

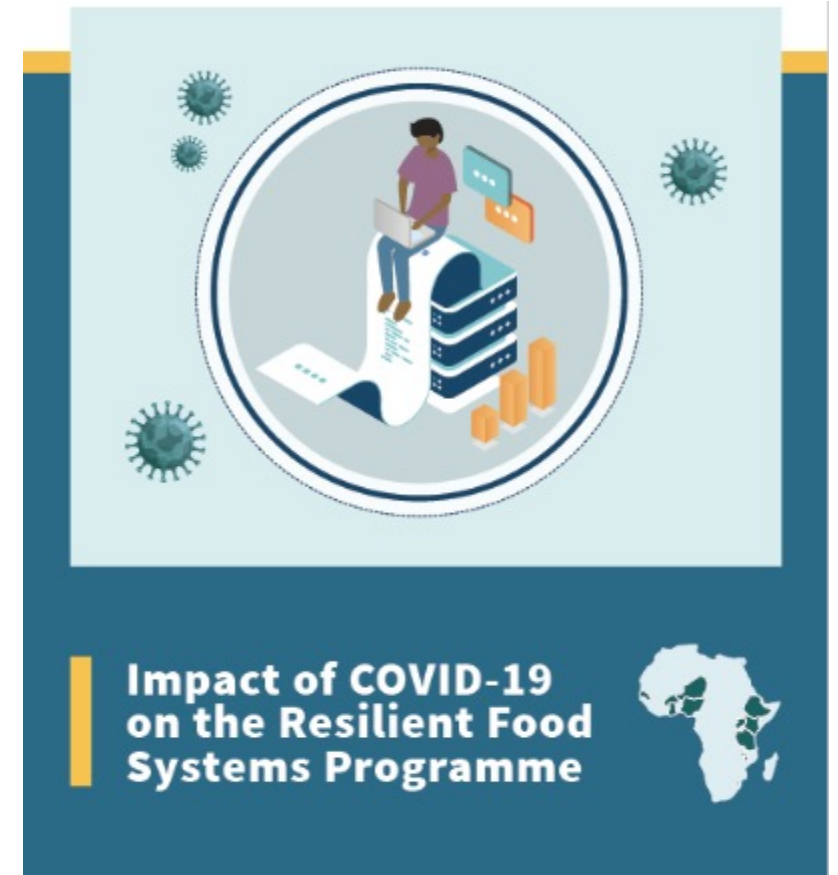
# Country Name: Ghana Sustainable Land and Water Management Project (SLWMP)

Presenter : Isaac Charles Acquah Jnr

Affiliation : Project Coordinator

# COVID-19 status and implications for projects efforts

- Project was officially to close on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 but due to COVID-19, there was extension of project closure to 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2021.
- Project had completed most of its activities however, COVID 19 halted some activities such as
  - Community sensitizations and trainings on environmental , fire management issues and water users teams**
  - Field Monitoring activities**
  - exchange visit to Zambia for the extension officers**





VSLA

## Highlights June 2020 - August 2021

During the period under review, these are the major activities undertaken by the Project

- 2,798 farmers were supported with farm inputs to implement SLM technologies on 604 ha of land
- 48 demonstration/farmer field schools were established
- A total of 85 Village Savings and Loans Association groups have been formed and trained in 55 communities. It comprises 49 males and 2,501 females.
- A total of 50 copies of Western Wildlife Management Plan made ready and distributed to stakeholders across the 5 northern Regions of Ghana

Teak tree growing



Stone lining



Gari processing facility



Shea processing facility

## Project Highlights June 2020 - August 2021

- Supported 2 communities (Bujan and Takorayili) with shea processing centre
- Supported 1 community (Sori No 1) (with Gari Processing facility which was commissioned by the sector Minister
- Fire education was conducted in twenty-three (23) communities in the Lawra Forest District.
- Engaged a consultant for the development of the project completion report

## Project approach and accomplishments related to gender/youth transformation and mainstreaming

- The participation of more women than men in the project started with the sensitization and mobilization of communities for project implementation.
- Women dominated attendance at most of the initial community engagement sessions. The participatory approach to the planning of subprojects encouraged women to participate fully in discussions at the community level to identify environmental and natural resource challenges and to propose appropriate subprojects to address the challenges.
- The project gave equal opportunity to men and women to be trained in and to implement SLWM practices on their farms. There was no gender-based discrimination in the selection of beneficiary farmers and in the provision of training and inputs as well as in the preparation of plots of land for farming.
- The project also provided focused livelihood support to women-dominated subprojects. Interventions such as the establishment of shea nut processing facilities and cassava processing facilities were geared specifically to support women to improve upon their income generating capacities



