

TECHIMAN MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY

GHANA PRODUCTIVE SAFETY NET PROJECT (GPSNP2)

SUBMISSION OF COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION REPORT

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GHANA PRODUCTIVE SAFETY NET PROJECT 2 (GPSNP2)

REPORT ON COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION PROGRAM HELD IN ALL THE FIVE COMMUNITIES UNDER THE CCMi SUBSUBJECT.

1 Introduction

The Government of Ghana has implemented several policies, programmes, and projects to foster inclusive economic growth, poverty reduction, and the creation of income opportunities for the disadvantaged population. One notable initiative is the Ghana Productive Safety Net Project (GPSNP), funded by the World Bank. The project, initiated by the Ghanaian government, aims to strengthen safety net systems and enhance the productivity of impoverished individuals. As part of this endeavor, the Labour-Intensive Public Works (LIPW) component within GPSNP-2 has been recognized as an effective strategy to offer short-term employment to the underprivileged, enabling them to meet their household expenses. Consequently, community members residing in Forikrom have been targeted and educated about this project.

1.1 Objective and Purpose of the Project

The primary objective of the GPSNP-2 project is to bolster social safety nets that enhance the income and productivity of impoverished individuals in Ghana. Additionally, it aims to improve the well-being of the marginalized and vulnerable populations within the communities. The purpose of conducting the sensitization exercise was to provide comprehensive education to the beneficiaries at Forikrom. This education aimed to empower them to make informed decisions and actively contribute their ideas for the further development and implementation of the GPSNP-2 project. During the sensitization exercise, the project's purpose was explained to the beneficiaries, emphasizing the significance of community ownership and the different components of the project.

1.2 Dates for the Sensitization Exercise

In all, a total of five (5) days was used in the sensitization exercise beginning from Wednesday, 17th May, 2023 through to Wednesday, 31st May, 2023. Table 1.1 below provides details of various periods for the sensitization exercise in the various beneficiary communities.

Table 1: Dates for the Sensitization Exercise

S/N	Name of Community	Date of visitation & Sensitization	Remarks
1.	Nsuta	Wednesday, 17 th May, 2023	Successfully completed
2.	Fiaso	Friday, 19 th May, 2023	Successfully completed
3.	Forikrom	Friday, 26 th & Wednesday, 31 st May, 2023	Successfully completed
4.	Asantanso	Friday, 26 th May, 2023	Successfully completed
5.	Nsonkonnee	Tuesday, 30 th May, 2023	Successfully completed

1.3 Resource Persons

Familiarity about the project was addressed by a team of individuals with in-depth knowledge about the project who took turns to address the gatherings at the beneficiary community. The team consisted of CCMI members and some staff of Techiman Municipal Assembly. Below is the list of the team members;

1. Aryam Hashim – MIS officer GPSNP Kumasi Zonal Office
2. Kwasi Mintah Owusu - Municipal Planning Officer
3. James Adu - Municipal Director of Agriculture
4. Flora Asante-Birago - Department of Social Welfare and Community Development
5. Ansu Damoah Kofi – Assistant Development Planning Officer
6. Raymond Kwakye Ameyaw - Assistant Development Planning Officer
7. Mohammed Zaarah - Assistant Development Planning Officer
8. Rita Opoku – PHN
9. Adomah Joseph – NCCE
10. Engmon Tink Paul – Statistician
11. Kmontey C. A. - EHO
12. Baalami Patrick - Service Personnel
13. Opoku Anaafi - CCMI Supervisor
14. Awiti Fosuaa Gloria - CCMI -Timekeeper

1.4 Strategies Adopted/Methodology

The sensitization was conducted through lecture and Q&A, facilitating discussions among various stakeholders to share perspectives and collaborate on finding solutions related to the sub-project. The team engaged with Chiefs, Opinion Leaders, and various Community Members of the respective beneficiary communities.

1.5 Content of sensitization exercise

The team, led by the Municipal Planning Officer, paid a courtesy call to the Chiefs as part of their efforts. The Chiefs were briefed by the Municipal Planning Officer regarding the phase two of the project. The Chiefs expressed great enthusiasm about GPSNP-2 and promised to donate hectares of land for the project.

