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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

Memorandum of Understanding for
Supporting Sustainable and Best
Fisheries Practices between the
USAID/ SFMP/ CEWEFIA and the
Elmina Opinion Leaders



JULY, 2017

THE
UNIVERSITY
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The Coastal Resources Center

http://www.crc.uri.edu/projects_page/ghanasfmp/

Ghanalinks.org

<https://ghanalinks.org/elibrary> search term: SFMP

USAID Development Clearing House

<https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/search.aspx> search term: Ghana SFMP

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Cover photo: A group picture with Elmina Traditional Authority after a community action plan update in Elmina.(Photo by CEWEFIA)

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SNV: <http://www.snvworld.org/en/countries/ghana>

ACRONYMS

CEWEFIA	Central and Western Region Fishmongers Improvement Association
CRC	Coastal Resource Center
FC	Fisheries Commission
MOFAD	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
SFMP	Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
UCC	University of Cape Coast
URI	University of Rhode Island
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

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Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Supporting Sustainable and Best Fisheries Practices between the USAID/ SFMP/ CEWEFIA and the Elmina Opinion Leaders

SECTION: 1 BACKGROUND

The USAID-funded Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (USAID/SFMP) implemented by the University of Rhode Island works closely with the Ghana Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (MOFAD), the Fisheries Commission (FC) and local and international partners to rebuild marine fisheries stocks and catches through adoption of responsible fishing practices. It aims to end overfishing of key stocks important to local food security. More than 100,000 men and women involved in the local fishing industry are expected to benefit from this project. As such, Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association (CEWEFIA) a community based Non-Governmental Organization an implementing partner of the USAID/ Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project is working closely with Community Opinion Leaders, Assembly Members, and Religious Leaders to support Best Fisheries Practice to end overfishing and over exploitation of fisheries which is on the verge of collapse.

SECTION 2: MOU OBJECTIVES

The objective of the MOU is to gain support from Opinion Leaders regarding efforts to improve fishing practices and support sustainable fishing measures to allow for the recuperation of tens of thousands of metric tons of food protein supply lost due to severe overfishing, illegal fishing and poor management practices. The USAID/SFMP project through its implementing partner, CEWEFIA, together with Opinion Leaders in Elmina agrees to:

- Support a Marine Fishery Management Plan for Targeted Stocks, such as small pelagic stock and demersal fish stocks.
- Support measures to reduce overfishing and illegal fishing such as the Fisheries Management Plan or ways to reduce fishing effort especially of the canoe fleet, add an additional fishing holiday, closed season or effective cap on new registrations.
- Support co-management national policy to enable co-management initiatives to be realized.
- Support Hygienic Fish Handling and processing in the fisheries Value chain.
- The parties to this MOU agree to commit to improving the fisheries and adhering to best practices and sustainable fisheries management measures. This MOU outlines parties' roles and responsibilities.

SECTION 3: STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION IN SUPPORTING BEST FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Stakeholders party to this MOU agree to support activities and stand for actions that reduce overfishing, eliminate illegal fishing and support sustainable fisheries management practices. Specific actions include:

- Stakeholders shall condemn illegal fishing practices.
- Stakeholders shall condemn Child Labour and Trafficking in Fisheries.
- Stakeholders shall support improved fish handling technologies.
- Stakeholders shall co-manage their fisheries resources.

SECTION 4: THE PARTIES' ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Parties to this MOU agree to the following roles and responsibilities.

- Opinion Leaders, represented by Nana Kojo Condua VI, shall contribute through:
 - Monitoring landing sites.
 - Report illegal fishing practices to the authorities.
 - Strengthen participatory decision making in fisheries management.
 - Protect marine habitat and bio-diversity.
 - Commit to providing support to help community development.
- USAID/ SFMP/CEWEFIA shall:
 - Commit to working with opinion leaders to sustain fisheries activities.
 - Provide financial or in-kind support to enhance work done in the community Subject to availability of funds.
 - Strengthen participatory decision making in fisheries management among opinion Leaders.

Effective date and length of agreement.

agreement require written approval of the Two Parties and shall be appended hereto. After the initial three year Period, this agreement maybe renewed by mutual consent. Either Party reserves the right to terminate this agreement upon Six (6) months prior written notice to the other.

The parties agree to the roles in carrying out their respective responsibilities under this MOU, signed on (date) by:



Mrs Victoria Churchill Koomson
 Executive Director
 CEWEFIA
 Date 26-06-17



Nana Kojo Condua VI
 Paramount Chief
 Elmina Traditional Council
 Date 26-06-17

Witnesses:

NANA KWESI
 DUNGAN I
