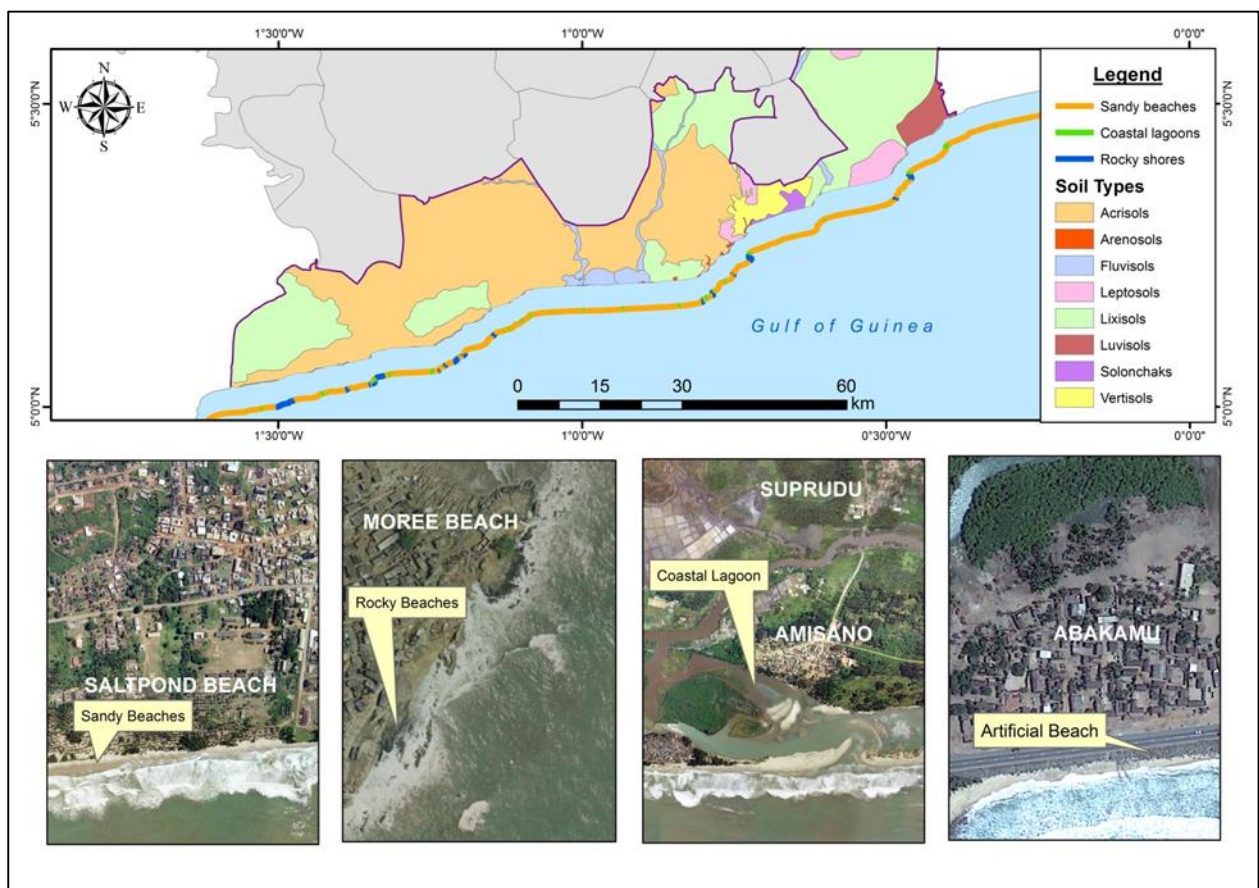


Figure 4. Coastal features and issues along the Central Region’s Coast



Figure 5. Cross-section of participants during training sessions

IR 3: Creating Constituencies and Stakeholder Engagement

This quarter witness continued investment in creating constituencies and engaging key stakeholders of the fisheries sector. Communications efforts on the national and community scale were focused on several thematic areas targeting best fisheries practices, healthy fish processing, anti-child labor and trafficking in fisheries and anti-IUU fishing.

3.1 National Communications Campaigns for the small pelagic fisheries management

The communications component of the project seeks to build the political will and to elicit public support for achieving the project's goal of rebuilding stocks. In this SFMP continued to support the Fisheries Commission with implementation of the Fisheries Management Plan (NMFMP) and development of the Policy Framework for Fisheries Co-Management through grassroots mobilization and consensus building. Communications campaigns comprised dissemination of fisheries management messages in accordance with MOFAD/FC's NMFMP as well as stakeholder dialogue on the Fisheries Co-Management Policy.

Strategic Communications Campaigns in support of MOFAD/FC policy initiatives for the small pelagic fisheries (see Section 1.1).

SFMP has set up a voice and text messaging platform that will serve the purpose of disseminating fisheries management messages to relevant stakeholder groups, particularly fisher folk via CiviCRM contact management database. At present, SFMP has about 3,500 individual contacts already in the database and is expected to harness more contacts especially from the fisheries vessel registration database. MOFAD/FC can also leverage this type of platform to circulate information to its stakeholders in the fisheries sector.

Policy Framework on Fisheries Co-Management for Ghana: SFMP in coordination with MOFAD/FC organized a National Dialogue to discuss, review and finalize the Policy Framework on Fisheries Co-Management for Ghana. The event was organized in Accra on March 22 – 23, 2017.

Fisherman To Fisherman (F2F) Dialogue: Lack of effective collaboration between the Fisheries Commission (FC) and the major stakeholder Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCFC) has contributed to the depletion of Ghana's small pelagic stock. Fishermen see management initiatives from the FC as some alien restraint imposed on them by government and as such do not consent themselves fully to its implementation. This, coupled with lack of sense of ownership of the fisheries resource and irresponsible fishing practices have contributed to the failure of formal fisheries management practices to yield the desired results.

To this effect, executive members of the GNCFC and the Chief fisherman met to discuss a proposal to support the Fisheries Commission in implementing the fisheries management measures approved in the National Fisheries Management Plan (NFMP) (2015-2019). The overall objective of this project is to assist MoFAD/FC to achieve the 2017 objectives of the NFMP and build appropriate fisheries development models of the artisanal fishing sector through voluntary compliance and self-governance.

A global event---World Fisheries Day-- was chosen to start up the *F2F* initiative. As a follow up to the ceremonial event in Cape Coast, the GNCFC lead the organization and facilitation of a series of dialogues among fishermen, chief fishermen, women processors and wives of chief fishermen who play key role in the sale and distribution of fish across the various landing sites. Named F2F, the dialogue is to organize members and increase their capacity to address the expected responsibilities in fisheries resource management.

Seven regional F2F dialogues were held across the coastal communities of Ghana with a total of 177 Chief fishermen and 120 women from GNCFC and NAFPTA in attendance. The dialogues provided a solid platform for women to contribute to decision making in the fisheries sector. The signing of the compact across all four (4) coastal regions of Ghana is an indication of the readiness of the key stakeholders to support the FC in implementing the fisheries management plan of Ghana. Fishers have agreed to add Sunday to the traditional Tuesday fishing holiday as well as adopt traditional management practice such as swearing to the sea to adopt responsible fishing practices. Chief fishermen in the Volta region took the initiative to implement the additional fishing holiday after the consultative event by reporting thirteen (13) fishermen who violated their agreement to the police.

In order to help enforce laws as well as effectively support management plans, the chief fishermen have requested the FC to authorize them to make arrests where necessary. They recognized the critical role that fishers play in the sustainable management of the fish resource and have thus agreed to collaborate. Chief fishermen in the Volta region reported fishermen who were involved in light fishing leading to the arrest of the perpetrators by the naval officers. Other regional heads have also agreed to combat IUU and have asked assistance from the Fisheries Enforcement Unit (FEU). The women on the other hand have built a consensus to reject bad fish and report processors who use chemicals to process fish. They directed their indebtedness to bad fish and juveniles landed by the fishermen and pleaded that they desist from such irresponsible fishing practices. The women acknowledged their contribution to Child Labor and Trafficking and agreed to force their men to desist from this illegal act while encouraging them to educate their children.

Each consultative event gave fishermen opportunity to discuss management issues and how they can effectively contribute to the rebuild and sustainable management of Ghana's fish stock. One



Figure 6. Fisherman to Fisherman (F2F) Event

key suggestion emerging from the discussions is that: *“fishing inputs of all persons caught engaging in illegal fishing activities be seized and the crew banned from fishing for at least six (6) months. Failure to comply should result in their being reported to the police for prosecution”*.

A national resolution containing such agreements and contributions will be drafted and presented to the FC for adoption at the World Ocean Day celebration on June 6, 2017. This will create a sense of ownership from the stakeholders and draw public support which is an essential part of sustainable fisheries management. It will also be aimed at changing fishermen’s attitude and behavior with regards to fishing practices, and help them to stop regarding fisheries regulations as some alien restraint imposed on them by government. An improved attitude toward reasonable regulations will relieve Government of the excessive burden of an enforcement versus cooperation based approach to compliance on an already low staffed and under-funded MoFAD and Fisheries Commission.

Best Fisheries Practices Awards: SFMP organized the first Best Fisheries Practices Awards (BFPA) ceremony at the Nungua Landing Beach on March 7, 2017. The event sought to reward motivated resource users for voluntary compliance and adoption of sustainable fishing and post-harvest practices, create multiplier behavioral change towards rebuilding the fish stocks, and to recognize the role of women as agents of change.

In June 2016 The project conceptualized the BFPA event with the development of a concept note. A five member Awards Committee was constituted to design an awards marking scheme and advice on effective mechanisms for implementing the scheme.

A total of 18 coastal fishing communities, fisheries associations and fisher folks along Ghana’s coastal zone, received prizes comprising citations, solar lamps and plastic chairs. The theme for the awards event was “Rewarding Fishers for Best Voluntary Initiatives towards a Sustainable Fishery”. The Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, Mrs. Elizabeth Nana Afoley Quaye presided over the awards event. The awards scheme is anticipated to be held annually to celebrate heroes of change in Ghana’s fisheries sector.



