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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

EXCHANGE VISIT FOR TCPD OFFICERS: WORKSHOP REPORT



JUNE 29 – 30, 2015, Grand Favor Hotel, Takoradi

THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND
GRADUATE SCHOOL
OF OCEANOGRAPHY



Hɛn 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/ and Hen Mpoano's website at <http://www.henmpoano.org>

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Cover photo: Workshop in session

(Credit: Hen Mpoano Photo)

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ACRONYMS

CEDECOM	Central Region Development Commission
CR	Central Region
CRC	Coastal Resources Center at the Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island
CSLP	Coastal Sustainable Livelihood Project
EDC	Environmental Data Center
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
GHA	Ghana Highways Authority
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIZ	German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation
GoG	Government of Ghana
GPS	Global Positioning System
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
GUMPP	Ghana Urban Management Pilot Programme
ICFG	Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance
IUU	Illegal Unreported Unregulated
LAP	Land Administration Project
LUPMIS	Land Use Planning and Management Information System
MMDAs	Metropolitan Municipal and District Assemblies
MOFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
RIGIS	Rhode Island Geographic Information System
SDF	Spatial Development Framework
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Program
SNPA	Street Naming and Property Addressing
TCPD	Town and Country Planning Department
UN	United Nations
URI	University of Rhode Island
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VRA	Volta River Authority
WR	Western Region

Table of Contents

Acronyms.....	iii
Introduction.....	iv
Chairperson’s Remarks.....	1
Summary of Presentations.....	2
Overview of SFMP and Purpose of the Exchange Visit.....	2
General Status of planning in the Central Region.....	5
Leveraging the Power of GIS for Informed Community Planning.....	8
Experiences from the Western Regional Data Hub.....	9
Breakout Session:.....	12
Field Visit.....	15
Feedback from Participants.....	16
Next Steps.....	16
Annex.....	17

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: The Chairperson of the workshop delivering his welcome remarks	Error!
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Figure 2: Participants listening to presentation on the purpose of the project and the workshop.....	3
Figure 3: From left to right: Richard Jones, Kobena Asiedu Bediako and Eugene Nyansafo responding to questions from participants.....	10
Figure 4: Participants during the breakout session	13
Figure 5: Participant interacting with the staff of TCPD in Shama.....	15

INTRODUCTION

The Ghanaian fishery is on the verge of collapse. More than 100,000 metric tons of high quality low-cost animal protein that was traditionally available to poor and vulnerable coastal and inland households has been lost. Overfishing due to an increasing number of boats and fishers in an open access fishery and weak governance all contribute to this situation.

At risk are not only the livelihoods of more than 25,000 Ghanaians engaged in the fishery sector but also the food security of the nation. In addition to the crisis in the fishery, coastal communities are vulnerable to hazards and evolving impacts of climate change, particularly sea level rise, flooding, less frequent rainfall as well as non-climate stressors including mangrove degradation, poor land use, landlessness, poverty etc.

The Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) is a five-year initiative supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID-Ghana) whose main goal is to rebuild targeted marine fisheries stocks through the adoption of sustainable fishing practices and exploitation levels

The SFMP will work closely with the Government of Ghana (GoG) through the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) under the World Bank-funded fisheries project as well as with the Fisheries Commission (FC) to achieve the goal of revamping the fisheries sector. The project will also engage with the Town and Country Planning Department (TCPD) for effective spatial planning of the coastal communities.

SFMP will build on the lessons learned and experiences gained from the engagement with TCPD under the Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) initiative in the Western region. One major outcome of this engagement is the proposed establishment of an Environmental Data hub in the Central region after the similitude of the Regional GIS Data Hub the ICFG established in the western region.

The Exchange Visit/Study tour forms part of the ongoing efforts to replicate the Data Hub idea in the Central Region. The purpose of this workshop was to initiate peer-to-peer exchange among planners from both the Western and Central regions and to demonstrate the successes and experiences from the western regional GIS data hub.

