

# **Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Initiative for the Western Region of Ghana**

**HEN MPOANO (OUR COAST)**

**Annual Report 2011**

**October 1, 2010 – September 30, 2011**

**Cooperative Agreement No. 641-A-00-09-00036-00**



**October 2011**



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**Citation:** CRC 2011. Annual Report. Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island. USAID Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance Initiative for the Western Region, Ghana. 71p.

**Disclaimer:** This publication is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)/Ghana. The contents of this report are the responsibility of the Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Program and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Government. Associate Cooperative Agreement No. 641-A-00-09-00036-00 for “Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Program for the Western Region of Ghana”, Under the Leader with Associates Award No. EPP-A-00-04-00014-00.Cooperative Agreement No. GPO-A-00-08-00002-00

**Cover Photo:** Fishermen at Akwidae (Ahanta West District) preparing nets for Hen Mpoano experimental Fishing

**Cover Photo Credit:** Coastal Resources Center – Ghana

**The Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Program  
for the Western Region of Ghana**

**Annual Report  
October 2010 – September 2011**

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**Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island**

**In partnership with:**

**The Government of Ghana  
Friends of the Nation  
SustainaMetrix  
The WorldFish Center**

**October 2011**

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## List of Acronyms

<b>AFD</b>	Agence Française de Développement
<b>BALANCED</b>	Building Actors for Livelihoods & Advancing Communities Excellence in Development
<b>BBOP</b>	Business Biodiversity Offset Program
<b>BCS</b>	Behavior Change Support
<b>BMUs</b>	Beach Management Units
<b>CBAGs</b>	Community Biodiversity Advisory Group
<b>CBDs</b>	Community-Based Distributors
<b>CD</b>	Compact Disk
<b>CEWEFIA</b>	Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association
<b>CRC</b>	Coastal Resources Center
<b>CREMA</b>	Community Resources Management Area
<b>CSOs</b>	Civil Society Organizations
<b>DP</b>	Development Partner
<b>ECHNTS</b>	Essiama Community Health Nurses Training School
<b>FC</b>	Forestry Commission
<b>FiC</b>	Fisheries Commission
<b>FON</b>	Friends of the Nation
<b>FtF</b>	Feed the Future
<b>FWG</b>	Fisheries Working Group
<b>GCC - SL</b>	Global Climate Change -Sustainable Landuse
<b>GES</b>	Ghana Education Service
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information Systems
<b>GREL</b>	Ghana Rubber Estates Limited
<b>GSBA</b>	Globally Significant Biodiversity Area
<b>HKI</b>	Health Keepers International
<b>IBA</b>	Important Bird Area
<b>ICFG</b>	Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance
<b>ICM</b>	Integrated Coastal Management
<b>ICZFM</b>	Integrated Coastal Zone and Fisheries Management
<b>KfW</b>	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau
<b>LCA</b>	Leadership for Conservation in Africa
<b>LOGODEP</b>	Local Government Decentralization Program
<b>LOP</b>	Life of Project
<b>M&amp;E</b>	Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>MCS</b>	Monitoring Control and Surveillance
<b>MEST</b>	Ministry of Environment Science and Technology
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>MPA</b>	Marine Protected Areas
<b>NADMO</b>	National Disaster Management Organization
<b>NCRC</b>	Nature Conservation Research Centre
<b>NGO</b>	Non Governmental Organization

<b>NORAD</b>	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
<b>NSV</b>	National Service Volunteers
<b>PCC</b>	Platform for Coastal Communities
<b>PES</b>	Payment for Ecosystem Services
<b>PHE</b>	Population Health and Environment
<b>PMR</b>	Performance Monitoring Report
<b>RECA</b>	Rural Environmental Care Association
<b>REDD</b>	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
<b>ROMs</b>	Read Only Memory
<b>STMA</b>	Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly
<b>TBD</b>	To Be Determined
<b>TORs</b>	Terms of References
<b>UCC</b>	University of Cape Coast
<b>UCSOND</b>	United Civil Society Organizations of Nzema East
<b>URI</b>	University of Rhode Island
<b>USA</b>	United States of America
<b>USAID</b>	United States Agency for International Development
<b>US-EPA</b>	US Environmental Protection Agency
<b>WAPCA</b>	West Africa Primate Conservation Association
<b>WFC</b>	World Fish Centre
<b>WR</b>	Western Region
<b>WRCC</b>	Western Regional Coordinating Council
<b>YPEs</b>	Youth Peer Educators

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## Executive Summary

The Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Initiative is a four-year project supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). It is locally referred to as the *Hen Mpoano*<sup>1</sup> (Our Coast) Initiative. The Initiative will contribute to overall goal of ensuring that Ghana's coastal and marine ecosystems are sustainably managed to provide goods and services that generate long term socio-economic benefits to communities while sustaining biodiversity. Within Ghana, it is seen as an essential pilot program for integrating necessary fisheries management reforms into the food security agenda given the high dependence of the population on fish in the diet, the economic importance of the fisheries sector in the coastal belt, and declining stocks.

In the first year of the Initiative, or Phase 1 (2009-2010), a series of studies and field based assessments culminated in the publication of the "Our Coast" document. This document communicates the evolution of ecosystem change and ecosystem governance at both the sea and landscapes in the 6 districts. The document presents a way forward and outlines what the ICFG Initiative seeks to accomplish in Years 2 to 4 in relation to the central objective of the ICFG Initiative of assembling the pre-conditions for a formally constituted coastal and fisheries governance program that can serve as a model for the nation. These preconditions are:

- Clearly defined goals that resonate with stakeholders;
- Constituencies that support such goals and a plan of action to achieve them;
- Governmental commitment expressed as a mandate, the necessary authorities and the resources to successfully implement the program; and,
- The institutional capacity to sustain the initiative on into the future.

This report highlights the achievements and progress in Phase 2 and Year 2 of the ICFG or *Hen Mpoano* Initiative (2010-2011) towards these pre-conditions as well as the adaptive strategies adopted in light of a rapidly evolving social and institutional land and seascape. A summary of progress in relation to performance management targets is provided in Annex 1.

### *Clearly Defined Goals*

The major activity in Phase 2 has been to pilot coastal management activities in the three focal areas. These areas were selected at the end of Year 1 to illustrate conditions in coastal areas that range from areas heavily altered and rapidly urbanizing (Shama) to a rural setting as yet relatively isolated from development pressures (Amansuri). Cape Three Points was chosen as an intermediate setting in which tourism and protection/restoration of important fisheries habitats are priorities and development pressures are intensifying. Each of the three focal areas has unique coastal management challenges. Together, they form a spectrum of critical coastal management issues that are representative of the entire coast of Ghana.

Initial spatial planning support provided to the Shama District focal area have been instrumental in developing processes for engaging local government and stakeholders in profiling critical issues and developing policies and norms at the local government and community level that address these issues.

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<sup>1</sup> *Hen Mpoano* means 'Our Coast' in the local Fante dialect. It emerged as a slogan context to identify a local catch phrase that the local people can relate to and that which reflects the aspirations of the Initiative. It is now the brand name of the ICFG Initiative.

The ICFG team working in Shama has identified priority areas for applying ICM approaches and tools. These include the Anankwari River, its floodplain and watershed; shoreline and fishing communities; the Pra River and associated wetlands. Investments in mapping and technical studies are identifying the key features of the shoreline, its suitability for different intensities of use and its vulnerability to climate change. Products from these studies have begun to inform the dialogue with officers in the district government and through public outreach at the community level. The institutional framework for the nested governance system is being designed with the support of a District level Advisory Committee whose membership is drawn from government, civil society and business sectors has been formed. For this focal area, the goals are clearly defined and well understood throughout the district.

The Shama focal area case study has been widely communicated at several planning forums in the Western Region as has become a model for other districts. Spatial planning processes are now underway in five of the six districts together with local government and with strong participation from civil society. The Initiative has been able to leverage and orient other planning institutions and programs working with these same districts in order to allow for a focus on the coastal belt and communities. Each of the districts are set to develop working models of best practices in integrated coastal management that are mainstreamed and operational within district development and/or land use plans. This will be combined with piloted best practice examples of community-based approaches to fisheries management operational at the local scale within local management units, notably critical habitats for fisheries.

Finally, policy proposals for a new approach to both ICM and fisheries governance for the Western region nested within national policy frameworks and that support local level actions at the district and community scales are identified and currently being outlined as part of a two tiered approach to addressing critical coastal management and fisheries issues.

### ***Constituencies***

The ICFG Initiative is working to demonstrate an approach to coastal management that is demand-driven and responds to the needs and concerns of its stakeholders. As such, investments have focused on a core group of well-informed stakeholders that is sufficiently large and motivated to propel forward a new and integrating approach to coastal and fisheries management and thereby sustain this effort once the ICFG project draws to a close in 2013. Targeted consultations and capacity building sessions have been carried out with a total of 58 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and government agencies (48 CSOs and 10 government agencies) and 753 individuals in Year 2 that include:

- The fisher folk associations and the coastal communities who will be directly affected by measures such as construction setbacks, protection of remaining coastal habitats (mangroves and lagoons) and improvements to sanitation and the infrastructure that supports fishing activities;
- The larger public, including opinion leaders, religious leaders and political parties and;
- The institutions and private sector entities, whose interest and support will be required if a reformed nested government system for addressing coastal and fisheries issues is to become a reality.

The Initiative has developed excellent constituencies with leaders in fishing communities, traditional authorities, faith based groups, and working relations are evolving rapidly in a positive direction with what were reluctant local governments as a result of capacity building programs and support for district spatial planning.

### ***Governmental commitment expressed as a mandate***

Though it is yet too early to assess the degree to which the coastal Districts and the officials in Regional offices are committed to the approaches recommended by this Initiative, there are clear examples of government commitment both at the national and district levels. The Shama spatial planning process mentioned above was demand driven by the district government and traditional authorities and the government provided most of the resources for the field work. This has led other districts to commit to a similar process.

At the regional level, a similar demand driven process has begun relative to establishing a “hub” for overall coordination of spatial planning in the districts. This, combined with a probable transition of the Initiative’s Advisory Council, could result in a regional coastal commission responsible for overseeing larger investments in the coastal areas and ensuring coherence among individual the policies and zoning laws or codes of the individual districts.

At the national level, there is a growing acknowledgement of what the ICFG Initiative can contribute by piloting a multitude of national policies relative to integrated coastal management and fisheries. From district spatial planning to climate change adaptation plans, the Initiative is seen to be leading. The Fisheries Commission and the World Bank have consulted regularly with the ICFG Team as they prepare to implement a large \$ US 53 Million investment to reform the fisheries sector and they are committed to benefiting from the experiences and social capital that has been built in the Western Region. The ICFG Initiative also has been given the mandate to lead on preparing the foundations and proposing the institutional mechanisms for supporting Ghana’s first marine protected areas. This includes piloting the first smaller fisheries co-management unit, or critical habitat areas, in the Cape Three Points focal area sea and landscape interface.

### ***Institutional capacity to sustain the initiative***

This past year saw the development of several training and educational programs for key constituency groups, partners, and beneficiaries at the community level. The training programs and study trips are providing fresh technical capacities and new experiences and ideas for a broad spectrum of stakeholders in the region, and in Accra, that will be leading aspects of this Initiative in the years to come. A total of 402 people (of which 113 were female) received formal training and 753 people participated in various workshops and forums that served both educational and consultative processes. More importantly, two national institutions and three NGOs were primed to deliver these training programs and are currently developing their capacities to extend these programs along the coast of Ghana.

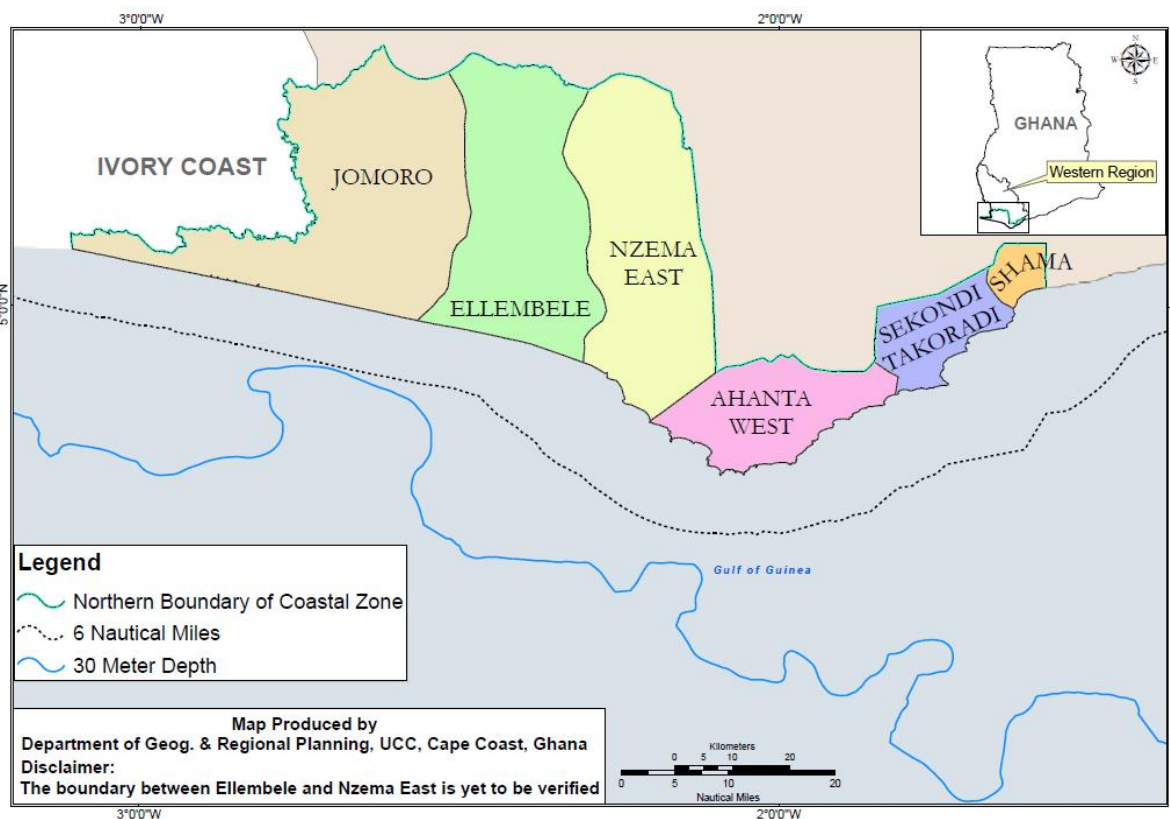
Given the multitude of thematic sub-committees at the District level, most of them dysfunctional due to lack of resources, the Initiative has catalyzed communications fora, or working groups, at both the district and regional levels for both ICM and fisheries issues. The Advisory Group for the Initiative has plans to morph into a coastal management working group or commission. Though some of these fora and working groups are formally recognized, it will take some time to determine how best, and when, to frame them into formally recognized and nested governance systems. The seeds have germinated and the roots are developing.

## 1.0 Introduction

The Integrated Coastal and Fisheries Governance (ICFG) Initiative is a four-year program supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). It is locally referred to as the *HɛN MPOANO* (Our Coast) Initiative. It is implemented through a USAID cooperative agreement with the Coastal Resources Center (CRC) of the University of Rhode Island (URI). The principal implementing partners of the Initiative include the WorldFish Center, SustainaMetrix, Friends of the Nation, Fisheries Commission, and coastal districts in the Western Region. Other government, private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGO) along the coast and in the fisheries sector are key stakeholders. The Initiative, covering the period September 15, 2009 to September 14, 2013 is funded at US\$12.5 million in USAID funds with a 25 percent cost share provided by URI and other partners.

## 1.1 Geographic Area of Focus

Program activities cover the six coastal districts of the Western Region (Figure 1), where coastal communities and their local governments are the intended primary beneficiaries. The Program also links local actions with national initiatives.



