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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT



October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF OCEANOGRAPHY



Hen Mpoano



Friends of the Nation

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Cover photo: Prof. Dennis W. Aheto, Program Manager, USAID/UCC Fisheries and Coastal Management Capacity Building Support Project (right), presenting a communique to the Minister for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, Hon. Naa Afoley Quaye (left) at the end of the three- day National Conference on Fisheries and Coastal Environment held in Accra, Ghana on 19th to 21st August, 2019.

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ACRONYMS

ACECoR	African Center of Excellence in Coastal Resilience
CAC	Canoe Authorization Card
CCM	Center for Coastal Management
CDCS	Country Development Cooperation Strategy
CECAF	Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic
CEWEFIA	Central and Western Region Fishmongers Improvement Association
CIC	Canoe Identification Card
CIPTC	CEWEFIA Integrated Fish Processing and Training Center
CLaT	Child Labor and Trafficking
CoP	Chief of Party
CRC	Coastal Resources Center
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DAA	Development Action Association
DFAS	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
DFTC	DAA Fisheries Training Centre
DOPA	Densu Oyster Pickers Association
EG	Economic Growth
F	Fishing Mortality
F2F	Fisher-to-Fisher
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
FC	Fisheries Commission
FCMCBSP	Fisheries and Coastal Management and Capacity Building Support Project
FCWC	Fishery Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea
FFP	Fishers Future Plan insurance scheme
FoN	Friends of the Nation
FSSD	Fisheries Scientific Survey Division
FtF	USAID's Global Feed the Future Program
FY	Fiscal Year
GIFA	Ghana Inshore Fishermen's Association
GIS	Geographic Information System
GITA	Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association
GNCFC	Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council
GoG	Government of Ghana
GPS	Geographic Positioning System
HM	Hen Mpoano
IJM	International Justice Mission
IR	Intermediate Results
IUCN	International Union of the Conservation of Nature
IUU	Illegal Unreported Unregulated
KEEA	Komenda- Edina-Eguafo-Abirem
LoP	Life of Project
LUSPA	Land Use Planning and Spatial Planning Authority
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MASLOC	Microfinance and Small Loans Center

METSS	Monitoring Evaluation and Technical Service Support
MOFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium-scale Enterprises
MT	Metric Tons
MTDP	Medium Term Development Plan
NAFAG	National Fisheries Association of Ghana
NAFPTA	National Fish Processors and Traders Association
NFMP	National Fisheries Management Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NMFMP	National Marine Fisheries Management Plan
NRM	Natural Resources Management
OCA	Organizational Capacity Assessment
OCD	Organizational Capacity Development
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
PMP	Performance Management Plan
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Program
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
STWG	Scientific and Technical Working Group
TFN	Tigo Fisheries Network
UAV	Unmanned Aerial Vehicle
UCC	University of Cape Coast
URI	University of Rhode Island
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
VSLAs	Village Savings and Loans Associations
WARFP	West Africa Regional Fisheries Program

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1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW / SUMMARY

Program Name:	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
Activity Start and End Date:	October 22, 2014 to September 30, 2020
Name of Prime Implementing Partner:	Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island
Agreement Number:	AID-641-A-15-00001
Name of Sub-awardees:	Central and Western Fish Mongers Association (CEWEFIA) Development Action Association (DAA) Friends of the Nation (FoN) Hen Mpoano (HM) SNV Netherlands Development Organization Resonance
Major Government Counterpart Organizations	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Fisheries Commission
Geographic Coverage	Ghana: Central Region, Western Region, Greater Accra Region, Volta Region
Reporting Period:	October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019

1.1 Program Description/ Introduction

The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP), a five-year project (October 2014-October 2019) was recently granted a no cost extension through September 2020. The Project goal is aimed at rebuilding marine fisheries stocks and catches through adoption of responsible fishing practices. The project contributes to the Government of Ghana’s fisheries development objectives and 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 at ending overfishing of key stocks which are important for local food security through the achievement of the following intermediate results:

1. Improved legal enabling conditions for co-management, use rights and effort-reduction strategies.
2. Strengthened information systems and science-informed decision-making.
3. Increased constituencies that provide the political and public support needed to rebuild fish stocks.
4. 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, including SNV Netherlands Development Organization, Resonance, Hen Mpoano (HM), Friends of the Nation (FoN), the Central & Western Fish Mongers Improvement Association in Ghana (CEWEFIA), and Development Action Association (DAA).

The project complements and coordinates closely with two other sister projects in the USAID/Ghana Coastal Program Portfolio: The Coastal Sustainable Landscapes Project (CSLP) which recently ended, and the University of Cape Coast/Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Science (UCC/DFAS) Institutional Strengthening Project.

The SFMP builds on the best practices and lessons learned from the USAID-Ghana's Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance Program, known locally as the *Hen Mpoano* (Our Coast) initiative. In this follow-up, SFMP is focusing efforts on small pelagic fisheries along the entire coastline as well as the demersal fisheries and essential mangrove fish habitat along the coast of Ghana. Additionally, improvements in the value chain of smoked fish, important to tens of thousands of women fish processors have been supported. The project has also adopted deliberate actions towards reducing child labor and trafficking in within the fisheries sector in Ghana.

Key government clients of this project include MOFAD/, FC, the Regional Coordinating Councils and associated Districts in the Central and Western, Greater Accra and Volta Regions. The capacity of the Marine Police has also been strengthened, while the University of Cape Coast has received direct support. A number of local NGOs and women's associations in the fisheries sector have also served either as core or supporting partners in the implementation of this project.

This annual report tracks the progress of the project through Year 5 (October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019) and provides information on how these partners are contributing to the achievement of project targets and how these achievements will be sustained to meet the overarching goal of SFMP.

1.2 Summary of Results to Date relative to FtF and other USAID Standard Performance Indicators

This section provides a summary of the results achieved in Year 5 based on PMP targets and in relation to the project goal and intermediate results targets. Table 1 shows the FtF standard indicators on which SFMP reports. However, for a full list of indicators (FtF, other standard USAID indicators, and custom indicators) and narrative on each, see Annex 1.

Table 1: Summary of Results to Date on FtF Standard Indicators

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		Quarterly Results – FY 2019				FY 2019		Annual Performance	Comment(s)	
		Year	Value	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Cumulative Actual	Annual Planned Target	Achieved to Date (in %)		
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	0	0	0	0	610,900 (Small pelagics fishing area)	610,900 (Small pelagics fishing area)	610,900 (Small pelagics fishing area)	100%	Indicator target achieved based on closed season.
IR1: 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	0	0	0	0	3	8			Targets not fully achieved:
				In process	In process	In process	In process	Fish Act –	Step 3	Not achieved		Co-management Policy, Densu, Pra and Ankobra CBMPs pending approval by Cabinet and Minister. The 3 co-mgt plans while not approved formally are in the process of implementation
				Completed	Completed	Completed-implementation underway step 5 w/ closed season for canoes and inshore	Completed-implementation underway step 5 w/ closed season for trawlers and canoe reg. cards printed	Completed – some implementation in step 5 underway	NMFMP-Step 4	Achieved		
			Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	CLaT strategy–Step 4	Achieved		

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		Quarterly Results – FY 2019				FY 2019		Annual Performance	Comment(s)		
		Year	Value	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Cumulative Actual	Annual Planned Target	Achieved to Date (in %)			
				Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Gender Strategy – Step 4	Achieved	Cabinet memo drafted for Act revision but not yet submitted by MOFAD to cabinet which would trigger preparation of a draft bill.		
				In-process of Step 4	In-process of Step 4	In-process of Step 4	In-process of Step 4	In-process of Step 4	Co-Management policy – Step 4	Not achieved			
					In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	Step 4 in process, but implementation underway – step 5	Pra (CBMP) - Step 4		Not achieved	
					In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	Step 4 in process, but implementation underway – step 5	Ankobra (CBMP) - Step 4		Not achieved	
					In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	In process of implementation – step 5	Step 4 in process, but implementation underway – step 5	Densu (Oyster Plan) Step 4		Not achieved	
	IR 2: SCIENCE & RESEARCH: INCREASED USE OF SCIENCE AND APPLIED RESEARCH TO INFORM DECISION-MAKING, LAW ENFORCEMENT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MANAGEMENT PLANS												
	SEE CROSS CUTTING INDICATORS												
IR 4: 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	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	3	LoP Target met already, no additional target for Yr5	100%	LoP Target met already. The 3 hectares covered was as a result of unplanned activity by DAA.		

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		Quarterly Results – FY 2019				FY 2019		Annual Performance	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Cumulative Actual	Annual Planned Target	Achieved to Date (in %)	
Number of DAs supported with USG Assistance (Ghana CDCS, IR 2.3 indicator)	Project records, mgt.t plans	2015	0	6 ongoing	6 ongoing	6 ongoing	6 ongoing	6	6	100%	Target achieved and ongoing assistance to DAs.
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 FY 19. Target for LoP of 2 met.
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	0	0	canoe closed season 107,751 M-107,613 (99.9%) Ahotor users F-138 (0.1%)		107,751 M-107,613 (99.9%) F-138 (0.1%)	111,000 (assumes national closed season or other measure for canoes/ small pelagics adopted)	97%	107,751 fishermen practicing closed season based on 2016 canoe frame survey report which differs slightly from original number based on an older report, and 138 women adopting ahotor oven)
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	166 M-2 (1%) F-164 (99%)	303 M-52 (17%) F-251 (83%)	0	189 M - 0 (0%) F – 189 (100%)	658 M-54 (8%) F-604 (92%)	700	94%	N (Indicator target not fully achieved due to slow down of activities in Q1&Q2.)

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		Quarterly Results – FY 2019				FY 2019		Annual Performance	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Cumulative Actual	Annual Planned Target	Achieved to Date (in %)	
Value of agricultural and rural loans as a result of USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-6	Private sector financial records, program data	2015	0	0	0	\$6,346 M-0 (0%) F-\$ 6,346 (100%)	\$19,598 M-0 (0%) F-\$19,598 (100%)	\$25,962 M-\$0 (0%) F-\$25,962 (100%)	\$18,809	138%	Y (Target achieved. The MASLOC loans for ovens and seed capital is still in process)
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	Private sector financial records, program data	2015	0	0	0	33 M- 0 (0%) F – 33 (100%)	102 M- 0 (0%) F-102 (100%)	135 M- 0 (0%) F – 96 (100%)	100	135%	Y (Target achieved. The MASLOC loans for ovens and seed capital is still in process)
IR 5: GENDER											
SEE CROSSCUTTING INDICATORS											
IR 6: PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP											
Value of new private sector investments in select value chains (FTF 4.5.2-38)	Private sector financial records, program data	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Tracked, no target	N/A	Indicator Target on track.
Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of Feed the Future assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(12)_	Project documents	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No target for FY19 LoP target of 2 already achieved in FY17

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		Quarterly Results – FY 2019				FY 2019		Annual Performance	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Cumulative Actual	Annual Planned Target	Achieved to Date (in %)	
IR 7: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT											
Number of institutions with improved capacity to develop and implement managed access fisheries management plans	Project records, capacity assessment reports	2015	0	N/A	N/A	7 (7 CSO)	10 (10 GoG)	17 (7 CSO & 10 GoG)	19 (16 Ongoing, 3 New added)	89%	All 10 GoG institutions w/ improved capacity. 7 CSOs including 5 local IPs with improved capacity. 2 fisheries associations show some improvement 2 fisheries associations not showing sufficient progress.
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	6 - same group with ongoing support	6 - same group with ongoing support	6 - same group with ongoing support	6 - same group with ongoing support	6 - same group with ongoing support	6 (2 new-NAFAG & GIFA)	100%	Target achieved. Support is ongoing to producer organizations throughout the year.
Number of members of producer organizations and community based	Project documents	2015	0	269 (3%) M-45 (17%) F-224 (83%)	448 M-27 (6%) F-421 (94%)	0	0	717 M-72 (10%) F-645 (90%)	8,200	9%	Target to be achieved when the Canoe

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		Quarterly Results – FY 2019				FY 2019		Annual Performance	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Cumulative Actual	Annual Planned Target	Achieved to Date (in %)	
organizations receiving USG assistance (S)(FTF 4.5.2(27))											Authorization Card is rolled out in Q1 FY20
CROSS CUTTING INDICATORS											
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	0	154 days	180 days	81 days	110 days	525 days	262 days	200%	Target over 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	2,976 (161%) M-2,267 (76%) F-709 (24%)	225 M-94 (42%) F-131 (58%)	32 M-22(69%) F-10(31%)	5 M – 2 (40%) F – 3 (60%)	3,238 M-2,385 (74%) F-853 (26%)	1,854 persons	175%	(Target over achieved due to high participation during F2F training events, high male % due to focus in F2F on canoe registration and Canoe Council whose members mainly male
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	16,621 M-12,596 (76%) F-4,025 (24%)	2,639 M-1,292 (49%) F-1,347 (51%)	832 M-568 (68%) F-264 (32%)	40 M – 16 (40%) F – 24 (60%)	20,132 M -16,637 (72%) F- 2,663 (28%)	12,354 person hours	163%	Y (Target over achieved due to high participation during F2F training events). High male due to high male participation

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		Quarterly Results – FY 2019				FY 2019		Annual Performance	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual Cumulative Actual	Annual Planned Target	Achieved to Date (in %)	
											during F2F events
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 report.	2015	0	3,142 M-2,269 (72%) F-873 (28%)	404 M-146 (36%) F-258 (64%)	32 M-22(69%) F-10(31%)	98 M – 2 (2%) F – 96 (98%)	3,676 M – 2,439 (66%) F – 1,237 (34%)	2,554 persons	144%	Y (Target over achieved due to high participation during F2F training events, high male % due to focus in F2F on canoe registration and Canoe Council whose members mainly male)
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) EG.3.2-2	Project training report.	2015	0			1 F-1(100%)	1 M-1(100%)	2 M-1(50%) F-1(50%)	1 PhD student	200%	MSc. Student graduated in May 2019, PhD student in August

Note: The Results Performance Column depicts level of achievement expressed as a percentage of Actual versus Planned. Additional description and explanation is provided on each indicator as well as on indicators with high variance from the target in Annex 1.

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 Summary Progress Narrative & Implementation Status

SFMP over the year has supported MOFAD/FC to review the current fisheries legislation as a preparatory step towards the development of a new national fisheries legislation and a national fisheries co-management policy. In pursuit of these, two draft Cabinet Memoranda were prepared by the project following extensive stakeholder consultations and forwarded to MOFAD/FC for subsequent finalization and transmittal to Cabinet to seek approval to pave the way for the adoption of a new national co-management policy and the preparation of Drafting Instructions in connection with the development of a new Fisheries Legislation. Progress on enhancing and strengthening the policy environment has however stalled largely due to the slow pace of the internal administrative processes at MOFAD/FC.

The FSSD updated the status of the stock for small pelagic and demersal stocks. The results were presented and reviewed by the Science and Technical Working Group in early September and then submitted to the FC. The results showed that in 2018, the artisanal fisheries landings were the lowest since 1990 and that small pelagic fish stocks continue to decline due to severe overfishing, as was observed at the beginning of the project. Annual landings of the industrial trawl fisheries increased from 15,000 MT during the period from 1990 to 2013 to 33,000 MT during the last five years (2014-2018) contributing to the overfishing situation of marine fish stocks. In addition, preliminary results of the closed season monitoring also indicate that the majority of sardinellas were not mature during the artisanal fishing closure in the May 15 – June 15 period, confirming that this was not the best timing for the seasonal closure.

Fish biomass continues to decline for both pelagic and demersal stocks due to increasing fishing effort exacerbated by the open access regime in the artisanal fisheries sector and the increased catch by the industrial trawlers. The rebuilding target fishing mortality was estimated at $F=0.4$ (removal rate) while the current fishing mortality in 2018 was estimated at $F=0.88$. The STWG estimates that the stocks will likely collapse by 2022-2023 if the current open access regime in the artisanal fisheries and the increased catches of the industrial trawlers are not controlled.

The USAID SFMP and the UCC/DFAS hosted a National Fisheries Conference in August 2019. This major conference brought together several hundred participants from diverse stakeholder groups involved in the fisheries sector and coastal ecosystem management. It was attended by international experts, staff of MOFAD/FC, fisheries associations and other stakeholders in the fisheries sector including traditional authorities, academia, USAID and other donors. The theme for the Conference was “Fisheries and Coastal Governance in the Contemporary Times”. A conference “communique” was drafted that outlines key issues in the sector and recommendations by the participants for actions need to make progress towards a more sustainable fishery and coastal ecosystems. The communique will be distributed and published in the first quarter of FY 20 after reviewing the final text with the Honorable Minister. During the conference, a USAID SFMP lessons learned publication was also made available to participants. At the end of the 3- day conference, the stakeholders issued a Communique to the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development on key issues and concerns for immediate action that will inure to the sustainable management of Ghana’s fisheries.

A dual degree program that will allow students from UCC or URI (the lead implementers of SFMP) to be awarded with a PhD in Biological and Environmental Sciences on completion of the degree requirements of both universities has been instituted between URI/CELS, and

UCC/DFAS. The agreement was signed by the President of URI and the Vice Chancellor of UCC on May 2, 2019 at URI. Both institutions continue to work on the admission process into the dual degree program of the first wave of students from UCC-DFAS, expected to start in September 2020.

Fisher-to-Fisher dialogues (F2F) instituted by the SFMP, has gradually become a platform for dialogue between policy makers and fisherfolk. The MOFAD/FC has adopted the initiative and has included it in their program of work with budgetary support. This is a clear indication of the ministry's appreciation of the F2F platform and its role in facilitating the engagement of fishers in policy formulation and implementation. It has contributed to the consensus surrounding the 2019 closed season for the artisanal sector and the widespread compliance with the closure in spite of expressed concerns about its less than ideal timing.

In addition to participating in the preparatory meetings that preceded the district level F2F events, SFMP trained 48 (35 males and 13 females) staff of MOFAD/FC made up of regional directors, relevant divisional heads and all zonal officers on conducting F2F events.

Key to achieving SFMP'S objectives, is the support for MOFAD/FC to adopt and implement specific management measures to reduce fishing capacity and effort. As part of efforts by MOFAD/FC to address the current rate of decline of the small pelagic stocks, rebuild and sustainably manage it, the Government of Ghana for the first time implemented a closed season for the artisanal and

The Government of Ghana for the first time implemented a closed season for the artisanal and inshore fishery between May 15 – June 15, 2019, as well as a closure for the industrial trawler fishery from August 1 – September 30 2019.

inshore fishery between May 15 – June 15, 2019 as well as an August 1 – September 30 2019 closure for the industrial trawler fishery. SFMP provided financial and technical support to MOFAD/FC to undertake biological and socio-economic surveys to assess the impact of the closure on fish stocks, fisher folk and consumers to inform policy makers on decisions related to implementation of future closed seasons and management of the fisheries resources. While the closures were relatively successful from a compliance perspective, the timing of the artisanal closure was not considered the ideal period between July – September.

A monitoring and evaluation plan has also been established to provide a systematic assessment of the closure and measure any impact. The plan also served as baseline to develop adaptation and mitigation frameworks for future closures. In addition, direct participation of fishers in the monitoring provided a better understanding of how science-based decisions are made to determine the spawning periods of the small pelagic stocks, particularly the sardinella. Ultimately, participation of fishers in data collection was strategic and helped in building support and broadened constituencies for future science-based fisheries management.

SFMP supported the FC to clean-up the national artisanal boat (canoe) registry. The cleanup has reduced the estimate of the actual number of canoes from an estimated 14,700 to 13,807 even though the recommended sustainable number of artisanal canoes should be 9,095.

The cleanup exercise is a key step towards the implementation of the Canoe Identification Card (CIC) program which seeks to regulate and eventually cap the marine canoe fleet to reduce overcapacity and related fishing effort. The issuance of these cards will be conducted parallel to a national moratorium on new entries into the marine canoe sector and in the future eventually address challenges with the sale and distribution of Premix. A consultant was contracted to design CICs and generate unique QR codes that will contain the details of each canoe based on the data in the national canoe vessel registry. The QR codes on the CICs are

smart phone field-readable by designated government officials or fisheries enforcement officers and any enforcement or management related information automatically uploaded onto the national vessel registry database will be retrievable.

In the Densu Delta, open access to the oyster fishery, sprawling development and poor waste management has resulted in drastic drops in oyster harvests in recent years and a decline in the livelihoods of the harvesters prior to SFMP interventions. To reverse the situation, SFMP supported the Densu Oyster Pickers Association (DOPA) (a women's oyster harvesting group formed by Development Action Association - DAA) to develop a community based resource management plan to guide the sustainable exploitation of oysters in the delta. The plan recommends the implementation of a five month 'closed season' as a biological management measure to boost the growth of oysters. The Delta was therefore closed from November, 2018 to April 2019 for the second time in two years. Oyster harvesters report an increase in size and number of oysters harvested. Mangrove areas previously replanted sowed good growth and survival. DOPA and DAA have also learned after the third planting, appropriate times and conditions that lead to better survival and growth of seedling by planting during the rainy season and planting seedlings raised in nurseries rather than direct transplantation of propagules.

The Class 1 Recognition Scheme by the Fisheries Commission, which sets standards for small-scale fish processors to achieve minimum standards for hygienic fish processing was been supported by SFMP and mainstreamed with MOFAD/FC. Through SFMP's partners CEWEFIA, DAA and SNV, fish processors were sensitized on the scheme while zonal officers of the Fisheries Commission were trained as auditors. At the pilot stage 32 processors signed up to the scheme and were audited on the protocols. 12 out of the 32 passed the audit and have since been certified at the launch of the Class 1 Recognition Scheme at the forecourt of the MOFAD/FC. The launch which took place on the 5th of July 2019, was attended by the Honorable Deputy Minister of MOFAD, Francis Kingsley Ato Cudjoe, Mr. Steven Hendrix, the Deputy Mission Director of USAID, divisional heads and staff of MOFAD/FC, and processors who were members of CEWEFIA, DAA and NAFPTA. The SFMP has phased out support activities as it enters the final year and the program is now fully supported by the Post-Harvest Unit of the Fisheries Commission for implementation and scale up.

The CEWEFIA Integrated Fish Processing and Training Centre (CIPTC), one of the thirteen processing facilities awarded under the Class 1 Recognition Scheme, trained 45 fish processors and supported them to access new markets such as; KEEA Municipal Assembly offices, University of Cape Coast (UCC), Sasakawa restaurant at UCC, Cape Coast Regional Office and Elmina Beach Resort with fish smoked on the Ahotor oven, neatly packaged and labeled. The packaged fish was sold at GHS 25 per kilo with a higher margin of GHS 5 per kilo compared to the traditional market.

The CIPTC and the DAA Fisheries Training Centre (DFTC) have both been supported to institute a governing board that will supervise the operationalizing of their business plans developed with them in Q2. The two centers are currently making small strides towards accessing formal markets with high quality packaged smoked fish.

The results chain framework for USAID's Learning Initiative on women's empowerment, access to finance and sustainable fisheries was completed. The framework outlines approaches to increasing the capacities of women, building their resiliency through the uptake of financial tools such as the FFP (Fishers Future Plan insurance scheme) and VSLAs (village savings and loans). It is anticipated that empowering women and increasing their access to finance would orient them to openly advocate and support fishery management

measures such as the closed season and the fight against IUU in local communities. Field activities for this initiative were started in the second quarter following the approval of the project's no cost extension. VSLAs, which are community based micro savings groups are a cheaper pathway to improving access to finance to women through their own savings. As part of the Learning Initiative 17 new VSLAs made up of 425 beneficiaries have been set up in 11 communities in the Central, and Greater Accra Regions. These groups contribute a minimum of GH¢5, a maximum of GH¢ 25 as savings and GH¢ 1 each week towards a social fund. The VSLAs are part of bouquet of interventions aimed at empowering women to become key stakeholders in the management of Ghana's fisheries.

