



USAID | GHANA
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

Child Labour Factsheet

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF OCEANOGRAPHY



Hɛn Mpoano



SNV SMART
DEVELOPMENT
WORKS

SSG ADVISORS
Catalyzing Development Through Partnership



Sps | **SPATIAL
SOLUTIONS**

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

For more information on the Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project, contact:
USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project

Coastal Resources Center

Graduate School of Oceanography

University of Rhode Island

220 South Ferry Rd.

Narragansett, RI 02882 USA

Tel: 401-874-6224 Fax: 401-874-6920 Email: info@crc.uri.edu

Citation: Adeborna, D. (2015), Child Labour Factsheet. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and SNV Netherlands Development Organization. GH2014_COM008_SNV. 6 pp.

Authority/Disclaimer:

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

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

**Detailed Partner Contact Information:
USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)
10 Obodai St., Mempeasem, East Legon, Accra, Ghana**

| | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| Brian Crawford | Chief of Party | brian@crc.uri.edu |
| Najih Lazar | Senior Fisheries Advisor | nlazar@crc.uri.edu |
| Patricia Mensah | Communications Officer | patricia.sfmp@crcuri.org |
| Bakari Nyari | Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist | hardinyari.sfmp@crcuri.org |
| Don Robadue, Jr. | Program Manager, CRC | don@crc.uri.edu |
| Justice Odoi | USAID Administrative Officer Representative | jodoi@usaid.gov |

Kofi.Agbogah
kagbogah@henmpoano.org
StephenKankam
skankam@henmpoano.org
Hen Mpoano
38 J. Cross Cole St. Windy Ridge
Takoradi, Ghana
233 312 020 701

Andre de Jager
adejager@snvworld.org
SNV Netherlands Development Organization
#161, 10 Maseru Road,
E. Legon, Accra, Ghana
233 30 701 2440

Donkris Mevuta
Kyei Yamoah
info@fonghana.org
Friends of the Nation
Parks and Gardens
Adiembra-Sekondi, Ghana
233 312 046 180

Peter Owusu Donkor
Spatial Solutions
powusu-donkor@spatialdimension.net
#3 Third Nautical Close,
Nungua, Accra, Ghana
233 020 463 4488

For additional information on partner activities:

CRC/URI: <http://www.crc.uri.edu>
CEWEFIA: <http://cewefia.weebly.com/>
DAA: <http://womenthrive.org/development-action-association-daa>
Daasgift: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Daasgift-Quality-Foundation-FNGO/135372649846101>
Friends of the Nation: <http://www.fonghana.org>
Hen Mpoano: <http://www.henmpoano.org>
SNV: <http://www.snvworld.org/en/countries/ghana>
SSG Advisors: <http://ssg-advisors.com/>
Spatial Solutions: <http://www.spatialsolutions.co/id1.html>

Thomas Buck
tom@ssg-advisors.com
SSG Advisors
182 Main Street
Burlington, VT 05401
(802) 735-1162

Victoria C. Koomson
cewefia@gmail.com
CEWEFIA
B342 Bronyibima Estate
Elmina, Ghana
233 024 427 8377

Lydia Sasu
daawomen@daawomen.org
DAA
Darkuman Junction, Kaneshie Odokor
Highway
Accra, Ghana
233 302 315894

Gifty Asmah
giftyasmah@Daasgift.org
Daasgift Quality Foundation
Headmaster residence, Sekondi College
Sekondi, Western Region, Ghana
233 243 326 178

ACRONYMS

| | |
|---------|--|
| CEDECOM | Central Region Development Commission |
| CEWEFIA | Central and Western Region Fishmongers Improvement Association |
| CLaT | Child Labour and Trafficking |
| DAA | Development Action Association |
| DSW | Department of Social Welfare |
| FoN | Friends of Nation |
| SFMP | Sustainable Fisheries Management Program |
| SNV | Netherlands Development Organization |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| WFCL | Worst Forms of Child Labour |



FACT SHEET

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)



CHILD LABOUR AND TRAFFICKING

CHILD LABOUR

Work that impairs children's well-being, interferes with their education or is performed at too early an age and in unsuitable weather conditions is referred to as **CHILD LABOUR**.

According to ILO, child labour impacts on a child's physical, social, mental, psychological, or spiritual development.