**Figure 1:** Map of the six coastal districts in the Western Region of Ghana

### 1.1.1 Project Goals

The ICFG Initiative is supporting the government of Ghana in achieving its development objectives of poverty reduction, food security, sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation. This includes contributions to various Ghana national policies (see section 1.3.5). It is also important to note that the Initiative is directly supporting National Land Use and Environmental Policies through technical assistance and training for district level spatial planning that considers food and livelihoods security and ecological functions of the land and seascape. From a long-term perspective, the Initiative's vision, or overall goal, is that:

*Ghana's coastal and marine ecosystems are sustainably managed to provide goods and services that generate long term socio-economic benefits to communities while sustaining biodiversity.*

In the four year period of its execution, **the central objective of the ICFG Initiative is to assemble the pre-conditions for a formally constituted coastal and fisheries governance program that can serve as a model for the nation.**

#### **Key Results Areas**

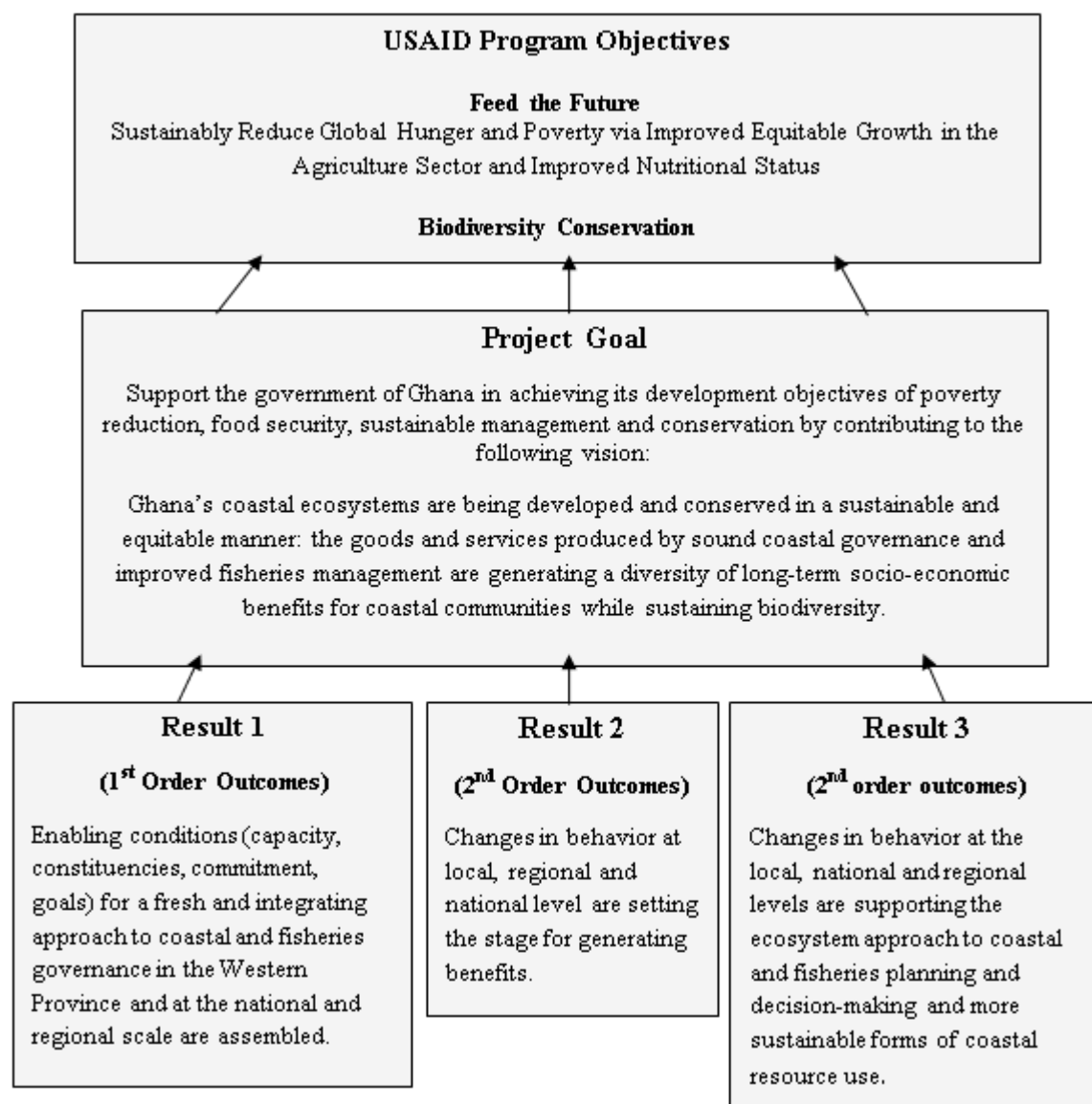
The key results, to which this Initiative is contributing, are:

**Result 1:** The 1st Order enabling conditions for a fresh and integrated approach to coastal and fisheries governance in the Western Region and at the national and regional scale are assembled. These include:

- Strengthened institutional capacity to develop and implement policies
- Development of informed constituencies in civil society, business and government
- Governmental commitment in support of policies
- Clear goals that define what ICM and fisheries policies hope to achieve

**Result 2:** Changes in behavior at the local, regional, and national level are setting the stage for generating social and economic benefits to resource users.

**Result 3:** Changes in behavior at the local, national and regional levels are supporting the ecosystem approach to coastal and fisheries planning and decision-making and more sustainable forms of coastal resources use.



**Figure 2: Results Framework**

## 1.2 Project Phases

The ICFG Initiative has been structured into three phases.

- **The first phase**, which concluded in September 2010, emphasized consultation, information gathering and the preparation of a baseline that documents trends, current conditions and issues as they relate to integrated coastal zone management (ICM) and governance in the Coastal Districts of the Western Region and in fisheries management and governance as they were perceived by project participants at the start of the project.

- **The second phase** began in October 2010 and will conclude in September 2012. It is devoted to specifying goals for improving coastal and fisheries governance in the coastal districts of the Western Region and generate examples of good practice in ICM and fisheries governance at the district and sub-district scale. A central strategy during this phase is to build constituencies among key stakeholders and enhance their capacity to carry forward more effective approaches to coastal and fisheries governance that will maintain the flow of goods and services that the people of the Western Region want and need.
- **The third phase** will build upon this experience to articulate a viable model for coastal and fisheries governance. We anticipate that this model will offer Ghana an approach to build capacity for response to the many pressures on coastal and fisheries resources that could be scaled-up to the nation as a whole.

**Box 1: Critical Issues for Coastal and Fisheries Governance in the Western Region being addressed under Phase 2**

- Weak ecosystem governance and dysfunctional nested systems of governance
- Over-exploitation of fishery resources and declining fish stocks
- Threats to biodiversity assets
- Increasing flooding and erosion, a result of evolving impacts of Climate Change.
- Oil and gas production offshore.

### **1.3 Contributions of the Hen Mpoano Initiative to Programs and Policy objectives**

#### **1.3.1 USAID Program Objectives**

To date the Initiative's past and current funding has primarily come from the USAID/Ghana's Feed the Future and Biodiversity Conservation earmarks. The initiative contributes to the overall objective of USAID/Ghana's multi-year strategy of the US government's global hunger and food security initiative, and its primary objective is to improve the livelihood and nutritional status of households in Ghana. The specific contribution of the Hen Mpoano Initiative is to improve the governance of marine fisheries resources that provide more than half of the food protein supply in the local Ghanaian diet.

The Initiative's investments and actions on integrated coastal and fisheries governance to date have been supported in part by the Biodiversity Conservation earmark and contribute directly to the USAID Ghana Mission Feed the Future Strategies for 2011 to 2015. They also make significant indirect contributions to USAID's Global Climate Change – Sustainable Landscape indicators and are serving to build the foundations for long-term impacts under this program. The Initiative seeks to address the major threats to these significant marine and coastal biodiversity resources which have been identified to include the over-exploitation of marine fisheries resources as well as loss and degradation of biodiverse coastal habitats, among others, driven by rapid urbanization, extractive uses and shorefront development. Weak governance is seen as the underlying cause to these problems and is thus the focus of the Initiative.

### **1.3.2 Contribution to Feed the Future (FtF)**

Fish is an important animal protein in the diet of Ghanaians and provides livelihoods to about 10% of Ghanaians. The fisheries, especially the pelagics (sardinellas), sustained by the rich upwelling ocean system of the Gulf of Guinea is the mainstay of the fisheries economy. Much of the fish caught in Ghana's marine waters is smoked, dried and transported long distances within Ghana and beyond. Catch statistics for Ghana over the last decade points to a continuing and dramatic decline of total catch. The main cause of this situation is poor governance, overexploitation, overcapacity and the use of unorthodox methods by fishermen to capture fish. Without improved governance of the fishery, this situation is likely to worsen with consequences for those who most need it - poor rural fishing and farming households in Ghana.



**Figure 3:** Low catch of sardinellas



Since 2009, the Initiative has been working with various stakeholders to identify these critical issues and finding ways to address them. The activities have included interactions at the national and international levels, prioritizing the issues; building the capacity of fisheries agents and fisher folk leaders, conducting grassroots education, training on law enforcement in the fisheries; and translation of the fisheries laws, among other activities. Details of these engagements are presented under Component 3 activities (section 2.3) of this report.

### **1.3.3 Contribution to Biodiversity Conservation in Ghana**

The six focal districts of the Western Region harbor biologically significant coastal and marine biodiversity assets of Ghana. Many of the wetlands are important nursery grounds for juvenile fish, critical habitat for migratory waterfowls and a sink for carbon. Also, the sandy shores are nesting areas for 4 endangered marine turtles. The Cape Three Points Forest Reserve (the last coastal rainforest in West Africa) has two rare species of primates and floristically among the most biodiverse ecosystem in the country. It is a designated Globally Significant Biodiversity Area/Important Bird Area (GSBA/IBA). Offshore of Cape Three Points is an important calving ground for the humpback whale.

### **1.3.4 Contribution to Global Change – Sustainable Landscapes**

It is anticipated that the ICFG Initiative will be reporting indirectly on program achievements which contribute to USAID GCC-SL indicators. Certain investments and activities previously funded under biodiversity contribute to food security indicators, specifically, wetland conservation which contributes to marine fish (demersals) replenishment. Other landscape planning and capacity building under climate change directly contribute to certain GCC-SL indicators even if funding is not from the biodiversity earmark.

### **1.3.5 Contribution to Other Policies**

The Initiative supports a number of policies aimed at food security, employment and poverty reduction. They include: fisheries and aquaculture; coastal erosion and marine ecosystem; wetlands and water resources management and local governance and decentralization.

## **1.4 Monitoring Progress on Addressing FtF, Biodiversity and Global Climate Change**

The Hen Mpoano Initiative tracks progress on activities under the Feed the Future (FtF) and Biodiversity through nine (9) customized performance indicators (see Annex 1). For example, Indicator 1 tracks three initiatives (Cape Three Points, Amanzuri and Shama) and Indicator 2 provides evidence of an Integrated Coastal Management and Fisheries strategy, plans, policies and by-laws to be adopted by government while Indicator 3 tracks the number of organizations strengthened for advocacy in and management of natural resources. The other six indicators track progress on other activities.

### **1.4.1 Mid Program Assessment**

The Hen Mpoano Initiative is at its midpoint. Self-assessment conducted in March and July of 2011 (see Annex 2) considered what has been accomplished and what has been learned in light of the goals of the project and suggests the adjustments needed to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of the Initiative as it works to draw from experience gained primarily in the Western Region, to detail a model for a nested governance system that addresses the priority issues for both coastal and fisheries governance in Ghana. Box 2 is a summary of the key expected or sustained legacies of the Initiative.

#### **Box 2: Key Expected/Sustained Legacies of the Initiative**

- Working models of best practices in integrated coastal management mainstreamed and operational within several district development and/or land use plans
- Good practice examples of community-based approaches to fisheries management operational at the local scale
- Policy proposals for a new approach to both ICM and fisheries governance for the Western region nested within national policy frameworks and that support local level actions at the district and community scales
- A cadre of Ghanaians with the capacities and the commitment to carry forward the values, approach and actions of the ICFG Initiative.

## 1.5 Overview of Year 2

This Report covers the period October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2011 (Phase II) and focuses on activities designed to build capacity and assemble preconditions for more effective and efficient coastal and fisheries governance. The focal themes or the five components areas (Box 3) with summary accomplishments are outlined in Section 2 of this Report.

### Box 3: Thematic Areas of Year II Activities

- Component 1** - Develop and Formalize a Nested Governance System for the Coastal Zone of the Western Region
- Component 2** - Improve Governance of the Landscape
- Component 3** - Improve Governance of the Seascape
- Component 4** - Build Capacity for the Governance of the Coastal Zone and Marine Fisheries
- Component 5** - Monitor and Evaluate Progress and Learning

## **2.0 Program Activities and Accomplishments**

### **2.1 Component 1: Develop and Formalize a Nested Governance System for the Coastal Zone of the Western Region**

This component seeks a formal governmental commitment for a nested system of governance that provides a model for a future national program. The component has three sub-activities:

- assessment of governance options through the ICFG Advisory Council
- assessment of legal/institutional options for a nested governance system
- catalyzing the development of a Fisheries Working Group (FWG) for the Western Region

These activities have provided forums where options for a nested coastal and fisheries governance systems are discussed and strategies for sustaining a coastal and fisheries program formulated.

#### **2.1.1 Coordination of Activities and Assessment of Governance Options through the ICFG Advisory Council**

An active and functional Advisory Council anchored within the Western Regional Coordinating Council (WRCC) has oversight responsibilities on the Initiative. Its membership is drawn from technical heads of relevant government agencies, district assemblies, faith-based groups, traditional authority and artisanal fishers. The Council is chaired by the Chief Director of the WRCC, Mr. David Yaro. The Council deliberates on experiences and results emerging from the Initiative's program activities and offers advice, direction and links to national and local institutions on improving governance within the coastal zone.

Highlights of the issues that have received the Council's consideration include:

- support for the process of developing bylaws to protect three urban wetlands within the Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis
- push for national action on the algal bloom (green-green) in the coastal waters of Ellembele and Jomoro Districts
- support for actions for the replication of spatial planning activities in the other focal districts and the Western Region
- support for district assemblies and traditional authorities to improve dialogue with the various government agencies relative to permitting and processes for mining leases
- accepting to transition from an Advisory Council to a Coastal Working Group to serve as model for the planned establishment of a *Coastal Commission* by government of Ghana (see Year3 workplan for more details on this new role)

### 2.1.2 Assessment of Legal/Institutional Options for a Nested Coastal Governance System

Ghana's present local governance/decentralization system has been evolving since 1988. The process has been changing over time with changing mandates, objectives and expectations. In Year II, the Hen Mpoano Initiative sought to identify options to be pursued to strengthen and clarify authority and responsibility for land use and fisheries management at the community, district and regional scales. A preliminary assessment of the powers of the district assemblies in current decentralization and governance dispensation in Ghana was completed. Some findings of the study are presented in Box 4 below.

#### Box 4: Assessment of Options for a Nested Coastal Governance System

##### ***Some findings***

The Districts have the mandate to engage in meaningful land use planning and regulation and have the authority to designate and approve "special area management zones" with defined construction setbacks.

They can allocate areas for different uses, and within the restrictions of a limited budget can assume responsibility for the implementation of plans to provide and maintain such public good/services as potable water supply, sanitation and basic transportation infrastructure.

Regional government could provide oversight control and coordination to ensure coherence across district level planning and decision-making. However, the authority to set standards for coastal planning and management by the districts is at the national level.

### 2.1.3 Fisheries Working Group for the Western Region

Realizing some constraints to effective fisheries management in Ghana, the Initiative received permission of the Fisheries Commission to pilot a Fisheries Working Group (FWG) in the Western Region aimed at addressing identified gaps in fisheries management. The identified constraints included:

- low level of communications between community level efforts in fisheries, the district assemblies and the fisheries authorities and
- weak consultation among stakeholders resulting in poor and frequently ineffective enforcement of rules and regulations.

The Fisheries Working Group was created to address fisheries issues in the Western Region and advice the Regional Directorate of Fisheries. It is constituted by leaders of the various fishing fleets, representatives of other fisheries interests and law enforcement agencies. The working group was officially inaugurated by the Chairman of Fisheries Commission with the support of the hierarchy of the Commission staff from Accra. It now serves as a model for the other regions.



**Figure 4:** Members of the Fisheries Working Group at the Inauguration

Since its creation, the FWG has been involved in grassroots communication, explaining important fisheries issues to fisher folk, resolving conflicts among fishermen's groups and assisting the Hen Mpoano Initiative in monitoring outcomes of the prosecution of fisheries offences/violations.

