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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

Quarterly Report



FY 2015, 3rd Quarter – April 1 to June 30, 2015



THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND GRADUATE SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY

Hɛn Mpoano



SNV

SSG ADVISORS



Sps

SPATIAL SOLUTIONS

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Cover photo: Focus group meeting of women conducted for development of the gender analysis. (CREDIT: CEWEFIA, CRC-Ghana)

ACRONYMS

AOR	Administrative Officer Representative
CCM	Centre for Coastal Management
CDCS	Country Development Cooperation Strategy
CEWEFIA	Central and Western Region Fishmongers Improvement Association
CoP	Chief of Party
CR	Central Region
CRC	Coastal Resources Center, Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island
CRCC	Central Regional Coordinating Council
CSLP	Coastal Sustainable Landscapes Project
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DA	District Authorities
DAA	Development Action Association
DAASGIFT	Daasgift Quality Foundation
DFAS	Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
DO	Development Objective
EMMP	Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
FASDEP	Food and Agriculture Sector Development Program
FASDP	Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector Development Program
FC	Fisheries Commission
FCWCGG	Fisheries Committee for the West central Gulf of Guinea
FEU	Fisheries Enforcement Unit
FoN	Friends of Nation
FSSD	Framework for Strategic Sustainable Development
FtF	Feed the Future
FWG	Fisheries Working Group
HM	Hen Mpoano
GCLME	Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem
GIFA	Ghana Inshore Fishermen's Association
GIS	Geographic Information System
GNAFF	Ghana National Association of Farmers and Fishermen
GNCFC	Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council
GoG	Government of Ghana
GSO	Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island
ICFG	Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance
ICM	Integrated Coastal Management
ICT	Information, Communication Technology
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
IR	Intermediate Results
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IUU	Illegal Unreported Unregulated
LOE	Level of Effort
LOGODEP	Local Government Development Program
LoP	Life of Project
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
METASIP	Medium Term Agricultural Investment Program
METSS	Monitoring, Evaluation and Technical Support Services
MFRD	Marine Fisheries Research Division

MOFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine Protected Area
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NAFAG	National Fisheries Association of Ghana
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NC	National Committee
NRM	Natural Resources Management
PMEP	Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PPP	Public Private Partnerships
RCC	Regional Coordinating Council
RFA	Request for Application
RPA	Rapid Partnership Appraisal
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Program
SMEs	Small and Medium Enterprises
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization
SS	Spatial Solutions
SSG	SSG Advisors
STEP	Sustainable, Transparent, Effective Partnerships
STWG	Scientific and Technical Working Group
UCC	University of Cape Coast
URI	University of Rhode Island
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
WA	West Africa
WARFP	West Africa Regional Fisheries Development Program
WR	Western Region

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	PROGRAM OVERVIEW/SUMMARY	1
1.1	Program Description/Introduction	1
1.2	Summary of Results to Date	3
2.	ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS.....	6
2.1	Progress Narrative.....	6
2.2	Implementation Status	8
2.3	Implementation challenges	17
2.4	PMP Update.....	17
3.	INTEGRATION:ROSSCUTTING ISSUESUSAID FORWARD PRIORITIES....	18
3.1	Gender Equality and Female Empowerment	18
3.2	Sustainability Mechanisms	19
3.3	Environmental Compliance	19
3.4	Global Climate Change.....	19
3.5	Policy and Governance Support.....	19
3.6	Local Capacity Development.....	20
3.7	Public Private Partnership (PPP) Impacts.....	20
3.8	Science, Technology, and Innovation Impacts	21
4.	STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT	21
5.	MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES	22
6.	LESSON LEARNED.....	22
7.	PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER	23
8.	HOW IMPLEMENTING PARTNER HAS ADDRESSED AOR COMMENTS...	24
9.	FINANCIAL INFORMATION	25
	ANNEX A: PROGRESS SUMMARY.....	27
	List of Study Tour Participants to the Philippines	32

1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW/SUMMARY

Program Name:	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
Activity Start Date And End Date:	October 22, 2014 to October 31, 2019
Name of Prime Implementing Partner:	Coastal Resources Center University of Rhode Island
[Contract/Agreement] Number:	AID-641-A-15-00001
Name of Subcontractors/Sub-awardees:	Hen Mpoano Friends of the Nation SNV Netherlands SSG Advisors Spatial Solutions Central and Western Fish Mongers Association (CEWEFIA) Development Action Association (DAA) Daasgift Quality Foundation
Major Counterpart Organizations	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development Fisheries Commission
Geographic Coverage (cities and or countries)	Ghana: Central Region, Western Region, Greater Accra Region, Volta Region
Reporting Period:	April 1 – June 30, 2015

1.1 Program Description/Introduction

The objective of the USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) five-year project (October 2014-October 2019) 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 USAID’s Feed the Future Initiative. Working closely with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the Fisheries Commission, 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. Working closely with stakeholders and the Government of Ghana, if appropriate management measures are implemented, 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. In leading the project, CRC works with The Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD) and the Fisheries Commission (FC) along with a consortium of international and local partners, including SNV Netherlands Development Organization, SSG-Advisors, Hen Mpoano, Friends of the Nation, and the Central & Western Fish Mongers Improvement Association in Ghana/CEWEFIA, Daasgift Quality Foundation Development Action Association (DAA), and Spatial Solutions. The project also will contribute to the strengthening of marine and fisheries management capabilities at the University of Cape Coast and coastal spatial planning capacity of district authorities in the Central and Western Regions.

The SFMP builds on the accomplishments of the USAID-Ghana Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Program, known locally as the Hen Mpoano (Our Coast) initiative. In this follow-on, the USAID /Ghana SFMP is focusing efforts on the small pelagics fisheries along the entire coastline as well as the demersal fisheries and essential mangrove fish habitat in the Western Region. The project will promote ecosystem-based and adaptive management approaches. Additionally, improvements in the value chain of smoked fish, important to tens of thousands of women fish processors and marketers will be supported. The project also will implement activities aimed at reducing child labor and trafficking in the fisheries sector in the Central Region of Ghana.

The SFMP compliments and coordinates closely with the two other sister projects in the USAID/Ghana Coastal Program Portfolio: The Coastal Sustainable Landscapes Project (CSLP) and the University of Cape Coast/Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Science (UCC/DFAS Institutional Strengthening Project.

The SFMP is developing nested governance arrangements and management plans for fishery management units at three ecosystem scales, utilizing adaptive co-management approaches tailored to each unit. An immediate focus at the national level is on the small pelagic stocks, which are most important to food security and employment and are near collapse.

Key government clients of this project, MOFAD, FC and the Regional Coordinating Councils and associated districts in the Central Region (CR) and Western Region (WR), are also being provided with direct support to build their capacity. Additional direct support is provided to a number of 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. SFMP is investing considerable project resources in capacity development at UCC as well.

