



THE POWER TO THE FISHERS PROJECT

Terms of Reference

Endline Evaluation (2019–2023)

CERATH DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

DECEMBER 2022



EUROPEAN UNION



GOVERNMENT OF GHANA



I.0 Introduction

CERATH Development Organization (CDO) is implementing the 4-year fisheries management intervention dubbed the *Power to the Fishers* (PTF) project, which is funded by the European Union (EU) under the Civil Society Organization in Research and Innovation for Sustainable Development program (CSO-RISE). The goal of the Power to the Fishers project is to enhance the socio-economic livelihoods of fishing communities within selected districts of Ghana's coastal savannah zones. The main beneficiaries of the project are fish processors (mostly) and fishermen in fishing communities of Awutu Senya, Effutu, Ekumfi, Gomoa West and Shama districts of Ghana.

The specific objectives of the project are:

- Engage stakeholders and value chain actors to disseminate information on climate change and other contemporary issues affecting the fishery sector and coastal ecosystems.
- Enhance the knowledge and adoption of improved, environmentally friendly and cost-efficient fish processing technologies.
- Build the capacities of target groups on appropriate fishing & business practices, environmental protection, climate change, and health & safety.
- Forge strategic partnerships between social protection entities and the target groups
- Document project outcomes and disseminate for learning and scaling.

This project contributes to the overall vision of the Civil Society Organizations in Research and Innovation for Sustainable Development (CSO-RISE) through community empowerment and capacity building towards inclusive growth and reduction of social inequalities.

The Power to the Fishers project is designed to enhance the socio-economic livelihoods (business and living conditions) of fisherfolks through capacity building, technology adoption, and linkages with social protection entities. During the project's implementation period, the project has built the capacity of some 5,057 fisherfolk in the 26 project communities on safe fish handling practices, climate change mitigation, social protection among others. The project has also equipped the fisherfolk and fishing communities with 6 fish processing centers, currently operational, and 30 improved fish smoking technologies built under the 'stove host' model. Outside the grassroots level, the project has forged strong working relations and partnerships with the Fisheries Commission (both at the national and district levels), district offices of the National Health Insurance Authority (NHIA), the Centre for Coastal Management (of the University of Cape Coast), and other civil society organizations (towards advocacy dubbed Campaign against Saiko).

The project, which commenced in June 2019, is drawing to a close — February 2023. A key feature of project closure is a holistic assessment of outputs, outcomes, and impacts on the lives of project beneficiaries. In line with this, the project will carry out an endline evaluation, which will complement a baseline study and a midterm evaluation undertaken earlier, as well as enable the visualization of the project's result trajectory.

1.1 Theory of Change

The intervention logic of the project asserts that to enhance livelihoods and sustainable management of fishery resources, a multi-dimensional approach focusing on macro-level advocacy, improved technologies, social protection and relevant capacity building is necessary. In achieving this, the main assumption is the need for stakeholders to commit to changing the current status quo. Additionally, with the fisherfolk having demanded such an intervention, it is assumed that they will actively collaborate with the project team to actualize the project objectives.

Some project risks anticipated include continuity beyond this EU grant phase. In mitigating this, the project will carefully institute community-owned structures to consolidate project gains.

structured in order to be financially sustained and generate revenue. Another risk anticipated by the project is the incidence of COVID-19 and the outbreak of other pandemics. This can pose a threat to the project since the project involves several in-person engagements. The project will endeavour to adhere to (as well as educate beneficiaries on) protocols stipulated by the Government of Ghana (GoG) to contain the spread of the disease.

The key activities of the project include identifying and mapping out various stakeholders. This is to ascertain their influence and roles in the sector. To enhance the adoption of improved technologies the project will construct smoking centres and individual stoves (under a stove host model) for beneficiary communities. Additionally, beneficiaries will be trained on the use and maintenance of these technologies, health and safety, best business practices and environmental protection. Another key activity will be to facilitate engagements between target groups and social protection service providers to increase subscriptions onto these services. The last key activity will involve enrolling five (5) graduate students to receive funding for their research work. Furthermore, there will be periodic monitoring and evaluation, results sharing, and learning workshops. These activities will lead to the following key outputs. First, it will lead to the construction of 6 communal smoking centres and 30 individual ovens. It will also lead to the capacities of 2500 beneficiaries built on fish handling, technology adoption, occupational safety & health, and enterprise development. With regards to social protection, the project anticipates the enrolment of 1200 beneficiaries onto at least one (1) social protection scheme.

These outputs will lead to outcomes including improved business operations & incomes of fish processors, enhanced safety & health, and deepened social protection coverage.

2.0 The Evaluation

2.1 Objective/ Purpose of the Evaluation

The objective for the endline evaluation of the Power to the Fishers project is to assess the accomplishments of the project since its inception in June 2019. The evaluation would focus on all accomplishments realized in line with the project's work plan and chosen approaches. The evaluation would specifically cover the (i) impacts of project deliverables on beneficiaries' lives, (ii) limitations to the full realization of intended project results, and (iii) effectiveness of instituted sustainability measures. Additionally, the evaluation would document (iv) lessons drawn (from the project) to inform the design & rollout of other interventions.