## **2.2 Component 2: Improved Governance of the Landscape**

This component seeks to improve the social conditions of the coastal population and identify activities for diversifying livelihoods. The challenge was to:

- develop capacity for district level planners and traditional authorities for landscape planning and adherence to negotiate planning that best provides for the food and livelihoods security of communities while maintaining vital ecosystem services and biodiversity
- slowing the pace of population growth while identifying promising diversified livelihood activities that fisher folk can practice as fish harvests continue dwindle

- piloting fisheries into food security programs in a country where livelihoods, food security and the overall economies of the coastal zones are heavily dependent a healthy fisheries sector

The component covered three sub-activities:

- Building capacity and commitment for fresh approaches to coastal landscape issues at three focal sites (the Shama District, the Greater Cape Three Points Land and Seascapes; and the Greater Amansuri Wetlands and Coastline)
- Strengthening the capacity of district planners and their respective assemblies to address land use issues and steer the development process towards desired outcomes
- Engagement in cross-district coordination and learning

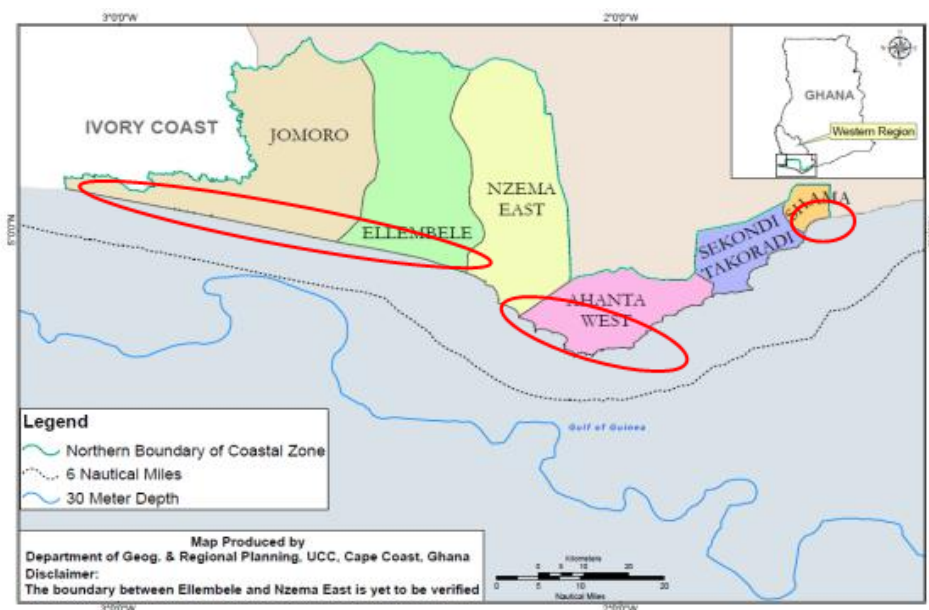
Accomplishments under these sub-activities include:

- Successfully led activities in spatial planning in the Shama District which has served as a precursor for the other districts and attracted other planning agencies/consultants/ government/development partners (DP)/private sector and other districts to be interested in developing spatial plans. The participatory nature of the exercise has had some positive impacts leading to gradual behavior change by coastal/fishing communities, the traditional authorities (chiefs) and the district assembly in understanding how natural resources impact lives and how their activities also impact on natural resources.
- Produced district maps (through participation of the districts and traditional authorities) and coastal vulnerability assessment maps for the Western Region and the Natural Disaster Management Organization (NADMO)
- Completed the first training workshop of district planners and other partners on climate change adaptations. It involved planners from the six focal districts and the Cape Coast Municipal Assembly

### **2.2.1 Landscape Planning and Management in Three Focal Areas**

The Shama District, Greater Amansuri Wetlands and the Cape Three Points Land and Seascapes (Figure 5) were selected for detailed landscape planning and management. Efforts in the Cape Three Points and Amansuri Wetlands were less advanced but issues and stakeholder identification steps have been completed with strong constituencies developed for collaboration, as well as the selection of specific areas for interventions that are coherent and complimentary to other spatial planning programs in the focal districts or the region, including,

- The USAID-funded LOGODEP working to build District governance capacity in the Western Region in selected districts, including one of the ICFG focal areas (Shama) to strengthen land use management including the cadastral system and local revenue generation.
- Tullow Oil and the Jubilee Partners sponsoring the preparation of GIS based Structure Plans for the six coastal districts in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, (Town & Country Planning Department).
- The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) funding the preparation of the Spatial Development Framework at the scale of the Western Region.
- Additional support for District land planning is taking place through the efforts of Town and Country Planning's Land Use Planning and Management Project. This also features the improvement of GIS capability.
- Private investment programs such as the Korean led investment plan for Ahanta West. This planning effort assumes that development related to oil production will be concentrated in this area.
- Large coastal development investments such as Soroma, in Princess Town/Cape 3 Point area, are being reviewed and permitted through existing mechanisms in the absence of policies, plans and consultative procedures created specifically for the coastal environment.
- Town & Country Planning Department released a framework and a set process for spatial planning that must be followed by all future district and regional planning initiatives.

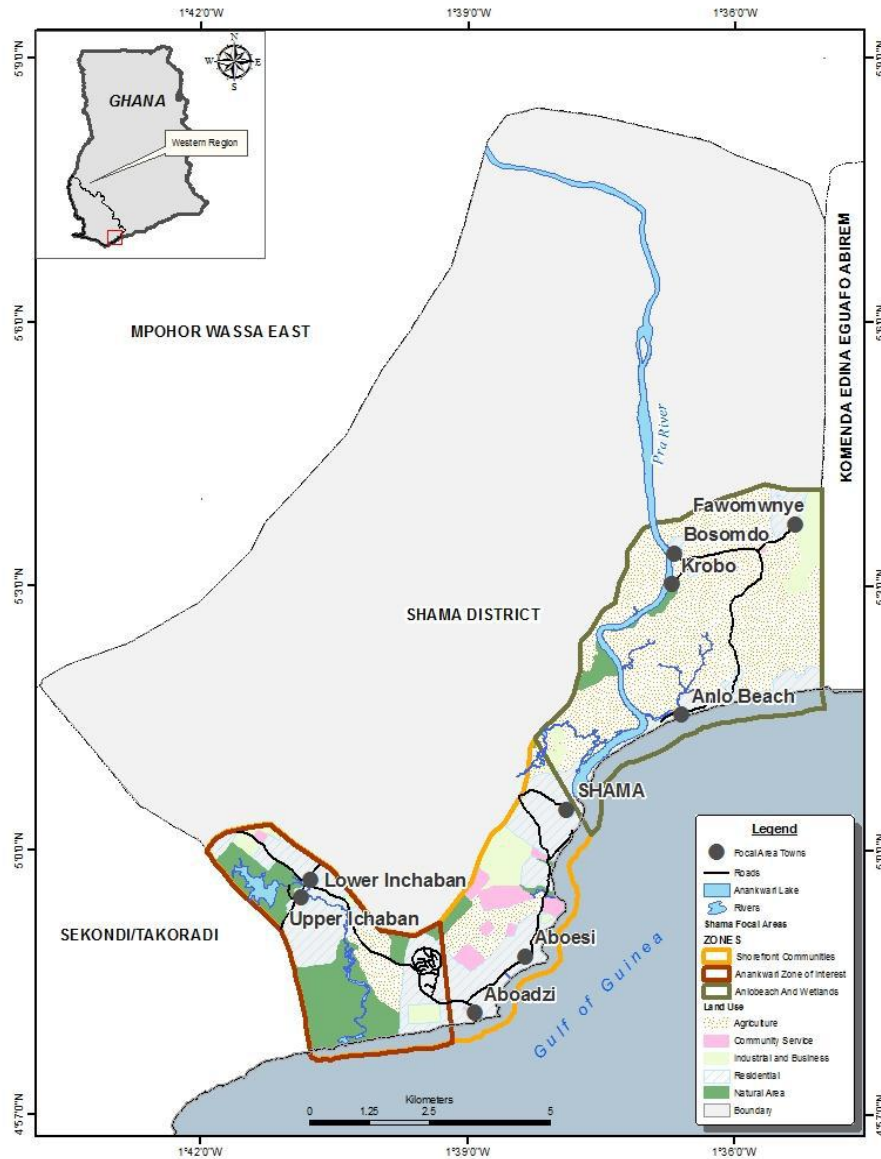


**Figure 5:** Map showing areas of focus



## Shama Focal Area

Major effort towards improved governance of the landscape was in Shama District where the issues posed by land use were assessed at the district and shorefront scales (Figure 6). The exercise involved community level stakeholders including (traditional authority, youth, women and the elderly) and the District Assembly.



**Figure 6:** Shama Map showing the three shorefront areas of critical concern and emphasis of ICFG activities

An important outcome of the Shama exercise was the creation of an Advisory Committee which supports community level engagements and ensures feedback to the District Assembly. Formal endorsement of the policies and plans formulated will mark the threshold to the full-scale

implementation of the ICM plan of action. These formal endorsements are a crucial target for the Shama demonstration project in Year 3. The work of the Shama District Advisory Committee will serve as an example for ICM planning in four other Districts.

**Box 5: Participatory Planning for the Future of Shama District:  
Emerging Issues and Lessons learned**

The Shama district is experiencing rapidly changing land use patterns and seascape activities resulting in the decline in the cultural and natural assets that define the identity of the people and support their livelihoods (fishing and farming).

In recognition of these changes, the district government partnered the *Hen Mpoano* Initiative to identify and improve understanding of the nature and underlying drivers of these changes.

This partnership resulted in a unique opportunity for planning the future of Shama district through broader stakeholder participation land use and coastal issues planning and has also catalyzed targeted technical studies that address specific management questions related to the issues.

The stakeholders participating in the exercise include the district assembly staff, chiefs, elderly men and women, youth, migrants and indigenes.

The critical issues include:

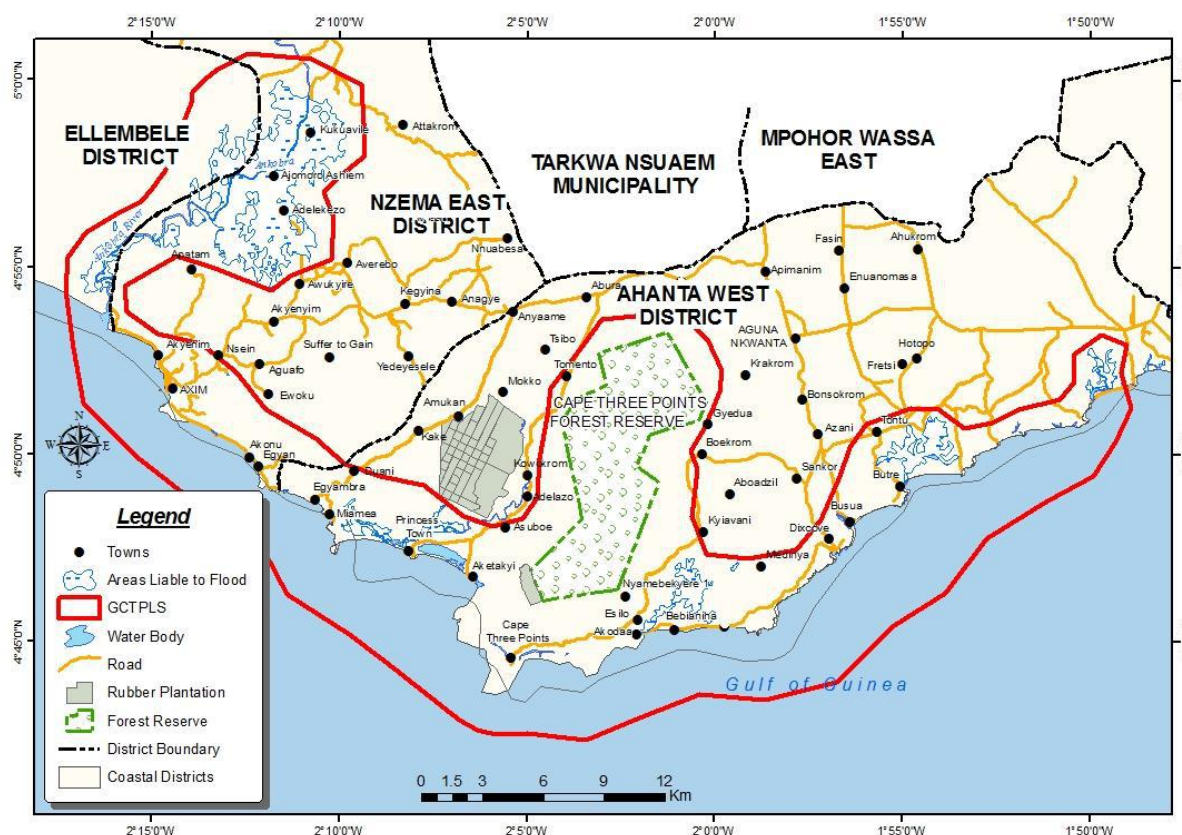
- Competing land uses and the poor quality of urban development
- Quarry mine siting and operations
- Potable water quality and scarcity
- Increased risk of flood hazards and challenges in resettling people at risk
- Coastal erosion and construction in hazardous areas

To improve the capability of the district to respond effectively to the issues, an Advisory Committee on Spatial Planning, led by the District Assembly has been constituted to provide a forum for dialogue among government officials, resource users, private sector leaders, civil society organizations, traditional authorities and land owners in the Shama District and to test options for developing and implementing policies, regulations and best practices on land use.



## The Greater Cape Three Point Focal Area

The Greater Cape Three Points Focal Area includes the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve and peripheral areas that includes numerous coastal wetlands and diverse marine habitats (Figure 7) that are important for biodiversity and fisheries ecology. The reserve represents the last remaining Guinean coastal rainforest in West Africa and a designated Globally Significant Biodiversity Area (GSBA)/Important Bird Area (IBA). It is threatened by various pressures from human activities including logging, mining, charcoal production, hunting and farming.



**Figure 7:** Greater Cape Three Points Land and Seascape

Efforts were initiated to engage various stakeholders towards the management and conservation of the forest and wetlands within this focal area. Accomplishments included:

- Formation of a Working Group constituted by representatives from 9 stakeholder institutions including government, private sector, civil society and community members; to address the human threats to the forest reserve.
- Conducted needs assessment of the Community Resources Management Area (CREMA) and Community Biodiversity Advisory Group (CBAGS) members. After which they were supported to undertake study tours to other CREMA locations in the country to learn and adopt some best practices in CREMA operations.





**Figure 8:** a. Cape Three Points FR in natural state

b. Crop farming in the reserve



**Figure 9:** a. Illegal logging within the reserve

b. Processed charcoal from the reserve

- Completed a biological (including primate) survey in the forest reserve. This activity was led by Dr. Rob Horwich, a volunteer from the US and a renowned primatologist and community resource management expert. The survey reports (5 of them) are available in soft and hard copies.
- A school education program on conservation was initiated in association with West Africa Primate Conservation Association (WAPCA) at Cape Three Points and surrounding villages.

- Within the periphery of the forest reserve several actions have been initiated through the small grants program and partnerships for wetlands conservation. These include wetlands conservation programs at Butre and Akwidaa as well as educational programs and tourism guide training at these sites.

#### **Box 6: Protecting Cape Three Points Forest Reserve**

The Hɛn Mpoano Initiative fostered a strong working partnership among stakeholders in the quest for protecting the Cape Three Points forest reserve (the last coastal virgin forest in West Africa and the most floristically rich in Ghana) from human threats/activities. The initiative was instrumental in catalyzing efforts in bringing together key players and partners for conservation activities in and around the forest reserve. A two-day retreat in February 2011 at foothills of the forest reserve (Ezile Bay) kick-started this conservative effort. The meeting brought together private sector operatives, development partners, and fringe community members – forest guards, CBAGs and CREMA members, traditional authorities, Ahanta West District Assembly and the Forestry Commission.

The outcome of the retreat was the formation of an 8-member working group to develop a conservation action plan for 2011 and a 5-year management plan for the reserve. The group held regular meetings with CRC support. In related development, the Wildlife Division (Forestry Commission) seconded Mr. Felix Nani to be part of the Hɛn Mpoano Initiative. Also, a first year US Peace Corps Volunteer, Mr. Jacob McCommons with the Initiative has been stationed at Cape Three Points to work with the local communities on conservation issues around the reserve. The Initiative is also investigating the possibility of creating wildlife corridors between the Cape Three Points and other Reserves to the north-west (Draw, Ebi and Ankasa Forest Reserves). This activity is supported by experts from the University of Rhode Island.

On the other hand, plans are advanced to establish a community patrol team from the fringe communities to reduce illegal activities. Tullow Oil and the Jubilee partners have kindly agreed to support the community brigades with the active support of Conservation Foundation (a partner NGO).

#### **Box 7: Lessons from the CREMA Study Visits**

The CREMA study visits to northern Ghana afforded participants the opportunity to understand how other CREMAs operate and derive benefits from the resources in the area. The take home lessons from the visits included what works well at the CREMAs visited and what could be done better in managing their own CREMA.

Leadership at various levels (traditional authority, district assembly and CREMA organization and operations) was identified as an important for successful CREMA management. Community (voluntary) actions supported by local bylaws which are approved and endorsed by the district assembly assure ownership of the resources hence their sustainable exploitation various livelihoods and economic benefits. The participants observed that skills training in entrepreneurship relative to available community resources will provide an avenue and opportunity for new and enhanced livelihood activities which was lacking at the Cape Three Points CREMA.

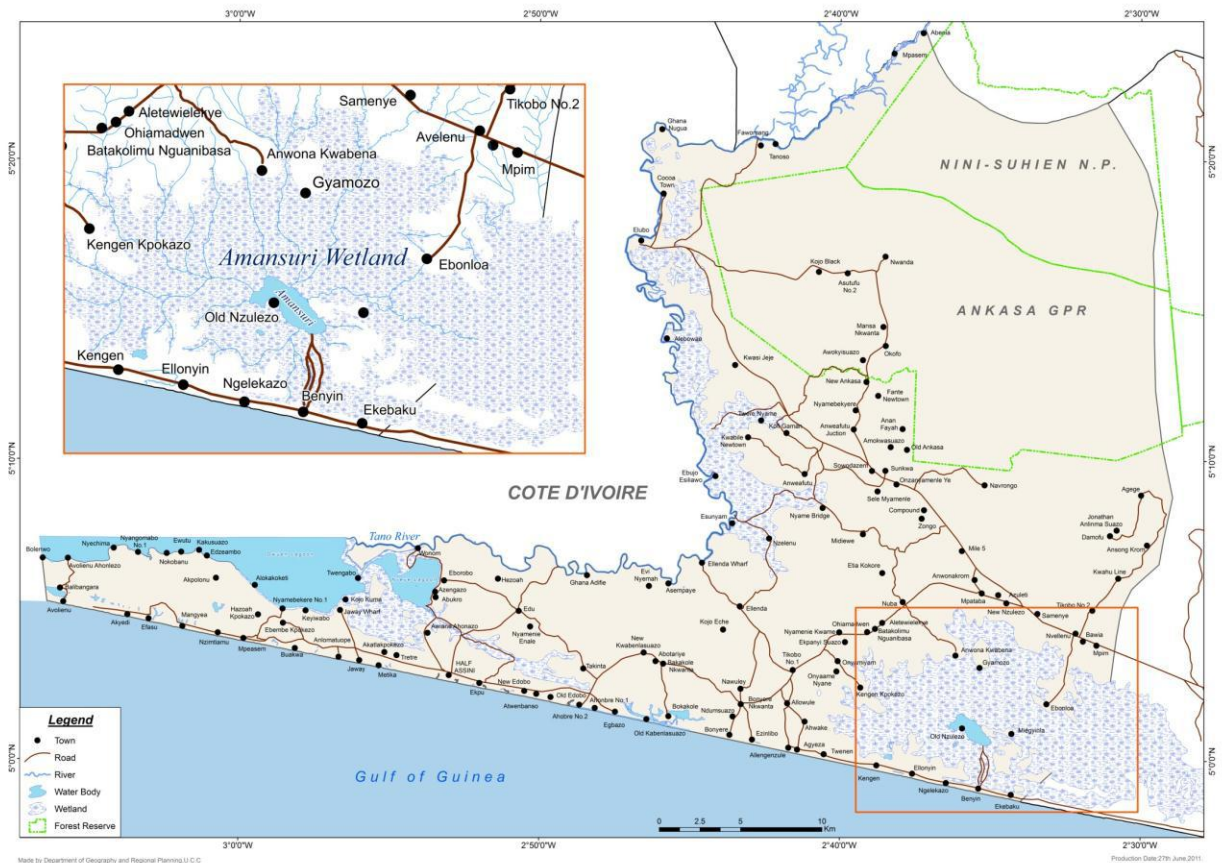
The study tour participants noted the potential benefits that could be derived tourism noting the untapped and undeveloped resources available at Cape Three Points compared with the areas visited. Among other important lessons were the role of gender in resources management and transparency in revenue sharing and community initiatives, information sharing and awareness creation on conservation of natural resources.

