

# WORKSHOP REPORT

## DISTRICT LEVEL STAKEHOLDERS ENGAGEMENT ON REDDES IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES IN GHANA

MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY HALL, OFFINSO TOWNSHIP, 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2012



PREPARED BY:



---

International Union of Forest Research Organisations  
Forestry Research Network of Sub-Saharan Africa  
International Tropical Timber Organisation

## Table of Content

Acronyms and Abbreviations.....	II
Executive Summary.....	III
1.0 Introduction.....	1
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Attendance and Approaches.....	2
1.3 Opening remarks, workshop objectives and welcome address.....	2
2.0 Presentations.....	3
2.1 Presentation 1: Overview of deforestation and climate change in Offinso forest district.....	3
2.2 Presentation 2: Overview of REDD+ and PES Concepts.....	4
2.3 Plenary Discussions.....	5
3.0 Survey Questionnaire administration.....	7
4.0 Breakout Groups.....	7
4.1 Group 1: Deforestation and forest degradation (DFD).....	8
4.2 Group 2: Tenure and rights.....	9
4.3 Group 3: Benefit sharing and compensation (including PES).....	10
5.0 Plenary Discussions.....	11
6.0 Conclusion.....	12
Appendix 1: Workshop programme.....	13
Appendix 2: Sample Survey Questionnaire.....	14
Appendix 3: Sample Focus Group Discussion Questions.....	22
Appendix 4: List of Participants.....	23

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
DFD	Deforestation and Forest Degradation
FC	Forestry Commission (Ghana)
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FORIG	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana
FORNESSA	Forestry Research Network of Sub-Sahara Africa
FSD	Forest Services Division
GHG	Green House Gases
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUFRO	International Union of Forest Research Organisations
MCE	Municipal Chief Executive
MDAs	Municipal and District Assemblies
MEA	Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organization
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
PES	Payment for Environmental Services
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation including the role of conservation, enhancement of carbon stocks and sustainable forest management
REDDES	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services from Forests
TBI-Ghana	Tropenbos International-Ghana
UN	United Nations
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

### **Executive summary**

Forests in Ghana play important roles in providing and maintaining ecosystem services. However these services are threatened as a result of continuous deforestation and forest degradation and without adequate policies and measures, clearing of forests will have negative consequences for climate change and biological diversity. To design appropriate measures which will be acceptable in addressing these challenges, it is imperative to understand the complex factors which impact forest ecosystems and their productive capacities at the local scale. The capacity to generate this information at the local level is however lacking in most African countries.

As part of efforts to strengthen capacities in Sub-saharan Africa to efficiently address deforestation and forest degradation, as well as improve forest ecosystem services, IUFRO and FORNESSA with financial support from ITTO are implementing a project in some selected countries including Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon and Liberia. The aim is to strengthen the capacity of African countries to generate and disseminate information to stakeholders especially policy makers on reducing deforestation and degradation and improving services from the forests. This one-day workshop was therefore organised in Offinso Township Hall for key stakeholders especially local level decision-makers in the Offinso South Municipality and Offinso North District in the Ashanti Region of Ghana to deliberate on challenges faced at the local level, and potential strategies for addressing REDDES which are workable under prevailing local circumstances.

A total of 36 participants drawn from statutory local government and community level organisations, research organisations, NGOs and private organisations in the area attended the workshop. The workshop was organised in four sessions. The first session dealt with various presentations including overview of deforestation and climate change in the Offinso forest district, and overview of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation and Enhancement of Environmental Services (REDDES) including Payment for Environmental Services (PES). The second session focused on the survey questionnaire, where participants answered questions mostly dealing with critical issues on REDDES. The third session involved focus group discussions on pertinent issues relevant for success of implementation of REDDES approaches, and the last session concluded on plenary discussions based on presentation from each group.

## **1.0 Introduction**

### **1.1 Background**

Forests in Ghana play important roles in providing and maintaining ecosystem services. However these services are threatened as a result of deforestation and forest degradation. Apart from impacts on biological diversity, deforestation and forest degradation are also important sources of anthropogenic greenhouse gases (GHGs). On the global scale, deforestation and forest degradation, mostly in tropical forests accounts for almost 20% of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. Reducing deforestation has in recent times been identified as a potential strategy for achieving global emission reduction targets in a cost-effective manner. Moreover since biodiversity is strongly linked to the provision and maintenance of forest ecosystem services, their loss and degradation may negatively affect the capacity of forests to provide goods and services. Without adequate policies and measures, clearing of forests in developing countries will continue to impact negatively on climate change and biological diversity.

An international REDD+ mechanism is anticipated to emerge from the current negotiations for a post-2012 climate change regime under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). This mechanism is aimed at generating financial flows for forest related activities which lead CO<sub>2</sub> reductions and removals, and in line with the Bali Action Plan and Copenhagen Accord, REDD+ also includes measures to promote conservation, sustainable forest management and enhancement of carbon stocks. The promotion of conservation strategies and sustainable forest management in general can help secure the survival of forest ecosystems and enhance their social, economic and ecological functions. To design appropriate measures which will be acceptable in addressing these challenges it is imperative to understand the complex factors which impact forest ecosystems and their productive capacities at the local scale. The capacity to generate this information at the local level is however lacking in most African countries.