A total of 30 participants attended the two-day workshop. This comprised Spatial Planners and Technical officers from all the Coastal Metropolitan Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) in the two regions; representatives from the TCPD headquarters in Accra and CEDECOM. The Western Regional Director of TCPD who is also the acting Director of Central regional office was present to grace the event. Also in attendance were selected staff of three SFMP implementing partners: Coastal Resources Center/University of Rhode Island, Hen Mpoano and Spatial Solutions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Mr. Ebenezer Dadzie Paintsil, the Chairman of the event, is the substantive director of Western Regional TCPD and doubles as the acting director for Central region. In his remarks, he welcomed all the participants to the workshop and encouraged them to use that platform to

deliberate extensively on how spatial planning can be practical and effective. He concluded his speech with a quote by Julius Kambarage Nyerere;

*“Of what use is a building if the building
is not used to educate people”*



Figure 1: The Chairperson of the workshop delivering his welcome remarks. (Photo Credit: Hen Mpoano)

SUMMARY OF PRESENTATIONS

Presentations were delivered by staff of SFMP and TCPD officers. The presentations outlined the objective of the SFMP and purpose of the exchange visit, current status of planning in the central region, application of the hub facility and trainings in the western region and a similar application in Rhode Island, USA.

OVERVIEW OF SFMP AND PURPOSE OF THE EXCHANGE VISIT

Stephen Kankam, Activity Manager (Western and Central) for SFMP

Stephen introduced the Sustainable Fisheries Management Project to the participants. He explained that the project is building on the work done under the ICFG initiative. He indicated that the purpose of the SFMP is to save the near collapse status of the Ghanaian fishery by rebuilding marine fisheries stocks and increasing production through effective fisheries management strategies and adoption of responsible fishing practices.



Figure 2: Participants listening to presentation on the purpose of the project and the workshop. (Photo Credit: Hen Mpoano)

Despite its fisheries focus, Stephen explained that coastal spatial planning plays an important role of achieving this goal. He reiterated the need to address spatial planning in a fisheries management project. According to him, more than 90% of fishing activities is carried out on land. “Fisheries are water dependent hence requires proximity to land. The limited coastal land should therefore be planned in a sustainable manner to accommodate the teeming migrant population and the dynamic coastline”.

It is against this background that the project is working with the Town and Country Planning Department and the MMDAs to incorporate sustainable coastal planning in their development plans. These plans should be based on data collected and processes in a systematic manner by trained expert in the department. He explained that the purpose of the Exchange visit was to assess status of GIS based planning in WR and CR and to initiate peer-to-peer relationship among planning officers from the two regions.

Selected slides



SFMP GOAL:

- To rebuild marine fisheries stocks and increase production through effective fisheries management strategies and adoption of responsible fishing practices



Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)

The main goal of the SFMP is to rebuild marine fisheries stocks and increase production through effective fisheries management strategies and adoption of responsible fishing practices

Intermediate Result Areas:

- IR1: Improved legal framework to provide conditions for co-management, use rights and effort reduction
- IR2: Strengthened information systems and science-informed decision-making
- IR3: Increased constituencies that provide the political and public support needed to rebuild fish stocks
- IR4: Implementation of applied management initiatives for targeted fisheries ecosystems

Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)

This overall goal has been broken further into four Intermediate result areas

IR 4: Applied Management

- Coastal spatial planning in CR & WR
 - Data hub
 - Climate change assessments & adaptation plans

Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)

Coastal spatial planning is a major activity under the intermediate result area IR 4



Why address spatial planning in a fisheries management project?

Exchange Visit / Study Tour

- Assess status of GIS based (tools, methodologies, processes) planning in WR and CR
- Initiate peer-to-peer relationship
- Demonstrate application by district and regional TCPD.
- Share successes and challenges
- Follow-up capacity building support in Year 2 and beyond for WR and CRs

Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)

Purpose of the Exchange Visit/Study Tour

Questions and Comments	Responses
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Questions, Comments and suggestions

Are you liaising with the fisheries commission on the project?	<i>The project will work with the Government of Ghana through the Fisheries Commission and MOFAD</i>
The consumption of tilapia in the country is high. Is the project considering aquaculture?	<i>The focus of this project is marine fisheries and the objective is recovery of small pelagic fish stocks and not aquaculture.</i>
How will the the project measure the sustainability of the fishery?	<i>The M&E document for the project has established baseline ecological status and this will be compared with end of project data</i>
There is the need for the project to consider encroachment on the coast	
Are you going to develop a framework for spatial planning in the district?	<i>The project will not formulate spatial plans but will contribute fisheries and coastal information to the process</i>
Stakeholders are not working together. There is the need for fisheries commission, planners, etc to be brought together	