#### **Greater Amansuri Wetlands Focal Area**

For the Greater Amansuri Wetlands Focal Area (see Figure 8), progress was on development of partnerships and preparation of future surveys. Accomplishments have included:

- building of foundations with the traditions authorities for the conservation of the area
- habitat mapping with the support of the University of Rhode Island and
- collaboration with Spatial Dimensions – a private consultant engaged by Tullow Oil/Government of Ghana to develop spatial plans for the three districts of Jomoro, Ellembele and Nzema East. The Initiative (while focusing on coastal planning) will make available its findings and products to the consultant to avoid overlap or duplication of efforts.





**Figure 10:** Map of the Amansuri Lagoon and associated wetlands

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed with Forest Trends (a US based NGO specialized in identifying markets for ecosystem services for either REDD funding, voluntary carbon offsets, or biodiversity offsets).

Forest Trends successfully completed scoping studies for voluntary carbon offsets and business biodiversity offset program (BBOP); carbon sequestration and stocking of the diverse wetlands habitats in the Greater Amansuri Area as well as the opportunities for long-term funding for the conservation of these habitats through evolving mechanisms for payment for ecosystem services (PES). A sampling exercise was conducted on mangroves sites for their potential for blue carbon in four of the focal districts (Ahanta West, Nzema East, Ellemabelle and Jomoro). A total of 18 mangrove sites were sampled and estimates point to a high carbon sequestration potential for the wetlands and mangroves at the sites visited.

## 2.2.2 Enhancing Livelihoods and Social Conditions

Several activities were identified to contribute to diversifying livelihoods, improving social conditions and quality of life, and making families and communities more resilient to ecosystem

change. Targeted activities were tested for viability and where appropriate, scaled-up for improved food security and poverty reduction. These activities were funded through small grants to local NGOs or associations with technical support from the Initiative.

Three sub activities - Small Grants, Population Health and Environment (PHE) and Livelihood opportunities were continued.

### **Small Grants**

Small Grant activities initiated in late Year I were carried over and completed in Year II. Thirteen (13) out of the 16 grant beneficiary completed projects in wetlands conservation, fisheries livelihoods enhancements, environmental education, ecotourism and sanitation in line with the objectives of the Hen Mpoano Initiative. Grantee activities were continuously monitored for progress, important lessons, successes and challenges informed the second round of grants. Based on the monitoring and assessment of the grantees, further trainings were held for them in the areas of proposals development and writing, project accounting and bookkeeping, and mangrove conservation.

Three projects succeeded in providing beneficiaries with enhanced livelihood schemes while under food security activities, 20 households (19 women and 1 man) were trained on improved household poultry management. They were supplied with a total of 200 chicks (10 each) to help them increase their income and also improve their family's nutritional status. Furthermore, 30 other women were supported through the rehabilitation of their working sheds to enable them smoke and sell fish throughout the year. Also, skills training in batik tie and dye benefitted 20 young mothers who were expected to engage in small scale business activities. Under ecotourism, 140 tour guides in the west coast tourism destination area were trained.

The first year projects were evaluated and the following lessons were learned:

- need for more capacity building programs for local partner NGOs in coastal resources management
- short to medium term projects and programs cannot lead to desirable outcomes in the long run, especially the conservation of natural resources.
- need to intensify mangrove/wetland conservation education through capacity building and increased funding to local actors due to their crucial role in sustaining fisheries livelihoods. This is also informed by the initial success achieved in mangrove conservation in Ahanta West and Ellembele.
- diversified livelihood schemes in poultry rearing has great potentials in ensuring food security
- financial support made available by the grants scheme was inadequate to support the numerous requests for project execution in the coastal communities



- training of people in entrepreneurial development e.g. batik tie and dye as a diversified livelihood activity as a whole was good but trainees needed to be supported with startup capital (e.g. through a micro-finance scheme) in order to make it more beneficial to the trainees.
- No single organization (like CRC-Ghana) can support all the funding requirements of the local organizations in the coastal districts of Western Region. For this reason, a coastal fund needed to be established so that donor agencies can contribute into it to help address the needs of implementing organizations.

The year two small grants was largely a continuation of year one with the following objectives:

- build capacity of grantees to implement projects according to agreed laid down procedures
- expand and improve upon activities in the area of diversified livelihood schemes to ensure food security
- expand mangrove/wetland conservation activities
- improve upon existing skills in eco-tourism

Highlights of the second generation of grants (2011-2011) were:

- provided small grants to 10 partner NGOs in conservation, fisheries and food security, communication and governance. The total amount obligated in small grants for the year was GH¢136,738.00. The grant activities in various stages of implementation and would be reported on in the semester report of April 2012.
- trained 120 women within the Ahanta West District in backyard poultry production. Ten other women are involved in backyard rabbit and grasscutter production in the same district.
- reached out to the target communities through community drama and radio
- supported environmental conservation through school (youth) education.

#### **Box 8: Mangrove Conservation and Fisheries Livelihoods**

Mangroves and wetlands are very crucial to livelihoods. This, unfortunately, is lost on many people including fishers and non-fishers. CRC-Ghana, having realized this, decided as one of its piloted actions under the Small Grants scheme to support some partner NGOs - Conservation Foundation in the Ahanta West and RECA in the Ellembele districts in the Western Region.

The projects involved awareness creation through public education about the socio-ecological importance of mangrove vegetation and partial rehabilitation of some degraded areas. This was done within the framework of co-management of natural resources.

The mangrove forest at Butre in the Ahanta West District Assembly was being degraded by the local people through uncontrolled harvesting for fuel. Through the intervention, the chiefs and the community came together to make by-laws to regulate the exploitation of the mangroves. The first of its kind, it provides the framework for the sustainable management of the resource which hitherto was under serious threat of extinction in the area. The intervention also created awareness about the importance of mangroves to sustainable fisheries livelihoods in the community in particular and Ghana as a whole. The by-law is yet to be endorsed by the assembly.

Ampain is a community in Ellembele district in which RECA, one of the partner NGOs was supported by CRC-Ghana to do mangrove conservation education and awareness. At the end of the project the people understood the importance of mangrove to fisheries livelihood. As Nana Kwame Whaji the chief of the town put it, "We understood the ecological importance of mangroves and we have decided to ban the harvesting of mangroves in our area because my people catch fish and crabs in the mangroves and if they are gone we cannot catch fish anymore,"

## **Population, Health and Environment (PHE)**

PHE activities focused on the Shama and Ellembelle Districts with the support of a CRC sister Initiative/program - Building Actors for Livelihoods and Advancing Communities Excellence in Development (BALANCED) based in the USA. The goal was to increase awareness on PHE linkages that result in optimum human and ecosystems health. It is also aimed at piloting interventions that facilitate improvement of livelihoods and social conditions through creating awareness and establishing structures and linkages for empowering community folks especially the youth.

Key partners under the PHE intervention are the Central and Western Fishmongers Improvement Association (CEWEFIA) and Essiama Community Health Nurses Training School (ECHNTS).

Four (4) communities in Shama District were targeted for PHE interventions. Activities undertaken and completed included:

- outreach programs to develop youth PHE leaders
- facilitated access to health service (Family Planning, Reproductive and Sexual Health)
- trained of 20 youth peer educators (YPEs) and community-based distributors (CBDs)
- promoted moringa plant consumption to facilitate improvement of nutrition for 800 families.
- Created awareness of PHE through training, drama, films, talks, and community durbars

The partnership with the Essiama Community Health Nurses Training School (ECHNTS) was aimed at training faculty and trainee-nurses on PHE and incorporating PHE awareness in routine community outreach. Formal linkage with the Ghana Health Service was established. Also the program benefitted from the experiences and visit of Dr. Joan Castro (BALANCED/PATH Foundation, Philippines) who trained staff and partners in concepts of PHE. She also worked with the ECHNTS to redesigned teaching modules for PHE in the School's curriculum.

Ms Leslie Lucas, a Peace Corps volunteer seconded to the Initiative was posted to Ellembelle District to work with the District Health Directorate and the ECHNTS. She is currently stationed at Atuabo and works out of the Ekabaku Health Clinic.

A strong and healthy partnership was developed with other key partners including the Shama and Ellembelle District Assemblies, USAID supported programs (BCS, HKI, Focus), Zoomlion (a waste management company), Department of Social Welfare, Environmental Protection Agency, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, leadership of fisher folk/coastal communities, traditional and religious leaders, media, and NGOs in the target districts.

## **Diversified Livelihoods**

Artisans Training: Sixteen (16) selected artisans in the focal districts were trained on developing good business plans which included incorporating sea turtle crafts into their work. The training was to enhance their capacity for diversified livelihoods and to encourage sea turtle conservation while generating revenue from it. Considerations for group formation, setting up of a revolving fund, construction of showrooms/workshops and strategies for potential markets for products were suggested.

Sea Turtle Conservation: The Hen Mpoano Initiative is currently collaborating with several private-sector tourism operators to render their sea turtle conservation activities more coherent. These include methods for patrolling, data collection, maintaining nesting sites and eggs, monitoring and handling of the hatchlings, and eventual regrouping of their individual efforts under one common program that could benefit their respective businesses and increase support for their efforts.

Two interns, a volunteer from SustainaMetrix, Aaron Rivera, (spent four months working with the hotel owners and their patrolling staff and other volunteers to share techniques for data collection and monitoring of nests) and Mr. Neil's Richards Davis - current volunteer (partly supported by Beyin Beach Hotel) continued with the program started by Aaron. His internship ends in March 2012 at the end of the turtle nesting.



**Figure 11:** Release of captured sea turtle

To strengthen the conservation effort, a series of meetings were held with hoteliers and other stakeholders including the Wildlife Division to discuss strategies for turtle conservation along the west coast of Ghana as the animals are occasionally captured and consumed by fishermen and coastal dwellers. The Initiative has encouraged fishermen to release rather than kill sea turtles.

Bamboo: One diversified livelihood opportunity that holds promise is the harvesting and use of bamboo offers a diversified livelihood opportunities in the coastal zone Western Region. Though in an early stage, Babson College students completed a series of studies on evolving bamboo markets and opportunities for developing small-scale industries for either the raw material or for value added items such as artisanal products, furniture, and buildings. It is important to note that this industry existed in the early 1960s at Axim (Nzema East District). Much of the local knowledge and technical expertise still exists and could be developed to revive the industry.

### **Public Private Partnerships**

The Hen Mpoano Initiative successfully engaged diverse partners as part of efforts to effective support in the implementation of integrated coastal and fisheries governance. These actors include:

- Leadership for Conservation in Africa (LCA). This is an amalgamation of private sector operators interested in the conservation activities around the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve and ready to support conservation efforts.
- Oil and Gas Companies (Tullow/Jubilee Partners and other operators). Discussions on conservation with the oil and gas sector operators have been very fruitful. Tullow and the Jubilee partners have agreed to support a number of conservation efforts (both on land- and seascapes around the Cape Three Points area. They have also agreed to make funds available into the proposed coastal fund for food security, livelihood and conservation activities in coastal Western Region. The fund when fully operational will be independently managed and will benefit a growing number of community-based activities in the area.
- Agro-industrial companies (GREL and NORPALM). To offset the social impact and food security issues resulting from large scale rubber and oil palm plantations in the some of the coastal districts (particularly Ahanta West and Nzema East Districts), the Ghana Rubber Estates Limited GREL accepted to collaborate with B-Bovid
- ( agriculture enterprise) to pilot small-scale intensive agriculture on small plots for subsistence and resilience for food crop farmers who are progressively being squeezed out by the rubber and oil palm. Negotiations are on-going with NORPALM, whom it is expected to soon join this partnership.

### **2.2.3 Wetlands Conservation**

Wetlands conservation is a key feature in the program activities as they provide numerous ecological functions and services. A number of activities were carried out to enhance the status of wetlands in the focal area. Table 1 shows a list of some wetlands in the six districts and current conservation effort. Other important activities undertaken have included the development of wetlands package for high schools and carbon stock assessment of Wetlands.

Three experts, Gordon Ajonina (mangroves), Tundy Agardy (wetland/blue carbon) and Patrick Maguire (Business Biodiversity Offset- (BBOP)/Voluntary Carbon Offset) visited the focal areas and conducted field assessments and held discussions with identified stakeholders/business concerns. The draft preliminary findings will be submitted to CRC-Ghana in October 2011

Table 1: Some wetlands in the focal districts and the conservation action or activities

<b>Wetland</b>	<b>Location/ District</b>	<b>Partner Organization(s)</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Pra River Estuary	Shama District	SDA, UCC, Esemaman Development Association	Vulnerability assessment of fringe communities, Wetland Education and Awareness
Anankwari River Estuary			Watershed management and flood hazard assessment
Essei Lagoon	Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolis	UCC, STMA, CASOLS	Studies to support the development of bylaws for the conservation of the wetlands as urban nature reserves. Biodiversity Assessment completed. Rehabilitation of degraded mangrove areas. School wetland education programs
Butuah Lagoon			
Whin Estuary			
Butre, Busua, Akwidae,	Ahanta West	Conservation Foundation, Forest Trends	Mangrove restoration, Community Education Development of bylaws and Carbon stocks assessment
Akwidae/Ezile, Ehunli.			
Amanzure	Ellembelle	UCSOND	Wetland conservation and management
Ankobra	Nzema East/ Ellembelle	Forest Trends	Carbon Stock Assessment. Negotiation with private sector to support wetlands conservation programs
Nzulenoanu	Ellembelle	(RECA)	Wetland management through management and awareness
Amanzure	Ellembelle/ Jomoro	Traditional Authorities/ District Assemblies	Carbon Stock Assessment/ Community conservation(CREMA)
Domunli	Jomoro	Ghana Wildlife Society (GWS)	Community Education
Nzimitianu	Jomoro	Nzimitianu Biodiversity Association	Mangrove restoration, Community Education (CREMA)





**Figure 12:** Carbon stock assessment in mangroves

#### **2.2.4 Fisheries Value Chain**

The Value Chain Analysis focused on smoked marine fish - overwhelmingly the most important fish product originating in Western Region. Smoked fish from Western Region is mainly destined for the domestic market where demand is very strong. Small quantities of smoked fish are traded in Togo, Benin and Nigeria.

Although there are many stakeholders providing services at each point in the value chain, the chain is relatively straightforward involving only fishers, fish traders at the landings, fish processors and retailers. Power is strongly concentrated in the hands of fish traders (at the landings) who pre-finance fishing operations, buy from the fishermen and sell to fish processors. Market retailers are also powerful. An informal “closed shop” seems to apply to both groups.

There is no physical loss of fish, since all fish finds a market (fish that is spoiling is diverted into lower value processing or if very bad, sold as poultry feed). This seems to hold true all year round, although clearly financial losses (from “down-grading”) are higher during the peak landings season.

The studies were concentrated on the southern to middle zone of Ghana and will be continued into the northern zone to examine the extent to which fish from the Western Region is traded up

country. Other pilots will be developed and designed in close consultation with stakeholders. A comprehensive report on this study is available from Hen Mpoano.



**Figure 13:** Fish packaged for distant markets

### **2.3 Component 3: Improved Governance of the Seascape**

Component seeks to address the existing predicament in the fisheries sector and programs revolving around restoring healthy fisheries for both food and livelihoods security. The efforts also contribute significantly to biodiversity conservation and related tourism development. The goal was to identify approaches that can serve as models for the other three coastal regions of Ghana.

The Initiative worked in close cooperation with the Fisheries Commission and other stakeholders to build consensus on measures for improving the management of the sector and supported efforts toward the creation of the first marine protected areas (MPAs) in Ghana. It also contributed to knowledge on water quality in coastal waters and the drivers of the algal bloom phenomenon (green-green).

In 2011, World Bank signed off on a US\$ 53 million, 5-year support program to the Fisheries Sector. CRC played important roles in the briefing of several technical scoping and project development missions to ensure coherence in approaches for promoting reform in the fishing sector.

