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Shama Disaster Management Committee Meeting and Field Work To Plan Anlo Beach Resettlement

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Cover photo: DCE of Shama District addressing committee members (Credit: Philip Prah, FoN)

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ACRONYMS

CRAN	Christian Rural Aid Network
CREW	Community Resilience through Early Warning
DCE	District Chief Executive
DMC	Disaster Management Committee
FoN	Friends of the Nation
GPS	Global Positioning System
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organisation
SDA	Shama District Assembly
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
SWOT	Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

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BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION

The scoping and literature review exercised conducted by Friends of the Nation (FoN) under the Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) recommended the need to conduct Strength, Weakness, Opportunity and Threat (SWOT) Analysis of some relevant committees who are connected in one way or the other to ensuring the management of natural resources and sustainable development of communities within coastal areas. Amongst these committees, the Disaster Management Committee (DMC) was identified. This committee is chaired by the District Chief Executive (DCE) who occupies the highest office in the district. The committee is made up of 8 members representing the Physical Planning and Engineering and Works Department of the assembly, Ghana Police Service, Ghana Fire Service, Ghana Health Service, Ghana Navy, and the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO).

MEETING WITH DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

On Tuesday April 26, 2016, FoN facilitated and participated in an initial meeting with the DMC with an aim to conduct a SWOT analysis for the committee so as to guide further engagement, collaborations and interventions. It was the maiden meeting of the year though their meetings are expected to be held quarterly. The meeting which was conveyed as an emergency one had as its original agendum to discuss resettlement of Anlo Beach community.

At the meeting, it was informed that a plan existed for the resettlement scheme and was prepared way back 1997 and which is ready for implementation. For this reason, the Christian Rural Aid Network (CRAN) School was built at the proposed new site. However there are certain unanswered questions as to the total land size or number of plots or hectares under consideration and also a close estimate of the number of people this relocation effort need to target. Land ownership, tenure and lease were also not perfectly known by the committee and yet to be finalized. These questions needed to be answered to feed into a proposal expected to be submitted by the district assembly. This proposal was demanded by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)/ NADMO's project titled Community Resilience through Early Warning (CREW).

The CREW project had earlier conducted an assessment which concluded that Anlo Beach community is highly flood prone. To make Anlo Beach resilient enough, a resettlement was proposed. Following through with the recommendations, a letter was sent to the district assembly to submit a proposal with technical details for consideration of relocating residents living close to the Pra River banks and the seashore. There were however some information gaps for proper proposal development. A quick SWOT (table 1) of the committee revealed that the committee did not have adequate capacity to conduct rapid assessment to fill the information gap. It was hence agreed that FoN facilitate a rapid assessment of the houses living close to the river banks and the shore. The transportation subsidy expected to be given the committee members was then used to conduct this field-based assessment.

STRENGTH	The committee is made up of very dignified heads of interdisciplinary institutions. NADMO representative serves as the secretary to this committee and has the capacity together with his team to conduct flood simulation mapping.
WEAKNESS	NADMO[1] seems to be getting very little support from the District Assembly. They however seem to be less proactive. Again the field officers lack the basic skills of GPS usage. There was also the issue of inadequate capacity to conduct rapid assessment of households to feed into the development of a proposal
OPPORTUNITY	The DCE chairs this committee, hence important agenda could be pushed through with less stress and bureaucratic procedure.
THREAT	The committee has no detailed action plan to guide execution of their mandate

Table 1 Outcome of a quick SWOT analysis of the Disaster Management Committee

FIELD EXERCISE TO COLLATE HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

Following the urgent need for a rapid assessment of households in Anlo Beach close the river banks and the shore, FoN facilitated the immediate composition of a multi-departmental team for a field exercise. The team was drawn from departments such as the Physical Planning, Development Planning, Works, Community Development and NADMO, with FoN supporting with capacity training. Some community champions who had been trained by FoN on GPS and data collection also joined the two-day field exercise.

The rapid assessment focused on the following:

- Land ownership and tenure
- Number of households exposed to threats of coastal erosion and flooding
- Type of households or structures and
- GPS coordinates of the households or structures

The team were introduced to the purpose of the assessment. They were also trained on basic data collection techniques and the use of GPS to collate relevant data (Figures 1 and 2).

