

A Baseline Rapid Appraisal of Civil Society Organizations

Involvement in Nutrition

Actions and Advocacy



Civil Society
Network

GHANA CIVIL SOCIETY COALITION FOR SCALING UP NUTRITION (GHACSSUN)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Recent developments in the Ghanaian economy have identified Ghana as a lower middle income country and one of the fastest growing countries in Africa. The country is also a signatory to a number of international declarations asserting the right of its citizen's to adequate food and nutrition security and to fight malnutrition. Despite this international zeal in making commitments to address her food security and nutrition problems, malnutrition remains a development challenge with low priority on the national policy agenda. In addition, there is inadequate Civil Society participation in nutrition advocacy, policy formulation, and implementation. This creates a situation where there is nobody to play a 'watchdog' role in holding relevant public and private institutions accountable for their role in addressing malnutrition in Ghana.

The Ghana Civil Society Coalition for Scaling up Nutrition (GHACCSUN) is a platform of Civil Society Organisations(CSOs) that subscribe to the international clarion call to scale up nutrition and to draw attention to nutrition as a developmental issue. To achieve this objective, GHACCSUN is implementing a project entitled "**Formation of a Coalition of CSOs for Scaling up of Nutrition**" under the Multi Donor Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). The project aims to empower Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and CSO Networks to improve their capacity and level of influence on the formulation, development and especially the implementation of nutrition programs in Ghana. This Project, in addition to building a credible CSOs network with capacity to address the above listed challenges, will also support the implementation of the nutrition policy in Ghana. Ultimately, it is envisioned that a strong and active CSO coalition will be established with a more engaging capacity in the process of demanding accountability in public and private investment in nutrition.

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen Civil Society Organization Networks' efforts in influencing key decision-makers at

national, regional and international levels; and formulating and improving of nutrition initiatives, policies and programs, based on shared experience in the region. The specific objective is to build capacity in CSO platform using evidence-based advocacy in national policy formulation, implementation and monitoring.

Under the project, GHACCSUN members will be trained and organised to undertake nutrition situational analysis, improve their advocacy and policy influencing skills as well as improve their linkages to grassroots and international nutrition networks. By the end of the program, the expected results of the project (ER) will be:-

ER-1: The Ghana Civil Society Coalition for Scaling up Nutrition (GHACSSUN) strengthened and mobilized.

ER-2: Capacity of GHACSSUN to analyze nutrition situations improved.

ER-3: Capacity of GHACSSUN to develop and implement advocacy strategies improved.

ER-4: Capacity of GHACSSUN to create and sustain linkages between national and global SUN advocacy initiatives improved.

The baseline study was commissioned in order to establish the level of each project indicator at the beginning of the project, with particular attention to Specific Objectives and Expected Result level indicators. Secondly, the study also aimed at assessing the relevance and accuracy of the indicators selected to measure progress towards achieving project objectives as well as reviewing the project log frame to assure use of SMART indicators that will facilitate the evaluation of the project results at the end of the life span of the project. The final objectives of the baseline study were to establish and fine tune an M&E plan to ensure smooth monitoring and evaluation of the project activities and measure the success of the project by comparing the baseline data with the end line data.

The study has identified 130 CSOs affiliated to GHACSSUN to pilot the implementation of the project. The CSOs are registered NGOs affiliated to GHACSSUN. The smallest CSO has a membership of 6 persons and the largest has 8,000 members; and female representation averages 30 percent. The study has identified weak organisational structures, poor linkages between the GHACSSUN executives and the CSO members; regional linkages are also weak. This hinders the smooth and speedy flow of information from the lower end of the organisation to the top and vice versa.

As regards the level of organization of the CSOs in the districts, the study established that the baseline values were all at zero. It is therefore recommended that the project partners should focus on strengthening and mobilizing the CSOs and CSO Network (ER-1) in the districts at the initial stages of the project. This should be done by developing a capacity building plan that will take into account each CSO's strengths and weaknesses, undertaking outreach programmes to each CSO and organizing regular CSO meetings. Any effort to organize the CSOs must also take into account their links to kin and society. Attainment of ER-1 will provide the means to attain the other expected project results (ER-2, ER-3 and ER-4).

The study also captures the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) in governance and organisational aspects of CSOs. In terms of governance and organisational aspects, the organizational links between CSOs and GHACSSUN are weak and uncoordinated. In some cases, there are no direct linkages between the CSOs and GHACSSUN.

The study further identified two (2) nutrition related policies, namely the Medium Term Agricultural Sector Investment Plan 2011-2015 (METASIP) and the National Nutrition Policy (NNP) 2013-2018. The METASIP focuses on sustainable agricultural growth through increased production, sector liberalization, promotion of public and private sector partnerships and provision of effective services while the principal goal of the National Nutrition Policy is to achieve OPTIMAL nutrition for all people living in Ghana. The NNP aims at eliminating all forms of malnutrition in order to have a well

nourished and healthy population that can effectively contribute to national economic development. Both policies incorporate programs and actors that encompass all facets of the food security and nutrition.

For successful implementation of the project, the study team recommends a review of The Ghana Civil Society Coalition for Scaling up Nutrition (GHACSSUN) constitution to strengthen governance and organisational structures, to make it more democratic, transparent and accountable to its members. There is also need to provide technical support for CSO-GHACSSUN capacity building as well as facilitate exchange visits amongst member CSOs to allow them share experiences and adopt prudent practices and programs that will benefit both the groups and the project.

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Many others who were instrumental in providing information for the baseline study are listed in Annex IV. Anything positive that comes out of this baseline study deserves to be shared with the many people who made this report possible. However, the consultants take responsibility for any typographical errors or misrepresentation in this report.

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ACRONYMS

GSS - Ghana Statistical Service

CSO -Civil Society Organisation

FAO -Food and Agricultural Organisation

NNP- National Nutrition Policy

FSP- Fertiliser Support Program

HIV -Human Immune Virus

IGA -Income Generating Activities

GHACSSUN -Ghana Coalition of Civil Society Coalition for Scaling up Nutrition

LSS -Living Standard Survey

MOFA- Ministry of Food & Agriculture

MOH- Ministry of Health

NAPSSFG- National Association for Peasant and Small Scale Farmers of Ghana

PRSP - Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper

SWOT - Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

NDPC - National Development Planning Commission

1. PREFACE

Civil Society refers to the arena of uncoerced collective action around shared interests, purposes and values. In theory, its institutional forms are distinct from those of the state, family and market, though in practice, the boundaries between state, civil society, family and market are often complex, blurred and negotiated. Civil Society commonly embraces a diversity of spaces, actors and institutional forms, varying in their degree of formality, autonomy and power. Civil societies are often populated by organizations such as registered charities, development non-governmental organizations, community groups, women's organizations, faith-based organizations, professional associations, trades unions, self-help groups, social movements, business associations, coalitions and advocacy group (World Bank 2008).

Summarized by Abu Sin (2008) civil society is “distinct arena from the state and the market where people promote their common interests and seek to shape governance and policies without the promise of commercial profit or official power”. For the UNDP (2009), civil society is “An arena of voluntary collective actions around shared interests, purposes and values distinct from families, state and profit seeking institutions”. A key feature of this definition is the concept of civil society as an ‘arena,’ a term used to describe the space where people come together to debate, associate and seek to influence broader society. Conceptualization of civil society as an arena, according to Abu Sin (2008) places emphasis on the role of CSOs as providers of public space in society, agents of social transformation, promoters of good governance and a site of alternatives.

For many countries in Africa, and Ghana in particular, the best way to foster democracy and development is to strengthen institutions, and then let governments make the policies to be implemented through such institutions, with civil society as an important actor in the overall process. However, in many African countries, it is imperative to go beyond formal institutions and take into account the local logic by which things get done, sometimes under

informal arrangements where institutional policy implementation and patronage are hard to separate (Duhu, 2005).