Some highlights of some accomplishment include:

*Education/Campaigns on Fisheries Issues and Co-management*

- formed a Fisheries Working Group in the Western Region to deliberate on fisheries issues and develop lines of communications with the various fleets and fisherfolk on government policy and other relevant issues related to fisheries management in Ghana
- six fisheries fora were held at the districts and 8 at the community level on various fisheries issues including local level fisheries management, fisheries laws, compliance, and enforcement of the regulations.
- sponsored a one-day briefing and discussion with Commissioners of the Fisheries Commission in Accra on findings of Hen Mpoano Year I and II activities on fisheries and how they fit into the national fisheries framework.
- Promoted a 2-day national fisheries forum to discuss issues within the fisheries sector. The sessions were attended by selected fisheries leaders (fishermen/women), Fisheries Working Group members, the Fisheries Commission, the Minister responsible for fisheries, other policy makers, development partners and the general public.
- senior personnel from the Initiative met with the Minister and Deputy Minister for Food and Agriculture, Chairman of Fisheries Commission, Director of Fisheries, and Chairman of the national Premix Committee to raise some concerns over the activities of the task force set up by the government to enforce aspects of the fisheries regulations
- circulated to the Ministers and the Fisheries Commission some of the high points of the Initiative work on the fisheries governance in the Western Region and Ghana
- supported study tours to Senegal (co-management) and Ivory Coast (compliance and enforcement with fisheries regulation) A total of 29 participants – fishermen, fishmongers, Fisheries Commission staff and NGO partners were beneficiaries.

*Fisheries Laws, Compliance and Enforcement*

- reproduced and circulated widely original copies of the fisheries law and regulations among fishermen in the Western Region and produced a draft translation with annotations, of the relevant sections of the Fisheries Act - Act 625 of 2002 and the Fisheries Regulations LI 1968 of 2012 into fante (the local dialect widely spoken by fishermen in Western Region). The translation was made possible with the assistance of fisheries leaders, some members of the Fisheries Working Group and seasoned fante writers. Copies of the draft with annotations forwarded to the fisheries managers and policy makers for their review and comments before distribution in the fishing communities

- training for Judges, Prosecutors, Police, Navy, Fisheries Commission staff, EPA and partner NGOs in the Western Region on the Fisheries Laws and the ecological justification of the laws. Also, identified gaps in the prosecution chains of fisheries violation and addressed them together with the trainees.
- monitored fisheries violation arrests and prosecutions in court and lessons from the outcomes discussed by the FWG for designing appropriate communications targeting the various fishing fleets

#### *Marine Protected Areas (MPA)*

- supported a study tour to Tanzania. Participants included fisher folk leaders (fishermen and women), staff from the Fisheries and Forestry Commissions, District Assembly and other partners (see Box 11).
- supported meetings of the Inter-ministerial Committee on Marine Protected Areas. The Committee was also supported in their field work to the Western Region.

#### *Water Quality in Fishing Grounds*

- raised national awareness on the algal bloom phenomenon and its impact on livelihoods of frontier communities
- conducted scientific/high-tech analysis to determine the drivers of the algal bloom and presented preliminary results to the Government of Ghana
- served on and contributed to the work of the national committee investigating the impacts of the algal bloom in the Western Region
- visited Ivory Coast to discuss with scientists and government officials of that country their current knowledge and impacts of the green-green on the coastal communities and the need for bilateral arrangements to tackle the algal bloom menace.

### **2.3.1 Capacity Development for Best Practices in the Governance of Fisheries**

One of the objectives of Hen Mpoano Initiative is to create and strengthen capacity over time in order to facilitate or catalyze change in fisheries management in the Western Region. Year 2



activities under this mandate included 1) capacity building exercises through trainings and workshops, field trips and exchange visits to promote dialogue and a shared understanding of key issues and 2) identify champions to lead informed debate and help build consensus on critical issues. Accomplishments included:

- Training of 10 National Service Volunteers on adaptive fisheries management
- Assessment of organizational capacity of partners to implement adaptive management
- Technical skills for core staff and partners in adaptive management of small scale fisheries development



**Figure 14:** Groups analyzing drivers of changes in the Western Region fisheries

### 2.3.2 Strengthening the information base for improved fisheries management

#### *Improving fisheries data access, integrity and usability*

In Year 1, the Hen Mpoano team worked closely with Fishery Commission to understand the workings of the data system at Tema, as well as discussions with field officers and observing data collection at ports. This collaboration was extremely useful as it diagnosed and identified issues in data integrity, collection and reporting. The following were notable outcomes from this work:

- The data system, as established in collaboration with FAO in the late 1960's was 'ahead of its time' and extremely useful for estimating catch from a series of diverse, dispersed ports in a complex, multi-gear setting.
- The system is currently 'run down' with a large number of landing beaches and few technical officers for various reasons. As a result, there is far more extrapolation of data than is desirable.
- The data collected is considerably more detailed than ultimately entered into databases. This is a function of the design of the 'ArtFish' system, but also of the way it is utilized.

A notable example is that the system does not account for fishing hours but rather fishing trips and this has major implications in the calculation of effort or CPUE (catch per unit effort) – see example outlined Box 9

- The system is not set up to measure fishing effort; a factor that limits considerably its usefulness for fishery management
- Commercial vessels ‘self report’ and there is no observer system to verify reports. The accuracy of this system is unknown and suspect

National Service Volunteers (NSV) collected data at five landing sites that tracks fishers perceptions regarding change in the fishery, and change in catch and gears. Around 190 fishers were interviewed. The surveys provide information across several areas and a good indication of the type of data that can be collected at the community level. This will be critical as the need to measure fishing effort is incorporated into new data systems

### **Survey-based assessment of displaced effort**

#### *A case-study of gill nets as drivers of ‘effort creep’*

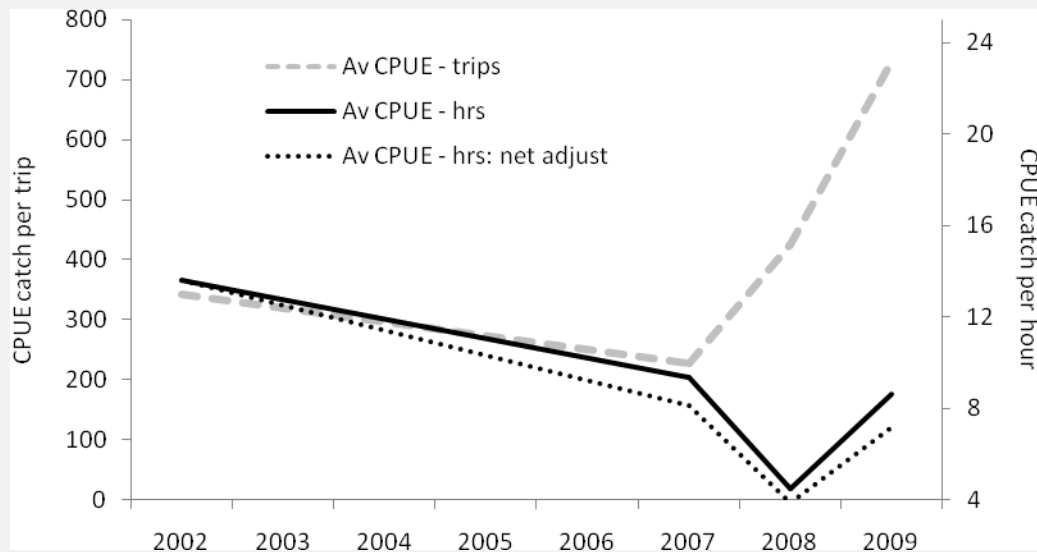
Survey results show that changes in the gill net fishery have been a substantial driver of ‘effort creep’ in Ghana’s coastal fisheries. Major contributors to this are the move from twine nets to monofilament nets, the tendency of fishers to progressively add to their ‘fleet’ of nets over time (meaning that over time the length of net set by a given fisher has consistently increased) and the decreasing mesh sizes employed by fishers. These changes, and the perceived ‘efficiency’ of this gear type have made it a target for regulatory change; the recently gazetted regulations state that monofilament nets are an illegal gear type. Moreover, recent actions by the fishery enforcement ‘taskforce’ of confiscating monofilament nets means that scientific, value-neutral information on net efficiency will be extremely valuable.



**Figure 15:** A National Service Volunteer (in life jacket) collects data on gill netting activities for a direct comparison of catch from twine and monofilament nets

### Box 9: Recalibrating Fisheries Data

A number of case-studies were undertaken to look in detail historical data on catch and effort, and to understand why the data system produced entirely unrealistic CPUE estimates. An example, for drift gill net (DGN) fishers working from Dixcove is included below (Figure 14). The dashed grey line is catch per trip, as recorded in the current data system, which suggest catch rates are going up and the fishery was quite healthy



**Figure 16:** Change in apparent CPUE over time using three different measures of effort (trips, hours fished, and hours fished with a further adjustment for net length used)

This is clearly not the case, and interviews with fishers show very clearly that catch rates have dropped substantially over this period. However, a technical innovation in 2007 – the building of ice chests in boats – meant that in the space of a few months, most trips went from 1 day, to 3-4 days in length. Catch per trip therefore went up substantially. The black line on the graph shows catch per day rather than per trip. The black dotted line goes a step further by incorporating change in net length (from interview data) into the calculation as well. This tells a very different story about the health of the fishery. This graph represents a period of only 7 years – in the 40 years since the data system was inaugurated, many such changes will have occurred.



### **2.3.3 Strengthening Capacity for Fisheries Compliance and Enforcement**

This activity was aimed at encouraging voluntary compliance by working with the Fisheries Commission (FiC) and stakeholders at the regional, district and community levels. It also supported the piloting of local citizen observer groups that report to law enforcement and denounce infractions publicly and advocating for and seeking support for the piloting of environmental courts in the Western Region.

Key sub-tasks undertaken during the period included:

- Coordination with the FWG and the FiC for voluntary compliance and enforcement.
- Translation and socialization of laws (community meetings).
- District and community level meetings to discuss voluntary compliance.
- Meetings with fisheries groups.
- Orientation seminars for selected judges and prosecutors and the security agencies (Navy, Police and MCS, etc).
- Advocated for the creation of a Western Region environmental court system.

As presented under Activity 1.2, a Fisheries Working Group for the Western Region was constituted to work with and advise the regional Director of Fisheries. Part of the mandate of the working group was to consider the opportunities to work with other stakeholders towards effective management of the fisheries sector.

#### **District and Community Fisheries Fora**

Fisheries fora targeted at selected leaders from fishing communities, district assembly officials, assembly persons and other opinion leaders were held in the six focal districts and in 8 communities/landing beaches. The fora were aimed at educating them on fisheries issues especially justifications of the fisheries regulations/laws and fishers activities that have resulted in a decline in fish catches. The fora were used to solicit views on how fisheries could be better managed at the district and the communities in a co-management arrangement. During the fora some ‘Champions’ were identified and were made part of the study tour teams

At the various fora the views of the fishermen on possible co-management arrangements at the landing beaches were collated. The information would help in the design of community fisheries management arrangements which are owned by fishermen and the district assemblies. Another outcome of the meetings was the need for the district assemblies along the coast to prioritize fisheries management issues.



**Figure 17:** A study tour participant briefing community members at a forum

On voluntary compliance efforts, the important messages from the communities include the need for:

- Institutional capacity building for chief fishermen and fish mongers, police, assembly persons and fisheries officers
- Use of drama and radio. information services unit to communicate sustainable fishing practices, co-management and related issues to fishing communities
- Resort to traditional structures in any co-management arrangements
- Hold regular durbars in fishing communities to educate and sensitize them on the fisheries laws

#### Box 10: Lessons from the Senegal Tour

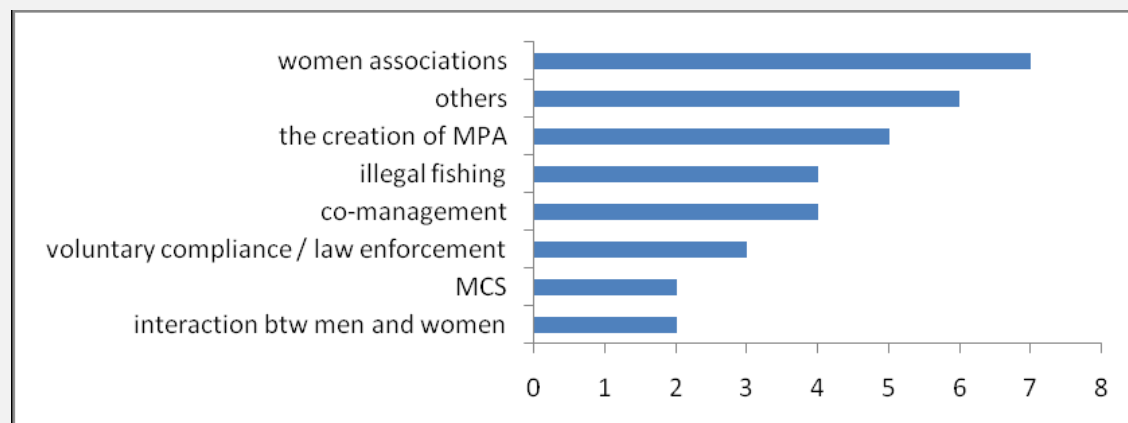
The objective of the study tour was to uncover existing practices in Senegal that promote the sustainable use of fisheries resources and maintain or enhance livelihoods. A particular focus was on:

1. Monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) through self-regulation, catch limits and gear regulation
2. The role of the post-harvesting sector and women as agents of change.

The tour was given a strong structure with visits focusing on organizational development (meetings with community groups and associations, community-based MCS and relationships between fishers and government bodies (meetings with Marine Protected Areas and Department of fisheries officials), value chain issues (visits of landing sites and processing facilities). The study tour gave participants an understating of why co-management is needed in fishing communities and the process involved in its implementation. An important learning outcome for the participants was the essential role women play in fisheries management and community development.

The study tour was an opportunity for participants to become inspired about new ideas and concepts and bring them home to share with their community as part of the capacity development process. Senegal faced similar problems as Ghana regarding illegal fishing but participants saw that it is was not an insuperable obstacle if community will existed to implement better fisheries management practices.

In terms of learning outcomes, in an open-ended question participants highlighted the way women organized themselves as a particularly strong point of interest (see. In the communities visited, women fish processors and fish mongers were very active, showing leadership and initiative as well as participation in local decision-making. The gender aspects in fisheries are not often discussed in Ghana so it is not surprising that participants considered it as one of the most important thing they learned during the trip. A second aspect was how MPAs were created and implemented, while how illegal fishing, MCS and voluntary compliance is tackle in Ghana were learning items mentioned by participants.



**Figure 18:** Most important things learned during the study tour in Senegal (No. of answers)



**Figure 19:** Study tour participants with representatives of the women Association "Dynamique Femme" in Joal, Senegal

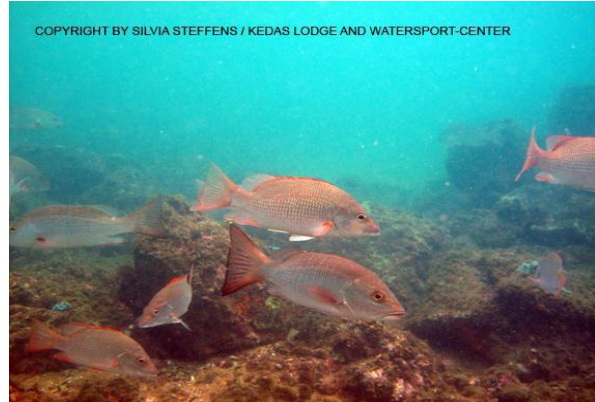
#### **2.3.4 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)**

Ghana presently has no MPAs, fishing reserves, or closed seasons. Significant local knowledge, however, abounds on the ecology of some fish species and their spawning grounds. Some of these some areas were considered off limits and still today many fishermen do not fish there due to the rocky of the sea floors. The Hen Mpoano Initiative has been working with fisher folk and communities in the Cape three Points focal area towards a better understand of how they are using ‘local knowledge’ to protect fisheries.

Within the greater Cape Three Points focal area the seascape from the Ankobra river estuary to the mouth of the Butre river (see Figure 7) is considered the most suitable site for establishment of a network of the first Marine Protected Areas in Ghana. The setting up of an MPA though with an initial fisheries protection objective could also benefit tourism. Already some private sector operators are collaborating with CRC-Ghana. For example, Kedas Lodge and Watersport Center, has provided Hen Mpoano with some underwater shots (see Figure 18) of the seafloor.

An inter-ministerial committee has been constituted by the government of Ghana to consider modalities for setting up MPAs in the country and the Hen Mpoano Initiative has been supporting activities of the committee and building the capacity of its members. Some members of the committee participated in the study tour to Tanzania.





**Figure 20:** Mosaic of underwater life of the Cape Three Points seafloor  
(Credit: Kedas Lodge & Watersport Center, Miemia -Ghana)

**Box 11: Some lessons on co-management of MPA from the Tanzania Tour**

Tanzania faced problems similar to what is observed in the fisheries sector in Ghana today – problems of declining fish stocks, use of light and dynamite in fishing and inappropriate beach seining at estuaries, etc. The negative implications and consequences for the future of the fisheries resulted in community led co-management initiatives for the protection of the fisheries. The idea of establishing an MPAs dates back to the 1960s. However it was not until 1994 that the Tanzanian Parliament enacted a law to provide the legal framework for the conservation, management and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources. The law provided for institutional arrangements for effective management and administration of MPAs in the country.

Study tour participants observed well coordinated and functioning institutional structures that ensured the Marine Parks and Reserves are protected and well managed. All the Parks visited were well resourced; with a research support, one or more speed and fibre glass boats for monitoring and patrols and well motivated personnel.