However, helping parents around the home or assisting in a family business during school holidays are generally regarded as something positive because they do not affect children's health and personal development or interfere with their schooling. These works are socially necessary and they give the child some basic skills and sense of responsibility.



CHILD TRAFFICKING

Closely associated with child labour is migration and Child Trafficking which involves movement of children and exploitation. Child Trafficking involves taking children out of their protective environment and preying on their vulnerability for the purposes of exploitation.

But the reality today is that:

- Ghana's open access to fisheries is increasing the use of illegal fishing practices and leading to over-exploitation of the fish stocks.
- There are well known case of children being used as cheap labour and traded as commodities for monetary benefits.
- Children as trafficked through middlemen from coast to coast, and as far as Yeji (Volta Lake).
- Children are used as slaves and made to work at night on the sea and on the Volta Lake.



- Children are exposed to rain storms, very cold weather, and the risk of drowning.
- Children are held in debt bondage and some are sexually exploited.
- Children miss out the rights to be treated with respect and dignity.
- Children suffer daily beatings from their employers.
- These children also miss out on school and their right to live with their families.

THE STATISTICS

- Over 168 million boys and girls are trapped in child labour today globally, with millions of them in Ghana.
- 85 million of these children are in hazardous work.
- 60% of them are in agriculture (mainly fisheries, aquaculture, and forestry).
- About 1.2 million children are trafficked each year globally.
- Estimate #31 billion profit is made by child traffickers from child trafficking around the world each year.
- Ghana has a population of 8.69 million children aged 5-17 (GCLS, 2003).
- 1.23 million children (14.2% of the children's population in Ghana) are in hazardous child labour and child trafficking
- Over 50,000 children are involved in fishing with tens of thousands trafficked from early as age 4.
- And about 25% of the children involved in fishing are 5-9 years of age.

Ghana's Stance

Ghana's stance against Child Labour and Child Trafficking as stated in the National Plan of Action (2009-2015) for the elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour is that:

- It is wrong
- It is illegal and contravenes the law
- It infringes on the right of the child
- It affects children's physical and mental health and has significant implications for social and economic development at the individual level, household, and societal levels.

The National Plan of Action recognizes the need for special efforts and attention in addressing the underlying problems which make children in most communities most vulnerable to exploitation.

CASE STUDY

Kojo was recruited by an 'Uncle' when he was aged 13 after convincing him, his Mother, and neighbor that Kofi was going to Abidjan to work in fishing and 'earn' money. 'Uncle' had already taken away a few boys from the community including the neighbor's son. Kojo later found himself in Liberia where he worked in a boat on the high seas. He suffered several physical beating from his uncle for being too slow to learn the trade.

Kojo also survived several life threatening incidents on the high seas including swimming to shore when their boat was smashed on the seas by a big vessel. Denial from food and wages by his 'Uncle' were routine occurrences.

Kojo was also once thrown out of the boat on the sea when he returned to work after a few days illness. His 'Uncle' said Kojo 'faked the illness and was not allowed to return onto the boat. Kojo managed to swim himself to another fishing village and was later supported by a stranger with fares to go back to his parents in Elmina.

Households such as Kojo's will benefit from SFMP's behavior change communications campaign, sustainable, and diversified livelihood alternatives to enable them to build social resilience.



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT SNV

No. 10 Maseru Street, East Legon
P.O. Box 30284, Airport, Accra-Ghana
T: +233 307 012 440/ +233 307 012 441



SFMP's ROLE IN CHILD LABOUR & CHILD TRAFFICKING

The five-year USAID funded Sustainable Fishery Management Project (SFMP) (October 2014-October 2019) is to rebuild marine fisheries stocks and catches through the adoption of responsible fishing practices.

The Child Labour component of the SFMP seeks to help to reduce child labour and trafficking through behavior change communications. SFMP has already conducted household surveys to document some of the worst forms of child labour and trafficking to guide the design of a communications strategy for reducing the trend in selected fishing communities (Moree, Elmina, Moree & Winneba) in the Central Region where the problem persists. SFMP is working with the Ministries of Fisheries, Social Welfare Department, fisherfolks, etc. the project is using a participatory approach which focuses on the broad based sensitization and behavior change communication campaign to ensure the protection of the rights of children.

