

The Flegt

Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade

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Newsletter



TIDD Commends NDF For Helping Curb Infractions by Loggers

A Forest Manager of the Timber Industry Development Division (TIDD), Mr. Mawuli Samuel Doe has commended the Nature and Development Foundation (NDF), other Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and donors, for helping curb infractions caused by loggers without mills.

Mr. Doe, who was speaking at the closeout meeting of the project, “FLEGT Compliance in Ghana: Developing the Capacity of Loggers Without Processing Mills,” in Accra, said, “I would like to express our profound gratitude to NDF for complementing Forestry Commission (FC) in building the capacities of Loggers without mills on FLEGT compliance.”

He observed that, “Loggers are one of the main actors in the Ghana Legality Assurance system and the success of the

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Stop Issuance of Special Permits - MLNR Instructs FC



Mr. Musah Abu-Juam, Technical Director in charge of Forestry, MLNR, instructing FC to stop the issuance of Special Permits for logging.

The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MLNR) has instructed the Forestry Commission (FC) to stop the issuance of Special Permits for logging in Ghana's forests.

This was disclosed by Mr. Musah Abu-Juam, Technical Director in charge of Forestry at the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources at the closeout workshop for the Civic Response

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'FOOD BASKET' FARMERS APPEAL FOR FOOD SECURITY SUPPORT

Farmers in the transition landscape of Ghana have called on the government and private sector to support them to ensure food security.

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TIDD Commends NDF For Helping Curb Infractions by Loggers

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FLEGT-VPA process largely depends on them and the millers, hence it was prudent that their capacities were built to enable them comply with the protocols.”

He noted that, hitherto, the Timber Industry Development Division (TIDD) had identified infractions loggers commit during their operations and that is why he is commending NDF for helping to curb them.

“Recently, as part of my responsibility at TIDD, I visited some small and medium mills in some of our area offices. I observed in some mills that logs arrive without log markings, others too use chalks to do the markings,” he stated.

He said, the worse of it all is logs arriving at the mills before the Log Measurement, Conveyance Certificates (LMCCs) are issued. “Under-measurement of logs and misnaming of species are also some of the infractions our Inspectors at the checkpoints have been



Cross-section of participants at the closeout workshop

recording,” he added.

He admitted that many of these infractions are as a result of ignorance.

“I can't close my eyes and say I am oblivious of some of the malpractices associated with the harvesting operations and disregard to some of the regulations especially the wearing of the PPE's. Unfortunately, some of these infractions occur due to ignorance on the part of the loggers or their reps.”

It is, therefore, expected that, with the capacity of these loggers built through this project, henceforth the incidence of

infractions in the sector would be significantly minimized for better compliance with VPA/FLEGT requirements.

For his part, Mr. Mustapha Seidu, Director of NDF disclosed that one of the difficulties encountered during the project was the selection of participants as the number of loggers under the criteria was higher than what the project could accommodate.

Also, loggers without mills were noted for their constant movements from one area to another, compelling NDF to rely on the Forest Services Division (FSD) in the selection.

He expressed satisfaction at the level of commitment of participants and encouraged them to transfer knowledge acquired to their workers, especially on the need to keep to safety and health precautions.

The project, funded by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the European Union (EU), the Swedish government and UKaid, was aimed at building the capacity of loggers without mills to be able to comply with Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) requirements.

Story by: Communication Team

SEEK LEGAL ADVICE BEFORE LAND ACQUISITION

- LAWYER WARNS

A legal Practitioner at Taylor Crabbe Innitiative, Mr. Albert Agyepong, has warned Ghanaians to seek legal advice before acquiring or leasing land in any form.

According to Mr Agyepong, who was speaking at a meeting of the Women In Forestry Group in Kumasi, legal advice would save prospective land owners from protracted and expensive litigation.

He acknowledged legal advice comes at a cost but insisted that, “the cost of engaging a lawyer is far less than what you spend in litigation if something goes wrong”.

He disclosed that, there have been several instances where land litigations have landed people in serious problems, necessitating the need for due diligence before committing money or any other resources to a lessor or grantor.

“Understanding the various documentations in land certification is very key in land acquisition so legal guidance is necessary to forestall avoidable litigation,” he said, using some court cases to buttress his point.

The legal session was part of the Women In Forestry meeting held in Kumasi to give the women understanding about legal issues pertaining to land acquisition.