This Progress Report for the USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) covers the second quarter of the FY 15 fiscal year (Project Year 1) encompassing the period from April 1, to May 30, 2015

1.2 Summary of Results to Date

Standard Indicators	Baseline FY 2015	Annual Target	Q1 FY15	Q2 FY15	Q3 FY15	Q4 FY15	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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Number of direct project beneficiaries (number), the percentage of which are female (percent) (IDA Core Indicator) disaggregated by rural, urban (IR 2.1 indicator from Ghana CDCS) ¹	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
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	Fish analysis Small pelagic analysis Child labor analysis	0	0	0			Y

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)

Number of institutions with improved capacity to develop and implement managed access fisheries management plans	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of days of USG funded technical assistance in NRM and/or biodiversity provided to counterparts or stakeholders (EG 4.8.1-28)	0	806	SSG & URI 38	SSG & URI 198	SSG,URI &KNUST 331		567(70.34%)	Y
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	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
Number of DAs supported with USG Assistance (Ghana CDCS, IR 2.3 indicator)	0	4	0	0	0			Y
Number of climate vulnerability assessments conducted as a result of USG Assistance (EG 4.5.1)	0	2	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	Y
Number farmers and others who have applied new technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance (FtF 4.5.2)	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Number of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), including farmers, receiving business development services from USG assisted sources (FtF 4.5.2)	0	560	0	0	0			
Value of new private sector investments in select value chains (FTF 4.5.2-38)	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

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))	0	3	0	2			2 (66%)	Y
Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(27))	0	4		4			4(100%)	Y
Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of Feed the Future assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(12))	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y
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	404	0	0	134		134(33%)	N
Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance (4.8.1-29)	0	4040	0	0	1340		1340(33%)	N

Note: The Results Performance Column depicts level of achievement expressed as a percentage of Actual versus Planned.

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 Progress Narrative

Activities implemented during this reporting period included the project launch event that took place in Takoradi April 28, which was attended by the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (Hon. Sherry Ayittey); the Acting. USAID Mission Director (Andrew Karas); other USAID/Ghana Economic Growth representatives; two coastal Members of Parliament including the Chairman of the Food and Agricultural Select Committee; national executives of Canoe Fishermen Council, Inshore Fishers, the newly established National Association for Fish Processors and Traders and other dignitaries from local government. A series of mini-launch events were also held in the project targeted communities in the Central and Western regions to socialize the project among fisheries stakeholders and obtain pledges of support from local authorities. During this reporting period, sub-agreements of all partners were fully executed and funds started flowing to initiate on the ground operations. The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan as well as the Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan for the project were formally approved and all partners trained on the reporting and monitoring policies and procedures for both. The Accra based office completed its full staffing and office outfitting.

Capacity assessments of government agencies and CSOs targeted for strengthening over life of project is underway. A gender analysis was completed and a gender strategy is under development. Preparations for conducting a baseline household survey for impact assessment purposes are well advanced and field work expected to get underway in the 4th quarter. A waiver to conduct training for law enforcement officers was approved by USAID that paves the way to marine police training in the next quarter. A study tour was conducted to the Philippines to learn about innovative management practices including ICT applications in fisher and vessel registration, community based enforcement, impacts and processes of implementing seasonal closures and role of science in decision making. Twenty persons from the Fisheries Commission, MOFAD and a range of stakeholder groups participated in this event and half of the participants were supported via the World Bank WARFP. A fisheries profile for the small pelagic fishery was started which will serve as critical background for the comprehensive planning process for the fishery to get underway in year 2. A Science and Technical Working Group was formed and is in the process of preparing a stock assessment for the small pelagic fisheries. Stock assessments for the demersal fishery in the WR are also underway via cooperative research with UCC. A URI faculty member visited UCC to assist in selection of candidates for degree training at URI and to assist in developing and the strategic and business plans for the newly created Center for Coastal Management.

Vulnerability assessments for the Ankobra estuary has started and cross visits for a spatial data hub in the central region modeled after the Western region has taken place. Local partners have started a process of identifying priority beneficiaries in targeted communities in the Central and Western Regions for business development support, so that trainings and pilot improved smoker extension efforts can get underway in the next quarter. Scoping activities for selecting priority private sector strategic partnerships is advancing with over 40 businesses surveyed and prioritization of most promising ones to develop will take place in the next quarter.

The communications strategy for life-of-project was completed and a number of issue briefs developed and circulated. These included a brief on the crises situation in the small pelagic fisheries and 11 options briefs to reverse the declines in these stocks. These briefs are the focus of technical information to be discussed with stakeholders and leading up to a national dialogue to develop a consensus on quick actions to help solve the fisheries crisis.

A number of activities have been delayed due to late start up and for other reasons and are noted below. At the June partners meeting these were discussed. The team working on the improved smokers has decided to move forward with the introduction on the Morrison design and associated training before the technology review workshop as this is a proven design, otherwise it will be impossible to reach the results targets associated with these activities. If better alternatives emerge in the workshop, then the extension strategy will be adjusted accordingly in Year 2. While there is a risk of being under target in the number of MSMEs benefiting still, the team is working hard to try to ensure the targets can be met. In other cases the training strategies have also evolved. For instance, training of Marine Police (MP) and Fisheries Enforcement Unit (FEU) was slated for the CR, but there are now only an Eastern and Western Commands, no central unit. The MP have requested that we have one training this year (instead of two) that focuses on those members not yet trained. This may reduce numbers below original target and we are still awaiting clearance of police names submitted to US Dept. of State before the training can occur. If clearance is delayed, this event may have to be deferred to year 2. On the strategic partnerships, two workshops for implementing partners previously planned are being combined into one workshop so the number of participants and hours of training targeted from these events is reduced. In addition, it was decided that we should defer the stakeholder trainings until the strategic partnerships are prioritized and partnership plans developed.

Section	Activity	Milestone or Output	Status June 2015
1.1	Legislative reform	Briefings	Adjusted, reduced based on request by MOFAD
	Legislative reform	Stakeholder caucuses on legislative reform	Deferred to Year 2 at request of MOFAD, along with associated deliverables (summaries)
1.2	Fisheries Dialogue	Second national fisheries dialogue	Only one national dialogue to be held in Year 1 in September, 2015
		Draft regulation on interim management measures for small pelagics	Delayed until 1 st quarter Year 2, assuming consensus is reached among stakeholders
1.6	Mobilizing US Govt. support for reform	Briefings	No additional briefings scheduled until after the national dialogue
3.1.2	Communications	Materials related to National Fisheries Dialogue #2	Flagged as delayed until Year 2

4.5	Ankobra Plan	Social and ecological profiling of Axim Sawoma Apoaso Eshiam Eziome Adefekezo Kokofri	Flagged as delayed start by HM until July, draft profile deferred until 1 st quarter Year 2. This is due in part to a slower than expected processing of major subcontracts by URI Office of Sponsored Projects.
4.8.1	Value chain improvements	Conduct fish smoking workshop (SNV and FC)	Delayed at request of Fisheries Commission Post Harvest Unit until July, 2015
4.8.2	Value chain improvements	Lead a local forum on improved smoking technologies for users in Shama Old town, Ankobra.	Delayed until late July after the national fish smoking workshop, see 4.8.1. Local training also delayed/ # participants to complete training reduced
4.8.3	Value chain improvements	Lead a forum on improved smoking technologies for users in Elmina, Moree and Anlo	Delayed until late July after the national fish smoking workshop, see 4.8.1 Local training also delayed

2.2 Implementation Status

1.1 Legislative Reform for Co-management

This work has been deferred to Year 2 at the request of the Minister to wait until the WARFP consultant reports on legislative reform and co-management are completed. The SFMP team participated in review meetings of the draft reports and provided inputs to be incorporated into the final documents. As the final documents have not yet been released, no further actions are planned in the fourth quarter. The timeline for an amendment of the Fisheries Act is after the next Presidential elections, so there is adequate time to work on the legislative reform track, so we do not see postponing work on this until Year 2 as a problem. The WARFP report lays out general recommendations but did not lay out detailed structures and management units. Hence there are ample needs for SFMP to assist MOFAD and the FC to pick up where the WARFP reports ended, once final versions are released.