As part of efforts to strengthen capacities in Sub-saharan Africa to efficiently address deforestation and forest degradation, as well as improve forest ecosystem services, IUFRO and FORNESSA with financial support from ITTO are implementing a project in some selected countries including Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon and Liberia. The aim is to strengthen the capacity of African countries to generate and disseminate information to stakeholders especially policy makers on reducing deforestation and degradation and improving services from the forests. The workshop which is a component of the project was therefore designed to provide a platform for key stakeholders especially local level decision-makers in the Offinso South Municipality and Offinso North District in the Ashanti Region of Ghana to deliberate on challenges faced at the local level, and potential strategies for addressing REDDES which are workable under prevailing local circumstances.

## **1.2 Attendance and Approaches**

The workshop was attended by a total of 36 participants drawn from statutory local government and community level organisations, research organisations, NGOs and private organisations in the Offinso South Municipal and Offinso North District. The stakeholder groups included, but not limited to the Municipal and District Assemblies (MDAs), Information Service Department, Forest Service Division, Ghana Police Service, the Judicial Service, traditional rulers, farmer groups, private plantation developers and other relevant agencies such as the Ministry of Health (cf. complete list of participants in Appendix 4). The presence of the Municipal Chief Executive (MCE) for Offinso South Municipal Assembly underscored the relevance of the workshop to natural resources management decision-making process in the area.

The workshop was organised in four sessions. The first session dealt with various presentations including overview of deforestation and climate change in the Offinso forest district, and overview of Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation and Enhancement of Environmental Services (REDD+ES) including Payment for Environmental Services (PES). The second session focused on the survey questionnaire, where participants answered questions dealing with critical issues influencing deforestation and forest ecosystem services provisions, and workable strategies for REDD+ES implementation in the area. The third session involved focus group discussions on pertinent issues relevant for success of implementation of REDD+ES approaches. This session also included the taking of notes by rapporteurs. The last session concluded on a presentation from each group, and closing remarks from the chairman.

## **1.3 Opening remarks, workshop objectives and welcome address**

The workshop started with opening remarks from Dr. Lawrence Damnyag of CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana, after a prayer from Mr. Shalom Addo-Danso. He welcomed all the participants and highlighted the relevance of the workshop in finding workable strategies for reducing deforestation and improving services from forest ecosystems in the area. He outlined the objectives of the workshop as;

- To deliberate on challenges of deforestation and forest degradation, and impacts on different sectors of the local economy
- Identify and prioritise workable approaches to address deforestation and enhance environmental services based on existing socio-economic situation in both areas

He later introduced Mr. Ernest Nkansah (the District Manager of FSD) as the chairman for the occasion. The chairman took over, and requested participants to introduce themselves. The welcome address was given by the Deputy District Coordinating Director for Offinso South Municipal, Mr. Richard Blevi on behalf of the Municipal Chief Executive who was engaged in another meeting. He acknowledged the relevance of the forest resources to the local economy and livelihood of people in the municipality. He however regretted that from the early 1980s forest, and other natural resources in the area have depleted at alarming rate, and there was therefore the need for urgent measures to address the situation. Mr. Blevi therefore called on participants to come out with strategies which could help improve the situation and gave assurance that the assembly is willing to support such programs. The MCE later came, and was given the opportunity to address participants. He noted that the assembly was ready to adopt, and implement the strategies which would come out of the workshop to ensure that services from the forests are improved.

## 2.0 Presentations

Two presentations were made. The first focused on current challenge of deforestation and climate change in the area, and their impacts. The second presentation also gave an overview of REDD+ and Payment for Environmental Services (PES) concepts, and how relevant they are in addressing forest management in the district. These presentations were followed with some questions, and discussions.

### 2.1 Presentation 1: Overview of deforestation and climate change in Offinso forest district (Mr. Shalom D. Addo-Danso)

Mr. Shalom Addo-Danso from CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG) gave the first presentation on the above topic. His presentation was divided into three sections namely; the forest district's dependence on forest-based products, forest depletion and impacts, as well as climate change and its impacts on livelihoods and ecosystems. He noted that local communities in the Offinso forest district (comprising both Offinso South Municipal and Offinso North District) depend mainly on rain-fed agriculture and forest-based products for their livelihood. However the area has over the years experienced high rates of deforestation and forest degradation due to several factors such as wildfire and illegal logging, gradually changing the vegetation to grassland.

Mr. Addo-Danso further noted that the continued loss has led decline in rural income, declined watersheds, and most importantly biodiversity loss and climate change. He later gave a synthesis of climate change trends in the area based on studies conducted by scientists from the CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana and information compiled through the IUFRO Adaptation of forest ecosystems and people study<sup>1</sup>. He further indicated that there was a general increase in temperature, but rainfall pattern has become erratic and consistently reducing. The trends have led to decline in non-timber products like mushrooms, crop failure, decline in portable water supply, and health problems. In conclusion he reiterated the urgent need to address challenges pose by deforestation and climate change to ecosystems and people in order not to exacerbate the already precarious situation confronting policy makers at the local level.