Figure 7. Cross-section of participants during IUU video screening sessions in Volta region

Communications Strategy on NMFMP and IUU Community Outreach Program

The national marine fisheries management plan calls for implementation of measures to combat IUU fishing but the practice of IUU fishing is still rife among all fleets in Ghana’s fishing industry. To improve regulatory compliance, HM extended communication with fisher folk regarding adoption of responsible and sustainable fishing practices from the Western and Central regions to the Volta region. IUU videos originally in Fante were reproduced with voice over in Ewe and screened in Adina and Abutiakope in the Volta region.

The videos screened in Ewe (see Figure 8), enhanced dialogue and promoted participation during discussions among participants after the screening. Extending IUU communication to the Volta region has increased the number of fisherfolk reached through IUU messages and provided the platform for fishers to exchange knowledge and strategies on responsible fishing practices.

Behavior Change Communications Campaign on Child Labor and Trafficking (CLaT)

Weak institutional collaboration and poor communication have been identified as one of the key challenges to addressing CLaT issues in the fisheries sector. FoN organized a half-day CLaT Hotline communications launch event on February 14, 2017 at the Pempamsie hotel in Cape-coast. A total of 182 persons participated in the event including representatives from the US Embassy, USAID-Ghana, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development. The event provided unique platform to Government institutions and stakeholders to share and communicate their plans and strategies towards addressing Child Labor and Trafficking as well as strategies for moving Ghana off the US Dept. of State TIP Watch list (Tier Two).

SFMP CLaT intervention is aimed at promoting behavioral change communications to insure that CLaT practices become socially unacceptable. As part of this initiative, the project carried out a 5-day Communities' Sensitization against Child Labor and Trafficking (CLaT) in February, 2017 in all thirteen (13) communities in Central Region of Ghana with a total of 2,992 adults (1269 men and 1723 women) engaged with key messages on Anti-Child labor and trafficking. The meetings were used to inform stakeholders about the implication of Ghana on the Tier Two of the US State Department Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Watch-list and reiterated the need for stakeholders to work with government.

3.2 Executive Level / Policy Maker Communications

The executive level communications targets policy makers and fisheries authorities and is intended to formalize relationships with them to build the political will and support for SFMP's fisheries policy agenda aimed at rebuilding stocks. A transition from the John Dramani Mahama led administration to the Nana Akuffo Addo led Administration took place in Q2. SFMP provided technical assistance on fisheries related project to the transition team. Again, SFMP was instrumental in orientation the ministerial appointees and the newly constituted fisheries committee on the state of Ghana's fisheries.

3.3 Corporate Communications

The CiviCRM contact management system has evolved from an experimental trial to a core part of SFMP communications. More than 4000 individuals and 110 organizations have been included, with phone contact information for 3000 of these persons along with about 400 email addresses. The CiviCRM data base is also used to obtain additional descriptive information about the SFMP's engagement with stakeholders. Some recent results are described below in Section 4 of this report. The SFMP needs to directly reach a greater proportion of the membership of stakeholder organizations. Another reason is that the number of fishing canoe owners, fishers, and fish processors intended as SFMP beneficiaries is 20 times more than we have directly met and worked with to date.

To date the SFMP has completed about 90 technical documents, event reports and program management documents, the majority of which are online. At the end of Quarter 2, the SFMP is working on another tranche of 90 items in review, revision or final processing. We anticipate receiving nearly 190 reports of all types in Year 3 based on the Year 3 work plan and partner sub-contracts. A list of reports under active review and processing during Year 2 as well as reports now online is provided as Annex D.

IR 4: Applied Management: Improved Management of Marine Resources to Reduce Over-exploitation, to conserve Biodiversity and Provide Other Benefits

4.1 Implementing the National Marine Fisheries Management Plan

The MOFAD has developed a five-year National Fisheries Management Plan (NMFMP 2015-2019) to end overfishing, protect marine habitat and meet the regional and international fisheries management obligations. The Plan sets out the following key management measures including; the close season, Reduction of fishing efforts and fishing days, and piloting of co-management. The first Closed Season for all industrial trawlers was implemented in November 2016 and the Second Closed season was carried out from February 1, 2017 to March 31, 2017.

Validation of *Sardinella* Local Ecological Knowledge (LEK) Results

Fisher folk knowledge regarding migration, distribution, breeding periods and spawning grounds of sardinella was collected from the four coastal regions of Ghana in Half Assini, New Takoradi, Moree, Adina, Abutiakope, Tema, and Elmina where information was collected. A validation exercise was carried where fishermen vetted findings from the LEK study and generally accepted the information collated as a true representation of their views on Ghana's *sardinella* fisheries. Over 290 fishers attended the meetings. The final LEK report will be compared with scientific knowledge on *sardinella* and disseminated back to fishers.

4.2 The Western Region Demersal Fisheries Management Initiative.

The STWG reviewed a draft stock assessment document of the demersal fisheries. After a lengthy discussion regarding the quality of data and model selection, a series of recommendations were presented. An updated version of the assessment will be compiled and presented for final approval of the STWG in the next quarter.

Preliminary results showed that the demersal fish complex is overfished. Analyses were conducted based on length-based models and generalized production models. Demersal stocks are exploited mainly by industrial trawlers operated by foreign captains using old steel vessels using short skirt and heavy twine trawl nets. These trawl nets are known to be destructive of the bottom habitat of the seafloor.

The total catch is generally has been declining since 2009 while effort on the fishery showed an increasing trend (Figure 8). The fishery recorded decrease in catch from over 65,000 tons in 2009 to to 30,000 tons in 2015. Effort increased dramatically during the period between 2005 and 2008 from 58 to 120 vessels, then declined to reach 98 vessels in 2015. (STWG, 2017)

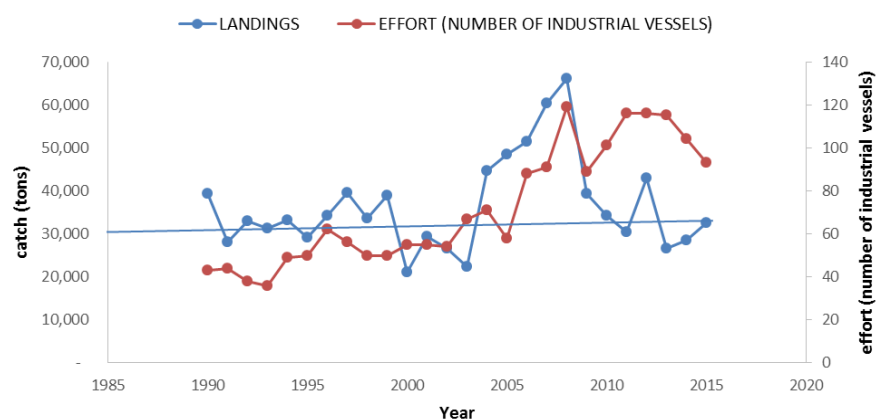


Figure 8. Trends of catch per unit of effort for demersal fisheries in Ghana

Generally the fishery experienced a steady decrease in catch-per-unit-of-effort (cpue) from 900 tons/vessel per year to about 300 tons per vessel-per year (Figure 9). Engagement with the new government's ministers by the National Activities Manager of SFMP suggest that the government was willing and keen on implementing a closed season for all the fleet as captured in the national Marine Fisheries Management Plan 2015-2019.

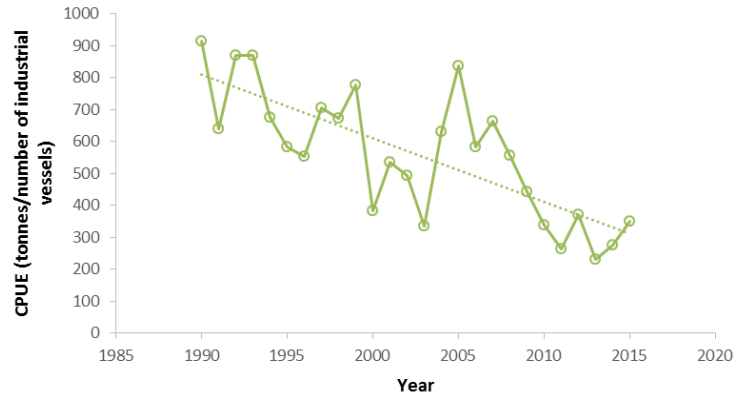


Figure 9. Trends of catch and effort for demersal fisheries in Ghana

To this end, the scientific technical work group completed the necessary reviews and finalization of the Closed Season Recommendation report. In March 2017, the Chairman of the STWG, Professor Kobina Yankson on behalf of the group submitted copies of the report to the Hon. Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Mrs. Elizabeth Afoley Quaye for adoption and implementation.

Also, closed season communications strategy is being drafted by the STWG to inform communications around the announcement of the closed season. The strategy will also be submitted to the Minister in Quarter 3 of 2017.

4.3 Integrated Community Fisheries Management and Resilience Plans for the Ankobra River Estuarine and Mangrove Ecosystem

4.3.1 Early actions on Ankobra

Mangrove tendering and mapping

Mangrove habitats are vital for maintaining a healthy estuarine and nearshore demersal fishery. At the Ankobra estuary, excessive mangrove harvesting for fuelwood is destroying key fisheries habitats and nursery grounds. HM continued to build capacity at the community level to improve Ankobra estuarine ecosystem resilience. This involved training 12 community leaders in the application of global positioning system (GPS) units for mapping mangrove restoration sites and identification of degraded areas. Another 45 community leaders participated in maintenance of mangrove nursery and restoration, resulting in 5,618 propagules nursed and 3,250 transplanted onto degraded sites. Previously cleared mangrove sites along the Ankobra estuary are now showing signs of recovery as a result of intense restoration activities led by mangrove harvesters.