1.2 National Fisheries Dialogues

A series of 11 action options to reverse the decline of the small pelagics fishery was developed by the SFMP technical and communications team to serve as content for discussions in a series of stakeholder meetings to be held and leading up to the national dialogue schedule for September 8-10. FoN has prepared a schedule of stakeholder meetings to be conducted starting in July; two per region for each of the four coastal regions, including open public forums and then a series of caucus meetings among the main stakeholders groups. Either a SFMP technical person or member of the STWG will be in attendance to answer questions on the menu of options to be considered. The meetings will also include presentations by a participant who attended the Philippine study tour to discuss lessons learned in managing small pelagic fisheries in the Philippines. Key lessons being a seasonal closure works and can have rapid impacts, private sector and stakeholder involvement and science based decision making are key to high

compliance and effective closures. Meetings with the Fisheries Commission and MOFAD are planned as part of the lead up to the National Dialogue.

1.3 Strengthened Law Enforcement

USAID approved a Life of Project waiver (with conditions) request for SFMP to conduct trainings for fisheries law enforcement personnel. Subsequently there have been ongoing discussions with the Ghana Police Service Administration and the Fisheries Commission's MCS FEU to select personnel who will participate in the trainings. The terms of approval requires SFMP to provide the list of law enforcement personnel who would undergo the training to be subjected to the Leahy Vetting by the US State Department. The selection and completion of the vetting process will pave the way for the training in the 4th Quarter of Year 1.

Meanwhile, SFMP visited the Marine Police Academy at Ainyinase in the WR to discuss with some senior police officers ideas that will inform the next training sessions and to assess potential materiel support to the Academy with respect to outfitting of training halls. Subsequent training events can be held at this location once all facility renovations are completed and will potentially provide additional cost share and project expense savings by utilizing their facility. Curriculum developed for the training of the Marine Police during the ICFG is under review and will include the introduction of a competency-based professional development program. As the marine police seem amenable to exploring the competency based approach, planned review and revisions to the current curriculum planned for this year will be deferred to Year 2 and incorporated as part of the competency development process whereby curriculum will be revised once core competencies have been defined. The SFMP is also in ongoing discussions with the Marine Police on the proposed incorporation of fisheries modules in the training of all new police recruits. As all police recruited to the MP undergo training at the new MP academy, this will be the focus of the SFMP efforts, with additional orientation efforts in the larger police academy still pursued as an additional strategy since regular police are sometimes engaged in fisheries enforcement actions and cases.

1.4 National Level Support for Small-Pelagics Management Plan – Philippine Study Tour

From May 25-30, SSG and Ghana SFMP led a study tour to the Philippines for 20 critical stakeholders from the Ghanaian fisheries sector. Study tour participants included representatives of the Fisheries Commission and the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, chief fishermen, women fish processors, the marine police and FEU, SFMP, and the Fisheries Alliance. Study tour participants met with key players from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources in the Philippines, the USAID ECOFISH project, the private sector, civil society and international conservation NGOs, local fishing communities and women fish processing enterprises. Participants learned about the Philippine experiment with closed seasons, the participation of the private sector in sustainable fisheries management, and community-based co-management and enforcement initiatives, such as the *Bantay Dagat* system, a network of volunteer community patrols for marine protected areas and closed season enforcement. Participants gathered in Ghana after the tour to discuss next steps and strategies for communicating lessons learned to their respective stakeholder groups. SSG led the development of a comprehensive study tour report, with lessons learned and next steps. A draft report has been prepared and is being circulated to all participants and will be finalized in early July.

1.6 Harmonizing Regional Fisheries Policies.

The Senior Fisheries Advisor met with the Director of the Fisheries Committee of West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and discussed opportunities of collaboration between the two projects. A detailed scope of work on fish identification of sardinella, using DNA, will be prepared jointly in collaboration of the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem and the Monitoring for Environment and Security in Africa (MESA) programs. A planned trip to Dakar is scheduled in early September to meet with CCLME and MESA to complete the MOU and design sample collection strategies.

The Senior Fisheries Advisor participated in a two-day workshop on fisheries management and harmonization of regional data collection. A group of experts reviewed the new open *ArtFish* (fisheries data management software) in coordination with the West Africa Regional Fisheries Program (WARFP) and with the Ghana Fisheries Commission

1.7 Informing the U.S. Government on Key Fisheries Policy Issues in Ghana

There were no formal briefings this quarter to key US government personnel other than USAID staff via USAID project channels.

1.7 Reducing Child Labor and Trafficking in Fisheries

SNV supported FoN in field scoping survey at Moree on the 21st April 2015 and was also involved in a debrief session thereafter in relation to assessment approaches and relevant household questions in the scoping survey. SNV had an initial CLaT capacity assessment and implementation planning meeting with DAA and completed training on assessment tools and good practices in gathering stories of interest June 2015.

SNV in collaboration with CEWEFIA and FON organized an event to mark the World Day against Child Labor on the 12th of June, 2015. The theme for the celebration was “Free, compulsory and quality education for all children at least to the minimum age for admission to employment and action to reach those presently in child labor”. SNV identified a potential major stakeholder based in Elmina who are keen to work with the SFMP to eliminate child labor and child trafficking. This organization is known as Central Regional Fishermen and Fish Mongers Association (CENFA). There have been two meetings to engage them and assess any potential for collaboration.

2.1. Scientific and Technical Working Group (STWG)

The Scientific and Technical Working Group was formed and met twice during this quarter at the Fisheries Commission’s headquarters and at SFMP (April 30 and June 10, 2015). The outcome of the first meeting included the election of the STWG Chairman (Professor Kobena Yankson from UCC) and Vice Chairman (Mrs. Patricia Markwei from FC-retired). In addition a six member sub-committee for stock assessment was nominated.

The stock assessment sub-committee met at UCC to address 10 items assigned by the STWG. Among these tasks was to provide a status of the stock of small pelagics in Ghana and regions. It included a summary report on historical landings by month by gear from 1980 to 2014, fisheries independent biomass estimates by acoustic surveys, examination of environmental factors and preparing an overfishing definition for the stock(s). The sub-committee provided technical input

for the fisheries management options briefs drafted by SFMP to be used in stakeholder meetings and the national dialogue.

The second meeting of STWG reviewed the draft stock status report presented by the Senior Fisheries Advisor. The background information document was submitted and approved by the Group. Additional data from 1980 to 2000 are not available yet. A request to the FC was made and data delivery is pending.

2.2 ICT Innovations for Fisheries Management

While SSG has not yet initiated the development of a comprehensive ICT strategy for Ghana SFMP, the SSG Partnerships Specialist and the SSG Strategic Partnership Consultant have started interviewing ICT companies and mobile carriers in Ghana, to lay the groundwork for ICT partnerships for Ghana SFMP. Thus far, the SSG Partnerships Specialist and Strategic Partnership Consultant have met with over 15 ICT firms and mobile companies. A July prioritization event will narrow down most promising opportunities to pursue in earnest.

2.3. UCC/DFAS/CCM Capacity Development

Under the cooperative research and capacity building programs undertaken with the University of Cape Coast, Students from UCC continued monthly field sampling of selected demersal species indicators (*Galeoides decadactylus*, *Pseudotolithus senegalensis*, *Brachydeuterus auritus* and *Pentanemus quinquarius*) on April 21-25, May 20-24 and June 19-25, 2015. A fisheries profile was also initiated in June 2015 to characterize the demersal fishing canoes and semi-industrial vessels fishing with hook and line, longlines, gillnets and trawl nets. The purpose of this survey is to characterize demersal fisheries dynamics and provide specifications of the gear used and its mesh size for management purposes.