In Ghana, institutions working with civil society have emphasized strengthening the capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to provide “voice” for the poor in the economic and political spheres. This has been done through a number of strategies such as programme, institutional and technical support. These strategies focus on enhancing elements such as civil society's autonomy, representativeness, accountability, sustainability, advocacy roles, and skills to monitor government policies, political dialogue, and empowerment so as to pursue democracy and development goals effectively. Having strengthened these elements, CSOs through their voice and accountability, prod the government to make policies that favour the poor and improve food security in the country. Furthermore, through CSOs, citizen participation is increased and enhanced on issues affecting people's lives. CSOs will be able to monitor government policies, and dialogue is encouraged between the government and civil society.

2. DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT

2.1. INTRODUCTION

The Ghana Civil Society Coalition for Scaling up Nutrition **GHACSSUN** is implementing a project "Formation of Civil Society Coalition for Scaling Up Nutrition" under a Multi Donor Partner Trust Fund (MPTF). The project aims to empower the Civil Society Organization network to improve their capacity and their level of influence on the formulation, development and especially the implementation of the policies and nutrition programs throughout the ten regions of Ghana. Under this project, GHACSSUN and civil society organizations will be trained and strengthened to: undertake Nutrition situational analysis, improve their advocacy and policy influencing skills, and to strengthen their linkages to grassroots, regional and national SUN networks.

2.1.1 Objective of the Project

The GHACSSUN project has an integrated approach to development with the following operational objectives:-

2.1.1 Overall objective

To strengthen Civil Society Organization (CSO) Network's efforts in influencing key decision-makers at district, regional and national level in formulating and improving nutrition initiatives, policies and programs, based on shared experience across Ghana.

2.1.2 Specific Objective

To build capacity in the CSO Network using evidence-based advocacy in national nutrition policy formulation and development, implementation and monitoring.

2.1.3 Expected Result Areas

The expected result areas of the project are:-

- i. the CSO Network strengthened and mobilized:
- ii. Capacity of the CSO Network to analyze nutrition situations improved
- iii. Capacity of the CSO Network to develop and implement advocacy strategies improved
- iv. Capacity of the CSO Network to create and sustain linkages between district national and international nutrition advocacy initiatives improved

2.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE BASELINE STUDY

The baseline study has been conducted in order to:-

- i. Establish the level of selected project indicators at the beginning of the project, with particular attention to specific objective and expected result level indicators
- ii. Assess the relevance and accuracy of the indicators selected to measure progress towards achieving project objectives

- iii. Review project log frame to assure use of SMART indicators that will facilitate the evaluation of the project results at the end of the of the life span of the project
- iv. Establish and fine tune M&E plan to ensure smooth monitoring and evaluation of the action
- v. To set baseline data against which end line data will be compared.

2.2.1 Baseline Study Outputs

The expected results of the baseline survey include:-

- i. Detailed information per indicator (as outlined in the log frame)
- ii. A reviewed log frame with recommendations for revised indicators
- iii. Recommendations for the M&E plan (strategy, tools and systems) proposed timeline, roles and responsibilities of GHACSSUN and partners;
- iv. An inventory and description of existing CSOs and networks engaged in nutrition in Ghana.
- v. A data base of information permitting to map problems, opportunities, strengths and weaknesses of CSOs, in general, and especially in governance and organizational aspects (e.g. relationship with farmer networks, project development skills, fundraising capacity) as well as nutrition advocacy and nutrition data collection and analysis.
- vi. A study report describing main constraints and opportunities for CSO networks support and improved nutrition in their areas, including analysis of potential partners and blockers.
- vii. A database of information permitting to map currently ongoing nutrition policy development and implementation processes at national level and recommendations for entry points of CSO engagement.

2.3 METHODOLOGY

2.3.1 Study Areas

The study was conducted over a four week period from 15th August to 15th September 2013 throughout Ghana.

2.3.2 Study Methodology

In the compilation of this baseline report, data was collected from both secondary and primary sources. Secondary sources included the review of project documents including Log-frame. Prominence was also given to the project document – the MPTF *Grant Application Form*. Primary data was collected from executive officials as well as affiliate CSO members of the GHACSSUN. Data collection also benefited from views and comments given by NGOs, government ministries, GHACSSUN personnel in Accra and Tamale.

2.3.3 Data Collection Methods.

The study team used both quantitative and qualitative approaches guided by the questionnaire and the interview guide. The quantitative and qualitative approaches enabled the study team to engage respondents in a more conversational manner. The qualitative approach was consultative and participatory. The questionnaire was designed to provide quantitative data on the characteristics of CSO members, number of the members, gender disaggregated data and production statistics. The interview provided qualitative data. The interview guide allowed the study team the scope to probe into relevant issues that could have been left in the questionnaire.

2.3.4. Sampling Set Up

Since GHACSSUN was already identified by the donor as the partner CSO network organisation, CSO members were identified using purposive sampling method, in attempt to pick fully active CSO members of GHACSSUN. The other considerations were issues related to accessibility, CSO organisational capacity, and gender responsiveness.

2.3.5 Thematic Choices for Focus Group Discussions

The key themes of the focus group discussions were strengths, weakness, opportunities and threats of CSOs, in general and especially in governance, organisational issues and gender. These themes were considered critical to the success of the project as it helped establish the capacity of CSO to implement project activities and the interventions to be employed. For each of the 130 CSOs, Focus Group Discussions were facilitated by the consultants and research assistants. The GHACSSUN focal person helped in explaining to the group members the purpose of the exercise and provoked interest among members to fully participate in the discussions.

The focused group discussions were properly planned and managed to allow group introspective examination leading to problem identification, prioritisation and potential solutions to come from the CSO members themselves. The questions asked were similar for all CSO members in order to establish the levels of conceptual analyses of the topics under investigation. In addition, putting similar questions to CSO members enabled the study team to triangulate the information collected.

2.3.6 Data Analysis

The data collected from the focus group discussions was examined for uniformity, accuracy and consistence, and used for analysis and interpretation of the results. The quantitative data was analysed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) program and the Excel software; whose results and interpretation are given in the later part of the report as findings. Qualitative data was synthesised and coded with similar ones aggregated to indicate weight of the response. The results of the participatory focus group discussions are instrumental in incorporating the CSO Network and CSO members interests and aspirations into the process of designing a more viable and sustainable project.

2.4 TIMETABLE

The baseline survey timetable followed was as follows:-

Table 2.1 Baseline Study Timetable

Period	Place	Activity	Institutions / Groups Visited
Week One	Accra	Administrative activities, Literature review, Mapping of nutrition policies, Programs and strategies	GHACSSUN Head Office, Ministry of Food Agriculture MOFA, Ministry of Health MOH, Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), NDPC
Week Two	Kumasi/ Sunyani	Identification of CSO members, interviews and Focus Group Discussion with CSO and visitations to CSOs production areas.	GHACSSUN Offices in Accra, CSOs in Kumasi and the Districts
Week Three	Tamale	Interviews and Focus Group Discussion with CSO,	GHACSSUN Offices in Tamale, CSOs in northern Districts
Week Four	Accra/ Tema	Interview with GHACSSUN and report writing	GHACSSUN Offices in Accra

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3.1 PROJECT CONTEXT

Most CSOs in Ghana are weak and ineffectively influencing the nutrition policy dialogue; and are thus incapable of fostering sustainable nutrition strategies and programs. Nutrition Policy dialogues generally exclude the voices of the most food insecure, particularly women-headed families and children. The groups are often the most marginalised, yet they are most affected by inappropriate policies and programs.

This project involves the strengthening of CSO Coalitions, CSO Networks and CSOs through better co-ordination and improved grass root linkages on one hand, and enhanced inter-country interaction and knowledge exchange on the other. This will be done through the use and application of innovative methodologies meant to enhance the capacity of CSOs and the networks in nutrition policy and program analysis, development, implementation and monitoring, as well as improves the potential for information and knowledge needs to flow from global to local and vice-versa.

The project will be implemented under the auspices of GHACSUN, which currently represents 130 CSOs throughout Ghana. The coalition will be strengthened through capacity building and will associate with other NGOs, research, education and advocacy organisations.

3.2 PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The project is managed by GHACSSUN in partnership with World Food Programme, the UN agency involved in nutrition. The project team is composed of two full-time members (i.e. Project Manager and Administrative Assistant) and two part-time members (Network Director and Finance Officer). It is headed by the Project Manager who is assisted on day to day basis by an Administrative Assistant (both based at GHACSSUN offices in Accra) and the Civil Society Policy Analyst (based at GHACSSUN offices in Accra). Two volunteer members report at the GHACSSUN offices in Kumasi and Tamale when called upon. The Management structure is outlined below.

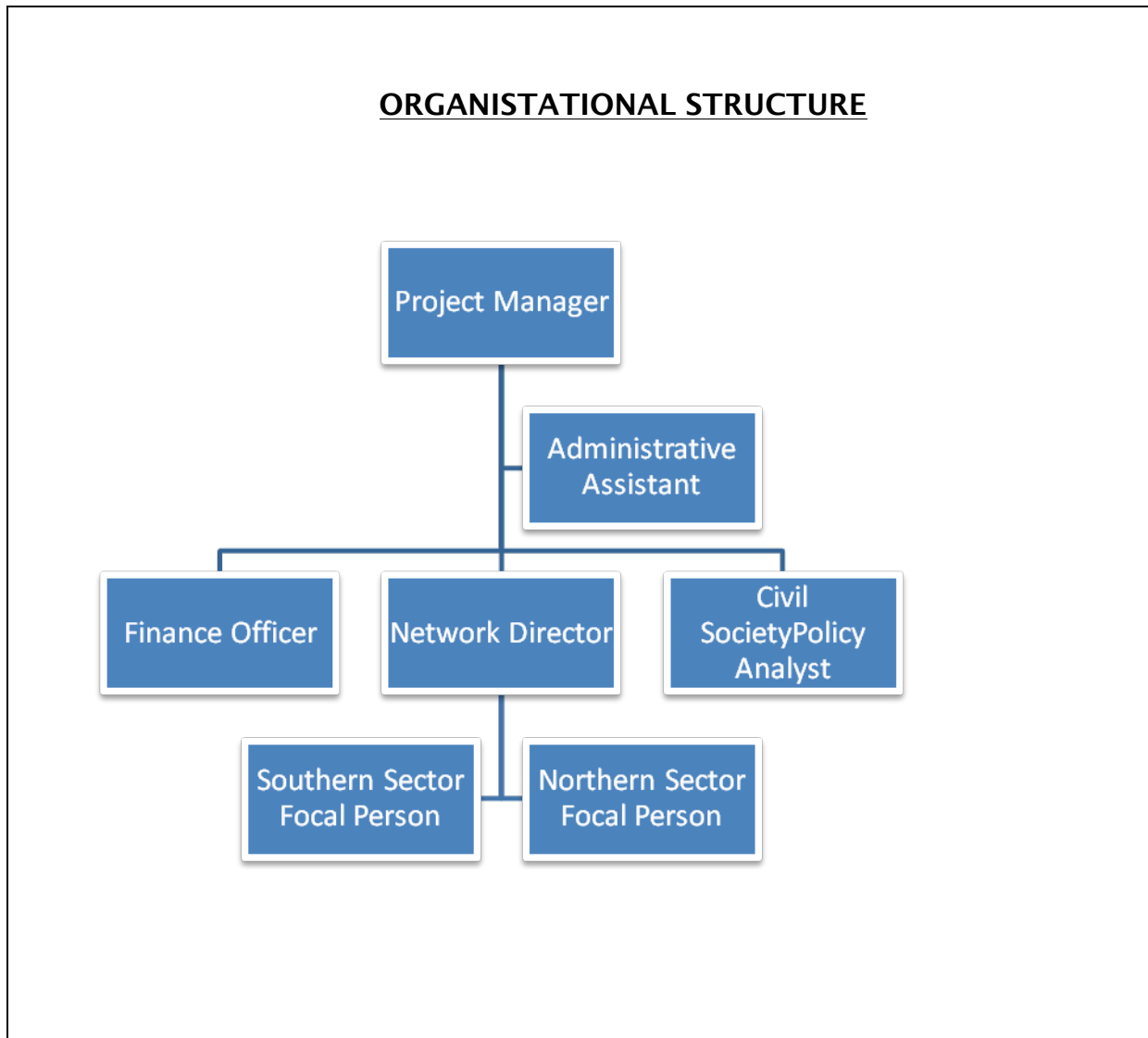


Figure 3.1 Project Structure GHACSSUN

4. STUDY FINDINGS

The following are the study findings. The analysis of the data collected takes into account the detailed indicators as reflected in the log-frame.

4.1 MAP OF CSO MEMBERS IDENTIFIED

The project will partner with other CSO networks and the United Nation Agencies involved in nutrition specific and nutrition related activities. The 130 CSO identified, which are members of the GHACSSUN network, are detailed below.

