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**GHANA/NETHERLANDS ARTISANAL
FISH PROCESSING PROJECT**

RESEARCH PROJECT #3

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDIES ON
PILOT TRAINING VILLAGES



BASELINE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDIES ON 1993 PILOT
VILLAGE: GBEGBEISE

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SUMMARY

Baseline socio-economic studies were conducted on Gbegbeise, a fishing community in Accra, selected for the 1993 Artisanal Fish Processing Course.

The study looked at the area characteristics, basic amenities and existing traditional fish processing methods.

In general, the standard of living was found to be low but better than in other fishing communities. Sanitary conditions need to be improved upon.

The study found that the community had already adopted the Chorkor Oven but the ovens had been copied wrongly.

The main occupation of the women was fish-smoking. They play a major role in fish distribution and marketing. They also make good profit in their business.

Simple programs like health and nutrition education, literacy classes, credit facilities and family planning will greatly improve their standard of living.

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REGIONAL TRAINING AND APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECT IN ARTISANAL FISH PROCESSING

BASELINE SOCIOECONOMIC STUDIES ON GBEGBEISE-1993 PILOT FISHING AREA

1.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Gbegbeise is a suburban coastal area of the Greater Accra Region of Ghana. This area was chosen as a study for the 1993 Artisanal Fish Processing Training course. This report is on the fifth phase of the research project. The other study areas were Lekpongunor and Ahwiam (Anson, 1988) Mangotsonya and Ayetepa, (Lokko 1989), Tema U-Compound and Nungua Faashi (Lokko 1990), New Galilea, and Amanfro (Lokko and Dake 1991) and Langma (Lokko and Anson, 1992).

The training course is of 6 weeks duration and has been conducted in Ghana every year for the past 6 years. Participants are from English speaking African countries. One component of this training programme is a 7-day field practical in the selected pilot area by the course participants.

The participants are introduced to this pilot fishing settlement, encouraged to interact with the people, observe and interview them on their life styles. Practical on Chorkor Oven construction, smoking and salting of fish are carried out in the village after the subject has been introduced and discussed in the classroom. A baseline socioeconomic study is conducted in each pilot fishing area as part of the training programme.

This is done in order to gather information about the study area, the people and their environment. The relevant information is passed on to the participants to make them knowledgeable of about the community they will be working in the information gathered will also be used in the planning of post adoption studies.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The Ghana Netherlands Applied Research and Regional Fish Processing Training Project has been running for the past 6 years. The project seeks to address the problem of post harvest losses in fish and fishery products. It also seeks to improve the living conditions of women, through improved income generating technologies.

The improved Chorkor oven, a very successful indigenous technology has been introduced to and adopted by most fishing areas all over the country because of its efficiency of operation. It has been very successful in assisting fish processors not only by reducing post harvest losses but also by increasing their incomes.

The construction and testing of these ovens are carried out in the field (study area) by course participants in the presence of the women fish smokers during the field practicals.

2.1 Objectives of the Baseline Studies

The specific objectives of the baseline studies are:

- (a) To obtain background information on the community and life style and standard of living of the study area chosen for the training course. It will also be used for post adoption evaluation studies.
- (b) To gather information on existing traditional fish processing methods and smoking ovens.
- (c) To study the role of women in fish processing and assess their incomes from fish smoking activities to determine the profitability of their work.
- (d) To provide the above information to the course participants as a way of introducing them to the study area.

2.2 Criteria for Selection of Study Area

- (1) The communities should not be far from Accra
- (2) The community should be a fishing community with a heavy catch of fish to enable fish smokers to get a lot of fish to smoke.
- (3) The Chorkor oven should not have been formally introduced to the community.
- (4) The need for improvement on existing ovens and facilities should be present.
- (5) Interest and willingness to adopt the new technology should be present.

The village or community is identified by looking up the Ghana map to check for a zero village or community. It could also be identified by attending meetings of fish smokers and being invited by the women themselves.

After identification a visit is made to the area to assess the level of response. If positive, then the area is selected.