A group of 12 fishermen from major landings site (Sekondi, Axim, and Ankobra) were trained in the data collection procedure as part of the cooperative research program. This is a means to engage stakeholders to become involved in research and collection of fundamental fisheries information to improve fisheries management.

UCC-CCM and DFAS announced, through a competitive process, the availability of fully funded PhD scholarship in fisheries stock assessment at URI-Graduate School of Oceanography. On Thursday May 21 faculty from DFAS and the Department of Environmental Science met to review candidates. They approved one student (Evans Kwasi Arizi) to pursue a doctoral study in Fisheries Oceanography with a specialty in fish stock assessment. A letter of award will be sent to the candidate during the first week of July, 2015.

The URI's leadership training course is scheduled during August 3-14, 2015 at UCC. Preparation for the course and selection of participants is in process and will include nominees from a wide range of fisheries stakeholder groups including industry representatives, CSOs and government and university participants.

Starting in April 2015 URI CRC worked with two University of Cape Coast staff (Esinam Attipoe and Godfred Asiedu) to train on USAID's required TraiNet policy. Since beginning the training process, both have secured their log-ins for their perspective R1 and R2 roles. Both have reviewed the guidelines and all forms required by TraiNet as well as completing sample forms required by TraiNet and submitting to me for review.

2.4. Improving FC Data Systems and Stock Assessment Capacity.

During this quarter, a series of meetings with the FSSD and UCC were held to provide technical support in data management, stock assessment and capacity building. Both the FSSD and UCC were included in the planning and development of the curriculum for the first stock assessment training and the data collectors training scheduled in July and September, respectively at UCC.

2.5 Understanding Fisheries Supply Chain from Net to Plate

The TOR for implementing both studies has also been finalized by SNV. The fuelwood value chain study was initiated in June 2015. Currently field assistants have been recruited and a training session implemented on the 24th of June 2015 at UCC. The data collection instruments have been designed and are currently being pretested. The Sardinella value chain study was initiated in the June 2015. Data collection instruments have been designed and an initial planning meeting with consultant hired by SNV to carry out the study was held on 15th June 2015.

2.6 Environmental Planning Data Hubs and Capacity Building Center for the Western and Central Regions

Meetings were held with Spatial Solutions and URI's GIS specialist to orient Year 1 mapping and spatial planning task, including procedures for data pooling and workflow of sub-activities relative to Ankobra and Axim climate vulnerability assessment and resilience building. Hen Mpoano met with Town and Country Planning Department (TCPD) senior personnel from the Western and Central regions to better understand existing capabilities of the TCPD relative to planning for resilient coastal and fishing settlements. The meetings laid the foundation for the needs assessment of the Central region TCPD to be conducted and the proposed exchange visit for planners from both regions to be conducted.

A collaboration and information sharing process regarding planning for a data hub in the Central Region has been initiated among TCPD, the University of Cape Coast and Hen Mpoano. Also, processes were initiated to facilitate an exchange visit for planners and technical officers of TCPDs from the two regions. The visit to the Western Region held 28-30 June 2015 seeks to initiate peer-to-peer exchange among planners from both regions and demonstrate the successes and experiences from the western regional GIS Data Hub which was established under the ICFG.

3. Creating Constituencies and stakeholders Engagement

3.1 National Communications Strategy for the Sustainable Fisheries Management Project

The National Communications Strategy for the SFMP comprises corporate and external communications. The five-year National Communications Strategy has been finalized.

The URI/CRC and Accra-based communications team is also contributing to the design and content of the debut issue of a semi-annual newsletter, prepared by SNV, to be distributed to stakeholders across the fisheries sector, from government officials to local stakeholders. The first issue will be published, electronically and in print, during the fourth quarter.

Two international day events – World Environment Day 2015 and World Day Against Child Labor were also celebrated in Winneba and Elmina (Central Region) respectively. It was to draw attention to the need to sustainably consume the shared fisheries resources for improved fisheries and living standards of households in order to discourage child labor and trafficking activities resulting from poverty, while encouraging enrollment of children into school.

Two press releases were also produced and circulated to selected national and local media houses which received commendable publication.

Two radio and a television talk shows were conducted on 5th June, prior to the World Environment Day celebration.

Other information, education and communications materials produced in the reporting period are USAID-branded banners, 8-page issue brief, 11 action optional briefs; project flyers, briefing packet (for policy makers), t-shirts, folders, etc. See Indicator table for details.

Stakeholder Consultations/Policy Campaigns:

Dates for eight regional-level policy campaigns have been fixed for the Month of July; two in each of the four coastal regions where fisheries management options will be socialized with stakeholders for their views and subsequent selection of one or a combination of the options for improved management to be discussed at the National Fisheries Policy Dialogue in September.

A series of 11 action option briefs, each two pages, has been produced for partners to use to begin educating and engaging stakeholders throughout the fishing communities. Each brief highlights a different action item and spells out in layman's terms what the proposed action is, how it would work, what the pros and cons are, what would have to happen for it to be implemented, what impact it might have and how the outcome of that action would be measured. These action briefs complement a longer 8-page brief on the issues pertaining to management of the small pelagic fisheries.

Other major upcoming communications events include a day's media orientation to encourage and heighten fisheries reportage in the media, being coordinated with the USAID communications officer, and active participation in the Elmina Lagoon Festival - in the Central Region where SFMP messages can be articulated to a large audience of fisheries stakeholders.

3.2 SFMP Executive Level Communications

Engagement with coastal members of parliament who attended the SFMP launch event and a briefing for regional directors of the Fisheries Commission were also conducted. An eight-page brief on the crisis facing Ghana's small pelagic fisheries and the role partners can play in addressing it was produced and distributed at the launch event in Takoradi on April 28. That brief will continue to be disseminated widely to bring attention to the need for urgent action at multiple stakeholder levels.

3.3 Contact Management and Capacity Building

The contact management software CiviCRM will enable the project to record, manage and track interactions with people and organizations and to engage with constituents has been installed and currently under development. The initial database contains profiles of 275 individuals, which will be expanded in an ongoing basis. Templates for group mailings of SFMP news and events are being prepared. The efficiency and effectiveness of the online interface and functionality was tested in country by the URI CRC IT manager. The software will be tested in the fourth quarter related to the stakeholder engagement process regarding early actions in the small pelagic fishery to deal with the severe decline in catches. There have been discussions with the Fisheries Commission relative to accessing the software for sending fisheries-related educational messages to fishers via the compiled canoe and semi-industrial registration databases.

4.1. Small Pelagic Fisheries Management

The baseline fisheries profiling for small pelagic fisheries continued during this quarter lead by Hen Mpoano. Site selection and hiring of 12 fisheries enumerators and 2 regional coordinators including FC M&E officers was completed. A special training and introduction to fisheries surveys was organized and completed in May 4-5, 2015. The training was delivered by the technical staff of SFMP and the FC on survey techniques, fishing gear technology, communication, basic sampling statistics and data collection and processing.

The first phase of the enumeration of fishermen, canoes, gear, fishmongers and fish processors was completed. Final reports drafted on data collection protocols, including questionnaires which were reviewed by SFMP's Senior Fisheries Advisor. Final copies were submitted in mid-June 2015.