At the beach level, there are community-led no-take zones of intertidal areas are policed by the community fisheries management committees formed to protect fisheries resources. The coastal district administrations were mandated to issue fisheries, boat and safety license as a way of generating revenue and be part of the fisheries management while the license regime is enforced by the beach management unit (BMUs) that are recognized by the fisheries law.

There are close seasons for some species of fish while light, dynamite and beach seine fishing are completely outlawed. When beach seines were banned, the nets were exchanged for standard net while enforcement of the ban was supported with a massive education drive. Also, to enforce the regulations, fisheries officers were put on board fishing vessels.

Fishermen have been encouraged to form associations and members were required to observe fishing laws. Wrong doers were reported to Association who in turn reported to the government. Non-members of the Associations do not benefit from incentives from central government. As ecotourism became more lucrative, most fishermen abandoned fishing and were involved as tour boat operators.



### 2.3.5 Water Quality Issues in the Fishing Grounds

The bloom of algae (*Enteromorpha spp*) in the coastal waters of the Western Region has been of national concern for nearly 20 years. The bloom seriously curtails fishing activities and fuels food insecurity and poverty in the impacted communities from the estuary of the Akobra river to Newtown (on the border with Ivory Coast) and well into the coastal towns of Ivory Coast. Previous occurrences of the bloom lasted a few weeks to a few months. However, the 2010 incidence was unprecedented as the bloom lasted the whole year. Earlier investigations conducted by government agencies on the drivers of the bloom have been inconclusive. In Year 2, (2010/2011) the CRC committed resources and expertise to contribute to knowledge on the possible drivers of the algal bloom phenomenon.



**Figure 21:** Dragnet fishermen landing green algae in their nets

In Box 11 is presented the preliminary findings of scientific investigations on occurrence of the algal bloom conducted by CRC and its partners. The findings and the necessary follow-up advice have been made submitted to the Honourable Minister of Environment Science and Technology and the National Task Force on the green algae in Accra. Also CRC has established contacts and have visited Ivory Coast to meet scientists there to discuss possible collaboration and opportunities of working together on the green algae which is hypothesized to originate from that country.



### Box 12: Research on Green-Green

The green algae bloom (green-green) in the Western Region has been of national concern since 1993. Scientific studies conducted by Ghanaian institutions to determine the drivers of the phenomenon have been inconclusive but generally acknowledge that nutrients (especially Nitrogen) fuel the bloom. Analyses of water samples taken during bloom events have indicated slightly elevated levels of Nitrogen but did not implicate any source. It was however speculated that the nutrients may be from either 1) agricultural run-off or 2) other land-based sources in Ivory Coast. For many years, efforts at collaborative investigations with scientist from Ivory Coast have been unsuccessful.

Learning and experiences from Year 1 of Hɛn Mpoano activities compelled CRC to solicit assistance from expert institutions in Rhode Island, USA (the Graduate School of Oceanography, URI and US-EPA) for a refined study. This study was guided by 3 assumptions. That the nutrients may be from:

- 1) oceanic processes
- 2) agricultural fertilizers
- 3) municipal sewage.

Nutrients from these different sources exhibit different signatures of the **Nitrogen isotope\*\*** ( $\delta N^{15}$ ). In December, 2010, algae, water (both near shore and offshore) and fish were taken from the Ankobra estuary westwards to Newtown (border with Ivory Coast) to Rhode Island (USA) for analysis. The US-EPA assisted with the Isotope analysis which is an expensive laboratory exercise.

Preliminary results indicated consistently high levels of sewage  $\delta N^{15}$  isotope. The results are only preliminary and further studies would be conducted when the bloom returns. It is hoped that further studies would involve Ghanaian and Ivorian scientists. An interim report has been submitted to the Minister of Environment Science and Technology (MEST) and the Task Force on the green-green.

**Constraints:** The political impasse in Ivory Coast did not allow for studies in that country. Meanwhile, CRC has advised the Government of Ghana through the Minister of Environment Science and Technology to initiate bilateral talks with the government of Ivory Coast to pave the way for joint investigations on the algal bloom phenomenon.

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**\*\* Nitrogen-15 ( $\delta N^{15}$ ):** Natural [Nitrogen](#) (N) consists of two stable isotopes,  $N^{14}$ , which makes up the vast majority of naturally-occurring nitrogen, and  $N^{15}$ . Nitrogen-15 is a stable, non-radioactive **isotope** of Nitrogen. It is often used in agricultural and medical research. Nitrogen-15 is extensively used to trace mineral nitrogen compounds (particularly fertilizers) in the environment and when combined with the use of other isotopic labels, is also a very important tracer for describing the fate of nitrogenous organic pollutants.

## **2.4 Component 4: Capacity Building for the Governance of the Coastal Zone and Marine Fisheries**

Capacity building efforts focused on the training of identified constituencies associated with the Initiative includes community leaders, government representatives at the district assembly, regional and national levels, and core program staff, among others. The trainings were based on the concepts and tools that support effective land use planning and good practices in the management of the coastline and co-management of fisheries. Training programs of a more academic nature served to prepare the human resources required for sustained land and seascape governance in an era of accelerating climate change. Component 4 also covers communications targeting the program audiences in the Western Region and at the national level.

### **2.4.1 Training, Workshops, Study tours and Meetings**

Training activities were carried out for staff and partners. A total of 402 people have been trained under the different components. Women make up 113 of those trained. Capacity building activities completed included:

- trained of selected stakeholders –fisheries leaders, Fisheries Commission staff, district assembly staff and assemblypersons, traditional authority and core program staff in Adaptive Fisheries Management
- trained of National Service persons to assist in the fisheries data and information gathering
- awarded of grants to 6 graduate students (4 men and 2 women) to pursue Masters programs in Ghana and the USA. Two are pursuing their training at the University of Rhode Island.
- built capacity of WERENGO in proposal writing and project accounting and provided Small Grants to some of the member organizations to implement food security and biodiversity conservation programs in the target districts
- developed solid partnerships at the district, regional and national levels for future collaboration and for a national capacity to apply ecosystem approach to coastal and fisheries governance
- conducted capacity building trainings on Integrated Coastal Zone and Fisheries Management for staff of the Fisheries Commission at the national, regional and district levels
- developed collaboration with relevant organizations and private sector for tourism development on the west coast of Ghana

- supported stakeholders to undertake study tours to three African countries and Northern Ghana
- supported the Western Region branch of Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council for advocacy
- supported the formation of – ‘Platform for Coastal Communities (PCC)’’, a regional civil society platform to advocate on issues of coastal development in the Western Region.
- supported and trained Community Environmental Monitoring and Advocacy Groups (CEMAGs) in the target coastal districts
- supported and participated in the activities of the Alliance for the Fisheries Agenda (CAFA) a Civil Society Organization (CSO)

### *Study Tours*

Four separate study visits were facilitated by the Hen Mpoano Initiative (3 to other African countries and one within Ghana). The objective was to afford participants first-hand knowledge and observation of some of the best practices in fisheries and conservation management and how the lessons learned could be applicable in the target districts of the Initiative and Ghana. In all 70 persons were participated in the study tours: Tanzania (11), Senegal (12), Ivory Coast (17) and for the local CREMAs in Ghana (30).

### **2.4.2 Communications**

A communications strategy document was completed and refined. As the Initiative was expected to change focus in Year 3, the strategy will be refined again to address communications issues under FtF. The Hen Mpoano communications strategy includes a graphic standards identity to better communicate the Hen Mpoano brand and USAID support based on the USAID branding rules.

As part of the strategy, branded T-shirts and caps with messages were freely distributed at public events and meetings, as well as to contributors to radio discussions on topical coastal and fisheries issues. Also, giant sized outdoor billboards with important messages were installed at vantage locations on the highways within the six districts. The Hen Mpoano brand is now a household name in the coastal communities.

Efforts were made to reach out to a majority of the coastal dwellers through radio. Jingles on ‘behavior change’ were produced and broadcast on local FM stations. The education-entertainment (edutainment) strategy adopted was used to reach target audiences through a radio drama and magazine show. A radio drama serial called ***Biribireba*** was developed and produced

for broadcast on two partner radio stations -Ankobra FM based in Axim (Nzema East District) and Good News FM in Takoradi (STMA). The drama promotes social change among coastal dwellers. Through the drama production, the capacity of program staff and partners as well as the personnel of the radio stations was developed in the drama production, script writing, editing, in-studio production and the hosting of magazine shows. This was made possible through partnership with PCI Media Impact and SustainaMetrix.



**Figure 22:** Hen Mpoano billboards by the highways in the Western Region

Publications from the Initiative were appropriately branded and widely circulated locally and on the Internet (see [www.crc.uri.edu](http://www.crc.uri.edu)). The documents include:

- ‘Our Coast – Our Future’ Document
- Newsletters
- Annual, Semi-Annual and other technical Reports
- Factsheets
- others

A Visual Image Library hosts a large collection of photos which enhanced communication through technical documents, newsletters, presentations, billboards, etc. Locally produced videos on the Initiative’s activities were catalogued for visual presentations. A fully functioning interactive Hen Mpoano Facebook page and Twitter ([www.facebook.com/HenMpoano](https://www.facebook.com/HenMpoano); [www.facebook.com/Birirbireba](https://www.facebook.com/Birirbireba); [twitter@crc\\_Ghana](https://twitter.com/crc_Ghana)) have been developed to enhance communication with secondary audiences. A Media outreach program – in conjunction with USAID, was organized to highlight pertinent issues in the coastal fishing communities notably the algae bloom issue and fisheries livelihoods.

## Contribution to Feed the Future Weekly bullets

The Hen Mpoano Initiative contributed over 40 stories towards the USAID communication on Feed the Future (FtF) activities. USAID staff - Brian Yang, Justice Odoi, Susan Quinn and Robin Johnson visited the Initiative where they participated in some activities and were also taken to various project sites to collect stories for related communications.

## Special Events

Special events were celebrated during the year as a means to reach out to partners and communities. The events included:

- Launching of 'Our Coast-Our Future' Report
- 350 Work Party
- World Meteorological Day
- West Coast Mountain Biking
- 'Our Coast' Art Competition
- Ankobra River Trip
- World Environment /Cape Three Points Marathon



**Figure 23:** Actors ready to record one of the Biribireba episodes

## **2.5 Component 5 - Performance Monitoring and Reporting**

Monitoring and Evaluation plays a critical role in adjusting priorities of a program. The goal is to encourage adaptive management and learning within the Program and to report results using timely information and selected indicators to provide meaningful information on progress towards stated objectives.

The Initiative organized two Monitoring and Evaluation workshops, the first in March 2011 and the second in July 2011. The Workshops brought together all technical program staff and partners to assess progress on the program where a combination of a scorecarding system on ecosystem governance was completed. The self-assessment of the program was based on the policy cycle and key results area 1 -First Order Enabling Conditions (see under section 1.1.1 and Annex 2) as set out in the original goal of the program and the selected USAID indicators. Evaluation was also conducted on activities in the three focal areas of Shama, Cape Three Points and Amanzuri, see Annex 1 for a summary and highlights of progress scorecard. Details of the self-assessment report in hard and soft copies are available at [www.crc.uri.edu/publications.php](http://www.crc.uri.edu/publications.php)

Semi-annual performance monitoring reports (PMRs) which document progress were submitted to the USAID. These reports include: 1) a comparison of actual accomplishments against the targets established for the period; 2) explanation of quantifiable outputs generated by project activities; 3) reasons why goals were or were not met. The data reported is supported by evidence collected and filed in the main field office. Timely and regular input of data into the USAID TrainNet were done for all training activities

The Hen Mpoano Initiative monitored program activities which addressed the 9 selected USAID indicators for performance reporting, including standard USAID programmatic indicators that have been selected for reporting to USAID/Ghana. Reporting for all 9 USAID indicators and the CRC custom indicators for assessing progress (ecosystem governance scorecards) has been completed and attached (See Annex 1). Annex 3 presents activities for the Year 2 and their status and accomplishments.

### **3.0 Challenges, Constraints and Measures Adopted**

#### **3.1 Landscape**

##### *Perennial tree crop “outgrower” schemes*

Given record high commodity prices for both rubber and oil palm, government policy has favored extension programs for these perennial tree crops with both economic development and poverty reduction objectives. International donors have also been increasingly supporting these programs. Unfortunately, these private-public sector programs are by-passing any district level or regional level planning. With no impact assessments done, these programs are having perverse impacts on livelihoods and food security in coastal communities. Expansion of rubber plantations is an emerging issue in the coastal zone of the C3Ps focal area and evolving into the Amansuri Focal Area.

As part of the Agriculture Sector Working Group, CRC shared concerns raised through the Western Region by vulnerable tenant farmers and district officials/assemblymen with those institutions funding the outgrowers program. The Initiative has also met 3 times with the Ghana Rubber Estates Limited (GREL) and dialogue is ongoing in a positive sense. Though they could not be considered to be a constituency for Hen Mpoano’s objectives yet, they are a) engaged; b) now aware of our objectives and c) ready to commit to better practices. Some of the positive aspects coming from these engagements include:

- GREL understands that they need to do social impact assessments before future outgrower programs and they have stated they will look into concerns and complaints registered at the district level
- The outgrower associations have agreed to participate in the district level spatial planning exercises and to present their planning for future outgrowers programs
- The KfW and AFD, have agreed to complete a study to look at perverse impacts and to start thinking about best practices
- GREL is four years late in starting the planned small scale agriculture support program for small plots relative to permaculture, restoring and maintaining soil fertility and mixed cropping. This intervention was to ensure that more food can be produced on smaller plots that are left out of plantations and provided to tenant farmers that will be moved from new plantations
- The USAID funded LOGODEP Program is interested in supporting the districts in developing a “best practices” manual for engaging agro-industrial projects.



### *Spatial Planning*

As previously outlined in this document (section 2.1.1), several new programs and actors entered into the scene relative to supporting spatial planning at both the district and regional levels. In addition, it was only late 2011 that the Town and Country Planning Department finalized their guidelines on how the districts were to proceed with spatial planning within a national framework. These new actors and frameworks meant that the Initiative had to make adjustments for both the Shama Focal Area process as well as for the other two focal areas where support had been initiated with four districts.

The Initiative now has the mandate with other spatial planning organizations and with five districts to conduct issues profiling and coastal community vulnerability, and resilience, assessments along the coastal belt. This will be integrated into ongoing district level spatial planning processes that are to be completed by the end of 2011. In addition, the Initiative will be supporting a regional level sub-group on spatial planning for the coastal belt. This will include equipping the Regional Town and Country Planning Department with the means to train district level physical and economic planners and to serve as a “hub” for spatial information and coherent planning among the districts in the Region. Though it took some time, an initial constraint has turned into an opportunity as the Initiative has developed a recognized support niche and capacity building programs that has begun with planners at both the district and regional levels.

## **3.2 Seascape**

### *Translation of the Fisheries Regulations*

Earlier in the year, the Initiative established a translation team that included local fisher folk and regional linguists for translating relevant portions of the fisheries regulations into the local dialect of *Fante*. This translation included the use of common expressions and local slang for many of the terms. Later on, the Fisheries Commission was advised by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture’s legal branch, that only an official interpretation could be used through certified interpretation institutions. Thus began a lengthy governmental tendering process and hence, the interpretations and communications program of the Fisheries Commission has yet to begin.

This delay is unfortunate in light of the sporadic enforcement actions that have been ill planned and were to await communications programs first (see next section). The Initiative is seeking authorization to use approved aspects of the translations for our fisheries communications and have started with communications on the ecological justifications of the ban of certain fishing gear and techniques that are known by fisherfolk.

### *Unprepared Enforcement Approaches*

While communications and education programs on the new fisheries regulations were to be completed prior to enforcement actions as a means of seeking compliance before seizures and arrests, this unfortunately did not happen. Reacting to calls for equitable enforcement from various fishermen groups who felt they had been targeted, notably those practicing light for fishing or using light aggregate devices, the government ordered the military to complete punctual seizures of banned mono-filament gill nets in fishing communities across the coast. This was later followed by seizures of equipment from those practicing light fishing. In all of the cases, the use of military with force has created confrontational situations and has served to further the gap between the government and fishermen relative to compliance issues, especially with those fishermen who do not fully understand the reasons for banned practices and the objectives behind it. This has also meant that, at times, the Initiative has had to distance itself from the Fisheries Commission in order to maintain dialogue with fisherfolk so that investments made towards the foundations for future co-management are not compromised.

The Initiative has engaged both Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Fisheries Commission in dialogue on several occasions, notably a two session dialogue with fisherfolk that called for education first and enforcement after. The Initiative has also expressed its willingness to train enforcement teams on more proper social approaches. The dialogue has had limited success but it is a start and the Initiative is planning more dialogue sessions that will seek to accelerate planned communications programs as well as train enforcement teams on more socially correct approaches for enforcement.

### *World Bank Investment in Ghana's Fisheries Sector*

In 2011, World Bank signed off on a US\$ 53 million, 5-year support program to the Fisheries Sector. An investment of this magnitude has the tendency of run over such important Initiative as the ICFG. However, there has been the recognition, acknowledgement and the important role the ICFG Initiative is playing in the fisheries sector. Thus CRC played important roles in the briefing of several technical scoping and project development missions both in Ghana and in Washington D.C. to ensure coherence in approaches for promoting reform in the fishing sector.