[1] It must be noted that the Disaster Management Committee has the NADMO as its pivot

Figure 1 Field officers being trained on data collection instrument

Figure 2 Field officers being trained on GPS technology

Land Ownership and Tenure

The proposed new site is not a property of the Anlo Beach community which is a settler community. The site was given to the Abradze family of Shama by the Shama Paramount chief years back. The land size is about twice the settlement of the current Anlo Beach settlement. From the rapid assessment, the owners of this land have given the land out for Anlo Beach community to be resettled on their land. However, there has not been any commitment in terms of written agreement whatsoever. Only some drinks were received as tradition demands in their culture.

Initially (about 5 years ago), the care-taker of the land only requested that one of the proposed apartments be built for him at the site as a compensation package. However, after his demise a few years ago, the family is requesting GH ₵ 8,000 as a compensation for the land.

The survey department of the District Assembly has already surveyed the land and developed a site plan with a much detailed plan for settlement and the processing of fish since fishing is the main occupation of the indigenous Anlo Beach settlers.

Figure 3 Field officers engaging a community resident of Anlo Beach

Households Exposed to Threats of Coastal Erosion and Flooding

The rapid assessment revealed about 146 houses that are so close to the banks of the Pra River and/or the shore of the sea. These were noted to be highly exposed to the threats of coastal erosion and riverine flooding (Figure 4). However, there were some uncounted houses which stand the chance of been threatened once the highly exposed ones are washed off or eroded. Some other houses which were noted to be extremely vulnerable to flood whether or not there is incidence of rainfall or coastal splashes were excluded from this assessment since they lie on the other side of the river close to Old Shama, known as 'Anwona Kwesi'. The counting also excluded houses that had already collapsed or suffered from the adverse effects coastal erosion and or flooding (Figures 5 and 6).

Figure 4 showing structure which is very close to river Pra and exposed to flooding

Figure 5 A collapsed structure due to effects of coastal erosion

Figure 6 A collapsed structure due to effects of flooding

Households Types

The identified houses were either made of Sandcrete, Mud, Bricks, or Mud bricks. These are built with wined beach sands (Figure 7) which increases the extent to sea erosion. Others were also made with bamboos and mangrove trees (Figure 8). They were either roofed with Asbestos, Thatches or Aluminum. Averagely, the houses have 4 to 5 rooms, with about 6 to 7 average occupants. GPS devices were used to pick exact locations of the various houses and structures. Details of all the identified households are in Table 2.

Figure 7 Beach Sand being wined (excavated) for building

Figure 8 A structure built with bamboos and mangrove trees

Table 2 Detailed description of houses and other facilities prone to flooding and coastal erosion

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
1.	Building type- Sandcrete Roof type- asbestos 4 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 1 toilet 8 occupants
2.	Building type- Sandcrete 2 bedrooms 1 hall 1 kitchen 1 KVIP 6 occupants
3.	Building type-Sandcrete 3 rooms 1 kitchen 1 KVIP 1 Bathroom 6 occupants
4.	Building type-Sandcrete 3 rooms (but partly demolitioned) No bathroom, toilet, nor kitchen 1 occupant
5.	Building type-Sandcrete 3 bedrooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 5 occupants
6.	Building type-Sandcrete roof type- asbestos 5 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 8 occupants
7.	Building type-Sandcrete / bricks 5 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 12 occupants
8.	Building type-Sandcrete / brick Roof type- asbestos 9 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 8 occupants

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
9.	Building type-Sandrete /mud Roof type- Thatch/ asbestos 3 rooms 3 kitchens 1 bathrooms 10 occupants
10.	Building type-Sandcrete Roof type- Aluminium 5 rooms 1 bathroom 1 kitchen 5 occupants
11.	Building type-Sandcrete Roof type- asbestos/ aluminium 3 rooms 2 kitchen 1 toilet 1 bathroom 4 occupants
12.	Building type-Sandcrete/ mud Roof type- thatch/ asbestos 6 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 8 occupants
13.	Building type-sandcrete Roof type- Asbestos 5 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 10 occupants
14.	Building type-sandcrete Roof type- asbestos/ aluminium 9 rooms 2 kitchens 1 bathroom 5 occupants
15.	Building type-sandcrete/ bricks Roof type- asbestos/ thatch 8 rooms 4 kitchens I bathrooms 13 occupants
16.	Building type-bricks /mud Roof type- Thatch 3 rooms 1 kitchen