Refresher training was held June 25-26, 2015, in Takoradi. The purpose of the training was to debrief and share lessons and challenges from field work and propose mid-course adjustments and/or modifications. In addition, the technical staff provided training on sampling protocols on the socio-economic survey and how to draw a random sample for phase 2 survey based on results of the census of fisherman, canoes and processors.

The enumerators have been deployed to 12 landing sites in the four coastal regions. Hen Mpoano is coordinating the data collection exercise with periodic visits to communities to provide assistance to enumerators.

4.2 National Marine Protected Area (MPA) Working Group.

No activity during this quarter.

4.3 Fishing Capacity Assessment.

A meeting was held on June 8, 2015 with FSSD to discuss and plan a two-day training/workshop on Fishing Capacity Assessment. The Senior Fisheries Advisor is in the process of drafting Terms of Reference. Potential dates for this training/workshop will be held in late September 2015.

4.4 The Western Region Demersal Fisheries Management Initiative

No activities programmed for this year except the demersal fisheries stock assessment (see workplan section 2.3: UCC/DFAS/CCM Capacity Development). Two UCC graduate students are carrying out a baseline survey of the stocks and collecting data at selected landing sites monthly.

4.5 Integrated Community Fisheries Management and Resilience Plans for the Ankobra River Estuarine and Mangrove Ecosystem

A two-day workshop was organized by Hen Mpoano to discuss methodology for the vulnerability assessment of communities around the river Ankobra. The workshop which brought together other SFMP partners was intended to set the stage for the Integrated Community management and Resilience plans for the Ankobra River ecosystem.

Spatial Solutions has undertaken an initial scoping mission to determine the types of data that will be needed for this assignment. There have been meetings with other stakeholders like the Adamus mining resources to bring them on board as they are one of the companies whose

activities may impact the estuary. There were other meetings with some the leaders of the communities surrounding the estuary to create an awareness of the SFMP project and impending collaboration that may evolve between the community and the other stakeholders.

4.6 Integrated Community Fisheries Management and Resilience Plans for the Pra River Estuarine and Mangrove Ecosystem

No planned activities in Year 1.

4.7 Sustainable financing of Management Institution

This activity will begin in year 2

4.8 Central and Western Region Fishing Community Livelihood Development Value Chain and Post-harvest Improvements

4.8.1 Post Harvesting Processing Knowledge development, dissemination and consensus building

SNV recruited six field assistants and assigned them to conduct field visits to the six pilot areas to obtain first-hand information on post-harvest processing activities. The field visits are intended to help us identify focus groups and other stakeholders who we will engage after the field visit. Focus group discussions were carried out in all six communities and the output was used to prepare a scoping survey report. Eight improved fish smoking ovens were identified during the scoping survey, energy audits and process characterization activities concerning the ovens are ongoing.

4.8.2 Daasgift led Fisheries Value Chain Improvements and Live hood In Ankobra Estuary and Shama

With the objective to meet targets for this and subsequent year, one hundred and ninety (190) fishery-based MSMEs were identified at Shama (Apo and Bentsil) and Sanwoma or Ankobra using a MSMEs identification and Screening guide developed for this purpose. The number of MSMEs is expected to increase when the exercise is carried out in Axim.

Prior to the identification exercise, Daasgift had conducted four separate meetings with women groups, fish processors as well as members of the three coastal communities. The activity was to sign social contracts with the people, brief them on activities to be carried out by Daasgift and sought their expectations regarding SFMP activities.

Screening and selection of fishery-based MSMEs in Shama Old town, Ankobra will start after the identification process and verification is completed. Daasgift engaged three coastal communities in its operational area, Shama (Apo and Bentsil) Sanwoma/Ankobra and Axim to identify business training expectations, and categorized them as a means to assess their capacity and training needs. A follow up will commence in the first week of July and with the development of a business training manual to be used in the training along with other training material under development for for training to begin in the next quarter.

4.8.3 CEWEFIA led fisheries value chain improvements and live hood in Pra river estuary and Elimina and Moree, central region

CEWEFIA has conducted three Town Hall meetings in Moree (31st March, 2015); Elmina (7th April, 2015) and Anlo (29th April, 2015) to create awareness as well as introduce the

USAID/GHANA SFMP to stakeholders (Officials of District Assembly, Traditional Authorities and community members). There was high turnout of stakeholders at these events: Moree (296 participants), Elmina (226 participants) and Anlo (255 participants). The comments from the stakeholders indicate their support and willingness to partake in the SFMP

CEWEFIA also organized a local socialization event on Wednesday, 15th April, 2015 at Shama to create awareness about the new project among community and district level leaders and stakeholders in the geographical areas where the field activities are to be implemented. A total of 226 people, including SFMP team from Accra, other implementing partners such as SNV, Daasgift, DAA, FoN and Hen Mpoano; Traditional authorities from the project communities, District Assembly Officials, Chief fishermen, Market queens and community members attended the event.

A total of 298 MSMEs have also been identified in three project communities: Elmina, Moree and Anlo. These MSMEs will subsequently be screened and selected for training in Business Development Services.

As part of the post harvesting processing knowledge development dissemination and consensus building, CEWEFIA has collaborated with SNV to conduct a post harvesting processing scoping study in target communities. Two staff from CEWEFIA was engaged to collect data to inform SNV on the knowledge base of the women in post-harvest losses. As a follow up to the study a focus group discussion was held in Moree and Elmina. CEWEFIA selected 15 women each from Moree and Elmina to participate in this event.

IR 4.8.4 SNV led fisheries value chain improvements and live hoods in Apam and Winneba, central region assisted by DAA

Stakeholder engagement activities in Winneba and Apam were carried out. Meetings were held with the District Assemblies, Rural Enterprise Programme offices, fisheries officers, and the Paramount Chief for both traditional areas. Introductory letters for the project were also distributed to the District Assembly and the Paramount chiefs. Other organizations such as Plan Ghana, the Forestry Division, Wildlife Division, Central regional fishermen and fish processors association (CENFA), International Needs Ghana and Challenging Heights were also visited and informed about the project. Sensitization workshops were held in Apam and Winneba on the 26th of May and 2nd of June 2015 respectively. Baseline survey activities are currently ongoing. Field assistants have been trained and were in the field in late June. Formation of women's groups is ongoing, and a group strengthening planning sessions with the Fisheries Commission has been undertaken in June.

IR 4.8.5 Central and western region women's fisheries training center for value chain and post-harvest improvements

The TOR for carrying out the needs assessment and business plan development has been finalized. The procurement process for consultant contracting is ongoing and green building options are being explored, with discussions ongoing with DAA. One issue that has arisen is the manner in which the building is to be developed. The rent to option or loan taken by DAA does not seem likely and this would require a request for an amendment to the URI cooperative agreement to add an additional direct construction activity to the current list of small scale construction projects. The business plan and feasibility review are will ensure the proposed Center is viable before we decide to proceed with construction or not. DAA has a 99-year lease

for the plot of land proposed for the Center in Kokorbite. A justification and request for amendment to the cooperative agreement will be made to allow construction, but no construction will be undertaken until environmental review is completed and feasibility of sustainability assured.

2.3 Implementation Challenges

There have been several challenges from the previous quarter that have been resolved. Namely, all implementing partners now have completed sub-agreements and funds are flowing to all of them to carry out their work. There have been a number of issues concerning billing formats, inadequacy of supporting documentation and addressing VAT waiver issues. The finance team has coordinated with all the partners through a series of visits and meetings to work out these issues. In addition, monthly billing was proving to be too cumbersome in the volume of paperwork and tracking of payments. We have moved to a quarterly billing cycle but sub-agreements still report on expenses (and program progress) monthly. Monthly reporting allows the finance team to review and internally audit partner expenditures (for those considered high risk by URI and therefore those who require copies of all supporting documentation –HM, FON, SS, DAA, DAASGIFT, CEWEFIA). Quarterly billing means partners are advanced funds for operations for an entire quarter, rather than monthly, so this improves their cash flow and ensures adequate cash on hand to undertake activities, and reduces risk of cash flow problems to potential quarterly delays rather than monthly.