The women, drawn from academia, media, industry and state institutions, had the opportunity to get clarity on matters involving land title registration, types of title and ownership transfer, among others.

They also learnt about Social Responsibility Agreements between timber contractors and forest fringe communities, as per Forestry Laws.

The Group took a tour of the Sokoban Wood Village, where they interacted with wood workers and sellers in the market considered the biggest in West Africa.

The meeting and tour were part of project implemented by Rights and Advocacy Initiative Network with funding from the UK government. The project is to improve the capacity of women in forestry to support the Voluntary Partnership Agreement.

Story by Communication Team

Mr. Albert Agyepong
(Legal Practitioner,
Taylor Crabbe Innitiative)

Stop Issuance of Special Permits - MLNR Instructs FC



© Cr Participants at the Closeout Workshop

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project, “Collecting Data to Contribute to Implementation of Ghana’s VPA Impact Monitoring Framework”.

With this directive, Mr. Abu-Juam is hopeful requests for such permits will come to an end.

According to Mr. Abu-Juam, Ghana signed the VPA agreement to first of all sanitize its system and to eliminate illegal logging and currently, there are many programmes ongoing to that effect. He likened VPA to a root which supported all these processes.

He noted that even though the country is yet to commence the issuance of the Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT) licenses, there has been some successes, one of which is the dialogue process that now exists among stakeholders. He, however, admitted that there are still a few measures that needed to be implemented, one of which is the conversion of extant leases to TUCs.

In 2009, Ghana signed a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) with the European Union (EU) to trade in legal timber in both the domestic and export markets with the ultimate aim of issuing FLEGT licenses as prove of the legality of the timber. Article 17 of the VPA enjoins the parties (Ghana and EU) to develop better understanding of the impact of implementing VPA on the livelihoods of potentially affected stakeholders.

Consequently, a Joint Team on Impact

Monitoring (JTIM) developed a VPA Impact Monitoring (IM) framework for monitoring VPA implementation impact in 7 key areas, namely livelihoods, forest conditions, forest governance, market

FORTY LOGGERS TRAINED ON LEGALITY COMPLIANCE

A total of forty (40) loggers without processing mills, have been identified, engaged and their capacity built to comply with legality requirements in their forestry operations.

These industry players were trained on the seven (7) legality principles underlying the Ghana Legality Assurance System. The principles are namely: 1-Source of timber, 2-Timber Right Allocation, 3-Timber Harvesting Operations, 4-Transportation, 5-Processing, 6-Trade and 7 - Fiscal Obligations.

Emphasis was however placed on principles 1,2,3,4 and 7 as the operations of these players were noted to be centred on.

Safety and Health Issues at the various stages (Felling, Hauling, Loading and Transportation of logs) of their operations were also delved into. As a way to ease reference and enhance continuous learning even after the engagements, infographics on

performance, forest management, revenue generation and the VPA stakeholder deliberative process.

The JTIM identified Data gaps which could not be filled with data from the Forestry Commission or other sources.

In order to fill the data gaps in livelihoods, VPA stakeholder deliberative processes and indicator number 10 of Forest Conditions (FC 10), Civic Response in conjunction with ResourceTrust Network developed the project titled “Collecting Data to Contribute to Implementation of Ghana’s VPA Impact Monitoring Framework” which collected VPA impact monitoring baseline information in livelihoods, VPA stakeholder deliberative processes, and FC 10.

This project, developed under the auspices of the FAO-EU FLEGT Programme with funding from the European Union, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and UKAid, had as overall objective the collection of data on VPA Stakeholder deliberative processes, livelihoods and forest conditions to feed Ghana’s VPA Impact Monitoring framework.

The four (4) main outputs of the project were to develop methodologies for collecting baseline indicator data for livelihoods and VPA stakeholders’ deliberative process impact areas, which has been achieved.

Baseline data processes were collected in 4 FWDs namely Goaso, Nkawie, Sefwi Wiawso and Akim Oda.

Source: Civic Response

the 'Dos & Don'ts' of safety requirements and the various legality principles tackled, were developed for the players.

The engagements and pieces of training were conducted by the Nature and Development Foundation (NDF) in close collaboration with the Forestry Services Division (FSD) and the Timber Validation Department (TVD)- both of the Forestry Commission.

The engagements and pieces of training were funded by the FAO under their FAO-EU FLEGT PROGRAMME.