2.2 Specific Evaluation Questions

To help assess the relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability and impact of the project, the endline evaluation will need to address the following questions (under the respective objectives):

1. Engage relevant stakeholders and value chain actors in target areas for project implementation and advocate for change on key issues related to the sector.
 - What were new issues identified and the old issues confirmed pertaining to the fishery sector, which then influenced project design and delivery?
 - How did the learning groups serve the purposes of the project?
 - What advocacy campaign was pursued by the project?
 - What lessons could be learned from engaging relevant stakeholders.

2. Enhance the knowledge and adoption of improved, environmentally friendly fish processing technologies.
 - How operational have the communal smoking centres been?
 - How are the individual smoking ovens (under the stove host model) being employed by recipients?
 - Have the target beneficiaries received capacity building training on improved technology adoption? How many?
 - What are the feedback of the target beneficiaries on the capacity building trainings received?
 - What are the feedback of the target beneficiaries on improved ovens received?

- How is the adoption of the improved fish processing technology impacting the business and health of the users?
 - What measures have been put in place to ensure the sustainable usage/adoption of the improved technology?
 - What lessons could be learned from the introduction of the improved technology to the target beneficiaries?
3. Build the capacities of target groups on appropriate fish processing and business practices, environmental protection, climate change, health and safety.
- How is capacity building (on appropriate fish handling, occupational safety & health, and enterprise development) transforming the livelihoods of project beneficiaries?
 - What are the feedback of the target beneficiaries on the capacity building trainings received?
 - What is the outcome of the inter-district dialogues conducted to elicit fisheries issues and facilitate the sharing of best practices? What is the feedback on these engagements?
4. Forge strategic partnerships between social protection entities and the target groups:
- How has engagements with social protection service (SPS) providers translated into social protection coverage for fisherfolk? How many people have subscribed onto SPS?
 - What are the communities' feedback on social protection services received?
 - How many VSLAs have been formed? How much funds has been accumulated and given out as loans in total? What number of beneficiaries have signed up?
 - To what extent has the VSLAs provided social protection for its members. How has the VSLAs impacted the social economic well-being of the members
 - What are the communities' feedback on the VSLAs formed?
 - What measures have been put in place to ensure sustainability of the VLSAs beyond the life the project.?
 - What lessons could be drawn from the forging of strategic partnerships between the social protection entities and the project beneficiaries?
5. Document project outcomes and disseminate for learning and scaling up:
- Has the project periodically developed communication materials for dissemination? Type of materials developed and how many? What are the outcomes of disseminating these communication materials

- To what extent did the information Centres/platforms established by the project facilitated the periodic communication of updates on the project.
- How will the research work by the student researchers benefit the fisheries sector?
- How many research materials have been developed by the project and also in partnership with a research institution?
- What is the outcome of the stakeholder engagement sessions/workshops organized by the project?

3.0 Methodology

The evaluation will span all five (5) districts of the Power to the Fishers project: Awutu Senya, Effutu, Gomoa West, Ekumfi and Shama districts. While the exact evaluation methodology is to be proposed by the consulting agency, the following elements should be included:

1. Review and validation of the project data (results, outputs, activity reports etc.) against the annual and quarterly reports.
2. Quantitative data collection: administer questionnaires to target beneficiaries
3. Qualitative data collection:
 - Interviews and participatory sessions (focus group) with project beneficiaries (fish processors, among others).
 - Interviews and participatory sessions with collaborating agencies (the EU, the Technical Assistance Team, NHIA district offices, Fisheries Commission district offices, and Center for Coastal Management, among others).

4.0 Evaluation Team and Experience

Interested consulting agencies must have the following;

- Proven expertise and experience in conducting project evaluations.
- Knowledge and experience in the fishery sector is an advantage.
- Excellent attention to detail and evidence of quality outputs from previous assignments.
- Strong qualitative and quantitative analytical skills.
- Good reporting and presenting skills.
- Detailed CVs of the team members who will undertake the assignment.

5.0 Proposal Format

Bidders are to submit a proposal of 10 pages maximum excluding cover page. The font to be used is “Times New Romans” with a font size of 11. The proposal must include the following;

- Cover page
- Information on bidding organization or consortium
- Past experiences
- Implementing team profiles
- Methodology for evaluation

6.0 Budget and Contact

- Budget with explanatory notes (in cedis)
- Contact details of consulting agency

7.0 Deliverables and Timeframe

The deadline for submission of a proposal, budget, and all relevant documents towards this bid is **2nd January 2023** by **17:00 GMT**. Interested applicants are to submit their application to procurement@cerathdev.org.

The evaluation assignment (including submission of reports) should be undertaken and completed within **22 working days** after the signing of a contractual agreement. The consulting agency will provide a workplan within the framework of the time allocated.

The deliverables of the assignment will include

1. Field visit reports (to be submitted on weekly basis during the evaluation period)
2. An endline evaluation report. The report should be structured and include the following:
 - Executive summary
 - Introduction
 - Methodology
 - Results from the Evaluation
 - Conclusion, lessons and recommendations
 - Annexes, including data collection tools, data set, photos etc.