On the programmatic side, there have been some issues regarding coordination and communication issues among the partners, especially among those working in the Western and Central regions and with Accra-based partners. A problem-solving meeting was held in Takoradi and a number of recommendations made that are being implemented now to resolve those issues. These were also discussed in the recent quarterly partners meeting held.

One final challenge has been in forecasting whether targets set for support to medium and scale enterprises will be met for the year given the late start. There was also concern especially from the Fisheries Commission post-harvest unit that appropriate technologies only be extended and that those had to be vetted via a workshop on smoker technologies. Due to the late start and delayed timing of this workshop, the team has decided to move forward as planned on development of pilot Morrison stove technologies which are known to be better than the most prevalent used style—the chorkor smoker. If the workshop scheduled for the late in the next quarter determines there are better technologies, then the outreach strategy will be adjusted accordingly in Year 2.

2.4 PMP Update

A revised M&E plan has been approved by USAID and METSS based on USAID Ghana standard format and conditions contained in the cooperative agreement. Identified M&E coordinators for each partner who are responsible for data collection and reporting have been trained in the M&E plan, policies, procedures, and to have a thorough understanding of the indicators and targets.

For the household baseline survey, a sample frame was constructed and sample communities selected. Power analysis was conducted to determine the overall number of samples. The

baseline questionnaire has been developed and is being programmed into an e-form that will be administered on SAMSUNG tablets (paperless surveys) and where data will be sent to a cloud database storage during survey implementation.

3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

3.1 Gender Equality and Female Empowerment

The SFMP team conducted a gender in fisheries assessment in May 2015. The assessment aimed to understand the gender roles in the fisheries value chain and fisheries management in the Western and Central regions of Ghana, with the end goal of informing the development of a gender strategy and a manual for gender mainstreaming. The assessment team conducted a literature review of gender and fisheries in Ghana. Primary data was collected through focus group discussions with women fish processors and traders as well as fishermen in Elmina, Apam, and Winneba (Central Region) and Axim (Western Region). The assessment team also visited fish landing sites and fish processing areas, where we observed the behaviors and roles of men, women, and children. Key informant interviews were conducted with the leader of CEWEFIA, who is a former canoe owner, the Chief fisherman from Axim, the National Best Fisherman and the Chief fisherman of Apam, the Konkohen (head of the fish sellers and processing group) at Winneba, and a Staff of Friends of the Nation who is working on the Child labor and Trafficking (CLaT) component of the Project.

The gender assessment found that men and women have clearly defined roles in the Ghanaian fisheries sector, with men engaging in capture fisheries and women working in marketing and sales. Women's participation in capture fisheries is prohibited by cultural rules. However, there are no complete barriers and especially female canoe owners have the possibility of influencing fisheries management directly by dictating rules for their own vessels and indirectly through participating in the canoe and boat owners' associations. The most marginalized groups in the fisheries sector are the men and women who do not own fisheries related assets, such as boats, engines, nets or even processing equipment. The laborers in the fishing industry seem to be poorly organized and lacking a voice in fisheries management. Contributing to their marginalization is that many are temporary or long term migrants without access to secure land tenure. Many men and women also lack access to savings and micro credit. This reduces their opportunities to move into other livelihoods during lean fishing periods—and might indirectly contribute to the use of unsustainable fishing methods. The national government's fisheries management and policy focuses on capture fisheries and hence, male interests. However, there seem to be a growing recognition that fisheries management must involve the whole value chain and include the interests of both men and women. The final gender analysis report will be published and made available in July.

Following the gender assessment, SNV conducted a gender in fisheries needs assessment. The needs assessment pin points and analyses the specific needs of men, women, boys and girls who are involved in the fishing, fish processing and fish trading activities along the central and western coast of Ghana, specifically in Apam, Winneba, Axim and Elmina.

3.2 Sustainability Mechanisms

To become strong and effective, organizations must assess and analyze the roots of their successes and challenges. To that end, SNV in collaboration with URI has developed organizational capacity assessment tools including an organizational self-assessment as well as a comprehensive organizational capacity assessment that has been tailored to meet the needs of the partner organizations. The assessments of targeted CSOs and government and university groups is ongoing and expected to be completed in the next quarter. These assessments will serve as a basis for tailoring interventions for strengthening starting in year 2.

3.3 Environmental Compliance

The Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan prepared for the SFMP was revised to incorporate comments from USAID and approved by the AOR in this reporting period. Environmental compliance monitoring templates were developed as well. This template will be used by partners for monitoring their activities. This is to ensure that all activities with negative determinations with conditions are being monitored. Environmental Compliance Point persons for each implementing partner have been oriented on the USAID'S environmental procedures, the USAID/Ghana economic growth IEE portfolio and the Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan in place for the SFMP.

3.4 Global Climate Change

While there are no impacts on climate change at this time the SFMP will address climate issues in several ways where impacts are anticipated over LoP. Wood, especially mangrove wood, is used for smoking fish throughout the coast of Ghana. A fuel wood supply chain is being conducted by SNV this year as part of the smoked fish value chain. This will provide some insights into overall mangrove wood consumption (and other sources) in the important fish processing sector and impacts on carbon emissions and sustainability of supply. Future SFMP actions with fish processors; the promotion and adoption of fuel efficient stoves, starting later this year, if scaled widely, will likely have a significant impact on mangrove wood consumption and carbon emissions over life of project and beyond. SFMP is coordinating with CLSP on this project.

In addition, the community-based fisheries management and resilience plans for the Pra and Ankobra estuaries and the small pelagic management plan will include climate vulnerability assessments, and resilience strategies. Work with the town and country planning in the central and western regions on coastal community planning will also increase district capacities to mainstream coastal climate vulnerability assessments and resilience actions into district land use and medium term development plans.

3.5 Policy and Governance Support

The project is already advising the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development on the development of a national framework fisheries plan that is being prepared by the World Bank funded WARFP. Extensive comments were provided and being incorporated into the new draft version that has undergone stakeholder comment and review. Several WARFP consultant

reports were also reviewed on legal reforms and co-management. The Minister has asked SFMP to defer work on legal reform and co-management until this work is completed and then pick up and assist the Ministry with implementing recommendations made in these reports. This work also represents some of the significant project match that MOFAD is providing to the project. While not yet started in this quarter, the project expects to work closely with MOFAD on governance issues including planned revisions to the Fisheries Act, especially sections on co-management and on national fisheries regulations needed to implement provisions of the national fisheries plan as well as subsidiary management plans SFMP will develop for small pelagics, Western Region demersal fisheries and community-based management plans.

3.6 Local Capacity Development

SNV and CRC coordinated timing of organizational self-assessments for all six (6) local partner organizations. All preparatory work is complete and assessments began in Q3 and wrap up expected in the beginning of Q4. The intention is to benchmark each organization at the beginning, midpoint and end of the project.