2.3 Selection of Gbegbeise

This year's study area was selected from information gathered from fish smokers at the Agbogbloshie market. Many of the fish smokers take their products to sell at the market, and they expressed the wish to have the oven introduced to them. A resident at Chorkor also brought to our notice the existence of this large fish processing area and their wrongful adoption of the Chorkor oven.

2.4 Preliminary Visits and Meetings

Four preliminary visits were made in order to get the picture of

the place. The first visit (February 1993) - was successful in that the reception by the contact person was very enthusiastic and cordial. The second visit was after two weeks when a few more women were contacted and they were asked to choose 30 of their members willing to participate in the study, bearing in mind that we are interested in large scale fish smokers. Two more visits were made in the following two weeks where meetings were held with the women. They were briefed on the aims of the training course, what the programme is supposed to achieve and why their co-operation will be most needed during the practical training sessions.

Prominent people in the community who were informed about the project were the Chief and Chief Fisherman. Money was provided for the purchase of drinks for the customary rites.

At the end of these preliminary visits, a list of 31 names of large scale fish smokers was obtained. The smokers expressed their willingness to participate in the programme and also to adopt the Chorkor oven and to allow participants in the training course to construct the ovens in their own compounds for them. Their only contribution will be the clay which should be soft and smooth and ready for use. Pictures were taken of the women at these meetings.

2.5 Field Workers

Two field workers from FRI and NCWD were involved in the baseline studies. Each of the 31 women listed was visited in her home and interviewed. Each woman was asked the same questions prepared by the team leader. The responses were noted and later analysed. The questions were studied together and discussed before going to the field.

2.6 Data Collection

The bulk of the information was collected from the households but

3.0 GBEGBEISE

3.1 Area Characteristics

Gbegbeise lies in the western portion of the Greater Accra Region of Ghana. It is a small land area bounded by the sea to the south, the Chemu lagoon to the east, Dansoman Estates to the north and marshlands to the west.

Thus the suburban district of Gbegbeise lies to the west of Chorkor, the original home of the Chorkor oven.

The area is low-lying and the beach has a stretch of coconut trees to provide shade.

The stream Gbegbe from which the settlement got its name flows through the area parallel to the coastline. There are marshlands and a lagoon in which the river empties itself. The place is very sandy.

The population of Gbegbeise is about 5,000 with more children than the adult population.

3.2 Housing

Most houses in Gbegbeise are well constructed. This is quite unique as most fishing villages have poor housing structures.

The houses are built with sandcrete blocks and roofed with asbestos slates. It is possible that the nearness or proximity of Dansoman Estates has influenced their tastes and spurred them on to construct better houses. Some of the houses are even walled and smoking activities take place within the compound. There are a few mud houses with thatch roofs. Most houses in the Gbegbeise have been painted. Houses in other fishing areas do not have coats of paint.

3.3 Health and Sanitation

Sanitation is poor in Gbegbeise but compared to other fishing communities, namely New Galilea, Tema U-Compound, Nungua Faashie and Chorkor, the environmental sanitation is better. This can only be explained by the fact that the population is aware of their environment and are determined to improve upon it. The area can boast of one KVIP toilet and ₦20 is charged for a single use of the facility. Since this toilet is situated a few metres away from where most people live, the majority of the people make use of the beaches, the river banks and areas around the lagoon.

There are refuse dumps at the outskirts of the community and by the river. Refuse is disposed of in these areas. Some also put their refuse into dugout pits and bury or burn them. Waste water is always thrown on the compound.

Some domestic animals including pigs and goats are penned, others are not.

There are no hospitals or polyclinics in the area but there are clinics in Chorkor, Dansoman and Mamprobi. The seriously sick people are taken to Korle Bu which is a teaching hospital and just a few kilometers away, but they give self-medication when the symptoms are common. Examples are headaches and common cold. There are also several private clinics and maternity homes near the area.

Major health problems include malaria, diarrhoea, respiratory tract infections and worm infestation. These constitute 70% of disease events in the area. There are no drainage facilities and this is ironic because the underground drainage or sewerage facility of Dansoman Estates passes through the settlement into the sea, and it is broken and leaking in places thus polluting the area.

