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THE
UNIVERSITY
OF RHODE ISLAND



Training TRY Oyster Women's Association on
**Oyster Ecology for Improved
Co-Management in Gambia**

USAID Women Shellfishers and Food Security Project

Presentation by: Ernest Obeng Chuku

Centre for Coastal Management (Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience)

University of Cape Coast

April 7, 2021

Training Team

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Contact Information

Project Implementing Partners:

Coastal Resources Center of University of Rhode Island, USA (prime); Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences, URI; World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF); University of Cape Coast/Center for Coastal Management, Ghana; University of Ghana Dept. of Nutrition and Food Science, Ghana; TRY Oyster Women's Association, The Gambia.

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Project Brief

The Women Shellfishers and Food Security Project will strengthen the evidence base, increase awareness, and equip stakeholders to adapt and apply successful approaches for replication and scale-up in the eleven coastal West African countries from Senegal to Nigeria. It will draw on successful cases of a rights-based, ecosystem-based, participatory co-management approach to shellfish management by women in mangrove ecosystems in The Gambia and Ghana developed with USAID assistance. Knowledge and experience generated through the project will open up opportunities for improvement and broader application of these promising approaches in West Africa through these key project activities:

- 1) Conduct the first-ever participatory regional assessment*
- 2) Elaborate and test elements of models based on existing approaches through site-based research in The Gambia and Ghana*
- 3) Foster a community of practice around the development and dissemination of a toolkit*

Training Report

OBJECTIVE OF THE TRAINING

- To ***build the capacity of women shellfishers*** for better implementation of the community-based management of oyster stocks in mangrove and estuarine systems in The Gambia.
- To ***encourage the youth to get involved***, towards the transformation of oyster-based livelihoods from the current traditional methods to a more sustainable form.

April 7, 2021

Welcome and introduction of workshop participants



April 7, 2021

**Brief
message by
the UCC team**



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Video demonstration of
water quality monitoring
by oyster harvesters in
the Densu Estuary in
Ghana.



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Lesson on oyster habitats, biology and water quality



Habitats: Hard stable substrata

Water quality: Temperature, Salinity, Turbidity, Dissolved Oxygen

Biology: Sex determination, Reproduction (Fertilization), Survival

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Demonstration of oyster gonads



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Participants view sex
gametes of oysters
under compound
microscope



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Participants draw
the shapes of
cells viewed



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Trained TRY Rep
teaches steps for
measuring water
quality



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Trained TRY rep
demonstrates
water quality
measurement in
the field



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Oyster harvesters undertake water quality measurements



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Youth participants
undertake water
quality
measurements



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Sights from Field Data Collection

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Layers of oyster shells in the Alaheine



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Oyster colony on mangrove roots



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Taking hydrographic
measurements with a
multiparameter water
quality checker



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Video of oyster colony
on mangrove roots in
the Tanbi, Gambia

Press play to view video >>



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Meeting with community members of Bulok



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Meeting with community members of Bulok



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Oysters on hard
rocky banks of the
Bulok water body



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Leaving no one out of
the COVID-19
prevention protocols at
all meetings held



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**THANK
YOU**