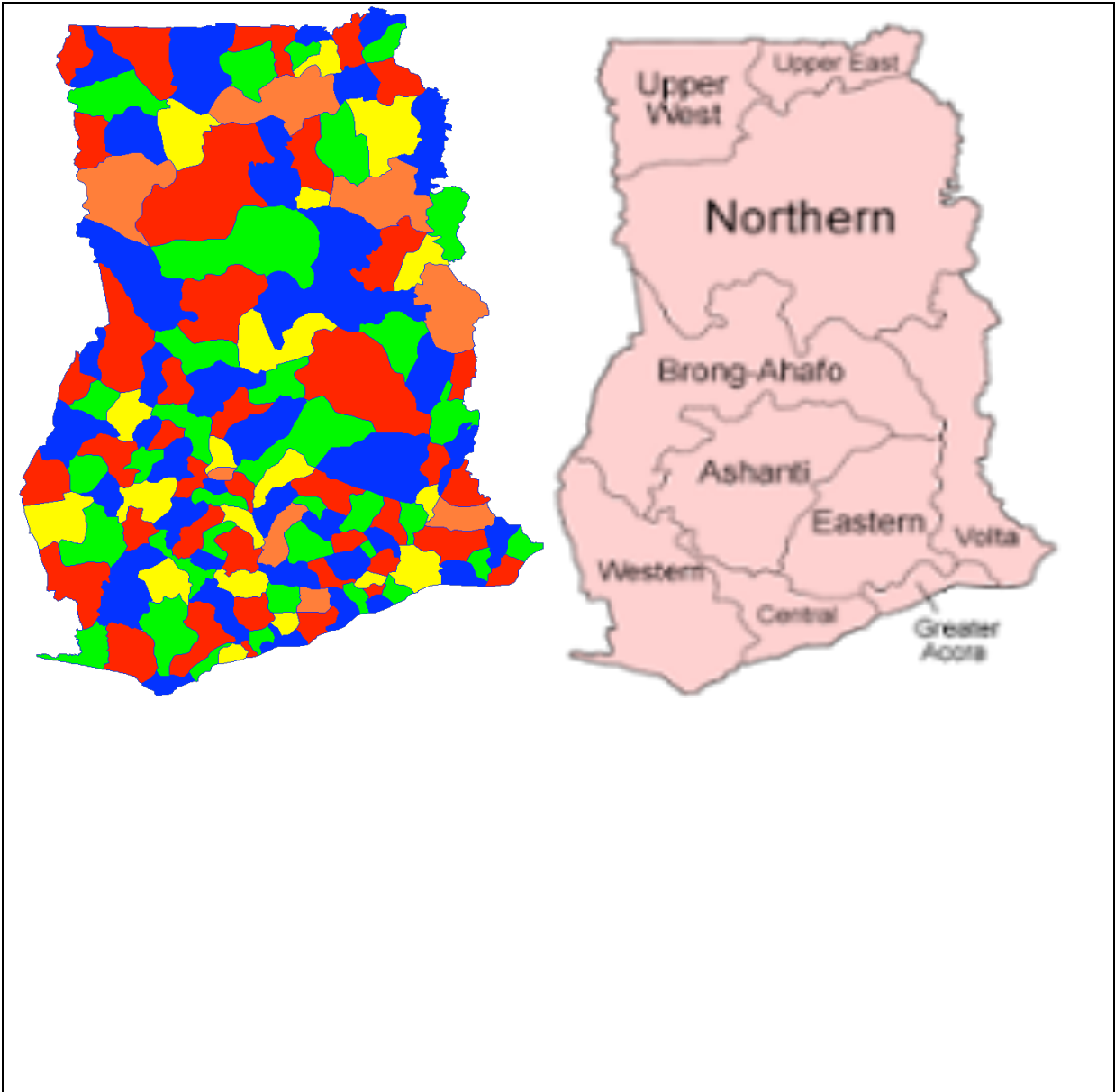


Figure 3.2 Map of Ghana Showings Regions and Districts

Table 4.1 List of CSOs Identified

DISTRICTS	ORGANISATIONS	CONTACT DETAILS
Accra Metropolitan	Ghana Pentecostal Council	Prince Odoom,0243937184 info@gpccghana.org,www.gpccg
	World Vision Ghana	Richmond Owusu,0302226643 gloria_harward@wvi.org, www.w
	Hope For Future Generation	Cecilia Lodunu Senoo,02444572 hopeftr@yahoo.com/info@hffg.c
	Capacity Development Foundation	Kenneth Essah,0244581655 capadef@yahoo.com
	OIC International	Mr. Sam Debrah,o243328903/0 oicghana@yahoo.com,www.oici.
	Gh National Ass. of Poultry Farmers	Kojo Asante,0277605907,gnapf www.gnapf.com
	SEND Ghana	George Osei Bempeh,02664767 info@gh.sendwestafrica.org
	Adventist Development Relief Agency	W.Y. K Brown,0244165628/024: wykbrown@yahoo.com/wbrown
	CARE International	Mercy Nyamikeh,0244874814 mercy.nyamikeh@co.care.org www.care.org
	Peasant Farmers Association	Charles Nyaaba,0203035672/02 peasantfarmersghana@yahoo.cc www.peasantfarmersghana.org
	Ghana Muslim Mission	Mohamood Bill,0249123377 ghmumission@yahoo.com
	Wellbeing Foundation International	Audrey N. Baffoe,Tel: 08034659 Email:enquiries@thewellbeingfo Web: www.wellbeingfoundationr
	Salvation Aid for Africa	Biney Kofi,+2330246568892 saafaid2@yahoo.com
	Strategic Youth Network for Development	Chidaze Ezekeil, +23302449679 synd.ghana@hotmail.com info@strategicyouthnetwork.org
	Alliance for Reproductive Health Right	Nana Akyaa, arhr@myzipnet.con www.arhr.org.gh
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Gender Centre For Empowering Development	Esther Tawiah,0307034690 genced.gh@gmail.com,www.gen	
Amen Amen Institute	Samuel Abbey Mensah,0246628	
Heifer International Ghana	John Heloo,0302501381/02443 johnheloo@heifer.com,www.heif	

Ga East Municipal	Zongo Youth Foundation	Abdul Muhaimin, Tel: 02436242 Email: zyfoundation@yahoo.com
	Community and Family Aid Foundation	Joseph Senyo Kwashi,02743132 familyaidfoundation@yahoo.com
	Action Aid	Washington Mawuli Nuwepkor 0302764931, aaghana@actonaia
	World Cocoa Foundation	Kudzo Korkortsi,0302542187/0 www.worldcocoafoundation.org
Tema Metropolitan	Community and Family Aid Foundation	Joseph Senyo Kwashi,02743132 familyaidfoundation@yahoo.com
	ECASARD	Ernest Biney,0302958212 infoecasard@gmail.com
	Life Bridge Foundation	Juliana Arhin,0208170944 lifebridgefoundation@yahoo.com
Ledzokuku – Krowor Municipal	Green Advocacy Ghana	Elizabeth Amoyaw-Osei,030240: greendghana@gmail.com
	Gh. Root Crops and Tubers Exporters Union	T.K. Hayford,0206598204/0202 theoahays@live.com
	Concerned Health Ghana	Mr. Ampomah Isaac,+23302430 concernhealthghana@yahoo.com www.concernhealthghana.org
Adenta Municipal	The Hunger Project Ghana	Rockson Dutanya,0302502658 typghana@ghana.co
Ga Central	Plan Ghana	Adams Abdulai,02302773370/0 samuelpaules@plan-international
Ashiaman Municipal	Hope For Future Generation	Cecilia Lodunu Senoo, 0244457: hopeftr@yahoo.com/info@hffg.c
Ahafo Ano North	Global Media Foundation	Raphael Godlove Ahenu,035303
Ahafo Ano South	Human Care and Maintenance Foundation	Evelyn Bema Darkwa,05405430: ngo.hucomghana.com www.hucomghana.com
Sekyere East	Youth Association for the Prevention of Blindness and Diseases	Fosu Boateng,Tel: +233024676: Email: eddyfes@yahoo.com
Kumasi Metropolitan	Centre for Family Care and Development	Amos Kusi,0208155925 ofcdo3-acheaw@yahoo.com
	African Hope Foundation of Ghana	Agnes Afua Opoku,032202617/ ahfogh@yahoo.com
	Light For Children	Mike Owusu Gyimah,024441690 lightforchildren@yahoo.com
Obuasi Muunicipal	W-GOD VISION	Abena Acheampong,032025588 w-goldvision@yahoo.com
	Centre For Advancement For Maginalised Person	Karim Iddrisu,032543090 campdevelopment@gmail.com
	Sincere Aid Foundation	Robert Abana,02442816998 foundsafghana@yahoo.com

Asante Akim South	Devascom Foundation	John Arko Tettey,0246120096 devascomfoundation@yahoo.com
Tain	Network for Health and Relief Foundation	Samuel Oracca-Tetteh,02433361 natheal2002@yahoo.com
	Association of Church Development Projects	Prince Abugri,0209115936 prince@acdep.org
	Soldiers of the Environment	Richard Roy Amoah,020916188 soldiersoftheenvironment@yah
	Human Development Focus	Johnson Wiredu,0246560132 humandevfocus@yahoo.com
	African Assistance Plan	Rosemeda Donkor,0207848837 africanassistanceplan@yahoo.com www.africaassistanceplan.org
	Farms and Garderns Institute	Fred Gambire,0541767438/020 fagi6000@gmail.com
Asutifi North	Global Media Foundation	Raphael Godlove Ahenu,035303
	New Image for Rural Development	Nana Antwi,0243166282 nirdafrica@yahoo.com
Tano North	Human Care and Maintenance Foundation	Evelyn Bema Darkwa,054054305 ngo.hucomghana.com www.hucomghana.com
	Centre for Family Care and Development	Amos Kusi,0208155925 ofcdo3-acheaw@yahoo.com
Kintampo North Municipal	Soldiers of the Environment	Richard Roy Amoah,020916188 soldiersoftheenvironment@yah
Jaman South	Human Development Focus	Johnson Wiredu,0246560132 humandevfocus@yahoo.com
	Action for Society Development	Dery Joseph,0207384950 actionforsocietydeve@yahoo.cor
Jaman North	Hope For Future Generation	Cecilia Lodunu Senoo 0244457231 hopeftr@yahoo.com/info@hffg.c
	Kabile Co – operative Cashew Farmers and Processing	Matthew Sah Kwadwo,027239420
Kintampo South	Network for Health and Relief Foundation	Samuel Oracca-Tetteh,02433361 natheal2002@yahoo.com
Berekum Municipal	Ampa Resource Foundation	Emmanuel Mintah,0244101915 amparesource@yahoo.com
Techiman Municipal	Professional Network Association North	Martin Deri,0244290439 pronetwa@gmail.com www.pronet-ghana.org
Cape Coast Metropolitan	African Women International	Victoria Araba Dennis,03120260 arabadennis@ymail.com/african
	Voluntary Help Organisation	www.africanwomeninternational Kobina Esia Donkor,027779464 voluntarylporg@yahoo.com

