

## NEWSLETTER

Project Update - June to Nov 2019

### INTRODUCTION

The Power to the Fishers (PTF) project aims to enhance the socio-economic livelihood of fishing communities within selected districts of the coastal savannah zone of Ghana. Welcome to the 2019 half-year newsletter which presents updates on the progress of the project and upcoming activities. This is the first newsletter issue for the project

For further information about the PTF project, visit: [www.powertothefishers.com](http://www.powertothefishers.com)

### MAPPING OUT KEY STAKEHOLDERS



*Introductory Meeting with Care International*

The Power to the Fishers (PTF) project team commenced with a number of stakeholder engagements. The engagements were to introduce the project, leverage existing resources, and forge synergies towards sustainability. These institutions include:

- **Regulators**

Ministry of Fisheries & Aquaculture Development (MoFAD) and Fisheries Commission.

- **EU-Funded Interventions**

Far Ban Bo, Far Dwuma Nkodo, and Sustainable Fisheries Management Project.

- **Civil Society Organizations**

Care International, Environmental Justice Foundation, Agriculture and Climate Empowerment Centre, and Friends of the Earth.

Organization, Conservation Alliance, Agriculture and Climate Empowerment Centre, and Friends of the Earth.

- **Academia**

Centre for Coastal Management

- **Fisher Associations**

National Fish Processors and Traders Association (NAFPTA)

### COMMUNITY ENTRY



*Community Entry in Senya Breku Community*

As a means of creating awareness and enhancing fisherfolk's knowledge on improved technologies, study tours were organized for 60 lead fishmongers from the Effutu Municipal, Ekumfi, Gomoa-West and Awutu Senya districts. The study tours were organized at the Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association (CEWEFIA) compliance facility in September 2020, at Elmina. The purpose of the study tour was to expose the lead fishmongers to the improved smoking technology, as well as good fish handling and hygienic practices.



*Community Entry Meeting in Winneba Community*

## **UNDERSTANDING THE CURRENT STATE OF GHANA'S FISHERIES SECTOR**



*Data Collection during the Baseline Survey in the Gomaa West District*

A comprehensive baseline survey was conducted in the project communities to document the status quo and existing practices among the intended beneficiaries. Fisherfolks in the project communities were engaged through interviews and focus group discussions. Experts from the Fisheries Commission, Environmental Justice Foundation, and Hen Mpoano were also interviewed to provide instructive information at the macro level. Data was obtained from a total of 1,888 fisherfolks. It was statistically analyzed and culminated in a baseline report.



*Data Collection in the Effutu Municipality*

## **ASSESSING THE STATE OF MANGROVES IN THE COASTAL COMMUNITIES OF GHANA**

As part of the activities aimed at capacity building on environmental protection and climate resilience,

the project explored mangrove sites in some project communities. It was observed that degradation was pronounced, though fragmented degradation occurred in several relatively small patches across the entire landscapes.



*A Portion of Degraded Mangrove Sites in the Shama District*

This degradation has been partly driven by fish smoking activities, which requires fuel wood harvested from these mangroves. The team also had interactions with key informants - co management committees and lead fishers within the community to further understand the attitudes of the community folks towards the resource. Despite mangrove resources having huge economic value against climate change, community folks only regarded the resource as a preferred fuel wood resulting in indiscriminate harvesting of the resource.

## **INTRODUCTORY MEETING WITH THE SHAMA NHIA OFFICE**

A key component of the PTF project seeks to promote and enhance social protection coverage for beneficiaries. The social protection services of interest are health insurance and credit. In line with this, the project team identified the Shama District Office of the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA) as a possible collaborator, and held a meeting with the office.

The engagement was to introduce the project to the district NHIA office and gain insights on the operations of the Authority. The meeting further sought to build a working relationship between the two entities and identify areas of collaboration.





The collaboration is towards sensitization and registration efforts at increasing subscription rates of fisherfolk within the Shama District onto the health insurance service.

## POWER TO THE FISHERS PROJECT WEBSITE LAUNCHED

A website has been created solely for the project to serve as the knowledge and resource centre for all findings, success stories and updates on project activities. Information on the website is available to all interested parties. To further enhance the visibility of the project, communication materials such as brochures, flyers, and pull-up banners have been developed. The link to the project website is <http://powertothefishers.com>



CERATH Development Organization is implementing the Power to the Fishers project with financial support from the European Union. The Power to the Fishers project is a four-year project to enhance the socio-economic livelihoods of fishing communities within selected districts of the coastal savannah zones of Ghana.

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Implemented by:



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