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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP) Progress Report



JANUARY 1 - MARCH 31, 2020



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Cover photo: Participants at a fisheries stakeholder engagement meeting held by SFMP in Accra.

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SNV	http://www.snvworld.org/en/countries/ghana
Resonance Global	https://resonanceglobal.com/

ACRONYMS

CIC	Canoe Identification Card
CEWEFIA	Central and Western Region Fishmongers Improvement Association
CLaT	Child Labor and Trafficking
CRC	Coastal Resources Center
CSLP	Coastal Sustainable Landscapes Project
DAA	Development Action Association
DFAS	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
DOPA	Densu Oyster Pickers Association
EG	Economic Growth
F2F	Fisher to Fisher (Dialogues)
FC	Fisheries Commission
FEU	Fisheries Enforcement Unit
FoN	Friends of Nation
FSSD	Fisheries Scientific Survey Division
FtF	Feed the Future
FY	Fiscal Year
GIS	Geographic Information System
GITA	Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association
GNCFC	Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council
GOG	Government of Ghana
HM	Hen Mpoano
ICFG	Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance
IR	Intermediate Results
IUU	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (Fishing)
LOP	Life of Project
LUSPA	Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MASLOC	Microfinance and Small Loans Centre
MOFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Scale Enterprises
MT	Metric Tones
NAFPTA	National Fish Processors and Traders Association
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NMFMP	National Marine Fisheries Management Plan
NRM	Natural Resource Management
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
SNV	Netherlands Development Organisation
SSG	SSG Advisors, now Resonance Global, an implementing partner of SFMP
STWG	Scientific and Technical Working Group
TA	Technical Assistance
UCC	University of Cape Coast
URI	University of Rhode Island
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United State Government
VSLA	Village Savings and Loans Association

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1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY

Table 1 Sustainable Fisheries Management Project Summary

Program Name	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP)
Activity Start and End Date	October 22, 2014 to September 30, 2020
Name of Prime Implementing Partner	Coastal Resources Center University of Rhode Island
Agreement Number	AID-641-A-15-00001
Name of Sub-awardees	Hen Mpoano (HM) Friends of the Nation (FoN) Netherlands Development Organization (SNV) Resonance Global Central and Western Fishmongers Association (CEWEFIA) Development Action Association (DAA)
Major Counterpart Organizations	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) Fisheries Commission (FC)
Geographic Coverage (cities and or countries)	Ghana: Central Region, Western Region, Greater Accra Region, Volta Region
Reporting Period	January 1 – March 31, 2020

1.1 Program Description / Introduction

The objective of the USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP), a five-year project (October 2014 - October 2019), and now granted a no cost extension through September 30, 2020), is to rebuild marine fisheries stocks and catches through adoption of responsible fishing practices. The project contributes to the Government of Ghana’s fisheries development objectives and the US Government’s Feed the Future Initiative. Working closely with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) and the Fisheries Commission (FC), USAID/Ghana SFMP aims to end overfishing of key stocks important to local food security through achievement of the following intermediate results:

- 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 and tens of thousands of metric tons of additional high quality low cost food supply from fisheries can be regained via improved and sustainable management of the marine fish stocks in Ghana’s waters.

The Coastal Resources Center (CRC) at the University of Rhode Island's Graduate School of Oceanography is the lead implementer of the SFMP and leads a consortium of other international and local partners including; SNV Netherlands Development Organization, Resonance Global (formerly SSG-Advisors), Hen Mpoano, Friends of the Nation, the Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association in Ghana (CEWEFIA) and the Development Action Association (DAA). SFMP also works with other organizations that are not formerly part of the consortium but receive support and play important roles in achieving the goals of the project. These include the National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA), the Ghana National Canoe Fishers Council (GNCFC), and others. The project complements and coordinates closely with two other projects in the USAID/Ghana Coastal Program Portfolio: The Coastal Sustainable Landscapes Project (CSLP) (recently completed) and the University of Cape Coast/Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Science (UCC/DFAS) Institutional Strengthening Project.

The SFMP builds on the best practices and lessons learned from the USAID-Ghana's Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Program implemented from 2009 - 2014. Based on lessons learned in the previous project SFMP is focusing efforts on small pelagic fisheries along the entire coastline as well as fisheries and essential mangrove fish habitat in three coastal estuaries - The Densu, Pra and Ankobra systems. Additionally, improvements in the value chain of smoked fish, important to tens of thousands of women fish processors is supported. The project is also undertaking actions towards reducing child labor and trafficking in the Central Region of Ghana. Key government clients of this project include the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, the Fisheries Commission, the Regional Coordinating Councils, the Land Use and Spatial Planning Authority (LUSPA) and associated districts in the Central and Western Regions; and the Marine Police. Additional support is provided to several local NGOs and women's associations that are active in fisheries management issues and serving either as core or supporting partners in the implementation of this project.

This progress report details activities, results, and lessons learned during the second quarter of Project Year 6 (FY20). It also explains how partners contributed to the achievement of targets and how these achievements will be sustained to meet the overarching goal of SFMP.

1.2 Summary of Results

Highlights of activities and achievements for the second quarter of Year 6 (January 2020 – March 2020) include the following:

Strengthening the Enabling Environment for Marine Fisheries Management: The highlight of strengthening the enabling policy and legal environment for marine fisheries governance has been the approval of the Fisheries Co-management Policy by Cabinet. Subsequent to the approval of the policy, SFMP engaged MOFAD/FC to finalize the policy with regards to addressing comments from Cabinet prior to signature of the document by the Hon. Minister. Approval has been sought from the USAID Mission, in the first quarter to reprogram budget designated for the development of a new fisheries legislation following discontinuation of related activities as a result of inability of MOFAD to obtain necessary Cabinet approval to move new legislation forward.

Science and Research Applied to Policy and Management: Two reports related to the 2019 fisheries closed season, the Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Report and the Biological Monitoring Report, have been finalized and were scheduled to be peer reviewed by the Science and Technical Working Group (STWG) prior to finalizing the reports. Unfortunately, the STWG meeting could not be held during the quarter as a result of outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic which affected international travel and hosting of local meetings and conferences. Following approval of the Co-management Policy, the project considered it very important for the STWG to be formalized and consequently continued to engage the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the Fisheries Commission to formalize the STWG as a sub-committee under the Fisheries Commission to provide non-political, science-based recommendations for management of the fisheries resources of Ghana. The project provided the Ministry with a draft Terms of Reference towards formalization of the STWG to facilitate the process. The project also facilitated a meeting between a team from the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences including the Chairman of the STWG and a two member visiting team from USAID Washington to broaden the discussion and understanding of the role of science in rebuilding the marine fisheries sector in Ghana.

Creating Constituencies and Stakeholder Engagement: SFMP facilitated and supported the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCFC) and the FC to undertake the Fisher to Fisher (F2F) dialogue processes along the entire coastal regions of Ghana, except Central Region. The F2F dialogue was heading for the Central Region when the Government of Ghana instituted a directive suspending all public gathering and meetings in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 outbreak in Ghana, hence Central Region F2F dialogues were canceled. At the time the dialogue was suspended, over 1000 fisheries stakeholders including the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCFC), National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA), National Fisheries Association of Ghana, (NAFAG), Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association (GITA) and Traditional Authorities were consulted. The project supported to GNCFC to develop a Communique on the key issues discussed during the F2F engagements for transmittal to the MOFAD/FC. The issues covered included the most opportune time to implement the 2020 fisheries closed season so as to maximize biological gains, implementation of the Canoe Identification Card and strategies to stop illegal harvesting and transshipment of juvenile fish species mostly the small pelagics by trawl vessels. The project continued to pursue the development of two video documentaries. One on the biological impacts of the 2019 fisheries closed seasons and the other on the achievements, lessons learned and challenges of the SFMP.

Supporting Implementation of Applied Management Initiatives: In the period under review, SFMP continued to engage DAA and the Densu Oyster Pickers Association (DOPA) members to deepen their knowledge in the application of science based knowledge in the management of the Oyster especially the challenges confronting members during the implementation of another five month closed season, spanning November 2019 to April 2020. The project also engaged the key stakeholders in strategizing for the implementation of the Canoe Identification Card (CIC) following the launch of the CIC on December 10, 2019. The project has agreed to develop a software to link the CIC with embedded Quick Response (QR) codes with the canoe fleet registry to facilitate regulation of fishing efforts and illegal fishing activities by the FC. The project also facilitated access to a GHS1,000.00 MASLOC loan each for members of the National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA)

for them to undertake improved fish processing activities using the *Ahotor* ovens. The total MASLOC loan received by fish processors in the quarter under review was GHS17,000.00. This brings the total of MASLOC loan facilitated by the SFMP for women fish processors to GHS 180,000 (USD 36,000 @ 1 USD = GHS 5.0, the exchange rate).