	Safe Family Fondation	Mary Araba Fosu,0244456068 safe.org@gmail.com
	Foundation for Development of African Cultural and Heritage	Eric Manu,0244507160 akwaaba54@yahoo.com
	Rural Women Development and Health Initiatives	Evans Nii-Boye,0208484880 ruwdhi@yahoo.com
	Christian Rural and Network	Doris Agbesinyale,0332133577; akwaram@yahoo.com
Gomoa West	New Life Foundation	Emmanuel Sarsah,0244946005 nlife.foundation@yahoo.com
Mfantseman Municipal	Bethel Youth Aid Foundation	Abena,0243085161 beyaf2000@yahoo.com
Gomoa East	New Life Foundation	Emmanuel Sarsah,0244946005 nlife.foundation@yahoo.com
Assin North Municipal	Capacity Development Foundation	Kenneth Essah,0244581655 capadef@yahoo.com
Agona East	Giants Of The Future International	Evans Effum,0209969629/0272 gfiempowers@yahoo.com
Lower Manya Krobo	Blessing Women Foundation	Francis tetteh,0542457531 bleswofo10@yahoo.com
	Abibiman Sankofa Cultural Movement	Freeman Madji,0246479713 info@ascum.org
	Adolescent Friendly And Peer Educators Organisation	Samuel k. Atter,0208361165 makpeduc@yahoo.com
	Precious Women Talents International	Faustina Awo-Dede Ayenor,0244 preciouswomen2002@yahoo.co
	Linked Heart Volunteers	Kofi Nartey,0287217215 info@linkedheartvolunteers.com
	Ampa Resource Foundation	Emmanuel Mintah,0244101915 amparesource@yahoo.com
	Centre for Community and Rural Development	Gladstone Tetteh,0244870346 cencord2000@yahoo.com
	Precious Women Talents International	Faustina Awo-Dede Ayenor 0244277565 preciouswomen2002@yahoo.co
	African Farming Families Foundation	Dr. Noah Owusu Takyi 0243686917/0243235017 afffg@hotmail.com,www.afffg.gh
	Professional Farming Consultants	Dr. Takyi, Tel: 0204592455/026 Email: profacoghana@yahoo.com
	Live Now Foundation	Alex Doe Adjani,0242980845
	Development Action Association	Lydia Sasu,0244431456/03023 daawomen@4u.com.gh
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4.1.1 CSO Governance and Organizational Structures

The CSOs are organised entities registered with the Registrar General's Department as non governmental organizations. They are regulated by their own constitution and operate within the by-laws of the NGOs. Membership is voluntary upon registering; however, ascendance to executive positions is through elections supervised by the appropriate supervisory agencies. The data collected from the CSOs revealed that membership within the CSOs ranged from the smallest with only 6 members to the largest with 8000 members. 52 CSOs had both men and women; twelve were exclusively for women whilst one CSO had only male members.

4.1.2 CSO Fundraising Capacity

Most CSOs surveyed are registered as not-for-profit organizations. Their primary source of income is through sale of produce in income generating activities. The main income generating activities undertaken by the CSOs were mainly farming activities. These included; chicken raising, goat rearing, piggery, milk production, bee-keeping, maize marketing, sunflower production and gardening. Some groups were also undertaking brick making and sewing activities. The groups also raised money from member contributions or from a percentage of the profits from the farming activities. All of the CSOs had bank accounts but their financial health was precarious.

4.1.3 Capacity of CSOs to Develop Nutrition Strategies

Agricultural production is the major economic activity for most of the identified CSOs. 90 percent of them depend on seasonal agricultural production for their livelihood, thus exacerbating their vulnerability to poverty. Consequently, the CSOs are the first to experience food insecurity. However, they have limited capacity to analyse, consolidate and report nutrition situations in their communities. The following critical needs were revealed:

- i. Lack of knowledge on the current nutrition policies and programmes .
- ii. Lack of knowledge on nutrition data collection and analysis tools currently in use by institutions in Ghana.
- iii. Inadequate knowledge on the nutrition status of vulnerable people in their target areas.

The problems seemed to oscillate around inadequate knowledge, skills and ability in techniques on data collection, analysis and interpretation. Consequently, there is lack of capacity in policy synthesis and advocacy.

CSO members were asked to suggest solutions to some of the short comings. There was general demand for intensive training in data collection techniques and analysis so as to develop capacity to diagnose problems and recommend policy options. The CSOs also called for partnership with relevant government ministries such as Health, Education and Agriculture to complement efforts in data collection and analysis.

4.1.4 SWOT Analysis of CSOs

Discussions with the CSO members revealed the desire and willingness to participate in the project. They hope this will give them the opportunity to effectively influence nutrition policy dialogues. The table below highlights the Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the identified CSOs in governance and organisations aspects.

Table 4.2 SWOT Analysis of the Identified CSOs

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<p>-Large grass root membership engaged in various income generating activities.</p> <p>-Bound by a constitution and by-laws which is recognised by government.</p> <p>-Affiliation to GHACSSUN - enjoying all the privileges & rights of the coalition.</p> <p>-Well defined administrative structures in accordance with the Constitution and law</p> <p>-Strong government support through the MOH and Ministry of Food & Agriculture (MOFA) .</p> <p>-Strong internal democracy.</p>	<p>-Voluntary membership resulting in weak cohesion among group members.</p> <p>-Feeble financial position due to few income sources limited to member contributions and primary production activities.</p> <p>-Lack of assets to increase production capacity.</p> <p>-Inadequate capacity to collect and analyse market information and venture into well-researched programs.</p>	<p>- Government support i.e. free agricultural advisory services & MOH advocacy.</p> <p>- The liberalized market offers great potential for expansion & diversification of productive ventures.</p> <p>-Government support of CSOs offers good opportunities for increased collaboration and partnership with government for sources of finance;</p> <p>-Availability of general infrastructure and market for all CSO products.</p>	<p>- Policy changes</p> <p>- Liberaliza of the economy.</p> <p>- High illiteracy levels amongst group members</p> <p>-High pov levels amongst group members</p>

4.2 PREVIOUS NUTRITION RELATED DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

A number of policies and programmes have been formulated since the early 1990s to enhance food security and to reduce malnutrition in Ghana. These include **Accelerated Agricultural Growth Development Strategy (AAGDS)**. In 2007, **The Food and Agricultural Sector Development Policy Document (FASDEPII)** was formulated as a sector wide approach/programme to provide a holistic framework for food and agriculture that will take cognisance of all on-going efforts and individual projects in the agricultural sector.

The “**Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS, 2003-2005)**” was launched in 2003 to ensure strong, equitable and sustainable economic growth and to provide for a lasting eradication of poverty and unemployment. The GPRS placed particular/special emphasis on revitalizing/modernizing agriculture as the engine of growth for the Ghanaian economy, in which agriculture and related agro-industries accounted for over 50% of GDP and about 60% of export earnings. The sector remains the main source of livelihood for the majority of rural communities in Ghana.

A Medium Term Agricultural Sector Investment Programme (METASIP) 2011-2015 was then developed as a follow up to the FASDEP II. The policies and policy instruments in both FASDEPII and METASIP (and related documents) emphasised the modernisation of agriculture through the provision of storage facilities, processing, input supply, output marketing, irrigation (small and large scale), mechanization (for production, processing, etc), technology development (i.e. research), agricultural credit (micro-finance), extension services, and the development of farmer based organizations (FBOs). Such reforms are essential for Ghana to achieve the shift from subsistence to market-oriented production, and to ensure that the sector will become once again the main engine of economic growth, while also eliminating hunger and poverty.