A total of 135 out of 194 processors who were trained to access loans as working capital and for the construction of an ahotor oven in year 4 from MASLOC (Microfinance and Small Loans Center), have all finally received their financial support. However, MASLOC could only support with GH¢ 1,000 per woman instead of the GH¢ 2,500 they had applied for. The total financial support from MASLOC loans was valued at \$ 25,962 at an exchange rate of GHS 5.2 = \$1). The interest rate was 1 percent per month, payable over 6 months and attracted a processing fee of GH¢ 25 per person.

Implementation of National Anti-Child Labor Strategy progressed with series of regional and community engagements with stakeholders and community folks. Local government authorities supported by SFMP embarked on programs and strategies to mainstream CLaT into their medium term development plans with the objective to help reduce the menace in fishing communities in the Central region. Eleven coastal districts in the Central Region have budgeted a total of GHS 4,579,905 (US\$ 934,674) in their 2018-2021 plans for activities to combat child labor and trafficking, with GHS 1,145,725 (US\$ 233,821) budgeted for activities in FY 2018.

Direct training for natural resources management, biodiversity conservation, and climate change during the year included a total of 3238 persons (2385 men and 853 women). Also, 3676 persons (2439 men and 1237 women) received short-term agricultural sector productivity and food security training and 658 MSMEs (54 men and 604 women) received business development support services. Another 717 members of producer organizations and community-based organizations (72 men and 645 women) also received training and assistance in business management and development.

An internal assessment of the implementation of SFMP's gender mainstreaming strategy was conducted in the year under review. The gender impact assessment found that women who have participated in SFMP's gender mainstreaming activities are more confident, knowledgeable and empowered to speak up, while their male counterparts recognized that it was time to acknowledge the role that women play in the fisheries sector. These results affirm the impact of SFMP's gender strengthening efforts in attitudes towards women's engagement in fisheries as well as challenged the cultural norms about women's role in fisheries as well as in the work place. A version of the gender assessment was published in the peer reviewed Coastal Management Journal.

SFMP liaised with the Fisher Future Plan (FFP) insurance partners to organize community clinics on the FFP in James Town in Greater Accra and Axim in Western Region. These clinics provided avenues through which potential and existing customers were sensitized to use digital finance (Vodafone Cash) to pay subscriptions on the FFP micro-insurance program. Current enrollment on the FFP is approximately 4,060 people in five communities, with more than \$430,000 of direct and in-kind private sector partner investment made to date. Additional enrollment has been suspended temporarily as the user interface is redesigned to become more user friendly based on a formative evaluation conducted of the service to date.

The Airtel-Tigo Fishers Network (TFN), facilitated by SFMP, was designed to allow fishers to send free text messages and voice calls among fisherfolk who have signed on to the TFN. However, management changes at both Airtel and Tigo due to the merger of the two companies derailed this arrangement and no further effort has gone into this partnership.

Organizational Capacity Development (OCD) of government, public university, and civil society organizations in the fisheries sector is an important cross cutting result area of SFMP. SFMP's Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) and OCD initiatives supported 10 Government of Ghana (GOG) and Public University units as well as 8 civil society organizations (CSOs). Results showed improved capacity compared to baseline for all but 2 of the organizations supported. For the FC SFMP support resulted in transformational change in the attitudes of FC personnel about the importance of their relationship with fishermen and fish processors. FC units at the central and regional levels had equipment, training, and communication platforms to engage with fishing communities and organizations with greater regularity and with more effective approaches than at baseline. The Central Region Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority (LUSPA) was able to fulfill its' new legislative mandate and took concrete measures to protect the coastal zone. The GIS training center is maintained at the same level as when it was handed over with no additional support from SFMP more than 2 years ago and 12 permanent trainers are actively training others. The evolution of organizational capacity at UCC/DFAS and CCM is strongly demonstrated by the increasingly influential position they now maintain in coastal management and fisheries in Ghana and beyond. The Local NGO's and Regional Membership Associations chosen as implementing partners of SFMP are closer to having robust systems and structures in place to facilitate their capacity to provide quality and sustainable services to their constituents, and in their readiness and capacity to receive direct funding from USAID and other donors. National Membership Associations have high relevance and low capacity. Although NAFPTA and GITA made incremental improvements, the 4 associations do not yet have the adequate governance and program management processes, systems, and structures in place to provide high quality and sustainable services to their constituents. Their major challenge was slow progress in implementing Human Resources and Financial Management systems.

2.2. Highlights of Year 4 Accomplishments

IR 1: Strengthened Enabling Environment for Marine Resources Governance

Fisheries Co-Management Policy, Legal Reform, and Harmonization of Regional Fisheries Policies

SFMP engaged two consultants to support MOFAD/FC to undertake a comprehensive review of the National Fisheries Act, leading to the development of a new Fisheries Legislation. Both consultants have clearly defined roles; one of them acted as a liaison between SFMP and MOFAD/FC on progress, process issues, inputs and coordination, while the other provided technical expertise on review, analysis and drafting of fisheries legislation.

Fish producer associations including the National Fisheries Association of Ghana (NAFAG), Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association (GITA), Ghana Tuna Association (GTA) and Ghana Inshore Fishers Association (GIFA), Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council (GNCFC) and the National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAPFTA), senior staff and deputy directors of the Fisheries Commission were consulted on the legal reforms. Participants at the various meetings were unanimous on the need for a new Fisheries Act and provided various reasons which included:

- Emerging issues in the industry which the current law does not address

- Closing gaps and removing implementation obstacles from unclear legal directions
- Clarifications on the composition of the Fisheries Commission Board of Commissioners
- Inclusion of co-management provisions
- Lack of transparency provisions in the current Fisheries Act
- The use of the National Fisheries Development Fund, and
- The implementation of Ghana's international commitments and obligations

Three basic tenets (*'why the law must be changed? What must change? How must this change happen?'*) - formed the basis of stakeholder engagements on the legal review process to support the review and development of the National Fisheries Act. Based on these engagements, the consultants drafted a Memo for submission by the sector Minister to Cabinet requesting for policy approval to move forward with the preparation of Drafting Instructions in respect of the development of a new Fisheries Act.

The process however has stalled largely by internal processes and procedures at MOFAD/FC. Also the exigencies of preparatory activities towards the implementation of the first fisheries closed season (May 15-June 15, 2019) preoccupied staff at MOFAD/FC and consequently contributed to little or no progress in this area during Y5/Q2 period. MOFAD has also requested that the draft cabinet memo be revised with added analysis and review of past recommendations from the WARF Project. Limited SFMP support is programmed under the No Cost Extension for enhancing the enabling legal environment and this work may be curtailed and budget reprogrammed if there is no demonstration of willingness on the part of the government to move the process forward. With the national election season almost underway, the window of opportunity to move this forward may be closing. In addition, SFMP in-country activities in the final project year will end in June, further constraining whether any progress can be made by end of project.

Another Cabinet Memo was developed towards the adoption and implementation of the National Co-management policy and three community based management plans. This Cabinet Memo has since been transmitted to Cabinet and the likelihood of this being approved is very high.

IR 2: Increased Use of Applied Science to Inform Decision-Making

The Science and Technical Working Group

The STWG continued to serve as the primary scientific and technical advisory group of the Fisheries Commission on the status of the small pelagic and demersal stocks. The STWG reviewed the annual fish stock assessment report in early September 2019, which was prepared and presented by FSSD staff. The report was in the form of power point presentation which contained detailed technical information on the status of the small pelagic and demersal fish stocks of Ghana. The report presented two aspects of stock status; the rate of fishing mortality (rate of removal) and biomass level. In all fisheries, the report showed that in 2018 the fishing mortality remains very high and that the biomass level was at its lowest level since 1990. The annual landings in 2018 of the artisanal fisheries were at the lowest level since 1990 despite a continuous increase in number of canoes and fishing gear.

However, the industrial trawl fisheries recorded an increase in total landings by as much as 54% during the last five years (2014-2018).

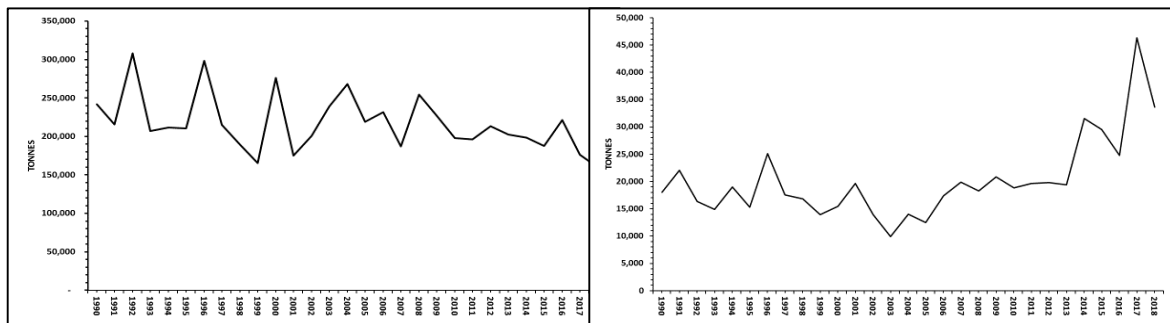


Figure 1: Annual total landings of artisanal fisheries (left) and industrial trawl fisheries (right)

The Catch Per Unit of Effort (CPUE) continues the downward trends observed at the beginning of the project and has reached the lowest level in 2018 at an average 11.2 tonnes of fish per canoe¹. This is equivalent to about \$1 per fishermen per day. However, CPUEs of the industrial trawlers improved in recent years as trawlers changed their fishing operation and gear, targeting small pelagic species using high rise trawl nets directed to “saiko” fishing.

The STWG reviewed the preliminary results of biological and socio-economic monitoring programs for the artisanal fisheries closed season, which was implemented from May 15 to June 15, 2019. The seasonal closure was intended to protect the brood stock of the small pelagic species during its peak spawning season in order to contribute to the rebuilding of the stocks. The results showed that only 15% of fish inspected during this period were fully mature and ready to spawn. The peak spawning didn’t occur until mid-August, which is the expected time as demonstrated by several studies, generally triggered by the major upwelling².

The STWG presented in 2017 to FC and MoFAD the scientific justification in support of a seasonal closure for all fisheries during the peak spawning period of small pelagic species which often occurs in August. MoFAD decided, after consultation with the fishing industry representatives (NAFAG), to close the fisheries for artisanal fisheries earlier (May15-June15) and for the industrial trawl fisheries for two months from August 1 to September 30, 2019. The STWG raised concerns on the timing of these closures and indicated that it can result in a net negative impact on in terms of small pelagic stocks, if effort efficiency is increased after the closure to compensate for lost fishing time, and which would occur during the peak small pelagic spawning periods in July, August and September. There was unanimous agreement by fishing industry representatives of NAFAG, GNCFC, GITA, GIFA and NAFPTA that while August remained the recommended time for the closure of all fleets, July 2019 could be second best timing given the social and political concerns (festivals, bumper season, etc.). MOFAD maintained its earlier declaration to implement the closure during the May15-June15, 2019 instead.

The STWG will provide the FC and MoFAD with a final report on the biological and socio-economic effects of the closure when field data collection is complete by March 2020. The STWG made the following conclusions at the 2019 annual stock assessment meeting:

¹ All species combined including about 70% of small pelagics (source FSSD/FC)

² Upwelling is the rising of cold deep water, rich in nutrients which occurs between July and September

- Small pelagic stocks continue to be overfished with biomass and landings at the lowest level in 2018
- Artisanal fisheries have a Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) of 140,000MT but average landings for the last 3 years (2016-2018) is 185,826MT implying stocks are being exploited beyond the sustainability level and therefore are overfished.
- Demersal fish stocks also overfished with biomass continue to decline in 2018. Industrial trawlers which have an MSY of 20,000MT are currently overfished with average landings for the last 5 years was 33,000MT
- There is declining Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) for artisanal, semi-industrial and industrial trawlers sub-sectors.
- Average number of days per trip for industrial trawlers has increased from 30 days in 1990 to 55 days in 2018.
- Shift in species dominance from *Sardinella aurita* to anchovy implies a low value fish and hence lower contribution to livelihood and to national GDP
- The shift in species composition is an indication of overfishing of the round *Sardinella* resulting in ecosystem imbalance.

The STWG presented the FC and MoFAD with the following recommendations:

- Future closed seasons should be implemented concurrently for all fisheries except tuna and at the peak spawning season.
- Early announcement (minimum of 6 months) for future closed season to give fisher adequate time to prepare and adjust to the closure.
- Current effort towards ending open access in the artisanal sub-sectors should be intensified.
- Control the number of new trawler entry and begin and immediate implementation of effort reduction in this sector.
- Align the current levels of fishing effort of all fisheries and the associated capacity with Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY).
- Closed season should be implemented in combination with effective enforcement of existing laws including mesh size control, light fishing, dynamite, chemicals, Saiko fishing etc.
- Institutionalize a platform (i.e. STWG) for exchange and use of scientific information for the management of fisheries.
- Consider investments and linkages to social intervention programs (e.g. school feeding and Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty-LEAP) to offset the socioeconomic impact of the closed seasons.

UCC/DFAS/CCM Capacity Development

Through collaboration between SFMP and UCC projects funded by USAID, five PhD students from UCC successfully completed the fall 2018 semester at the University of Rhode Island (Table 2). Upon arriving, students were assigned individually with URI professors and

attended classes relevant to their area of research. In addition, CRC offered a weekly seminar where local experts and fishermen were invited to present and discuss current fisheries management issues and ecosystem-based techniques. Students also learned about the Native American Heritage through site visits, classroom presentations and workshops.

Table 2. PhD students from UCC, advisor and area of research–fall semester at URI–2018

Student Name	URI Advisor	UCC Advisor	Area of Research
Miriam Ameworwor	Dr. Jeremy Collie	Dr. John Blay	Fisheries stock assessment
Fredrick Jonah	Dr. JP Walsh	Dr. Noble Asare	Coastal management
Lesley Ntim	Dr. David Bitwell	Dr. Denis Aheto	Fisheries science and management
Gertrude Dali	Dr. Brice Loose	Dr. Denis Aheto	Coastal management
Rhoda Nyarko	Dr. Marta Gomez	Dr. Joe Aggrey-Fynn	Fisheries science and management

Students attended three conferences on fisheries and coastal management. Miriam Ameworwor attended the proceedings of the 66th annual stock assessment workshop by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in Woods Hole, MA. Lesley Ntim and Gertrude Dali attended the A Community on Ecosystem Services Conference (ACES 2018) in Washington DC, and Fredrick Jonah attended the 2018 American Geophysical Union conference (AGU) in Washington D.C. Students reported valuable benefits from interacting with people from diverse backgrounds including leaders from government, NGOs, academia and private business. It helped and expanded students’ experience and knowledge in fisheries and coastal management. Students’ testimonies” included:

- “This semester at URI proved to be far better than I expected. CRC’s planning and care was excellent.”
- “The semester was very useful and I am grateful for the opportunity. My access to the literature and my interactions with researchers improved my skills and advanced my research.”
- “Working directly with fishermen to collect scientific information gave me a new perspective on how research should be conducted. Being on the fishing vessel and working with fishermen was lifetime experience.”
- “I learned a lot from the classes and the seminar which made an impact.”

One student, Rhoda Nyarko, returned to Ghana on November 10, 2018, before the semester-end due to a serious medical condition.

Two additional students continued with graduate programs at URI. Evelyn Takyi successfully defended her thesis on the DNA of sardinella in West Africa. SFMP supported her studies and research and is the first population discrimination genetic study of (*Sardinella aurita* and *Sardinella maderensis*) in West Africa. The objective of the research was to determine if that these two important species each constitute one regional unit stock from Morocco to Nigeria. The findings suggest there is no separate stock unit for the Gulf of Guinea only, reinforcing the fundamental need for regional cooperation on fisheries management, and promote the conservation of shared fisheries resources under the auspices of FCWC. The research was published as a thesis of a Ghanaian URI graduate student who

completed her undergraduate studies from UCC. The student (Evelyn Takyi), after finishing her SFMP sponsored master's degree, has since been admitted at URI to pursue a PhD with a full scholarship from URI.

Evans Arizi completed all Ph.D. requirements, successfully defended his dissertation in July 2019 and returned to Ghana at the end of August. His dissertation findings and recommendations were presented at the September 2019 STWG meeting. His findings suggest that a one-month closure of the sardinella fishery by itself will not be sufficient to rebuild the stocks. A longer closure and other measures to eliminate juvenile capture and reduce mortality will be needed for full stock rebuilding to occur and accelerate the timeframe needed to achieve maximum sustainable yields.

SFMP facilitated the development and conclusion of an agreement related to a dual PhD graduate degree program between URI/CELS and UCC/DFAS. The dual degree program was the result of SFMP to facilitated meetings between deans and faculty of both universities which led to the signing of the agreement on May 2, 2019 at URI by the president of URI and the Vice-Chancellor of UCC. The agreement will allow students from UCC or URI to complete a PhD degree in biological and environmental sciences by completing the PhD degree requirements of both universities. Students pursuing this special dual degree program will follow a modified program of study at each institution and work under the supervision of faculty from both institutions. Each institution will respect the admission requirements and program restrictions of the other, and will assume full responsibility in the assessment and selection of qualified candidates.



Figure 2: President David Dooley of URI and Vice Chancellor Joseph Ghartey Ampiah of UCC signing the agreement of the PhD dual degree program

This is the first dual degree program of its kind with specialization in marine science and fisheries science or management options, which links a U.S. and a Ghanaian academic institution. It will offer academic opportunities and faculty exchange beyond the support of the SFMP project. Under the program, PhD students at UCC will be able to register at both universities but pay only the tuition required by UCC.

UCC/CCM announced in June 2019 the availability of scholarships for the dual degree program through the new African Center of Excellence in Coastal Resilience (ACECoR) awarded by the World Bank. Successful candidates were scheduled to start the program in September 2019.

Advanced Spatial Data Collection and Processing

Most of SFMP's Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) imagery has been processed, delivered to partners, and is available through the SFMP's online Map and Data Center (<https://arcg.is/1v8n8j>). No specialized software is required to view the products and users are able to pan/zoom within a familiar "Google Earth" type of interface. Moving forward, all imagery will be made available for direct download to technical users looking to perform more complicated analysis or visualizations. Access to these data is free and open to all.

The University of Cape Coast's Center for Coastal Management (CCM) and Department of Geography and Planning have agreed to continue developing the University's capacity for UAV data collection and analysis. Several requirements were in the process of being fulfilled, including the development of a long-term sustainability plan and obtaining a UAV operating permit and pilot certifications through Ghana's Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA). All requirements were satisfied and the fixed wing UAV and ancillary equipment that was purchased and managed by SFMP has been transferred to full possession and control by CCM at UCC.

HM has been a key partner in developing SFMP's UAV capabilities and continued to capitalize on the training and experience received, obtaining pilot certifications and assisting UCC in data collection and processing. HM through SFMP continued to build pilot capabilities and experience by participating in recent aerial surveys of the Fosu Lagoon, Cape Coast (December, 2018). While the imagery will primarily be used to support UCC research efforts these data will also be made available through the SFMP imagery portal.



Figure 3: SFMP and UCC teams planning a UAV mission for the Fosu lagoon in Cape Coast.

SFMP created an on-line web portal to access information on SFMP project activities and performance results spatially - by region or district, theme or activity type or by implementing partner. This portal can be accessed at the following link and represents a piece of the projects legacy products so project information can be easily accessed or future reference. Data through March 2019 has been mapped and this will be updated after completion of field activities in FY 20 Q2. Project reports, where applicable, will also be hyperlinked into this mapper product. <https://crc->

IR 3: Improved Constituencies and Political Will for Policy Reform and Sustainable Use Practices

National Conference on Fisheries and Coastal Environment (CFCE)

The USAID Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) and the USAID-University of Cape Coast's Fisheries and Coastal Management and Capacity Building Support Project (USAID-UCC/FCMCBSP) in collaboration with the Fisheries Commission organized a national conference on fisheries and coastal environment with the theme "Fisheries and Coastal Governance in the contemporary times." The conference was held in Accra on August 19 -21, 2019 with the aim to highlight achievements, opportunities, lessons learned, and key challenges associated with the implementation of both the SFMP and the UCC/FCMCBSP which constituted part of USAID's Feed the Future Assistance to Ghana, and highlight other issues and research findings related to managing Ghana's fisheries and coastal ecosystems. The Conference attracted over 200 participants representing a diversity of stakeholders and all coastal regions of Ghana, and influential personalities from Ghana and beyond. The conference concluded with a 'Communique' by conference participants that highlights key challenges in the sector and recommendations for addressing them. This communique was red to the Minister and will be published on final review by the Ministry.

An important outcome of the Conference was the communique and an opportunity for stakeholders from across the four coastal regions to have rigorous discussions on a number of topics relevant to the fishery sector. However, the conference also demonstrated a significant change in the public dialogue surrounding the sector. Fisherfolk associations and their leadership participated in panel presentations and discussions and were quite vocal about making their opinions and voices heard. This demonstrates increased empowerment of these groups to voice concerns and make recommendations to the government. Of particular note was the statement by GITA to address "saiko" (illegal transshipment of mainly juvenile fish from trawlers to shore) which was a major topic of discussion and contention at the conference and identified as a major obstacle to rebuilding the small pelagic fishery. In addition, scientists made a number of presentations about the status of the stocks and timing for a closed season, and many stakeholders pressed the government to follow their scientific advice. Lastly, the issue of input subsidies exacerbating overfishing in the fishery sector was raised by several panelists and also noted as an issue in the final communique. While action to reduce or eliminate subsidies was not made by any government officials, rarely if ever has this problem been discussed in open public forums previously. Collectively, these examples demonstrate how the discourse on the fishery sector has changed from the beginning of the USAID project interventions in 2015, where few people admitted there was any problem in the sector, to today, where there is a deep understanding of the gravity of the stock status and in-depth discussions across the stakeholder spectrum about how to address these issues.



Prof. Rashid Sumaila, keynote Presenter from the University of British Columbia, Canada



Steve E. Hendrix, Acting Mission Director for USAID Ghana



Section of key participants watching and listening to presentation during the conference



Hon. Francis Ato Coudjo, Deputy Minister, MOFAD addressing the participants during the opening



Lydia Sasu, Executive Director for Development Action Association asking a question



Hon. Naa Afoley Quaye, Minister for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development addressing the participants



Prof. Kobina Yankson, Chairman of the STWG contributing to discussions at the conference



(Right) Dr. Gifty Ako-Adounvo, Vice Provost for International Initiatives and Academic Partnerships, University of Rhode Island

Figure 4. Photos of some key personalities at the national fisheries conference

Anti-Child Labor and Trafficking Strategy for the Fisheries Sector

A signing ceremony to formalize the adoption of the Fisheries Sector Anti-Child Labour and Trafficking (CLaT) Strategy for the fisheries sector by the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development was held in December. Representation included His Excellency the acting US Ambassador and Charge d’Affaires for the American Embassy in Ghana, Mr. Christopher J. Lamora, Minister for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, Honourable Elizabeth Naa Afoley Quaye; Deputy Minister for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, Honourable Francis Ato Cudjoe; the Executive Director of Fisheries, Mr. Michael Arthur Dadzie; Representative from the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit of the Ghana Police Service; Head of Anti-Human trafficking Secretariat; the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection Madam Victoria Natsu; and an extensive representation by the national media. The event highlighted the US Government’s contributions toward prevention of child labor and trafficking in Ghana.

