



**EUROPEAN UNION**

## **FAR BAN BO PROJECT**

### **REPORT ON FIELD ASSESSMENT ON LANDING SITE MAPPING AND DOCUMENTATION AT ABUESI COMMUNITY**



**JANUARY 2019**



## **ACRONYMS**

EU

European Union

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## **INTRODUCTION**

A landing site is a useful entry point for participatory development planning in artisanal fisheries because it is the one geographical place where most stakeholders come together: from crew to boat owners, from moneylenders to mechanics, from fish processors to consumers and from local sedentary to migratory fishers.

The landing site documentation is in line with the specific objective of the Call, which is to improve the governance of fisheries in line with the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the context of national food security, with a particular focus on female and male smallholder fishers and other disadvantaged stakeholder of the fisheries value chain to promote food and nutrition security.

It is against this background that the 'Far Ban Bo' Project, which means 'protecting fisheries livelihoods' is an EU funded 4-year (2017 – 2021) fisheries governance project which is being implemented by a consortium consisting of CARE (the lead), Friends of the Nation and Oxfam in collaboration with key fishery stakeholders, including smallholder fishery associations, the Fisheries Commission, Fisheries Alliance, etc. is supporting the mapping, demarcation and documentation of Fish Landing sites. The overall objective of the action is to contribute to sustainable fisheries resources management to improve food security and nutrition and livelihoods of smallholder fishers and other users of fishery resources.

- To conduct initial landing site assessment at Abuesi to collate information for securing of the landing site.
- To discuss with Chief Fisherman and other key stakeholders on landing site mapping and documentation

## **DETAIL SESSION**

As part of securing fisheries livelihood through the securing and documentation of fish landing sites for small holder fishers under the Far Ban Bo Project, discussions were held with key stakeholders in Abuesi Community to gather initial information on the security and documentation of their landing sites.

Abuesi is a large urban<sup>1</sup> fishing community located in Shama district. The community and surrounding area are characterised by flat and hilly landscapes. The coastline comprises slightly curved sandy beaches extending from the Western to the Southern edges of the

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<sup>1</sup> The Shama District Assembly classifies this community as urban.

population concentration. There are two fish landing sites- Abuesi and Kesewokan- in the area. Rocky outcrops are present in the near shore areas. Information from local fishermen suggests that the near shore areas also contain ship and aircraft rubbles. The artisanal fishing industry dominates the coastal strip of this community.

Two landing sites were assessed on January 21, 2019. The purposes were to conduct initial landing site assessment at Abuesi to collate information for securing of the landing site and discuss with Chief Fisherman and other key stakeholders on landing site mapping and documentation.

### ***Assessing the Fish Landing Sites***

With support from Susanna Ewuakye, a community facilitator, discussions were held with Mbeah Essilfie, who is the chief fisherman at K3se Wo Kan. According to him, the land belongs to their family in which his brother Nana Kojo Mbeah is the chief of K3se W). He shared that the land has been giving to the fisher folks where canoes are landed, and sheds built for fish smoking and other fisheries facilities.

He stated that, now, there's no documentation for the land. He also took to himself to hold further discussions with his brother and share with him the support that Far Ban Bo Project is bringing to their community.



*Figure 1: Discussion with Kese Wo Kan Chief Fisherman*

For the other landing site assessment, discussions were held with the chief fisherman, Nana Konduah, Uncle Seidu and Mr Blankson. Nana Konduah shared that securing and documentation their current fish landing site will be a challenge, as there is no land available and the possible land which could have been used has been encroached.

There is portion of land at the eastern side of the community (heading towards Shama) which when he was enstooled as a chief fisherman, he told his fishermen to start docking their canoes. Apparently, the fishermen did not heed to his advice. He (and Uncle Seidu, Mr Blankson) added that that stretch of land is being sold. Uncle Seidu stated emphatically that further discussions can be held with the chief to assign give some portion of the land to the fisher folks which can be secured and documented.



*Figure 2: Discussion with Nana Konduah, Uncle Seidu and Mr Blankson*

## **Next Steps**

Further assessment and discussions need to be held with key stakeholders within the community. Meeting with landowners, community leaders to gather more information on possible securing of the fish landing sites. Experiences from communities like Anomabo and Kedzikope were also shared with them to help them better understand the process. The map of Anomabo Fish Landing Site was shared and explained to them to better appreciate the issues.