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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

SFMP Information

THE
UNIVERSITY
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GRADUATE SCHOOL
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Hen Mpoano



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

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Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)

Improving Food Security in Ghana: Rebuilding Ghana's Small Pelagic Fishery



Artisanal fishing canoes line up along the shoreline in Ghana.
(Credit: Donald Robadue, CRC)

Introduction to SFMP

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has signed a cooperative agreement with the Coastal Resources Center at the Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode, USA to implement a Feed the Future Initiative: The Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). The SNV is working with the Coastal Resources Center and a consortium of other partners to implement the food security project

The objective of this five-year project (October 2014-October 2019) is to rebuild marine fisheries stocks and catches through adoption of responsible fishing practices.

There has been significant loss of high quality low cost food supply for Ghanaian people. Ghana's annual catch of small pelagics including sardinella, important for food security, has declined by over 100,000MT in the last decade due to poor management, overfishing and use of illegal methods, we need to get it back.

The project contributes to the Government of Ghana's fisheries development objectives and USAID's Feed the Future Initiative.

Working closely with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the Fisheries Commission, USAID/Ghana SFMP aims to end overfishing of key stocks important to local food security through a multi-pronged approach:

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

More than 100,000 men and women involved in the local fishing industry are expected to benefit from this project. The immediate and long term benefits are as follows;

Immediate Benefits

- Improvement in the value chain of smoked fish, important to tens of thousands of women fish processors and marketers.
- Improved stakeholder participation in fisheries management decision making.

Long term Benefits

- Additional high quality low cost food supply from fisheries could be gained via improved and sustainable management of the marine fish stocks in Ghana's waters;
- The project also will contribute to the strengthening of marine and fisheries management capabilities at the University of Cape Coast and coastal spatial planning capacity of district authorities in the Central and Western Regions;
- Reducing child labor and trafficking in the fisheries sector in the Central Region of Ghana.

Who are the implementing Partners?

USAID has selected the Coastal Resources Center (CRC) at The University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography as lead implementer of the SFMP. In leading the project, CRC will work with The Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the Fisheries Commission along with a consortium of international and local partners, including SNV Netherlands Development Organization.

What is the role of SNV-The Netherlands Development Organization in SFMP?

SNV's overall contribution to the project includes support to

1. promote ecosystem-based and adaptive management approaches,
2. knowledge development of the value chain of small pelagics with focus on sardinella;
3. reduce child labor and trafficking in the fisheries sector in the intervention areas.
4. provision of Capacity Development Services
5. contribute to project communication and stakeholder engagements,

SNV's specific deliverables in year one (1) include the following;

- Fuelwood Value Chain analysis
- Sardinella Value Chain analysis

- Fisheries value chain improvements and livelihoods in Apam and Winneba
- Post-Harvest Processing Knowledge Development
- Fisheries Training Center (preparation)
- Business Development and Management Training
- Child Labour and Child Trafficking methods
- Stakeholder Engagement at National and areas of interventions
- Capacity Development for six NGOs

Who are our Team members for SFMP in SNV?

SNV is working with a core competent team of experts made up of the following;

- Amanda Childress- Project Supervisor (Organizational Development and Child Labor Expert)
- Enno Heijndermans – Project Manager (Renewable Energy Expert)
- Sarah Naa Dedei Agbey – Project Staff in Charge of Communication and Organizational Development
- Emmanuel Aziebor – Project Staff in Charge of Improved fish smoking, Health fish and mangrove preservation

The above core team is supported by in-house consultants namely Dickson Adeborna, Lovans Owusu-Takyi, Benedicta Samey, Alex Kwame Donyinah, Emmanuel Kwarteng, Adwoa Anaasor Hema Nsiah and Senyo Tsikata.



Woman selling fish in Tema



Children playing on a canoe.

Fun Facts

Did you know that?

- Ghana's fisheries sector generates over \$1 billion dollars in revenue each year
- The Fisheries Sector contribution to 2.7% Gross Domestic Product (GDP); this used to be 4.5% a decade ago.
- The fisheries sector provides livelihood to an estimated 2.4 million people or 10% of the population
- Women involved in fish processing and marketing make up about 20% of population in Ghana's marine artisanal fishery.
- Settlers of the Ghana coastline live and permanently earn their livelihood at these settlements.
- Ghanaians consume an average of 23 kg of fish per person per year which is well above the global average of 16 kg per person per year
- Fish is also the preferred source of protein for most Ghanaians accounting for 60% of animal protein consumed in the country
- Small pelagic fish stocks are a healthy, low cost food source with many health benefits, especially for mother and child
- Ghana covers an area of about some 239,000 km², with the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) constituting an additional 110,000 km² of the sea to the territorial area.
- Ghana has a southern coastal shoreline of 550km.
- Many fishermen in Ghana migrate seasonally along the shoreline in Ghana and regionally, complicating arrangements for fisheries management
- Erosion has degraded many fish landing sites along the shoreline.
- Ghana has a Ministry devoted solely for the Fishing industry.
- Ghana has a National Plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

Source: National Plan of Action to Prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing