



POWER TO THE FISHERS PROJECT

INAUGURATION OF FISH SMOKING CENTRES IN SENYA BEREKU AND WINNEBA

ACTIVITY REPORT



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European Union



GOVERNMENT OF GHANA



This publication is available electronically in the following locations:

- *The Power to the Fishers Project*
<http://powertothefishers.com/>
- *CERATH Development Organization*
<https://cerathdev.org/>

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Disclaimer

The views expressed and opinions contained in this report are those of the PTF team and are not intended as statements of policy of the EU. The contents of this report are the responsibility of the PTF team and do not necessarily reflect the views of the EU.

Cover Photo

A picture of the fish smoking centre at Winneba community (Photo Credit: CDO)

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In all, our biggest appreciation goes to Almighty God for his unfailing guidance.

ACRONYMS

EU	European Union
CDO	CERATH Development Organisation
EDT	Enterprise Development Training
CSO-RISE	Civil Society Organisation in Research and Innovation for Sustainable Development
PTF	Power to the Fishers
MoF	Ministry of Finance
FC	Fisheries Commission
TAT	Technical Assistance Team

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I.0. BACKGROUND

In June 2019, the European Union (EU) Ghana awarded CERATH Development Organization a four-year contract under the Civil Society Organization in Research and Innovation for Sustainable Development (CSO-RISE) programme to implement the Power to the Fishers (PTF) project. The goal of the project is to enhance the socio-economic livelihoods of fishing communities in the coastal savannah zone of Ghana. The project is being implemented across five (5) coastal districts within the central and western regions of Ghana - Awutu Senya, Effutu, Ekumfi, Gomoa West and Shama districts. The project's objectives are:

- Engage stakeholders and value chain actors to disseminate information on climate change and other contemporary issues affecting the fishery sector and coastal ecosystems.
- Enhance the knowledge and adoption of improved, environmentally friendly and cost-efficient fish processing technologies.
- Build the capacities of target groups on appropriate fishing and business practices, environmental protection, climate change, health and safety.
- Forge strategic partnerships between social protection entities (mainly health insurance, credit and pensions) and the target groups
- Document project outcomes and disseminate for learning and scaling.

In promoting the knowledge and adoption of the improved fish processing technologies, the Power to the Fishers project has constructed fish smoking centres in its beneficiary districts. The project organized an inaugural ceremony to officially open the smoking centres for use.

2.0. PROCEEDINGS FROM THE INAUGURATION

2.1 Welcome Address

In his address, the project manager of the PTF project, Derek Adabie, touched on some activities that had been previously carried out by CDO under the project. He pointed out that the project, among its many other components, seeks to promote the use and adoption of improved smoking technologies which would translate to healthy work environments for fish processors and the consumption of wholesome fish by consumers. He further expressed confidence in the use of the Ahotor oven which would increase the profits of fish processors through the sale of quality smoked fish. He concluded by expressing gratitude to the EU and the Ministry of Finance (MoF) for their commitment to the project.



Figure 1: The PTF project manager delivering the welcome address

2.2 Remark by the Traditional Councils

2.2.1 Remarks by the Awutu Senya Traditional Council

Speaking at the inauguration, Nenyi Morthey, representing the Senya Bereku Traditional Council, mentioned the traditional council and the community's excitement at hosting the fish smoking centre. He expressed unqualified gratitude to the EU for the financial support to the project. He further thanked

CDO for their confidence in the community and for facilitating the provision of the centre. He pledged the community's commitment to put the centre to good use.



Figure 2: Remarks by the Senya Bereku Traditional Council

2.2.2 Remarks by the Traditional Council of Winneba

The traditional council's representative, Nenyi Obor Kwesi Atta II, expressed the council's appreciation to CDO and thanked the organization for the initiative. He also thanked the EU for their belief in the Ghanaian fisheries sector and continued investment to ensure its development. He further implored the fish processors to embrace the improved oven being promoted and make the most out of the smoking centre.



Figure 3: Representative of the Effutu Traditional Council delivering his speech at the event

2.3 Remarks by NAO of the Ministry of Finance

Mercy Ashong, representing the National Authorizing Office (NAO) of the Ministry of Finance (implementors of the CSO-RISE programme), acknowledged EU's continuous support towards improving agriculture, employment and social protection, as well as complementing Government's efforts at bridging the poverty gap. She remarked on the project's contribution to youth and women empowerment and community-based capacity building. She further entreated fishmongers to take advantage of the improved fish smoking facilities to safeguard their health and promote their wares to the international market.