GENERAL STATUS OF PLANNING IN THE CENTRAL REGION

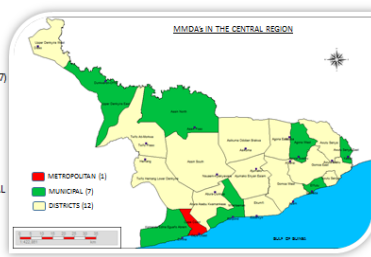
Obed Agyapong, TCPD, Gomoa East

The presentation provided the background of the Central region with emphasis on population dynamics, available resources and major economic activities. The presentation also highlighted the capacity of the TCPD at both the MMDA and regional levels. Obed concluded his presentation with a look at some challenges faced by the region and some recommendations.

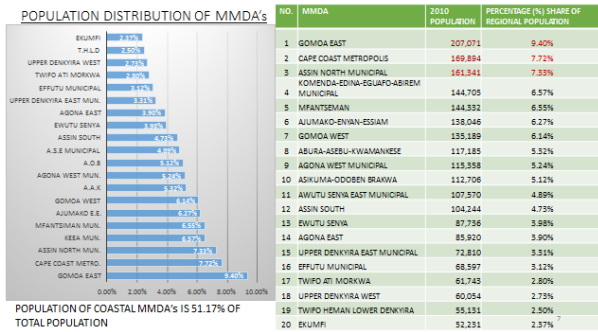
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ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARIES

- THE REGION CURRENTLY HAS TWENTY (20) MMDAS
- THERE ARE TWELVE (12) DISTRICTS, SEVEN (7) MUNICIPALITIES, AND CAPE COAST AS THE ONLY METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY IN THE REGION
- THE LARGEST MMDA IS ASSIN SOUTH WITH ABOUT 111,829.9 ha OF LAND SIZE
- THE SMALLEST MMDA IS EFFUTU MUNICIPAL WITH ABOUT 7,698.4 ha OF LAND SIZE

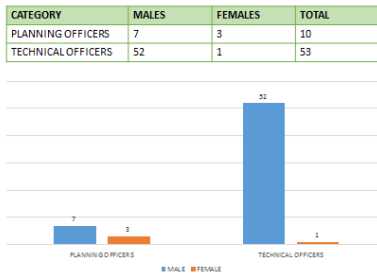


Overview of the Central region showing the MMDA boundaries



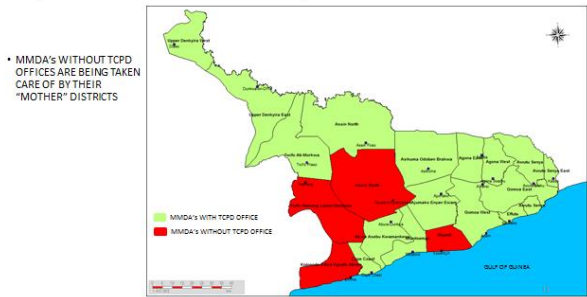
Population of Coastal MMDAs Is 51.17% of total population of the region

STAFF STRENGTH (TCPD)