Ankobra Estuarine Community-based Fisheries Management Planning Analysis

The exploitation patterns of the estuarine fishery and resource practices in the lower Ankobra basin is resulting in rapid depletion of essential fish stocks and degradation of key fisheries habitats. This assessment provided the information and basis for development of a community-based estuarine fisheries management plan. The assessment also revealed that estuarine fishing, fish processing and sale is a major economic activity for the riverine communities, especially Sanwoma. The Ankobra estuary fishery is more of a subsistence nature during most



Figure 10. Raffia pots used for fishing in the Ankobra estuary

part of the year but becomes commercial to the communities during the rainy season (April – September). Gears used for harvesting fish include gill nets and pots of various sizes constructed with raffia, cast nets, pole seine nets, hook and line, and bamboo traps. (Figure 10). Fishers prioritized three key species to the estuarine fishery in terms of quantities harvested and price. These were the cassava croaker *Pseudolithus elongatus*, the Nile tilapia *Oreochromis niloticus* and the silver catfish *Chrysichthys nigrodidatus*.

A pair-wise ranking exercise was used to prioritize the species of highest interest and the results showed that *Chrysichthys nigrodidatus* was the most preferred fish for the fishers. Results from this analysis aid in drafting the community-based fisheries management plan.

Stakeholder consultation

Hen Mpoano held series of consultations with self-selected fisheries stakeholders in the Ankobra estuarine communities. These comprised estuarine fish harvesters, fish processors and sellers from Sanwoma, Kukuaville, Adelekazo, Ajomoro, Eshiem, and Eziome. The consultations culminated in the election of community representatives for the 10-member estuarine management committee. This committee will be taken through visioning, objective setting, action planning and development of institutional frameworks for managing and monitoring the estuarine fishery. This is aimed at building their capacity to sustainably manage the resource, provide equal opportunity for women to be engaged in decision making and raise focal persons who can be tasked to take initiatives in the local communities



Figure 11. Fish processors and sellers during management committee selection

4.4 Integrated Community Fisheries Management and Resilience Plans for the Pra River Estuarine and Mangrove System

Governance mechanisms with Shama District

Initiating governance mechanism within the Shama District is crucial for the sustained conservation of the Pra River Estuary. FoN organized a day's meeting to discuss with the Shama District assembly representative on the community led processes for the development of the Pra Estuary's Area Fisheries Co-Management. The meeting provided the platform to brief the district level stakeholders about the progress of the Pra fisheries co-management pilot process, and how to strengthen the governance mechanisms in the District and recommended that the Town and Country planning program and GIS capability within the Shama District Assembly be used to support the co-management process for the Pra estuary by providing various maps and other services.

The project also facilitated the formation of an 11-member fisheries co-management committee for the Pra Estuary community, marking a key milestone for the conservation and management of the fisheries resources in Pra Estuary. Integrating the local community in management

measure promotes voluntary compliance, law enforcement and adoption of responsible fishing practices. A consultative process for the drafting of a Fisheries Co-Management Plan for the estuary was organized. This is the first fisheries co-management plan designed for the Pra estuary. The legal basis of this plan is derived from section 2 (a) of Ghana's Fisheries Act of 2002 (Act 625) which gives power to the Minister responsible for Fisheries to prepare fisheries management plans for the development of the fisheries in waters under the jurisdiction of Ghana.

The Fisheries Commission, Shama District Assembly and other key stakeholders provided technical support for the drafting of this plan and have indicated strong will and commitment to support and follow through with the implementation of this plan.

4.5 Central and Western Region Fishing Community Livelihood Development Value Chain and Post-harvest Improvements

SNV in collaboration with DAA, Daasgift and CEWEFIA increased awareness on the need for adoption of the Ahotor oven in the Central and Western regions of Ghana. In furtherance of this the Building Committee of the DAA Fisheries Training Center (comprising representatives from DAA, SNV, the consultant and SFMP) was reconstituted to ensure timely completion so it can be used to train participants and of the efficient and timely construction to serve as a capacity building avenue for fishers, towards increased productivity and improved livelihoods. Upgrade of partner facilities (DAA and CEWEFIA) as internationally accepted compliant facility for processing will provide access to healthy processed fish to the Ghanaian market.

To ensure that fish processors benefit from the full potential of the Ahotor oven, a monitoring and evaluation exercise was carried out by SNV to establish a baseline for users' experience, acceptability and preferences. The thirty (30) Ahotor oven hosts interviewed are located in Winneba, Apam, Mumford, Elmina, Moree, Anlo Beach, Takoradi, Sekondi and Axim. Most were content with the performance of the oven, with two totally abandoning the Chorkor stoves and using only the Ahotor oven. Grace Ahor, a fish processor at Elmina shared her experience with the use of the Ahotor oven; acknowledging comfortable smoke-less and heat-free working environment. It is also fuel efficient, and produces low level PAH but will be further improved to a more efficient downdraft oven.

SNV is collaborating with the Ghana Standards Authority, MOFAD/FC, the CSIR-Food Research Institute, the CSIR-Institute of Industrial Research, Food and Drugs Authority, local stove companies and fish processors' associations to further develop the Ahotor oven and provide local standards with protocols for healthy fish for the Ghanaian market. SNV is also working with SSG advisors to partner with credible financial institutions (ASA savings and loans and GN bank) to provide loan incentives for fish processors to acquire the Ahotor oven.

Village Savings and Loans Associations. Financial Resources Management of existing VSLA groups in Eziome, Kukwaville and Ekpoazo was continued with a share out at Eshiem (Nyame Ne Boafo – Nti Ebeye Yie) to mark the end of the first cycle. The share out meeting was successful and indicated that monies borrowed by individual processors from the groups' loan fund was used for income generating activities (farming, trading); that helped them to maximize profit to offset their loans and improve their standard of living.

Micro-finance services. Microfinance was provided to 400 established MSMEs with additional MSMEs receiving first-cycle microloans. A third-cycle loans disbursement of GHS600.00 each to 35 MSMEs at Shama existing group amounting to GHS21,000.00 for January 2017 was effected; and GHS500.00 each to 30 MSMEs of Shama new group totalling GHS15,000.00 for March 2017. The MSMEs pledged to use the credit facility for fish smoking inputs, buying of quality fish, and ice so as to maximize profit and repay their loans promptly.

4.6 Development Action Association (DAA) Fisheries Training Center

Business service training in basic book keeping/accounting and entrepreneurship was conducted in Apam and Winneba for 50 MSMEs; subsequently targeting 160 MSMEs in total to develop their capacity in managing their businesses. Acquired knowledge and skills in costing, profit and loss determination, market segmentations and price build-up was for business support to efficiently calculate cost build-up for good record-keeping so as to boost profitability and enhance their living standards. Also, Sixty (60) MSMEs were trained in Business Skills, Advocacy and Healthy Fish Handling.

The permanent DAA Center in Kokorbite is under construction and slated for completion in September 2017.

IR 5: Gender Equality and Empowerment

5.1 Development of a Gender strategy for the Fisheries Commission

After adopting the gender strategy developed in collaboration with the SFMP project in Quarter 1, the Fisheries Commission has moved forward quickly to incorporate the new gender policies into its day-to-day management. Promotion of women's participation in all activities coupled with sustainable strategic interventions will greatly improve the fisheries sector. A first step towards implementing the Fisheries Commission's Gender Mainstreaming Strategy was a training workshop for zonal fisheries officers and partners. The 18 participants – including four men—were drawn from the Volta, Greater Accra, Central, Western, Ashanti, Brong Ahafo and Eastern Regions of Ghana. The two-day training was carried out on 9th and 10th February, 2017 at Ampomaah Hotel, East Legon. During the training, the participants reviewed the MOFAD and FC structure and applied a gender marker to help improve gender equity and empowerment within the two institutions. The participants developed their own gender mainstreaming action plan with implementation options. The action plan sets out how the Commission will address gender issues in the fisheries sector and serves as a basis and referral document for monitoring and compliance.

5.2 Implementation of the SFMP Gender Strategy and Action Plan

The success of SFMP is in part hinged on addressing gender and leadership issues within its implementing partner organizations. In Quarter 2, USAID/Ghana led a workshop to develop capacity among all of its project partners to mainstream gender and apply gender frameworks used by USAID. Project Managers and Gender Focal persons from SFMP partner organizations, were trained on the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI), the Gender Parity Index, and the Feed the Future Gender Integration Framework. The two-day training took place in February 2017. The participants appreciated learning about these tools and frameworks – enhancing their understanding of the constraints and opportunities to women's empowerment in agriculture and discussing the similarities and differences between the agricultural and fisheries sectors. The training will enable SFMP implementing partners do a better job in contributing and communicating their results within the common USAID framework.

