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SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SFMP)

Video Shows and Radio Sensitization



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Development
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Cover photo: Victims of CLaT Credit: Development Action Association

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ACRONYMS

DAA	Development Action Association
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
SFMP	USAID/Ghana Sustainable Fisheries Management Project
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

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SUMMARY

The prevalence of child labor and trafficking in fishing has been an issue of public concern, in Ghana and especially in the Central region. This has made it necessary for trained Community Advocates by DAA under the USAID SFMP from Child labor and trafficking prone Communities like Mumford, Apam and Winneba to advocate against child labor and trafficking in those mentioned Communities. The Anti CLaT advocates from Apam, Winneba and Mumford organized video shows to educate, sensitize them on the prevalence and negative impact of child labor and trafficking. The video show was successful with the help of DAA, sponsored by USAID through the Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP).

This public Campaign brought different people including Children, Teachers and parents together to discuss how best to find lasting solutions to the rampant issue of child labor and trafficking in Ghana. The video show was to educate, sensitize and create awareness of the prevalence of child and trafficking in fishing. There were behavioral changes and changes of mindset since about three Community people shared their lessons learned and served as agents of change to the people of Apam, Winneba and Mumford. At the end, the video shows really created awareness and sensitized the participants, because ex-victims of Child labor and trafficking, willingly gave out their story, advised the parents and guardians to stop and pledged their full support to the anti-child labor and trafficking fight. Parents also suggested possible solutions to prevent child and trafficking in Ghana.

1. INTRODUCTION

Children are the leaders of tomorrow and the future of a Nation. They need to be properly guided and educated, so that they service the society well and not be deprived of the joy of their childhood. In Ghana, Children are involved in exploitative child labor due to a variety of complex factors including: abject poverty, educational system barriers, informational gaps, legal and policy barriers, resource gaps, and weak child labor law enforcement.

The human, economic, social and health costs of not addressing these issues are enormous and pose a serious threat to our future society. Child labor and trafficking are issue of global social justices. In our independent world it needs to be perceived as “our” problem. The creation of an enabling environment for sustainable change requires “upstream” efforts at an international and national level as well as “downstream” efforts n families and communities

Combating issues concerning CLaT along the coastal belts of the country (Ghana) which central region is not an exceptional. DAA under the USAID SFMP found the need to train anti CLaT advocates in the following working areas of the association, Winneba, Apam and Mumford to help create awareness about the issues and to educate the various communities on the impact of CLaT on victims and the society. These sensitization, awareness creation and education were presented by Community Anti-CLaT Advocates in the form of video shows to more than 15 communities within Apam, Mumford and Winneba.

1.1 Objectives of the Campaign

- To create awareness of child labor and trafficking in the Community.
- To sensitize the people on the negative impact of child labor and trafficking in the society and the Country as whole.
- To educate people about the economic, social and physiological effect of victims CLaT. To prevent possible occurrence of child labor and trafficking in the Central Region especially Apam.

1.2 Expected Outcome

- It is expected that people will have behavioral change toward the issue of Child and trafficking in the society.
- It also expected that people in Apam Community would be informed about the issues of Child labor and trafficking and will be gents of change by advocating against such illegal canker in the Community.
- It is expected that people will have change of attitude and mindset when it comes to child labor and trafficking issues.
- It will again create awareness and sensitivity among people in Apam Community, since most of them are naive about the negative impact of trafficked children to the community.
- It will alert parents to fully take their responsibility in the up bring their children than allowing their children to go such inhuman treatment.

2. AREAS OF VIDEO COVERAGE

The video shows covered most areas of the targeted Communities at Mumford, Winneba and Apam. Those areas where the video shows took place were child labor and trafficking prone area. Areas like Penkye, Osakam, Nsuokyre, Warabeba, Alata Apam main round about, all those areas are Winneba, Apam and Mumford landing Beach, mostly fishing Communities. Those areas were selected with consultation with stakeholders and Assemblymen. There ten video shows those Communities to sensitize, educate, create awareness and possible prevent future occurrence of the issue of child labor and trafficking in Ghana.



Figure 1. Cross section of viewers during the video show at Penkye, Winneba



Figure 2. Cross section of viewers during the video show at Mumford



Figure 4. Cross section of viewers during the video show at Apam roundabout



Figure 3. Survivor of child labor and trafficking sharing experience with the audience during video show at Warabeba

3. CONCLUSION

The threat of child labor and child trafficking has engulfed the fishing and many other work sectors including the mining and farming sector.

As the education and sensitization on CLaT continuous with the involvement of opinion leaders, religious group leaders and voluntary community Anti CLaT advocate and laws enforcement authorities play their effective role, it occurrence will reduce drastically sooner than later.