At the national level, there is a growing acknowledgement of what the ICFG Initiative can contribute by piloting a multitude of national policies relative to integrated coastal management and fisheries. From district spatial planning to climate change adaptation plans, the Initiative is seen to be leading. The Fisheries Commission and the World Bank have consulted regularly with the ICFG Team as they prepare to implement the \$ US 53 Million investment to reform the fisheries sector and they are committed to benefiting from the experiences and social capital that has been built in the Western Region. The ICFG Initiative also has been given the mandate to

lead on preparing the foundations and proposing the institutional mechanisms for supporting Ghana's first marine protected areas. This includes the piloting of smaller fisheries co-management unit, or critical habitat areas, first, in the Cape Three Points focal area sea and landscape interface.

### *Increasing Issues with the Evolving Oil and Gas Sector*

The Environmental Impact Assessment for the Jubilee Oil Fields commercial operations mandated a mitigation measure of recruiting a fisheries liaison officer to respond to issues of conflict arising with fisherfolk. The Jubilee oil partners have yet to recruit this liaison officer since 2009, when this mitigation measure was mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency. In the meantime, the number of oil drilling platforms has gone from 2 to over 10 in the offshore areas of the Western Region. The supply ships for these platforms have gone from 6 to over 25. These ships repeatedly run over and destroy nets and provide security risks for canoe fishermen.

The Initiative has repeatedly called for the recruitment of a fisheries liaison officer and has brought to the attention the lack of concern for fisherfolk by the sector. It has also called for funding of a complete register of fishermen and their regular activities so that if, and when, there is a spill or any other event that hinders fishermen to ply their trade, that adequate compensation can be calculated. These issues will be brought to the forefront by the PCC and the Fisheries Alliance.

## Annex 1: Progress on the Five Component Activities for FY11

### Hen Mpoano Results to Date (FY 10 – September 30, 2011) and Targets for FY 12 and FY 13

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 13 Target
1	Improvements on a governance scorecard covering, goals, constituencies, commitment and capacity dimensions, including measures that legislation and regulations are being implemented and complied with, and budgetary investments by government in fisheries management	Areas for score carding determined	4 areas selected for baselining  Western Region baseline completed	Increasing	Shama Baseline completed March 2011.  Cape Three Points baseline completed using IUCN scorecards  Western Region Time2 scorecard planned for July	Increasing	Increasing
<b>Comments:</b> Four initiatives are being tracked with the ecosystem governance process and outcome scorecards: Western Region as a whole and 3 focal areas: Shama, Cape Three Points Forest Reserve, the Amansuri wetlands. Scorecard is also being used to track progress on Fisheries Enforcement and Compliance and Rural Radio Drama but not as performance targets. Western Region baseline was established in FY10 and published in the Our Coast, Our Future Document. At the review workshop in July 2011, Shama, Cape Three Points forest reserve and the Amansuri wetlands baselines were developed. Pilot models for Integrated Coastal Management and conservation have been developed for the 3 focal areas and the Western Region as a whole. Some of the pressing issues identified in Shana were unregulated shorefront development resulting in conflict among coastal communities, pressure on land use due to the discovery of Oil and Gas in the Western region and more people moving from the STMA to Shama due to congestion in the city, population growth, flooding, construction in flood plains, competing land uses and poor urban development, physical disturbances from stone quarries, lack of portable water supply and weak responses to the governance systems in Shama. The Shama participatory land use mapping and planning was a clear case of a demand driven process. Hen Mpoano facilitated the process with the Shama District Assembly, The local Chiefs and the people of Shama. The learning and experiences gained from the Shama process will be emulated in the Cape Three Points area and forest reserve as well as the greater Amansuri area in FY 2012 and FY 2013							
2	Evidence of ICM and fisheries strategies, plans, policies, bylaws adopted by govt. w/ timebound quantitative environmental & socio-economic targets	Areas requiring management plans, strategies, policies and bye-laws determined	Areas selected: 3 STMA wetlands Shama Cape Three Points Amansuri	3 wetlands in S.T.M.A targeted	Work on management plans, policies and district bye-laws underway in STMA and Shama.	4 (Cape 3 Points and community wetlands)	1 (Amansuri)

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 13 Target
<b>Comments:</b> Scientific studies have been conducted to inform decision makers about the importance these wetlands have for flood control and bio-diversity significance. Several meetings have been held with the S.T.M.A. and the Wildlife Division of the Ghana Forestry Commission to legally establish ordinances at the district level as protected areas. Maps are being prepared for each of the three wetlands. Consultative processes on the way forward are still ongoing amongst the different institutions involved in the STMA which has not been smooth because of the bureaucratic processes involved. The STMA lawyer who is to play a leading role in the process has been contacted and he has shown the willingness to act. During the reporting period, Hen Mpoano local partner Friends of the Nation also conducted a series of social studies using graduate interns from the University of Cape Coast to do a stakeholder analysis and users of these wetlands. The next process is to assemble a team of district government personnel to undertake an assessment of existing social and economic conditions to inform the regulations that will finally be gazzetted. There are plans to also include other wetlands of biological significance in the STMA under improved management in FY 2012 and 2013.							
3	Number of CSOs and govt. agencies strengthened such as local NGOs, alliances of NGOs, trade associations or community management committees or advocacy groups (biodiversity), district natural resources offices, etc.	53 targeted, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened	Not Applicable as target just set in FY10	53 targeted	58 strengthened, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened	16, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened	53, qualitative narrative provided in PMP on how each is being strengthened
<b>Comments:</b> 53 organizations were targeted for strengthening as the main targets. The Initiative is working with most of these in Year 2 but expects strengthening to continue through end of project so no annual increase in targets. Friends of the Nation, WERENGO (association of 45 NGOs in the Western Region), Hotel Operators Association, Oil and Gas platform, NGOs/CSOs are receiving small grants to conduct resource management and livelihood development activities (~15), Fisheries Commission, Coastal districts (6), University of Cape Coast Department of Geography and Department of Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences, Community Health Workers college. The number of organizations receiving assistance is now at 58. University of Cape Coast and Community Health Workers College are also receiving contracts for specific work. The strategy here is to have these organizations learn by doing and mentors or advisors are assigned to each group. Many of these organizations are also being strengthened via training of the personnel and these results are captured in Indicator No. 5 – see below. Other forms of strengthening include the provision of working equipment and enhancement of office space. Partnerships have been formed with these organizations and Memorandum of Understanding have been developed and signed with all.							
4	No of stakeholders participating in resource management initiatives, workshops, regional meetings, exchange visits.	Tracked but no target	512 persons Males – 390 Females - 122	Tracked but no targets	753 persons Males – 605 Females – 148	2250 stakeholders targeted in FY 12	Tracked but no target

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 13 Target
<p><b>Comments:</b> Tracked but no target</p> <p>Several resource management initiatives, workshops, meetings and trainings involving stakeholders such as the District Assemblies, Fishermen's Associations, Fishmonger Associations, Community Resource Users, Spatial Planners, the Fisheries Commission, Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency were organized during the reporting period. Hen Mpoano has also constituted the Western Regional Fisheries Working Group which is a 12-member group made up of representatives from the Navy, the Police, the Judiciary, the Artisanal, the Semi-industrial and the Industrial fisheries sectors, Ghana National Canoe Fishermen's Council and the Cooperative Fishermen's Service Center. The Fisheries Working Group meets monthly to discuss fisheries issues in the Western Region and look at ways to improve fisheries management in the Western Region. The Group advises the Western Regional Director of Fisheries on fisheries issues in the Western Region. Several participatory land-use management meetings and workshops were also held in the Shama focal area with the Shama District Assembly, traditional chiefs and the local people of Shama. Several stakeholder meetings have been conducted with the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission and other relevant stakeholders on the Cape Three Points Reserve and the Amansuri wetlands. Exchange visits on Integrated Coastal Management, fisheries co-management, fisheries compliance and enforcement and Marine protected Areas to Rhode Island, Senegal, the Ivory Coast and Tanzania respectively have been undertaken and an Action Plan workshop organized to implement some of the lessons learned in the Western Region of Ghana.</p>							
5	Number of government personnel, community leaders and private sector stakeholders trained	100	216 Males - 170 Females – 46 (Investigating whether a better corrected estimate can be provided)	100	402 people trained (government personnel, NSVs, graduate students, community leaders and private sector stakeholders) have been trained as at the end of September, 2011. 299 males and 113 females.	500	100



No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 13 Target
<p><b>Comments:</b> Year 1 results seemed high and it is due to the fact that some meetings were being counted as training workshop when they probably should not have been. Measures to rectify this situation underway and only truly training events and training workshops or study tours captured here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employees from the Fisheries Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the District Assemblies, Fishermen Associations, the Civil Society Platform for Oil and Gas, Friend of the Nation, the University of Cape Coast Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences and the Department of Geography and Regional Planning all benefited from Hen Mpoano trainings. 4 graduate students from the University of Ghana and the University of Cape Coast were awarded field research grants and were trained to undertake research in the Western Region for their Masters thesis. 10 National Service Volunteers were also trained to assist the Initiative to collect fisheries data to strengthen the information base on fisheries in the Western Region. Hen Mpoano in collaboration with the World Fish Center also organized a training on Adaptive Management of Small-scale fisheries for staff of the Fisheries Commission and local fishermen. There was also a Population-Health-Environment training on Youth Peer Educator Trainer-of-Trainers which took place in the Ellembele and Nzema East districts of the Western Region. There was a training on the Interfaith Alliance for the Management of Coastal Resources in Takoradi. There was a training on primate monitoring and survey in the Ahanta West district of the Western Region. There have also been several trainings in Integrated Coastal Management and just recently a training on Adaptive Responses to Climate Change in collaboration with the University of Cape Coast that targeted Western regional District Planners and the Western regional branch of the National Disaster Management Organization. Two graduate students have been awarded scholarships to study at the University of Rhode Island beginning this academic year 2011/2012.</li> </ul>							
6	Number of hectares in areas of biological significance under improved management	Areas of biological significance to be considered for improved management determined (See indicator No 2 above)	Targets set	600 hectares (3 wetlands in S.T.M.A.) targeted	Butuah lagoon – 27.3 hectares Whin estuary – 204.9 hectares Essei lagoon – 8.0 hectares Total Area = 240 hectares.	11,100 hectares Cape Three Points 5,100 hectares CREMA wetlands 6000 hectares	Amansuri – 21,000 hectares

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 13 Target
<p><b>Comments:</b> 32,700 hct (initial estimates but more precise estimates provided on UCC has district and focal area GIS mapping completed). We plan to disaggregate this by hectares under planning, adoption and implementation phases Amansuri – 21,000 hectares Shama - hectares TBD, S.T.M.A. wetlands 600 hectares, Cape Three Points 5,100 hectares, Community-based (CREMA) wetlands – 6000 hectares</p> <p>Hem Mpoano is working closely with the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission, S.T.M.A. and the Survey Department to demarcate the 3 wetlands in S.T.M.A. for improved management. The Survey Department are in the process of budgeting for the demarcation while the S.T.M.A. and the Wildlife Division are also working with Hem Mpoano to draw management plans, policies and to enact district bye-laws to govern these wetlands. The same process will be followed in the Cape Three Points forest reserve and the Amanzuri wetlands in FY 2012 and FY 2013 respectively. Actual hectares of the three wetland areas in STMA (water + vegetation area only) is 240.2hct only as per GIS mapping done by consultants from CCU – see Tech report – Rapid biodiversity assessment on Essi and Butuah lagoons and Whin River Estuary – so the initial estimate of 600hct was wrong. A conservative estimate of size using only the water extent in 2010 and vegetated area in 2010 was used in the calculation.</p>							
7	Amount of private sector and/or government resources allocated for planning and implementation of ICM and fisheries management plans or strategies	Tracked but no target	No data available – see comments below	Tracked but no target	No data available – see comments below	USD 400,000.00	Tracked but no target
<p><b>Comments:</b> Tracked but no targets, expected to be increasing annually. Government personnel and Private Sector operators have spent time and efforts to attend Hem Mpoano resource management meetings and workshops on several occasions and even contributed office space and conference facilities to hold such meetings and workshops. The Shama District Assembly provided personnel for the Land use management planning exercise in Shama. Budget allocated for planning and implementation of ICM and fisheries management plans or strategies by the Government of Ghana in the Western Region have been difficult and so far impossible to obtain from the agencies particularly the Fisheries Commission. Therefore we are recommending that this indicator be eliminated or a qualitative measure of effort via narrative description be provided as evidence. Planning is ongoing to look at how best to quantify time and effort put in by private sector and/or government resources allocated for planning and implementation of ICM and fisheries management plans or strategies.</p>							
8	Number of rural households that benefit directly from USG Assistance	0	70	50	70 (cumulative number)  Second round of Small Grants have been let in July 2011 and new beneficiaries are yet to be determined.	260	150

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results	FY 11 Target	FY 11 Results	FY 12 Target	FY 13 Target
<b>Comments:</b> Life of project numbers are cumulative. Rural households were supported through the Small Grants Program to undertake different projects in the fishing communities of the 6 coastal districts of the Western Region that Hen Mpoano is working in. Small grants will be awarded to qualified applicants again in the coming fiscal years. Households benefiting were beneficiaries or recipients of small grants program. Three small grants focused on livelihood development and included: Batik and soap making for 20 women; improvement of fish monger stalls for 30 fishmongers and assistants; training of 20 women and supply of inputs for poultry production. In these cases number of households benefiting for each activity were 20, 30 and 20 respectively. Second round of small grants have been awarded with the number of new beneficiaries to be determined							
9	Average household food group diversity score	Tracked but no target	NA	Tracked but no target	No data available yet – see comments below	Tracked but no target	Tracked but no target
<b>Comments:</b> Tracked but no target as impossible to demonstrate or expect project attribution at the community or district scale for this indicator. Planning is in progress to train people to do the survey to track the diversity of food groups that are consumed by different households in Hen Mpoano focal areas and also control areas in the Central Region. After a number of deliberations during planning meetings to carry out this survey in Hen Mpoano focal areas, Friends of the Nation staff were trained on how to conduct a survey of this nature to carry out an initial survey on food groups consumes by different households in different times of the year when fish catches are high (times when people can afford to vary their diets because they have more money) and in times when fish catches are low ( times when people cannot afford to vary their diets because money level are low). Reports of this initial survey can be found in the Hen Mpoano indicator file for average household food group diversity score. Hen Mpoano later decided to halt this survey after discussions with a USAID consultant on Feed-The-Future until issues are resolved at the next M&E workshop in July.							

## Annex 2: Summary and highlights of self assessment scorecard

<b>Step in the Policy Cycle: Project as a whole</b>	<b>Status: Time 1</b>	<b>Status: Time 2</b>
<b>Step 1: Issue Identification and Assessment</b>	Issue selection <b>Completed</b> , otherwise <b>Underway</b> on all four other indicators	<b>Underway</b> on all six indicators
<b>Step 2: Design of Nested Governance Program</b>	<b>Underway</b> on three indicators Not initiated on three indicators	Spatial boundary <b>Completed</b> , otherwise <b>Underway</b> on all four other indicators
<b>Step 3: Formal Adoption</b>	<b>Not initiated</b> for both indicators	<b>Underway</b> on both indicators
<b>Step 4: Implementation</b>	<b>Not initiated</b> (this is intended to happen upon completion of project)	<b>Not initiated</b> (this is intended to happen upon completion of project)
<b>Step 5: Evaluation</b>	<b>Not initiated</b>	<b>Not initiated</b> (other than outcomes documented)

<b>Progress in Assembling Enabling Conditions: ICFG</b>	<b>Average Score – Time 1 Range: 0-3 (3 is best)</b>	<b>Average Score – Time 2 Range: 0-3 (3 is best)</b>	<b>Trend</b>
<b>Unambiguous Goals: 3 Indicators</b>	1 out of 3	0.6 out of 3	Decreasing
<b>Supportive Constituencies: 3 Indicators</b>	1 out of 3	1.8 out of 3	Increasing
<b>Formal Commitment: 3 Indicators</b>	0.6 out of 3	0.6 out of 3	Same
<b>Institutional Capacity: 5 Indicators</b>	1.4 out of 3	1.6 out of 3	Increasing

<b>Step in the Policy Cycle: Shama</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Step 1: Issue Identification and Assessment</b>	Issue selection completed, otherwise <b>Underway</b> on four other indicators
<b>Step 2: Design of Nested Governance Program</b>	<b>Underway</b> on all six indicators
<b>Step 3: Formal Adoption</b>	Underway for funding required, <b>Not initiated</b> for formal mandate
<b>Step 4: Implementation</b>	<b>Not initiated</b>
<b>Step 5: Evaluation</b>	<b>Not initiated</b>
<b>Step in the Policy Cycle: Cape Three Points</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Step 1: Issue Identification and Assessment</b>	<b>Underway</b> on all five indicators
<b>Step 2: Design of Nested Governance Program</b>	<b>Underway</b> on all six indicators
<b>Step 3: Formal Adoption</b>	Underway for funding required, <b>Not initiated</b> for formal mandate

<b>Step 4: Implementation</b>	<b>Underway</b> for three of seven indicators The remaining four <b>not initiated</b>
<b>Step 5: Evaluation</b>	<b>Underway</b> on three indicators Not initiated for external evaluation
<b>Step in the Policy Cycle: Amansuri</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b>Step 1: Issue Identification and Assessment</b>	<b>Underway</b> on all five indicators
<b>Step 2: Design of Nested Governance Program</b>	<b>Underway</b> on 4 indicators, <b>not initiated</b> on baseline conditions documented and institutional capacity developed
<b>Step 3: Formal Adoption</b>	Underway for funding required, <b>Not initiated</b> for formal mandate
<b>Step 4: Implementation</b>	<b>Not initiated</b>
<b>Step 5: Evaluation</b>	<b>Not initiated</b>