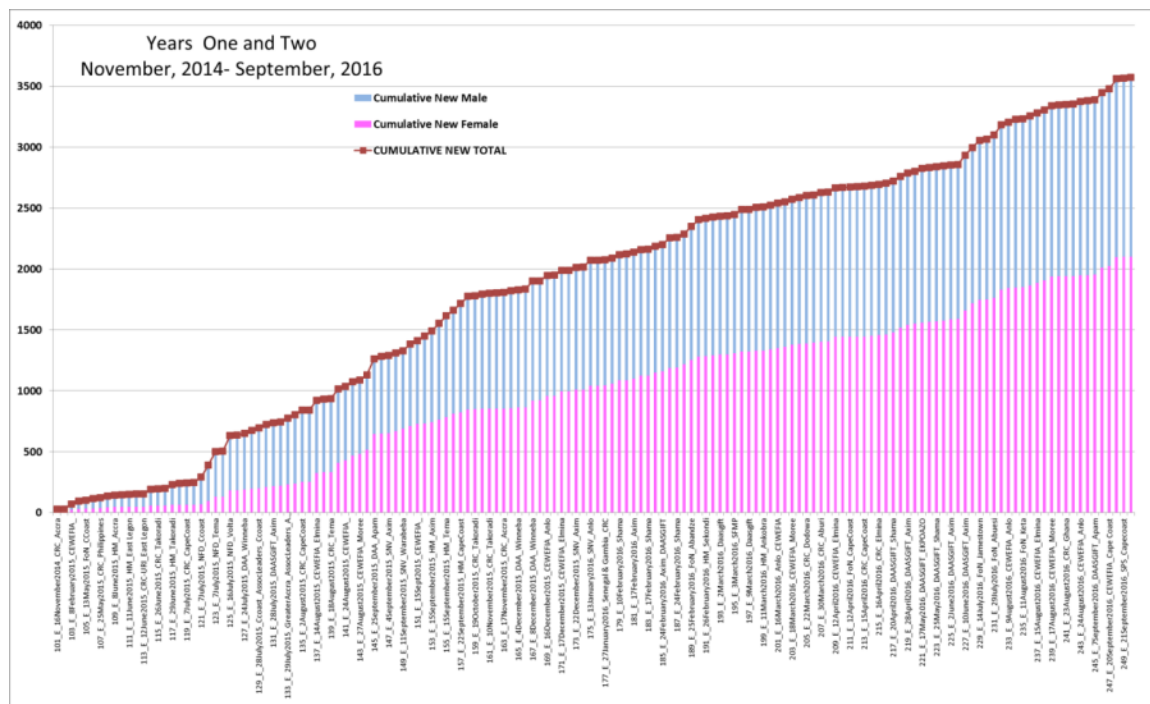


Figure 12. Cumulative number of new stakeholders engaged in SFMP events, November, 2014 through September 2016, by gender

Encouraging the engagement of both men and women in policy discussions, capacity building and livelihood projects is an important cross-cutting objective of the SFMP. (See Figure 12) A recently completed analysis of 150 stakeholder events of all types held by SFMP and its implementing partners during project Years 1 and 2 sheds some light on the effectiveness of the gender strategy in engaging women in project activities. The overall trend for cumulative stakeholder involvement in SFMP training, policy, advocacy and livelihood events is 2,304 men (40.4%) and 3,403 women (59 %). The cumulative proportion of women as new individuals involved with the SFMP has increased substantially and steadily since the beginning of the second year of project. The number of unique individuals which the SFMP reached through these events was 3,574, including 1,472 men (41.2%) and 2,102 (58.8%) women.

IR 6: Strategic Private Public Partnerships

6.1 Millennium, UT Life Insurance Partnership (Fishers Future Plan)

In January, SSG and the private sector partners, i.e. Millennium Insurance, UT Life Insurance, Vodafone Ghana and BIMA, undertook a field scoping exercise in James Town, Moree and Shama district (specifically Aboase and Aboadze) – the proposed partnership pilot areas. The scoping exercise was to inform the partners of the dynamics of the pilot areas and hold discussions with stakeholders and opinion leaders in the pilot communities about the initiative (Fishers Future Plan). Vodafone was able to determine their signal strength in the communities – means to guide them to provide uninterrupted voice, data and internet services for policyholders. The fieldwork afforded stakeholders and chief fishermen in the pilot areas preliminary knowledge of the insurance program and allowed them to give advice, recommendations, buy-in and support for the initiative. Partners determined the number of sales agents necessary for each pilot area based on the geographical size, population and level of fishing activities.

In Q2, SSG and the insurance partners commenced recruitment of sales agents for the Fishers Future Plan. Interviews were conducted for shortlisted applicants in James Town, Moree and Shama district.

SSG and the insurance partners filmed a video on the insurance program at James Town and Moree, respectively. Fisherfolk in the respective communities were used as actors – a means to let them have a sense of ownership of the program. The film was done in Ga and Fante languages so the fisherfolk understand the story. The film will be shown in the communities during education and sensitization at the communities to enable the fishers to understand and appreciate the initiative to facilitate registration.

6.2 Tigo Fishers Network Partnership

On December 20, 2016 SSG organized a workshop so Tigo presents their offer under the proposed partnership to stakeholders. The workshop was attended by representatives of MOFAD and Fisheries Commission, Fishers Associations and SFMP local partner, i.e. Hen Mpoano. The program provided an avenue for stakeholders to know and understand the rationale for partnering with Tigo help in sustainable fisheries management in Ghana. The workshop also allowed stakeholders to provide input and suggestions to the proposed product (offer) for Tigo consideration and amendments to the features of the proposed product.

The Tigo Fishers' Network is to provide fishermen, fish processors and fish farmers with a suite of mobile solutions to increase access to information about good fisheries practices including fisheries laws and regulations, facilitate cost effective communications among fisherfolk, and promote household savings and use of mobile money for their business transactions. In Q2, SSG concluded negotiation with Tigo Ghana towards the Fishers Network and Tigo officially agreed to partner with USAID/SFMP and MOFAD/FC. A Letter of Collaboration (LOC) to guide the partnership implementation was developed and reviewed by Tigo, MOFAD/FC and the Attorney General's Department. On March 31, the LOC was signed by all partners, i.e. USAIS/SFMP, Fisheries Commission and Tigo Ghana. The signing thus signifies officially, a Public-Private Partnership between Fisheries Commission and Tigo Ghana with SFMP as the Facilitator. When implementation commences, the Network will support Fisheries Commission's extension efforts in sustainable fisheries management, improve household income through savings in cost of phone credit, messages, data, etc. and promotion of digital financial services among fisherfolk.

6.3 IUU Enforcement Partnership

IUU Hotline

SSG is continuing discussion with potential ICT private partners to conceptualize the Hotline initiative. Six (6) potential private partners have been interviewed and SSG plans to interview more in Q3. So far, discussion with Tigo Ghana looks promising.

Financing Partnership Scoping

SSG in Q2 collaborated with SNV to identify and interview private three (3) financial institutions (FIs) capable of providing financial assistance to women fish processors for the purchase of improved stoves. SNV on their own have also interviewed significant FIs. Proposals have been submitted to promising ones and follow-ups will be done in Q3.

IR 7: Local Capacity Development

7.1 Capacity Development of Targeted Government of Ghana Fisheries and Coastal Management Institutions

SFMP seeks to improve fisheries management processes by engaging scientific research and findings as part of the driving forces and rationale for management, both in the Fisheries Commission and in non-governmental institutions including the University of Cape Coast, which is committed its role in training fisheries experts and expanding its ability to conduct applied research, train the next generation of fisheries policy leaders and make fisheries information widely available.

Evans Arizi, has defended his PhD dissertation proposal, “Testing The Ecological Effects Of Spatial And Seasonal Closures On The Sardinella Fishery In Ghana”. He will conduct field research in Ghana in the summer of 2017. Ivy Gyimah is studying Marine Affairs and will travel to Ghana this summer, focusing on water and sanitation issues in fishing communities. Evelyn Takyi is concentrating on Fish Genetics and will remain at URI, studying samples of sardinella taken from 10 West African countries to determine if there are localized stocks. Two Fisheries Commission staff, Rosina Cobbina and Vida Osei are also preparing their research proposals in anticipation of field work in Ghana.

7.2 Developing the Capacity of Targeted Civil Society Organizations

Civil society organizations have the potential to catalyze change and sustain it more cost effectively than other types of actors. Realizing this depends on the organizational capacity of key CSOs in the fisheries sector to provide quality services to their constituencies on a sustainable basis and make improvements in the areas of governance, financial management, program quality, and sustainability.

In Year 2, SFMP recognized that two additional membership organizations representing critical fisheries sector constituencies should be included among the CSOs receiving this type of support from SFMP. Following baseline Organizational Capacity Assessments (OCA) for the National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA) and the Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association (GITA) in Y3 Quarter 1, SNV ensured that organizational capacity interventions reached these partners to implement selected activities in their Action Plans. NAFPTA and GITA were supported to review their constitutions as a result of findings from the OCA. Issues emerging for NAFPTA were the need for an office due to increased workload and personnel, the need to enforce regulations to ensure that members pay their dues regularly and the need to reconstitute the Board of Directors. GITA is developing a communications manual with the support of SNV to streamline communication.

SNV organized a session at the SFMP Partners Meeting this quarter in Elmina to get feedback from some of the other CSO partners of SFMP on the usefulness of the OCA process and the results they are perceiving from implementation of their Action Plans. CEWEFIA, FoN and DAA agreed that the OCA has raised awareness on the need to:

- Develop Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs),
- Focus on organizational performance
- Define clear roles and responsibilities

It has also helped them to improve performance by:

- Avoiding organizational weaknesses such as working without following SOPs
- Enabling self-reflection and alignment of SOPs
- Creating awareness on including gender issues in their SOPs
- Leading them to clarify staff roles and responsibilities in thematic areas
- Providing focus for programmatic re-alignment
- Leading them to reinforce the Board with new members with expertise in Law
- Confirming the need for SFMP support for purchase of and training in QuickBooks for improved financial management capacity.

DAA organized an Annual General Meeting to elect 17 officers for organizational effectiveness. They have also developed capacity in writing and winning proposals. As a result, BUSAC has funded DAA for advocacy initiatives.

In Quarter 2, SFMP brought the TRY Oyster Women's Association of The Gambia to Ghana to follow-up on the previous year's study tour. TRY visited SFMP women-led partner CSOs in the

field and facilitated a final workshop that brought together 15 participants, including the women fish processors and leaders of SFMP partner organizations who participated in the Gambia-Senegal Study Tour on Women's Empowerment and Post-Harvest Improvements in 2016, Fisheries Commission representatives and staff of SFMP. Mrs. Fatou Janha, Director of TRY-Gambia, and Mrs. Mariama Ashcroft, Senior Advisor of TRY-Gambia, facilitated the workshop. It provided important momentum and follow-up for reviewing progress made and lessons learned since the study tour and identifying priority collective actions going forward to further empower women CSO leaders and champions of change in the sector. The recommended top 3 priority actions for collaboration among SFMP partners identified by participants were as follows:

- Establish platforms for exchange programs or sharing of ideas among associations and NAFPTA. This should be linked with behavioral change objectives among members.
- Share resources and services among organizations, where possible, to minimize duplication. For example shared expertise, best practice training centers (facilities).
- Develop and implement Co-management strategies for fisheries, to include actions that reinforce youth's and women's potential and leadership, cooperation between men and women fisher folk, and local governance.