Another relevant intervention, **Imagine Ghana Free from Malnutrition Project(2003-2008)** recognizes poverty, household food security and hunger as underlying and immediate causes of child malnutrition and emphasizes a holistic approach to good nutrition (through linkages in health, water and sanitation, education and food security strategies). In that document, Child nutrition is also seen as the key to educational performance among children in Ghana. In Life Cycle Nutrition Approaches, good nutrition in children begins with good nutrition of pregnant women and lactating mothers. Micronutrient malnutrition (deficiencies in Vitamin A, iodine and iron) is also cited as key health risks in children and mothers. The objective of the project was to eliminate malnutrition as a public health and developmental problem in Ghana and by doing so, contribute to achieving MDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 due to their inter-linkages in causality. Ten strategic objectives were identified:

- 1) Promotion of the adoption of exclusive breastfeeding for infants during the first six months of life
- 2) Promotion of appropriate complementary feeding practices in children from 6 months to 2 years
- 3) Improve nutritional status of Children under Five Years through Supplementary Feeding Programmes in the four Most Deprived Regions (NR, UER, UWR, CR)
- 4) Improve nutritional status of children in Basic Schools in the four Most Deprived Regions

Key Activities:

- Advocate for the provision of school meals for basic schools
- Develop educational materials on good dietary practices for schools
- Develop policy for Improved Feeding/Nutrition for Senior Secondary Schools
- Provide Optimal Nutritional Care and Quality Food Service for Hospital Patients

- Control and Prevent Micronutrient Deficiencies through the implementation of specific interventions under key activities below:
- Implement Vitamin A management of children with measles
- Undertake twice yearly Vitamin A capsule distribution to children
- Advocacy for the enforcement of Legislation on Iodated Salt
- Undertake mass de-worming of school age children
- Address anemia in children and pregnant women
- Implement food based approaches to address micronutrient malnutrition through fortification and diversification

5) Improve the Nutritional Status of Pregnant Women

6) Improve the Nutritional Status of People Living with HIV/AIDS

7) Prevent and Manage Children with Protein Energy Malnutrition

8) Prevention and Management of Obesity

9) Improve the Nutritional Status of the Aged

10) Improve the Nutritional Status of Street Children

4.3 NATIONAL NUTRITION POLICY (NNP) 2013 to 2018.

Perhaps, it is important state here for the avoidance of all doubts that Ghana has made moderate improvements in socio-economic development in the last few years as a result of the implementation of the policies stated above. However, several key outcomes related to nutrition remain poor. Nearly one-third of under-five in Ghana are too short for their age (stunted), and approximately one out of ten is either underweight (too light for their age) or wasted (too light for their height).

Micronutrient deficiencies among women and children are still major public health challenges. This state of malnutrition contributes to increased risk of illness and death, and complications during pregnancy and delivery. In addition, malnourished children have irreversibly reduced intelligence, low economic productivity, later in life, and increased risk of cardiovascular disease in adulthood.

In developing a National Nutrition policy (NNP) therefore, notice has been taken of the fact that Ghana already has many existing policies and strategy documents in various sectors that impact nutrition. However, implementation of the existing policies has not been adequately coordinated and integrated. The result is that the separate efforts have not yielded the expected results for nutrition. A National Nutrition policy (NNP) was drafted in June 2013 to bridge the policy gap for nutrition, following the expiration of the 'Imagine Ghana Free of Malnutrition' concept document, in 2011. The policy is also a response to the rapidly changing nutrition landscape in Ghana that is characterized by a dual burden of undernutrition and rapidly evolving overnutrition. In the long term, the policy seeks to utilize existing resources, capacity, and programs across all relevant sectors, both public and private, to improve nutritional status in Ghana.

Government also recognized the fact that nutrition issues are multi-dimensional and is best addressed in a well-coordinated manner. Therefore, the NNP is intended to reposition nutrition as a cross-cutting issue and facilitate its integration and mainstreaming into all national development efforts. It will provide the framework for all nutrition and nutrition-related services in Ghana. It will also strengthen sectoral capacity for the effective delivery of these interventions. It is also intended to address both undernutrition and the increasing problem of obesity and nutrition-related non-communicable diseases.

The NNP has six objectives:

1. To reposition nutrition as a priority development issue in Ghana.
2. To ensure optimal nutrition among all people living in Ghana.
3. To increase capacity to deliver effective interventions for addressing priority nutrition problems in Ghana.
4. To ensure food and nutrition security for all people living in Ghana.
5. To ensure effective co-ordination, integration, and implementation of nutrition interventions in Ghana.
6. To strengthen research, monitoring and evaluation in nutrition programs in Ghana.

In recognition of the multi-faceted determinants of malnutrition and the need for cross-sectoral action, the policy is formulated with a broad scope. The health sector is recognized as an important leader in the delivery of nutrition services. In addition, however, the potential contribution of other key sectors such as agriculture, gender and social protection, local government, and water and sanitation, as well as civil society, are considered essential to delivering adequate nutrition at the population level. The NNP was therefore designed to be implemented across all relevant sectors and mainstreamed into the plans and activities of all relevant Government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies. Civil Society and other Non-Governmental agencies whose activities span nutrition will be encouraged to utilize the policy as a guide to all nutrition-related activities. There is need to maintain a high level of synergy with other institutions with similar goals such as the Comprehensive Africa Development Programme (CAADP). This will strengthen the implementation of the National Nutrition Policy.

Finally, the Nutrition Policy gives special attention to most-at-risk sub-groups in the population such as women in the reproductive age, young children, people living with HIV/AIDS and those receiving care in institutions.

4.4 ACTORS INVOLVED IN THE NATIONAL NUTRITION POLICY

Actors can be grouped in five constituencies: public sector, private sector, NGOs, Donor, and research institutions.

Table 4.3 Actors Involved in National Nutrition Policy Action in Ghana

CONSTITUENCY	INSTITUTIONS	ROLES
PUBLIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ministry of Food & Agriculture -Ministry of Health -Ministry of Gender, Children & Social Protection -Ministry of Finance -Ministry of Local Government -Parliament House 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Regulation /Services Policy Regulation /Services Gender and Children issues Resource Mobilisation Decentralisation Policy Regulation /Services
PRIVATE/PUBLIC PARTNERSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Food Research Institute -University of Ghana , Nutrition Department -District Health & Agricultural Committees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Research Services Delivery Nutrition Services Delivery District Vertical linkages
CSO s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CSOs in Nutrition Related & Nutrition Sensitive Services(see List in Table 4.1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutrition Services delivery

CSO Networks	-Ghana Civil Society Coalition for Scaling Up Nutrition -National Association for Peasant & Small Scale Farmers	Beneficiary Mobilisation Agricultural Services Delivery
DONOR	-FAO -JICA -SIDA -USAIN -WORLD BANK -WORLD FOOD -PROGRAMME -UN REACH -UN SUN MOVEMENT	Funding & Advisory

4.5 EXPECTED RESULT AREAS

By the end of the project, the expected result areas of the project (ER) are:-

- ER-1: GHACSSUN, the CSOs Coalition strengthened and mobilized.
- ER-2: Capacity of the CSOs to analyze nutrition situations improved.
- ER-3 Capacity of the CSOs to develop and implement advocacy strategies improved.
- ER-4 Capacity of the CSO Network to create and sustain linkages between national and international nutrition advocacy initiatives improved.

These results will be measured using the output indicators listed in Table 4.4 below:

Table 4.4 A summary of present level output indicators

Expected Result Area	Output Indicators	Baseline Status	Minimum Threshold Required
CSO strengthened & mobilized	# of CSO members of GHACSSUN	130	One Coalition 200 members
	# of CSOs involved in development and implementation of GHACSSUN's strategy, policy, position and monitoring activities	0	One Coalition 200 members
Capacity of CSOs to collect and analysis nutrition information improved	# of CSOs active in nutrition data collection & analysis	0	100
	# of CSO trained in nutrition data collection & analysis	0	100
	# of nutrition analysis or position papers developed.	0	10
Capacity of CSO & GHACSSUN to develop	# of advocacy strategy for GHACSSUN utilising the nutrition	0	5

and implement advocacy strategies improved	policy environment analysis and map developed		
	# of national nutrition advocacy dialogue opportunities and forums that CSOs and CSO members participated in	0	5
	# of advocacy strategy elements implemented in all major aspects	0	5
Capacities of CSO to create and sustain linkages between regional and national advocacy initiatives improved	# of Nutrition regional dialogue opportunities and forums that CSO Network and CSO members participated in	0	3
	# of joint advocacy positions developed and contributions to regional and forums	0	3

The proposed output indicators for the expected results are relevant to the project as they reflect the range of outcomes that the project hopes to affect. All the indicators are clearly defined and can be collected consistently over time. Currently, the baseline value for all the indicators is at zero. It is therefore recommended that the project partners should strongly focus on strengthening and mobilizing the CSOs and CSO Networks (ER-1) in the initial stages of the project. This should be done by developing a capacity building plan that will take into account each CSO's strengths and weaknesses, undertaking outreach programmes to each CSO and organizing regular CSO-Network meetings. To achieve this, the project partners must also recognize that CSOs are not independent and autonomous - capable of

freely deciding to associate with others to advance the common good. Any effort therefore, to organize them must also take into account their links to kin and local community who substantially influence their actions. Attainment of ER-1 will provide the means to attain the other expected project results (ER-2, ER-3 and ER-4).

