



# FEED THE FUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

## SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PROJECT



### EMPOWERING WOMEN FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

The development of the National Gender Mainstreaming Strategy for the Fisheries Sector in Ghana and with the full endorsement of all stakeholders, including fish processors and traders, traditional authorities, civil society organizations, government officials and communities demonstrates broad-based commitment toward promoting women's right and gender equality in decision making in the fisheries sector.

USAID Sustainable Fisheries Management Project (SFMP) facilitated this important process since 2016, providing leadership and support for stakeholder engagement and women empowerment to achieve sustainable fisheries.

The interventions focus on creating opportunities for equal rights for women and men in all aspects of national growth and development and significantly contribute to increasing women's capacities and participation in fisheries governance.

While expanding dialogues and full participation of stakeholders in support of mainstreaming gender in fisheries, it is important that resources are leveraged to keep the momentum and support the implementation of the strategy. In this manner, the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and Fisheries Commission can act as a bridge acting between different stakeholders to support change.

#### FAST FACTS:

#### Gender and Sustainable Fisheries in Ghana

- Fish processing is a major occupation for more than 30,000 women in 340 coastal communities in Ghana.
- The artisanal sub-sector is responsible for over 70% of the total fish production and employs over 60% of the women involved in the fishery value chain.
- In Ghana, the role of women in the fishing sector is highly defined by traditional gendered roles-where men go fishing and women are mainly responsible for processing and marketing fish.



With the development of the National Gender Strategy and with wider stakeholder endorsement for national action, the USAID Sustainable Fisheries Management Project is working with the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and the Fisheries Commission (MOFAD/FC) to focus on increasing effort in gender responsiveness which include the following:

- Restructuring MOFAD/FC's program of work and cooperation with stakeholders in the fisheries sector from a gender perspective;
- Strengthening gender mainstreaming capacity at the policy and implementation levels of the fisheries value chain;
- Creating an enabling environment to enhance the process of gender responsive fisheries management to ensure women and men have equal opportunities as fisheries decision-makers and co-managers;
- Strengthening capacities of women and men fisheries associations including Civil Society Organizations to solve problems through open and transparent communications, networking and shared decision making;
- Improving the fisheries value (through technological innovation and infrastructures, finance and research) and provide post-harvest training and technical know-how to women and men engaged directly and indirectly in the fisheries sector;
- Strengthening knowledge and information of the fisheries sector through gender responsive monitoring and evaluation.



## Our Partners

### Government

- Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture Development
- Fisheries Commission
- Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection

### Civil Society Organizations

- Hen Mpoano
- SNV Netherlands Development Organization
- Development Action Association (DAA)
- Friends of the Nation
- Central and Western Fishmongers Association (CEWEFIA)
- Resonance Global



### About the Feed the Future:

Feed the Future is the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative. With a focus on smallholder agricultural and fisheries activities, especially those implemented by women, the Feed the Future program supports partner countries in developing their agriculture, fisheries and other food related sectors to spur economic growth and trade that increases incomes and reduces hunger, poverty and malnutrition. For more information, visit [www.feedthefuture.gov](http://www.feedthefuture.gov).

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