This Quarter DQF has been developing its' Organizational Strategic Plan and accompanying Communications Plan taking OCA findings into consideration.

Financial audits of the five SFMP CSO local partners that are sub-awardees were conducted by Ernst and Young. Findings will be used to develop action plans for continued improvements and ability to implement all USAID administrative and financial policies and procedures effectively. SFMP expects to receive the written report and management letter early in Quarter 3.

Implementation Challenges

- The main challenges confronting the successful up scale of the AHOTOR stove is the price. The women have shown interest but the price is not motivating them to purchase it. We therefore recommend the training of local artisan to reduce the price of the stoves.
- The transition and appointment of Municipal/District Chief Executives slows down activities such as a Post World Rural Women's Day Follow up meeting with District Assemblies and Fisheries Commission. It is rescheduled waiting for the appointment of new District Chief Executive and Municipal Chief Executives.
- When project implementation coincide with bumper season it becomes difficult to get the trainees.
- Poor coordination among implementing partners working in the same communities. Implementing partners sometimes schedule activities which coincide with other partners working in the same community.
- Dependency on lead implementing partners sometimes delays activity implementation of the supporting partners since they have to depend on the lead implementer.

M&E Plan and Update

Review of Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

The M&E plan was revised for FY17 on Performance management task and responsibility schedules, performance indicators tracking tables and USAID revised indicators and targets. This was to ensure that the plan is up to date and reflects the needed changes in the project. This review included four new feed the future indicators; namely Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-1, Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) EG.3.2-2, Value of agricultural and rural loans as a result of USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-6 and Number of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving agricultural-related credit as a result of USG assistance (RAA) EG.3.2-3. The project now report on 22 indicators instead of 18.

Quarterly M&E Capacity Building Training Workshop

The SFMP M&E Unit during the quarter under review organized a three days capacity building workshop for monitoring and evaluation officers from the 22nd to 24th of February, 2017 at Raybow International Hotel in Takaradi in the Western Region. In all 11 M&E officers comprising 8 men and 3 women from all the implementing partners were trained in USAID monitoring and evaluation system.

Their capacity was built on how to prepare M&E framework, plan, review indicators and data collection tools, conduct data quality assessment, and how to effectively report on outcomes. They were also introduced to GIS. It is expected that, their organizations will have a functional M&E system to effectively and efficiently monitor and track implementation of project activities and be able to report on outcomes.

MSME Formative Assessment Survey

The SFMP project is implementing a number of activities related to supporting economic development, coastal livelihoods, and fisheries post-harvest processing. The livelihoods support feeds into the Project's fourth intermediate result, which is "applied management initiatives for several targeted fisheries ecosystems". By improving fisher folk livelihoods through value addition, access to credit, and improved handling and business practices, there will be an increased willingness among fisher folk to adopt management measures to rebuild fish stocks and sustain the supplies of wild caught fish, is important to sustain their small business enterprises.

The SFMP project has launch an assessment to evaluate the effectiveness and outcomes of the project's support to enhancing coastal livelihoods and improve fisheries post-harvest processing. Activities that will be assessed include the Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) that have been established in several rural, highly isolated, communities. The assessment will also assess the micro-credit services and trainings to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), installation and scale up of solar phone charging businesses in rural communities with poor or no electricity. The project also promoted Morrison and Ahotor fish smokers that are assumed to be more profitable than the commonly used Chokor smoker, because they are more fuel efficient. These activities aim to enable people working within the fisheries value chain expand their fisheries post-harvest businesses and improve their livelihoods.

3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

3.1 Gender Equity and Female Empowerment

USAID's gender policies comprising the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI), the Gender Parity Index (GPI) and the Gender Integration Framework is essential for project growth to SFMP partners. Thus Project Managers and Gender Focal persons of these partner organizations, including SNV were trained on the Index and Framework. Participants increased their knowledge of the WEAI and the Gender Parity Index; understood how to develop the Gender Integration Framework, including the need to ensure equity in gender needs assessment, decisions and planning; and implemented interventions for both women and men.

See Section 2 IR 5 for additional detail on SFMP progress, including an analysis of the shift made by SFMP from involving a larger proportion of men in the first year, to attaining a total of 58.8% of individual stakeholders who are women by the end of Year 2.

3.2 Sustainability Mechanisms

In order to assure sustainability of project activities, emphasis is placed on involvement of relevant government officials in procurement processes undertaken has been highly participatory with government staff involved in developing specifications for procurement. In some cases this has resulted in a longer timeframe for procurement but more buy-in and assurance that it meets the needs of the intended beneficiaries. Capacity building and development of local stakeholders is described throughout the report and a key strategy to enhance sustainability of project outcomes.

3.3 Environmental Compliance

SNV ensured adherence to mitigation measures presented to Mikadu Constructions Ltd., the Construction firm engaged in building the DAA Center through visits by the project Environmental Officer. All staff were acquainted with relevant regulations on health and safety issues. There were no signs of direct degradation to the environment around the site and sources of the materials being used for the construction were acquired from certified suppliers.

3.4 Global Climate Change

See Section 2, IR4.5: Pra and Ankobra Resilience plans for information on climate activities.

3.5 Policy and Governance support

See Section 2, IR1 which describes SFMP's policy and governance support initiatives.

3.6 Local Capacity Development

See Section 2, IR7 for capacity development activities of government, producer, processor and CSO groups.

3.7 Public Private Partnerships

See Section 2, IR 6 for activities on development of public-private partnerships.

3.8 Science, Technology, and Innovation

See section 2, IR 2 for activities on the scientific and technical innovations achieved during the quarter.

4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

Stakeholder participation and involvement is a key pillar of the SFMP approach and a central means to achieving the overall project goal to restore Ghana's marine fisheries to a healthy and

sustainable state. As such, stakeholder participation is mainstreamed into all of the intermediate results categories including IR3; building constituencies and political will for reform, IR; national policy initiatives, national dialogues and workshops, IR 4; applied management initiatives, IR 5; gender, and IR 6; private sector partnership activities have involved substantial numbers of fisheries stakeholders.

An analysis of information from 150 stakeholder and beneficiary engagement activities (58 in Year 1, 92 in Year 2) indicates that by the end of project Year 2, a cumulative total of 5,707 individuals participated in all events--- more than double Year 1---and involved 3,574 unique individuals, twice the level of Year 1. The cumulative proportion of women as new individuals involved with the SFMP increased by 150% during the second year, passing above 50% of the total participants at the end of calendar year 2015 and steadily growing to 58.8% by the close of Year 2. More information on the gender dimension is provided in Section 2, IR 5.

The field training of the Fisheries Watch volunteers in James Town and Ada East was undertaken in collaboration with Fisheries Commission (lead), FEU, National Fish Traders & Processors Association, Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council, and the Ghana Police Service. These stakeholders were present to ensure the practical training achieved the desired results for smooth implementation of the FWV initiative in these pilot areas.

Further, the Millennium Fishers Future Plan partnership engaged local fishers as actors in the insurance film that will be used for the education and sensitization for the insurance initiatives. The fishers belong to the National Fish Traders & Processors Association and Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council, respectively.

The Tigo partnership includes the Fisheries Commission as a partner. The Commission is passionate about this partnership as it will go a long way to support its extension efforts in sustainable fisheries management.

5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

This reporting period saw a number of staffing transitions at the SFMP office in Accra. Najih Lazar, the Sustainable Fisheries Management Advisor returned to the US at the end of January. He remains working on the project and providing long distance and short term technical assistance at a 50% level of effort. Kofi Agbogah, the National Activities Coordinator was proposed and approved by USAID to take over as the Sustainable Fisheries Advisor in-country position. Pat Aba Mensah, the Communications and Outreach Specialist resigned her appointment with the project and took a position with another USAID regional project. This triggered the recruitment to fill this vacancy. Nii Odenkey Abbey was recruited and appointed in this position and will undergo orientation in April. The new Chief of Party Recruitment process was also completed with this transition occurring in the April – May period to Maurice Knight and as Brian Crawford returns to the US in April to take on the Project Manager role in the home office. On the one hand, these staffing transitions have been challenging with new staff coming on board and changing roles. However, at this stage and with the new Chief of Party arriving in May, he will be taking over the in-country project management with a fully constituted team in place.

SFMP has received a preliminary briefing on the audit findings of local partners and the SFMP office conducted by Ernst and Young. The final detailed report is due in early April. While the auditors noted significant improvements between Year1 and Year 2, due to concerted efforts by SFMP to build local partner financial capacity, there will clearly be a number of areas for improvement. There is also unevenness in partner financial performance and compliance with some faring better than others. Once the full report is received and reviewed, management responses and action plans to address identified deficiencies will be developed.

6. LESSONS LEARNED

The following are a few highlights of lessons learned during the course of implementation of project activities this quarter.

- Greater impacts are achieved when former victims or perpetrators of child labor are trained to become Anti CLaT advocates.
- Involving the youth in SFMP project implementation contributes to project sustainability
- The team has learnt to schedule activities/events according to the specific issues on the ground that would have previously hindered the progress and success of activities. E.g. Ankobra regularly at high tide (3pm) gets flooded.

7. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER INCLUDING UPCOMING EVENTS

Selected highlights of upcoming activities in the FY 17 second quarter include:

IR1

- Collaboration with Other NGOs in Anti CLaT - NGOs with similar goals on Anti CLaT and DAA Anti CLaT advocates drawing lessons from their experience in behavioural communication. - *Meeting/Forum with NGOs with Anti CLaT goals/Objectives – April*
- Training on Anti CLaT for Traditional Leaders and assembly members (2) (30 each in Apam and Winneba) - April.
- Mid-year Review Training on Anti CLaT Advocate – May.
- Training of National Stakeholders (GoG) on the Child Labor Policy - May.
- MPU In-Charge Officer (Supervisor) Orientation to Staff Capacity Development and Performance Development Planning – May.
- Public campaign on anti - CLaT by Advocates in Apam & Winneba through Video Shows and Radio Sensitization- Advocates Community Campaigns on behavioural change Focus Group Discussions (PTA, Churches/Mosque) – June.
- National CSOs and Fisheries Alliance Engagement meetings for implementation of NFMP – June.
- Anti- CLaT Day Celebration -World Day Against Child Labor celebration in Winneba or Apam – June.
- Collaborate with the Fisheries Commission to plan and launch the Fisheries Watch Volunteer (FWV) initiative.
- Collaborate with the Fisheries Commission to finalize the Operational Guide for Fisheries Watch volunteers.
- Scale up FWV committees in other regions – June.

IR2

- Phase III: Advance Application Training in the application of GIS using practical field work in the preparation of the ICM toolkit – April.
- High level visit by UCC to URI, including review of PhD students' Fall semester abroad.
- Field work in Ghana by URI masters and PhD degree candidates. May and June.
- Acquisition of fixed wing UAV and training of UCC, URI and Hen Mpoano staff. June. (Potential TDY, C. Damon)
- STWG quarterly meeting to prepare the annual stock assessment document.
- Update status of the stock (small pelagics) – May/June.
- Fisheries leadership course – April.

- Alumni Sharing workshop – May.
- Advanced stock assessment training workshop – May.
- Age and Growth training workshop – May.
- Guide on identifying fish caught with illegal methods and chemicals with CCM and Forensic Laboratory at UCC – May/June.
- Fishing Gear cooperative research report – June.
- Exchange Visit by FSSD to the US on data collection program – June.
- Incorporate comments from review and draft Final Central Region ICMToolkit – May/June, along with stakeholder meetings to launch and handover Toolkit - June

IR3

- World rural women's day celebration advocacy for responsible fishing during world rural women's day - WRWD – April
- Success story on CLAT - April
- Media campaign and training on the implementation of the management plan. - radio sensitization and education programme on fisheries management plan – May
- Media campaign and training on the implementation of the management plan - fish processors group sensitization and training on fisheries management plan - April/May
- Organize the world day against child labor – June
- Success stories on gender & post-harvest – April to June

IR4

- Business Skills Services Training (150 MSMEs benefit)- MSME's Identification, Screening and Training Needs Assessment – April.
- Construct 6 demonstration improved fish smoking stoves – April.
- Construction & Material Support For Processors - Construction of Raised Drying Racks for fish processing for MSMEs - April- June.
- Oyster – Stake holder engagement – April to May.
- Organize exchange program for VSLA groups - May.
- Organize meetings with end users and stove builders for a dialogue on pricing and technological issues – May.
- Organize 4 demonstrational activities on stove use and safety management – April – June
- Stove awareness creation and activations in selected location in Greater Accra region – April –June.
- Construction of 100 improved stoves in Greater Accra region – April – June.

IR5

- Three days Training on gender fisheries policy / advocacy skills for MSMEs in Elmina, Moree, Anlo and Sekondi. - April
- Field Coaching and Monitoring of IPs, FC National and Zonal offices in implementation of action plans – April – May
- Workshops for men's knowledge and skills development on the inclusion of women in community groups – WR – May
- Coaching in mainstreaming and implementation of action plan in the fisheries gender strategy – WR – May

IR6

- Make ready the mobile money platform that will be used by fishers for premium payment and receipt of claims. Enrollment or registration of the fishers.
- SSG will organize an initial work planning workshop for the Tigo partnership, as well as a business modeling exercise, to launch and coordinate partnership activities.

- Complete discussion on the Hotline and commence negotiation on the initiative to affirm an ICT firm that is ready to partner with SFMP and MOFAD.
- Develop concept note and circulated to MOFAD/FC and Marine Police when the consultation is completed.
- SSG will collaborate with SNV to identify and interview more private financial institutions (especially those outside Greater Accra Region) for the stove financing initiative.

IR7

- OCA for Canoe Council – May – June.
- GITA and NAFPTA adopt draft constitutions and organize Annual General Meetings.
- Mid-Term review of CSO action plans – May.
- Mid-Term OCAs for CSOs (DQF, CEWEFIA, DAA, HM, FoN, GCFC, FA) by SNV
- Mid-Term Capacity Assessments for Government of Ghana and University of Cape Coast Units will be conducted by SFMP/URI.
- Receipt of CSO Audit Report.

IR 8

- Quickbook Enterprise installation and set-up in Ghana (TDY for MIS specialist Bowen)
- Quarterly M&E capacity building workshops – June
- Data Quality Assessments (M&E field Audit) – April
- Routine Monthly Monitoring – April to June

Project Management

As noted under the Section 5: Management and Administrative Issues, there have been a number of staffing transitions in this quarter and the Chief of Party Transition planned for the third quarter. The current Chief of Party, Brian Crawford returns to the US on April 1st and the new Chief of Party, Maurice Knight, will arrive in-country on May 16th. In the interim, Enoch Appiah has been appointed as the in-country officer-in-charge until the new Chief of Party arrives in Ghana. Procedures have been put in place to ensure smooth operations of the project during this interim period. Brian Crawford remains in the official role of the Chief of Party from his current location in Rhode Island, administering as needed functions that can be done long distance and in a virtual role. Approvals for goods and services and other for check signing and wire transfers has delegated temporarily to in-country personnel, requiring dual signatures from Nafisa Antaru and Margaret Atikpo. Margaret Atikpo also has been delegated approval authorities for all in-country transactions during the interim period. At the CRC home office, Brian Crawford's role will transition from the Chief of Party to the Project Manager role, taking over certain management and administrative responsibilities from Don Robadue and Elin Torell. An orientation schedule is being developed for the new Chief of Party once he arrives in Ghana and both in-country and CRC-based personnel are already assisting him with travel and moving arrangements.

8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

BUDGET ITEM	TOTAL FUNDS OBLIGATED TO DATE MARCH 31, 2017 (US\$)	TOTAL FUNDS EXPENDED TO DATE, THROUGH MARCH	PIPELINE AS OF MARCH 31, 2017 (US\$)	ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES AND ENCUMBRANCES (US\$) APRIL 1-JUNE 30, 2017	PIPELINE AS OF JUNE 30, 2017 (US\$)
DIRECT COSTS	6,066,123	5,098,961	967,162	981,966	(26,916)
SUBGRANTEES AND CONSTRUCTION	5,100,594	5,319,508	(218,914)	528,000	58,745
TRAINING	65,000	15,000	50,000	0	(58,735)
TOTAL DIRECT	68,501	71,505	(3,004)	33,405	53,451
INDIRECT	11,300,218	10,504,975	795,243	1,543,371	(748,128)
TOTAL	12,683,044	11,664,650	1,018,394	1,669,404	(651,010)

The table below has been revised to capture results according to each quarter. Some indicator data were revised to reflect indicator definition at the end of the year as part of internal review process. Also some of the results delayed and were reported in the next quarters as an update of the previous quarter result thereby creating inconsistencies in the way the previous quarter result as reported. The revision of this result table is as a result of project internal review and the adoptive management process. This revision did not change the annual figures reported.

ANNEX A: PROGRESS SUMMARY

The summary table below includes all standard USAID indicators as shown in Section 1.2 as well as SFMP custom indicators. It measures planned versus achieved during the reporting quarter and gives a cumulative performance in each quarter.

Table 1(a): PMP Indicator progress - USAID Standard Indicators and Project Custom Indicators

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2017		Quarterly Status – FY 2017				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Project Goal: Rebuild targeted fish stocks via adoption of sustainable practices and exploitation levels											
Project Goal Indicators											
Number of hectares in areas of biological significance and/or natural resource showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance (EG 4.8.1-1)	Biophysical assessments, landing data, maps	2015	0	10 hectares	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	This indicator will be tracked in 2019
Number of indirect project beneficiaries (number), the percentage of which are female (percent) (Project Indicator)	Project record and surveys	2015	0	Counting 130,000 if the close season or second fishing holidays is adopted	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This will be tracked at the end of FY 2017
Intermediate Result (IR): POLICY: Strengthened enabling environment for marine resources governance											
Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: (FTF 4.5.1(24)) 1. Analysis 2. Stakeholder consultation/public debate 3. Drafting or revision 4. Approval (legislative or regulatory) 5. Full and effective implementation	Copies of laws, policies, strategies, plan or regulation	2015	0	7 Step 3-Ankobra (CBMP) Step 3-Densu (Oyster Plan) CLaT strategy – Step 4 Fish Act –Step 2 NMFMP-Step 5 Co-mgt. policy – Step 4 Step 3 Pra (CBMP)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Will be tracked at the end of FY 2017.

