Nature Based Solutions to Transform Landscapes and Livelihoods

Ghana Sustainable Land and Water Management Project

Thursday 5 December 2019 | 13:15 – 14:45
GEF-GCF Pavilion
SLWMP Project Team
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A ten-year Project (2010-2020) that is supporting the Sustainable Development Initiative for Ghana’s Northern Savanna to realize the vision of a diversified and resilient economic zone in the north with significant regional environmental benefits.

Currently being implemented in **12 districts in the Northern Savannah Zone of Ghana**, including the Western Wildlife Corridor, Gbele Resource Reserve, Mole National Park and 8 gazetted forest reserves.

Implemented through the World Bank and financed through Global Environment Facility (GEF) Grants of $29.66 million, over three phases.

Components:
- **Component 1**: Capacity Building for Integrated spatial Planning
- **Component 2**: Land and Water Management
- **Component 3**: Project Management and Coordination
Ghana Sustainable Land and Water Management Project
Operational Area
Landscape Approach:
Connecting Ecosystems, Institutions and Finance

- **Ecosystems**: Agricultural landscapes, wildlife biological corridors, forest reserves
- **Institutions**: Collaborating across sectors for shared impacts (Agriculture, Environment, Forestry, Wildlife, Water resource)
- **Finance**: TerrAfrica, several GEF Windows under one program, Government contribution in complement with ongoing activities.
A multi-stakeholder collaboration of

**National**
- National Steering Committee
- National Sustainable Land Management Committee

**Regional**
- Technical Coordinating Office (TCO)
- Local Steering Committee

**District**
- District Watershed Management Team

**Community**
- CREMA Executive Committee
- Community Resource Management Committee
- Community Watershed Management Committee

**Highlights:**
- Committed team (National, Regional and District levels)
- Knowledge sharing among the sectors
- Deep Community involvement
- Promotion of good practices established by the project
- Continuous monitoring
Achievements through collective management of land uses

- Supported over 39,000 farmers. 57,595 direct beneficiaries with 55% women
- 8 Forest Management plans to guide the management of 72,716ha of reserves.
- 6 Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA) established
- Constructed 10 mini dams and dugouts
- Adoption of SLWM practices in 247 communities covering 70,256ha of land
- 1,060 ha of land reforested in two forest reserves and work continues.....
- Spatial Development Framework for the Northern Savannah zone developed - guide to future planning
Livelihood Enhancement Activities

- Bee Keeping for Honey production
- Fish processing and preservation
- Shea nut processing
Gender Responsiveness

Organic Shea picking – at the fringe areas in Gbele Reserve.
Experimenting and adopting SLM Options

Earth Bunding and Stone lining
TREE GROWING ACTIVITIES
Improving cropping systems
Improving cropping systems

Newly planted sweet potato field in Bawku West District

Bunded field to increase on-farm water infiltration

Cassava planting material multiplication
Harvested fodder bank for dry season feeding of livestock

Fodder bank: Pigeon pea

Rangeland management (Before and after)

Experimenting and adopting SLM Options
RIPARIAN VEGETATION
CHALLENGES

• The number of proponents demanding support far outweighed what the Project could support;

• Pilot Project - Stayed one year with a proponent/beneficiary, which was inadequate for sustainability;

• Due to communities past experience with the Wildlife Division in establishing reserves and national parks, it takes a very long time for CREMAs to be established;

• Lack of simple equipment for harvesting and storage facilities of fodder for use by farmers during the dry season

• Wild Fire
STATUS OF GEF 6 IMPLEMENTATION – LESSONS LEARNT

• Payment for Ecosystem Services have proven a better option than giving physical cash to beneficiaries

• The demand for the project support from the districts and communities have been overwhelming due to the palpable impacts of the project in the beneficiary communities in terms of food security, climate resilience and improve ecological services.

• Establishment of dugouts at the fringe of GRR has been instrumental in reducing pressure from communities and their livestock on the GRR, reducing conflict between reserve managers and the communities, and reducing the potential spread of diseases.

• Established rangelands and fodder banks appear crucial in providing both forage for livestock and protection during the harsh dry season.
THANK YOU