The loggers without processing mills engaged under the project and other key stakeholders in the timber industry, expressed their gratitude to FAO for funding the project and NDF for the implementation of the project.

The one-year project was titled, “FLEGT Compliance in Ghana: Developing the Capacity of Loggers without Processing Mills”

Source: Nature and Development Foundation

'FOOD BASKET' FARMERS APPEAL FOR FOOD SECURITY SUPPORT

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The transition landscape often referred to as the 'food basket of Ghana' has been the centre of food production in the country.

The landscape with over 60% of its population being farmers, is noted for the production of staple crops such as yam, cassava, plantain, maize and fruit crops such as cashew, cocoa and mangoes. This makes it one of the most important contributors to Ghana's food security and socio-economic development.

However, due to deforestation, overgrazing, perennial wildfires, unsustainable agricultural practices and climate change; the landscape is currently highly vulnerable to low agricultural productivity and further environmental degradation, therefore, putting the livelihood of farmers at risk.

Despite these challenges, farmers in the landscape said, they have received little support from the government and private sector in mitigating and adapting to climate change and the other challenges they face in their work as farmers.

These were made known when a team from EcoCare Ghana and Tropenbos Ghana visited thirty communities in Techiman Municipal, Offinso North and Offinso Municipal to conduct a needs assessment of farmers within the landscape as part of the Landscapes and Environmental Agility Across the Nation (LEAN) project activities.

Key Challenges faced by farmers

Speaking to the team, the farmers described how climate change is affecting their livelihood. Stephen Nabliyere, from Asantasi in the Techiman Municipality said that, "these days we don't know when to expect the rains, I cultivated about two (2) acres of maize in April in anticipation of the rainy season, however, the rains didn't come and my farm perished."

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Two Women Get Appointments In Lands, Forestry Sector



*Ama Kudom Agyemang, Chairperson,
Bono East Regional Lands Commission Board*



*Doreen Asumang-Yeboah,
CSO Rep., M-SIC*

Two women have been given appointment on separate boards in the lands and forestry sector.

Madam Ama Kudom Agyemang, renowned broadcast journalist and ardent advocate for environmental protection and forestry issues, has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Bono East Regional Lands Commission Board.

Having promoted forestry and land related issues through articles and active participation in programmes and projects, Madam Kudom Agyemang assumes office with a vast array of experience spanning over a decade.

Her advocacy for the judicious use and management of natural resources, makes her appointment to the leadership of the Lands Commission

Board apt and timely, as Ghana seeks to put its lands and natural resources into judicious use.

For her part, Doreen Asumang-Yeboah, a Gender Advocate and head of Women in Forestry, a group of women in the forestry sector, has been elected as the Civil Society Representative on the Multi Stakeholder Implementation Committee (M-SIC) under the Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT)/ Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA).

Her appointment brings experience and gender balance to a predominantly masculine Committee that is tasked to, among others, oversee the overall implementation of the VPA and coordinate the delivery of outputs to ensure that the objectives are achieved in line with the content and time schedule set out in the agreement.

Story by Communication Team

TIMBER MILLERS TRAINED TO USE INDUSTRY PORTAL OF WOOD TRACKING SYSTEM

Over 120 Timber millers have received training to use the 'Industry portal to the Ghana Wood Tracking System (GWTS); www.industry.fcghana.org. The millers were grouped into four and trained on separate days in New-Edubiase, Takoradi, Goaso and Dormaa. Each group of the millers were trained on features and functionalities of the 'Industry portal to the GWTS' and the approved Chain of Custody a sawmill operating in Ghana must have.

The training was organized by Nature and Development Foundation (NDF) in collaboration with the Timber Validation Department (TVD) and the Area offices of Timber Industry Development Division (TIIDD) in Assin-fosu, Takoradi, Asankrakwa and Sunyani.

The activity is part of the project, "Building the Capacity of Small-Medium Forest Enterprises (SMFEs) in Ghana and Liberia to Supply and Trade in Legal Timber, Phase-II" which is funded with UK aid from the UK Government.

The training was essential because, the initial design of the Ghana Wood Tracking

System (GWTS) did not grant any access to timber operators and with the continued operation of the system, this lack of access by the private operators to the GWTS emerged as a critical gap. The gap gave rise to delays in the capture of producer's transaction data thus delaying their business. It became a sore point of complaint by the private sector and they easily advanced the argument that the implementation of the Legality Assurance System (LAS) is creating inconvenience for business.