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2017		Quarterly Status – FY 2017				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Intermediate Result (IR): SCIENCE & RESEARCH: Increased use of science and applied research to inform decision-making, law enforcement and the implementation of management plans											
Number of institutions with improved capacity to develop and implement managed access fisheries management plans	Project records, capacity assessment reports	2015	0	16 Ongoing, NAFTA replaces FA	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	Indicator will be tracked in FY 2017
Intermediate Result (IR): CONSTITUENCIES: Constituencies and political will for policy reform & implementation built											
Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG 4.8.1-28)	Trip reports, project records	2015		704	307	130	177	N/A	N/A	44%	Indicator on target to be achieved as most external TA planned for Q3
Number of information products disseminated in local media reports, radio shows, conference papers, and research studies (Project indicator).	Sample of reports	2015	0	36	42	28	14	N/A	N/A	117%	Achieved
Intermediate Result (IR): APPLIED MANAGEMENT: Improved management of marine resources											
Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance (EG 4.8.1)	GIS Maps, policy documents	2015	0	619,473 hectares	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	This indicator will be tracked from FY 17, to FY 19
Number of DAs supported with USG Assistance (Ghana CDCS, IR 2.3 indicator)	Project records, mgt. plans	2015	0	4 (Ongoing)	5	4	5(1new, 4 ongoing)	N/A	N/A	125 %	Ongoing assistance to DAs.
Improvement in fisheries enforcement and prosecutorial chain to counter IUU fishing (increase/decrease in prosecutions and percent that lead to conviction) (Project Indicator)	Project, police, district attorney, and FEU records	2015	0	Increasing	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Data acquired for western command, will be reported next quarter
Number of climate vulnerability assessments conducted as a result of USG Assistance (EG 4.5.1)	Assessment reports	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No target for the quarter
Number farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (FtF 4.5.2)	Project records	2015	0	100,000 (assumes national closed season or other measure for	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This indicator will be tracked at the end of FY17, FY 18 and FY 19
		Baseline data		FY 2017		Quarterly Status – FY 2017				Annual	

Indicator	Data Source	Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
				canoes/small pelagics adopted)							
Number of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2)	training participant records, lists of micro-enterprises supported	2015	0	896	590 M-68 F-552	251 M-49 F-202	339 M-19 F-320	N/A	N/A	66% M-12% F-88%	Indicator on target and will be fully accomplished by end of quarter 4
Value of new private sector investments in select value chains (FTF 4.5.2-38)	Private sector financial records, program data	2015	0	Tracked, no target	S 19,237	0	S 19,237	N/A	N/A	100%	Will be tracked
Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers organizations, water users associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations(CBOs) receiving USG assistance (RiA) (WOG) (FTF 4.5.2(11))	Project document	2015	0	4 (1 new-NAFTA)	4 ongoing	4	4 ongoing	N/A	N/A	100%	Target achieved
Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S)(FTF 4.5.2(27))	Project documents	2015	0	TBD – as an additional org was added this year – NAFPTA	618 M-141 F-477	228 M-43 F-185	390 M98 F-292	N/A	N/A	100%	Target to be revised after discussions with NAFPTA
Cross Cutting Indicators											
Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of Feed the Future assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(12))	Project documents	2015	0	1	1	0	1	N/A	N/A	100%	Target achieved
Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation, and climate change, disaggregated by gender (EG 4.8.1-27/ 4.8.2-6)	Project training reports and participant lists	2015	0	1492	520 M-339 F-181	156 M-85 F-71	364 M-254 F-110	N/A	N/A	35% M-65% F-35%	Indicator below target. To be achieved as some of the activities are rescheduled for Q3.
Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance (FtF 4.8.1-29)	Project training report.	2015	0	19,959	10074	2,794	7280	N/A	N/A	50%	Indicator on target. Will be achieved by the end of Q4.
		Baseline data		FY 2017		Quarterly Status – FY 2017				Annual	

Indicator	Data Source	Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-1	Project training reports and participant lists	2015	0	1,987	703 M-273 F-430	0	703 M-273 F-430	N/A	N/A	35% M-39% F-61%	New indicator. Below target and will be achieved as some of the activities are rescheduled for Q3.
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) EG.3.2-2	Project training reports and participant lists	2015	0	5 Continuing	5 M-1 F-4	N/A	5 M-1 F-4	N/A	N/A	100% M-20% F-80%	New indicator. Introduced in Q2
Value of agricultural and rural loans as a result of USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-6	lists of micro-enterprises supported	2015	0	\$30,497	\$8,372 M-\$0 F-\$8372	N/A	\$8,372 M-\$0 F-\$8372	N/A	N/A	27% M-0% F-100%	New indicator. Below target and will be achieved by the end of Q4.
Number of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving agricultural-related credit as a result of USG assistance (RAA) EG.3.2-3	Lists of micro-enterprises supported	2015	0	TBD	65 M-0 F-65	0	65 M-0 F-65	N/A	N/A	100% M-0% F-100%	New indicator. Target yet to be determined

Note: the following Indicator data were revised

*Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG 4.8.1-28) was updated to captured number of days spent in Q2 but was reported during Q3.

*Value of new private sector investments in select value chains (FTF 4.5.2-38) data was revised to capture only capital investment after internal review during Q4.

*Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(27)) data was revised to capture results after internal review was conducted at the end of the year.

ANNEX B: TRAINET REPORT

This report includes trainings that count towards two indicators: including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2-37), and Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation, and climate change, disaggregated by gender (EG 4.8.1-27/ 4.8.2-6). For indicator reporting they are included in one or the other of these result areas based on the type of training provided, but not double counted in any cases for both indicators. The trainings reported in the following Table are for the current reporting period: January 1 – March 31, 2017.

Program Name	Start Date	End Date	USAID Budget (USD)	USAID Actual (USD)	Total Male Participants	Total Female Participants	Total Participants	Budget Per Participant
Training of Technical officers of the FC in fisheries sampling and biostatistics, Takoradi - CRC	1/11/2017	1/13/2017	8066	8066	17	2	19	425
Training of SFMP Local Partners(DAASGIFT and CEWEFIA) in Business Development, Elmina and Takoradi - SSG	2/7/2017	2/10/2017	470	470	14	7	21	22
Fisheries Management , Cape Coast-GITA	3/20/2017	3/24/2017	465	465	1	0	1	465
Quarterly monitoring and evaluation capacity building training for implementing partners -CRC	2/21/2017	2/24/2017	4615	4615	3	7	10	462
Training on Child Protection Panel FoN-	2/14/2017	2/16/2017	2256	2256	34	13	47	48
Use of Mobile Application in fisheries data collection, Aburi - CRC	1/17/2017	1/18/2017	2094	2094	25	2	27	78
Business Development Training, Sekondi -CEWEFIA	3/6/2017	3/10/2017	5770	5770	11	66	77	75
Business Skills and Advocacy Training 1, Tsokomey - DAA	2/16/2017	2/17/2017	807	807	6	21	27	30
Fisheries Leadership training of trainers course, Elmina - CRC	2/27/2017	3/3/2017	8727	8727	20	11	31	282

Program Name			USAID	USAID	Total Male Participants	Total Female Participants	Total Participants	Budget Per Participant
GPS Survey Training/Mapping of restoration sites- HM	1/17/2017	1/20/2017	3035	3035	10	2	12	253
Business Skills and Advocacy Training 2, Tsokomey- DAA	2/21/2017	2/22/2017	1295	1295	7	19	26	50
Competency Base Workshop with MPU, FoN	3/9/2017	3/9/2017	3840	3840	31	2	33	116
Business Skills Training, Winneba - DAA	3/9/2017	3/10/2017	1978	1978	3	47	50	40
Two day Training on leadership skills and the use of integrated referral								
Business Development and Management, Asanta and Axim - DQF	1/10/2017	3/14/2017	5628	5628	0	100	100	56
Hygienic Fish Handling, Hygienic Fish Packaging, Elina, Moree, Sekondi -								
Training of Data Collectors on the use of GPS, Cape Coast- SPS	1/10/2017	1/12/2017	6770	6770	32	1	33	205
Training workshop on the FC/MOFAD gender mainstreaming strategy for								
Use of Smart phones for Fisheries Data Collection, Elmina -CRC	2/22/2017	2/24/2017	7671	7671	21	3	24	320
Functional Literacy Training	12/08/2016	03/20/2017	4702	4702	1	99	100	47.025
Total			75,418	75417	316	575	891	3,095

ANNEX C: TABLE OF FISHERIES STORIES REPORTED IN THE LOCAL MEDIA

Table 3. List of Fisheries Stories Reported in the print Media and Radio for this reporting period (January-March, 2017)

No.	Platform/ Media House	Segment Type	Topic/ Issue	Date
1	Daily Graphic, Pg 42	News Feature	Smoked Fish to eat or not to eat http://www.graphic.com.gh/features/features/smoked-fish-to-eat-or-not-to-eat.html	Feb 8, 2017
2	The Ghanaian Times	News Item	No Fish Shortage, Fisheries Minister Assures	Feb 9, 2017
3	Joynewsonline.com	News Item	Gov't to reduce import duty on fishing equipment by 2018 - Afoley Quaye http://www.myjoyonline.com/news/2017/february-9th/vetting-live-fisheries-and-aquaculture-minister-designate-in-the-hot-seat.php	Feb 9, 2017
4	Joynewsonline.com	News Item	Fishermen deserve as much attention as farmers - Fisheries Minister-designate http://www.myjoyonline.com/news/2017/February-9th/fishermen-deserve-as-much-attention-as-farmers-fisheries-minister-designate.php	Feb 9, 2017
5	Ghanaweb.com	News Item	Women oyster harvesters ready for community co-management plan http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Women-oyster-harvesters-ready-for-community-co-management-plan-509010	Feb 11, 2017
6	Citifmonline.com	News Item	Reducing fish imports: Ministry to regulate artisanal fishers - http://citifmonline.com/2017/02/11/reducing-fish-imports-ministry-to-regulate-artisanal-fishers/#sthash.wqgASTnM.dpuf	Feb 11, 2017
7	Ghanatrade.gov.gh	Editorial	Women oyster harvesters ready for community co-management plan http://www.ghanatrade.gov.gh/Trade-News/women-oyster-harvesters-ready-for-community-co-management-plan.html	Feb 11, 2017
8	Newspaper Article	Discussion	Co-Management of Pra Estuary	Feb 13, 2017
9	Newspaper Article	Discussion	Management Plan for Pra Estuary Development	Feb 27, 2017
10	Daily Graphic Pg. 71	News Item	Fisheries Ministry Launches Fish for Food Project http://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/fisheries-ministry-launches-fish-for-food-project.html	Feb 29, 2017
11	Ghana News Agency	News Item	USAID Awards Fishers for outstanding practices http://www.ghananewsagency.org/social/usaaid-awards-fishers-for-outstanding-fishery-	March 7, 2017