In the period under review, 11 districts in the Central Region have been supported to mainstream CLaT activities in their District Medium Term Development Plans (DMTDPs) 2018 – 2021. The Departments of Social Welfare and the Child protection committees in these districts were also supported to develop action plans for their outreach campaigns on CLaT as well as review the progress of the community advocates. Eleven coastal districts in the Central Region have budgeted a total of GHS 4,579,905 (US\$ 934,674) in their 2018-2021 plans for activities to combat child labor and trafficking, with GHS 1,145,725 (US\$ 233,821) budgeted for activities in FY 2018.



Figure 5: The front and back view of the legacy set document in full color

Legacy Documentation and Outreach and Communications

The SFMP ‘legacy set’ completed in this reporting year comprises a collection of a dozen key documents out of the several hundred documents developed under SFMP that best illustrate the key elements of the project’s implementation and results. It also has a companion book of lessons learned essays on key thematic areas of the project with supporting evidence of project accomplishments and results, as well as recommendations for the way forward for Ghana’s fisheries sector. These products were designed to facilitate access to information, data and experience sharing between the SFMP and other organizations within the fisheries sector and also inform future programming and interventions. The legacy documents serve as an important resource on Ghana’s fishery sector for fisheries management practitioners in government, civil society organizations, academia, the leadership of producer and processor

organizations, legislators as well as donors. 200 copies were printed and many distributed at the National conference. Copies of the lessons learned essays are also being posted on line.

Communications on the Nationwide Closed Fishing Season

SFMP’s communication team supported the implementation of the 2019 fisheries closed season for the artisanal sub-sector and inshore fishers. The support included t-shirts, posters, production of jingles, airtime on major radio stations across the four coastal regions and community and regional durbars to increase support for the closed season. SFMP also supported MOFAD/FC to engage the services of Ghanaian musician, Martin King Arthur, popularly known as Kofi Kinaata to compose an anthem to promote the enforcement and observance of the fisheries closed season for the artisanal and inshore fleet. The anthem titled “illegal fishing during closed season” raised awareness on the importance of the fishing closed season and facilitated compliance by all fisher folk. It has over 400,000 hits on U-Tube. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwM9JDLss0U>)



Figure 6: Scenes from the closing ceremony of 2019 closed season for artisanal fishers

Information, Communication and Educational Materials

The communication team of SFMP developed information, education and communication materials to support stakeholder engagement activities and to further explain key fisheries sector issues in relation to the implementation of the National Fisheries Management Plan and Post-harvest programs. An [Ahotor Oven user guide](#) was developed, printed and distributed to fish processors along the coast to sensitize processors on how to use the ahotor oven for best results. The guide complemented the work of the Fisheries Commission on promoting healthy fish processing nationwide. National Strategies on Anti-Child Labour and Trafficking in Fisheries and the National Gender Mainstreaming Strategy for the Fisheries Sector that were approved by the Ministry were printed and submitted to MOFAD for onward distribution to stakeholders. Copies of Success Stories, brochures, factsheets were also printed and circulated to stakeholders in addition to the FY18 annual work plan.

Fisheries News Mass Mailing

In support of broader stakeholder engagement and information dissemination, SFMP continued to use the 'MailChimp' platform to facilitate information sharing with its wide range of stakeholders. Since the activation of the platform in year four more than 500 stakeholders have been receiving project news on a weekly basis through a formatted email message service that includes links to relevant news and information.

Fisher-to-Fisher dialogues generate new possibilities for fisheries recovery

One of the major factors that has hindered the effective implementation of formal fisheries management measures to address the declining stocks in Ghana is inadequate collaboration between government and relevant stakeholders. Year 5's Fisher-to-Fisher dialogues (F2F) gained ground and helped to address this issue and the success of the effort was recognized by its inclusion in the MOFAD's 2019 budget for support, the first time since its inception. This gave a clear indication of government's appreciation of the F2F platform and its role in facilitating engagement of fishers in policy formulation and implementation. Not only did MOFAD/FC participate in the preparatory meetings that preceded the district level F2F events, but also showed greater commitment throughout the dialogue processes with the stakeholders. With SFMP support, MOFAD/FC took the initiative to train all 48 (35 males and 13 females) regional directors, relevant divisional heads and all zonal officers on their role in conducting F2F events. They also emphasized and demonstrated how to effectively increase collaboration with the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council (GNCFC) and the National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA) to make F2F meetings successful. SFMP supported 18 clustered community level F2F dialogues focusing on effort reduction measures outlined in the National Fisheries Management Plan (2015 – 2019).

The F2F also created the platform to advance the discourse on prevention of child labor and trafficking within the fisheries sector in Ghana. Through its partners, the project assisted the GNCFC and MOFAD/FC to mobilize their stakeholders as well as guide the chief fishermen to facilitate each dialogue. At the end of all the district level F2F dialogues, participating fishers agreed to address excess capacity of the artisanal fisheries sub sector through a proposed five-year moratorium on new entrants for canoes, with an annual review of the total number of canoes registered to operate. Moving from open access (the current situation in Ghana's canoe fishery) to managed access is a global gold standard for sustainable fisheries management. Managing access and capping new entrants is intended to stop the increasing overcapacity of harvesting power in the artisanal fishery while providing a mechanism for canoes already in operation to continue fishing for the time being. The F2F also provided a

key platform for increased level of collaboration between government and fishers with respect to the range of management measures being support by SFMP.



Figure 7: A picture showing western regional director of the Fisheries Commission, Mr. Tsibu, interacting with a cross-section of participants at the Axim F2F meeting

IR 4: Applied Management

Implementation of the National Marine Fisheries Management Plan

Closed Season: SFMP to supported the MOFAD/FC and all stakeholders toward realizing the implementation a fisheries closed season in 2019 after the Minister’s effort to announce a closed season in 2018 was derailed.

As part of efforts by MOFAD/FC to address the current rate of decline of the small pelagic stocks, rebuild and sustainably manage it, the Government of Ghana for the first time implemented a closed season for the artisanal and inshore fishery between May 15 – June 15 2019 and August 1 – September 30 2019 for the Trawler fishery. The purpose of the closure, a global best practice) is to allow small pelagic fish to spawn at the critical stage of life maturity before they are captured by the fishing fleet, thereby ensuring an abundant supply of young to grow and be available for capture in the next fishing season.

SFMP provided financial and technical support to MOFAD/FC to undertake biological and socio-economic surveys to assess the impact of the closure on fish stocks, fisher folk and consumers. A monitoring and evaluation plan has also been developed to provide a systematic assessment of the closure and measure any impact. The plan would also serve as baseline to develop adaptation and mitigation options for future closures. Reports from these assessments are due out in Q1 of FY 20.

Biological monitoring of the closed season started just prior to the closed season starting in May, 2019. – In collaboration with FC/FSSD. SFMP organized a 3-day workshop for FC zonal officers, enumerators and fishers from eight landing sites across the four coastal regions that served as data collection points across the coast. The workshop equipped the FC/FSSD

staff, data enumerators and FC zonal officers with the skills to collect data before, during and after the closed season to provide information to evaluate the results and impacts of the 2019 closed to inform decisions on timing for future closed season periods. Enumerators were trained on fish sampling and biological data collection and recording of their data using Kobo Toolbox, a mobile tablet-based application, to reduce errors and facilitate the transmission of field data in real time to a central database for analysis.

Another key objective of the training was to guide the enumerators on how to select fishers on various landing beaches to participate in the closed season biological monitoring. Involving fishermen directly in the collection of data was aimed at improving collaboration between fishers, scientists and regulators. This approach also created an opportunity to combine local ecological knowledge with scientific data to make informed decision on resource management in the future. In addition, direct participation of fishers in the monitoring gave them better understanding of how science-based decisions are made relative to the spawning periods of the small pelagic stocks, particularly the sardinella. Ultimately, participation of fishers in data collection was intended to build support and broaden constituencies for future science-based fisheries management.



Figure 8: Left: FC officer showing enumerators how to measure the weight of fish. Right: FC officer teaching enumerators how to gut and identify gonad of fish



Figure 9: A fisherman gutting fish to identify the gonads, in Axim

The biological survey continued after the closure the artisanal and inshore fisheries resumed on June 15, 2019 and will continue through March of 2020. The preliminary data analysis

reported on both the socioeconomic and biological impact of the closed season would be reviewed by the STWG in November 2019 to include potential benefits from the commercial trawler closure from August 1 to September 30, 2019. After review and vetting by the STWG, it would be presented to the government and public. Preliminary results however show that the closure timing was not optimum as a very low percentage of the fish were spawning prior to and after the closure.

Socioeconomic monitoring of the closed season – SFMP also contracted a research team led by Prof. P.K. Ofori-Danson at the University of Ghana to monitor and assess the short-term socio-economic impact of the closed season. Main arguments of fishers and fish processors against the closed season were that there would be considerable adverse socio-economic impacts to the livelihoods of the fishers. The socio-economic assessment was therefore commissioned by the project in collaboration with the Fisheries Commission to provide insights into actual impacts and how these were mitigated by fishers and fish processors through various adaptive practices. Important for SFMP's gender program, the socio-economic assessment included gathering data particularly related to women, children and women fish processors with respect to the extent to which they were impacted by the artisanal and inshore closed season. The assignment collated data on key socioeconomic indicators including parameters on nutrition from the fishing communities through surveys, Focus Group Discussions and Key Informant Interviews (KII). The preliminary results of the socio-economic assessment showed significant declines in income of fishing households, and upticks in the level of household hunger and a decline in women's dietary diversity during the closure. The full report will be released in November 2019.

Artisanal Canoe Registration: In an effort to regulate the canoe fleets and end open access, MOFAD/FC under the West Africa Regional Fisheries Development Program (WARFP) initiated the registration and embossment of all canoes. SFMP has subsequently supported the registration and cleanup of the canoe registry. Through the F2F program, fishers in the respective communities adopted different approaches to clean up their registry.

This clean-up exercise reduced the actual number of registered canoes from 14,700 to 13,807. The recommended sustainable number of artisanal canoes was estimated at 9,095. The clean-up exercise is a key step towards the implementation of the Canoe Authorization Card (CAC) program, now referred to as Canoe Identification Card (CIC). CIC seeks to regulate and eventually cap the marine canoe fleet to reduce overcapacity and related fishing effort to sustainable levels. The issuance of these cards was planned to be implemented with a simultaneous announcement of a moratorium on new entries into the marine canoe sector. The card launch and moratorium announcement is expected to occur in Q1 FY 20.

A consultant was contracted to design CIC cards and generate unique QR codes that capture the details of each canoe based on the data in the national canoe registry. The introduction of the CIC could also address challenges associated with the sale and distribution of Premix. As part of support for the implementation of the CIC, SFMP organized a meeting with the Premix Committee to identify and explore areas of collaboration. The Premix Committee Chairman agreed that the CIC with QR codes presents a window and opportunity to link the CIC with the sales and distribution of premix fuel in the future, however, this would require installation of smart metering at the various premix distribution depots. The CIC can then be linked to the national Premix database and used to record quantities of premix purchased by individual fishers. Although this would require additional software development and coding to link the cards to the national Premix database, doing so in the future will be an important step toward regulating and addressing the challenges associated with Premix fuel distribution.

The Chairman suggested that the linkage between the CIC and the quantity of premixed fuel purchased be piloted in a few select communities with metered pumps as a means of testing the systems to provide data and information on how best to scale up the intervention in the future. He also noted the need for longer term planning to capture the inland canoe fleet.

While SFMP does not have the resources to respond to all the suggestions and requests from the Premix Committee Chairman, the CIC program provided the foundation and platform on which several management interventions could be integrated.

For now, the QR codes on the CACs will be smart phone field-readable by designated government official or enforcement officer and any enforcement or management information automatically uploaded to the national vessel registry database will be retrievable.

Canoe Moratorium and second fishing holiday: The USAID/SFMP, through Central and Western Fishmongers Association (CEWEFIA), also facilitated a joint meeting for the executives of Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCFC) and National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA) at CEWEFIA's office in Elmina, Central Region. The meeting led to a communiqué on the outcome of the Fisher-to-Fisher Dialogues held in the first quarter at seven zonal landing beaches (in nine districts) of the Central Region. The communiqué highlighted issues on the planned moratorium of new entrants to the canoe sector, national registration of all marine canoes followed by licensing as required by law, issuing canoe identification cards in line with registration, and the designation of Sunday as an additional non-fishing fishing holiday across the Central Region. The signed communiqué was presented through the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council in Quarter 3 to the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture with the expectation these recommendations would be formalized into the national fisheries management directives. During the national conference held in August 2019 the Minister stated she would approve a second fishing holiday once she had letters from the Canoe Council from all four coastal regions.

Community-Based Fisheries Management

As fisheries stakeholders await the formal adoption of the national co-management policy and the community-based fisheries management (CBFM) plans developed for three pilot sites, SFMP though its partners continued to work with communities to undertake specific actions in the plan and site, notably mangrove reforestation and efforts and implementation of closed fishing seasons.

Densu Delta Community-Based Fisheries Management

In the Densu Delta, increasing numbers of oyster pickers resulted in drastic drops in oyster harvested in recent years. As oyster harvesting has been the livelihood of many in the Densu Delta, especially women, dwindling stocks had significantly impacted the livelihoods and food security of many households. To reverse the situation, an oyster management plan was drafted through a community-based process led by the (Development Action Association) and the Densu Oyster Pickers Association (DOPA). DOPA was formed by DAA with SFMP support to guide the sustainable exploitation of the oyster fishery. The plan recommends the implementation of a five month 'closed season' as a biological management measure to boost the growth of oysters in the Delta. The Delta was therefore closed from November, 2018 to April 2019 for the second time in two years.

To mark the reopening of the delta, a community durbar was held at the Tsokomey landing site on April 15, 2019. The event was attended by 233 (Females 138, 95 males) to celebrate the gains made in implementing the Co-management plan. This opening season celebration was attended by traditional authorities, officials of the USAID Agency, the FC, fish

processors and members from the municipal assembly and the public. This year’s ceremony was on the theme; *“Co-Management – Paving the Way for Effective Natural Resource Sustainability.”* The season was officially opened by the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, Ms. Elizabeth Naa Afoley Quaye at the Tsokomey landing site in the Ga South Municipality of Accra. In her speech, Honorable Minister Quaye said the success of closing the Densu Delta is a good example for MOFAD/FC. She pledged to use the lessons learned from this initiative to pilot co-management in the marine and inland fisheries in the country. She also used the occasion to reaffirm the Ministry’s commitment to implement a closed season for artisanal fleet from May 15 to June 15, 2019 to reduce excessive pressure on marine fish stocks and allow for spawning. The acting Director of the Economic Growth office at USAID, Mr. James Lykos congratulated the DOPA for recognizing the importance of the Densu Delta to their livelihoods and taking steps to manage it sustainably.



Figure 10: Members of DOPA, Traditional leaders and members of the Ga South District Assembly during the short ceremony to declare a 2nd closed season for the Densu Delta in November 2018.



Figure 11: Ms. Elizabeth Naa Afoley Quaye (front row - 1st from right) and Mr. James Lykos (front row – 2nd from right) symbolically opening the oyster picking season.

Some oyster harvesters expressed their confidence that the second opening season would also lead to a bumper harvest to compensate for the long wait.

“The first closed season was a great opportunity for us. When the river was reopened, I made GH¢80 a day. That was not possible before,” Bernice Agorogo, a member of the DOPA claimed.



Figure 12: URI and SFMP team visit oyster growing areas after the closed season and display large, healthy and abundant oysters in collection areas.

Mangrove Nursery Establishment and Mangrove Replanting in the Densu Delta: SFMP organized a one-day refresher training for 46 members (9 males, 35 females) of the Densu Oyster Pickers Association (DOPA) on mangrove culture establishment, planting and conservation in the Densu Delta. The training included replanting of 5,000 red mangrove seedlings covering nearly 3 hectares of degraded land during the replanting practical exercise. Monitoring of some of the earlier mangroves planted was also carried out, showing positive growth and survival, showing good progress in mangrove reforestation in the Delta.



Figure 13: Members of DOPA receiving on-site training on mangrove planting, culture establishment and conservation in the Densu Delta.

Ankobra Community-Based Fisheries Management

Sustainable Mangrove Management Training: Communities of the Lower Ankobra River Basin depend heavily on the natural resources associated with the river basin and exploit them for their food and livelihood. Notable among these resources is the mangrove forest which is exploited for various benefits and supports a healthy estuarine fishery. However, resources had been previously exploited without regard for their long-term sustainability. To reverse the trend, training on sustainable mangrove harvesting and management was organized for 51 mangrove harvesters (35 males and 16 females) from Ankobra in October and November, 2018. Following up on this, a top up training was organized for the same mangrove harvesters on 19th and 20th of December, 2018. Participants were taken through ways of establishing and effectively managing mangroves nursery. The techniques in tendering and replanting of mangroves were also taught during the training. The participants were given the opportunity to practice the theory by visiting a nursery site which was followed by tendering and replanting of mangrove seedlings at areas already degraded from past cutting.



Figure 14: Some participants managing the mangrove nursery.

Development and Validation of Monitoring Indicators: The Ankobra Community Based Fisheries Management Committee drafted a Fisheries Management Plan which was reviewed and accepted by traditional authorities, District assemblies and community members from five estuarine communities and pending approval by the MOPFAD/FC. Part of the plan was to set specific indicators to monitor progress on the plan's implementation.

A workshop was held at the Wantapa Hotel, Esiam-Ellembelle District for 25 members of the co-management committees from the five communities; - Sanwoma, Adeleka, Eshiem, Kukuavile and Eziom –in order to develop such indicators. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Isaac Okyere from the University of Cape Coast. Indicators discussed at the workshop included; biological, ecological, economic, socio-cultural and governance indicators

During the course of the meeting, it was suggested that some simple indicators on water quality be included in the monitoring plan. It was again suggested that public sensitization be carried out in communities upstream of the five estuarine communities to ensure voluntary compliance and to prevent potential confrontations between communities implementing the plan and communities further upstream

SFMP organized a practical capacity building event for 25 members of the Ankobra Community Based Fisheries Management Committee as a follow up to an earlier training. The objectives of the training were to train members in collecting simple water quality data that provides indices as to the health of the estuary. Each member of the committee was taken through methods and practiced measuring parameters to be used in monitoring water quality parameters of salinity and turbidity, and collected the length frequency data on fish sizes for simple stock assessments.



Figure 15: Participants using equipment: a water sampler and optical salinometer

Pra Estuary Community-Based Management

Implementation of the Pra estuary co-management plan began in early 2018. A series of action planning meetings were held. These included focused meetings by the co-management committee members as well as general meetings with representatives of the 11 communities participating in the exploitation and management of the fisheries in the estuary. The meetings provided the platform for stakeholders to evaluate the management actions implemented to date including the closed season and closed area which has been perceived by the fisherfolk to have been successful. The meetings also provided an opportunity for the committee members to agree on key monitoring indicators that will be used to monitor the impact of the management actions including closed season, closed area, net regulation, mangrove health as well as agree to conduct outreach events to promote good practices and improve communication for implementation of actions in the management plan.

Capacity building workshop for the woodlot management committee and key stakeholders

Ownership and sustainability of initiatives is always an issue when a project closes out, especially when proper handing over is not carried out. Therefore, a workshop was held by CEWEFIA with the woodlot management committee and key stakeholders on how to sustain the plantation and hand over the certificate of registration to the management committee. The management committee is considered to be fully equipped with the needed skills to sustainably manage the woodlot and eventual revenues to be generated from the sale of harvested wood.

Value Chain and Post-Harvest Improvements

Training of MSMEs in fish handling, processing and business:

Fish processors (100 females) were trained at the DAA Fisheries Training Center (DFTC) on hygienic fish handling, business skills development and fire safety. While 50 fishermen were trained on business skills and hygienic fish handling at sea.

At the Cewefia Integrated Processing and Training Center (CIPTC), forty-five fish processors who had been trained to processing fish under best practices at the CIPTC were supported to access new markets including the KEEA Municipal Assembly offices, University of Cape Coast Sasakawa restaurant, Cape Coast Regional Offices and Elmina Beach Resort with fish smoked on the new *Ahotor* oven technology, neatly packaged and labeled. The packaged fish sold at GH¢ 25 per kilo, with a higher margin of GH¢ 5 compared with products processed by conventional methods and sold in the regular open market. A marketing brochure was developed by SFMP to bridge the gap between processors, consumers and oven construction

artisans. The brochure seeks to educate processors on the benefits of the *Ahotor* oven and need to adopt hygienic practices while also educating consumers on the importance of consuming healthy fish products, where to access these, and for producers, where *Ahotor* construction artisans can be located.



Figure 16: Participants at the MSMEs Training at Kokrobite



Figure 17: Fishermen based MSMEs receive fisheries training at the DFTC at Kokrobite

Promotion of *Ahotor* Ovens

As part of promoting the adoption of the *Ahotor* oven and the Class 1 Fish Kitchen Recognition Scheme, SFMP supported NAFPTA to organize a health screening for 300 members of NAFPTA in Anomabu in the Mfantseman District of the Central Region. The women were educated on the health risks of continuous inhalation and exposure to high levels of pollutants including particulate matter (soot) as a result of inefficient fuelwood combustion associated with the traditional *chorkor* oven, and were advised to switch to the *Ahotor* which is cleaner and uses less fuelwood. They were also sensitized on hygienic fish handling, proper handwashing using the ‘veronica’ handwashing system, and the criteria for selection of kitchens to qualify for the Class 1 Recognition Scheme. Of the 118 women that were screened at the event, 26 of them had high blood pressure, 19 had lumps detected in their breast, and 15 had malaria. All the detected cases were appropriately referred for further management and treatment.

Post-harvest value chain improvements related to the *Ahotor* fish oven (smoker) were consolidated through a new *Ahotor* user guide developed to train users of the *Ahotor* ovens. This guide (https://www.crc.uri.edu/download/GH2014_ACT258_CRC.pdf) is expected to help address the operational challenges that hampered the oven’s performance in the piloting

phase. These challenges include; the relative position of initial fire set up in the fire chamber, appropriate stacking of fish trays above the smoker, etc. The guide has so far been used to train 150 fish processors. Two early adopters of the oven have been trained as ‘*Ahotor* oven champions’ to educate their peers and consumers on the benefits of using the *Ahotor* oven. The supply chain of the *Ahotor* oven was strengthened with the formation of an artisan’s network for oven builders. To complement this, a construction manual for the oven was developed as a reference guide for artisans to ensure *Ahotors* are built to specifications that result in less smoke, more efficient burning of fuelwood, higher product value and reduced carcinogens in smoked fish smoked. The reference guide was used to train new artisans. Additionally, revisions to the design of fat collectors were made and two new fat collector fabricators were identified to increase supply and eventually increase competition and reduce the overall cost of the oven.

The availability of *Ahotor* oven at a fish processing facility or its ownership and use is a key prerequisite in signing up to the Class 1 Recognition Scheme. To address the quality deficiencies in the construction of the *Ahotor* oven, 56 artisans and 4 stove companies were trained on the construction of the *Ahotor* oven. There are now 6 stove companies employing 19 artisans and 15 independent artisans who are currently constructing ovens in the country. To strengthen the supply chain and ensure the quality of ovens constructed, these artisans were retrained, certified and linked to 2 fat collector fabricators.