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of the baseline study was to establish the base value for each project indicator with particular attention to specific objective and expected result of the indicators. The study identified the following :

- 130 CSOs which are member affiliates of the GHACSUN. The CSOs are registered under the laws of Ghana.
- Most of these CSOs are comprised of farming households in rural areas of Ghana.
- Traditional rain fed agriculture is the principal activity amongst the CSO members.
- CSO areas of operation are highly vulnerable to climatic shocks and consequently exacerbate food insecurity especially in the northern and central regions. Incidentally, CSO members are the first to experience food insecurity and its impacts. However, CSOs lack capacity of skill and tools to analyse food security and nutrition situations in their areas. Therefore, transformative interventions amongst all stakeholders - the CSO coalition and members, government and traditional leaders to analyze food security and nutrition situations are needed.
- Even though some CSO networks and members have previously provided primary data for food security analysis to government and other institutions, there is need to equip them with tools and techniques to enable them effectively participate and utilize the data.
- In terms of policy, nutrition policy is best understood as an amalgam of policies designed to stimulate agricultural production, support rural livelihoods, reduce vulnerability through safety nets, and to stimulate broad based economic growth.

- Two policy frameworks have been identified to be relevant and presumed to set the overall national level food security & nutrition interventions. These are:
 - Medium Term Agricultural Sector Investment Plan (METASIP) 2011-2015
 - National Nutrition Policy (NNP) 2013-2018.

The main thrusts of the METASIP are commercialization, promotion of public and private sector partnerships, and provision of effective services that will ensure the targeted agricultural sector GDP growth of at least 6% annually. However, these options are currently being affected by inadequate access to productive assets such as tractors and other mechanized farm implements, limited access to agricultural inputs, and high energy and transport costs. Thus, a multi-sectoral approach to service delivery needs to be considered to identify and engage the full participation of all stakeholders.

- As regards the level of project indicators, the study established that most of the baseline values were all at zero. It is therefore recommended that the project partners should focus on strengthening and mobilizing the CSOs and CSO Network (ER-1) in the initial stages of the project. This should be done by developing a capacity building plan that will take into account each CSO's strengths and weaknesses, undertaking outreach programmes to each CSO and organizing regular CSO-Network meetings.
- Any effort to organize the CSOs must also take into account their links to kin and society. Attainment of ER-1 will provide the means to attain the other expected project results (ER-2, ER-3 and ER-4).
- The GHACSUN project provides a great opportunity to strengthen and equip CSO networks and members through better coordination and improved grassroot linkages and enhanced inter-country interaction and knowledge exchange. This will result in nutrition analysis and use of evidence-based advocacy in nutrition policy formulation, implementation and monitoring.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the outcomes of this study, the following recommendations are presented for successful implementation of the project:-

i. The project partners should facilitate a comprehensive review of the GHACSSUN constitution to improve its governance and organizational structures. This will allow the lower organs to own the association and make the executive accountable. Furthermore, because the coalition (GHACSSUN) will be the lead CSO network, its effectiveness has significant implications of the overall expected results of the project. A review of the GHACSSUN constitution should make all positions elective as opposed to presidential appointments.

ii. To build capacity in the accounting system of the GHACSSUN, the study team recommends for complete overhaul of the accounting system to enhance accountability and transparency. Furthermore there is need for the appointment of external auditors who should also design a transparent accounting system which should provide recording of all financial transactions.

iii. The project partners should prioritize and intensify outreach programmes to the grassroots in order to enhance membership drive and strengthen grassroots structures and linkages. This will provide the means to attain the other expected project result areas.

iv. Based on some of the shortcomings identified in the SWOT analysis, intensive and extensive training in reading skills, to improve literacy levels is recommended. More women need to be trained in decision-making

v. The project partners should encourage and facilitate exchange visits between the CSOs to enable members share views and experiences.

vi. To enhance gender and HIV/AIDS mainstreaming in the program activities, establishment of gender focal point persons in all CSO member

organization provides a link person with other institutions promoting similar programs and activities. There is also a need to carry out a comprehensive research to identify social cultural practices, norms, values of increased gender imbalances.

vii. The partner CSOs must designate 40% of the executive positions to women to improve on their gender mainstreaming.

viii. The partner CSOs must have well functioning secretariats for proper data collection and management of records (financial, production etc).

7.1 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

7.2 MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN

The timely implementation and operation of the proposed activities is very important for the success of the project. The anticipated improvements in the capacity of the target CSO networks and CSOs to undertake nutrition situational analysis and to effectively contribute to the nutrition debate justify the need for project monitoring and evaluation. The overall objective of the monitoring and evaluation exercise is to ensure successful and efficient operation of the project. The project shall be monitored and evaluated through a number of targets which have been established across its operational areas.

Table 6.1 gives the performance monitoring indicators which will be monitored at various frequencies. Performance measurements will form a base against which changes targeted at GHACSSUN and CSOs will be measured.

Table 6.1 Monitoring Matrix-Key indicators

OUTPUT	Indicator	Baseline Value	Targets	Data Type	Data Source	Tool
CSOs and CSO networks mobilized and strengthened.	# of CSOs members	0	One Coalition 200 members	CSOs members	GHACSUN Reports	Monitoring Report
	# of CSOs involved in the coalition's strategy.	0	200 members	CSOs members	GHACSUN Reports	Monitoring Report
Capacity of CSOs to analyze nutrition situations improved.	# of CSOs trained in nutrition data collection and analysis	0	200 members	CSOs members disaggregated by gender	GHACSUN Reports	Monitoring and Training Report
	# of CSOs participating in nutrition data collection and analysis	0	100 members	CSOs members	GHACSUN Reports	Field Data Collection Form
	# of nutrition analysis and/or position paper developed.	0	4	Nutrition Policy & position papers	GHACSUN Project reports	Policy Document
Capacity of CSOs to develop and implement advocacy strategies improved	# of nutrition forums, CSOs and CSO Networks constituted	0	10	# of Forum constituted and composition	GHACSUN Project Reports	Annual Report
	# of nutrition	0	10	# of	GHACSUN	Annual Report

	policies & Programs developed and updated annually			policies formulated developed for implementation	Project Reports	Rep
	# of advocacy strategies for CSOs that utilise nutrition policy developed	0	10	# of advocacy strategies developed	GHACSUN Project Reports	Quality report
	# of Advocacy Strategies elements adopted at national forum	0	10	#of advocacy strategies adopted for use at national level	GHACSUN Project Reports	Quality report
OUTPUT	Indicator	Baseline Value	Targets	Data Type	Data Source	Tool
Capacities of CSO to create and sustain linkages between regional and national advocacy improved.	# of CSO participating in at least 3 nutrition regional and national advocacy initiatives	0	6	# of Regional & National nutrition advocacy initiative	GHACSUN Project Reports	Quality Report
	# of joint advocacy positions developed & contribution made to regional or	0	3	# of joint advocacy position developed	GHACSUN Project Reports	Quality Report

	national forum					
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ANNEX 1 – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Ghana Civil Society Coalition for Scaling Up Nutrition

Baseline Rapid Appraisal of CSO Involvement in Nutrition Actions and Advocacy

Terms of Reference

Context

The Ghana Coalition of Civil Society Coalition for Scaling up Nutrition (GHACCSUN) is a platform and a network of CSOs that subscribe to the international clarion call to scale up nutrition and to draw attention to nutrition as a developmental issue.

Recent developments in the economy have identified Ghana as a lower middle income country and one of the fastest growing countries in Africa. The country is also a signatory to a number of international declarations asserting the right of its citizen's to adequate food and nutrition security and to fight malnutrition. Despite this international zeal in making commitments to address her food security and nutrition problems, malnutrition remains a development challenge with low priority on the national policy agenda. In addition, there is inadequate Civil Society participation in nutrition advocacy, policy formulation, and implementation. This creates a situation where there is no body to play a 'watchdog' role in holding relevant public and private institutions accountable for their role in addressing malnutrition in Ghana.