There are wide roads and paths between the houses to allow for

movements of both vehicles and pedestrians.

3.4 Tribe and Religion

The majority of the population in Gbegbeise are Gas. Traditional religious practices are still common. However the area has a large number of churches which are well patronized.

3.5 Water Supply, Lighting and Fuel

The village has pipe borne water but only a few people have taps in their homes. The rest of the people purchase the water at ₦20 per bucket from these houses.

There is electricity in the area. The source of fuel is wood, kerosine and charcoal. Some have started using gas cylinders.

Cooking is done outside, under trees or constructed sheds, tripod stoves, stones or coalpots are used for cooking.

3.6 Market and Market Days

There is no market in the area. The people do their marketing at Mamprobi, Kaneshie, Accra or Agbogbloshie markets. Individuals also sell vegetables and prepared food items either in their houses or by the road side. Some hawk their wares from house to house.

3.7 Education

High illiteracy rate exists in the adult population in Gbegbeise as occurs in all other fishing areas and villages. There are nurseries, primary schools and JSS but these are not well attended as the children drop out of school in order to learn the fishing trade - as a fisherman or as a fish processor. Education is not a priority in Gbegbeise.

3.8 Occupation

The men are mainly fishermen and the women process the fish. There are other artisans like carpenters and masons in the area. Others also go out to work. The women vendor cook foods and do petty trading during the lean season.

A characteristic feature is the presence of many drinking places in the area. The local gin is the main drink sold at these drinking places.

3.9 Social Activities

The people enjoy all the social amenities available to the inhabitants in the capital - Accra. This has enabled the community members to own TV sets, radios, tapes and to enjoy music and attend commercial video houses for their entertainment. They celebrate the annual Homowo festival and enjoy elaborate out-dooring and funeral ceremonies.

Gbegbeise beach is also a tourist resort for holiday makers. All kinds of people go to the beach to relax and swim. The beach has been nicknamed "Meet me There".

It is a taboo to fry fish on Fridays and there is no fishing on Tuesdays. There is a lot of rejoicing and dancing when a boat from the district lands a heavy catch of fish.

The Chief, his elders and the Chief Fisherman are the leaders of the community. Apart from the above, there are other political organs of the revolution helping to run the community. There is an assemblyman as well as the Mp for the area. All these people help in the smooth everyday running of the activities of the village.

Self help projects are not undertaken seriously in the area.

4.0 IN-DEPTH STUDIES OF HOUSEHOLDS

The organisation of the fish processing industry in Gbegbeise was studied. Information was obtained through interviews with the 31 identified women fish smokers as well as some fishermen and through observation and literature reviews.

The interviews were carried out in the homes of the women and their household organisation were studied as well. The names of the women are in the appendix.

4.1 Age and Marital Status

The ages of the women range from 24 years to 75 years with the average age being 42 years. Below is the age distribution and marital status.

Table 1: Marital Status and Age Distribution of Women

Age Group (Years)	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Single
20 - 29	4	-	-	-
30 - 39	10	-	-	-
40 - 49	5	-	1	-
50 - 59	5	-	4	-
60 - 69	1	-	-	-
70 - 79	1	-	-	-
	26	-	5	-

All the 31 women members are mature women either married or

widowed. Thirty two per cent are between the ages of 30 and 39, 16% between the ages of 40 - 44 and another 16% between the ages of 50 to 59 as shown in Table 1.

Polygamy is accepted in the area among the women. Only four of the married women do not share their husbands with other wives. The others accept the polygamous situation as a way of life.

4.2 Tribe and Religion

Eighty-seven per cent (87%) of the members are Gas, 6% Adas, 3% Fante and 3% Ewe but all of them understand and speak Ga and are married to Ga fishermen. The women members are mostly christians. Those who do not practice any religion at all are 16%. Those who follow traditional religion make up to 23%. The Christians are in the majority with 61%.

4.3 Education

Only one woman taking part in the study has been to school. She attended commercial school. She is smoking fish now and married to a fisherman. About 80% of the women are illiterates. The remainder reached class six. Even they are not ready to call themselves as literates.

4.4 Main and Other Occupation

The women are full time fish smokers and are very busy during the fishing season. During the lean season however, about 30% of the women do not do any work. Another 30% purchase frozen fish from cold stores and smoke them. Thirty per cent prepare and sell food like rice and stew, kenkey and fish, banku, waatse, fruits, etc. One person sells local gin while the rest do petty trading. The women rear domestic anima in addition. Five women rear pigs and chicken while two others rear ducks. Only one person has started rearing goats. The rest do not keep any animals and the person explained that the Accra Metropolitan Authority (AMA) has warned

them not to rear domestic animals. This is because they do not house the animals properly and therefore cause sanitation problems.

4.5 Ownership of Property

None of the women live in rented houses with their families, the house either belong to them, their husbands or their immediate relatives, namely sister, brother, father or aunt. They also own fishing gears. Thirty-nine per cent of those interviewed do not own any type of fishing gear. About nineteen per cent own a boat, net and outboard motor. Another 16% own just the boat and the net. 13% own only a boat or only a net. Nobody owned only the motor or only the net and motor. The boat is very important but very expensive. Not many people could afford it. There are small boats called toga and small nets called togawe that a few could afford. These are mainly for shrimps and sometimes lobsters. The women and the members of the community are all property conscious and they invest in either the fishing gear or building houses.

4.6 Water Supply

Although water is very important to the women, in washing, cooking, bathing and in fish processing, most of them purchase the water and have never thought of connecting water to their homes. Over 84% of the respondents do not have taps in their houses. The remaining 16% have flowing tap water and they sell to those who do not have. A bucket of water sells at ₦20 while a big bowl of water sells at ₦40. When there is no water, there are wells from which water is drawn. Plastic and metal buckets are used to fetch the water. Usually the children and grandchildren go for the water while the women rest in the house. The waste water is thrown on the compound in the sun as there are no drains for getting rid of waste water.

Thirty five per cent of the women purchase ₦200 worth of water per

day. This is equivalent to 10 buckets of water. Those who spend over ₦200 per day on water make up 26% while the remaining 39% spend less than ₦200 on water. The women should be encouraged to connect the taps to their houses. It will save them a lot of work and money.

4.7 Rooms, Household Number and Children

One woman did not have any children but the average number of children per woman is 7 with the highest being 13 and the lowest 3. Apart from the children there are other dependants like parents, brothers, sisters, nephews and nieces, etc. which make up the number of people in a household. None of the women pay any rent to a landlord because either they or their husbands or relatives own the houses. Some houses are congested, others are not. There is just one case where there are 6 people occupying one room. The average number of people per room is 4.

4.8 Health and Sanitation

The women dispose of their refuse in different ways. Some burn their refuse while others dig a pit and bury them. There are refuse dumps on the outskirts of the community where rubbish is thrown. Others take their rubbish to the bank of the river to dispose them. There is a bathroom in every house. The same conditions were found in the other fishing areas.

Only one household had a KVIP toilet facility in the house. Four of them go to the public KVIP toilet and pay ₦20 each time. The rest use the beach or the river banks.

The whole situation is very unhealthy as people go to the beach for relaxation.

Diseases affecting their children include convulsion and fever, malaria, measles, cough, headaches, boils, diarrhoea and asthma.

The adults suffer mainly from malaria and fever. A few of the women have high blood pressure, asthma, weakness, bodily pains, headaches, fatigue and heart ailments. They all looked healthy. They all practice self medication and some of the drugs they take and also give to their children are paracetamol, franol and Ampicillin.

There are neither traditional birth attendants nor traditional healers in the area. The women attend Mamprobi Polyclinic when they are not feeling well. They also go to the teaching hospital at Korle Bu for treatment.

4.9 Eating Patterns

The main meal is the evening meal and the staple foods are the starchy ones - so the evening meal consists of Banku, fufu, kenkey or rice. These are accompanied by soups or sauces of their choice. They are not fussy about food but eat what is available. The amount of money spent on food each day was not uniform. It depends on the size of the household and the availability of money. Breakfast and lunch dishes are usually purchased and they include rice and beans, rice and stew, bread, koko, kenkey, banku and fish, etc. The amount of money spent on food each day ranged from 1000 to 3500 cedis.