Class 1 Recognition Scheme

The Class 1 Recognition Scheme seeks to promote the production and trade of quality hygienically processed smoked fish. The scheme was developed by a committee of experts from the MOFAD/FC, Food Research Institute, the Food and Drugs Authority, Ghana Standards Authority, NAFPTA and other agencies. The scheme is based on adherence to basic food safety standards in conformity with the HACCP principles. The Class 1 Recognition Scheme sets requirements for small-scale fish processors to achieve minimum standards for hygienic fish processing. Meeting these standards improve both the market value of processed fish and reduces health impacts on processors and consumers as well. An operational manual was developed to guide fish processors who want to work towards achieving the standards required for certification.

Through SFMP’s partners CEWEFIA, DAA and SNV, fish processors were sensitized on the Class I Recognition scheme and zonal officers of the Fisheries Commission were trained as auditors. At the pilot stage 32 processors signed up to the scheme and were audited on its protocols. 13 out of the 32 passed the audit and have since been certified at the launch of the Class 1 Recognition Scheme at the forecourt of the MOFAD/FC. The launch was attended by Francis Kingsley Ato Cudjoe, the Honorable Deputy Minister of MOFAD, Mr. Steven Hendrix, the Deputy Mission Director of USAID, divisional heads and staff of MOFAD/FC, and processors who are members of CEWEFIA, DAA and NAFPTA. The scheme has since been handed over to the Post Harvest Unit of the Fisheries Commission for implementation and scale up.

To encourage more processors to sign on to the scheme, 100 fish processors who already own *Ahotor* ovens have been supported to improve their kitchen/processing facilities through an in-kind grant worth GH¢1,000 each. Each processor received a ‘*veronica*’ handwashing system worth GH¢ 280 and minor improvements such as fencing, thatched roofing or concreting of floors in the kitchens, all requirements to achieve the Class 1 recognition.

Micro finance

135 out of 194 fish processors who were assisted to put in applications for loans as working capital and for the construction of an *Ahotor* oven in SFMP year 4 (FY 18) from MASLOC have received their loans. However, MASLOC could only provide GH¢ 1,000 per woman instead of the GH¢ 2,500 they had applied for. The total amount received by the beneficiaries was GH¢ 135,000, at an interest rate of 1 percent per month, payable over 6 months and attracted a processing fee of GH¢ 25 per person.

A total of 135 fish processors received loans totaling GHS 135,000 (approximately US\$ 26,000) from MASLOC to grow their small scale businesses.

Village Savings and Loans Associations

While access to finance is critical to the growth of any enterprise, the informal nature of the fish processing business makes accessing formal credit difficult and expensive due to high interest rate charged. Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA), which is a group based micro savings platform provides a cheaper pathway for accessing finance for women through their own savings.

SFMP so far set up 35 VSLA groups in the Volta, Central, Western and Greater Accra Regions. The groups meet once a week after every market day and contribute GH¢10 – GH¢50 and a social/welfare fund of GH¢1 each. These groups are made up 746 members (80 males, 686 females) and have in the last year saved a total of over GHS 97,000).

The groups are at different stages of maturity and operational performance. At the time of compiling this report group based in Keta- Atorkor has proved to be the most efficient exceeding the expectations of the project. The group began with 14 members and has quickly grown to 44. In the 41 weeks of the group's existence, they have accumulated savings of GH¢23,450. The group initially deposited their savings at the Progressive Credit Union until some of the members needed short term credit to top up their working capital. So they withdrew the money and gave loans to these members. To date they have given loans of GH¢22,300 to 29 members at an interest of GH¢5 per month for every GH¢100 borrowed. The duration for every loan given is three months. While other fish processors were waiting on MASLOC to give them credit of GH¢1,000, the group is lending between GH¢200 and GH¢3,500 to its members.

When asked how they were preparing for the closed season, the leader said they were going to share out their loans at the end of April, 2019, so they can buy fish, smoke, stock up and sell during the closed season. They expressed their anxiety about the success of a May/June closed season. One member said, "Prior to SFMP supporting us to form this VSLA, no bank would lend to us. Now we have created our own bank". The group's meetings are well organized, records impeccably kept and they expressed the desire to enroll more members in the community, and perhaps start their own community bank. The VSLA has really improved the women's access to finance and the resiliency of these fish processors at Atorkor.

These VSLAs formed part of a bouquet of interventions such as trainings on leadership, financial literacy, group dynamics, advocacy skills and fisheries governance to improve the economic resiliency of women while empowering them to become key stakeholders and agents of change in the management of Ghana's fisheries.

Promoting and Sustaining the DAA and CEWEFIA Fisheries Training Centers

The DFTC (DAA Fisheries Training Center) and the CEWEFIA Integrated Fish Processing and Training Center (CIPTC) were established with the support of SFMP to promote the production and trade of healthy and quality fish through the continuous training of their members. Fish processors, who lack basic numeracy and literacy skills are trained at these facilities on basic business management protocols to enable them keep and interpret records that inform their business decisions.

A business development consultant was contracted by the project to support the CEWEFIA and DAA to develop strategies that will enable them operate the processing centers profitably. The consultant has developed business plans for the two centers and also sensitized the staff and board of the two organizations on how the plans can be implemented to achieve the desired results.

To ascertain and sustain the gains made after 5 years of implementing SFMP, CEWEFIA and DAA held meetings with 326 (26 males, 300 females) of their beneficiaries in the Central and Greater Accra regions, to assess the impact of their interventions on their livelihoods and address any gaps/challenges. The members expressed their appreciation to the project for the trainings they received especially on hygienic fish handling and record keeping.

Anti-Child Labor Campaigns

Ghana in 2018 was upgraded from Trafficking in Persons (TIP) to Tier 2 by the US State Department in its recent report, acknowledging improved efforts to combat trafficking in Ghana. However, human trafficking issues still pose socio-economic challenges to the country with dire implications on national development; particularly Child Trafficking and slavery within the fisheries sector.

National Meeting to design communications messages for anti-child labor and trafficking campaigns: Combatting child labor and trafficking, SFMP organized a National High level engagement meeting in the Central Region to design communication messages in support of behavioral change campaigns in the Central Region on combatting child trafficking. Participants were from the 10 coastal districts in central region and the National Steering Committees against Child Labor, and Child Trafficking. There were 41 participants (32 males and 9 females) in the meeting. At the meeting, Chief Executive Officers of District Assemblies along coastal-fishing areas of the Central Region of Ghana resolved to work with civil society, the National Steering Committee against Child Labor and Child Trafficking, and all other relevant stakeholders to reduce Child Labor and Trafficking (CLaT) in the area.

Central Region Stakeholder Workshop on Strategies to Combat Child Labor and Trafficking: With the support of USAID-SFMP, stakeholders in the Central Region have been implementing anti-child labor and trafficking (CLaT) interventions since 2014. These have contributed to institutional strengthening and awareness raising towards addressing CLaT in coastal districts of the Central Region. Notably, the milestones achieved include:

- Strengthening of District Child Protection Committees/Panels.
- Mobilization and training of community Anti-CLaT advocates.
- Behavior Change communication including radio and media events, stakeholder sensitization meetings, film shows, community durbars, etc.
- Support to 10 Coastal Districts of the Central Region to develop anti-CLaT actions in the Medium Term Development Plans (MTDPs 2018 - 2021).

To consolidate the above gains, SFMP organized a strategic regional stakeholders' workshop aimed at supporting the District Assemblies in the Central Region to actively implement their Anti-CLaT plans in their Medium Term Development Plans (MDTPS 2018-2021). The 10 coastal districts in the Central Region have budgeted a total of GH¢ 4,579,905 (US\$ 934,674) in their 2018-2021 plans for activities to combat child labor and trafficking, with GH¢ 1,145,725 (US\$ 233,821) budgeted for activities in FY 2018.

The workshop provided the platform for participants to draft a unified region-wide strategy for mainstreaming CLaT into the 2018-2021 Midterm Development Plans of local district assemblies. It also created the platform for the assemblies to interact with other agencies for effective collaboration. Additional resources and partners to support rolling out of anti-CLaT interventions in the MTDPs were also identified. The Fisheries Commission was present and expressed its readiness to support the assemblies with an information van to broadcast messages directly to at-risk communities. The Ghana Police Service (Anti-Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence and Victim Support Units) and Ghana Immigration Services expressed their readiness to support local district assemblies with resource persons and information. The Ghana Education Service and Ghana Health Service (Reproductive and Child Health Unit) expressed their readiness to provide the platforms for the assemblies to sensitize communities to the threats and dangers of CLaT in the region.

IR 5: Gender Equality and Empowerment

Gender Mainstreaming in Fisheries

During the year, SFMP finalized an internal assessment of the Project's gender mainstreaming strategy. The gender impact assessment, which was turned into a research paper, which was published in the [Coastal Management Journal](#) in October 2019, found that women who have participated in SFMP's gender mainstreaming activities were more confident, knowledgeable and empowered to speak up. In general, men recognize and acknowledge the role that women played in the fisheries sector. Capacity development sessions on innovation, conflict management, advocacy, and leadership have contributed to women's perception that they have a voice in fisheries management. Women have been exposed to sustainable fisheries management and are equipped with the knowledge and leadership skills to advocate for good fisheries practices. Women are comfortable discussing fisheries management, including the importance of closed seasons and other measures. Trainings in post-harvest processing have helped women to handle fish more hygienically whereas trainings in business management and financial literacy have provided tools to enable women to grow their processing enterprises.

Summarizing the impact on local organizations, the impact assessment also concluded that SFMP's gender strengthening efforts have had an impact on the staff's attitudes towards women and women's engagement in fisheries. Gender mainstreaming efforts have succeeded in challenging cultural norms about women's role in fisheries as well as in the work place.

While efforts by the SFMP to address gender gaps and integrate gender in the planning and operations of government agencies and partner institutions has produced good results, there are still some gaps. The gender assessment report provided a number of recommendations for how to deal with those gaps:

1. Broaden the participation of women in fisheries management by ensuring that non-leaders/elders/dignitaries are invited to and can participate in project activities. Put

systems in place to make sure that the truly committed, not just the distinguished, are invited to events.

2. Identify and work with champions that will have the resources and the staff to continue implementation over time to reduce reliance on project-based funding.
3. Communicate that gender mainstreaming requires the involvement of both women and men. Women are involved in almost every node of the fisheries value chain and they are disproportionately burdened with managing household activities. By adopting “men as partners” approach, it may be possible to increase men’s support and reduce the additional burdens that come with women engaging more in the fisheries sector.
4. Increase the involvement of traditional fisheries leadership structures, including the chief fishmonger/processor, or *Konkohema*. These leaders may have an untapped potential to lead, manage, and mobilize their communities.

Learning Initiative on Access to Finance, Women’s Empowerment and Sustainable Fisheries

SFMP is participating in a USAID cross-country learning initiative on women’s empowerment, access to finance and sustainable fisheries. The first phase of the learning initiative began in Q1 with a focus group discussion with 12 female fish processors who represented different income levels. The focus group discussed the capacity development programs that the women had participated in, their ability to influence household decisions, and how much control they have over the use of their earned incomes. The discussion revealed that while women have some influence over the use of household income, they have not been empowered to effectively advocate against illegal fishing. The reason is that because they have few, if any, savings, they do not have the choice to say no to illegally caught fish, which reduces their power and influence over fishers.

A results chain framework was developed with a premise that women would be more inclined towards advocating for sustainable fisheries if they and their households are economically resilient. The framework outlines interventions that can improve the knowledge and capacities of women, build their resiliency through the uptake of financial tools, such as FFP and VSLAs, and enable them to openly fight IUU and support fisheries management measures, such as closed seasons. By the end of FY19, 425 women in 11 communities in Central and Greater Accra Regions have been selected to participate in the learning initiative.

In September 2019, an in-person learning initiative was organized by the International Union of the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and hosted by SFMP at the Labadi Beach Hotel in Accra. The event was attended by members of staff from USAID funded fisheries projects in Philippines, Indonesia and Bangladesh, as well as representatives from IUCN, USAID, Banyan Global, and MOFAD/FC. In all, 16 (4 males and 12 females) persons attended the event. The objective of the three-day event was to strengthen participants’ knowledge, skills, and abilities to design and implement linked interventions related to financial access, women’s empowerment, and sustainable fisheries management. The objective was achieved by sharing best practices, peer-exchange, and reflection on planned activities. The event also included a boat trip to the Densu Estuary in Tsokomey where the participants observed SFMP’s interventions in the oyster fishery.

IR 6: Private Sector Partnerships

Micro-insurance designed for fisherfolk provides protection to thousands

During Year 5, SFMP liaised with the FFP insurance partners, Millennium Insurance, miLife Insurance (formally UT Life Insurance) and Vodafone to organize community clinics on the FFP in James Town in Greater Accra and Axim in Western Region. The rationale of the exercise was to meet with policyholders to respond to questions and complaints and provide real-time resolutions, where appropriate, to their concerns. Further, the event afforded partners the opportunity to explain the FFP product and planned changes to better meet the needs of customers, such as the auto-deduction of premium contributions. Finally, the community clinics served as an avenue to sensitize customers on the mobile money landscape, especially Vodafone Cash, and also educate and let policyholders know and practice the steps involved in paying their FFP contribution via the Vodafone cash platform (self-payment). At the end, majority of policyholders' questions and concerns were addressed, customer confidence in the FFP deepened, and attending customers better understood the process for paying their FFP premiums. Overall, more than 180 policyholders participated in both programs. After the program, Resonance followed up with customers to help resolve and provide feedback on some of the concerns that could not be addressed at the community clinic.

SFMP undertook a field assessment on the FFP and held close-out meetings with stakeholders including key customers, FFP community champions and community leaders. Resonance ended its role on IR6 in Q1. For this reason, Resonance undertook an assessment of the most recent progress of the FFP to ascertain the state of the FFP initiative as part of the SFMP exit strategy. Resonance found that customers still had issues with the visibility of Vodafone Cash agents in their communities and available agents still did not always have the needed funds on hand to undertake FFP transactions. Furthermore, FFP agents expressed the need for better compensation from miLife in conjunction with Golden Key to incentivize their work. Resonance however assured them that their concerns would be communicated to the FFP partners for redress. Based on its assessment and discussions with FFP partners Resonance drafted a final report on the FFP initiative summarizing lessons learned and way forward.

The FFP is currently in five communities, with 4,060 customers and more than \$430,000 of direct and in-kind private sector partner investment to date. The lead partner on the FFP, MiLife has since the exit of BIMA, revised the features of the product and developed its own platform for delivery, which was tested. The FFP partnership is planning to roll out the new platform in November of 2019 at which time they will re-open the program to further enrollment.

Tigo partnership enhances communications among fisherfolk and the Ministry

SFMP met with a new Airtel-Tigo TFN team to discuss relaunching the TFN initiative following the disruption caused by the Airtel-Tigo merger (which had halted activities in Year 4). The Airtel-Tigo team expressed interest and promised a short term action plan. However, Airtel-Tigo failed to respond to follow up communications. Resonance prepared a final summary report with lessons learned on the TFN initiative which will be finalized as part of project closeout. No further action or investment is being made towards this effort.

IR 7: Capacity Building

The success and the sustainability of fisheries management interventions supported by SFMP in Ghana depend on the engagement and the capacity of stakeholder institutions over time. Organizational Capacity Development (OCD) of government, public university, and civil society organizations in the fisheries sector is, thus, an important cross cutting result area of SFMP. The project's organizational capacity assessment (OCA) and OCD initiatives supported 10 Government of Ghana (GOG) and Public University units as well as 8 civil society organizations (CSOs). The GOG and public university units include 4 Divisions of the Fisheries Commission, the Fisheries Enforcement Unit, an interagency body, the Central and Western Region Land Use and Spatial Planning Authorities and the University of Cape Coast Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences and Center for Coastal Management. The CSOs are comprised of 2 local NGOs (HM and FoN), 2 regional membership associations (CEWEFIA and DAA), who are SFMP's implementing partners/sub-awardees, and 4 national membership associations (NAFPTA, GNCFC, GITA and the National Fisheries Association of Ghana (NAFAG)). The Government of Ghana organizations Final OCAs were conducted in Year 5 and compared to baseline OCAs. For GOG and public university units the assessment was qualitative. For CSOs, the project facilitated a process that enabled each organization to score and track progress on organizational capacity using a standardized OCA tool adapted from USAID.

GOG Capacity Support

OCA results for GOG and public university units showed improved capacity compared to baseline for each of the 9 units originally targeted, as well as one additional FC unit, the Monitoring and Evaluation unit.

For the FC and FEU, SFMP support has resulted in transformational change in the attitudes of FC personnel across all units about the importance of their relationship with fishermen and fish processors and the associations who represent them, as well as other key actors in fishing communities. SFMP support has provided FC personnel and their units at the central and regional levels with equipment, training, and communication platforms to change their behavior to engage with fishing communities and organizations with greater frequency and regularity and with more effective approaches than at baseline. In the past year this focused on supporting FC leadership in Fisher to Fisher dialogues, communications towards institution of a canoe fishery closed season for the first time in Ghana, creating enabling conditions for a high rate of voluntary compliance, biological monitoring of the closed season, policy and legislative reform, gender mainstreaming, and institution of a Class 1 certification scheme for fish processing. These and other capacity development activities and their outcomes have been highlighted in more detail in specific sections of this report and the final GOG OCA Report to be finalized in FY 20 Q1.

"Our clients have been fishermen. Now we have expanded to traditional leaders and Paramount Chiefs. SFMP funding to create the FTF platform to assemble everyone for dialoguing and owning the program is important. FC now supports GNCFC to host FTF. We need to strengthen the GNCFC's capacity to go out to the regions and communities." Division Head/FC

Prior year SFMP investments in FC and FEU capacity development, including leadership training, study tours, enforcement training and equipment support, and introduction of a competency-based approach for the development of the Marine Police (MP) capacity also resulted in demonstrable outcomes in 2019. A Marine Police command head highlighted that SFMP facilitated a change in approach by enforcement units, resulting in a more engaged relationship between fishermen and the MP. The impact of the change was demonstrated to

him as Ghana experienced almost universal voluntary compliance with the first ever closed season for the canoe fishery in May 2019. During this period, he noted that a visible presence of the MP at landing sites was sufficient deterrence, requiring little actual enforcement. In fact, fishermen proactively contacted him to ask permission to move their boats for fear of getting a fine. He recognized that fishermen embraced rather than resisted compliance and the efficiency of his service to the sector was greatly multiplied under this scenario. The MP are now primarily stewarding an enabling environment for compliance in the canoe fishery rather than focusing only on the conduct of enforcement actions. In addition, although not formally adopted, the MP will use the competency based approach and curriculum developed with SFMP support to train 100 new recruits expected by the end of 2019, the first since 2016.

The impact of new approaches to FC engagement with fishermen facilitated by SFMP was also reported by FC staff in relation to biological monitoring of the 2019 closed season. Fishermen observed and participated in the sampling of fish and categorization of gonad development for data collection conducted by the FC at landing sites. Prior to this exercise, FSSD staff had not understood the capacity of illiterate fishermen to correctly categorize scientific samples and engage in knowledgeable discussions about fish biology. They also noted that fishermen's participation in this exercise had high value as an education and outreach approach. Following the participatory data collection, simple mention of fish reproduction and gonad development was enough for fishermen to immediately understand and strongly support the need for a closed season according to FC staff.

The Western and Central Region Town and Country Planning Departments (TCPDs) supported by SFMP, were reorganized and are under a new legal framework as legislation developed prior to SFMP was passed in July 2016. They are now Land Use and Spatial Planning Authorities (LUSPA). TCPDs were advisory. LUSPAs are more powerful and less political. Staffing and operations have been further delegated to the district level and the LUSPA now has significant legal authority to ensure that districts fulfill their roles and responsibilities. These include the responsibility to develop and submit 5-year Spatial Development Plans on time and that meet best practice standards, including environmental criteria for sensitive areas such as coasts and wetlands and that consider climate change projections. SFMP's support to the Central Region LUSPA to mainstream coastal and fisheries issues and to establish a GIS Training Center during the initial years of the project was a very timely investment in capacity development. It positioned the Central Region LUSPA to fulfill its' new mandate and to take concrete measures to protect the coastal zone. In 2019, two years since it has received any SFMP support, the training center was maintained at the same level as when it was handed over. Twelve permanent trainers are actively training others including all LUSPA staff, Lands Commission staff, district technical officers, District Assemblies, and Ministry of Finance revenue officers, among others. The center runs a summer practicum for students from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), who are the future workforce of technicians at district and LUSPA levels throughout the country. Based on the SFMP supported [Planners' Guide to Integrated Coastal Management in the Central Region of Ghana \(2017\)](#), and with its' new authority, in one district, the Central Region LUSPA has removed all activities except three hospitality businesses, fishing and fish smoking activities from the vulnerable area between the road and the sea along the coast, allowing natural vegetation to re-establish, stopping sand mining and preventing the cutting of palm trees.

The evolution of organizational capacity at UCC/DFAS and CCM is best demonstrated by the increasingly influential position they now maintain in coastal management and fisheries in Ghana and beyond. SFMP capacity development support has contributed to this outcome in concert with USAID's simultaneous direct funding to UCC through the Fisheries and

Coastal Management Capacity Building Support Project. In the words of the CCM Director, “URI partnership was a game changer for us.” A UCC/DFAS faculty Chairs the Science and Technical Working Group hosted by the FSSD/FC with SFMP support for its’ small pelagic stock assessment and closed season monitoring activities. The group will likely be made an official advisory body of MOFAD. In 2019, UCC was awarded \$5 million in support from the World Bank’s African Centre of Excellence (ACE) IMPACT III Project as an Africa Center of Excellence in Coastal Resilience (ACECoR). Capacity developed with the support of SFMP shaped several of the core strategies included in their winning proposal and to be put into practice by the CCM/ACECoR. These include an emphasis on interdisciplinary research, engaging faculty across UCC’s Colleges and Departments and outreach capacity in order to engage in relevant, demand driven research applied to real world problems. SFMP and UCC have collaborated to provide a number of Ghanaian UCC faculty and students with higher education and degree program opportunities at URI with the outcomes summarized in the Table below. UCC and URI have also developed a dual degree program in Biological and Environmental Sciences at URI and a Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences degree at UCC independent of the USAID funded projects that was signed in October 2019.

Table 3: UCC students and faculty participating in higher education opportunities at URI

Program	No. students M/F	Program at URI	Date completed
PhD	1 (M-1)	Fisheries and environmental sciences	August 2019
Master’s	2 (F-2)	Marine Affairs and environmental sciences/fisheries	2018, 2019
2019 UCC undergraduate summer program at URI	6 (M-4/F-2)	Fisheries, coastal management and aquaculture	July 2019
URI Short Term Technical training of Faculty	1 (F-1)	Project management	July 2019
2018 UCC undergraduate summer program at URI	5 (M-3/ F-2)	Fisheries and coastal management	July 2018
UCC PhD students semester at URI	6 (M-1/F-5)	Fisheries, aquaculture, coastal management	Fall 2018
UCC PhD students semester at URI	4 (M-1/F-3)	Fisheries, coastal management and oceanography	Fall 2017
URI Short Term Technical training of Faculty	4 (M-4)	aquaculture, gas chromatography, fish otolith analysis	2016
URI Short Term Technical training of Faculty	3 (M-3)	Coastal and climate change adaptation curriculum	2015
Total	32 (M-17/F-15)		

The most significant challenge to FC organizational capacity development identified by FC and third party respondents was a perceived increase in political interference in fisheries management decision-making. The prevailing opinion of the majority of respondents was that FC capacity to develop and implement managed access fisheries management plans is improved, but cannot be effectively capitalized. Budget constraints were the second most frequently cited challenge. For the LUSPAs and UCC, development of effective business models and approaches to sustain their capacity to continue developing Ghana’s current and future workforce is a key challenge going forward.