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	1 bathroom 4 occupants
17.	Building type-sandcrete Roof type- asbestos 6 rooms 1 kitchen 2 bathrooms 7 occupants
18.	Building type-sandcrete Roof type- thatch/ asbestos 6 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 1 toilet 10 occupants
19.	Building type-sandcrete Roof type- asbestos 3 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 4 occupants
20.	Building type-sandcrete/ bricks Roof type- asbestos/ bricks 5 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 5 occupants
21.	Building type-sandcrete Roof type- asbestos 6 rooms 2 kitchens 1 bathroom 1 toilet 6 occupants
22.	Building type-sandcrete Roof type- thatch 2 bedrooms 2 kitchens 1 bathroom 5 occupants
23.	Building type- mud bricks Roof type- asbestos 2 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 2 occupants
24.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- asbestos

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	2 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 5 occupants
25.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- Asbestos 2 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 5 occupants
26.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- thatch/ asbestos 3 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 9 occupants
27.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- thatch 5 rooms 2 ktichens 2 bathrooms 10 occupants
28.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- asbestos 4 rooms 2 kitchens 2 bathrooms 19 occupants
29.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 4 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 14 occupants
30.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- asbestos 3 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 9 occupants
31.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- asbestos/ thatch 4 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 10 occupants
32.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- thatch

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	2 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 6 occupants
33.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 1 room 1 kitchen I bathroom 5 occupants
34.	Building type- mud(bricks) Roof type- thatch 3 rooms 1 bathroom 1 kitchen 5 occupants
35.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 2 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 4 occupants
36.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 5 rooms 2 kitchens 1 bathroom 10 occupants
37.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 7 rooms 2 kitchens 1 bathroom 8 occupants
38.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- thatch 2 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 4 occupants
39.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 2 rooms 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 9 occupants
40.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	1 room 1 kitchen 1 bathroom 5 occupants
41.	Building type- bricks Roof type- thatch 2 bedrooms 1 kitchen
42.	Building type- palm fronts and bricks Roof type- thatch 3 bedrooms 8 occupants
43.	Building type- sandcrete/ palm fronts with thatch (4 bedrooms build with sandcrete blocks with no roof/ 1 roof built with palm fronts and roofed with thatch) 6 occupants
44.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- slate and thatch 3 bedrooms 1 kitchen 6 occupants
45.	Building type- sandcrete Roof type- slate 3 bedrooms 7 occupants
46.	Building type- sandcrete 8 rooms 6 occupants
47.	Building type- sandcrete 3 rooms 4 occupants
48.	Building type- cement blocks 4 rooms 6 occupants
49.	Building type- mud 12 occupants
50.	Building type- clay and bricks 3 rooms 9 occupants
51.	Building type- clay and brick 3 rooms

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	5 occupants
52.	Building type- wooden and cememt 2 rooms 6 occupants
53.	Building type- cement blocks Roof type- aluzinc 4 rooms 4 occupants
54.	Building type- cement blocks
55.	Building type- cement blocks 2 occupants
56.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 1 room 5 occupants
57.	Building type- cement blocks (4 rooms)/ Clay (2 destroyed) 2 occupants
58.	Building type- cement blocks 3 rooms (2 destroyed) 13 occupants
59.	Building type- cement blocks 4 rooms 7 occupants
60.	Building type- mud and cement blocks Roof type- thatch 10 rooms 9 occupants
61.	14 rooms 20 occupants
62.	Building type- cement blocks Roof type- slate roof 6 rooms 10 occupants
63.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 2 rooms 5 occupants
64.	Building type- cement blocks 4 rooms 30 occupants
65.	Building type- cement blocks Roof type- thatch 3 rooms 8 occupants
66.	Building type- cement blocks

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	Roof type- slate 5 rooms 10 occupants
67.	Building Type- Wooden Roof type- thatch 3 rooms
68.	Building Type- mud and bricks Roof type- thatch 3 rooms
69.	Building Type- bricks Roof type- thatch 3 rooms
70.	Building Type- block Roof type- thatch 2 rooms
71.	Building Type-bricks Roof type-thatch 2 rooms
72.	Building Type- mud blocks Roof type- thatch
73.	Building Type- blocks Roof type- thatch 2 rooms
74.	Building Type- blocks Roof type- thatch
75.	Building Type- blocks Roof type- thatch 4 rooms 10 occupants
76.	Building Type- Block Roof type- thatch
77.	Building Type- cement blocks Roof type- thatch
78.	Building Type- mud Roof type- thatch
79.	8 rooms 8 occupants
80.	Building type- mud with blocks Roof type- thatch 2 rooms 7 people
81.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 3 rooms 9 occupants
82.	Building type- wooden Roof type- thatch 2 rooms