The Ghana Civil Society Coalition for Scaling Up Nutrition (GHACCSUN) was established as an independent multi-sectoral coalition of civil society organisations involved in/with interest in agriculture, nutrition, health, media etc to advocate for making nutrition a high priority development issue in Ghana. This Project, in addition to building a credible CSOs network with capacity to address the above listed challenges, will also support the implementation of the nutrition policy in Ghana. Ultimately, it is envisioned

that a strong and active CSO coalition will be established with a more engaging capacity in the process of demanding accountability in public and private investment in nutrition.

II. Objectives of the Baseline Study

The baseline study will be conducted in order to:

- Establish the level of each project indicator at the beginning of the project, with particular attention to Specific Objective and Expected Result level indicators
- Assess the relevance and accuracy of the indicators selected to measure progress towards achieving project objectives
- Review project log frame to assure use of SMART indicators that will facilitate the evaluation of the project results at the end of the of the life span of the project

This assignment will therefore be conducted in order to assess:

- The capacity of CSOs to reflect on strategies for reduction of malnutrition and their knowledge about the nutrition of vulnerable people.
- The capacity of CSOs in developing nutrition relevant strategies and positions on nutrition advocacy
- The capacity of CSOs in collecting and analyzing nutrition relevant data.
- The level of involvement of CSOs in nutrition policy development and implementation and their current status of dialogue with government and donors
- The willingness of decision-makers to involve CSO in policy-making.

III. Expected results of the research

The product of the baseline survey is a clear and concise report.

The report will have the following main features:

GHACSUN Baseline Survey

1. Executive Summary (max. 3 pages)
2. Main Text (max 20 pages)

3. Conclusions and Recommendations (fully cross-referenced)
4. Annexes: i.e. TOR, Methodology applied, List of persons/organizations consulted, Literature and documentation consulted, other technical annexes where relevant.

Expected deliverables from the baseline include:

- A detailed methodology of the study, discussed and approved by GHASUN and the local UN focal Organisation WFP
- Detailed information per indicator (as outlined in the log frame)
- A reviewed log frame with recommendations for revised indicators
- Recommendations for the M&E plan (strategy, tools and systems) proposed timeline, roles and responsibilities of GHASCSUN and partners;
- An inventory and description of existing CSOs and networks engaged in nutrition in Ghana.
- A data base of information permitting to map problems, opportunities, strengths and weaknesses of CSOs, in general, and especially in governance and organizational aspects (e.g. relationship with farmer networks, project development skills, fundraising capacity),as well as nutrition advocacy and nutrition data collection and analysis. A data set outlining strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities.
- A study report describing main constraints and opportunities for CSO networks support and improved nutrition in their areas, including analysis of potential partners and blockers.
- A database of information permitting to map currently ongoing nutrition policy development and implementation processes at national level and recommendations for entry points of CSO engagement.

VI. The Study duration and areas of Study:

The total duration of the study will be 30 calendar days whose, breakdown will be decided by the consultant in collaboration with the Consultancy Supervisory Team. The areas of study will be the ten (10) regions of Ghana.

VII. Profile of the consultant:

The Consultant shall be selected based on the following criteria:

- University degree education with vast and relevant experience in social research will be needed. Relevant qualification in facilitation skills and ability to use participatory tools, social data collection and analysis and experience with similar research studies
- Relevant continuous professional experience in the design, monitoring and review of activities related to Nutrition, CSO strengthening and advocacy.
- Relevant experience in nutrition policy analysis, design and development of CSOs
- Familiarity with the Ghanaian development context
- Demonstrated research and report writing skills

The consultant will have overall responsibility for ensuring all parts of the TOR are addressed satisfactorily in the baseline report. Upon completion of the draft report and the feedback from key program and partner staff, the consultant will be responsible for incorporating the comments and suggestions in the final substantive editing of the report.

VIII. Dates limit of the study

The completion of the study would be planned within the period from 15/06/2013 to 30/ 07/2013. The candidate's offer will include separate budget offer, technical offer and the methodology to be developed. It will be submitted to the physical address of GHASCSUN at: Ghana Industrial Estates Limited, GICEL (Opposite Driver Vehicle & Licensing Authority) Weija, Accra at the latest on July 30, 2013.

ANNEX II – BASELINE SURVEY TEAM MEMBERS

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ANNEX III - QUESTIONNAIRE

Baseline Rapid Appraisal of CSO involvement in Nutrition Actions

QUESTIONNAIRE 1: CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

1. Civil Society Organization (CSO)

a) Name of CSO:.....

b) Title of CSO Representative Interviewed:.....

c) What is the total membership?

d) How is your membership categorized?

MHH.....FHH.....CHH.....

e) When was your organization registered?

f) Does the organization have a clear, meaningful written mission statement (which reflects its fundamental purpose, values and people served)?

.....
.....

g) What are the organizations' main objectives?

1.....

2.....

3.....

4.....

h) What are your organization's core activities?

1.....

2.....

3.....

4.....

i) What is your total production per year?

j) How much income do you generate per year from your produce?
.....

k) Target Area: Which geographical areas does your organization cover/operate in?

Targeted Beneficiaries (Households)

	Targeted Beneficiaries (Households)			
Operational Area	No. of MHH	No. of FHH	No. of CHH	Total No.

l) What assets does your organization have.....

m) CSO SWOT on Participation: What do you consider to be your organizations?

Strengths:

ii.Weaknesses:.....

.

iii.Opportunities:.....

iv.Threats.....

h) What are your organization's future plans?

.....

2. RECORDS

a) What kind of records does your organization keep? What is the frequency recording?

Types of Records	Frequency of Recording			
	Monthly	Quarterly	½Annually	Annually

d) Do you have Knowledge in SUN data collection and analysis?

Yes..... No.....

e) If your answer to (d) is yes, what tools do you use in SUN?

.....

f) Which tools do you find useful? Prioritize them.

.....

g) Has your organization participated in any training on SUN or MOH data collection and analysis?

.....

3. POLICY ADVOCACY

a) Has your organization been involved in policy advocacy on Nutrition?

Yes..... No.....

b) If yes, kindly give details on your involvement?

.....

.....

c) Are you a member of any policy advocacy forums on Nutrition?

Yes..... No.....

d) If yes, at what level does your organization participate in this/these forum

e) Participation in Policy Dialogue

Type of Forum	Level of Participation		
	Regional	National	International

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f) Has your organization participated in the development any of Nutrition position papers?

.....

4. NETWORKING

a) Which organizations does your organization network/collaborate with:

i. CSOs?

ii. Farmers Organizations?

.....

iii. Community Based Organizations?

.....

iv. Others?.....

Are you a member of any established Network dealing with SUN?
 Yes..... No.....

g) If yes, is the network registered? Yes..... No.....

c) If yes, how many organizations are members of this network?

.....

d) To what extent is the network involved in the monitoring and evaluation of nutrition policies and programs?

e) How does your organization hope to work with other CSOs in Nutrition advocacy?

.....

f) Do you support initiatives to strengthen networking of CSOs to improve

levels of influence in the formulation, development & implementation of policies on nutrition?

Yes..... No.....

g) If yes, what initiatives has your organization put in place?

.....

5. GHANA CIVIL SOCIETY COALITION FOR SCALING UP NUTRITION (GHACSSUN)

a) Do you have knowledge of GHACSSUN? Yes.....
No.....

b) If yes, are you affiliated to GHACSSUN? Yes..... No.....

c) If yes, when were you affiliated?

e) How often do you have meetings with GHACSSUN?

Monthly Quarterly Annually None

f) When last did you have a meeting with GHACSSUN?

g) What have been the successes/limitations of GHACSSUN?

Successes:.....

.....

Limitations:.....

h) What areas of concern do you think GHACSSUN need to bring out for policy dialogue?

.....

ANNEX IV – Literature & Documentation Consulted

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