Supporting Gender Equity and Empowerment: Following finalization of a results chain framework, sampling design and development of questionnaire in November 2019 for implementation of the Learning Initiative on Women Empowerment, Access to Finance and Sustainable Fisheries, considerable progress has been made. Sixteen (16) Enumerators were recruited and trained in modalities of interview and data collection. In total, data was collected on 921 individuals from 22 communities consisting of both project and non- project respondents (Males - 345, Females- 576). Data analysis and writing of a case study report is currently underway. Field activities establishing VSLAs was completed in this quarter. In the quarter under review, two (2) new VSLA groups were formed in the Volta Region, nine (9) in the Central Region by CEWEFIA, thirteen (13) by DAA. This brings the number of VSLAs established under SFMP to 56 groups involving 1,042 people (males 69, females 973). Forty-six (46) of these groups were monitored and they had saved a total of GHS 131,459 (\$ 26,292 @ GHS 5.0 =\$1) as at March 2020. For the quarter under review, 355 MSMEs (314 women (88%), and 42 men (12 %)) received USG assisted business development services. An additional 16 persons received training in conducting paperless surveys using tablets – 7 men and 9 women.

Table 2 below summarizes the standard USAID indicators for SFMP showing results completed in the second quarter of FY 20 vis-a-vis targets. Significant deviations between results and targets are explained in Annex A which also shows custom project indicators.

Table 2 Summary of Results: Year 6 Quarter 2 (January 1 – March 31, 2020)

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target (FY 2020)	Year 6 (FY20) Results	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
Number of hectares in areas of biological significance and/or natural resource showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance (EG 4.8.1-1)	0	610,900 (small pelagics fishing area)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A (Tracked annually)
Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: (FTF 4.5.1(24)) 1. Analysis 2. Stakeholder consultation/public debate 3. Drafting or revision 4. Approval (legislative or regulatory) 5. Full and effective implementation	0	Target	Q2 Results						
		Fish Act –Step 3	N/A	cancelled	cancelled	N/A	N/A	N/A	N - Activities supporting this canceled
		CLaT strategy– Step 4	Completed already	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Co-Management. policy –Step 4	Step 4 In process	Step 4 In process	Step 4 In process	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y - Approval from Cabinet received
		NMFMP-Step 4	Completed already	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
		Pra (CBMP) - Step 4	Step 4In process	Step 4In process	Step 4In process	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y - Approval from Cabinet received
		Ankobra (CBMP) -Step 4	Step 4In process	Step 4In process	Step 4In process	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y - Approval from Cabinet received
		Densu (Oyster Plan) Step 4	Step 4In process	Step 4In process	Step 4In process	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y - Approval from Cabinet received

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target (FY 2020)	Year 6 (FY20) Results	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
		Gender Strategy -Step 4	Completed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of institutions with improved capacity to develop, implement, manage and access fisheries management plans	0	13 (7 Ongoing, 6 New added)	6 CSO 7 GoG (100%)	6 CSO, 7 GoG (100%)	6 CSO, 7 GoG (100%)	N/A	N/A	13 (6 CSO & 7 GoG) (100%)	Y SFMP worked with 7 GoG institutions with improved capacity and 6 local IPs with improved capacity.
Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG 4.8.1-28)	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance (EG 4.8.1-26)	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of District Assemblies supported with USG Assistance (Ghana CDCS, IR 2.3 indicator)	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target (FY 2020)	Year 6 (FY20) Results	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
Number of farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (FtF 4.5.2)	0	0	200	200	200	N/A	N/A	Over target by 200 persons	Y (200 Oyster pickers from Densu Oyster 2 nd closed season starting in Nov 2019)
Number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2)	0	475	951	596	355	N/A	N/A	951 (200%)	Y Target over-achieved as additional trainings and participants added to trainings as actual costs were lower than planned.
Value of agricultural and rural loans as a result of USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-6	0	\$10,000	\$ 9036 M-0 (0%) F-\$ 9036 (100%)	\$ 5636 M-0 (0%) F-\$ 5636 (100%)	\$ 3400 M-0 (0%) F-\$ 3400 (100%)	N/A	N/A	(90.4%)	Y – slightly below but within 10% of target (14 target beneficiaries did not accept a loan because the credit facility was considered too small for their business requirements. No additional action on this

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target (FY 2020)	Year 6 (FY20) Results	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
									indicator planned
Number of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving agricultural-related credit as a result of USG assistance (RAA) EG.3.2-3	0	0	48	31	17	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y (MASLOC has disbursed loans for 17 more processors this quarter)
Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producer organizations, water users' associations, women groups, trade and business associations, and Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) receiving USG assistance (RiA) (WOG) (FtF 4.5.2(11))	0	3 (same group with ongoing support, no new group)	3 - same group with ongoing support	3 - same group with ongoing support	3 - same group with ongoing support	N/A	N/A	3 (100%)	Y (support is ongoing)
Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S) (FtF 4.5.2(27))	0	475	455	100	355	N/A	N/A	455 (95.8%)	Y With project winding down, no new assistance programmed
Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation, and climate change, disaggregated by gender (EG 4.8.1-27/ 4.8.2-6)	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of persons/hours of training in natural resources management	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target (FY 2020)	Year 6 (FY20) Results	Q1 FY20	Q2 FY20	Q3 FY20	Q4 FY20	Annual Performance Achieved to the End of Reporting Period (%)	On Target Y/N
and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance (4.8.1-29)									
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-1	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) EG.3.2-2	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

¹ This indicator is similar to the Feed the Future indicator: Number of rural households benefiting directly from USG interventions (FtF 4.5.2-13)

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

PROGRESS NARRATIVE AND IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

IR 1: Strengthened Enabling Environment for Marine Resources Governance

SFMP strategy of strengthening the enabling policy and legal environment to facilitate science led interventions for the fisheries sector in Ghana was instrumental in the decision of the project to work in collaboration with the West Africa Regional Fisheries Program (WARFP) in pursuit of Government of Ghana's policy direction of Good Governance and Sustainable Management of the Fisheries Resources of the country. In quarter 1, SFMP made the strategic decision to terminate its pursuit of developing a new fisheries legislation, having assessed the policy and the political landscapes. However, the project continued to work with Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) and the Fisheries Commission in pursuit of securing approval for the development of a Fisheries Co-management policy for Ghana.

Fisheries Co-Management Policy

With support from the SFMP, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) was able to secure Cabinet approval for development of the policy framework on fisheries co-management in Ghana for implementation. The support provided by the project to the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development included preparation of both the draft Policy document and the associated Cabinet Memorandum following extensive stakeholder engagements. SFMP continued to work with MOFAD/FC to finalize the policy document by integrating comments from Cabinet. SFMP will provide support for final editorial review prior to printing of copies of the policy document in Q3. With approval of the policy secured, SFMP had planned to engage the key stakeholders in disseminating and educating stakeholders on the policy. These public meetings are now canceled and instead SFMP will engage an expert to develop a fisheries co-management implementation manual with virtual involvement of key stakeholders. The implementation manual will provide direction and guidance on the establishment of co-management units and institutions make it possible for government to carry out its policy intent on fisheries co-management captured in the 2020 Budget Statement and Economic Policy of Government. Paragraph 715 of the Statement by Minister of Finance on the budget statement to Parliament reads “...*in addition, functional co-management structures will be established in ten fishing coastal communities in collaboration with fishers, District Assemblies and other relevant agencies by December 2020*”.

In addition, SFMP is working with the Fisheries Commission for the gazetting of the policy and three community based fisheries management plans developed by the project for three estuarine fisheries in Ghana; Densu, Pra and Ankobra which served as pilots during the development of the policy and were provided to Cabinet as models of fisheries co-management units.

IR 2: Science and Research Applied to Policy and Management

Monitoring of the 2019 Closed Season for the Artisanal and Inshore Sector

The setting up of Scientific and Technical Working Group (STWG) in 2015 by the SFMP was strategic in terms of facilitating the realization of the project goal and objectives and

since its establishment, the STWG has demonstrated its value as its recommendations were the most cited source of information regarding the need for a closed season. STWG also collaborated with the Fisheries Commission in bridging the scientific, political and public stakeholder discussion gaps on various fisheries management issues and also served as the primary scientific and technical advisory group to the Fisheries Commission on the status of the small pelagic stocks. The STWG assisted the Fisheries Commission to develop implementation strategies for the National Fisheries Management Plan (NFMP, 2015 – 2019) and advised on other fisheries-management issues. Cognizant of the importance of the STWG and the timeline for final project closure, SFMP revisited the subject of having the STWG established as formal structure affiliated to the Fisheries Commission. Within the quarter under review, SFMP reactivated engagement with the Ministry on the specific issue of formalizing the STWG as an official advisory committee as allowed by current law, by providing draft Terms of Reference for the formalization process as well as providing the necessary linkages between the approval of the Fisheries Co-management Policy and the formalization of the STWG.

The implementation of the first fisheries closed in 2019 for the marine artisanal sector, although it did not coincide with the peak spawning period of the targeted small pelagic fish species, was viewed by most fisheries policy analysts and stakeholders as a major step towards sustainable fisheries management in Ghana. SFMP therefore commissioned two research projects to ascertain the impact of the management intervention and provide best available scientific data to guide future policy decision making. The two reports related to the 2019 closed season, Biological Monitoring and a Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Report were due to be finalized through peer review processes, in the quarter under review during the STWG annual meeting scheduled for March, 2020. However, a presidential directive on public health and safety following the outbreak of Covid-19 in Ghana led to cancellation of the meeting. The reports will be finalized through review and virtual meetings of selected members of the STWG before project closure.

URI/UCC/DFAS/CCM Dual Degree Program

In the quarter under review, SFMP facilitated a meeting between a team from the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences including the Chairman of the STWG and a two member visiting team from USAID Washington to broaden the discussion and understanding of the role of science in rebuilding the marine fisheries sector in Ghana. During this meeting the dual degree program between the University of Rhode Island (URI) and the University of Cape Coast (UCC) was discussed and commended as innovative in connection with the quest by government to build capacity of Ghanaians towards sustainable fisheries management.

IR 3: Creating Constituencies and Stakeholder Engagement

Fisher-2-Fisher (F2F) Dialogue

In January 2020, SFMP supported the Fisheries Commission/MOFAD, the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCFC) and National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA) to develop an operational plan for the 2020 Fisher to Fisher (F2F) dialogues. The National Fisheries Association of Ghana, (NAFAG), Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association (GITA) and Ghana Inshore Fishers Association (GIFA), were also invited to participate in the development of the operational plan. Subsequently, the SFMP supported the FC and GNCFC to implement the operational plan starting in the Volta Region. With active participation of all

key stakeholders, the 2020 F2F covered three regions and was heading for the Central Region when the process was truncated following the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic in Ghana and a presidential directive on public health and safety suspending public meetings.



Figure 1 A cross section of fisher folk at the Keta Fisher to Fisher dialogues



Figure 2 Executive Director of the Fisheries Commission, Mr. Michael Arthur Dadzie, addressing participants of the Fisher to Fisher dialogue at Half Assini

The F2F dialogue process is one of the innovative strategies introduced by the SFMP to the fisheries sector. Since its inception in 2016, the F2F dialogue has played a very important role in fostering the engagement of fishers in policy formulation and implementation. About 1000 participants made up of fisheries officers from the Fisheries Commission, traditional rulers, chief fishermen, canoe owners, fishermen and fish processors, representatives of the various fisheries associations including National Fisheries Association of Ghana (NAFAG) and the Ghana Industrial Trawlers Association (GITA) were engaged in discussions on how to sustain Ghana's fisheries resources. The overall objective of the F2F dialogue process was to create a platform for all fisheries stakeholders to interact and discuss issues pertaining to

the sector and reach consensus on key policy decisions and strengthen collaboration between fisheries managers and fishers (resources harvesters and processors). Taking cognizance of the existing and emerging policy and management concerns within the fisheries sector, the 2020 F2F dialogue processes focused on the following issues:

- Implementation of the 2020 Closed Season for all fleets including the selection of the most opportune period for this year's fishing closed season, based on available scientific data, with the view of increasing recruitment of juvenile fish species in order to rebuild the depleted fish stock.
- Implementation of the Canoe Identification Card (CIC) System associated with the establishment a moratorium on new entrants to the marine canoe sector.
- Preparatory arrangements for the implementation of the Fisheries Co-Management Policy.
- Eradication of Illegal transshipment (*saiko*).

The Deliberations among stakeholders reached the following action points and recommendations intended to inform policy and management decisions in pursuit of sustainable fisheries management measures so as to achieve profitability for the sector.

Closed Season for 2020

The fishers acknowledged the need to protect spawning fish stocks in order to improve the small pelagic fisheries such as sardinellas, mackerels and anchovies. Majority of fishers agreed to observe the 2020 closed season for one month between **July and August for all fishing fleets** to attain maximum gains taking cognizance of the scientific information availed to them. Please see analysis of stakeholder perspectives on which months constitutes the most appropriate period for the implementation of the fisheries closed season below (Figure 3 shows the differences with respect to choice of preferred month for the implementation of the 2020 fisheries closed season by breakout groups at the regional F2F meetings and Figure 4 shows the preferred period for all breakout groups combined). At each location, fishers; both men and women were divided into breakout groups after extensive discussions on the key issues mentioned above. The breakout sessions then discuss further and make recommendations for action on the issues discussed including which month they would prefer the closed season for 2020 implemented. Fishers recommended that government should put stringent measures in place to curb IUU, particularly “*saiko*”, light fishing, use of fine mesh nets, chemical and dynamite fishing after the ban is lifted as promised by government during the 2019 closed season in order to reduce the landing of juvenile fish species in unreasonable and substantial quantities. Failure to curb such IUU fishing practices will render the closed season ineffective and could lead to noncompliance by fishers with future fisheries management interventions by the FC including unwillingness to participate in subsequent fisheries closed seasons.

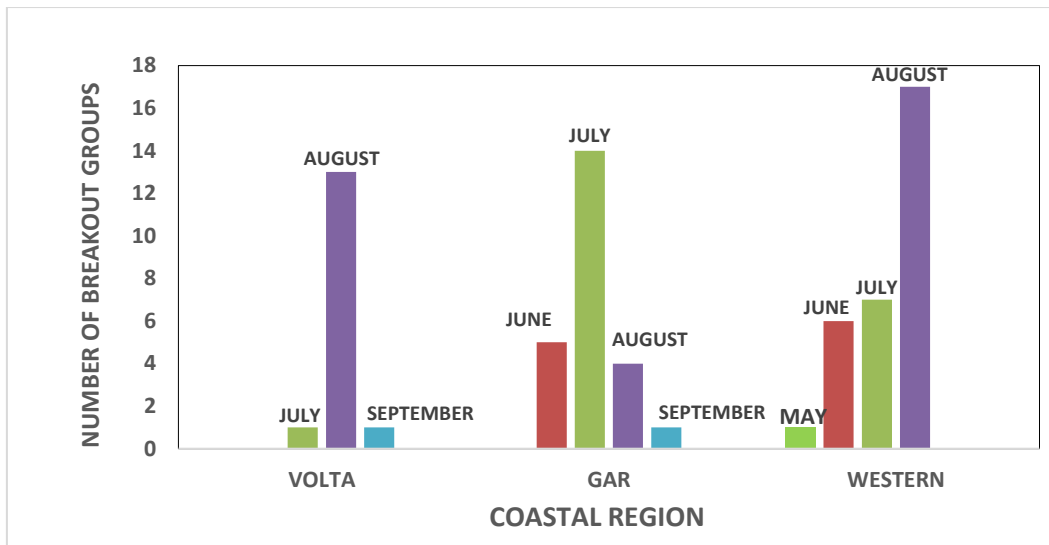


Figure 3 The preferred month for the 2020 closed season by fisher folks in Volta, Greater Accra and Western regions

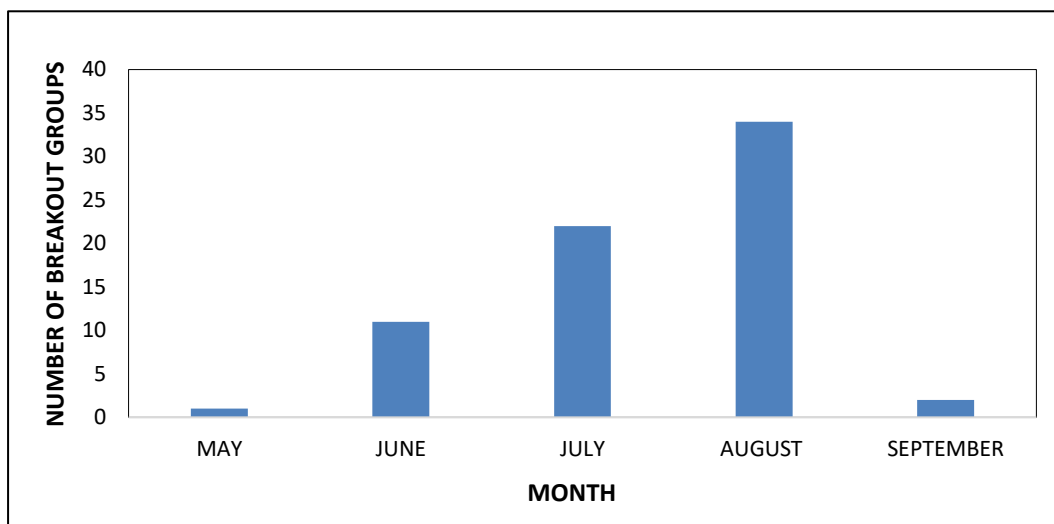


Figure 4 The preferred month for the 2020 closed season by all marine fisher folks in Ghana

Canoe Identification Card (CIC) and Moratorium on New Canoe Entrants

The CIC is a fisheries management tool to regulate the influx of new canoes which will go a long way to contribute significantly to effort reduction. The intent is to place a moratorium on new entrants which will slow growth in fishing efforts in terms of the number of boats, with subsequent actions then needed on negotiating with stakeholders, vessel reduction strategies. The implementation of the CIC system will also enhance the regulatory functions of the Fisheries Commission and facilitate the work of the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Unit and help curb illegal fishing activities.

This concept was embraced by all fishers through the Fisher- to-Fisher dialogues (F₂F) as many fishers called for its immediate implementation. The F₂F dialogue process therefore arrived at the recommendation that the Ministry implement a grace period until the end of 2020 after which every canoe owner would be required to have their canoes registered and issued with a CIC. There was the consensus that a moratorium of three (3) years should be

observed during which there should be a ban on issuing of cards to new canoes and owners and allow only renewal or replacement of damaged or missing CICs. The dialogue also recommended that the CIC should be linked to distribution and sales or allocation of premix fuel.

Adoption of an Additional Fishing Holiday

Through the F2F engagements, fishers have unanimously maintained that an additional non-fishing day should be declared to complement the already existing non-fishing day, in order to reduce pressure on the severely depleted small pelagic stocks. Consensus was reached across the three regions that fishers in Volta Region have committed to observe Saturdays and Sundays as non-fishing days, while Greater Accra and the Western Region will observe Sundays and Tuesdays.

Observing these additional non-fishing days will reduce the pressure on the stocks and contribute to stock rebuilding efforts. The fishers therefore are appealing to the Ministry and the Fisheries Commission to take the necessary steps to codify the above mentioned days as non-fishing days for the Volta, Greater Accra, and Western regions and work in collaboration with Chief fishermen and the Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council to enforce this effort reduction strategy. A similar intervention should be implemented for the Central Region after consultation with them.

Implementation of Actions to Eradicate Illegal Transshipment of Fish ('*Saiko*' fishing)

Trawlers are increasingly exploiting small pelagic fish resources, contributing significantly to the depletion and near collapse of the stocks, depriving artisanal fishers of their livelihoods. The artisanal fishers resorting to illegal practices to harvest the remaining fish has worsened the situation. Under this scenario, efforts at stock recovery such as fisheries closed season will not yield any meaningful result. A recent study estimated that nearly 100,000 metric tons of fish are landed annually through "*Saiko*", operations all of which are juvenile fish species with approximately 55% the juvenile fish being small pelagic species. The trawlers, although licensed to catch demersal fish are targeting small pelagic species, reserved for the artisanal fishers, and transship them illegally in specially built canoes owned by local businessmen and sell the fish to local communities. The consensus of the 2020 F₂F dialogue was that the Fisheries Commission, Fisheries Enforcement Unit and the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development should immediately take necessary steps to eradicate the practice of "*saiko*" fishing and find ways to reduce the excessive by-catch of juveniles by the trawler fleet.

Implementation of the National Fisheries Co-Management Policy

The F2F dialogues recommended that government should empower the chief fishermen to take responsibility on the management of fisheries resources at the community level.

Brochure on Key findings of the Biological Monitoring of the 2019 fisheries Closed Season

The Communication Unit designed and printed a brochure to communicate the results of the biological monitoring of the 2019 fisheries closed season. The brochure is a summary of the report of the biological monitoring. The brochure was distributed at the regional and district level fisher to fisher dialogues across the coast. The brochure is currently being translated

into the four main coastal languages; Fante, Ga, Nzema, and Ewe for further distribution to fisher folk and stakeholders for inclusive communication. The key messages captured in the brochure are as follows:

- The peak spawning period was found to be in the second half of August, confirmed by gonad weight and maturity.
- Peak spawning coincides with the peak upwelling event within a short period from August – September.
- For management of small pelagic stocks there is only a small window of time each year to increase recruitment of juvenile fish for fish stock rebuilding.
- If action is not taken within the proper limited timeframe, the impact on stock recovery will be negligible.

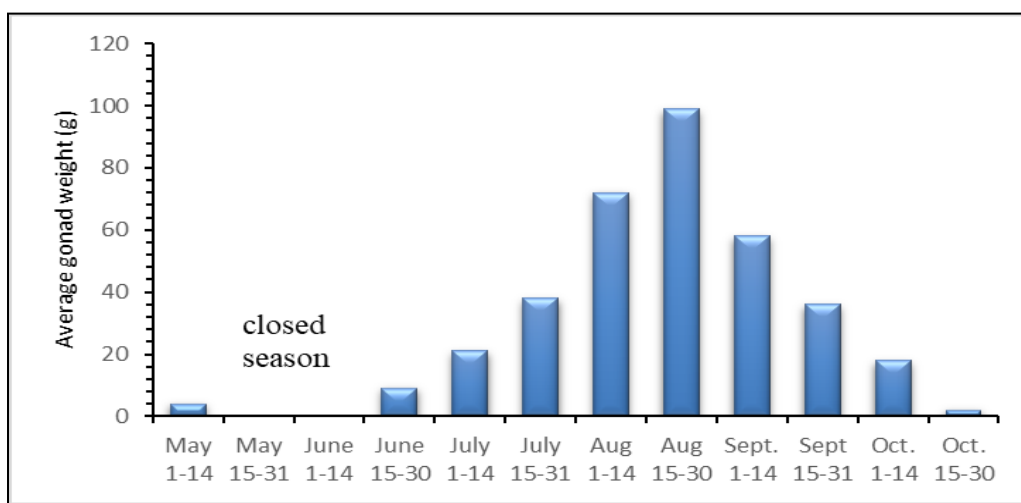


Figure 5 Average gonad weight by ½ month period from May 1 to October 31, 2019 for *Sardinella aurita*

Video Documentary on Biological Monitoring of the 2019 Closed Season

This quarter, SFMP continued video documentation of activities related to biological monitoring of the 2019 fisheries closed season to facilitate effective communication of the results with stakeholders. The process of data collection, sampling of the views of fisherfolk on the closed season, interview with Kofi Amador, Director, FSSD on the journey of FSSD with SFMP and the support FSSD has received from SFMP were captured last quarter. Capturing aspects of the STWG meeting related to the video documentary was scheduled for March 2020. However, this activity was suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation in the country. With presidential directives to suspend all public gatherings, the STWG meeting was cancelled, making it impossible for the team to capture the final footages for the video documentary. However, the video will be completed with an arrangement for the vendor to capture submissions of the chairman of the STWG and finalize the production.

Legacy Video Documentary on SFMP Activities

SFMP has initiated processes to engage a company to produce a video documentary on key SFMP achievements, challenges and lessons learned. Documentary will combine recorded footages and interview with key stakeholders including the USAID Mission Director and the Ag. Team members. The program areas to be covered will include: Post-Harvest, Co-management, STWG and status of the small pelagic stocks, institutional strengthening, Overcapacity and Canoe Identification Cards, CLAT and Gender Strategy implementation.