Human resource capacity of central region TCPD

MMDA's WITH TCPD OFFICES



TCPD presence in the region

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

- THE STREET NAMING AND PROPERTY ADDRESSING SYSTEM: ALL MMDA'S HAVE AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING OFFICE EQUIPMENT:
 - 1 LAPTOP
 - 2 DESKTOP COMPUTERS
 - 2 HAND-HELD GPS
 - 1 COLOUR PRINTER
 - 1 BLACK/WHITE PRINTER
 - 1 PHOTOCOPIER
 - 1 MOTOR-BIKE
- IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE EQUIPMENT THE REGIONAL OFFICE HAS TWO (2) PLOTTERS, ONE OF WHICH, HOWEVER, NEEDS SERVICING.
- THE INTRODUCTION OF THE HAND-HELD GPS, COMPUTERS, ORTHOPHOTOS AND THE LUPMIS (softwares) HAS ENHANCED THE WORK OUTPUT OF THE DEPARTMENT PRODUCING ACCURATE MAPS AND ANALYSING SPATIAL DATA IS NOW EASIER AND FASTER THAN BEFORE.
- WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTORATE (not Cape Coast Metro), AWUTU SENYA EAST MUNICIPAL AND EFFUTU MUNICIPAL NONE OF THE DISTRICT OFFICES HAS OFFICIAL VEHICLES. OFFICERS RELY ON PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND SOMETIMES THEIR PRIVATE VEHICLES IN THEIR DAY-TO-DAY FIELD ACTIVITIES.

KEY CHALLENGES

- LACK OF OFFICES AND RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FRUSTRATE OFFICERS
- LACK OF VEHICLES AND OTHER LOGISTICS FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES LIKE SITE INSPECTION AND PLANNING EDUCATION
- LACK OF UNDERSTANDING OF PHYSICAL PLANNING ISSUES BY LAND OWNERS AND DEVELOPERS
- THERE IS 'MAD RUSH' FOR VAST LAND FOR REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATIONS

- PREPARATION OF STRUCTURE PLANS AND LAND USE PLANS ESPECIALLY FOR THE COASTAL MMDA'S TO RESOLVE THE CONFLICT BETWEEN QUARRYING AND RESIDENTIAL LAND USES
- A COMPREHENSIVE UPGRADING PLAN IS NEEDED IN MOST OF THE COASTAL TOWNS
- TCPD SHOULD IMPRESS ON LANDS COMMISSION NOT TO REGISTER VAST LANDS FOR CLIENTS UNTIL THEY PREPARE LAND USE PLANS ON IT
- VEHICLES ARE REQUIRED TO ENABLE OFFICERS EMBARK ON PERIODIC MONITORING

Questions and Comments	Responses
Legal backing will help planners to exercise their duties effectively	
There is mad rush for vast lands for real estate development in central region especially areas closer to greater accra region	
Is there a local plan for the coastal communities in the central region?	<i>Not for the entire region but some communities</i>

Questions and Comments

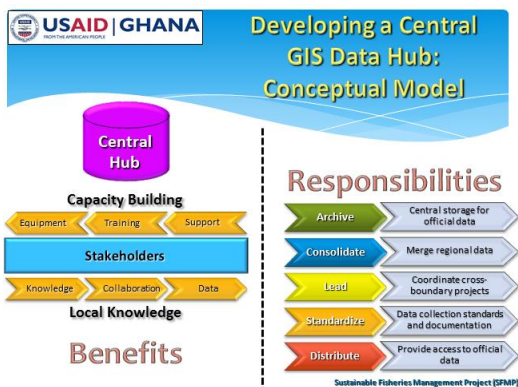
The land tenure arrangement in the central region is a bit different from most parts of the country where chiefs own the lands. Lands are owned by families in the central region, the need therefore to look at it as such and target family heads in decision making

LEVERAGING THE POWER OF GIS FOR INFORMED COMMUNITY PLANNING

Christopher Damon, EDC, URI, Rhode Island

The highlight of the presentation was on the goal and the primary functions of a data hub. Chris explained the RIGIS conceptual model of the data hub and took participants through the fundamental principles of a data hub. After a brief history of the Environmental Data Center in the University of Rhode Island, Chris provided two instances where the data hub model was used for informed community planning in the state.

Selected slides




The conceptual model of the data hub that the EDC has adopted over the years is a continuous loop of data exchange from the central hub and beneficiaries/stakeholders. The hub provides capacity building to stakeholders in exchange for their local knowledge and data which is archived, consolidated, standardized and distributed by the hub.