No.	Platform/ Media House	Segment Type	Topic/ Issue	Date
			practices-114029	
			USAID awards fishers for outstanding fishery practices http://ghheadlines.com/agency/ghana-news-agency/20170307/38219468/usaid-	
13	GhanaShafaqna.com	News Item	USAID awards fishers for outstanding fishery practices http://ghana.shafaqna.com/EN/GH/177972	March 7, 2017
14	3News.Com	News Item	USAID honours fisherfolk for actions toward improved food security http://3news.com/usaid-honours-fisherfolk-for-actions-toward-improved-food-	March 7, 2017
			USAID honours fisherfolks for responsible fisheries practices http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/USAID-awards-	
			USAID Honors Fisherfolk For Actions Toward Improved Food Security https://www.modernghana.com/news/760423/usaid-honors-fisherfolk-for-	
			USAID Honors Fisherfolk for Actions Toward Improved Food Security http://www.einnews.com/pr_news/370220227/usaid-honors-fisherfolk-for-	
18	Daily Graphic	News Item	USAID rewards Fishers for exemplary fisheries practices	March 8, 2017
19	Thefishsite.com	News Feature	Fish shortage looms large http://www.thefishsite.com/articles/2257/fish-shortage-looms-large/	March 23, 2017
			Child Trafficking: The Story of Abaidoo http://www.graphic.com.gh/features/features/child-trafficking-the-story-of-	March 29,
			Fisher folk to benefit from ‘Tigo Fishers Network Initiative’	

ANNEX D: NEWLY RECEIVED REPORTS UNDER REVIEW, REVISION AND FINAL PROCESSING, OCTOBER 1, 2016 TO MARCH 31, 2017

IR 1 Strengthening Enabling Environment for Governance

1. *Adeborna, D. (2016). Household at Risk Tool Training Workshop Report. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Netherlands Development Organisation. GH2014_POL054_FoN. 8 pp.
2. *Friends of the Nation. (2015). Central Region Coastal-Fishing Communities Anti-ClaT Sensitization Program. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_POL028_FON. 28 pp.
3. *Friends of the Nation. (2015). Marine Police Training Course Curriculum. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and URI Fisheries Center. GH2014_POL011_FoN. 19 pp.
4. *Friends of the Nation. (2015). Analysis on Fisheries violations: Baseline for Prosecutions in Western and Eastern Command. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Friends of the Nation. GH2014_POL013_FoN. 28 pp.
5. *Hen Mpoano. (2015). The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP), National Fisheries Dialogue, 2015, Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Hen Mpoano, Windy Ridge, East Tanokrom – Western Region. GH2014_POL006_CRC. 42 pp.
6. *Lazar, N. (2015). Scope of Work: Characterization Of Population Genetic Structure Of *Sardinella* (*Sardinella aurita* and *Sardinella maderensis*) In West Africa. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_POL009_CRC. 17 pp. Not for distribution.
7. *Lazar, N. (2016). Fishermen to Fishermen (F2 F) Dialogue Supporting The Actions of The National Fisheries Management Plan 2015-2019. Prepared for the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCFC). GH2014_POL076_CRC. 8 pp.
8. *Lazar, N. (2016). Report of the Twenty-First session of the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic, Dakar, Senegal 20-22 April 2016. USAID/ Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_POL063_CRC. 10 pp.
9. Agbogah, K., Etonam Kassah, J., Sowah, S. (2016). National Coastal Planning Workshop. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island; Hen Mpoano; University of Cape Coast; and University of Ghana. GH2014_POL007_CRC 35 pp. http://www.crc.uri.edu/download/GH2014_POL007_CRC_FIN508.pdf

10. Ghana Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and Ghana Fisheries Commission. (2016). Fisheries Management Plan of Ghana. A National Policy for the Management of the Marine Fisheries Sector. Accra, Ghana.
GH2014_POL005_FC_FisheriesMgtPlan. 48 pp.
http://www.crc.uri.edu/download/GH2014_POL005_FC_FisheriesMgtPlan2016.pdf
11. Tobey, J., A. K. Normanyo, P. Osei, K. Beran, & B. Crawford. (2016). Subsidies in Ghana's Marine Artisanal Fisheries Sector. USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_POL059_CRC. 53 pp.

IR 2 Science and Research Applied to Policy and Management

12. *Bowen, R., & Lazar, N. (2016). Fisheries Data Collection Workshop, August 22-23, 2016. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Fisheries Scientific Survey Division. GH2014_SCI022_CRC_FSSD. 6 pp.
13. *Brown B., Moustahfid H. (2015). Evaluation of Stock Assessment and Management of Small Pelagics in Ghana. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). GH2014_SCI001_CRC. 11 pp.
14. *Castro, K. & Ricci, G. (2016) Fisheries Leadership Course Report. July 2016. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_SCI021_CRC. 18 pp.
15. *Coastal Resources Center. (2016). Developing Capacity in Spatial Planning. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_SCI023_CRC. 14 pp.
16. *Lazar N. (2015) Report of the Training in Biological Fisheries Sampling and Data Management. USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_SCI027_CRC. 12 pp.
17. *Lazar N. (2016). Terms of Reference for Fishing Capacity Assessment Workshop. Methods for Measuring and Managing Fishing Effort. USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_SCI026_CRC. 9 pp.
18. *Lazar, N, Yankson K, Blay J., Ofori-Danson P., Markwei P., Agbogah K., Bannerman P., Sotor M., Yamoah K. K., & Bilisini W. B. (2016). Rebuilding Depleted Small Pelagic Stocks in Ghana. A Closed Fishing Season Proposal to the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development. The Scientific and Technical Working Group. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_SCI002_CRC. 15 pp.

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A Boost for Sustainable Fisheries practices in Ghana

18 recognized for outstanding, voluntary initiatives at inaugural Best Fisheries Practices Awards ceremony.



Michael Bumegbey (middle) receiving his Fisheries Leadership Award

“This award will boost our efforts to stop the use of monofilament net in Keta. Our appreciation goes to the American people.”

**Micheal Bumegbe
Chief fisherman
Kedzikope,
Keta Volta Region**

Photo Credit: SFMP Coms Team

Michael Bumegbe, a fisherman from Keta District, Volta region is optimistic as he looks confidently into the future of his fishing business. “It’s a major improvement for us all” says Michael as he observes how fishermen in his community have moved away from their old methods of fishing to more sustainable practices.

Like most fisher folks, Michael has benefited from series of training on best fisheries practices from Friends of the Nation under the USAID’s Sustainable Fisheries Management Project and has been applying what he was taught to his business.

Today, Michael is one of the 18 recipients of the Best Fisheries Practices Awards from the USAID project that is intended to reward resource users for the adoption of sustainable fishing practices as enshrined in the Fisheries Laws as well as for best post-harvest fisheries practices that allow fishmongers and processors to add value to their businesses.

Michael’s success is born out of his determination to make a positive difference. Concerned about the unsustainable practices of fishing, he was the first to destroy his monofilament fishing net (which is illegal in marine waters) and caused his peers to follow suit. “My children schools fees and all family need depend on fishing “says Michael.

The training provided by SFMP’s partners have not only increase awareness but also empower the beneficiaries to undertake leadership role towards addressing the challenges of unsustainable fishing practices across Ghana’s coastal communities.

The awards scheme was instituted by the SFMP in partnership with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the Fisheries Commission to rebuild targeted marine fisheries stocks through the adoption of sustainable fishing practices and exploitation levels.

The efforts are in harmony with the Sustainable Fisheries Management Project’s objectives which seeks to rebuild targeted marine fisheries stocks, notably small pelagic fish important to local food security, through the adoption of sustainable practices and exploitation levels.

Telling Our Story

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Savoring the benefits of Fisheries Business Development Services

2034 Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises have benefitted so far from business development training.



Photo Credit: SFMP Comms Team

Peace Abla Gavor, (middle) receiving her Exemplary Fish Practices Awards

“My business has seen massive growth after the business development training. I now make more money because I have added value to my fish. I also have access to soft loans to expand my business”

***Peace Abla Gavor,
Fish Processor
Elmina,
Central Region***

Telling Our Story

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“I wish I had participated in the post-harvest fisheries business

development training program earlier” says Peace Abla Gavor, a 54 year old fish processor at Elmina in the Central region. She was struggling with the family business she inherited. After more than 30 years of stress and strain, her small enterprise fell on hard times. Peace’s children had to drop out of school to help keep the business running. The family was barely living from hand to mouth, a situation which is a major source of worry to her family.

In Ghana, despite the central role women play in feeding the nation, their empowerment is largely overlooked in the fisheries sector. Women consistently find themselves confined to the lowest end of the fisheries value chain - a position that is perpetuating and widening a gender-based disparity in income. Poor fish-handling and processing practices, inadequate records-keeping skills, illiteracy, and lack of access to loans also contribute to economic hardships that threaten entire families.

To help show women like Peace a better way, USAID through the Sustainable Fisheries Management Project has been working to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises along the coastal communities. With the project’s support, more than 2034 people, the majority being women-owned businesses, have been trained in business development skills.

Participants have learned about fish processing skills, food safety, packaging and marketing, financial management, and alternative livelihoods. They also received instruction on organizing and receiving soft loans from the financial market. The training adds value to the participants’ products, thus increasing sales and expanding operations. In turn, these business owners can pursue meaningful change and improve their lives.

After participating in a series of trainings, Peace moved away from her old method of business and has started practicing what she learned from the project. Today, Peace keeps proper records, has expanded her business and has been awarded the most exemplary individual fish handling and processing practice along the coast. “Thanks to USAID Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) I can now enjoy much benefits from my business” she smiled.