Campaign Against Saiko

SFMP in the quarter under review, supported a coalition of NGOs including Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF), Hen Mpoano, Friends of the Nation, Care International in Ghana, Oxfam in Ghana, Livestock and Fisheries Chamber, and Cerath Development Organisation to intensify advocacy and campaign against “*saiko*” fishing. *Saiko* fishing involves deliberate targeting of small pelagic fish species by industrial trawlers, licensed to catch demersal fish species. Most of the fish harvested by trawlers in *saiko* operations are juvenile fish and mostly small pelagic species. The harvested fish are transhipped to special Canoes which go out to sea without any fishing gears but return to shore with catches. The small pelagic fish species are reserved for artisanal fishers in Ghana. This phenomenon has exacerbated the plight of artisanal fishers, causing further destruction to the already depleted small pelagic stocks (the “People’s Fish”). SFMP therefore supported three regional stakeholder workshops in partnership with the two EU funded fisheries projects, to raise awareness on the menace of *saiko* fishing and devise strategies to stop the *saiko* fishing operations. *Saiko* appeared to have received some level of political support even though both the practices of harvesting of juvenile fish and transshipment of catches on the high seas are illegal and contravene provisions in the Fisheries Act 2002, Act 625.

Media Relations

A number of fisheries stories reported on various media platforms can be found where various fisheries stories reported in the media have been listed in Annex C. A total of 33 stories on the fisheries sector in various forms of media – web-based print and radio were documented

IR 4: Applied Management

Implementation of the National Marine Fisheries Management Plan

Artisanal Canoe Registration: The open access regime of the marine artisanal sector is one of the major challenges mitigating against moving the fisheries sector in Ghana towards sustainable management. The SFMP therefore, has been working with the Fisheries Commission to have all Canoes registered and issued with Canoe Identification Card (CIC) with the objective of regulating the canoe fleet in accordance with provisions in the Fisheries Act 2002. Following the launch of the *Canoe Identification Card (CIC)* in quarter 1, SFMP continued to engage the Fisheries Commission on the implementation arrangement for the CIC. As part of the engagement, it has become necessary for the project to support FC with a software application which can be installed on mobile devices to read the Quick Response (QR) Codes impeded in the CICs for the purposes of identifying the details of the vessels and also for regulatory compliance. As a result, SFMP in the quarter under review has initiated

the procurement processes to select an IT firm to undertake the development of the software. The implementation of the CIC was part of the key issues discussed with stakeholders during the F2F dialogue undertaken during this quarter.

Value Chain and Post-Harvest Improvements

In this quarter, through facilitation of the SFMP, MASLOC has released funds to the last groups of NAFPTA members supported by SFMP. Under this arrangement, 17 women fish processors received GHS 1,000 each, amounting to GHS 17,000 (which is \$ 3,400 @ GHS 5.0 = \$1, the exchange rate used at the time of target was set loan disbursement) at an interest of 2% per month for 6-month term. Four of the five groups who received their loans between June and October 2019, have already completed repayment of their loans. This brings the total amount disbursed to GHS180, 000 involving 180 NAFPTA fish Processors. However, a total of 14 women from various NAFPTA groups while approved, did not take loans because they indicated that the amount of GHS 1,000.00 was too small for their business requirements.

Village Savings and Loans Associations and Micro-finance

The popularity of Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) as a safe platform for saving small amounts weekly, continue to grow among fish processors. In the quarter under review, two (2) new groups were formed in the Volta Region, nine (9) in the Central Region by CEWEFIA, thirteen (13) by DAA. One group whose numbers had grown from 18 to 75, was also split to form 2 groups. This brings the number of VSLAs under SFMP to 56 beneficiaries involving 1,042 people (males 69, females 973). Forty-six (46) of these groups were monitored and they had saved a total of GHS 131,459 (\$ 26,292 @ GHS 5.0 = \$1) as at March 2020.

Promoting and Sustaining the DAA and CEWEFIA Fisheries Training Centers

Review of the Business Plan and Operational Plans of both DAA and CEWEFIA to incorporate profitability and sustainability strategies is underway and will be completed by end of April 2020.

Reducing Child Labor and Trafficking (CLaT) in the Fisheries Sector

Many families are caught up in extreme poverty and lack of resources, so they fall prey to the deceptions of traffickers who promise the children better lives, but instead, sell them on into prostitution or slavery. DAA and CEWEFIA, local implementing partners of the SFMP, have continued to undertake advocacy and sensitization activities within the local communities involving the Efutu Municipal Assembly, the Gomoa West District Assembly, The Ghana Education Service, the Department of Social Welfare, the Information Services Department, Junior High Schools, Fish Processors, Community Anti-CLaT Advocates, the Community Child Protection Committees and Assembly Members. Most of the CLaT activity requiring meetings have been completed before the outbreak of COVID-19 in Ghana. The remaining CLaT activities involve radio programs and communications and will be implemented as scheduled.

IR 5: Gender Mainstreaming in Fisheries

The women's learning Initiative on Women's Empowerment, Access to Finance and Sustainable Fisheries Management requires each participating program to collect quantitative

and qualitative data to answer the learning questions as appropriate to the site. Sixteen (16) Enumerators were therefore recruited and trained on the use of paperless data collection tool involving the KoboToolbox application to ensure accurate data collection. The Enumerators collected data in 11 communities of the 2 fisheries sites; 5 communities in the national small pelagic fishery and 6 communities in the three estuarine ecosystems. Data was collected on 921 of both project and non- project respondents (Males - 345, Females- 576). Data analysis and writing of the case report is currently underway. The case study will include a case on the small pelagic fishery as well as comparing and contrasting the case of the community-based pilot initiatives in three estuaries. Field activities for the Women’s Learning Initiative have been completed – including the field survey work as well as trainings and establishment of VSLAs (see IR 4 section above for results on these).

IR 6: PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

As a result of the fact that the project is winding down towards final project closure, project management did not pursue any additional private partnership initiatives. A meeting scheduled with the Embassy of Norway to explore the possibilities of the Fish for Development Project taking over coordination and support for the Science and Technical Working Group (STWG) until such time that the Committee is integrated into the structures of the Fisheries Commission was called off as a result of outbreak of the COVID-19 in Ghana.

IR 7: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OF TARGETED GOVERNMENT OF GHANA, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION AND KEY PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

GoG Capacity Development

Although preparatory arrangement towards project did not schedule any significant programming of extensive capacity building activities, SFMP had planned to strengthen capacity of the Fisheries Scientific Survey Division (FSSD) data enumerators in the use of tablets to collect data following its successful deployment in the biological monitoring of the 2019 closed season. FSSD would like to scale this technology to all data collection sites along the coast. This activity, however, was cancelled following the presidential directive on public health and safety following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ghana.

CSO Capacity Development

In the campaign against stop *saiko* which was led by a coalition of CSOs, including; Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF), Hen Mpoano, Friends of the Nation, Care International in Ghana, Oxfam in Ghana, Livestock and Fisheries Chamber, and Cerath Development Organisation, SFMP provided both technical and administrative support on how best the campaign could achieve maximum impact and achieve the desired results.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Monitoring, Evaluation, Knowledge Management and Learning Plan

The M&E unit together with the Gender and Value Chain Program Specialist conducted the Women Learning Initiative survey in the first two months of the second quarter. This survey was conducted across various project implementation sites in the Central, Western and Greater Accra regions. Analysis of data compiled from the Women’s Learning Initiative Survey is ongoing. The M&E unit also collated and tracked implementing partner’s

deliverables and assisted partner M&E officers to conduct field monitoring across all project activities and implementation sites. The M&E unit during the period reviewed targets for the no-cost extension and the no-cost extension task plans based on the Feed the Future Monitoring System (FTFMS). Within the period, the unit continued to collect and track deliverables for reporting to USAID.

The M&E unit also undertook its routine monitoring visit to SFMP project sites and conducted monitoring of selected VSLA communities across SFMP's operational areas. The exercise was helpful to the beneficiaries. During discussion sessions, beneficiaries indicated that they have acquired knowledge to improve their business and working environment. In addition, beneficiaries were grateful for the assistance they received and the technical support for their various groups.