In this reporting period baseline organizational capacity assessments of the seven SFMP CSO partners initiated by SNV and CRC in Quarter 2 are on-going. Daasgift Quality Foundation completed the self-assessment step in April. The baseline assessment process for all CSOs is now anticipated to be completed in the fourth Quarter. Baseline capacity assessments of the nine government institutions and university units with which SFMP collaborates was also on-going. Activities reported under sections 1.3, 2.3 and 2.6 above are also contributing to the process, which will be completed in the fourth quarter.

To further the process of selecting Fisheries Commission staff for graduate education at URI SFMP met with senior officials on May 11 and 22 to establish a student selection committee and process for further action. Several individuals have already indicated interest in applying and the Fisheries Commission has completed a nomination process. Final applicants will be reviewed and selected for Fall 2016 admission in the fourth quarter. A similar process is underway at UCC where several more degree candidates are expected to be put forth in the July.

Under capacity building for graduate degree training, a small selection committee was established composed of Brian Crawford and Najih Lazar from SFMP, Denis Aheto from UCC, Paul Bannerman and Thomas Insaideo from FC, and Patrick Ofori Danson from UG will review a list of candidates to pursue Master's degree training at the University of Rhode Island starting in September 2016. The Selection Committee has received a list of candidates from the FC and from UCC. The Committee will convene in July to review and approve candidates from FC and from UCC to pursue a M.S. in fisheries, marine policy, fish genetics, and data management.

3.7 Public Private Partnership (PPP) Impacts

In Q3, SSG initiated its Rapid Partnership Appraisal (RPA), a core activity to jumpstart public-private partnership development for Ghana SFMP. In May and June, the SSG Partnership Specialist and the SSG Strategic Partnership Consultant, both based in Accra, met with a broad range of companies and organizations operating in Ghana. To date, SSG has interviewed roughly 40 companies and organizations in Ghana. In these interviews, SSG seeks to understand current business challenges and aspirations, as well as any key areas of overlap where the goals of the

company and the Ghana SFMP project align. SSG is also conducting similar interviews with Ghana SFMP project partners and other Ghana SFMP stakeholders, to better understand the project's goals and challenges, as well as what the project might have to offer to its potential private sector partners. Based on its interviews with project stakeholders and the private sector in Q3 and Q4, SSG will develop 10-20 preliminary partnership concepts in Q4.

3.8 Science, Technology, and Innovation Impacts

Some of the PPPs in development above are expected include partnerships for innovative ICT applications in fisheries. IN addition, the STWG is a new innovation being tested to incorporate more science based decision making into the fisheries management and policy process. SFMP is also pioneering collaborative research with fisheries stakeholders through partnerships with UCC.

4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

The study tour to the Philippines engaged a range of critical stakeholders from the fisheries sector in Ghana. These stakeholders included representatives of the Fisheries Commission and the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development, chief fishermen, women processors, members of the marine police and FEU, SFMP staff, and a leader of the Fisheries Alliance. This ensured that a range of perspectives and viewpoints would be reflected during the tour itself and that lessons learned from the study tour could be broadly shared with diverse stakeholder groups in Ghana. Finally, by bringing these stakeholders together to discuss how lessons from the Philippine context might be applied to Ghana, Ghana SFMP is working to build a broad coalition for action in Ghana, ensuring that each major stakeholder group is represented, that critical buy in is secured, and that participants leave the trip with momentum and a shared foundation for action.

SNV together with DAA organized two (2) sensitization workshops on SFMP and post-harvest loses at Winneba and Apam in the Central Region on 26 May and 2 June 2015, respectively. About 200 people participated in both workshops comprising of traditional authorities and elders, local government, fishermen, fish processors, fishers associations and the general public. During the sensitization programme, SNV together with SFMP and DAA set the tone for media engagement. For example Radio Peace in Winneba organized an interview programme on SFMP and its benefit to the communities.

In addition, SNV in collaboration with SFMP secretariat, the US State Department, A Rocha and the Wildlife Society commemorated the World Environment Day by organizing a Breakfast show on 5 June 2015 on Joy TV news and Star FM where the significance of the environment and the SFMP was shared with the general public. The World Environment day was climaxed at Winneba on 6th June 2015 by planting 1000 red mangroves at the Muni Ramsar Site and the organization of a durbar. About 350 people participated in the durbar.

A draft newsletter has been developed for communication and dissemination to local and international stakeholders. This newsletter when finalized and circulated will inform stakeholders about the SFMP project, implementation status, successes and challenges

SNV Ghana and its partners FoN, CEWEFIA and DAA carried out a successful SNV led World Day Against Child Labor event at Elmina on 12th June 2015 which was televised on TV3 on 13th June 2015. The theme for the event was Free Compulsory Universal Basic Education (FCUBE) for all children of school going age (See Annex for images). The activities for the day included:

- A lecture for school children at the Elmina Castle on the Slave trade and Modern day slavery
- 10 minute placard walk by 60 school children and all staff from Elmina castle through to CEWEFIA's (child labor school) at Ayisa.
- A cultural drama and poems on anti-child labor by school children
- Mural painting by school children
- An awareness raising Radio program by SNV, FoN, DAA, CEWEFIA at Asafo radio station, Elmina.

The project has planned out an extensive stakeholder engagement process to address the decline in the small pelagic fisheries with the aim of developing widespread consensus on quick actions that can start to turn the fishery around. This process will start in July and culminate in the national dialogue scheduled for September 8-10.

5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

Processing sub-recipient agreements was completed early in this quarter. URI CRC prepared a report on the administrative procedures involved in the process, which involves more than 70 distinct administrative steps. Approaches to reducing key bottlenecks were identified. A simple subcontract tracking system was created that will provide Ghana based project managers information on an ongoing basis in terms of the status of transactions with each partner.

Recruitment of a URI CRC based coordinator was approved by URI, a search was conducted, and the search committee is evaluating candidates for interviews, which will occur at the outset of Quarter 4. Interim measures involving the distribution of duties for processing travel, subcontract transactions and CRC Accra office clearings were put in place.

At the end of Q3 SNV Renewable Energy Sector Leader Enno Heijndermans is finishing his contract in Ghana and will phase out over time. Mr. James Robinson will then fill Enno's roles within the project.

6. LESSONS LEARNED

During this reporting period the pace and number of project activities being undertaken is increasing rapidly as the fundamental building blocks of systems, procedures and strategies are put in place. Coordinating a large number of implementing partners (eight total including URI as lead) is proving to be a complex undertaking requiring careful coordination and frequent and effective internal communications. There have already been several meetings and discussions for how to address these challenges and management systems are evolving as these challenges have emerged.

The project is developing close linkages to senior leadership in the Fisheries Commission at the Division level and within the regional offices, especially in the Western and Central regional

zones of influence. FC is actively participating in an increasing number of activities and requesting more involvement. They have provided excellent recommendations for undertaking current activities and making suggestions for including in Year 2 activities. This bodes well for creating a demand driven program supporting our main government client needs and for fostering learning within the Fisheries Commission itself and supporting we hope, greater sustainability of accomplishments made beyond life of project. Opportunities for closer collaboration with the World Bank supported WARFP activities is also occurring and additional opportunities emerging, creating optimism of good synergies being achieved between the two projects over the next several years.

