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# SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

## Report On Capacity Building Workshop For Community Information Officers



MAY, 2018

THE  
UNIVERSITY  
OF RHODE ISLAND  
GRADUATE SCHOOL  
OF OCEANOGRAPHY



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**Citation:** Antwi, H. and Affel, R. (2018). Capacity Building Workshop for Information Officers on How to Capture CLaT and Postharvest Information. USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Central and Western Fish Mongers Improvement Association. GH2014\_ACT165\_CEW. 15 pp.

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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 team and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

**Cover photo:** A group picture of community information center and local radio station representatives (**Credit:** Hannah Antwi.)

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## **ACRONYMS**

CCM	Centre for Coastal Management
CEWEFIA	Central and Western Region Fishmongers Improvement Association
CRC	Coastal Resource Center
CSLP	Coastal Sustainable Landscape Project
DAA	Development Action Association
DFAS	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Science
DMFS	Department of Marine Fisheries Sciences
DQF	Daasgift Quality Foundation
FtF	Feed the Future
GIFA	Ghana Inshore Fishermen's Association
GIS	Geographic Information System
GNCFC	Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council
HM	Hen Mpoano
ICFG	Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance
MESTI	Ministry of Environment Science and Technology
MOFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
SSG	SSG Advisors
STWG	Scientific and Technical Working Group
UCC	University of Cape Coast
URI	University of Rhode Island
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WARFP	West Africa Regional Fisheries Development Program

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Much appreciation from CEWEFIA goes to URI/CRC and USAID/Ghana /SFMP for their financial and technical support for the success of the training.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Two days capacity building workshop was organized for community information officers in the project catchment area at Elmina and Moree on Thursday and Friday, 17 to 18 May, 2018 at Theos's Royal Lodge, Ataabadze, in the Central Region. The workshop was attended by officers of community information centers and radio stations. In all 17 officers partook in the workshop, consisting of 2 females and 15 males including representatives of Fisheries Commission as well as Social Welfare.

The workshop was in two folds; the first day focused on presentations and discussions and the second day was field visit to Moree. The presentations and discussions were centered on the meaning of child labor, child trafficking, and worst form of child labor. Videos, pictures and illustrations were shown to give true picture of CLaT issues in the fisheries communities. Another presentation was done on post-harvest value chain which comprised of hygienic fish handling, improved packaging, value addition and Class one recognition standard. The representative of the Fisheries Commission also presented on the efforts of Fisheries Commission in the scale up of the Ahotor oven. He indicated that Fisheries Commission was giving 100 Ahotor ovens to smallscale fish processors in the Central region. After all the presentations and discussions, the members understood the concept and pledge to support awareness creation on CLaT and post-harvest value chain. On the second day, participants were sent to the field to interact with some selected opinion leaders, CLaT survivors, Anti-CLaT advocates, Community Child Protection Committee and fish processors who had undergone Business Development Training. In conclusion, the workshop was very successful, and its expectations met.

## **SECTION 1 BACKGROUND**

A two-day capacity workshop was organized for officers of community information centers and local radio stations in Elmina and Moree on Thursday and Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The workshop was held at Theos Royal Lodge, Ataabadze in the Central region.

### **1.1 Attendance**

On the first day 17 officers of community information centers and local FM stations in the project catchment area were present and on the second day, 30 participants including community information officers, and selected fish processors, CCPCs, anti-CLaT advocates and opinion leaders were present.

Also in attendance were representatives of Komenda Edina Eguafo Abrem (KEEA) Social Welfare and Fisheries Commission, Cape Coast.

In all 30 people participated comprising of 7 females and 23 males.

### **1.2 Goal**

Improvement of awareness level of people on CLaT and post-harvest value chain through media.

### **1.3 Workshop Objectives**

- To build the capacity of information officers on how to capture CLaT and post-harvest improvement activities.
- To reach out to the marginalized and less privileged in the targeted communities
- To take the information officers through project activities to solicit for their support in propagation of information.

### **1.4 Expected Outcomes**

Expected outcomes of the training included:

- Participants learned to capture CLaT and Post- harvest activities.
- New strategies to disseminate information developed.
- Networking among information officers established in the communities.



## **SECTION 2 ACTIVITIES**

### **2.1 Day One Activities**

The first day focused on PowerPoint presentations and discussions, and the second day was illustrations, demonstrations and practical lessons and sharing of experiences. On the first day, the workshop started with self-introduction by participants which was followed by workshop objectives and expectations. Under the presentation on Child Labor and Trafficking (CLaT), participants were taken through the meaning of child labor, worst form of child labor, child trafficking, and child protection. A video on CLaT produced by the Christian Council to give true picture of CLaT was also shown. It was indicated that child labor is prevalent in our society and effort must be put in place to reduce it. A social welfare representative gave a presentation on child protection. He revealed that Elmina and Moree are known to be source and transit communities for child labor and trafficking. Another presentation was made by the Anti-CLaT Police Unit on identification, screening and referral process of a CLaT victim. He took the participants through each process to help them to be conversant with handling CLaT cases when they encounter one.

The participants came to a conclusion that child protection depends not only on a single stakeholder but shared responsibilities.



**Figure 1 The facilitator, Miss Hannah Antwi, addressing the participants at the workshop**

### **2.2 Day Two Activities**

The day started with recap of Day 1 activities to ascertain the understanding of the participants.

The participants after the recap were taken through the Torkor Model in combating CLaT. The component of the model revealed that authorities and stakeholders should be empowered to execute sanctions to CLaT victims, Commitment from community to community and last but not the least provision of rehabilitation centers to prepare CLaT survivors and rescuers as well as psychological preparedness of the child. Videos on Torkor Model were also shown. Furthermore demonstrations, illustrations on child protection strategies and pictures on CLaT were shown to better buttress the issue of CLaT. The illustration was used to explain in detail the protection strategies. The illustrations increased the participants understanding on CLaT issue as well as the strategy in protecting the child.