Figure 6 Beneficiaries from Nutifafa Group in Anlo Beach sharing their VSLA experiences with the SFMP M&E team and CEWEFIA staff



Figure 7 Beneficiaries from Emmanuel group in Komenda sharing their VSLA experiences with SFMP M&E team and CEWEFIA staff

Project Closeout

Preparatory arrangements for final project closure in-country in July 2020 is progressing steadily. As a result of pending activities related to the fisheries closed season, implementation of the approved Fisheries Co-management Policy and the women's learning initiative, staff contracts originally scheduled to terminate at the end of March 2020 have been extended to end of April 2020. These contracts include:

- Gender, post-harvest, and women learning initiative program specialist
- Finance and Administrative Officer
- Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and MIS Database Officer.
- Communication Officer
- Fisheries Officer
- Project Driver

The extension of staff contracts also affected two other supporting staff members National Service Person and a Volunteer. Processing of change of ownership to transfer SFMP vehicles to partners is underway with support by USAID. All assets of the Project will be duly disposed of, per the modified Disposition Plan to be shared with SFMP Program Manager, by the time the Chief of Party and Deputy Chief of Party terminate and bring the project to closure in July 2020. The close out plan is being assembled and will be submitted by June 30th to USAID in the next quarter (Q3).

Implementation Challenges

As was reported in quarter 1, of FY 20, one of the implementation challenges relate to work overload in specific units of project implementation especially, the transport unit and the accounts/finance unit due to the consolidation of positions and roles among fewer staff in FY 20. The same strategy used in Q1 to address the work overload challenge was adopted in Q2 by providing short term contracts for individuals who had been part of the project staff but exited as part of the project closeout and wind down process at end of FY 19. Another challenge which emerged midway in quarter 2 has been the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic compelling program management to cancel working visits by URI-CRC support staff. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic also resulted in suspension of some activities for example, the F2F dialogue process in the Central Region, and also cancellation and modification of other activities. However, Program Management, has taken steps to ensure that the challenges do not significantly affect expected outputs and deliverables as well as final program results. Consequently, Program Management developed and submitted to the Agreement Office an Action Plan in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ghana indicating project activities cancelled or modified and where appropriate, the reprogramming of funds designated for affected activities.

3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID PRIORITIES

3.1 Gender Equity and Female Empowerment

Please see section 2, IR 5 for information on activities directly related to this issue.

3.2 Sustainability Mechanisms

Review of the Business Plans for DAA and CEWEFIA as well as their Operational Plans was initiated in Q2, FY 20, and will be finalized by the time these sub-grantees terminate their contract at the end of April 2020.

3.3 Environmental Compliance

In order to avoid environmental failure and safeguard the reputation of USAID, SFMP complies with USAID environmental compliance regulations and procedures. SFMP has completed all construction activities that were funded in the original project design. No additional construction requiring environmental compliance audits are programmed in the work plan for the no-cost extension period. All previous construction met required standards. No environmental compliance issues or needs were identified in Y6Q1 and Y6Q2. Activities moving forward to project completion in the FY 6 work plan are trainings, workshops, and monitoring which fall under categorical exclusions.

3.4 Global Climate Change

See Section 2, IR 1. Climate change could have impact on the natural environment around the Densu, Pra and Ankobra estuaries and consequently influence modifications to the pilot Community Based Fisheries Management Plans approved with the Fisheries Co-management Plans.

3.5 Policy and Governance Support

See Section 2, IR 1 which describes SFMP's policy and governance support initiatives.

3.6 Local Capacity Development

See Section 2, IR 7 for capacity development activities of government, producer, processor and CSO groups.

3.7 Public Private Partnerships

SFMP targets for public-private partnerships were achieved in Y5Q1.

3.8 Science and Technology

See section 2, IR 2 and IR 4 for the application of scientific and technology during the quarter.

4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

During FY6Q2, SFMP stakeholder engagement focused on providing outreach and communications in support of ending *saiko* fishing undertaken in collaboration with CSOs. SFMP continued to engage the key stakeholders within the fisheries sector. MOFAD/FC staff led deliberations in the development of the operation plan for the 2020 F2F dialogue process with the active involvement of GNCFC. NAFPTA was also involved in the F2F dialogue processes including the development of the operational plan for the process.

5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

The impacts of staff restructuring associated with a steep learning curve for some staff members as a result of consolidation and redistribution of workloads subsided a bit in the second quarter. Staff who were elevated to new positions gained confidence and also built their capabilities quickly. The reduction in project activities towards final project closure in addition to the support provided by the new members of staff, the National Service Person and the Volunteer also helped in handling management and administrative issues.

6. LESSONS LEARNED

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on planned activities and the need to modify some planned activities so as to achieve outputs and expected deliverables presented significant challenges and lessons learned for program management. Other lessons learned relate to the need to exercise caution in the process of communicating the adverse socioeconomic impacts associated with project supported interventions by government (e.g. the closed fishing season) in order not to compromise the long term sustainable benefits.

7. PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR NEXT QUARTER

Selected highlights of upcoming activities in the FY20 quarter 2 include:

IR 1

- Activities related to the implementation of the approved Fisheries Co-management Policy including finalization, signature and printing of the policy document in addition to development of Co-management Implementation Guide Manual.

IR 2

- Finalization and printing of information sheets derived from the Biological Monitoring and the Socioeconomic Impact Assessment Reports of the 2019 fisheries closed season.

- Engagement of the Ministry and the Fisheries Commission towards formalization of the Science and Technical Working Group (STWG).

IR 3

- Communication and awareness on the 2020 fisheries closed season when declared.
- Finalization of Video documentary on the Biological Monitoring of the 2019 fisheries closed season.
- Production of SFMP Summary Legacy Video Documentary.
- Engagement of Political Parties on fisheries issues.

IR 4

- Implementation of the Canoe Identification Card (CIC) including development of software to link the CIC with the Canoe Registry.

IR 5

- Draft, review and finalization of Women's Learning Initiative on Women Empowerment, Access to Finance and Sustainable Fisheries Management case study reports.

IR 6

- Private sector engagement targets were achieved in Y5Q1 and private sector engagements were phased out in preparation for project ending.

IR 7

- Revised Business Plans and Operational Plans for CEWEFIA and DAA incorporating sustainability and profitability considerations and strategies.

Project Management

- M&E coordination and management of final project activities
- M&E will revise Feed the Future Indicator Handbook, FY19 indicator targets and project evaluation per NCE period.
- Close out plan to be finalized and submitted to USAID.

8. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project

University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Center

Award Number: AID-641-A-15-00001

USAID/Ghana Total Estimated Amount: \$23,987,826

Award Period of Performance: October 22, 2014 to September 30, 2020

Table 3 Estimated expenditures versus obligated funds

Budget Item	Total funds Obligated to Date March 31, 2020 (US\$)	Total Funds Expended to Date, through March 31, 2020 (US\$)	Projected Balance of Obligated Funds, Remaining as of March 31, 2020 (US\$)
Direct costs	11,189,120	11,073,241	115,880
Subgrantees	9,202,525	8,937,545	264,980
Construction	387,000	307,113	79,887
Training	349,655	208,703	140,952
<i>Total Direct</i>	21,128,300	20,526,602	601,699
Modified Direct	11,189,120	11,073,241	115,880
Indirect	2,859,526	2,719,730	139,796
Total	23,987,826	23,246,332	741,495

ANNEX A: PROGRESS SUMMARY

The summary Table below includes all standard USAID indicators as shown in Section 1.2 as well as SFMP custom indicators. It measures planned versus achieved during the reporting quarter and gives a cumulative performance in each quarter.

Table 4 PMP Indicator progress - USAID Standard Indicators and Project Custom Indicators

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		FY 2020		Quarterly Status – FY 2020				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned Target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Project Goal: Rebuild targeted fish stocks via adoption of sustainable practices and exploitation levels											
Project Goal Indicators											
Number of hectares in areas of biological significance and/or natural resource showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance (EG 4.8.1-1)	Biophysical assessments, landing data, maps	2015	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0%	This indicator only measured annually. STWG meeting scheduled to meet in March 2020 for FY 18/19 status canceled but report being worked on now virtually with members
1.a Biomass to produce MSY (B_{msy}) (Project Indicator)	Project record and surveys	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	Stable or increasing	N/A	N/A	N/A	No target but tracked. Biomass for 2017 of 21,750MT is far below STWG recommended target of 310,000MT MSY.