CSO Capacity Support

A summary of OCA Results for each of the eight CSOs at baseline and final is presented in the table below. The Local NGO's and Regional Membership Associations chosen as implementing partners of SFMP are closer to having robust systems and structures in place to facilitate their capacity to provide quality and sustainable services to their constituents, and in their readiness and capacity to receive direct funding from USAID and other donors. These four organizations are better placed to contribute to the fisheries sector and to be drivers of change and to play roles in effectively sustaining results the project has achieved over the last five years. The key action plan item that these organizations implemented was to develop stronger financial management systems, which built the confidence that constituents and donors have in an organization's ability to manage finances effectively and efficiently. The analysis also indicated that the four National Membership Associations, however, do not have the adequate governance and program management processes, systems, and structures in place to provide high quality and sustainable services to their constituents for implementing and sustaining fisheries management improvements.

Table 4: Values for Baseline and Final OCA Scores for CSOs

ORGANISATION	OCA SCORE											
	GOVERNANCE		SUSTAINABILITY		PROGRAMS		FINANCIAL MGT		EXTERNAL REL.		HUMAN RES.	
	Baseline	Final	Baseline	Final	Baseline	Final	Baseline	Final	Baseline	Final	Baseline	Final
Local NGO 1	5	5.4	3.7	5.2	4.2	5	3.8	5.7	4.8	5	5.1	5.3
Local NGO 2	4.3	5.9	4.5	5.7	5.2	6	4.9	6	5.2	5.7	5.1	5.8
Reg. Assoc. 1	4	6	3	5	4	6	3	6	4	6	3	6
Reg. Assoc. 2	4	5	4.3	5	4.4	5	3.9	5	3.9	5	3.3	5
Natl. Assoc. 1	3.2	3.4	2.6	3.6	3.3	3.3	2.3	2	3.3	3.6	2.2	2.1
Natl. Assoc. 2	2.9	3.2	2.7	2.8	3.1	2	1.6	2	3.6	3.5	3.5	2
Natl Assoc. 3	2.2	2.5	1.8	1.3	1.6	1.5	1	1	3.2	2.8	1	1
Natl. Assoc. 4	2.3	3.1	0.5	2.7	1.4	2.2	1.3	1.6	2.3	3.6	2.5	2.8

The major challenge of these National Associations was their slow progress in implementing Human Resources and Financial Management systems. Given its' critical role in the sector, SFMP provided targeted support to the GNCFC this year to develop critical administrative charters to enable them function effectively as a formidable stakeholder. Implementation has been delayed as the leadership of the GNCFC has yet to take action. However, at the end of FY19 after the final OCA assessment, fishermen and canoe owners across the four coastal regions were sensitized on the contents of the revised GNCFC constitution developed by its leadership. It is expected that the sensitization and subsequent adoption will empower members to push for a change in leadership. At the writing of this report, the GNCFC was holding elections to choose leaders at the regional level as recommended by the OCA.

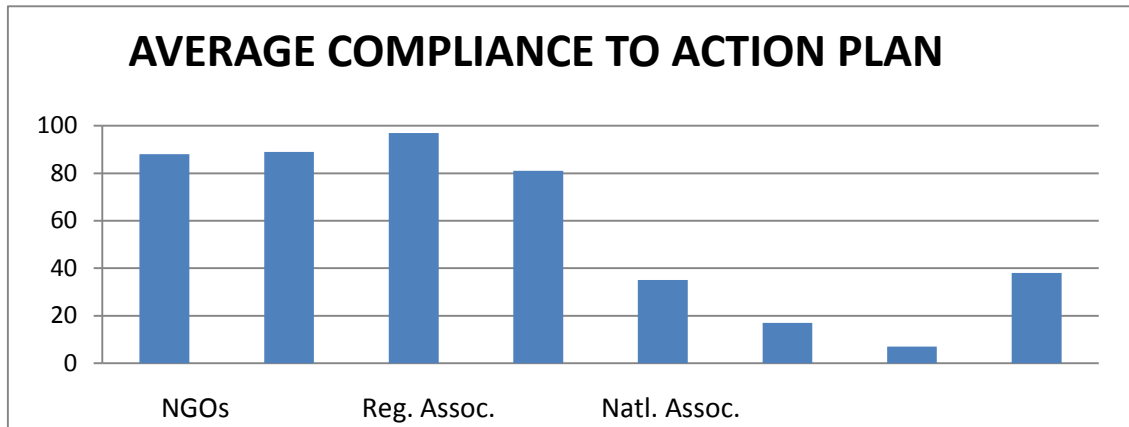


Figure 18: CSOs Percent Compliance to Action Plans

This year, seven program staff of SFMP, DAA, CEWEFIA, FoN, Hen Mpoano and NAFPTA were trained to respond to international requests for grant applications by a certified fund raising executive supported by the International Justice Mission (IJM). This opportunity arose through SFMP and IJM’s cooperation on anti-CLaT activities. The objective of this training was to position these organizations to respond to international funding opportunities to access much-needed resources and develop systems to maximize their impact.

2.3 Implementation Challenges

The two notices of slowdowns in funding from USAID received in Year 5 required SFMP to terminate several subcontracts earlier than anticipated in Q2 and truncated other work originally projected to continue into Q3. When funding obligations were eventually provided, activities had to be reprogrammed for implementation. This increased the administrative and management work burden and was demoralizing for staff and partners. The uncertainty in the release of funds made it difficult to make commitments to MOFAD on the support with the closed season. The unanticipated timing of the closed season being declared for May – June instead of the expected August period also required some agility in reprogramming of cash flow to accommodate activities that needed to be undertaken immediately. (e.g. monitoring the closed season and communications), and adjusting the timing of other activities (baseline survey repeat). The no cost extension requested also created some uncertainty and changes in programming until it was approved.

The project also encountered personnel changes in two senior staff positions in June. The Fisheries Specialist and the Chief of Party both terminated their employment agreements earlier than expected but with the required notice given. A new Chief of Party (CoPO) was nominated and approved by USAID and started work in June with some overlap of the previous Chief of party to provide orientation. The fisheries specialist was not filled as downsizing of program and administrative staff was planned at the end of September. The roles of this person were taken over by the CoP and by a senior fisheries advisor who continued to work with the project part-time and an intern supporting the fisheries specialist was brought on board full time as a fisheries assistant. Project downsizing plans were implemented at the end of September where five staff did not have their contracts renewed and their positions consolidated in a restricting of the office staff roles and responsibilities. This was necessitated by the fact that in the Year 6 no cost extension period, the budget will be approximately one third of the Year 5 budget with a commensurate downsizing in the number of work activities and workload on the remaining staff.

SFMP continued to meet challenges regarding micro-finance for post-harvest fish processors. Agreements were reached with the Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC) to provide GH¢ 2,500 to each NAFPTA member applicant approved for loans. After a slower than expected and lengthy application process MASLOC reviewed and changed the agreement reached and provided only GH¢ 1,000 to each approved applicant. As a result, a number of women processors refused to take the loans indicating that the low amount was not enough to finance activities they had scheduled to undertake. Out of the 194 applications from NAFPTA members submitted to MASLOC, 135 have so far been approved and loans disbursed at an interest rate of 1% payable in six months. While this Year 5 accomplishment met one of the lagging targets of the project, it still demonstrates that access to financing is a major challenge to women processors wanting to grow and expand their businesses. The formation of VSLAs has proven to be the most effective way to date to meet that need.

2.4 M&E Plan & Implementation Update

Monitoring, Evaluation, Knowledge Management, and Learning Plan

The monitoring and evaluation plan for FY19 was revised to incorporate the new indicators in the revised Feed the Future Indicator Handbook March 2018. New data collection tools for these new indicators were also developed and incorporated. Submission of the plan was delayed as additional targets and indicators had to be revised due to the slowdown of activities, the no-cost extension request, and the women's learning initiative start up.

The SFMP monitoring and evaluation unit ensured that data and deliverables reported to USAID met the USAID data quality standards. The unit during the year reported only data that were validated. The unit also responded to ad hoc requests for M&E information from USAID and METSS. Online data reporting systems such as TraiNet were updated quarterly. The unit provided monitoring and evaluation support to implementing partners. Routine monitoring visits to beneficiaries and partners were conducted quarterly to review and assess partner performance and captured lessons learned for overall project implementation. Capacity building for implementing partner's M&E officers was conducted.

The unit also trained enumerators for the closed season socio-economic (4 males and 5 females) and biological (13 males and 2 females) surveys conducted by the University of Ghana. The enumerators were equipped with the necessary skills to collect the required biological, socio-economic, nutrition and communication data for pre, during and post-closed season using the KoBoToolbox, a mobile app for data entry, and analysis.

Repeat baseline survey

An end of project assessment, as a follow-up to the project baseline, was conducted in the June-July period 2019. SFMP recruited eight (5 males and 3 females) enumerators for the repeat baseline survey to collect quality and credible quantitative data. The eight enumerators were given 4 days residential training by SFMP M&E team with support from Catherine McNally of CRC-URI. To ensure aptness of all tools and draft questionnaire for the survey, a pre-test was conducted in Teshie in the Greater Accra Region to test the appropriateness of the questions, formatting and wording and verbal translation of questions. Community entry exercise was conducted to all survey communities prior to household data collection by the enumerators. The data set was cleaned and is being merged with the baseline data and a report on the changes over life of project to date will be forthcoming in Q1.

Evaluation on the use of ice and ice chests

Ice is rarely used in the artisanal fisheries sector to reduce the rate of deterioration of fish and minimize post-harvest losses. The project provided twenty fish processor groups were

provided with insulated ice chests where they could store their fish on ice to keep it fresh until processed as a pilot initiative to understand better whether use of ice and ice chests could reduce post-harvest losses and to understand why so few do so now. The M&E unit and Kristine Beran from URI conducted an evaluation on the use of ice and these ice chests among fish processors and traders in the four coastal regions. This was to assess the economic viability of the use of ice and ice chests to preserve fish. The major conclusion of this evaluation was that the initiative had failed for several reasons. Ice containers provided were not sized to the needs of the users; a group ownership rather than individual container ownership model was used that resulted in most not being fully utilized by all intended beneficiaries; processors did not consider icing appropriate for small pelagic fish and only those processing higher valued demersal species such as Cassava fish and grouper found them useful; and, no containers were provided to boats so fish being landed was already of partially degraded quality before being iced onshore. . The report provides recommendations for subsequent attempts to promote the use of ice in the artisanal fish supply chain.

Supply Chain Scoping

A scoping visit on the fish supply chain in the Northern, Upper East, Upper West and Brong Ahafo Regions was conducted by the SFMP M&E unit, Kristine Beran and Fisheries Commission Post Harvest Unit. The purpose of this visit was to assess the fish flow chain to the northern part of the country. One key finding was that both small pelagics and freshwater fish are important components of the fish supply chain in the northern part of the country, with freshwater species somewhat more abundant in the markets than the marine fish species. The greater importance of freshwater species may be due to the declining catches of small pelagics. Cold stores for distributing imported frozen fish and dried and smoked product both play roles in supplying the northern areas with fish but the relative contributions of marine, fresh and imported fish supply was not quantified.

USAID Team visit to SFMP Intervention Areas and Partners: A three-member USAID team visited SFMP implementing partners (FoN, CEWEFIA, Hen Mpoano and Resonance), stakeholders and direct project beneficiaries to assess the impact of SFMP's interventions and make recommendations. Stakeholders and beneficiaries shared significant changes that have taken place since the inception of the project such as increased capital for their small businesses, availability of funds for emergencies in their communities, increases in fish stocks in community-based management area pilots, and increased sizes of fish caught, especially in the Ankobra estuary.

The team visited CEWEFIA's intervention areas such as the processing center and selected fish processors and fishers, the Elmina Chief Fisherman, the Ankobra Community-Based Fisheries Management Committee and VSLA members, Mfanteman, Komenda-Edina-Eguafo-Abbrem and Ellebelle District Assemblies, and anti-CLaT beneficiaries in the Biriwa community. CLaT intervention discussions highlighted the progress made in enlightening parents on the dangers of child labor and trafficking; where some parents took the initiative to rescue their children who had been trafficked for fishing activities. District assemblies discussed incorporating CLaT activities into their medium-term development plans, but identified funding as a major challenge in executing these plans. The assemblies depend mainly on central government funding that come with stringent conditions. Another challenge was the frequent transfer of assembly staff causing loss of institutional memory on CLaT issues. It was suggested that a quarterly report be presented to the District/Municipal Chief Executive to update them on CLaT activities being undertaken.



Figure 19: USAID team interacting with District chief executive and staff of Ellebelle District on the left and Ankobra Community Based Fisheries Management Committee and VSLA members at Ankobra on the right

3. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Maurice Knight, the SFMP Chief of Party (CoP) from May 2017 to June 2019, transitioned out of the CoP position as the end of the original life of project design neared, and budget and programmatic work levels will be reduced in YF20, during the no cost extension period. Nearly all targets and outcomes were achieved prior to his departure. Going forward, two primary work areas, policy reform (adoption of a national co-management policy) and legal reform (drafting instructions for revision of the national fisheries law) influenced the selection of a new CoP.

Dr. Raymond Babanawo was engaged as the new COP effective June, 2019. Dr. Babanawo was a legal advisor coordinating work between the Legal Expert, Professor Martin Tsamenyi, the SFMP senior fisheries advisor on one hand and MOFAD/FC on the other hand. As a result, he was already familiar with the policy and legal reform work of SFMP, and was well known and accepted by the staff of MOFAD/FC, and respected by CSOs and private sector stakeholders working on fisheries policy and legal reform in Ghana. His engagement was timed to overlap with last month of Mr. Knight's tenure to ensure a smooth transition. The project's other main areas of work, finance, administration, monitoring and evaluation, gender/post-harvest/women's empowerment, child labor and trafficking, and communications continued to be led by those already in place and provided a strong supporting team for Dr. Babanawo. An orientation program for Dr. Babanawo was implemented in the May – June period and a trip for further orientation has been planned to URI in October 2019.

Project Closeout

With Q3 beginning based on the original 2019 closeout dates for SFMP, and many of the SFMP LoP targets achieved in Y4, staff downsizing began in August 2018 with the consolidation of the gender, post-harvest, and micro-finance work streams under a single staff. The contract for the administrative assistant ended in March 2019 and was not replaced, leaving the office manager and two drivers in place. The contract for the SFMP media relations officer ended in May 2019 and an intern to the communications team ended her term at the beginning of June, leaving only the communications team-manager in place. The SFMP fisheries specialist resigned in June 2019. This position was combined with the Senior Fisheries Advisor position in Y5Q4 to provide continuous support for policy and legal reform, as well as the completion and launch of the Canoe Authorization/Identification Card program.

Following the engagement of a new Chief of Party in June, 2019, to oversee final project closure, the first major management restructuring took place at the end of September 2019 with reduction of staff size and consolidation of various work streams. The following positions were eliminated at the expiration of staff contracts:

- Office Manager
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Specialist and Assistant
- Communication Specialist
- Finance Officer
- One of the two driver positions

Subsequently, office and human resource management functions were consolidated under a newly created position, Finance and Administrative Officer. Monitoring, Evaluation and

Learning functions were also consolidated with MIS Database management under a new position. Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and MIS Database Officer. The two newly created positions are supervised by another newly created position, Deputy Chief of Party, who oversees financial management functions as well. Two new junior staff members; Communication Officer and Fisheries Officer have also been engaged to take over the functions of communications and fisheries management activities under the supervision of the Chief of Party. The restructuring has resulted in a reduction of six positions and about 55% reduction in staff costs.

4. LESSONS LEARNED

- While Ghana's failure to sustain the first ever inshore trawler and artisanal fleets closed season declaration in 2018 was due to a number of reasons that included lack of sufficient and effective public involvement, lack of political support, and late declaration by MOFAD, declaration of a closed season for inshore trawler and artisanal fleets in 2019, while not perfect and still tainted by politics, showed organizational learning on the part of MOFAD. All fishing associations were invited to participate in consultations leading up to the formal setting of dates and communication on the part of the government was more focused and on point. The National Association of Fishing Associations of Ghana was asked to lead a consultation process to advise on dates that would most likely be successful. The lessons learned during 2018 and 2019 are expected to carryover to future declarations and a 2020 closed season declaration is likely and hopefully during a more biologically significant period for stock rebuilding.
- The 2019 closed season for inshore and artisanal fleets was successful partially because of learning through the 2018 efforts, but also a result of four years of USAID/SFMP support to MOFAD/FC including development of capacity and awareness of the importance of science in decision making. The SFMP support for the creation and operation of the independent Ghana Fisheries Scientific and Technical Working Group (STWG) also played an important role. Recommendations of the STWG on the need for a closed season was perhaps the most regularly cited support for declaring the closed season. The STWG recommendation that August would be the best month for a closed season was equally often cited in opposition of the declared May-June closed season period. The importance of an independent and credible body emphasizing science-based decision making outside of political influences is a lesson that can be carried to other natural resource-focused projects attempting large scale policy change. In principle, the Fisheries Commission has agreed to establish the STWG as an official independent advisory body to the Commission later in calendar 2019.
- Proactive adaptive management on the part of the Coastal Resources Center responded effectively to two separate slow-down notices from USAID that delayed funding until Y5Q3 had started. Rapid reallocation of funds in close coordination with MOFAD/FC staff increased both SFMP and government partner readiness when funds were received, highlighting the importance of close coordination and communication with government partners.
- The capture and documentation of broader lessons learned for the entire 5-years of SFMP is completed. Lessons learned was presented at the National Conference on Fisheries and Coastal Issues. Lessons learned and summary documents printed and digitally compiled and selected documents was printed and distributed to key stakeholders.
- SFMP has had to rely on MASLOC as the only plausible source of funding for its beneficiaries, as they are the only financing agency that does not require credit guarantees and collaterals. The setting up of the VSLAs have however proven to be the most reliable source of financing for the project's target beneficiaries, who are largely illiterate and engaged in informal activities.
- The Fisher-to-Fisher (F2F) dialogue continues to demonstrate a successful and effective approach to improving understanding of and compliance with fisheries laws. Also, it has

created an effective platform for government-to-constituency communication that has two-way benefits in terms of sustainable fisheries reforms. The platform is now so successful that there is competition between the Fisheries Commission, Ghana National Canoe Fisheries Council, and local NGOs over ownership of the program. SFMP sees the F2F dialogue as potentially modeling a future national-scale co-management committee structure that brings together local fishermen, fish processors, NGOs, the national Science and Technical Working Group, fisheries associations like GNCFC and NAFPTA, and government around co-management of resources at the local level. It will not be possible for SFMP to complete this transition in the remaining time of the project but SFMP staff will begin introducing this conceptual structure to key stakeholders.

- The benefits of SFMP's local organizations capacity development programs, started at the beginning of the project, are now revealing their full impact. Local organizations engaged earlier in the project in Year 5 are fully visible in advocating sustainable fisheries management reforms in Ghana, as well as in their own internal governance and management activities. National fisheries sector associations such as GNCFC and NAFPTA that were engaged later in the project are now poised to play greater roles but need more advisory, coaching and organizational development support to strengthen their organizational structure and modes of operation. This support is particularly needed in terms of how they can effectively reach their large claimed memberships (GNCFC with potentially 130,000 and NAFPTA with potentially 14,000) to mobilize and represent them for sustainable fisheries management reforms.
- The Class I hygienic fish processing scheme developed in collaboration with the Fisheries Commission, Ghana Standards Authority, and SFMP has generated much interest among fish processors as they see the potential to access new markets that may offer better prices than traditional markets. Zonal Officers of the Fisheries Commission were trained by SFMP to become auditors of the scheme. Intensifying the effort to involve zonal officers, who are on the front line at the district level, will be instrumental in the expanding audit and certification process nationally.

5. FINANCIAL STATUS

The following table shows the financial status of the project through Year 5 (FY19) including funds obligated to date, estimated expenses through the end of Year 5, and balance of obligated funds on hand at the end of Year5. The Cooperative Agreement ceiling is US\$23,987.826.

Table 5: Financial status of the project through Year 5 (FY19)

Budget Item	Total funds Obligated to Date September 30, 2019 (US\$)	Total Funds Expended (estimated) to Date, through September 30, 2019 (US\$)	Projected Balance of Obligated Funds, Remaining as of September 30, 2019 (US\$)
Direct costs	11,189,120	10,435,817	1,063,468
Sub-grantees	9,202,525	8,790,557	93,104
Construction	387,000	307,113	-
Training	349,655	208,703	-
<i>Total Line Items</i>	21,128,300	19,742,190	1,156,572
<i>Modified Direct</i>	11,189,120	10,435,817	1,063,468
Indirect	2,859,526	2,812,562	276,502
Total	23,987,826	22,554,752	1,433,074

ANNEX 1. SUMMARY RESULTS TO DATE (ALL PROJECT PERFORMANCE INDICATORS)

This summary includes all standard USAID indicators as show as well in Section 1.2 as well as two additional custom indicator the project uses. Table 5 below and Table 1 in the introduction provide summary results on all Year 5 indicators relative to targets.