The women do their marketing when they take their smoked fish to the market to sell. They purchase everything apart from fish, which they might have stored in the house or purchased from the beach.

5.0 THE FISHING INDUSTRY

Fishing is one of the indigenous industries in Ghana. Sea fishing is the most important and it accounts for 80% of home supply of fish consumed in the country every year. The main fishing implements used by fishermen of Gbegbeise are nets, boats and outboard motor. The types of fish landed on the beach are tsukoe,

herrings, anchovies, odoi, sometimes shrimps and lobsters.

5.1 Fish Processing

Gbegbeise is very close to Chorkor, the original home of the Chorkor oven. Owing to this proximity and the introduction of the Chorkor oven to other parts of the country, the fish smokers have adopted the use of the chorkor oven.

5.2 Smoking ovens

All the fish smokers including the 31 involved in the study use the chorkor ovens of differential sizes to smoke fish. But these ovens do not meet the correct specification in the height length and width of the oven.

These wrong measurements have affected the trays. The ovens are built by the men of the area and carpenters construct the trays. Clay for building the ovens is obtained from the area.

The ovens are too low. Some of the women have used sandcrete blocks to construct their ovens. Others have used clay while others have used clay and plastered it with cement. The women place their ovens in the centre of the compound, behind their houses or in places where they think it will be convenient for them. The trays are used for smoking as well as for storage. There is a slight difference between the dimensions of the storage trays and the smoking trays. The storage trays are deeper.

None of the ovens is under any shed to protect it from ravages of the weather. Some cover theirs with plastic or plywood. The ovens are not well maintained. A lot of the ovens are 4 in 1 but 2 rectangular trays are used. Up to ten trays can be stacked on one oven. The women have no protection from the sun or the rain when they are working because of the lack of shade.

It takes on the average 3 days to construct an oven and any type

of clay can be used. They are charged ₦2000 to build one oven and if they look after the oven well, it lasts for over 2 years. When there is very heavy rain however, it destroys the oven if it is not properly covered.

5.3 Fuel

Hardwood is used as fuel for smoking fish at Gbegbeise. The wood is purchased in the log from within the community. One medium sized logs is purchased at between ₦800-₦1000. One log is able to smoke a crate of fish. A crate of fish is between 25-30 kgs in weight. Ten to twelve logs are used to smoke 15 cartons of fish. This shows that fuel consumption is very high and the study will make sure that this problem is addressed. A mixture of wood is used as fuel and examples of wood used are osha, bedzi, woba, emere. Some also purchase the wood in bundles of sticks or split logs. A bundle is sold at ₦250-₦300.

5.4 Smoking Capacity

Some of the women have the capacity to smoke one hundred cartons of fish a day. Others could also smoke just a few cartons. The large-scale smokers have the capacity and money to smoke between 50 and 100 crates of fish a day. The medium scale smokers smoke between 20 and 50 cartons and the small scale smokers between 5 and 20 cartons of fish. The medium and small scale smokers will be able to increase the quantity of fish they smoke if they have the resources. A carton of fish is 25kg in weight.

5.5 Fish Smoking

Fish smoking is the main activity of the women. It is also their main occupation. The fish is purchased from the beach of Gbegbeise. The fishermen sell to the women, their wives or relatives for spot cash. Different types of fish are landed, eg. sardines, anchovies, barracuda and sometimes tuna. Shrimps and

lobsters are also landed by the fishermen and restaurant owners and white people go to the beach to purchase them.

This fish is washed with sea water before they are carried home. The beach could be quite far about 75km from some of the houses. The fish is carried on the head in aluminum bowls or by push trucks to their smoking sites. Big fish are gutted and cut into chunks. The small fish are just washed and arranged on the smoking trays. The fish is predried for about 30 minutes before smoking.