Figure 4: The representative of the Ministry of Finance delivering her speech at the ceremony

2.4 Remarks by the FC Executive Director

The executive director of the Fisheries Commission, Michael Arthur Dadzie, in his remarks cautioned the fishmongers to desist from purchasing fish that had been captured under unapproved means to discourage illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) fishing. He advised fish processors to adopt the improved fish smoking technology – Ahotor oven – due to its many benefits. He further entreated fisherfolk to develop a deep sense of responsibility and ensure the centres are efficiently used and well maintained.



Figure 5: The Executive Director of Fisheries Commission delivering his speech

2.5 Keynote Address and Ribbon-Cutting

The European Union representative, Madam Susana Martins, also acknowledged the effort of CDO in building the fish smoking facilities. She remarked that the smoking centre contributed to the overall objective of the CSO-RISE programme which aims at livelihood empowerment and poverty reduction.



Figure 6: The EU representative delivering the keynote address at the ceremony

She indicated that the improved smoking technologies will improve the health of fishmongers and increase productivity within the fisheries sector. Additionally, the smoking technologies will reduce carbon emissions and increase resilience in the fight against climate change. After the address, Susana Martins cut the ribbon to officially inaugurate the fish smoking centres.



Figure 7: Ribbon-cutting by the EU representative

3.0 TOUR OF THE FISH SMOKING CENTRES

Following the ribbon-cutting, the facilities were toured by participants. The centres are furnished with energy-efficient Ahotor ovens, which are built to meet the facility compliance standards of the FC. Each fish smoking centres have four (4) designated entry & exit points for specific purposes – the ‘fish’ and ‘operator’ entry points, and the ‘waste’ and ‘smoked product’ exit points – to prevent cross-contamination of processed fish. The centres come with a fish reception room to receive fresh fish which are placed in ice till they are processed, changing rooms where fish processors change into prescribed outfits, a wash area for cleaning fish, a smoking area for fish smoking, and a cooling room where processed fish is allowed to cool and is stored.



Figure 8: Participants being taken around the Senya Bereku fish smoking facility.

4.0 CONCLUSION

In attendance were a hundred and twenty-three (123) people drawn from the EU Delegation to Ghana, Ministry of Finance, Fisheries Commission, the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) of the CSO-RISE programme, the traditional councils of both communities, opinion leaders, fisherfolk, and other community members. The project is constructing four additional smoking centres – in Dago, Otuam, Mankwadze and Kесе wo kan – and are at advanced levels of completion.

APPENDIX

Picture Gallery



Figure 9: A group picture of participants at the inauguration ceremony in the Winneba community



Figure 10: Participants interacting with the project team during the tour of the centres



Figure 11: A picture of the fitted ovens in the smoking centre at Winneba



Figure 12: Performance by dance troupe during the ceremony at Senya Bereku



Figure 13: A picture of participants at the ceremony at Winneba community.



Figure 14: A group picture of participants at the inauguration ceremony in the Senya Bereku community

Program Outline

Inauguration of Fish Smoking Centre in Senya Bereku Community		
Time	Activity	Lead
9:00 am	Cultural dance display	Osimpam Ompe dance troupe
9:10 am	Opening prayer	Chief fisherman
9:13 am	Introduction of dignitaries and participants	MC
9:17 am	Welcome address/opening speech	Project manager, PTF
9:22 am	Remarks by Senya Bereku Traditional council	Rep, Traditional Council
9:27 am	Remarks by NAO of the Ministry of Finance	Rep, NAO
9:32 am	Remarks by Fisheries Commission	Exec. Director, FC
9:37 am	Keynote address by EU Representative	Rep, EU
9:42 am	Ribbon cutting & touring of centre	EU representative
9:50 am	Group photograph	All participants
9:52 am	Vote of thanks	Fish queen
9:54 am	Closing prayer	Fish processor
9:55 am	Travel time to Winneba	
Inauguration of Fish Smoking Centre in Winneba Community		
10:50 am	Opening prayer	Fish queen
10:52 am	Opening remarks	Project manager, PTF
10:57 am	Remarks by Winneba Traditional council	Rep, Traditional Council
11:02 am	Remarks by NAO	Rep, NAO
11:07 am	Remarks by EU Representative	EU representative
11:12 am	Ribbon cutting & touring of centre	EU representative
11:20 am	Group photograph	All participants
11:22 am	Vote of thanks & closing prayer	Chief fisherman
11:25 am	Brunch	