Table 6: Results to date relative to LoP for all indicators

Standard and SFMP custom Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	FY 15 Results	FY 16 Results	FY17 Results	FY 18 Results	FY 19 Target	FY 19 Results	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	Cumulative Results (FY15+FY16 +FY17+FY18 +FY19)	Revised LoP Target	LoP On Target Y/N
Goal: Rebuild marine fisheries stocks and catches through adoption of responsible fishing practices											
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)	N/A	N/A	N/A	11 hectares		610,900 (Small pelagics fishing area)	610,900 hectares	100%	610,911 hectares (100%)	610,930 marine hectares	Y (Achieved due to the 2019 closed season)
Biomass to produce MSY (B_{msy}) (Project Indicator)	Baseline established	N/A	N/A	Decreasing	Decreasing 2017 Biomass is low at $B=21,750$ MT.	Stable /increasing (Assumes major management measures put in place)	$B= 19,700$ MT in 2019 (Decreasing)	N/A	Decreasing slightly from 2017 estimate	Stable or increasing	N (closed season not timed properly and other mgt measures needed to reverse trend)
Fishing Mortality at MSY (F_{msy}) (Project Indicator)	Baseline established	N/A	N/A	Increasing 2015 fishing mortality is $F=0.8$ which is very high. Rebuilding target for F_{msy} set at $F=0.3$	Increasing 2017 fishing mortality is $F= 0.88$	Stable/decreasing (Assumes major Management. measures put in place)	$F= 0.88$ in 2019 (Stable)	N/A	Stable	Stable or decreasing	Y (While F stable, still too high to reverse declining biomass trend)

Standard and SFMP custom Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	FY 15 Results	FY 16 Results	FY17 Results	FY 18 Results	FY 19 Target	FY 19 Results	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	Cumulative Results (FY15+FY16 +FY17+FY18 +FY19)	Revised LoP Target	LoP On Target Y/N
Number of indirect project beneficiaries (project custom indicator)	0	N/A	N/A	0 (the closed season and second fishing holiday were not implemented)	905 M-406 (45%) F-499 (55%) (fishers applied closed season at Densu and Pra estuaries and users of	Counting 135,401 if the closed season or second fishing holidays is adopted	137,518 M-107,518 (78%) F-30,000 (22%)	102%	138,423 (106%) M-107,902 (78%) F-30,499 (22%)	130,000 marine fishers, processor, marketers (23% women)	Y (Achieved due to the 2019 closed season)
IR 1: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)):	0	1	4	7	2	8	3	50%	4 (50%)	8	Y (Co-mgt policy and 3 CB-mgt plans approval by cabinet expected in Q1YR) Act revision awaiting cabinet approval
Step 1. Analysis	0	1 (Small Pelagic)	1 (Demersal)					N/A	N/A		Completed and no further work on these.
Step 2. Stakeholder consultation	0				1 (Fish Act)		1 (Fish act)	N/A	N/A		Y consultation completed
Step 3. Drafting or revision	0		3 (Fish Act, Small Pelagic and CLaT)	6 (Fish act, NFMP, Co-mgt policy, Pra, Densu and Ankobra CBMPs)	5 (Co-mgt policy, CLaT, Pra, Densu and Ankobra CBMPs)	1 (Fish Act)	4 (Co-Management. Policy, Pra CBMP, Ankobra CBMP and Densu Oyster Plan)	N/A	N/A		N (Cabinet memo drafted to start drafting the act with MOFAD but not yet submitted to cabinet

Standard and SFMP custom Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	FY 15 Results	FY 16 Results	FY17 Results	FY 18 Results	FY 19 Target	FY 19 Results	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	Cumulative Results (FY15+FY16 +FY17+FY18 +FY19)	Revised LoP Target	LoP On Target Y/N
Step 4. Approval (legislative or regulatory)	0			1 (FC Gender Strategy)	2 (NFMP and FC Gender strategy)	7 (CLaT strategy, NMFMP, Gender Strategy, Co-Management, Policy, Pra CBMP, Ankobra CBMP and Densu Oyster Plan)	3 (CLaT strategy, NMFMP and Gender Strategy)	N/A	N/A		Y (3 policies are approved and at various levels of implementation, but Co-mgt policy and 3 CB-mgt plans pending approval by cabinet expected in Q1 FY20)
Step 5. Full and effective implementation	0							N/A	N/A		N/A
IR2:SCIENCE & RESEARCH :Increased use of science and applied research to inform decision-making and the implementation of management plans											
See cross cutting Indicators											
IR3:CONSTITUENCIES :Constituencies and political will for policy reform & implementation built, demanding sustainable use and conservation											
Number of information products disseminated in local media reports, radio shows, conference papers, and research studies (Project indicator).	0	18	21	104	66	6	18	300%	227 (159%)	143	Y (over target)
IR 4:APPLIED MANAGEMENT :Improved management of marine resources to conserve bio-diversity & provide other benefits											

Standard and SFMP custom Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	FY 15 Results	FY 16 Results	FY17 Results	FY 18 Results	FY 19 Target	FY 19 Results	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	Cumulative Results (FY15+FY16 +FY17+FY18 +FY19)	Revised LoP Target	LoP On Target Y/N
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	N/A	N/A	619,496 hectares	3,215 hectares	LoP Target met already	3 hectares	100	622,714 hectares (100%)	622,678 hectares	Y
Number of DAs supported with USG Assistance (Ghana CDCS, IR 2.3 indicator)	0	4	4	5	6	6	6 ongoing	100%	6 (120%)	5	Y (over target)
Improvement in fisheries enforcement and prosecutorial chain to counter IUU fishing (increase/decrease in prosecutions and percent that lead to conviction) (Project Indicator)	0	N/A	N/A	No	Data not received yet	Increasing	Evidence of improved compliance for industrial sector published in peer reviewed article	N/A	N/A	Increasing	Y (secondary data evidence for commercial sector available but artisanal sector – unknown)
Number of climate vulnerability assessments conducted as a result of	0	1	2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3 (100%)	3	Y

Standard and SFMP custom Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	FY 15 Results	FY 16 Results	FY17 Results	FY 18 Results	FY 19 Target	FY 19 Results	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	Cumulative Results (FY15+FY16 +FY17+FY18 +FY19)	Revised LoP Target	LoP On Target Y/N
Number farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (FtF 4.5.2)	0	N/A	N/A		905 M-406 (45%) F-499 (55%)	111,000 (assumes national closed season or other measure for canoes/ small pelagics adopted)	107,751 total (107,613 fishers for closed season, 138 Ahotor oven adopters)	97%		111,000	Y (implementation of 2019 closed season) slightly below target due to new lower estimate of No. fishers.
Number of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2)	0	751 M-36 F-715	985 M-186 F-799	1,737 M-168 F-1,569	980 M-130 (13%) F-850 (87%)	700 (Target met already)	658 M-54 (8%) F-604 (92%)	94%	5,111 (133%) M-574 (11%) F-4,537 (89%)	3,857	Y (target over achieved)
Value of agricultural and rural loans as a result of USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-6	0	N/A	N/A	56,579 M-\$0 (0%) F-\$ 56,579 (100%)	\$1,299 M-\$0 (0%) F-\$1,299 (100%)	\$18,809	\$25,962 M-\$0 (0%) F-\$25,962 (100%)	138%	\$83,840 (96%) M-\$0 (0%) F-\$83,840 (100%)	\$87,029	Y (slightly below target but likely will be met now that MASLOC has started giving out loans)

Standard and SFMP custom Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	FY 15 Results	FY 16 Results	FY17 Results	FY 18 Results	FY 19 Target	FY 19 Results	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	Cumulative Results (FY15+FY16 +FY17+FY18 +FY19)	Revised LoP Target	LoP On Target Y/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	N/A	N/A	300 M- 0 (0%) F-300(100%)	9 M- 0 (0%) F-9 (100%)	100	135 M- 0 (0%) F-135 (100%)	135%	444 (74%) M- 0 (0%) F - 444 (100%)	600	N below target and but may still be met now that MASLOC has started giving out loans
IR 5 Gender											
<i>See crosscutting indicators</i>											
IR 6: Public Private Partnerships											
Value of new private sector investments in select value chains	0	N/A	N/A	\$ 51,959.23	\$15,496	Tracked, no target	LoP Target met already	N/A	\$67,455.23	Tracked, no target	N/A
Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of Feed the Future assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(12))	0	N/A	1	1	N/A	0 (LoP Target met already)	LoP Target met already	N/A	2 (100%)	2	Y
IR7 Capacity Development											
Number of institutions with improved capacity to develop and implement managed access fisheries management plans	0	N/A	N/A	15 (10 GoG & 5 CSOs)	1 (NAFPTA)	19 (16 ongoing) 3 added GITA, NAFAG & GNCFC	17 (7 CSO & 10 GoG)	89%	17 (89%)	19	N (11% below target. No plan to measure OCA again although additional improvements likely by LOP)

Standard and SFMP custom Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	FY 15 Results	FY 16 Results	FY17 Results	FY 18 Results	FY 19 Target	FY 19 Results	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	Cumulative Results (FY15+FY16 +FY17+FY18 +FY19)	Revised LoP Target	LoP On Target Y/N
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	2	1	6 (2 new GITA & NAFAG)	6	6 On-going	6 On-going	100%	6 (100%)	6	Y
Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S) (FTF4.5.2(27))	0	164 M-0 F-164	1,144 M-35 F-1,109	1,693 M-329 F-1,364	3,172 M-1,131(36%) F-2,041 (64%)	8,200	717 M-72 (10%) F-645 (90%)	9%	6,890 (52%) M-1,567(23%) F-5,323(77%)	13,338	Y (Target will be achieved with the Canoe ID card roll out in Q1 FY20)
Cross Cutting Indicators (summarized for all IRs)											
Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG4.8.1-28)	0	816 days	1,019 days	593 days	814 days	262	525 days	200%	3,767 days (108%)	3,498 days	Y (Slightly over target))
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	890 M-621 F-269	1,047 M-496 F-551	1,766 M-801 F-965	2,880 M-1,559 (54%) F-1,321 (46%)	1,854	3,238 M-2,385 (74%) F-853 (26%)	175%	9,821 (128%) M-5,862 (60%) F-3,959 (40%)	7,700	Y (target, over achieved due to F2F)

Standard and SFMP custom Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	FY 15 Results	FY 16 Results	FY17 Results	FY 18 Results	FY 19 Target	FY 19 Results	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	Cumulative Results (FY15+FY16 +FY17+FY18 +FY19)	Revised LoP Target	LoP On Target Y/N
Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance (4.8.1-29)	0	9,832 person hours	18,846 person hours	22,997 Person hours	30,280 Person hours	12,354	20,132 person hours	163%	102,087 (108%)	94,761	Y (target, over achieved due to F2F)
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-1	0	N/A	N/A	3,096 M-835 F-2,261	3,860 M-1,689 (44%) F-2,171 (56%)	2,554	3,676 M – 2,439 (66%) F – 1,237 (34%)	144%	10,632 (123%) M-4,963 (47%) F-4,432 (53%)	8,615	Y (target over achieved)
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) EG.3.2-2	0	N/A	N/A	5 M – 1 F – 4	5 M – 1 (20%) F – 4 (80%)	1	2 M-1(50%) F-1(50%)	200%	5 (100%) M – 1 (20%) F – 4 (80%)	5	Y (all students completed degrees and returned to Ghana)

Explanation of Indicators

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)

Biomass to produce MSY (B_{msy}) and Fishing Mortality at MSY (F_{msy}) (Year 5 target)

Indicators 1a and 1b are project indicators under indicator 1 that are specific to the small pelagic fishery and the much larger LoP target. We are tracking the indicator over time. The 2019 Fishing mortality (level of fishing pressure) has stabilized relative to the 2017 level of $F=0.88$, but this level is too high to allow rebuilding of the stock biomass and indicates overfishing is still occurring. Biomass shows a slight decline from 2017 results and indicates that the stock is still overfished relative to scientific targets for achieving maximum sustained yields. Insufficient management measures are in place to significantly reduce fishing mortality. Until fishing mortality is reduced, biomass is unlikely to increase as biomass decline is caused primarily by overfishing and not environmental variability or climate change.

The strategy to achieve the LOP is through the implementation of a closed season and an additional holiday and capping on new canoes. The first two measures result in lower Fishing mortality, and the third, the cap, prevents it from going up further by means of added canoes. The closed season has now been implemented for the artisanal fishing sector and for the first time in 2019 (May-June) and the trawl sector closure (Aug-Sept) for the third time in 2019. While the second fishing holiday and cap on canoe registration may occur in the no-cost extension period of the project through FY 20, there is a significant lag in reduction in fishing mortality and increase in biomass. While the additional measures may be implemented, the project will end before any likely change in biomass resulting from these measures will be measured. Biomass improvements will lag by a year or two after fishing mortality is reduced. We can however, reasonably assume it will occur as a result of implementation of all the management measure(s).

A confounding factor is the “saiko” catch (fish illegally transshipped from trawlers to canoes at sea) which is not reported in official landing statistics. While the trawler association has made public promises to eliminate this practice, evidence that it has stopped or been reduced remains to be seen. Prevention of saiko catch would in all likelihood contribute to improved biomass

Number of indirect project beneficiaries (custom indicator)

A total of 107,518 fishermen (males) based on the 2016 Fisheries Commission Ghana Canoe Frame Survey, and 30,000 fish processors and traders (estimated number of women processors and traders in the marine fishery as stated by FC officials in public meetings), totaling 137,518 persons indirectly benefiting from the implementation of the closed season as a management measure for the marine fishery. Combining the FY 2018 results of Fisherfolk in the Densu, Pra and Ankobra estuaries that have implemented closed seasons for the second time in two years, and the number of fish processors that have benefited from the new Ahotor fish smoking oven, this cumulatively gives a total of 107,902 males and 30,499 females) out of the cumulative target of 130,000 marine fishers, processors and marketers representing 106 percent achievement over LoP. Estimates to establish the target are based on Fisheries Commission estimates in surveys and public statements. These estimates vary over time as official frame surveys (census of boats

gear and fishermen) are updated and this accounts to some extent for the minor variation in target versus actual as new estimates of number of fishers and fish processors were used in the cumulative result estimate.

IR 1 Strengthened Enabling Environment

Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case:

Cumulatively, a total of three policies (The Anti-Child Labor and Trafficking (CLaT) inter-ministerial strategy, Gender and the National Marine Fisheries Plan) were approved out of the seven targeted over LoP.

The four outstanding policies targeted to be approved include the co-management policy and the three community based management plans. A cabinet memorandum has been submitted by MOFAD to the cabinet for their approval. Once this gets queued into a cabinet meeting agenda, approvals as likely and estimated in Q1 FY 20. In spite of the fact that the co-management policy and associated community based plans have not been formally approved yet, the three plans are being fully implemented by legally constituted user group associations and co-management committees and supported by the Fisheries Commission. In this regard, it could be argued that the plans skipped the formal adoption process and are at step 5 full implementation.

MOFAD/FC implemented some management measures (closed season) as stipulated in the National Marine Fisheries Plan (NFMP) during the year but it is not considered to be in full implementation at this time.

SFMP engaged two Ghanaian consultants to support amendment of the National Fisheries Act and carried on consultation retreats with producer associations. A comprehensive Cabinet Memo seeking Cabinet approval for revision of the national fisheries law, culminating in the development of new fisheries legislation was prepared for MOFAD. MOFAD is making revisions before submission to cabinet. However, with upcoming national elections in December 2020, the window of time where new legislation can be prepared and submitted to parliament is narrowing. The project target was to draft the new legislation before the end of project and it is likely that we may not get past the consultation stage unless MOFAD accelerates its internal processes on this.

IR 3 Constituencies

Number of Information Products Disseminated in local media reports, radio shows, conference papers and research studies (custom indicator)

Both the FY19 target and LoP target have been exceeded by 300 percent and 159 percent respectively due to a shift in Year5 on an intensive communications campaign in support of a closed season declaration and implementation by MOFAD/FC. See Annex 3 for a list of media reports during the year.

IR 4 Applied Management

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)

This LoP target was met in previous years. Community-based fisheries management plans were drafted for the Densu, Pra and Ankobra estuaries and currently awaiting approval by MOFAD

for effective implementation. As the communities are waiting for formal approval, some of the management measures outlined in these plans are being implemented to ensure sustainability of the fish resource. During year 5, beneficiaries especially women within the Densu estuaries replanted 5,000 red mangrove seedlings covering a total of 3 hectares on degraded land under improved management for FY19. Cumulatively, a total area of 622,714 hectares representing 100% of the revised LOP target of 622,678 hectares was achieved.

Number of DAs supported

In year 5, a total of 6 districts continued to receive support on child labor and trafficking issues representing 100 percent.

Improvements in Fisheries Enforcement and prosecutorial chain (Custom Project Indicator)

The secondary data for this indicator needs to be collected from government agencies, who have been reluctant to provide information due the sensitivity of the data. The unavailable data means we are unable to make an accurate determination on whether enforcement and prosecutions are increasing or not and its impact on deterring illegal fishing activities. SFMP will use data from the repeat of the baseline survey conducted in June 2019 to assess changes in perceptions of fisherfolk on enforcement actions and compliance. The analysis of that data is ongoing at the time of this report preparation and will be finalized in Q1 FY20.

However, a peer reviewed journal article was recently published that showed a significant decrease in trawler incursions into the inshore exclusion zone between 2012 and 2018 that is reserved for the canoe sector fishing. (Mullié, W.C. 2019. Apparent reduction of illegal trawler fishing effort in Ghana's Inshore Exclusive Zone 2012–2018 as revealed by publicly available AIS data. *Marine Policy* Vol.108: 103623 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2019.103623>). This provides evidence that enforcement, at least with respect to the industrial trawling sector, has improved and is resulting in higher compliance

Number of Climate Vulnerability Assessments conducted.

This target has been met in the previous year and no activities were undertaken on this indicator in Year5.

Number farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (FtF 4.5.2)

Approximately 107,613 fishermen observed the 2019 closed season as a management practice as specified in the National Marine Fisheries Plan (NFMP) and 138 women adopted the Ahotor oven representing 97% of the annual FY 19 target.

The cumulative total over the five years of project implementation gives a result of 108,656 persons (108,019 males and 637 females) representing 98 percent of the LOP target observed. The annual and LoP result is slightly under target as the estimate of the total number of fishermen was updated from the 2016 fishing frame survey of the Fisheries Commission that had a new and smaller estimate of the number of fishermen that was previously estimated to be 111,000 persons from the 2013 survey.

Number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2)

A total of 658 (54 men and 604 women) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) received various business development services through a well-designed curriculum to improve the knowledge and skills of these beneficiaries. Out of the yearly target of 700 this represents a 94% achievement versus target. Males formed 8% and females constituted 92% of those receiving services. The slight underperformance is a result of the two USAID funding slowdown announcements during the first and second quarters of the year. While efforts were made to accelerate activities in the third and fourth quarters, it was not sufficient to fully make up the targeted result set prior to the funding slowdowns.

The project at the end of year 5 has cumulatively trained 5,111 Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) representing 133% of the revised LOP target of 3,857. Out of the cumulative total, 574 (11%) are males while 4,537 (89%) are females. There are more females because the MSMEs benefiting from the project activities and targeted by the project are primarily women-led fish processing and marketing businesses. The over achievement of target can be attributed to year 3 achievement where MSMEs activities were extended to Volta region based on demand and requests from MSMEs in that region among others.

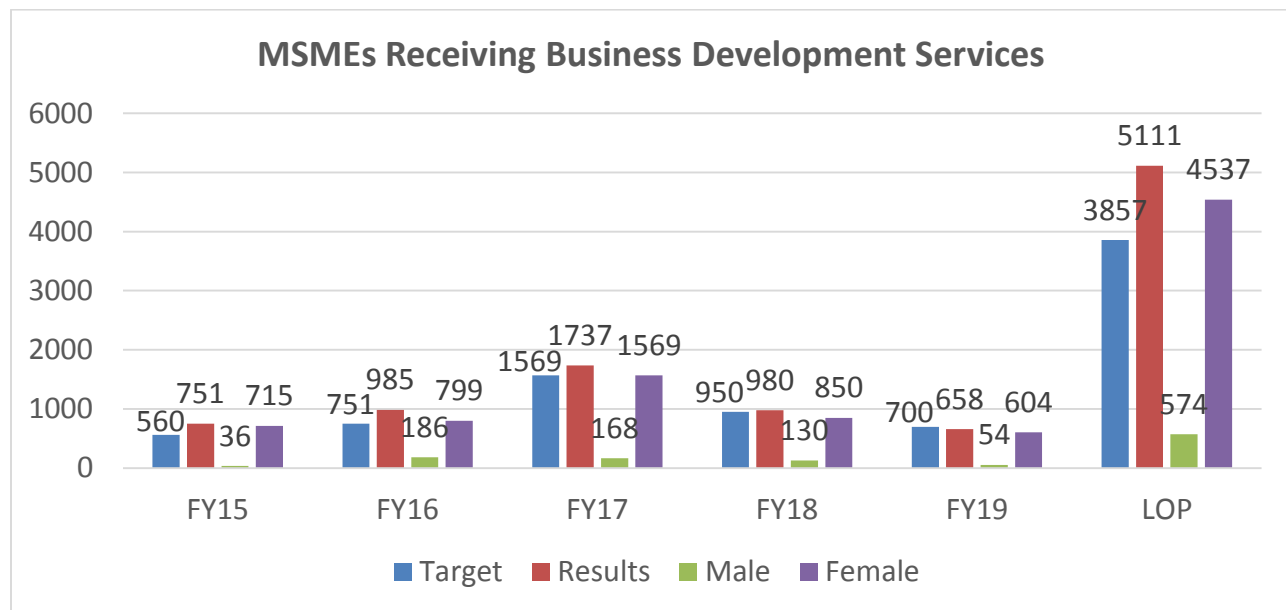


Figure 20: Number of MSMEs receiving business development services

Value of agricultural and rural loans as a result of USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-6

This indicator sums cash loans disbursed during the reporting year to direct beneficiary producers and MSMEs in rural areas that are in a targeted agricultural value chain, as a result of U.S. Government assistance. During Year 5, \$25,962 in loans were given out to producers representing 138% of the target of \$18,809. The target was over achieved as MASLOC provided loans to more women than we earlier projected, but could only support businesses with a GH¢ 1,000 per woman loan instead of the GH¢ 2,500 they had applied for.

Cumulatively, the project has achieved 96% (\$83,840) of the LOP target (\$87,029). MASLOC has so far provided loans to 135 beneficiaries. SFMP and partners are increasing Village Savings and Loan group formation and development so the projects responsiveness to the need for micro-business capital is being met in other ways and captured under other indicators. While MASLOC may still provide additional loans in Year 6 and we will track that, we are not putting any project resources into this approach any longer due the long duration to have loans let, and as processors are less interested due to the smaller amounts of loans given than originally expected. We expect this target may be met by end of project assuming MASLOC provides about another 25 loans in the upcoming year to the 60 women who applied but have not received yet loans, and assuming that no more than half of the remaining applicants will have loan applications rejected by MASLOC.

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

This indicator counts the total number of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that have received U.S. Government assistance that resulted in a loan (in a formal financial institution). During the year under review, 135 MSMEs representing 135% of annual target received loans. All the beneficiaries were females, the reason being that the MSMEs are women owned fish processing businesses. The project at the end of Year 5 cumulatively assisted 444 MSMEs to access loans out of the revised LOP target of 600 representing 74% of LoP target. This indicator is directly related to the indicator above and while the annual target was met, the LoP target will not be met due to our decision to curtail project resources on this, and instead, invest in establishing VSLAs as a better option for fish processors and traders. VSLA savings and loans are not captured under this indicator.

Value of new private sector capital investments in select value chains (FTF 4.5.2-38)

This indicator was introduced in Year 3 to capture the value of private sector capital investment in the selected value chain after the formal partnership agreement (micro-insurance partnership) was officially signed between UT Life Insurance (now Mi Life Insurance), Millennium Insurance, BIMA and Vodafone Ghana. Activities contributing to this indicator came to end during first quarter of year 5. Cumulative capital investments to date is valued at \$67,455.23. There is no annual and LOP target for this indicator.

Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of Feed the Future assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(12))

Cumulatively the project has signed two partnership agreements, achieving the LoP target.

In Year 2. A micro-insurance partnership agreement was signed between Mi Life Insurance, Millennium Insurance, BIMA and Vodafone Ghana to develop and roll out the Fishers Future Plan (FFP). The FFP is a micro savings and life insurance product especially designed for fisherfolk. The savings component can be used as income support during the closed season when there will be no earnings from fishing. One of the partners BIMA, exited the FFP partnership. The other remaining partners have however identified a new partner (Golden Key) to take up BIMA's role. Cumulatively, more than 4,060 customers and more than \$430,000 of direct and in-kind private sector investment has been made to date.

In the Year 3, the project again signed a Letter of Collaboration formalizing a partnership between Tigo Ghana, the Fisheries Commission, and the SFMP to extend tailored mobile

telephony services to fisherfolk via the Tigo Fisheries Network (TFN). The TFN is currently operating and will support the Fisheries Commission's extension efforts for sustainable fisheries management and improve local livelihoods and household incomes for fisherfolk through improved information sharing; free text messaging and voice calls to close user groups -saving fisherfolk on the costs of phone credit; and the promotion of use of digital financial services.

Number of institutions with improved capacity to develop and implement managed access fisheries management plans

In FY19, a final Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) for 10 GoG, and university units and 7 CSOs was conducted and compared to baselines to ascertain the level of capacity improvement after receiving trainings in various areas, and the provision of equipment or inputs such as vehicles, computers, printers, servers, furniture etc. The 10 GOG units are MFMD/FC, FSSD/FC, MCS/FC, PHU/FC, MEU/FC, FEU and interagency unit, LUSPA/WR, LUSPA/CR, UCC/DFAS, UCC/CCM. The 7 CSOs are HM, FON, DQF, DAA, CEWEFIA, NAFPTA, GITA, GNCFC, NAFAG.

The baseline OCA for GITA, NAFAG and GNCFC conducted in year 3, was added to the LOP target (increase of 3) in year 4 for the final OCA in FY19. The sub-grant award of the fifth CSO (Daasgift Quality Foundation (DQF) ended in year 3 and was therefore not part of the final OCA. The Fisheries Commission Monitoring and Evaluation Unit (MEU) was added at midterm in FY17 as SFMP support resulted in transformation of the units' operations to paperless survey methods that have been applied for most of their studies since, including a socio-economic study of the May 2019 closed season presented at the August 2019 National Conference.

The final OCA reports indicated that a total of 17 organizations had improved capacity to contribute to the fisheries sector and sustain the gains made by the project in the last five years. These include the 10 GOG and public university units and 5 of the CSOs. While NAFPTA improved its' score marginally, the GNCFC and NAFAG were not able to improve their OCA scores compared to baseline. The analysis indicated that all 4 of the National Membership Associations still require significant additional improvement to have the adequate governance, financial systems, and essential structures in place to provide high quality and sustainable services to their constituents for implementing and sustaining fisheries management improvements.

It is significant to note that the National Membership Associations were added to the SFMP Organizational Capacity Development component of the project after their critical role as important organizational actors in the sector was understood. The shorter timeframe during which the project worked with them as well as other factors contribute to the low levels of progress documented. The OCA tools applied for the other CSOs were not well tailored to this type of membership association and the low level of organizational capacity at which these organizations started are two such factors. Another is the awareness raising that occurred during the OCA and OCD process. Organizational participants learned and changed their perspectives over the course of the process about what a strong and well-functioning organization entails. Thus, the final OCA scoring tended to result in lower scores on the organizational self-assessment part of the process for some components.

In spite of these challenges, these organizations are now much more aware of the gaps between, a.) the role they envision for their organization in the sector and, b.) their organizational realities. As of the writing of this report and after the final OCA, the GNCFC seemed to be taking

significant steps to act on implementation of its' constitutional reforms, including the creation of a democratically elected leadership structure through regional elections. Renewal of national level leadership by the elected regional leadership was expected to follow and is expected to result in a change for the first time in more than 20 years at the national level. Stakeholders are also hopeful that NAFAG is now in a position to move forward in a more representative and transparent manner following an unexpected vacancy in its' top leadership. SFMP organizational capacity assessment and development support has clearly been one of the catalysts for these nascent developments.

Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producer organizations, water user's associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (RiA) (WOG) (FTF 4.5.2(11))

During the year under review, SFMP continued to provide support to the six producer organizations representing 100% of the target. The indicator target was revised upward from four to six. These 6 associations in Year 5 received various forms of assistance (e.g. capacity building). The organizations receiving assistance are: National Fisheries Association of Ghana (NAFAG) and Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association (GITA), Development Action Association (DAA), Central and Western Fishmongers Association (CEWEFIA), National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA) and Ghana National Canoe Fisherman Council (GNCFC).

Number of members of producer organizations and community-based organizations receiving USG assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(27))

This indicator captures the number of members of producer organizations namely DAA, CEWEFIA, NAFPTA and GNCFC, that the project has assisted either through material support, meetings and trainings during the year under review. At the end of Year 5, a total of 717 members (72 men and 645 women) were provided assistance as against the target of 8,200 members representing only 9% achievement. In terms of cumulative performance, 6,890 (1567 men and 5323 women) representing 52% of the revised LOP target of 13,338 was achieved. The reason for under performance in year 5 Targets was as a result of the delay in Canoe Authorization Card for GNCFC members which is currently at MOFAD/FC. There was a high percentage of female participants in Year 5 since three of the organization (CEWEFIA, DAA and NAFPTA) are women dominated organizations (e.g. Women fish processors and traders). The Canoe Authorization Card when distributed will increase the male percentage and exceed the target as an estimated individual 10,000 cards are expected to be distributed in Q1 FY20.

Cross Cutting Indicators

Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG 4.8.1-28)

In Year 5, a total of 525 days, representing 200% of the annual target of 262 days, of technical assistance was received from experts in Natural Resource Management. The target was over achieved as additional technical experts were engaged including the two consultants contracted to review the fisheries act. In addition, one Resonance staff member who is leading the Learning Initiative on women empowerment, access to finance and sustainable fisheries had her contract extended from Q3 to Q4 which also increased the actual result. Cumulatively, 3,767 days representing 108% of the revised LOP target of 3,498 were spent by Technical Experts at various workshops, training events and technical advisory services in natural resources management

(NRM) in the last five years. The chart below shows the number of days of used for technical assistance on a yearly basis.

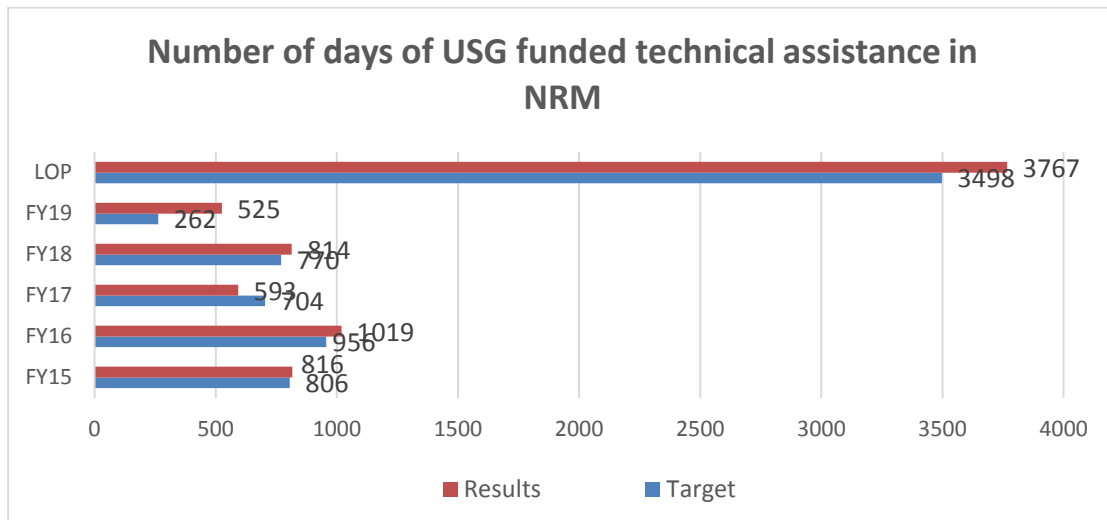


Figure 21: Number of days of international technical assistance in NRM on yearly basis

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)

During the year under review, a total of 3,238 (74% men and 26% women) representing 175% of the revised LOP target received various forms of capacity building activities ranging from series of trainings in NRM. The yearly target was over achieved as key activities such as the F2F dialogues attracted more people than anticipated for discussions on closed season and regarding the canoe registration. Cumulatively, 9,821 people (60% men and 40% females) received USG supported training in NRM, representing 128% of the revised LOP target of 7,700 people. The graph below shows the detailed results by year disaggregated by sex.

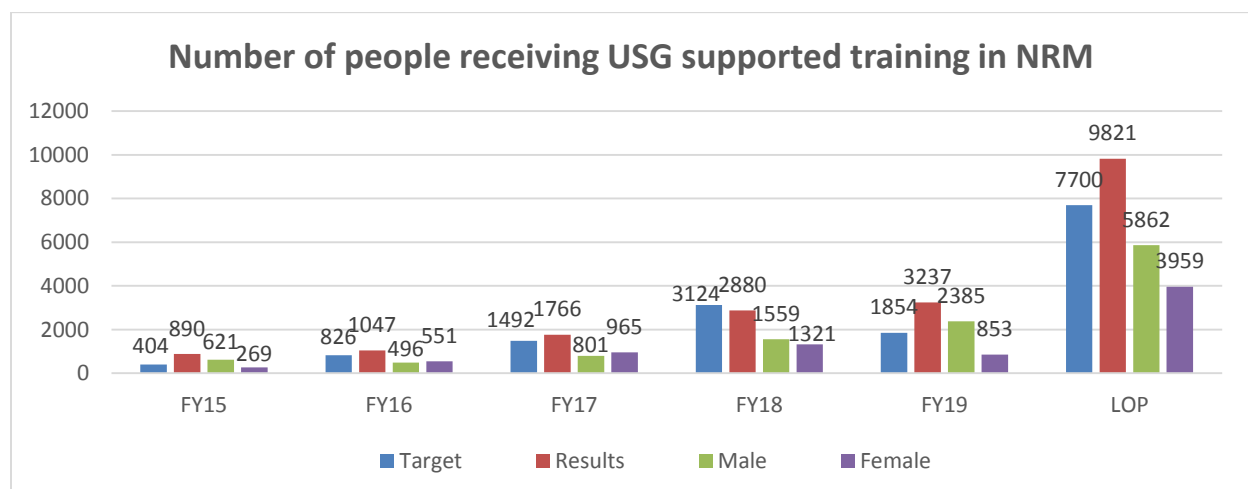


Figure 22: Number of people receiving USG supported training in NRM

Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance (4.8.1-29)

This indicator counts the number of USG support training hours that were completed by training participants in NRM. In year 5, the project recorded a total of 20,132 person hours representing 163% achievement of the FY19 target of 12,354. This target was over achieved for the same reasons noted above for numbers of participants with a direct impact on the number of hours. Cumulatively, the project over the five years has recorded a total of 102,087 person hours representing 108% of LOP target of 94,761 person hours.

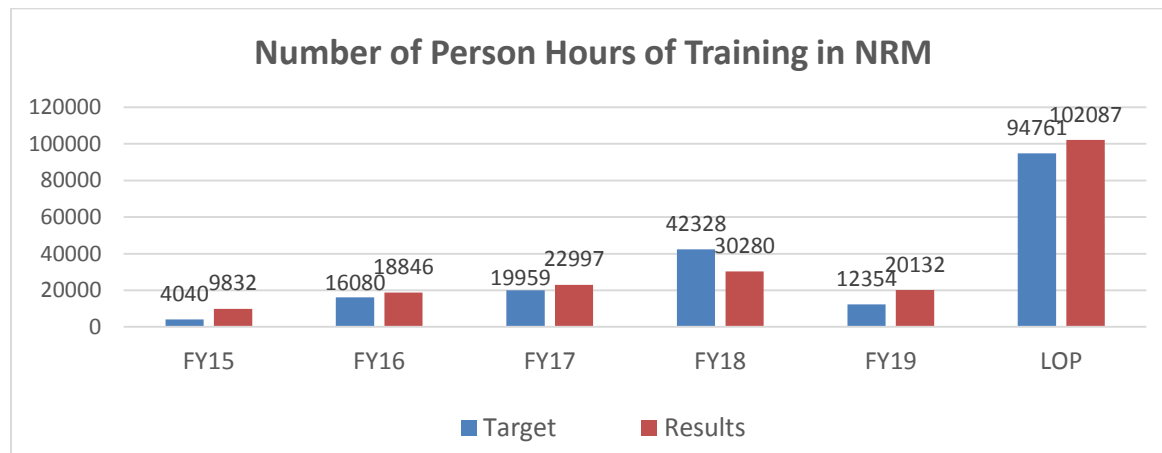


Figure 23: Number of person hours of training in natural resources management

Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-1

This indicator counts the number of fishers and producers to whom significant knowledge or skills have been imparted through interactions that are intentional, structured and purposed for imparting knowledge or skills. In year 5, a total of 3,676 (2,439 men and 1,237 women) representing 144% of the yearly target of 2,554. The yearly target was over achieved because some activities such as the F2F dialogues attracted more people than expected as well as the formation and training of MSMEs and VSLAs. Cumulatively, 10,632 individuals constituting of 4,963 (47%) males and 4,432 (53%) females received significant knowledge and skills through various forms of trainings representing 123% achievement of the revised LOP target.

Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) EG.3.2-2

This indicator measures the number of people who are currently enrolled in or have graduated during the reporting year from a degree-granting technical, vocational, associate, bachelor, master, or Ph.D. program. Cumulatively, the project enrolled 5 people (1 male and 4 females) in FY 16 and FY 17 from the various units of the Fisheries Commission and University of Cape Coast (UCC) for Masters and a Ph.D. in fisheries related programs at the University of Rhode Island. Four of the students were in Master’s programs while one was in a PhD program. During the year under review, one student was targeted (1 PhD student). We were over target by one student as one master student expected to graduate in FY 2018 did not graduate until May 2019. The PhD student graduated in August 2019. Annual and LoP targets have been met and no additional resources will be allocated in this area.

ANNEX 2. TRAINET REPORT

This report includes trainings that count towards two indicators: Number of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2), 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.

Table 7: List of Trainings conducted in Year 5

Program Name	Start Date	End Date	USAID Budget (USD)	USAID Actual (USD)	Total Male Participants	Total Female Participants	Total Participants	USAID Budget Per Participants (USD)
In-country short-term training								
Formation and training of VSLA members, Ekon, Moree, Ekumfi, Tema - CRC Y5Q4	8/7/2019	8/8/2019	2041	2041	0	81	81	25
Workshop to review Fisheries Act with MOFAD/FC, Tutu- CRC Y5Q1	10/29/2018	10/31/2018	15391	15391	71	18	89	173
F2F Zonal Fisher folks consultation and review engagement meetings on NFMP, Axim- FoN Y5Q1	11/28/2018	11/28/2018	3524	3524	251	50	301	12
MSME Training for fishermen in HFH at sea, Business skills, Hazard prevention at sea & fisheries mgt, Kokrobite- DAA Y5Q2	1/10/2019	1/11/2019	1330	1330	50	0	50	27
MSME Training for fishmongers in HFH, Business skills and Fire and Safety BATCH 1, Kokrobite- DAA Y5Q2	12/11/2018	12/12/2018	619	619	0	20	20	31
Training of closed season biological survey enumerators, KEEA, Elmina- CRC Y5Q3	4/23/2019	4/26/2019	2887	2887	13	2	15	192
Legal review consultation with the industrial fishing sector, Tutu- CRC Y5Q1	11/27/2018	11/28/2018	10363	10363	17	0	17	610
Facilitate women fish processors to produce and sell value added fish to new markets in central & western region, BATCH 2, Elmina- CEW Y5Q2	1/16/2019	1/18/2019	1229	1229	0	29	29	42
Workshop to review Fisheries Act with GNCFC, Accra- CRC/Kofi Y5Q1	11/6/2018	11/6/2018	944	944	19	0	19	50

Program Name	Start Date	End Date	USAID Budget (USD)	USAID Actual (USD)	Total Male Participants	Total Female Participants	Total Participants	USAID Budget Per Participants (USD)
Fisher to Fisher Dialogue, Denu, Keta- HM Y5Q1	11/24/2018	11/25/2018	6992	6992	267	62	329	21
M&E officers workshop on revised M&E plan and indicator targets, Accra, Cape Coast, Takoradi- CRC Y5Q1	11/26/2018	12/11/2018	2375	2375	4	6	10	238
Training of closed season socio-economic survey enumerators, Accra- CRC Y5Q3	4/16/2019	4/18/2019	1422	1422	4	5	9	158
Training of repeat baseline survey enumerators, Accra- CRC, Y5Q3	6/11/2019	6/14/2019	3960	3960	5	3	8	495
F2F NFMP Consultation and review workshop with identified stakeholders, Elmina, Mankessim, Cape Coast - CEWEFIA Y5Q1	11/27/2018	12/4/2018	6169	6169	305	130	435	14
Sustainable Mangrove Harvesting and management training, Ellembelle, Ankobra- HM Y5Q1	10/24/2018	10/24/2018	293	293	21	6	27	11
One day training on oyster culture and establishment of oyster reef enhancement, , Bortianor - DAA Y5Q2	12/20/2018	12/20/2018	580	580	6	38	44	13
Ahotor oven use and maintenance, Nungua, Teshie, Tema, Ada East- Resonance Y5Q1	12/5/2018	12/11/2018	414	414	2	148	150	3
Capacity building training workshop for woodlot management committee and key stakeholders in sustainability of the woodlot management after close out, Anlo beach- CEWEFIA Y5Q1	12/6/2018	12/6/2018	829	829	22	21	43	19
Capacity building workshop for NAFPTA, Accra- SNV Y5Q2	10/11/2018	10/11/2018	1745	1745	1	25	26	67
Training with Fisher folks(F2F), Senya- DAA Y5Q1	12/6/2018	12/6/2018	2027	2027	100	50	150	14
Training with Fisher folks(F2F), Senya- DAA Y5Q1	12/7/2018	12/7/2018	2054	2054	72	80	152	14
F2F Zonal Fisher folks consultation and review engagement meetings on NFMP, Sekondi- FoN Y5Q1	11/30/2018	11/30/2018	3524	3524	230	85	315	11

Program Name	Start Date	End Date	USAID Budget (USD)	USAID Actual (USD)	Total Male Participants	Total Female Participants	Total Participants	USAID Budget Per Participants (USD)
Strategic regional stakeholder engagement, cape coast- FoN Y5Q2	2/6/2019	2/6/2019	5286	5286	38	11	49	108
Sustainable Mangrove Harvesting and management training, Ellembelle, Ankobra- HM Y5Q1	10/31/2018	11/1/2018	288	288	14	10	24	12
SFMP Lessons learned and legacy workshop, Accra- CRC Y5Q2	1/23/2019	1/25/2019	15805	15805	9	7	16	988
Workshop to review Fisheries Act with NAFAG, GIFA & GITA, Tema - CRC Y5Q2	10/25/2018	10/25/2018	2564	2564	21	0	21	122
MSME Training for fishmongers in HFH, Business skills and Fire safety, BATCH 3, Kokrobite - DAA Y5Q2	12/18/2018	12/19/2018	640	640	0	48	48	13
Fisher to Fisher Dialogue, Half Assini, Dixcove- HM Y5Q1	12/4/2018	12/5/2018	7920	7920	241	45	286	28
F2F Training event between GNCFC and NAFPTA, Sege, Ada, Tema, Jamestown, Prampram- CRC Y5Q1	11/26/2018	11/28/2018	8231	8231	322	60	382	22
Certification of Class 1 Scheme, Accra- CRC Y5Q4	7/5/2019	7/5/2019	2512	2512	0	12	12	209
TOT Workshop on Learning Initiative, Accra- CRC Y5Q4	7/18/2019	7/18/2019	177	177	2	3	5	35
F2F Zonal Fisher folks consultation and review engagement meetings on NFMP, Shama- FoN Y5Q1	11/29/2018	11/29/2018	3524	3524	277	65	342	10
MSME Training for fishmongers in HFH, Business skills and Fire and Safety BATCH 2, Kokrobite- DAA Y5Q2	12/13/2018	12/14/2018	640	640	2	30	32	20
Training of village agents on the modules for sustainability of the associations, Ellembelle- HM Y5Q1	11/13/2018	11/15/2018	1561	1561	8	2	10	156
Sustainable Mangrove Harvesting and Management Training, Ellembelle, Ankobra - HM Y5Q2	12/19/2018	12/20/2018	741	741	35	16	51	15

Program Name	Start Date	End Date	USAID Budget (USD)	USAID Actual (USD)	Total Male Participants	Total Female Participants	Total Participants	USAID Budget Per Participants (USD)
Training of CBFM Association on M&E of Management plan in Ankobra, Ellembelle- HM Y5Q2	1/31/2019	2/1/2019	2564	2564	15	10	25	103
Training with Fisher folks(F2F), Senya- DAA Y5Q1	12/5/2018	12/5/2018	1419	1419	72	33	105	14
One day training on mangrove nursery establishment and mangrove replanting, Densu-DAA Y5Q2	1/31/2019	1/31/2019	502	502	9	37	46	11
US based long term degree training								
Graduate degree training in fisheries - Masters of Marine Affairs at University of Rhode Island	09/07/2016	08/05/2019	13,000	13,000	0	1	1	13,000
Graduate degree training in fisheries - PhD in Biological and Env. Science at Univ. of Rhode Island	01/26/2016	05/18/2019	13,000	13,000	1	0	1	13,000
Grand Total for All Trainings			151,086	151,086	2,526	1,249	3,775	17,104

ANNEX 3. FISHERIES STORIES REPORTED IN THE LOCAL MEDIA

Table 8: List of Fisheries Stories in the Media Through September 30, 2019

PLATFORM/ MEDIA HOUSE		SEGMENT/ TYPE	TOPIC/ISSUE/LINK	DATE OF PUBLICATION
1	Ghana News Agency	News Feature	Ghana and USAID unveil anti-child labour strategy for fisheries sector http://www.ghananewsagency.org/social/ghana-usaid-unveils-anti-child-labour-strategy-for-fisheries-sector-140524	10/23/2018
2	Myjoyonline.com	News Item	Fisheries ministry, USAID develop anti-child labour https://www.myjoyonline.com/news/2018/October-23rd/fisheries-ministry-usaid-develop-anti-child-labour-and-trafficking-strategy.php	10/23/2018
3	TV3	News Item	Anti-child labour strategy signed https://youtu.be/ktfHX5k0tOc	10/23/2018
4	Daily Graphic	News Item	Fisheries ministry develops new strategies to reduce child labour, trafficking	10/24/2018
5	BnFT	News Item	Fisheries Ministry, USAID develop anti-child labour trafficking strategy https://thebftonline.com/2018/headlines/fisheries-ministry-usaid-develop-anti-child-labour-and-trafficking-strategy/	10/24/2018
6	Ghanadistricts.com	News Item	Fisheries ministry to implement strategies to eradicate child labour and trafficking in the sector http://www.ghanadistricts.com/Home/Reader/f5b297a-35c1-4482-a4	10/24/2018
7	Ghanaweb	News Item	Fisheries ministry, USAID develop anti-child labour and trafficking strategy https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Fisheries-Ministry-USAID-develop-Anti-Child-Labour-and-Trafficking-Strategy-695228	10/24/2018
8	Ghanaian Times	News Item	Ghana targets 60 per cent reduction in child labour in fisheries sector http://www.ghanaiantimes.com.gh/ghana-targets-60-percent-reduction-in-child-labour-in-fisheries-sector/	10/24/2018
9	Radio Ghana/Obonu FM	News Item	USAID Ghana/SFMP and fisheries ministry sign new anti-child labour and trafficking strategy for fisheries sector	10/24/2018
	CITI FM/TV	News Item	New strategy to combat child labour and trafficking signed	10/24/2018
10	GTV	News Item	Anti-child labour and trafficking strategy –Ministry of fisheries and U.S government initiate deal	10/24/2018
11	JOY News	News Item	Fisheries ministry, USAID develop anti-child labour	10/24/2018
12	Information Services Department	News Item	Anti-child labour and trafficking strategy unveiled http://www.ghana.gov.gh/index.php/media-center/news/5108-anti-child-labour-and-trafficking-strategy-unveiled	10/24/2018
13	UTV	News Item	USAID, MOFAD sign anti-child labour and trafficking pact https://www.facebook.com/utvghana/videos/177573256509468/	10/25/2018
14	Daily Guide	News Item	Tackling child labour in fisheries sector with new strategy	10/27/2018