Rhode Island GIS (RIGIS)


The slide shows a screenshot of the Rhode Island Geographic Information System (RIGIS) web interface. The interface includes a header with the USAID | GHANA logo and the title 'Rhode Island Geographic Information System'. Below the header, there is a table with columns for 'name', 'description', 'type', 'production date', and 'download'. The table lists various data layers under the 'Biology and Ecology' category. A blue callout box on the right side of the slide states: '> ~ 5Tb of Imagery and data' and '> All Internet Accessible'. The slide is attributed to the Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP).

name	description	type	production date	download
Wild Services	Wildlife camera trapping and monitoring to help with bear population survey of distribution.	Image	12/19/2016	12/19/2016 11:19:00 AM
Department of Environmental Management Day	Inventory of wetland and riparian areas in Rhode Island for the Department of Environmental Management.	Image	10/10/2016	10/10/2016 02:11:00 PM
Ecological Communities Classification	Ecological communities for the State of Rhode Island based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data.	Image	10/10/2016	10/10/2016 02:11:00 PM
Wetlands Data	Wetlands data for the State of Rhode Island based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data.	Image	10/10/2016	10/10/2016 02:11:00 PM
Wetlands Inventory	Wetlands inventory for the State of Rhode Island based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data.	Image	10/10/2016	10/10/2016 02:11:00 PM
Forest Inventory	Forest inventory for the State of Rhode Island based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data.	Image	10/10/2016	10/10/2016 02:11:00 PM
Wetlands Inventory	Wetlands inventory for the State of Rhode Island based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data.	Image	10/10/2016	10/10/2016 02:11:00 PM
Wetlands Inventory	Wetlands inventory for the State of Rhode Island based on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) and the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) data.	Image	10/10/2016	10/10/2016 02:11:00 PM

The EDC's RIGIS can now boast of about 5 terabyte of data that are all downloadable on the internet



Developing a Central GIS Data Hub: Fundamental Principals



- ▶ Single, Authoritative Data Source
- ▶ Free, dependable, simple access to data
 - Partnerships and collaboration advance the application of GIS... turf and territoriality breed duplication of effort and resentment
- ▶ Reduce Redundancy
- ▶ Cost Sharing Means More/Better Data

Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)



Developing a Central Data Hub: The RIGIS Model

- ▶ RIGIS Management has become more formal
 - Larger Committee
 - state, town and private sector users
 - Quarterly Meetings
 - Distribution policy, technical standards, updates, etc.
 - Legislative Mandate
 - RI Division of Planning



Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)

Questions and Comments	Responses
How is the size of Rhode Island compared to western and central regions and how is the hub funded there?	<i>Relatively smaller. Rhode Island depends on project to fund the hub</i>
How do you reduce data redundancy?	<i>Quarterly meetings to know if communities can work together</i> <i>Not charging for data</i> <i>High internet</i>
Are there any other GIS systems in RI aside the Data hub?	<i>Yes. URI tried to eliminate the politics so established it own hub. There are however some GIS systems at the government level</i>

Questions, Comments and suggestions

EXPERIENCES FROM THE WESTERN REGIONAL DATA HUB

Richard Jones, Eugene Nyansafo and Asiedu Bediako

The panel presentations outlined the main objective of the Western regional GIS hub and the application of the data and training in regional, district and community level planning in the region. In his presentation, Jones recounted how the inception of the GIS hub facilitated the migration from the paper maps to digital GIS maps. He also explained how the Regional hub has applied the hub conceptual model since the hub was established under the ICFG initiative



Figure 3: From left to right: Richard Jones, Kobena Asiedu Bediako and Eugene Nyansafo responding to questions from participants. (Photo Credit: Hen Mpoano)

Eugene and Bediako also took turns to show how Shama and Ellembelle districts apply GIS in their daily planning activities. These two districts have gone through all the three levels of spatial planning

Take-home Messages:

- TCPD is a service establishment of Central government, Regional Coordinating Councils, and Metropolitan Municipal and District Assemblies for the;
 - Formulation of human settlement development policies.
 - Formulation of legislation and technical standards to regulate the development of land.
 - The preparation and coordination of plans and proposals to direct development initiated by public agencies as well as private individuals.
 - Provision of various forms of planning services to other land Sector Agencies such as Lands Commission, stool lands and organizations such as the tourist board and EPA.
- Western region is the first region in the country to develop their spatial development framework. The Western Regional Development framework was made to respond to the spate of infrastructural development in the region following the oil find. It serves as the ‘blueprint’ for all spatial developments in the region and incorporates all the dominant sectors of region’s economy to provide a comprehensive plan of development for the next 20 years.
- The Hub serves 3 main purposes
 - A Regional Training Facility in GIS
 - Land Use Planning
 - Regional Data Centre
- Since its inception in 2012, the Hub has accommodated many training sessions for TCPD staff within the region with support from some private sector initiatives
- The Hub remains a reliable source of spatial data for most government and quasi-governmental agencies within the region