When the fish landed is insufficient, the women travel to James Town Tema in Accra, Winneba and Elmina in Central Region to purchase more fish for smoking. Smoking takes about 3-4 hours to complete but dry smoked fish take a bit longer, up to 6 hours.

During the lean season where there is no fish, some women purchase imported frozen fish and smoke them for sale.

5.6 PACKAGING AND STORAGE

Wet smoked fish is stored just overnight on smoking trays before it is packed for marketing. Aluminum bowls are lined with brown paper and the fish is arranged in it.

Smoked dry fish are packed in baskets which have been lined with clean brown paper. Some of the paper is used to cover the fish. Smoked dry fish can also be stored in storage trays placed on the ovens. These are covered with plywood and polythene sheets. The smoked dry fish can be stored for up to 3 months.

The smoked fish is also packed in a special way for transportation to the markets. This is to avoid squashing or breaking the fish. Two baskets of fish already packed are placed one on top of the other. The brown paper lining prevents contamination by dust and insects. A rope is used to secure the two baskets together and the baskets can be taken safely to the market. All the packaging

materials are available in the Accra markets.

5.7 Marketing of Smoked Fish

All the women take their smoked fish to the same market - Agbogbloshi. Fish is transported by mummy trucks, taxis or pickups.

5.8. Transportation

Transportation costs depend on the sizes of the baskets and they ranged from ₵200-₵400 per basket. When the women get to the market, the fish is either retailed or sold by the basket. They usually have customers who come to purchase the fish from them. Some women like to wait for the lean season or when there is little fish on the market before selling their produce. They get good prices for their fish then. But most of the time all kinds of smoked fish from all fishing areas get to the same market on the day thus creating a glut, resulting in low pricing of the smoked fish.

5.9 Profits

The profits from fish sales varied from woman to woman. The average was around ₵2000 per one basket of fish. But this is applicable only when conditions are right and there is no excess fish on the market.

When the women have a lot of money to tide them over, they store the fish till prices are favourable but if they do not have money they have to sell thus making very little profit.

5.10 Problems

The women complained about financial constraints when they were asked to talk about the problems they encounter in their work.

6.0 SOCIAL LIFESTYLE

6.1 Eating Habits

The evening meal is the main meal for the day although food is eaten 3 times a day. Meals cooked most often is the evening meal. The staples are fufu, rice, banku and kenkey. kokonte is also eaten. The staple foods are eaten with soups and stews, eg. gari and okro stew. They eat what they get. Children like rice - root crops and grains. They spend between 1,000 to 3,500 cedis on food a day. The average was ₦2,000. Again this amount depends on the number of people in the household. The staples are more important than the stews really. The adults and children all looked cheerful and well-fed and do not appear to be suffering in any way.

6.2 Social Activities

Self help projects are unknown at Gbegbeise. They are willing to contribute to a project financially if they are levied. Ample facilities for entertainment are available within walking distance. The people are sophisticated undoubtedly due to the influence of city life and money.

7.0 DISCUSSION

Gbegbeise is different from all the areas and villages into which the chorkor ovens have been introduced. Gbegbeise is far better off than Chorkor the original home of the oven and all other pilot villages in terms of sanitation and housing. At Gbegbeise all the women use the chorkor oven to smoke their fish, even though it has been wrongly copied. This was not so in the other areas. Only a few people in Nungua were using the oven in addition to the round metal and mud ovens.

7.1 LifeStyle

Environmental sanitation looked better in that one could not find rubbish everywhere or stagnant pools of water but what is common in all the area is the lack of toilet facility and the use of the bush or the beach or the river banks as places of convenience.

The people are mostly illiterate as is found elsewhere and the birth rate is very high. Polygamous relationships are common. May be that has contributed to the high birthrate.

The people did not look poor. They are as comfortable as the people of Chorkor and have also tried to improve upon their lifestyles. The same cannot be said of other suburban areas in Accra. Gbegbeise is blessed with electricity, portable water, clinics and schools. In addition, there is access to refrigeration facilities which do not exist in the village setting.

Diseases like high blood pressure, heart problems, obesity are common. These are diseases of the affluent or sophisticated. The women were more mature here than in the other places and were all married.