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		https://dailyguideafrica.com/tackling-child-labour-in-fisheries-sector-with-new-strategy/	
15	Ghanaian Times	News Item Oyster harvest closed season takes effect http://www.ghanaiantimes.com.gh/oyster-harvest-closed-season-takes-effect/	11/22/2018
16	Modern Ghana	News Item CSO's Call for Transparency and Accountability Standards in Ghana's Fisheries https://www.modernghana.com/news/902222/csos-call-for-transparency-and-accountability.html	12/05/2018
17	GhOne TV/STARR FM	News item Oyster farming – many women combating poverty through oyster business venture https://youtu.be/Ybt1MCwnpNk	01/14/2019
18	Ghana News Agency	News item USAID supports women fish processors to improve hygienic processing http://www.ghananewsagency.org/health/usaidsupports-women-fish-processors-to-improve-hygienic-processing-145392	02/15/2019
19	Daily Graphic	News Item Fishers happy over re-opening of Densu Delta for fishing https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/fishers-happy-over-reopening-of-densu-delta-for-fishing.html	04/16/2019
20	Ghanaian times	News Item Densu oyster harvest season opened http://www.ghanaiantimes.com.gh/densu-oyster-harvest-season-opened/	04/16/2019
21	Ghana News Agency	News Item Second Densu delta closed season opens for oyster harvesting http://www.ghananewsagency.org/social/second-densu-delta-close-season-opens-for-oyster-harvesting-148497	04/16/2019
22	Ghanaweb	News Item Fishers happy over re-opening of Densu delta for fishing https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Fishers-happy-over-reopening-of-Densu-Delta-for-fishing-738899	04/16/2019
23	PeaceFM online.com	News Item Fishers happy over re-opening of Densu delta for fishing http://www.peacefmonline.com/pages/local/news/201904/380231.ph	04/16/2019
24	The Independent Ghana	News Item Fishers happy over re-opening of Densu delta for fishing https://www.theindependentghana.com/en/news/42725-fishers-happy-over-reopening-of-densu-delta-for-fishing.html	04/16/2019
25	Ghanadistricts.com	News Item USA commends DOPA over closed season http://www.ghanadistricts.com/Home/Reader/fbc1c07-906b-4240-9c	04/16/2019
26	Ghanadistricts.com	News Item Oyster harvesting season opened in Densu estuary http://www.ghanadistricts.com/Home/Reader/6ca4192-bfb3-4553-bd	04/16/2019
27	Daily Guide	News Item https://dailyguidenetwork.com/oyster-farmers-observe-second-closed-season/ Oyster farmers observe second closed season	04/17/2019
28	Myjoyonline.com	News Item American government lauds Densu oyster pickers for successful closed season https://www.myjoyonline.com/news/2019/April-17th/american-govt-lauds-densu-oyster-pickers-for-successful-closed-season.php	04/17/2019
29	3FM	News Item USA congratulates oyster pickers for successful closed season	04/17/2019

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		https://3news.com/usa-congratulates-oyster-pickers-for-successful-closed-season/	
30	Obonu FM	News Item Densu oyster pickers harvest second opening of closed season http://www.gbcobonuonline.com/business/220398-densu-oyster-pickers-harvest-second-opening-of-closed-season	04/17/2019
31	Ghanadistricts.com	News Item Ministry directs assembly to relocate dumping site at Densu http://www.ghanadistricts.com/Home/Reader/20fcf67-f15d-4b90-a9	04/17/2019
32	Business and Financial Times	News Item Fish stock threat is real Minister warns https://thebftonline.com/2019/business/fisheries-and-aquaculture/fish-stock-threat-is-real-minister-warns/	04/23/2019
33	Tv3	News Item Oyster closed season Draft co-management policy to be laid before end of April https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/article_detail.php?id=1044&t=4&c=183	04/16/2019
34	GhOne TV	News Item Densu oyster pickers successfully complete 2 nd annual closure (video in drop box)	04/16/2019
35	UTV	https://www.facebook.com/utvghana/videos/627904547652507/	04/18/2019
36	GBC24/GTV	News Item https://www.facebook.com/gbcghana/videos/814710788890882/	04/17/2019
37	Obonu FM	News Item Densu oyster pickers harvest second opening of closed season http://www.gbcobonuonline.com/business/220398-densu-oyster-pickers-harvest-second-opening-of-closed-season	04/17/2019
38	CITI FM/TV	News Item Second Densu oyster harvest closed season opens	04/17/2019
39	Daily Graphic	News feature Bumper harvest for oyster pickers https://www.graphic.com.gh/features/features/bumper-harvest-for-oyster-pickers.html	04/27/2019
40	Daily Graphic	Photo report Bumper harvest for oyster pickers	04/27/2019
41	Ghanamusic.com	News Story Kofi Kinaata supports fishing closed season https://www.ghanamusic.com/news/top-stories/2019/05/26/kofi-kinaata-supports-mofads-fishing-closed-season/	05/26/2019
42	Citi news	News Story Kofi Kinaata releases song on illegal fishing https://citinewsroom.com/2019/05/kofi-kinaata-releases-song-on-illegal-fishing-video/	05/22/2019
43	Myjoyonline.com	News Story Kofi Kinaata advise against illegal fishing https://www.myjoyonline.com/entertainment/2019/May-21st/video-kofi-kinaata-advises-against-illegal-fishing-in-new-song.php	05/21/2019
44	Enewsgh.com	News Story Kinaata tackles illegal fishing https://enewsgh.com/2019/05/kinaata-tackles-illegal-fishing-in-new-song/	05/22/2019
45	Ghanaweb	New Story Kofi Kinaata supports MOFAD's closed season https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/entertainment/Kofi-Kinaata-supports-MOFAD-s-fishing-closed-season-748960	05/21/2019
46	Daily News	New Story http://dailynewsgh.com/2019/05/22/mofad-announces-fishing-closed-season-from-15th-may-to-15th-june-2019/	05/22/2019

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47	Ameyawdebra h.com	News Story	MOFAD announces fishing closed season https://ameyawdebrah.com/mofad-announces-fishing-closed-season-from-15th-may-to-15th-june-2019/	05/23/2019
48	Ghanacelebriti es.com	News Story	MOFAD announces fishing closed season https://www.ghanacelebrities.com/2019/05/22/mofad-announces-fishing-closed-season-from-15th-may-to-15th-june-2019/	05/22/2019
49	Pulse.com	News Story	MOFAD announces fishing closed season https://www.pulse.com.gh/news/local/mofad-announces-fishing-closed-season-from-15th-may-to-15th-june-2019/wqqg0rx	05/23/2019
50	Enewsgh.com	News Story	MOFAD announces fishing closed season https://enewsgh.com/2019/05/mofad-announces-fishing-closed-season-from-15th-may-to-15th-june-2019/	05/22/2019
51	Mordernghana .com	News Story	https://www.modernghana.com/news/932892/mofad-announces-fishing-closed-season-from-15th-may-to-15th.html	05/22.2019
52	Ghana web	News Story	https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/MOFAD-announces-fishing-closed-season-from-15th-May-to-15th-June-2019-746778	05/22/2019
53	Graphic Online	News Item	Certification of fish processors and traders' initiative launched in Accra https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/ghana-news-certification-of-fish-processors-traders-initiative-launched-in-accra.html	06/07/2019
54	Joy News	News Item	Over 13 fish processors acquire certificate to enable them gain international recognition https://player.vimeo.com/video/346809140	06/07/2019
55	Ghana Districts	News Item	MoFAD launches Class 1 Recognition Scheme for Fish Processors http://www.ghanadistricts.com/Home/Reader/f7e5088-4854-4c6c-88	08/07/2019
56	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Fish processors, traders urged to adopt scientific preservation methods https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Fish-processors-traders-urged-to-adopt-scientific-preservation-methods-761721#	09/07/2019
57	Daily Guide	News Item	Scheme to Improve Fish Quality Launched https://dailyguidenetwork.com/?s=SCHEME+LAUNCHED+TO+IMPROVE+FISH+QUALITY	Monday, July 08 2019
58	The Chronicle	News Item	Ghana hosting seminars to protect fishers http://thechronicle.com.gh/index.php/2019/07/09/ghana-hosting-seminar-to-protect-fishers/	Tuesday, 9 th July, 2019
59	Ghana Shipper's Authority	News Item	National Fisheries Association of Ghana calls on GSA https://shippers.org.gh/index.php/national-fisheries-association-ghana-calls-gsa/	Monday, 8 th July, 2019
60	Asempa News	News Item	Fish processors, traders urged to adopt scientific preservation methods https://ghanasummary.com/asempanews/163918/fish-processors-traders-urged-to-adopt-scientific-preservation-methods	Tuesday, July 09 2019
61	FCWC Website	News Item	Certification of fish processors, traders' initiative launched in Accra	08/07/2019

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		https://fcwc-fish.org/publications/100-news-from-the-region	
62	Graphic Online	News Item Low fish catch – Sellers turn to cold stores https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/low-fish-catch-sellers-turn-to-cold-stores.html	Friday, 19 th July, 2019
63	Citi News	News Item Closed season for industrial fishing begins https://citinewsroom.com/2019/08/closed-season-for-industrial-fishing-begins/	Thursday, 1 st August, 2019
64	Prime News	News Item 2 months closed season for Industrial fishing begins https://www.primenewsghana.com/general-news/2-months-closed-season-for-industrial-fishing-begins.html	Friday, 2 nd August, 2019
65	Ghana web	News Item President Cuts Sod for Fishing Landing Sites in Moree, Axim https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/President-cuts-sod-for-fishing-landing-sites-in-Moree-Axim-770417	Thursday, 8 August 2019
66	Graphic Business	News Item Work on 10 fishing ports commence https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15656863480.jpg	Tuesday, 13 th August, 2019
67	Business & Financial Times	News Item Participants call for broader integration of the fisheries sector in animal production	Tuesday, 13 th August, 2019
68	Ghana News Agency	News Item Tema Fishers Hail Navy and GPHA Security Chiefs https://ghananewsagency.org/social/tema-fishers-hail-navy-and-gpha-security-chiefs-154487	Sunday, 11 th August 2019
69	Ghana News Agency	News Item GITA observes Close Season https://ghananewsagency.org/social/gita-observes-close-season-154330	Wednesday, 7 th August 2019
70	Business & Financial Times	News Item Fish stock threat ... canoes, trawlers to be reduced https://thebftonline.com/2019/business/agribusiness/fish-stock-threat-canoes-trawlers-to-be-reduced/	August 20, 2019
71	Ghanaian Times	News Item Govt urged to scrap fuel, subsidies to fisher folks http://www.ghanaiantimes.com.gh/govt-urged-to-scrap-fuel-subsidies-to-fisher-folks	August 20, 2019
72	Africa News	News Item United States of America Supports Ghana's Fisheries and Coastal Environment Development Agenda https://www.africanews.com/2019/08/21/united-states-of-america-supports-ghanas-fisheries-and-coastal-environment-development-agenda/	August 21, 2019
73	Ghanaian Times	News Item Confab on fisheries and coastal environment ends in Accra http://www.gheadlines.com/agency/ghanaian-times/20190823/130708369/confab-on-fisheries-and-coastal-environment-ends-in-accra	August 21, 2019
74	Obonu FM	News Item Players in the fisheries industry urged to help protect coastal environment http://www.gbcofonuonline.com/news/022121-players-in-fisheries-industry-urged-to-help-protect-coastal-environment	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
75	Business News	News Item Hard times for Ghana's fishermen https://www.dw.com/en/hard-times-for-ghanas-fishermen/av-50131496	August 22, 2019
76	Goldstreet Business	News Item Publication Redirect pre-mix fuel subsidy to sustain fisheries resource	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019

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		https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15665524560.jpg	
77	Ghana Guardian	News Item Fisheries Minister denies 'Saiko' allegation https://ghanaguardian.com/fisheries-minister-denies-saiko-allegation	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
78	Peace FM online	News Item I Never Asked Fishermen to Engage in 'Saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://www.peacefmonline.com/pages/local/news/201908/389674.php	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
79	Daily Guide	News Item Publication Expert Calls for Removal of Harmful Fishing Subsidies https://dailyguidenetwork.com/expert-calls-for-removal-of-harmful-fishing-subsidies/	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
80	Business & Financial Times	News Item Publication US supports Fisheries and Coastal Environment Development Agenda https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15665498030.jpg	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019
81	Peace FM online	News Item I NEVER ASKED FISHERMEN TO ENGAGE IN 'SAIKO' – FISHERIES MINISTER https://okayfm.peacefmonline.com/pages/local/201908/389674.php	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
82	Ghana News Online	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://ghananewsonline.com.gh/i-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-fisheries-minister/	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019
83	Adom FM Online	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://www.adomonline.com/i-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-fisheries-minister/	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019
84	Ghanamma Online	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://www.ghanamma.com/2019/08/23/i-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-fisheries-minister-2/	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019
85	Ghana News Agency	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://ghananewsagency.org/economics/i-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-fisheries-minister-155044	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019
86	Ghana Web	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/I-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-Fisheries-Minister-774587	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019
87	My Joy Online	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://www.myjoyonline.com/news/2019/august-23rd/i-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-fisheries-minister.php	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019
88	CITI	News Item 'Far Ban Bo' Fisheries Dialogue	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
89	Marine Link	News Item U.S. Support for Ghana Fisheries https://www.marinelink.com/news/us-support-ghana-fisheries-469809	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
90	Obonu FM Online	News Item Stakeholders in fishing sector present communiqué to Sector Minister	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019

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		http://www.gbcofonuonline.com/news/674546-stakeholders-in-fishing-sector-present-communicu-to-sector-minister	
91	Daily Guide	News Item We won't stop closed season' – Fisheries Ministry https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/We-won-t-stop-closed-season-Fisheries-Ministry-774210#	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
92	All Africa Online	News Item Ghana: Confab On Fisheries and Coastal Environment Ends in Accra https://allafrica.com/stories/201908230574.html	Friday, 23 rd August, 2019
93	Business & Financial Times	News Item We didn't expect bumper harvest after closed-season Minister reveals https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15668093420.jpg	Monday, 26 th August, 2019
94	Asempa News Online	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://asempanews.com/i-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-fisheries-minister/	Monday, 26 th August, 2019
95	Ghana Business News	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister https://www.ghanabusinessnews.com/2019/08/23/i-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-fisheries-minister/	Monday, 26 th August, 2019
96	Gh times Online	News Item I never asked fishermen to engage in 'saiko' – Fisheries Minister http://ghtimesonline.com/2019/08/23/i-never-asked-fishermen-to-engage-in-saiko-fisheries-minister/	Monday, 26 th August, 2019
97	Ghanaian Times	News Item Confab on fisheries and coastal environment ends in Accra http://www.ghanaiantimes.com.gh/%EF%BB%BFconfab-on-fisheries-and-coastal-%EF%BB%BFenvironment-ends-in-accra/	Monday, 26 th August, 2019
98	Ghanamma Online	News Item Expert Calls for Removal of Harmful Fishing Subsidies https://www.ghanamma.net/expert-calls-for-removal-of-harmful-fishing-subsidies/	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
99	Ghana Waves	News Item Expert Calls for Removal of Harmful Fishing Subsidies https://www.ghanawaves.com/expert-calls-for-removal-of-harmful-fishing-subsidies/	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
100	3 News	News Item US supports Ghana's fisheries & coastal environment dev. agenda https://3news.com/us-supports-ghanas-fisheries-coastal-environment-devt-agenda/	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
101	Daily Searchlight	News Item US supports Ghana's Fisheries and Coastal Environment Development agenda https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15664649530.jpg	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
102	Pulse.com.gh	News Item United States of America Supports Ghana's Fisheries and Coastal Environment Development Agenda https://www.pulse.com.gh/apo/united-states-of-america-supports-ghanas-fisheries-and-coastal-environment/1pljvj3	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
103	Gh Headlines Online	News Item US supports Ghana's fisheries & coastal environment dev. agenda	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019

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		http://ghheadlines.com/agency/3news/20190821/130651320/us-supports-ghanas-fisheries-coastal-environment-devt-agenda	
104	Modern Ghana	News Item United States of America Supports Ghana's Fisheries and Coastal Environment Development Agenda https://www.modernghana.com/news/951350/united-states-of-america-supports-ghanas-fisherie.html	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
105	Business & Financial Times	News Item Fighting sanitation through fish farming – the story Trimark Aquaculture Centre https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15664639200.jpg	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
106	CITI FM	News Item Lack of political support hampering fishing industry https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/audio/1566390544.mp3	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
107	Daily Statesman	News Item Prof urges redirection of pre-mix subsidy to sustain fisheries https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15663791870.jpg	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
108	The Insight	News Item Angry Elmina Fisher Folks defy ban https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15663790191.jpg	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
109	Ghanaian Times	News Item MoU on improving vessel monitoring ready for cabinet's consideration https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15663777800.jpg	Wednesday, 21 st August, 2019
110	BnFt Online	News Item The minister is right: For the sake of Ghanaians and its fisheries, saiko must stop https://thebftonline.com/2019/features/the-minister-is-right-for-the-sake-of-ghanaians-and-its-fisheries-saiko-must-stop/	Wednesday, 28 th August, 2019
111	Business Ghana	News Item Parliamentary Select Committee on agriculture commits to fight 'saiko' fishing https://www.businessghana.com/site/news/politics/193573/Parliamentary-Select-Committee-on-agriculture-commits-to-fight-%E2%80%98saiko%E2%80%99-fishing	Wednesday, 14 th August 2019
112	Graphic Online	News Item Parliamentary Select Committee on agriculture commits to fight 'saiko' fishing https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/parliamentary-select-committee-on-agriculture-commits-to-fight-saiko-fishing.html	Wednesday, 14 th August 2019
113	Ghana Summary	News Item Why Ghana's depleting fish stock is scary https://ghanasummary.com/ghanaweb/184321/why-ghanas-depleting-fishstock-is-scary	Wednesday, 28 th August, 2019
114	Ghana Web	News Item Why Ghana's depleting fish stock is scary https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Why-Ghana-s-depleting-fishstock-is-scary-776315	Wednesday, 28 th August, 2019
115	Modern Ghana	News Item The Minister Is Right: For The Sake of Ghanaians and Its Fisheries, Saiko Must Stop https://www.modernghana.com/news/952314/the-minister-is-right-for-the-sake-of-ghanaians.html	Wednesday, 28 th August, 2019
116	Ghana Business News	News Item The Minister Is Right: For The Sake of Ghanaians and Its Fisheries, Saiko Must Stop https://www.ghanabusinessnews.com/2019/08/28/203230/	Wednesday, 28 th August, 2019

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117	Business and Financial Times	News Item	The Minister Is Right: For The Sake of Ghanaians and Its Fisheries, Saiko Must Stop https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15669840460.jpg	Wednesday, 28 th August, 2019
118	Ghana News Agency	News Item	We want to end IUU on our shores – Gomoa Fetteh fishermen pledges https://ghananewsagency.org/social/we-want-to-end-iuu-on-our-shores-gomoa-fetteh-fishermen-pledges-155320	Tuesday, 27 th August, 2019
119	Ghanawaves.com	News Item	We want to end IUU on our shores – Gomoa Fetteh fishermen pledges https://www.ghanawaves.com/we-want-to-end-iuu-on-our-shores-gomoa-fetteh-fishermen/	Tuesday, 27 th August, 2019
120	Ghana Business News	News Item	We want to end IUU on our shores – Gomoa Fetteh fishermen pledges https://www.ghanabusinessnews.com/2019/08/27/we-want-to-end-iuu-on-our-shores-gomoa-fetteh-fishermen/	Tuesday, 27 th August, 2019
121	Allafrica.com	News Item	Ghana: Trans-Shipment Is an Illegal Fishing Practice—all Must Work to End It https://allafrica.com/stories/201908270186.html	Monday, 26 th August 2019
122	Graphic Business	News Item	Fisheries Minister denies encouraging illegal fishing https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15668948050.jpg	Tuesday, 27 th August, 2019
123	Day Break	News Item	I never asked fishermen to engage in ‘saiko’ – Fisheries Minister https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15668946160.jpg	Tuesday, 27 th August, 2019
124	Ghana Districts	News Item	FISHIRIES: CFCE 2019 pushes for urgent policy on co-management http://www.ghanadistricts.gov.gh/Home/Reader/63b149d-281a-4133-86	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
125	Ghana Districts	News Item	Marine Researchers call for redirection of fuel subsidies to avert overfishing http://www.ghanadistricts.gov.gh/Home/Reader/93a9190-d904-4acc-92	Thursday, 22 nd August, 2019
126	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Rashid Sumaila Interview with Afedzi Abdullah https://vimeo.com/356515152	Wednesday, 28 th August, 2019
127	Graphic Online	News Item	Stick to observance of fishing closed season in Aug https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/stick-to-observance-of-fishing-closed-season-in-aug.html	Wednesday, 4 th September 2019
128	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Fisheries Stakeholders unsatisfied with Government’s effort in combating IUU https://ghananewsagency.org/science/fisheries-stakeholders-unsatisfied-with-government-s-effort-in-combating-iuu-155523	Friday, 30 th August 2019
129	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Closed Season should be for all fleets at the same time – Fishery Experts https://ghananewsagency.org/economics/closed-season-should-be-for-all-fleets-at-the-same-time-fishery-experts-155707	Wednesday, 4 th September 2019
130	Daily Statesman	News Item	Closed fishing season should be for all fleets at the same time, says expert https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/images/articles/thumb/15676737530.jpg	Wednesday, 4 th September 2019

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131	Ghana Web	News Item	Closed Season should be for all fleets at the same time – Fishery experts https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Closed-Season-should-be-for-all-fleets-at-the-same-time-Fishery-experts-778489	Thursday, 5 September 2019
132	Ghana Business News	News Item	Closed Season should be for all fleets at the same time – Fishery experts https://www.ghanabusinessnews.com/2019/09/05/closed-season-should-be-for-all-fleets-at-the-same-time-fishery-experts/	Thursday, 5 September 2019
133	233livenews.com	News Item	Closed Season should be for all fleets at the same time – Fishery experts https://citibusinessnews.com/closed-season-should-be-for-all-fleets-at-the-same-time-fishery-experts/	Thursday, 5 September 2019
134	Starrfmonline	News Item	Fisher-folks in coastal regions to get outboard motors – Gov't https://starrfm.com.gh/2019/09/fisher-folks-in-coastal-regions-to-get-outboard-motors-govt/	Thursday, 5 September 2019
135	Citi FM	News Item	Pineapple, fresh tuna, cocoa paste records drop in export values https://ovaviewmonitoring.com/app/uploads/audio/1567608665.mp3	Thursday, 5 September 2019
136	Business and Financial times	News Item	Fishing has no future if... – Expert warns https://thebftonline.com/2019/business/agribusiness/fishing-has-no-future-if-expert-warns/	September 6, 2019
137	Ghana Business News	News Item	Marine litter a global challenge – EU Ambassador https://www.ghanabusinessnews.com/2019/09/30/marine-litter-a-global-challenge-eu-ambassador/	September 27, 2019
138	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Government urged to enforce fishing by laws https://ghananewsagency.org/economics/government-urged-to-enforce-fishing-by-laws-156957	September 27, 2019

ANNEX 4. LIST OF PUBLICATIONS PREPARED IN YEAR 5 BY SFMP

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