The Timber Validation Department (TVD) of the Forestry Commission taught it wise that, if this source of inconvenience persists, it could pose significant challenges to the success of the operation of the licensing system.



© NDF Data Reconciliation Manager, Bright Owusu Sekyere, training Timber Millers on the industry portal of the Wood Tracking System

With funding from UKaid under their FGMC programme, Nature and Development Foundation (NDF) collaborated with the TVD and develop an industry portal to the GWTS. Development of the portal by NDF and TVD was part of implementing the project, "Building the Capacity of Small-Medium Forest Enterprises (SMFEs) in Ghana and Liberia to Supply and Trade in Legal Timber, Phase-I". NDF in phase-II of this project is building the capacity of timber operators to

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USE FLEGT FITNESS CHECK TO STRENGTHEN FLEGT ACTION PLAN- CSOs TELL EU

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) from VPA countries and their international partners in UK and Europe have called on the European Union to use the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Fitness Check to strengthen the FLEGT Action Plan and the EU Timber Regulation (EUTR) in order to address the persistent obstacles that hamper their effective implementation.

This was in a summarised statement by over forty CSOs from Asia & the Pacific, the Americas, Europe, and West & Central Africa. The CSOs, including Civic Response, are asking the EU to provide tailored support to VPA countries and ensure that CSOs, local communities and Indigenous groups have the space and capacity to participate, and maintain the integrity of the VPAs.

The European Union (EU)- a major importer of timber and timber products- launched environmental initiatives such as FLEGT Action Plan (2003) and Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) which aim to halt illegal logging and the associated trade. So far, the EU has entered into VPA partnership with 15 countries across the world out of which only one has an operating license system.

In 2020, the EU Commission working through the Directorate-General for Environment (DG ENVI), unilaterally decided to evaluate and



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assess the effectiveness of the FLEGT initiative and held an EUTR and FLEGT-VPA fitness check public consultation.

The interim findings of the fitness check or evaluation arrived at the conclusion that there is no evidence that VPAs have contributed to reducing illegal logging in the partner countries and the consumption of illegally harvested wood in the EU.

Based on these interim findings, top EU officials have made public pronouncements of considering other alternative support mechanisms in the future to enable partner countries to comply with EU requirements with the intention of revoking the FLEGT-VPAs.

In a press release earlier in April however,

Ghanaian CSOs in particular are concerned about the methodology applied in the fitness check. The sample group which had majority of respondents from the European Union, seems not to have taken on board opinions from VPA countries in arriving at the findings and conclusions. The CSOs are also unhappy that top EU officials are speaking publicly on the findings and making decisions based on the findings without the EU communicating and discussing the conclusive decisions to VPA countries.

Civil society in Ghana are convinced that cancelling the FLEGT licence would be a major disappointment to the timber industry who have invested in systems to trade in FLEGT licenced timber, as well as to Ghanaian NGOs and the government who have worked long and hard to ensure they met the requirements of the licence. This would come across as a shifting of the goal posts.

Ghana signed and ratified the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) with the EU in 2009 to enhance trade in legal timber. This agreement aims at enhancing forest sector governance and ensuring that timber and timber products traded on the domestic market and exported to the EU, are produced in compliance with existing Ghanaian laws, rules and regulations.

Source: Civic Response

CREMAs in the Mole Landscape Trained in Forest Monitoring Technology



The Ghana Wildlife Society (GWS), with support from the US-based Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA), has trained members of four Community Resources Management Areas (CREMAs) in the Mole Landscape in forest monitoring using the TIMBY app.

The TIMBY app is an android-based software application used in gathering evidence and reporting incidences, which is often used for forest and environmental crimes around the globe.

For some time now, Ghana has been witnessing widespread forest and environmental illegalities, especially illegal logging of rosewood and illegal mining (popularly called galamsey).

In their quest to contribute towards protecting our forest and curbing illegal logging (especially rosewood) in Ghana, GWS is implementing the “community forest monitoring project in the Mole Landscape.”

The project, among other things, seeks to strengthen and support CREMAs in protecting the Mole National Park and peripheral landscapes. In this regard, four CREMAs fringing the Mole National Park were trained in the use of the environmental crime reporting app to gather evidence and report illegalities.