- Some activities the hub has undertaken during the last three years of operation

Questions and Comments	Responses
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include;

- Staff of TCPD within the Six (6) Coastal Districts trained in LUPMIS and its applications.
- TCPD Staff within WR trained in MapMaker and basic applications of GIS
- Scanning and storage of district specific sector layouts.
- Digitizing of features via satellite images and orthophotos to guide Street Naming and Property Addressing (SNPA) implementation in selected districts.
- Hosted envoys from Uganda, Sierra Leone and students from UCC (Department of Geography)
- Challenges of the hub include (but not limited to)
 - Inadequate personnel needs assessment to aid training in GIS
 - Limited funding resulting in limited timeframe allocated to training activities.
 - Frequent power outages
 - Breakdown of equipment
 - Unsustainable source of funds for running the GIS Hub
- Both Elembelle and Shama districts have benefited from the Hub in diverse ways and rely on the training acquired for the day-to-day planning activities albeit some challenges.

Questions and Comments

What is the plan of TCPD for the hub?	<i>Becoming a centre of excellence.</i>
How do you want to see the hub in 5years time?	<i>Government is passing a law to support TCPD and the hub concept. At the moment Government support is not coming</i>
Is there budget allocation for the hub?	<i>There isn't. The district assemblies have the budgetary powers, not TCPD, thus making it difficult in terms of finances. However, TCPD will soon be part of the MMDA's under the new law expected to be passed soon, meaning there will be funds for the maintenance of the hub</i>
TCPD should think of innovative ways of generating funds for the hub? Eg. Making agencies who access the hub pay something for the mainateinance of the hub	
Going forward there can be a system where data from all the MMDAs will be submitted to feed the hub on quarterly basis	
The coastal areas of Ellembelle has been earmarked for development according to the Spatial Development Framework (SDF). How do we reconcile that with fisheries protection?	<i>The coastal zone has been earmrked for both industrial, conservation uses as well as fishing</i>

BREAKOUT SESSION:

After the presentations, participants were randomly divided into 3 groups to deliberate on possible ways to improve coastal and marine planning and decision making in the western and central regions. Using the café methodology, each of the groups discussed and shared their responses to the following questions;

- a. What are the issues facing coastal places in the region?
- b. What thematic data do we need to address the above mentioned issues?
- c. How can we assemble data through working with regional TCPD's?
- d. What are the existing opportunities that can be leveraged upon?



Figure 4: Participants during the breakout session. (Photo Credit: Hen Mpoano)

Questions	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
What are the issues facing coastal places in the region?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal erosion • Sand winning • Dumping of refuse into the sea • Open defecation • Slum development • Child trafficking • Poor accessibility to portable water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding • Coastal erosion (sand winning) • Local plans are prepared without detailed base maps • Close settlements to the shore (unplanned settlement) or slum development • Poor sanitation(both liquid and solid waste) • Child labour /trafficking • Sea erosion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitation (open defecation) • Coastal erosion • Sand winning • Encroachment (shoreline) • Child trafficking • Illegal fishing methods • Flooding • Slum development • Child labour

<p>What thematic data do we need to address the above mentioned issues?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demographic data • Infrastructural data • Socio-economic data • Data on land ownership systems • Shoreline change • EIAs • Topographic maps • Physical characteristics /natural characteristics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topographic data • Drainage data • Settlement layout with detailed base map • Demographic data • Institutional data • Land tenure/administration • Land cover data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitation • Environmental data (shoreline change) • Maps (-sanitation maps, -poverty prevalence rate maps) • Demographic data • Socio-economic data • Infrastructural data
<p>How can we assemble data through working with regional TCPD's?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government agencies (GSS, GHA, minerals, forestry commission, lands commission, stool lands) • Field surveys; reconnaissance surveys • Academic research • Online research • Questionnaire administration 	<p>Primary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field work/data (GPS, Camera) • Questionnaire administration • Observation <p>Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature review • Satellite images • Media engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify institutions • Submit data to the regional TCPD's for sanitation and adaptation • Bridging data gaps • Field surveys