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	7 occupants
83.	Building type- wooden Roof type- thatch 2 rooms 1 occupant
84.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 4 rooms 3 occupants
85.	Building type- wooden 3 rooms 5 people
86.	Building type- wooden and brick Roof type- roofing sheet and thatch 4 rooms 7 occupants
87.	Building type- blocks Roof type- thatch 6 rooms 8 occupants
88.	Building type- mud/ blocks Roof type- thatch 5 rooms 3 occupants
89.	Building type- Blocks Roof type- thatch 2 rooms 8 occupants
90.	Building type- mud Roof type- thatch 1 room
91.	Building type- Blocks Roof type- slate 14 rooms 60 occupants
92.	Building type- Sand blocks Roof thatch- thatch 10 rooms 54 occupants
93.	Building type- cement blocks Roof type- thatch 7 rooms 36 people
94.	Building type- Cement Roof type- slate 5 rooms 6 occupants
95.	Building type- blocks

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	Roof type- slate and thatch 4 rooms 6 occupants
96.	Building type- cement Roof type- slate 5 rooms 5 occupants
97.	Building type- cement Roof type- slate 3 occupants
98.	Building Type- Cement blocks 5 rooms 12 occupants
99.	Building Type- Cement block 2 rooms 2 occupants
100.	Building Type- cement and brick 5 rooms 12 occupants
101.	Building Type- cement 2 rooms 13 occupants
102.	Building Type- cement 4 rooms 3 occupants
103.	2 Store rooms
104.	2 rooms 1 kitchen 5 occupants
105.	4 rooms 6 occupants
106.	Building Type- cement 3 rooms 7 occupants
107.	6 cubicles
108.	Building Type- cement 3 rooms 4 persons
109.	Building Type- cement 4 rooms 5 occupants
110.	Building Type- cement 2 rooms
111.	Building Type- bricks 3 rooms 8 occupants
112.	Building Type- bricks 1 room

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
	1 occupant
113.	1 room 1 kitchen 1 bathroom,
114.	Building Type- bricks 3 rooms 12 persons
115.	Building Type- one block building 1 occupant
116.	Building Type- blocks 3 rooms 12 occupants
117.	Building Type- block 3 rooms 4 occupants
118.	Building Type- blocks 2 rooms 6 occupants
119.	Building Type- block 3 rooms 6 occupants
120.	1 room 5 occupants
121.	Building Type- cement 18 rooms 16 occupants
122.	2 rooms 2 occupants
123.	2 rooms 7 occupants
124.	Building Type- blocks 4 rooms 6 occupants
125.	Building Type- block 3 rooms 3 occupants
126.	Building Type- blocks 3 rooms 7 occupants
127.	Building Type- block 2 rooms 5 occupants
128.	Building Type- block 3 rooms 4 occupants
129.	Building Type- block 6 rooms 12 occupants

HOUSE/FACILITY	HOUSE/FACILITY DESCRIPION
130.	Building Type- block 3 rooms 5 occupants
131.	Building Type- block and brick 6 rooms 4 occupants
132.	4 rooms 4 occupants
133.	Building Type- block 5 rooms 9 occupants
134.	3 rooms 5 persons
135.	Building Type- cement 2 rooms
136.	Building Type- cement 2 rooms
137.	Building Type- cement Roof type- slate 2 rooms
138.	Building Type- wooden 4 rooms 10 occupants
139.	4 rooms
140.	Building Type- cement 2 rooms 5 occupants
141.	Building Type- cement 6 rooms 7 occupants
142.	Building Type- cement and brick 5 rooms
143.	Building Type- cement 2 rooms 10 occupants
144.	Building Type- cement 1 room
145.	Building Type- cement 2 rooms 4 occupants
146.	Building Type- cement 9 rooms 7 occupants

CONCLUSION

The assessment revealed that about 146 houses were located in the flood zone and about 1,050 persons were affected directly by flooding in Anlo beach.

The next meetings of the DMC will discuss the necessary processes for the resettlement of the affected persons and the level of compensation for the affected persons to be relocated.