### Annex 3: Progress on activities as presented in Year II workplan

Component and Activities	Expected Date of Completion	Status	Notes
<b>COMPONENT 1</b>			
<b>1.1 Develop and Formalize a Nested Governance System for the Coastal Zone of the Western Region</b>			
Coordination of Activities and Assessment of Governance Options through the ICFG Advisory Council	September 2011	Ongoing	Council supportive and involved in actions for developing bylaws for urban wetlands in the STMA
Advisory Council Working Sessions	September 2011	Quarterly meetings	Three quarterly meetings were during the 2010 -2011 program year. The Advisory Council reviewed the program activities and reports and offered the necessary advice and directions to enrich the program activities as well as consideration for upgrading the council to a coastal working group which will serve as a pilot for executing activities along the lines of a coastal commission which the government of Ghana has plans of setting up. Lessons learned could feed into the planned national program.
Semi Annual Program Review Meetings	September 2011	Completed	Two program review meetings (March and July 2011) were held. The objective of the meetings was to self-assess progress of the Initiative. The assessment report has been issued.
<b>1.2 Assessment of Legal and Institutional Options for a Nested Coastal Governance System</b>			
Prepare TORs for Consultants	September 2011	On hold	Internal baseline survey led to the development and refinement of the Terms of Reference for this activity. Consultants yet to be contracted
Participation of Consultants in M&E working Sessions	September 2011	Completed	Consultants were not part of the M&E working session in March 2011



Conduct Workshops/Roundtables in Accra & Takoradi	September 2011	Completed	A two-day round table on the fisheries sector was held in Accra. The round table brought together various stakeholders including Fisheries managers, policy makers, politicians, representatives of the fishing fleets (fishermen), development partners and other private sector interests.
Prepare discussion papers on legal and institutional options for decentralized Fisheries and Coastal Governance	September 2011	Deferred to Year 3 -	Institutional analysis conducted. Discussion papers yet to be prepared
<b>1.3 A Fisheries Working Group for the Western Region</b>			
Creation of Fisheries Working Group and Action Plan	December 2010	Completed	Working Group was duly inaugurated on June 7 2011, by the Chairman of the Fisheries Commission. The inauguration of the groups was witnessed by fisheries sector stakeholders and widely reported in the press. The inauguration legitimized, empowered and gave them visibility and acceptance by fishermen and other stakeholders.
Bi-monthly meetings of Fisheries Working Group	September 2011	On-going	The Working group has held seven (7)) bi-meeting since its creation in February 2011
Stakeholder forums	September 2011	On-going	The FWG was involved in a number of outreach programs at the district and community levels following its action plans. Participated in the national dialogue on fisheries.
<b>COMPONENT 2</b>			
<b>2.1 Improved Governance of the Landscape :Detailed Landscape Planning and Management in Three Focal Areas -Amansuri, Cape Three Points, Shama</b>			
Participatory mapping and Visioning	September 2011	Completed for Shama, others in progress	The exercise was completed for the Shama District. Further mapping exercises was focused on the coastal areas of the District. A consultant has been contracted by government with the support of Tullow Oil to further the planning exercise. Meanwhile an advisory committee made up of the District Assembly Staff, Traditional Authorities, Private Sector has been constituted to work with and

			advise the Assembly on planning issues within the district. Activities towards spatial planning in the Cape Three Points coastal by Hen Mpoano Initiative will support the Korean plan for the Ahanta West District and the Greater Amansuri are in progress
Assessment of the Ecological and Social Landscape (Biodiversity Study)	June 2011	Initiated	Aspects of ecological and social assessments were completed for the Cape Three Points FR area. Habitat characterization and similarity assessments using satellite remote sensing and GIS were initiated for the Greater Amansuri area
Mapping of the Amansuri Wetlands including social aspects and habitats	June 2011	Initiated	The mapping exercise for the Amansuri wetlands has been initiated. The initiative is working closely with the consultancy group – Spatial Dimensions in this effort
Reports from stakeholder consultation meetings	June 2011	Completed	Initial meeting held for C3Ps forest reserve and the Amansuri wetlands. There was a late start with the Amansuri exercise. Shama reports available in Hard and soft copies
Feasibility report and action plan for accessing REDD funding	September 2011	Initiated but not completed	Various activities underway. Initial mangrove and carbon sequestration assessment completed. Discussions held with private sector on Business Biodiversity Offset Program (BBOP) and voluntary carbon offset and REDD mechanisms were being explored
Directed small grants to local civil society groups for conservation initiative	June 2011	Completed	Grant making completed and grantees submitted their inception reports. Grantee activities were being monitored.
Action plan for strengthening co-management of the Cape Three Points Forest Reserve.	September 2011	Ongoing	Working group of Stakeholders formed. Faunal assessment completed. Regular meetings of the Working Group held. Private sector (Tullow Oil) intends to support community patrols of the forest reserve through CSR funds. Activities will be carried over into Year III.
Development of a capacity building program for NGOs and schools	June 2011	Ongoing	Hen Mpoano is working closely with the University of Cape Coast in the development of the program. Needs assessment underway.

Coordinated efforts for sea turtle nesting conservation	Life of Project	Ongoing	2 meetings held with stakeholders. Action plans have been prepared. Stakeholders include Hoteliers, representatives from Wildlife Division of FC and a number of NGOs. Two volunteers (interns) joined the Hen Mpoano Team and are working to strengthen the conservation efforts.
Educational programs and materials produced	June 2011	Ongoing	Under discussion with Ghana Education Service and University of Cape Coast
<b>2.2 Land Use Management at the District Scale</b>			
Mapping of physical and natural features in 2 districts	March 2011	Completed for Shama.	Mapping completed for Shama district. Exercise in the other focal districts delayed. Work in the other focal areas delayed until September 2011
Climate change vulnerability assessments	March 2011	Delayed but underway	Assessment being done with the University of Cape Coast Department of Geography and Regional Planning. Activities commenced in September 2011
Purchase and Delivery of Computers to Districts	June 2011	Delayed but Initiated	Purchases and delivery of equipment will be completed in the 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of Year 3
Training of districts Planners	June 2011	Delayed	Only the Planner for Shama District trained as part of Visioning process. The training will be conducted when the computers have been procured.
<b>2.3 Enhancing livelihoods and Social Conditions</b>			
Develop MoU with Babson College	December 2010	Completed	MoU with the College completed through Sustainamatrix and an active collaborative program is on going
Feasibility leading to funding decisions on selected business plan implementation	September 2011	Underway but delayed	Feasibility team identified and planning ongoing. Beneficiaries have been identified but funding delayed because appropriate mechanisms for making grants to beneficiaries were incomplete

Selection of partners for Chorkor demonstration	September 2011	Not Initiated	Discussions held with CEWEFIA and experts and trainers on the smoker but discussions stalled
Collaborative studies on coconut and bamboo products and markets with Babson College	September 2011	Underway	Partners identified and study underway
Piloting of family Planning	September 2011	Ongoing	Partnerships have been formed with CEWEFIA, Ghana Health Service, Nurses Training School, etc. Four established community based peer educator groups and trained, drama programs initiated in the four communities, linkages for accessibility to health services for communities established.
<b>2.4 Value Chain Analysis of selected fisheries commodities</b>			
Analyses of fish value chains and markets to identify opportunities for pro-poor growth	September 2011	Field work completed	Fisheries value chains studies were conducted in coastal communities and major fish markets in Ghana. Report has been issued. Follow up working in the northern regions of Ghana has been delayed to Year III
Identification and development of pilot value chain "interventions"	September 2011	Preparatory activities underway	Activity delayed.
Analyses of the livelihood impacts of significant planned/mooted investments	September 2011	Not initiated	Delayed
Training and workshop events	September 2011	Completed	Training on Adaptive Management and Post Study tour training completed
Collaborative program with ADVANCE program	September 2011	Suspended	Preliminary discussion held. Program suspended as ADVANCE activities have to northern Ghana
<b>COMPONENT 3</b>			
<b>3.1 Governance of the Seascope</b>			
Capacity development for Best Practices in the Governance of Fisheries	June 2011	Completed	There has been capacity development for the Fisheries Commission, the Navy, the Police and the Judiciary

International expert consultation	December 2011	Suspended	This was planned for August 2011 but was suspended
Guided study visits	September 2011	Completed	Planned activities completed. Study tours were made to Tanzania, Senegal, Ivory Coast and Northern Ghana. 70 participants were involved and drawn from different stakeholder institutions
Workshops and guest lectures in Accra and in the Western Region	September 2011	Completed	World Fish Center staff gave presentations on their visits to Ghana and a presentation to the Fisheries Commission in Accra
Development of adaptive fisheries management training modules	June 2011	Completed	Capacity needs assessment completed and training in adaptive management held
Implementation of training modules	June 2011	Ongoing	Delayed, to be carried over into Year III
Identify/ develop, field test and review approaches to capacity development	Sept 2011	Underway	Delayed, to be carried over into Year III
<b>3.2 Strengthening the Information Base for Improved Fisheries Management</b>			
Updating the census of the three fishing fleets operating in Ghana's marine waters	December 2010	On hold	Awaiting final decision and financial commitment of the Fisheries Commission. ICFG will support the census activities from the WR to Elmina while the Fisheries Commission is expected to support the study from the Central to the Volta Region
Piloting data collection on how fishing efforts is changing	December 2010	Ongoing	Preliminary studies completed. Results as inputs for further investigations
A detailed assessment of the interaction between environmental forcing factors and fishery behavior	March 2011	Ongoing	Studies will be completed in Q3
Assessment of displaced effort and related particularly to light fishing	March 2011	Ongoing	Studies
Development of improved indicators for	September 2011	Not Initiated	Indicator will be developed from study results and will be discussed with the

monitoring			Fisheries Commission (FiC)
<b>3.3 Strengthening Capacity for Fisheries Compliance and Enforcement</b>			
Field training in surveillance and enforcement process	March 2011	Not initiated	
Support for strategic planning for enforcement activities at sea and landing beaches	March 2011	Initiated but not continued	Planning meetings held with the Fisheries Commission on the way forward for enforcement activities. Activity not fully accomplished
Printing of Manuals and guidelines relative to enforcement	June 2011	Completed	The fisheries Act 2002 and the Fisheries Regulations 2010 and other materials were reproduced and distributed to the relevant groups. Draft translation into local language of the laws completed
Facilitation of the establishment of an environmental court and training of judges	June 2011	First round of training completed	Training held for MCS staff, Police, Navy, Prosecutors and Judges. Circuit Courts in Takoradi designated to adjudicate on Fisheries and environmental offences
Develop a program on safety measures for fisherman at sea and safety gear	September 2011	-	Not Initiated
<b>3.4 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)</b>			
Reconnaissance of potential sites	September 2011	Completed	Reconnaissance underwater diving completed for some sea floors in WR. Local Knowledge of sea floor from R. Ankobra Estuary to R. Butre estuary completed. Inter-ministerial committee
Inter-ministerial commission meetings	September 2011	Ongoing	Several meetings underway supported by the Initiative. Participating institutions include Fisheries Commission, Wildlife Division, Friends of the Earth, Min. of Tourism, EPA, and University of Ghana. CRC supported the committee to visit the Greater Cape Three Points area to assess the potential of the area for an MPA



Study tour	September 2011	Completed	Eleven Participants successfully completed a study visit to Tanzania, They include community leaders (fisher folks) Fisheries and Forestry Commission and district assembly officials. Tour participants have shared their experiences and lessons learned at various fora - the community, district and national levels
Stakeholder consultations	September 2011	Completed	The inter-ministerial committee was engaged in consultations and engagements have been at the community, district and national levels
Potential MPA sites identified	September 2011	Underway	The best bet for Ghana's first MPA is in the Western Region and most probably from the estuary of the Ankobra river to the mouth of the Butre river ,The inter-ministerial committee have visited the area and have made suggestions to include the Amanzuri wetlands and other wetlands along the coast in the Western Region. This activity will be carried over to Year III
Institutional mandates for MPA proposed	September 2011	Not completed	Legal Mandates for institutions being studied by inter ministerial committee as input into strategic plan for the establishment of MPA
<b>3.5 Water quality Issues in the Fisheries Grounds</b>			
Research on algae proliferation	September 2011	Ongoing	Sampling of coastal waters in the WR and analysis (undertaken by GSO/URI and US-EPA) completed. Preliminary results have been forwarded to the Minister for Environment, Science and Technology for her consideration. CRC serves on task force studying the impacts of the bloom on coastal livelihoods. Further studies will be undertaken in collaboration with Scientists from Ivory Coast. CRC has made follow up visits to Ivory Coast and had discussions with scientists from that country on the issue.
Workshop on algae proliferation	September 2011	On hold	Activity was put on-hold due to unrest in Ivory Coast. The workshop which will involve Scientist from Ghana and Ivory Coast and other experts and stakeholders has been discussed during the visit to Ivory Coast in August. Dates will be set for Year III
System for Water Quality Assessments	September 2011	Underway	Identification local institutions and scientists. Activity not completed

<b>COMPONENT 4</b>			
<b>4.0 Capacity Building</b>			
<b>4.1 Training of Trainers in the Concepts and Practice of ICM</b>			
Training of ICFG partners	September 2011	Completed	Lecturers from the University of Cape Coast and Coastal Managers from the CRC provided training for ICFG partners.
Development of manuals	September 2011	On going	Working closely with the University of Cape Coast to complete manual. Activity will be completed in Year III.
Training of stakeholders in focal areas	September 2011	Assessment underway	Capacity building assessment needs and training have been carried out at various focal area locations.
<b>4.2 Training for government representatives, CSOs, community leaders on coastal ecosystem governance</b>			
Training on co-management in fisheries	September 2011	Completed	World Fish Center has organized trainings on co-management. This included adaptive management and communication on lessons learned by study tour participants to Tanzania, Senegal and Ivory Coast.
Training on climate change	June 2011	Completed	Curriculum development with the University of Cape Coast completed and a one week certificate course held for district planners and other partners
Technical support and training for civil society oil and gas platform	June 2011	Completed	Support for CSO underway. Platform formed and zonal offices established with small grants from the Hen Mpoano Initiative for office start-up.
<b>4.3 Development of Academic training programs</b>			
Development of a high school ICM curriculum package	March 2011	Ongoing	A contract has been signed with the Fisheries and Aquatic Science Department of the University of Cape Coast to develop the curriculum. Development of the curriculum is underway.

A UCC curriculum assessment	September 2011	Ongoing	Assessment on the UCC curriculum has been completed. Suggestions and recommendations will be made to the University and the Department for the inclusion of new modules which are of interest to the University and the Initiative
Awarding and orienting in-country and overseas scholarships for degree training	June 2011	Completed	Graduate scholarships were awarded to 6 students, 5 from the University of Cape Coast and 1 from University of Ghana. Two of the awardees are undertaking their studies at University of Rhode Island. Students who received local awards are focusing their studies in the WR and will complete their thesis in June 2011. Two of the awardees are females.
Development of an institute short-course on climate change at UCC	June 2011	Completed	Short course held for district planners and partner NGOs. Participant expected to carry out follow on projects in their district and present their reports at their various institutions. Coaches from the UCC and Hen Mpoano Initiative will follow up and advise participants.
<b>4.4 Develop and Implement the ICFG Communications Strategy</b>			
Communication standards for Hen Mpoano	March 2011	Completed	Hen Mpoano graphic standards developed in conformity with USAID Branding rules
Development of radio and community drama	September 2011	Completed	Preparatory activities on Bibireba Radio drama series have been completed and sketches recorded at Ankobra FM. The drama series will be broadcast on two local FM radio stations as of October 2011. A partner NGO received grants to conduct community/rural drama in the Cape Three Points Area
Visual image library	Life of Project	Ongoing	Image library reviewed continuously. Most of the Images are captured on CD ROMs and DVD
Regular radio programs	September 2011	On going	Initiative Team members discuss topical issues on Radio. Radio jingles on behavior change developed by the Initiative played on various stations.
Installation of bill boards	December 2011	Completed	Bill boards on the initiative installed at vantage locations in all the six coastal districts of WR and maintained regularly.

Production of Newsletter	September 2011	Completed	Bi annual newsletter. Two editions published
Celebration special events	September 2011	Completed	Four special events celebrated ( 350.org, World Meteorological Day and Mounting Biking in Cape Three Points and World Environment Day)
<b>COMPONENT 5</b>			
<b>5.1 Monitoring and Evaluation</b>			
Finalization of all M&E planning and training of ICFG personnel and partners	December 2010	Completed	Performance Monitoring Plan documented and ICFG personnel and partners trained on M&E procedures
Semi Annual Reviews	August 2011	Completed	Semi-annual review for FY 2011 carried out in March and July 2011.
Social Thermometer	December 2010	Initiated but on hold	Preliminary /baseline studies was begun but due to USIAD's FtF program activities have been put on hold pending final determination and advice from the FtF program
Household diversity Index	March 2011	On hold	Same explanation as above.
Environmental screening of small grants	March 2011	Completed	Small grants activities being undertaken by grantees do not require further environmental screening
Trainet reporting	September 2011	Completed	All Trainet reporting completed for all trainings to date
Wetland Scorecard	September 2011	Process not completed	Developing of scorecarding system on going in collaboration with the University of Cape Coast
IUCN Protected area evaluation	December 2010	Not initiated	Planning process for this evaluation underway
Monitor carbon footprint	Life of Project	Ongoing	Carbon fund set up and contributions are being made. Part of the funds have been used to provide some logistics for Mangrove restoration in the Butre wetlands

