

# Fact Sheet: Key Findings of Gender Analysis of Gender-Based Violence In Coastal Communities in Western and Central Region

A qualitative study on GBV carried out in six (6) communities in the Central and Western Regions namely Anomabo, British Komenda, Dutch Komenda, Akwidaa, Eikwe and Ellonyi. The study focused on the kinds of SGBV present in the focal communities, what forms they take, what structures exist, and what new things may be required to inform the planning and implementation of the project.

The study, took place in the month of June 2022 and involved interviews and focus group discussions.

## Summary of Findings

*Forms of abuse experienced include;*



**Physical Assault**



**Sexual Abuse**



**Abuse in line of work**



**Psychological & Verbal abuse**

*Incidents of abuse experienced include;*



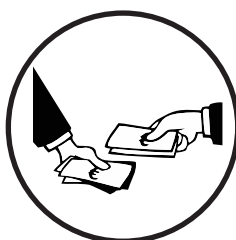
Physical abuse



Verbal & emotional abuse



Cheating



Non-payment of loans and salaries



Breach of agreement



Sexual harassment & extortion

### Effects of SGBV

- ✓ Injuries
- ✓ Adolescent pregnancy
- ✓ Child labor
- ✓ Increase in school dropout
- ✓ Child marriage
- ✓ Burden of care on the elderly
- ✓ Stigma from the community members



### Victims And Perpetrators

SGBV is experienced by both females and males. Women and girls are, however, more susceptible to these experiences compared to their male counterparts. SGBV against young girls were perpetrated by both older males and peers.

Men's experience of SGBV were from their spouses. Men who are unable to bring home enough income due to the erratic nature of the fishing industry such as low catch, sea closure, delayed payments and the seasonal nature of the work experienced emotional and sexual abuse from their spouses.

### Key contributing factors to SGBV within fishing communities

- ✓ Poverty
- ✓ Decline in Fisheries
- ✓ Social norms
- ✓ Lack of proper resolution of the cases

### Mechanisms used to address GBV in fishing communities

Internal community mechanisms including chief fisherman, *konkohemaa*, clan heads, friends, relatives and religious leaders were most frequently used.



Formal mechanisms such as the police, social welfare were rarely used in resolving SGBV cases for fear of divorce. They were used mainly when the issues were unresolved by the local leadership.

### Main forms of Support recieved by GBV Victims



Counseling



Reprimand



Compensation (fines- "*mmpata sika*")

The Women in Fisheries Against Violence (WIFVEs) Project is a three-year (2022 – 2024) project funded by the European Union (EU) which has an overall objective of achieving gender equality in Ghana by advocating against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), abuse and discrimination in Ghana's marine fisheries sector. It is implemented by Hen Mpoano and CEWEFIA.

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*Images used are only representative and are not pictures of observations during the study\**