**Figure 2 Social Welfare Officer (standing) making a presentation**

### **2.2.1 Experience Sharing**

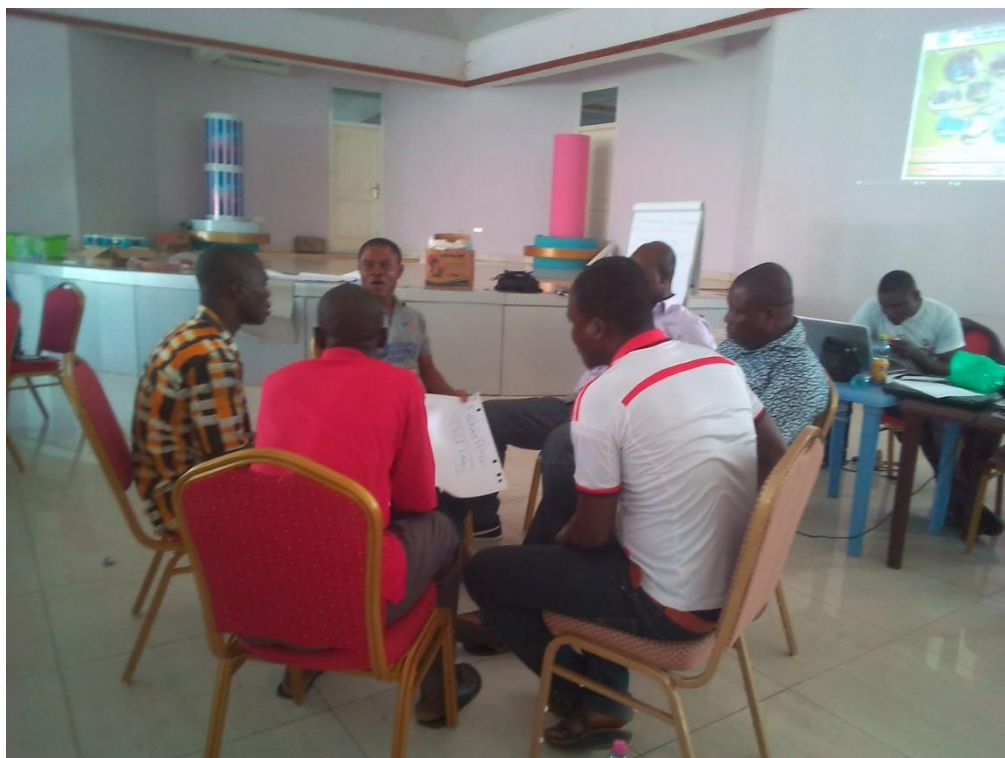
Some of the participants shared their story on CLaT. Those who have had encounter with CLaT situations including Mr. Kofi Essien (GPRTU Vice Chairman, Moree), who rescued two children under the age of 5 and 7 who were being trafficked from Moree to Anomabo in the Central region.

Another participant (Kobina Otoo) a canoe owner, concerned citizen and Deputy Public Relations officer for Moree encountered CLaT situation at Yeji and Liberia. Another participant (Francis Egyir), a tailor from Moree also shared his experiences. According to him he had adopted a needy child who is currently learning apprentice under him. CLaT survivors Kojo Abedu and Kweku Kakraba also shared their experiences. A detailed discussion was held on adoption and implementation strategies. After the discussion, it came to bear that each individual has a role to play in protecting a suffering child. During this section, participants were grouped into various associations based on type of livelihood activity i.e. tailors, teachers, drivers, religious leaders, nurses, fish processors etc. to come out

with how each of the groups can use their job to combat CLaT. After the group discussions, each group was made to present their views. The group presentations revealed that the participants had understood the concepts and were ready to help in the fight against CLaT with their job types.



**Figure 3 Hairdressers group discussing implementation strategies**



**Figure 4 Boat owners/fishermen group**



**Figure 5 A participant making presentation on implementation strategies on behalf of hairdressers**



**Figure 6 A participant making presentation on behalf of drivers/GPRTU group**

### **2.3 Workshop Methodology**

The workshop message was delivered through the following tools:

1. Power point presentations.
2. Discussion.
3. Demonstration/illustrations.
4. CLaT Story telling.
5. Video shows/picture presentations.
6. Questions and answers.

### **2.4 Materials used**

1. Stationaries (flip chart, markers, marker board, files, note pads, pens).
2. Projector and projector screen.
3. CLaT pictures/videos.
4. Rope.

### **2.5 Topics Treated**

1. Key definition of child labor.

2. Overview of child labor.
3. Child trafficking.
4. Worst form of child labor.
5. Identification of, screening and referral mechanism processes.
6. Child protection strategy.
7. Effort to combat CLaT.
8. Torkor Model.
9. Adoption and implementation strategies.

## **2.6 Recommendations:**

1. There should be continuous public sensitization and education programs on CLaT to raise awareness level of people.
2. Chiefs and traditional authorities should be empowered to execute punishment to CLaT victims.
3. Laws should be made to sanction parents who neglect their children.

## SECTION 3 WAY FORWARD

CEWEFIA will participate in GPRTU annual meetings.



**Figure 7 A participant making a pledge on the pledge banner to support CLaT-free zone implementation after the workshop**

The training was successful with the expectations met. The participants now understand that a shared responsibility is essential in combating CLaT, and some pledged to assist the needy children when the need arises.

The participants took a pledge to support the action on the implementation of CLaT-free zone in their communities and the country Ghana.