The CREMAs are Murugu-Mognori, Moagduri-Wuntanluri-Kuwumsaasi, Jelinkon and Chakali-Sungmaalu. While two of these CREMAs are located in the Savanna Region, the others are in the North-East and Upper West Regions of Ghana.

Twenty-five (25) CREMA members in all were trained in the use of TIMBY tools and capacities built in forest illegalities. The project also provided equipment to enable them to sustain the campaign as well as to assist in their daily activities. Each of the 25 CREMA members received a Samsung phone, a raincoat, wellington boot, cutlass and water bottle. The participants will be reporting illegalities such as illegal logging, poaching and charcoal burning in and around the forest, as well as other forest offences.

GWS and EIA hope to use the report generated to continue its campaign against forest illegalities, advocating for better monitoring and equipping the Forestry Commission and other state agencies to protect our natural resources and push for better enforcement of the law.

TIMBER MILLERS TRAINED TO USE INDUSTRY PORTAL OF WOOD TRACKING SYSTEM



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use the portal for their business.

At the end of the four (4) trainings, some participants testified of the benefits derived and thanked the organizers for the initiative.

In their assessment of the training, they said the portal is a tool for great transparency which will enhance the work they do. Nonetheless, they requested that the training be organized every six months as most of them are not ICT inclined.

© NDF Forestry Commission Officer coaching Timber Millers on the use of the portal

Source: Nature and Development Foundation

Source: Ghana Wildlife Society

JOIN FORCES FOR FOREST SECTOR SOLUTIONS - GHANA, EU TOLD

Mr. Roberto Schiliro- Team Leader Infrastructure and Sustainable Development of EU- recognised the need for Ghana and the EU to join forces and find solutions in spite of the differences in cultures and ways of doing things due to the mutual dependence on forests.

Mr. Schiliro, who was speaking at the closeout meeting of the project titled "Collecting Data to Contribute to Implementation of Ghana's VPA Impact Monitoring Framework", welcomed the collaboration between the Ghanaian government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the indigenous communities in the VPA process which is lacking in other sectors.

He described the FLEGT-VPA dialogue as a marathon whose last mile must be accomplished, acknowledging "the need for scientific evidence to enable us establish baselines, indicators and solid scientific data



collections to benchmark where we are coming from, going and whether or not we are doing enough."

In 2009, Ghana signed a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) with the European Union (EU) to trade in legal timber in both the domestic and export markets with the ultimate aim of issuing FLEGT licenses as prove of the legality of

the timber. Article 17 of the VPA enjoins the parties (Ghana and EU) to develop better understanding of the impact of implementing VPA on the livelihoods of potentially affected stakeholders.

Consequently, a Joint Team on Impact Monitoring (JTIM) developed a VPA Impact Monitoring (IM) framework for monitoring VPA implementation impact in 7 key areas, namely livelihoods, forest conditions, forest governance, market performance, forest management, revenue generation and the VPA stakeholder deliberative process.

The Assistant FAO Representative to Ghana, Mr. Benjamin M. Adjei welcomed the exercise undertaken by Civic Response and noted that the findings call for concerted action. He advised that going forward, there is the need to find a way to craft messages in a way that politicians can buy into.

Mr. Chris Beeko, Director of the Timber Validation Department of the Forestry Commission who was the chairman for the occasion, noted, that Ghana has been attempting to put in place systems that assure markets that the country is able to fulfil all legal requirements to lift timber consignments to trade, and the FLEGT-VPA initiative helps to effectively communicate the country's compliance to its own laws.

He advised that Ghana should aim at ensuring that citizens obey the laws and that no one is disadvantaged in the process.

The Head of Programmes at Civic Response, Mr. Albert Katoko, identified Covid-19 as a major challenge in implementing the project. According to him, the outbreak of the disease delayed the field work particularly the data collection.

With regards to indicator number 10 of Forest Conditions (FC 10), which has to do with the ratio of illegal timber to legal timber in both the formal and informal sectors, he disclosed that after deliberations with the Team on Impact Monitoring (JTIM), a decision was taken to collect data on a national scale instead of the initial plan to do so in only 5 Forest Window Districts (FWDs).

Unfortunately, the project could not support that. However, a small task team put together has developed the building blocks for data collection on a national scale on FC 10.

Civic Response and ResourceTrust Network under the auspices of the FAO-EU FLEGT Programme with funding from EU, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and UKAid, implemented the project.