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		FY 2020		Quarterly Status – FY 2020				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned Target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
											This indicator only tracked and measured annually. STWG meeting scheduled to meet in March for FY 18/19 status canceled but stock status being prepared virtually
1.b Fishing Mortality at MSY (F_{msy}) (Project Indicator)	Project record and surveys	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	Stable or decreasing	N/A	N/A	N/A	No target but tracked. 2017 fishing mortality is $F=0.88$. $F=0.88$ is high compared to rebuilding F_{MSY} target of $F=0.4$. This indicator only tracked and measured annually. STWG meeting scheduled to meet in March 2020 for FY 18/19 status canceled but stock status being prepared virtually

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		FY 2020		Quarterly Status – FY 2020				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)	
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned Target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
Number of indirect project beneficiaries (number), the percentage of which are female (percent)	Project record and surveys	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Intermediate Result (IR): POLICY: Strengthened enabling environment for marine resources governance												
Number of agricultural and nutritional enabling environment policies completing the following processes/steps of development as a result of USG assistance in each case: (FTF 4.5.1(24)) 1. Analysis 2. Stakeholder consultation/public debate 3. Drafting or revision 4. Approval (legislative or regulatory) 5. Full and effective implementation	Copies of laws, policies, strategies, plan or regulation	2015	0	FY 2020 Target	Q2 Results						4 in progress (1 co-mgt strategy and 3 co-mgt plans) 2 already completed – CLaT and Gender strategy; 1 cancelled – Fish Act	Action on Fish Act was canceled as a result of lack of commitment on the part of MOFAD and 4 policies have been approved by Cabinet pending finalization and signature by sector Minister – co-mgt policy and 3 community-based mgt plans.
				Fish Act – Step 3	N/A	Canceled	Canceled	N/A	N/A			
				CLaT strategy– Step 4	Completed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
				Co-Management. policy – Step 4	Step 4 In progress	Step 4 In progress	Step 4 Completed	N/A	N/A			
				NMFMP- Step 4	Completed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
				Pra (CBMP) - Step 4	Step 4 In progress	Step 4 In progress	Step 4 In progress	N/A	N/A			
				Ankobra (CBMP) - Step 4	Step 4 In progress	Step 4 In progress	Step 4 In progress	N/A	N/A			
				Densu (Oyster Plan) Step 4	Step 4 In progress	Step 4 In progress	Step 4 In progress	N/A	N/A			

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		FY 2020		Quarterly Status – FY 2020				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned Target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
				Gender Strategy - Step 4	Completed	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		
Intermediate Result (IR): SCIENCE & RESEARCH: Increased use of science and applied research to inform decision-making, law enforcement and the implementation of management plans											
Number of institutions with improved capacity to develop and implement managed access fisheries management plans	Project records, capacity assessment reports	2015	0	13	13 (6 CSO & 7 GoG) (100%)	13 (6CSO & 7 GoG) (100%)	13 (6CSO & 7 GoG) (100%)	N/A	N/A	13 (100%)	7 GoG and 6 CSO have improved capacity based on final OCAs and GoG qual. assess. report
Intermediate Result (IR): CONSTITUENCIES: Constituencies and political will for policy reform & implementation built											
Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG 4.8.1-28)	Trip reports, project records	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of information products disseminated in local media reports, radio shows, conference papers, and research studies (Project indicator).	Sample of reports	2015	0	2	2	1	1	N/A	N/A	1000%	LoP target achieved and Yr6 target also achieved.
Intermediate Result (IR): APPLIED MANAGEMENT: Improved management of marine resources											
Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance (EG 4.8.1)	GIS Maps, policy documents	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		FY 2020		Quarterly Status – FY 2020				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned Target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Number of DAs supported with USG Assistance (Ghana CDCS, IR 2.3 indicator)	Project records, Management plans	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Target achieved and ongoing assistance to DAs.
Improvement in fisheries enforcement and prosecutorial chain to counter IUU fishing (increase/decrease in prosecutions and percent that lead to conviction) (Project Indicator)	Project, police, district attorney, and FEU records	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A.
Number of climate vulnerability assessments conducted as a result of USG Assistance (EG 4.5.1)	Assessment reports	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (FtF 4.5.2)	Project records	2015	0	0	200	200	200	N/A	N/A	0	Y over target (200 Oyster pickers from Densu Oyster 2 nd closed season starting in Nov 2019 – April 2020)
Number of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2)	training participant records, lists of micro-enterprises supported	2015	0	475	951	596	355	N/A	N/A	951 (200%)	Indicator target over-achieved as actual costs per training participant were lower than planned so addition trainings

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		FY 2020		Quarterly Status – FY 2020				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned Target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
											held and VSLAs established
Value of agricultural and rural loans as a result of USG assistance (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-6	Private sector financial records, program data	2015	0	\$10,000	\$ 9036 M-0 (0%) F-\$ 9036 (100%)	\$ 5636 M-0 (0%) F-\$ 5636 (100%)	\$ 3400 M-0 (0%) F-\$ 3400 (100%)	N/A	N/A	(90.4%)	MASLOC has disbursement loans for 17 processors, 14 processors expecting to receive loans declined because the loan was considered too small for their business requirement.
Number of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving agricultural-related credit as a result of USG assistance (RAA) EG.3.2-3	Private sector financial records, program data	2015	0	0	48	31	17	N/A	N/A	48 actual, versus 0 target	Over target MASLOC has disbursed loans for 17 processors
Number of food security private enterprises (for profit), producers' organizations, water users' associations, women's groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations(CBOs) receiving USG assistance (RiA) (WOG) (FTF 4.5.2(11))	Project document	2015	0	3 (same group with ongoing support, no new group)	3 - same group with ongoing support	3 - same group with ongoing support	3 - same group with ongoing support	N/A	N/A	3(100%)	Target achieved (support is ongoing)

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		FY 2020		Quarterly Status – FY 2020				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned Target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S)(FTF 4.5.2(27))	Project documents	2015	0	475	951	596	355	N/A	N/A	951 (200%)	Indicator target over-achieved as cost per training lower than expected so additional trainings implemented and number participants higher than anticipated
Cross Cutting Indicators											
Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation, and climate change, disaggregated by gender (EG 4.8.1-27/ 4.8.2-6)	Project training reports and participant lists	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance (FtF 4.8.1-29)	Project training report.	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported short-term agricultural sector productivity or food security	Project training report.	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline Data		FY 2020		Quarterly Status – FY 2020				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned Target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
training (RAA) (WOG) EG.3.2-1											
Number of individuals who have received USG-supported degree-granting agricultural sector productivity or food security training (RAA) EG.3.2-2	Project training report.	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

ANNEX B: TRAINET REPORT

This report includes trainings that count towards two indicators: including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2-37), and Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation, and climate change, disaggregated by gender (EG 4.8.1-27/ 4.8.2-6). For indicator reporting they are included in one or the other of these result areas based on the type of training provided, but not double counted in any cases for both indicators.

Table 5 Trainings Reported for the Period January 1 – March 31, 2020

Program Name	Start Date	End Date	USAID Budget (USD)	USAID Actual (USD)	Total Male Participants	Total Female Participants	Total Participants	USAID Budget Per Participants (USD)
In-Country Training								
Train and form VSLA groups in CEWEFIA target communities, Bronikrom- CEWEFIA Y6Q2	1/22/2020	2/26/2020	164	164	25	57	82	2
Training on women empowerment, Access to finance and Sustainable Fisheries, Ekon, Moree, Komenda, Anlo Beach - CEWEFIA Y6Q2	1/9/2020	1/15/2020	2137	2137	16	257	273	7
Training of enumerators for Women Learning Initiative Survey, Accra-CRC Y6Q2	1/16/2020	1/18/2020	1451	1451	7	9	16	90
In Country Training Total			3752	3752	48	323	371	99

ANNEX C: FISHERIES STORIES REPORTED IN THE MEDIA (JANUARY 2020 – MARCH 2020)

