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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

Report on Biannual Stakeholder Meetings

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THE
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Daasgift

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SNV:	http://www.snvworld.org/en/countries/ghana
SSG Advisors:	http://ssg-advisors.com/

ACRONYMS

DQF	Daasgift Quality Foundation
FoN	Friends of the Nation
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NFED	Non-Formal Educational Division
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS

ACRONYMS.....	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	1
LIST OF TABLES.....	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
1 Background.....	2
1.1 Objectives of meetings.....	2
1.2 Expected outcomes	2
2 PRESENTATIONS.....	2
2.1 Capacity building programs.....	2
2.2 Microfinance and VSLA.....	3
2.3 Awareness creation	3
2.4 Exchange programs.....	3
3 GROUP DISCUSSIONS	3
4 CONCLUSIONS.....	3
APPENDIX.....	4

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 List of Participants-May	4
Table 2 List of Participants-June	6

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Biannual stakeholder meetings/dialogues were organized to discuss and address Sanitation Issues at landing sites, IUU fishing practices, familiarization of Fisheries management plan, Gender mainstreaming and briefing and status of DQF trained MSMEs from Shama, Axim and Ankobra. The first meeting was organized on 16th May, 2017 at the Social Security & National Insurance Trust House in Takoradi and the second program was held on 28th June, 2017 at Friends of the Nation.

1 BACKGROUND

There were requests by stakeholders in Year Two of SFMP, for the establishment of common platform for briefing on the activities and status of DQF trained MSMEs. It was for this reason that DQF organized the Biannual Stakeholder Meetings/ Dialogues in year three.

1.1 Objectives of meetings

The objectives of the meetings were to:

- Discuss and address Sanitation Issues at landing sites, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fisheries (IUU), familiarization of Fisheries management plan, Gender mainstreaming.
- Briefing Participants on the status of DQF trained MSMEs.

1.2 Expected outcomes

- It was expected that after the program, participants and other stakeholders would appreciate the journey of DQF trained MSMEs as to where they started from and how far they have come to under SFMP.
- It was also expected that participants would make inputs and suggestion into DQF year 4 work plans.

2 PRESENTATIONS

There were presentations by DQF on the activities of trained MSMEs, which allowed stakeholders to ask questions and make suggestions on ways to help improve the businesses of the fish processors. The presentations centred on capacity building programs, awareness creation campaigns, and Study tours/exchange programs, as well as microfinance and Village Savings and Loans Association(VSLA) activities which have benefited the fish processors.

2.1 Capacity building programs

With regards to capacity building programs, it was indicated to stakeholders that two-hundred MSMEs, under SFMP year one received business development trainings, one-hundred additional MSMEs each in the subsequent years of year two and year three received similar training, which dealt with savings culture, credit management, business plan, financial literacy and group dynamics. The objective of this training was to educate fish processors to mobilize their own resources through savings and credit activities with a view to improving the socio-economic conditions of the community, businesses and its members.

Under technical training which centered on hygienic fish handling, fire safety training, and packaging and branding, a total number of one-hundred fish processors selected from Axim, Ankobra and Shama were trained in year two and additional two-hundred trained in year three. Functional literacy training was also organized for one-hundred Fish processors in

Axim, Ankobra and Shama to enable them acquire skills in reading in English language, writing, and numeracy.

2.2 Microfinance and VSLA

The total amount of loans and the number of beneficiaries were presented to stakeholders. As of May, 2017, the total amount of loan disbursed stood at GHC171, 799.10 with a USD equivalent of USD46, 432.43 that has benefited 252 fish processors. Under VSLA which had the objective of establishing a Strong Savings Culture and Financial Welfare Geared Towards; Support for Alternative Livelihoods; Farming, Trading, And Vegetable Production, Payment of School Fees, Daasgift created groups in Eshiem, Ekpozoo, Eziome, Kukwavile and Adelekazo.

2.3 Awareness creation

Under this activity, stakeholders were briefed on the various programs organized to promote hygienic fish handling and the construction and promotion of Ahotor Oven. In all, six demonstration ovens were constructed.

2.4 Exchange programs

Presentation was also made on exchange programs organized for fish processors to learn and acquire new skills and modern technologies in fish processing. Fish processors were selected from Axim, Ankobra and Shama to embark on a tour;

- To Fresh Park, a packaging factory at Elmina,
- Abuesi Modern Fish processing facility at Abuesi and
- Family tradition, a fish processing kitchen at Elmina.