7.2 Occupation

The people are mainly fishermen and fish processors and no one is farming as a part-time job or during the lean season. This situation exists in all the suburban areas but farming is taken up in all the villages during the lean season. Rearing of domestic animals is common to all fishing communities.

People are very conscious of owning landed property and fishing equipment at Gbegbeise. This same spirit was found in two other villages, namely Magotsonya and Ayetepa. The people make good use of their income at Gbegbeise but at Ayetepa and Mangotsonya, the people were migrant workers who travelled to other fishing areas to work. The money made is sent back home to be used for

construction or to purchase landed property or fishing equipment.

7.3 Fish Processing

The Chorkor oven has already been adopted and is being used to smoke fish at Gbegbeise. This was not so in the other areas already covered. Although fish-smoking is the main processing activity, the ovens are not properly maintained. Wood fuel is a very important input in fish-smoking activity and it contributes a lot to the final selling-price of smoked fish. The fish-smoking activities are the same in every fish-smoking area but the marketing is different. The people of Gbegbeise take their smoked fish to Agbogbloshie market. The fish from the other centres go to other markets in Accra and the hinterland.

7.4 Income from Fish Smoking

Although it is known that fish smoking is a profitable business, only the people of Gbegbeise and Amanfro were prepared to divulge the profit margin which were almost the same. An average of ₵2000 is made on one medium basket of smoked fish.

The profit made from fish is spent on the children and in the home as in other fishing communities. The women however wished that their husbands would sell the fish to them on credit instead of ready cash.

8.0 CONCLUSION

The study has brought out clearly the background information about Gbegbeise and the selected women fish smokers. The people are comfortable but still need financial assistance to help them expand their business. They have the basic necessities of life in the form of water, electricity, health and education facilities.

The introduction of the right adoption of the Chorkor oven is therefore expected to reduce post harvest losses, to produce good quality fish and to increase their income from the smoking activities.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The women should be encouraged to form a group which could be used for literacy classes, needlework, handicrafts and family planning. They could attend these classes during the lean season.
2. The women should be encouraged to form a credit union so that they may get loans for their work.

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Fish Types Mentioned in the Report

Local Name	English Name	Scientific Name
Apoku (Wina)	Frigate mackerel	<i>Luxia caudata</i>
Adog	Barrecauda	<i>Sphyrapetromus sphen</i>
Am	Herring	<i>Clupeoides</i>
Ami		
Ami	anchovies	<i>Anchoa mitchilli</i>
Ami	sea bream	<i>Diplodus</i>
Ami	breadfruit	<i>Chromis</i>
Ami		
Ami	straw	<i>Pholis</i>
Ami	lobster	<i>Libinia</i>

APPENDIXFish Types Mentioned in the Report

Local Name	English Name	Scientific Name
opoku (Tuna)	Frigate mackerel	Auxis thazard
odoe	barracuda	sphyreaenugua chanco
man	herring	sardinella aurita
eba		
amoni	anchovies	Anchoa guineensis
sikasiku	sea bream	pasellus spp.
tsukoi	treadfin	Galeodes
decatactylus		
son	shrimps	penaues spp.
pampamsoude	lobster	palinuridae spp

LIST OF GBEGBEISE WOMEN'S GROUP

1. Amaate Nye
2. Kwanchua Nye
3. Akunye Amele
4. Kwatiokor
5. Susaana Nettey
6. D.D. Mami
7. Dedei Mami
8. Ekua
9. Adole
10. Kwakua
11. Akuokor
12. Aduah
13. Adukwei
14. Akushia
15. Sakle Nye
16. Tackie Nye Ogeh
17. Tackie Nye Korkoi
18. Frank Nye Amele
19. Mama Nye Kwanoa
20. Achere
21. Ayekai Nye
22. Ofei Nye
23. Adan Ampah Nye
24. Aacho
25. Kwei Nye Amakaa
26. Auntie Fofu
27. Augustina Armah
28. Auntie Koshie
29. Amokor (Akunsa Nye)
30. O.C.
31. Sheila