PLATFORM/ MEDIA HOUSE		SEGMENT /TYPE	TOPIC/ISSUE/LINK	DATE OF PUBLICATION
1	Ghanaweb	News Item	We're considering calls for extension of closed fishing season – Afoley Quaye https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/We-re-considering-calls-for-extension-of-closed-fishing-season-Afoley-Quaye-828661?channel=D2	January 02, 2020
2	GhanaWeb	News Item	Fisheries Commission urged to reduce 500% increase in fishing license fee https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Fisheries-Commission-urged-to-reduce-500-increase-in-fishing-license-fee-828235	January 03, 2020
3	Ghanaweb	News Item	Meet the three generations of fishmongers selling fresh fish for the past 48 years https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Meet-the-three-generations-of-fishmongers-selling-fresh-fish-for-the-past-48-years-830308?channel=D2	January 04, 2020
4	Ghanaweb	News Item	Fisherman counts losses after premix fuel explosion https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Fisherman-counts-losses-after-premix-fuel-explosion-831160?channel=D2	January 7, 2020
5	Ghanaweb	News Item	Sekondi fishermen pray for supply of Premix fuel https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Sekondi-fishermen-pray-for-supply-of-Premix-fuel-833770	January 10, 2020
6	GhanaWeb	News Item	Chinese fishing trawler fails to pay US\$1m fine https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Chinese-fishing-trawler-fails-to-pay-US-1m-fine-839527?channel=D2	January 11, 2020
7	GhanaWeb	News Item	'Timing for new voters' register will not favour fishermen' https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Timing-for-new-voters-register-will-not-favour-fishermen-846550?channel=D2	January 13, 2020
8	GhanaWeb	News Item	Trawlers charged with illegal fishing continue to dodge fines https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Trawlers-charged-with-illegal-fishing-continue-to-dodge-fines-847777?channel=D2	January 24, 2020
9	Graphic.com.gh	News Item	Youth run from fishing https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/youth-run-from-fishing.html	February 01, 2020
10	Ghana news agency	News Item	The youth are abandoning the fisheries sector- study https://ghananewsagency.org/social/the-youth-are-abandoning-the-fisheries-sector-study-163371	February 01, 2020

PLATFORM/ MEDIA HOUSE		SEGMENT /TYPE	TOPIC/ISSUE/LINK	DATE OF PUBLICATION
11	GhanaWeb	News Item	2020 fishing closed season likely to be observed in July and August https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/2020-fishing-closed-season-likely-to-be-observed-in-July-and-August-856870?channel=D2	February 02, 2020
12	Ghana News Agency	News Item	The 2020 fishing closed season likely to be observed in July and August https://ghananewsagency.org/science/the-2020-fishing-closed-season-likely-to-be-observed-in-july-and-august--163512	February 04, 2020
13	Business and Financial Times	Editorial Feature	B&FT Editorial: Reverting closed fishing season back to August is technically sound	February 06, 2020
14	GhanaWeb	News Item	Fisheries Ministry, stakeholders meet over closed season https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Fisheries-Ministry-stakeholders-meet-over-closed-season-862822	February 11, 2020
15	Graphic Online	News Item	Fisher folk in Central, Western regions call on Mahama https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/politics/fisher-folk-in-central-western-regions-call-on-mahama.html	February 13, 2020
16	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Greater Accra Regional Fishers deliberate on ending Saiko	February 19, 2020
17	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Fishery Commission asked to enforce laws https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VF5J1FzDeo0https://ghananewsagency.org/social/fishery-commission-asked-to-enforce-laws-164565	February 25, 2020
18	Ghana Web	News item	Stakeholders in the fishing industry complain about Saiko activities by foreign vessels https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Stakeholders-in-the-fishing-industry-complain-about-Saiko-activities-by-foreign-vessels-877543?channel=D2	February 19, 2020
19	Daily Graphic	News Item	Fisheries Stakeholder dialogue on illegal fishing	February 20, 2020
20	Ghanaian Times	News Item	Stakeholders in the fisheries industry dialogue on Saiko	February 20, 2020
21	GhanaWeb	News item	Fishermen cry for outboard motors from government https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Fishermen-cry-for-outboard-motors-from-government-878305?channel=D2	February 20, 2020
22	GhanaWeb	News Item	90% industrial trawlers operating in Ghana from China https://mobile.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/90-industrial-trawlers-operating-in-Ghana-from-China-879631?channel=D2	February 26, 2020

PLATFORM/ MEDIA HOUSE		SEGMENT /TYPE	TOPIC/ISSUE/LINK	DATE OF PUBLICATION
23	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Stakeholders go hi-tech with illegal fishing fight https://ghananewsagency.org/social/stakeholders-go-hi-tech-with-illegal-fishing-fight-164855	March 01, 2020
24	News Ghana	News Item	Stakeholders dialogue on illegal fishing https://www.graphic.com.gh/news/general-news/rawlings-applauds-1m-penalty-against-fishing-company.html	March 02,2020
25	JoyNews	News Item	Illegal Fisheries Practice - News Desk on JoyNews https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zR08oqUQyVo&feature=youtu.be	March 03, 2020
26	Citinewsroom.com	News Item	Fisheries Ministry sued for increasing licensing fees https://citinewsroom.com/2020/01/fisheries-ministry-sued-for-increasing-licensing-fees/	March 09, 2020
27	GhanaWeb		Consortium to improve livelihoods of fishers through scorecard https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Consortium-to-improve-livelihoods-of-fishers-through-scorecard-887284?channel=D2	March 7, 2020
28	Ghana News Agency	News Item	Stakeholders call for the resuscitation of Butal wetlands https://ghananewsagency.org/science/stakeholders-call-for-resuscitation-of-butuah-wetlands-165349	March 11, 2020
29	Business 24	News Item	Recalcitrant Fishing Vessels to lose licenses	March 13, 2020
30	Ghana Web	News Item	Fisheries Commission to ban unregistered canoe owners from fishing https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Fisheries-Commission-to-ban-unregistered-canoe-owners-from-fishing-895162?channel=D2	March 16, 2020
31	GhanaWeb	News Item	4,562 canoes in Western Region register under Canoe Identification Card programme https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/4-562-canoes-in-Western-Region-register-under-Canoe-Identification-Card-programme-896428?channel=D2	March 17, 2020
32	GhanaWeb	News Item	Fisheries Commission urges fishmongers to adopt directives on coronavirus https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Fisheries-Commission-urges-fishmongers-to-adopt-directives-on-coronavirus-898927?channel=D2	March 19, 2020
33	GhanaWeb		Prampram cold store reconnected to national grid https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Prampram-cold-store-reconnected-to-national-grid-899869?channel=D2	March 20, 2020

ANNEX D: RECENT PUBLICATIONS PUBLISHED ONLINE

IR 1 Strengthened Enabling Environment for Marine Resources Governance

1. Coastal Resources Center. (2017). Competence-based Self-Assessment of Ghana Marine Police Field Officers for Fisheries Law Enforcement. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and URI Fisheries Center. GH2017_POL077_CRC. 27 pp.
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https://www.crc.uri.edu/download/GH2014_POL089_DAA_FIN508.pdf
3. Development Action Association. (2017). Community Champions/Advocates Orientation Guide on Child Labor and Trafficking (CLaT). The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Development Action Association. GH2014_POL088_DAA. 34 pp.
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4. Development Action Association. (2017). Refresher Training for New Anti- CLaT Advocates, 2017. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Development Action Association. GH2014_POL091_DAA. 24 pp.
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https://www.crc.uri.edu/download/GH2014_POL068_FoN_FIN508.pdf
8. Friends of the Nation. (2015). CLaT in Fisheries: Overview of the Ghanaian Situation. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) Literature review of Child Labor and Trafficking (CLaT) in Ghana. Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Friends of the Nation. GH2014_POL071_FON. 41 pp.
https://www.crc.uri.edu/download/GH2014_POL071_FON_FIN508.pdf
9. Friends of the Nation. (2017). Strengthening the Prosecutorial Chain working Meetings. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and Friends of the Nation. GH2014_POL078_FON. 22 pp.
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15. Bowen, R., & Lazar, N. (2016). Fisheries Data Collection Workshop, August 22-23, 2016. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_SCI006_CRC. 9 pp. https://www.crc.uri.edu/download/GH2014_SCI006_CRC_FIN508.pdf
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17. Lazar, N., Darko, C., Ansong, E., Boateng, K. (2019). Progress Report: Assessing the Biological Effects of the Fisheries Closed Season Implemented for the Artisanal and Semi-industrial Fisheries in Ghana, 2019. USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project. Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island. GH2014_SCI077_CRC. 21 pp. https://www.crc.uri.edu/download/GH2014_SCI077_CRC_FIN508.pdf
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IR 3 Creating Constituencies and Stakeholder Engagement

23. CEWEFIA. (2019) FACT SHEET: INCREASING APPETITE FOR HEALTHY FISH PROCESSING IN GHANA. The USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP). Narragansett, RI: Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island and the Central and Western Fish Mongers Association. GH2014_COM098_CEW. 2 pp.
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