3 GROUP DISCUSSIONS

During the second session, participants discussed in groups, measures to deal with issues of sanitation at landing sites, IUU fishing. Stakeholders called for a strong collaboration between traditional Authorities, Which Have Some Oversight Responsibilities at landing sites and the District assemblies.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The two meetings were attended by traditional authorities, representatives from the District Assemblies, and fish processors from Shama District, Ellembelle District and Nzema East Municipal. Participants acknowledged the immense contribution of DQF towards helping fish processors acquire knowledge to expand their businesses and called for regular monitoring of the activities of the fish processors so as to ensure the success of all interventions.

APPENDIX

Table 1 List of Participants-May

NAME	COMMUNITY/ ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	SEX
Aba Bentuma	Shama		F
Rosemond Mantey	Shama District Assembly- Shama		F
Rakia Mahama	Non-Formal Educational Division (NFED)-Axim		F
Gifty Cobbinah	Ankobra		F
Elizabeth Dorvlo	Axim		F
Grace Amelimah	Axim		F
Rosamond Akor	Axim		F
Nana Aba Anyiem	Axim		F
Cecilia Cobbinah	Axim		F
Emelia Abaka-Edu	Axim		F
Theresah Freeman	Axim		F
Priscilla Aquandoh	GNCFC		F
TheresahAmodzin	Asanta		F
Doreen Asabea	WRFCF		F
Sarah Eshun	Shama		F
Joana Adjei	Asanta		F
Gifty B. Asmah	DQF		F
Sister-Hope Asmah	DQF		F
Betty Alagelam	DQF		F
Simon Sarfo	Community Development		M
Joseph Menlawiah	Fire Service		M
John Dickson Eshun	GNCFC-Axim		M
Stephen Kankam	Hen Mpoano		M
Michael Nyarku	UCSOUND		M
Nana Kofi Seboh	Axim		M
Nana Kwaw Tendele II	Axim		M

NAME	COMMUNITY/ ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	SEX
Timothy Ayensu	Shama		M
Tawiah Kofi	Asanta		M
J.F Ebambey	Asanta		M
Eric Kpabitey	NFED-Shama		M
Robert Owusu-Ansah	Community Development		M
John TettehDoku	Environmental Health- Axim		M
Nana E. Bassaw	Shama		M
Nana K. Okran	Fisheries Commission		M
Patrick Tawiah	Fisheries Commission		M
Davis EffahAgyemang	District Assembly-Shama		M
Addo -Blankson	GNCFC		M
Kenneth Kwofie	Registry Department		M
Nathan Asamoah	Community Development		M
Isaac Owusu Mann	Social Welfare-Ellembelle		M
Mike Abaka-Eda	GNCFC		M
Fato Obi Nediho	Axim		M
Isaac Bondzie	Axim		M
C. K Atta	Axim		M
Nana Nyasemhwe	Axim		M
Nana Kofi Bentsil	Axim		M
Nana Kofi Seboh II	Axim		M
Thomas Kwofie Hollison	Shama		M
Francis Arthur	Fisheries Commission		M
Stephen Swanzy	DQF		M
Edgar Adda	DQF		M

Table 2 List of Participants-June

NAME	COMMUNITY/ ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	SEX
Josephine L. Asare	Fisheries Commission		F
Gifty Cobbinah	Ankobra		F
Theresa Amodzin	Asanta		F
Grace Amilimah	Axim		F
Rosemond Mantey	District Assembly-Shama		F
Susanna Bissue	Shama		F
Aba Bentuma	Shama		F
Joana Adjei	Asanta		F
Theresah Freeman	Axim		F
Rakia Mahama	NFED		F
Hannah Ansah	Axim		F
Nana Akissi Apentsin III	NAFPTA		F
Nana Akosua Gyianfiaba II	Queen Mother- Yabiw		F
Cecilia Cobbinah	Axim		F
Elizabeth Dorvlo	Axim		F
Nana Aba Enyim	Axim		F
Sister-Hope Asmah	DQF		F
Betty Alagelam	DQF		F
Gifty Baaba Asmah	DQF		F
Alimah Nkrumah	Ankobra		M
Obrempon Hima Dekyi XII	Paramount Chief Upper Dixcove		M
Robert Owusu-Ansah	Department of Community Development		M
Emmanuel OheneMarfo	Fisheries Commission		M
John McCarthy	Ankobra		M
Nana Akpoh Ababio Kpanyin V	Paramount Chief		M
Joseph Eshun	Miemia		M

NAME	COMMUNITY/ ORGANIZATION	CONTACT	SEX
Alfred Quayson	Chief fisherman		M
Eric Kpabitey	Axim		M
Stephen Swanzy	DQF		M