7. PLANNED ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS FOR NEXT QUARTER

- CRC business manager Cindy Moreau will travel to Accra in July to provide training and guidance to staff on administrative procedures involved with office finance and subcontract management as well as to elaborate on standard operating procedures for the SFMP Office, and start financial planning and budgeting for the Year 2 workplan.
- Media Training Workshop in collaboration with USAID –July 2015 (USAID Communications staff to be involved in implementation of this event)
- Stock assessment training by SFMP in July 6-10
- Regional fisheries dialogues throughout July
- Marine Police training August (dates TBD)
- Work plan preparation will begin in July with an overall review of the status of activities and deliverables as well as assignments to partners and core staff on preparing draft terms of reference for Year 2. The partners meeting for work planning is August 6-7.
- Fisheries Leadership Training in collaboration with UCC August 4-14
- Training on fishing capacity assessment for STWG in late September
- Rolling out improved smoking technologies and business development and management training in targeted field sites in the Western and Central Regions including workshops on fuel wood and smoked fish value chains and assessment of extension ready improved smoker technologies September 4-5
- National Fisheries Dialogue September 8-10
- A short course for three UCC faculty members focusing on climate change adaptation will take place in September at the University of Rhode Island, to be funded by UCC's grant with supporting contributions from SFMP. Action items for URI include processing J 1 visas for the three UCC participants attending climate change training at URI.

8. HOW IMPLEMENTING PARTNER HAS ADDRESSED AOR COMMENTS FROM THE LAST QUARTERLY REPORT

Comments were incorporated into the previous report final version. The suggestion to add some output documents as attachments was unworkable due to their length and size. These will be made available on request and final versions uploaded and available on the USAID DEC and the CRC project webpage. A table of activities and deliverables delayed was added and included in this report. The AOR also suggested tables showing each subcontractor deliverables and status. This is done internally but if included in the progress report would substantially increase length beyond the 20 page length requested in the cooperative agreement.

9. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Budget Line Items	Total Funds Obligated	Revised Mod 1	Expended Y1, Q1	Expended Y1, Q2	Expended Y1, Q3	Cumulative Expense	Pipeline	Estimated Y1, Q4
URI Personnel	398,444	398,444	17,800	23,777	189,227	230,803	167,641	30,000
URI Fringe	202,105	202,105	-	79,435	70,014	149,449	52,656	48,100
SFMP Staff	193,660	193,660	-	27,182	43,943	71,125	122,535	45,000
Consultants	124,564	176,047	-	140,413	10,973	151,386	24,662	12,331
Other direct costs	476,467	476,467	6,044	167,228	58,547	231,820	244,647	90,000
Travel	613,124	613,124	18,893	75,225	76,469	170,587	442,537	100,000
Subcontracts	2,538,260	2,208,438	-	172,592	585,912	758,504	1,449,933	1,179,034
Capital Equipment	60,602	338,941	-	238,158		238,158	100,783	
Tuition	-		-				-	-
Total Direct	4,607,226	4,607,226	42,737	924,010	1,035,084	2,001,832	2,605,394	1,604,465
Indirect	574,175	574,175	11,112	178,321	116,785	306,218	484,539	110,612
Total	5,181,401	5,181,401	53,849	1,102,332	1,151,869	2,308,050	3,089,934	1,715,077

ANNEX A: PROGRESS SUMMARY

Table 1(a): PMP Indicator progress - USAID Standard Indicators and Project Custom Indicators

Project Goal: Rebuild targeted fish stocks via adoption of sustainable practices and exploitation levels											
Indicator	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2015		Quarterly Status – FY 2015				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Intermediate Result (IR):											
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 assessment s, landing data, maps	2015	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This will be tracked in FY 2019
Number of direct project beneficiaries (number), the percentage of which are female (percent) (IDA Core Indicator) (Goal level indicator Ghana CDCS)	Project records, surveys	2015	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This will be tracked in FY 2017
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	fish analysis, small pelagic analysis child labor analysis	0	0	0	0			Baseline yet to be established

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2015		Quarterly Status – FY 2015				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
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	(SNV-Baseline established for 7 groups: FON, HM, DAA, D G, CEWEFIA, GCFC, FA (CRC qualitative baselines for 9 UCC-CCM, UCC-DFAS, MSC, FEU, research, post-harvest, marine divisions of Fisheries Commission 2 RCCs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		Will be tracked from FY2016 to FY 2019

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2015		Quarterly Status – FY 2015				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
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	806	567	38	198	331		567(70%)	
Number of information products disseminated in local media reports, radio shows, conference papers, and research studies (Project indicator).	Sample of reports	2015	0	20	0	0	0	15		15(75%)	
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	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This indicator will be tracked from FY 17, to FY 19
Number of DAs supported with USG Assistance (Ghana CDCS, IR 2.3 indicator)	Project records, management plans	2015	0	4	0	N/A	4	N/A	N/A	100%	
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	This indicator will be tracked from FY16 to FY 19
Number of climate vulnerability assessments conducted as a result of USG Assistance (EG 4.5.1)	Assessment reports	2015	0	2	N/A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0%	Preparation works are being done
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	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	This indicator will be tracked in FY 16, FY 18 and FY 19

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2015		Quarterly Status – FY 2015				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
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 microenterprises supported	2015	0	560	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0%	Activities delayed but likely target will be met in fourth quarter
Value of new private sector investments in select value chains (FTF 4.5.2-38)	Private sector financial records, program data	2015	0	Tracked, no target							
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 (DAA, CEWEFIA, NATIONAL CANOE FISHERY COUNCIL	2 (DAA, & CEWEFIA,)		2			2(66.6%)	On track
Number of members of producer organizations and community based organizations receiving USG assistance (S)(FTF 4.5.2(27))	Project documents	2015	0	Baseline established	4		4			4 (100%)	Target achieved

Indicator	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2015		Quarterly Status – FY 2015				Annual Performance Achieved to Date (in %)	Comment(s)
		Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
Cross Cutting Indicators											
Number of public-private partnerships formed as a result of Feed the Future assistance (S) (FTF 4.5.2(12)_	Project documents	2015	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Will be tracked in FY 16
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	404	0	0	0	134		134(33%)	Some training events have been dropped from the schedule and other merged from 2 to 1 events. Likely this target will not me met.
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	4040	0	0	0	13400		1340(33%)	See comment above

List of Study Tour Participants to the Philippines

1. Mr. Thomas Insaidoo, Project Technical Liaison, Fisheries Commission
2. Ms. Hawa Bint Yaqub, Deputy FSS Oceanography, Fisheries Commission
3. Ms. Doris Yeboah, M&E Officer, Fisheries Commission
4. Mr. Samuel Manu, Post Harvest Officer, Fisheries Commission
5. Mr. Leonard T. Aborhey, Chief Fishermen, Osu Alata/Accra
6. Mr. Alex Sabah, Western Regional Director, Fisheries Commission
7. Mr. Andrews Tetteh, Executive Member, GIFA W/R
8. Mr. Papa Yaw Atobra, Regional Director (Central Region), Fisheries Commission
9. Ms. Emelia Yawson, Fish Processor
10. Ms. Cecilia Erzuah, Senior Policy Advisor, MOFAD
11. Ms. Matilda Quist, Head Marine Fisheries, Fisheries Commission
12. Ms. Bernice Tetteh, Senior Member MCS
13. Mr. Emmanuel Addae, Ghana Marine Police
14. Mr. Nana Duncan Williams, GNCFC / Chief Fisherman Elmina
15. Mr. Kofi Agbogah, Executive Director, Hen Mpoano
16. Mr. Najih Lazar, Fisheries Advisor, SFMP
17. Ms. Patricia Mensah, Communications Officer, SFMP
18. Mr. Richster Nii Armafio, Fisheries Alliance
19. Ms. Doris Ahadzie, Member, National Executives of the Fish Traders & Processors Assn.
20. Mr. Sortoh Kojo Mensah, National Vice-Chairman, Inshore Fishers Association