<p>What are the existing opportunities that can be leveraged upon?</p>	<p>Existing Initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CSLP ● LAP 2 (Survey and mapping) ● Coastal foundation ● GIZ- Street naming and property addressing ● GUMP ● UN-habitat-slum upgrading project (New Takoradi) ● African Info movement <p>LAP 1-SDF for Kasoa-Winneba corridor</p>
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FIELD VISIT

The second day of the workshop was dedicated to field visits. The visits accorded the participants the opportunity to interact among themselves and continue with the coastal planning discourse. The team first visited the Western regional Hub where participants interacted with the staff and had a firsthand experience with the hub. Maps and plans including the WRSDF, structure plans and local plans from the coastal MMDAs of the western region were exhibited. Mr. Paintsil, Jones and Edem took some time to react to questions from the team

The next stop was the Shama District TCPD office. The district planner, Eugene Nyansafo made a presentation on how GIS has been applied to analyze data for effective planning which has influenced decision making in the district. He also explained the Spatial Development Framework process and provided some background for the location of the Industrial enclave in the district.



Figure 5: Participant interacting with the staff of TCPD in Shama. (Photo Credit: Hen Mpoano)

Participants were taken to the Volta River Authority (VRA) Thermal Plant in Aboadze to appreciate the work the district has done in demarcating such an area for industrial activities.

The industrial enclave is given the accolade “the thermal power house of the nation”. Following the work of the VRA in the area, the district earmarked the enclave for power generation due to the economies of scale investors tend to benefit from.

FEEDBACK FROM PARTICIPANTS

- Despite Central region boasting a lot of natural resources and the longest coast in the country, planning isn't very effective due to inadequate planners and planning equipment. Current computers are not even up to 10. There is the need for assistance on that front.
- More targeted training for central region TCPD will be extremely helpful and this should be preceded by a needs assessment.

NEXT STEPS

The following points were identified as activities that will follow the Exchange visit

- Material needs assessment for central region TCPD
- Training for planning officials in the central region
- Periodic exchanges and peer learning events for both regions.
- Will continue working with the western region TCPD
- Vulnerability assessment in Ellembelle, Nzema East and Shama districts.

ANNEX

Training program

**Draft Agenda for Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)
Exchange Visit for Western and Central TCPD Officers
June 28-30, 2015
Grand Favor Hotel, Takoradi**

Objectives

1. Initiate peer-to-peer relationship among Western and Central officers
2. Share successes, challenges and general experiences from the Western regional hub
3. Demonstrate some application by district and Regional Coordinating Council

Agenda

DAY 1	
4.00 – 7.00pm	Arrival of participants; check in hotel and have dinner
DAY 2	
8.00 – 9.00 am	Participant registration
9.30 –10.00am	Welcome, Overview of SFMP and Purpose of the Exchange Visit
10.00 –10.30am	Introduction of Chairperson/ Chairperson’s remarks
10.30 –11.00am	Presentation: General Status of planning in the Central Region
11.00–11.15am	Plenary Discussion
11.15–11.30 am	Snack Break
11.30– 12.00	Presentation: Leveraging the Power of GIS for Informed Community Planning
12.00–12.15	Plenary Discussion
12:15 –1.15pm	Presentation: The Western Regional Data Hub
	Overview of the objective and the operation of the hub
	Application of the Hub Concept in Shama
	Application of the Hub Concept in Ellebelle
1.15–1.30pm	Plenary Discussion
1.30 – 2.30 pm	Lunch Break
2.30 – 3.30 pm	Breakout Session
3.30–4.00 pm	Plenary Report back
4.00– 4.30 pm	Field Trip Orientation
5.00 pm	Adjourn
DAY 3	
7.30 – 8.00 am	Recap
8.30 –12.30 am	Field Trip
12.45am– 1.45pm	Lunch
1.20–2.20 pm	Peer feedback
2.20–2.45 pm	Next Steps
3.00 pm	Departure