After the courtesy call, the team gathered with the entire community at various communities, where they discussed the advantages and disadvantages of GPSNP 2. They explained that GPSNP 2 is an extension and improvement of the previous GPSNP initiative. The goal of GPSNP 2 is to continue to expand the government's support for the extremely poor through the project.

They also clarified that, individuals from the community between the ages of 18-65 who express interest will be given the opportunity to work, with priority given to individuals from extremely poor households and those participating in the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty program (LEAP), providing them with additional income-earning opportunities.

The team informed the communities that the task system would be strictly adhered to, and in order to earn the minimum daily wage of GHC15.00, subject to increase in line with national minimum wage adjustments, a beneficiary must complete a given task within an average of 6 hours. It was again emphasized that LIPW was not a regular employment and wages will be paid based on the number of days worked, and also depending on the availability of tasks at the site.

Each beneficiary would have the opportunity to work for a minimum of 120 days within a year. If the 120-day limit is reached and the sub-project remains incomplete, new extremely poor individuals would be targeted to continue the work until its completion. If no new individuals are available, the existing beneficiaries who are willing and able to work will be given the opportunity.

Regarding work attendance capturing, the team informed the community members that beneficiaries under GPSNP 2 will be required to use an electronic device called E-dash to clock in and out on the days they attend work. This system will be the sole means of recording work attendance, which will be used to generate payroll.

The team emphasized that work opportunities would be provided to persons with disabilities and pregnant women from extremely poor households. The team explained that two eligible individuals from each household would be registered, with one serving as the primary beneficiary and the other as an alternat.

The team briefed the communities that the mode of payment would be done through E-Zwich or any of the mobile money platforms or bank accounts. Additionally, it was explained that on the day of registration, primary beneficiaries must bring their National ID (Ghana Card) for identification purposes.

1.6 Participation and Participants during the Sensitization exercise

Overall, the attendance at the sensitization exercise held at various community levels were highly encouraging. The beneficiary communities expressed great satisfaction and support for the project. The chiefs of these communities enthusiastically pledged their full support, assuring the team that hectares of land will be made available for the project, which would ultimately provide future economic benefits for the entire Municipality. The table 1.1 below depicts the attendance recorded at the various events.

Table 2: Participants in the Sensitization Exercise

Communities	Males	Females	Total
Nsuta	44	15	59
Fiaso	34	0	34
Forikrom	55	1	56
Asantanso	28	36	64
Nsonkonnee	35	20	55

1.7 Open forum Discussions

At the various sensitization engagements, community members and key stakeholders present expressed diverse opinions on strategies to guarantee the complete involvement of beneficiaries when the work commence officially. Other participants took turns to pose questions about

payment processes, project site location, alternative workers and the total duration of work among other topics.

In response, the team conducting the sensitization exercise diligently addressed the concerns raised by community members, aiming to resolve any uncertainties and challenges they had. They provided comprehensive and satisfactory response to ensure that all participants had a clear understanding of the project.

1.8 Conclusion

In conclusion, it can be stated that the sensitization exercise for GPSNP 2 was successfully completed. The primary objective of the project is to enhance and expand government assistance to impoverished households and those in extreme poverty. All members of the community in the five subproject sites have been well informed about the subproject's objectives, operations and the associated benefits it offers. This comprehensive understanding will undoubtedly facilitate the smooth implementation of GPSNP 2.

APPENDIX 1: PICTURE GALLERY



Plate 1: MIS Officer (GPSNP Kumasi Zonal Office) addressing section of the gathering at Nsuta.



Plate 2: Section of Community Members and TMA Staff at Nsuta Sensitization exercise



Plate 3: Municipal Planning Officer addressing section of the gathering at Fiaso.



Plate 4 Municipal Planning Officer addressing section of the gathering at Forikrom.



Plate 5: Section of Community Members and TMA Staff at Forikrom



Plate 6: Team introducing GPSNP 2 to the Chief and Elders of Forikrom.



Plate 7: Team introducing GPSNP 2 to Community Members at Asantanso



Plate 8: Section of Community Members at Asantanso



Plate 9: Section of Community Members TMA Staff at Nsonkonnee



Plate 10: Section of Forikrom Chiefs and Community Leaders signing MOU



Plate 11: Section of Nsonkonnee Chiefs and Community Leaders signing MOU