Source: Civic Response

Preserving biodiversity: Effective, lasting solutions based on science and innovation



The agri-food sector is a key player in the management of biodiversity as well as its custodian, he said in his opening remarks.

The CGRFA is the only permanent intergovernmental body that specifically addresses all biological diversity for food and agriculture, and aims to reach international consensus on policies for the sustainable use and conservation of genetic resources for food and agriculture, as well as the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from their use.

The week-long session addressed an array of issues in relation to genetic resources for food and agriculture. It also focused on devising and implementing global action plans for animal, aquatic, forest and plant genetic resources - and digging deeper into the worlds of micro-organisms and pollinators.

The Commission also considered a policy response to the first ever global assessment of The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture.

Source: fao.org

© FAO Making herbal medicines from roots and trunks in Kenya.

FAO Director-General has opened the 18th Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (CGRFA) in Rome.

Emphasizing the need to "produce more with less", QU Dongyu, Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), urged all stakeholders in agri-food systems to upscale science and innovation and find "effective and long-lasting solutions" to support biodiversity.

'FOOD BASKET' FARMERS APPEAL FOR FOOD SECURITY SUPPORT

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Mr. Gyau Peprah, a teacher and farmer in Anomatoa added that *"when we needed the rain to help our maize to grow, it didn't, but now that we need the sun to help our maize to dry, it's raining heavily and our maize is rotting in our farms"*.

Alhaji Issah, a rice farmer in Bonsua in the Offinso Municipality also lamented how he lost his ten (10) acre rice farm due to flooding since the rains are falling at a time they expected dry weather conditions.

Another key challenge identified by the farmers is the lack of access to farm inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides and seedlings.

Mr. Samuel Yeboah, a vegetable farmer at Tanoso in the Offinso North District stated that, *"these days we struggle to get seedlings and fertilizers to buy on the market, the government used to give us seedlings through the Department of Agriculture (DoA), however, they instructed us to buy them from the market, but sometimes we don't get some to buy"*. He added that the



prices for fertilizers have increased astronomically due to its shortage making it too expensive for smallholder farmers to afford. The farmers also expressed concern about their limited knowledge on the varieties of seedlings, pesticides and fertilizers to purchase and how to effectively apply them.

They stated that, even though they occasionally receive training from Agricultural Extension Officers, it isn't enough.

The farmers further bemoan the high cost of farming and the low farm gate and market prices for their commodities and called on the government to institute measures to control how much their product is sold.

They appealed to all stakeholders, especially the government to come to their aid in helping them protect their livelihoods. *"We need capacity building on climate-smart agriculture, we need places*

to store our products and a policy that regulate the cost of agricultural products and its measurement.

Farmers are the backbone of Ghana's economy and our needs must be a priority on the national agenda", stated Nana Kyeremeh, the Odekro of Sreso in the Techiman Municipal Assembly.

Source: Ecocare Ghana

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ABOUT NDF

The Nature & Development Foundation (NDF) was legally established in November 2013 in Ghana as a non-profit organization, limited by guarantee. It was born out of the long presence of WWF in Ghana and across the West African region.

The foundation has a mission to help build a society in which human development and nature conservation complement each other. At NDF, we believe ways exist to balance the needs of development with sustainable land uses that do not threaten forest, biodiversity and forest dependent livelihoods of the region.

We collaborate with Government's, Local communities, Private Sectors and other stakeholders to balance the needs of development with sustainable land uses.

Though currently active in Ghana, we aim to increase our activities in Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia in the future. For more information; Visit www.ndfwestafrica.org Or call TEL: +233-302-903-359



ABOUT ECOCARE GHANA

EcoCare Ghana is a rights-based campaign and advocacy organization duly registered and licensed to operate as a local non-

governmental organization. We focus on policy and practices around community rights and forests, and how it relates to development, climate change, wildlife conservation, agriculture and other land-use options. We seek to positively impact the livelihoods of resource communities for them to meaningfully contribute and equitably benefit and develop from resource use.

We want to see transformed and well-to-do communities protecting resources and contributing to national development. We are driven by the zeal and enthusiasm to ensure that NRE policies address the need of local people. EcoCare Ghana seeks to build strategic partnerships with like-minded local and international organizations that share our principles and values. We operate as a flat organization with open-door policy that promote gender-mainstreaming and equal opportunities for all; irrespective of race, religion or sex

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