# Challenges faced and how they were addressed

- Inadequate Government Extension officers to handle the large number of beneficiary farmers
  - ❑ The project trained 129 lead farmers to provide extension to their colleague farmers to augment the work of the Government extension officers.
- Inability to visit some beneficiary farms during the rainy season
  - ❑ Project supported officers with motorbikes and also the Community Watershed Management Teams with bicycles for easy access to these farms
- Due to the participatory approach and demonstration of benefits of implementing the project , more farmers and community members expressed interest but funds were limited
  - ❑ The project encouraged non beneficiary farmers to uptake some of these technologies with support from the extension officers.
  - ❑ Possibility of sourcing for more funds
  - ❑ Introduction of the VSLA as a way of sustaining and promoting the project interventions
- Bush fires destroying some of project tree growing intervention
  - ❑ trained fire volunteer squads , created fire belts

# Most important lessons learned from the project

- Awareness creation and capacity development from the beginning is important for project support and achievement of results
- SLWMP adoption of multi agencies approach to tackle land degradation was relevant.
- Participatory approach to watershed planning and management engendered ownership for sustainability.
- The adoption of more than one SLM technology on the same field increased the relevance, effectiveness and efficiency due to their complementary functions
- Provision of inputs and extension services at no cost promoted the adoption of SLM technologies
- Active participation of women in community project promote effective implementation of project interventions and the achievement of project results

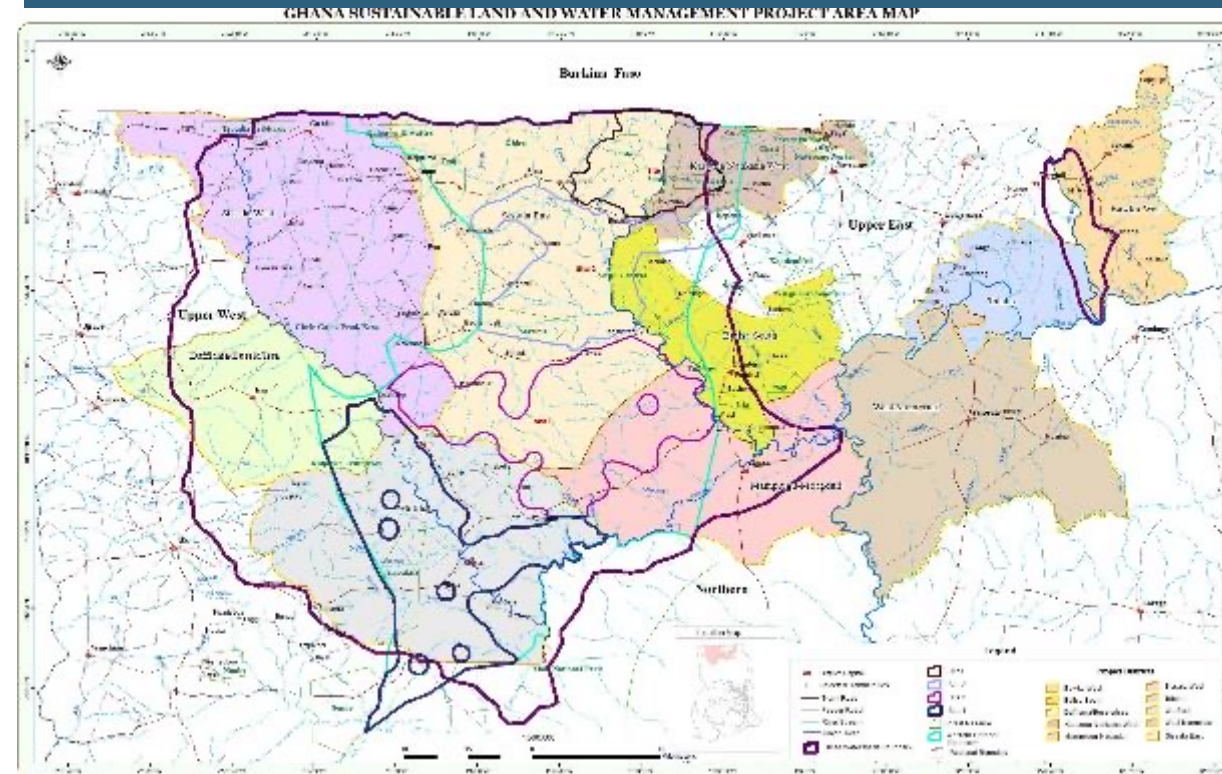
What part of your project would you want to feature as a case study for RFS to inspire others?

**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.

Interconnecting Ecosystems – Protected Areas , Forest Reserves, Agricultural Landscape, CREMAs





# Planned activities 2022

- Project activities ended in May 31<sup>st</sup> 2021

However, the Government of Ghana (GoG) under the leadership of the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) and the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources (MLNR), with a blend of funding streams from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the PROGREEN Multi-donor Trust Fund, Extractives Global Programmatic Support (EGPS) Multi-Donor Trust Fund and International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank Group, is about to implement the Ghana Landscape Restoration and Small Scale Mining Project (GLRSSMP).

The GLRSSMP builds on the implementation record and lessons from the Ghana Sustainable Land and Water Management Project (SLWMP) and the Ghana Forest Investment Project (FIP).



# Contact Details

Isaac Charles Acquah Jnr  
Project Coordinator  
Environmental Protection Agency –  
Ghana  
+233 24 300 4082



[resilientfoodafrica.org](http://resilientfoodafrica.org)