**Fig.1: Mr. Richard Blevi, Deputy Coordinating Director for Offinso South Municipal Assembly given the welcome address**



**Fig.2: Participants listening to the various presentations**

---

Kleine, M., Foli, E., Makungya, S. (2011). Enhancing adaptation of forests and people in Africa. Development of pilot cases for selected ecosystems in Ghana and Malawi. Pg. 68

## 2.2 Presentation 2: Overview of REDD+ and PES Concepts

Dr. Lawrence Damnyag also from CSIR-FORIG gave the second presentation on the concepts of REDD+ and PES, and their relevance in dealing with deforestation and forest degradation and efforts at improving forest ecosystem services. He started by explaining REDD+, and what each letter stands for, and the relevance of the initiative. He stated earlier that REDD+ was an international forestry initiative aimed at compensating developing countries for CO<sub>2</sub> reduction actions from their forests. He however said the initiative was yet to be included in future negotiations on climate change mitigation actions, and was still under discussions.

Dr. Damnyag further explained the current efforts underway in Ghana regarding REDD+, and later went through the various phases and the required elements of a national REDD+ structure. He informed participants that Ghana was at the latter parts of the first phase, and has also started the second phase of implementation under the UN-FCPF. Under the final stages of the countries readiness plan, pilot projects have started in some parts of the country to pilot certain projects. Moreover the current 1994 Forest and Wildlife Policy was under review to ensure that measures are put in place to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. He explained that the REDD+ initiative refers to a phased approach as follows;

### I) Phase 1:

- Readiness phase: prepare a national REDD+ strategy;
- Build capacity in Measuring Reporting and Verification (MRV);
- Demonstration activities.

### II) Phase 2:

- Make policies and measures to reduce emissions.

### III) Phase 3

- Full UNFCCC compliance REDD+ countries paid for reduced emissions and enhanced carbon stocks relative to agreed reference level;
- Advantage of phase approach-flexibility

He later gave a brief on the elements of a national REDD+ structure which are necessary for any country to benefit from the initiative. The structure is presented below;

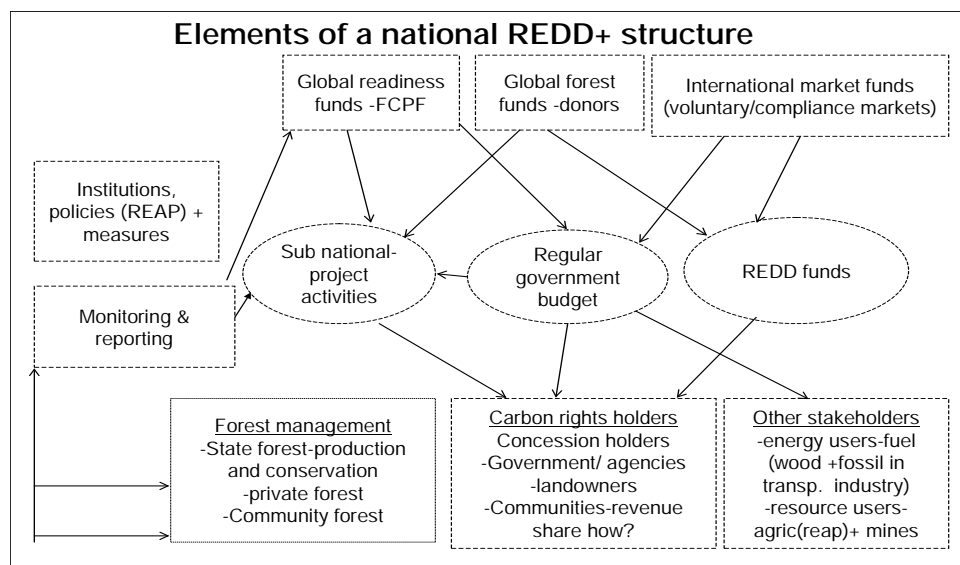


Fig.3: Schematic view of the elements of a national REDD+ structure



Dr. Damnyag concluded his presentation on the REDD+ concept by indicating that certain issues and concerns must be addressed at both the international and national levels to make the implementation of the initiative successful. These include;

- Leakages
- Additionality
- Monitoring, reporting and verifications (MRV)
- Reference level
- Revenue distribution: whether international, national or local?
- Cost and certification standards
- Whether REDD+ should start as project-based?
- Involvement of other relevant stakeholders and sectors: Agriculture, mining, transportation industry
- REDD+ safeguards? to cater for negative impacts e.g. Environmental & Social

He later touched on the concept of PES by first explaining what ecosystem/environmental services were, and their broad categories. He noted that according to the United Nations, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MEA) report, ecosystem services are categorized into four namely;

- Provisioning: production of food and water;
- Regulating: control of climate and disease;
- Supporting: nutrient cycles and crop pollination; and
- Cultural: spiritual and recreational benefits (e.g., sacred groves, etc).

He further explained that PES is an economic instrument which was introduced to provide incentives to land owners to supply environmental services which generally benefit society.

### 2.3 Plenary Discussions

After the presentations there was opportunity for questions and clarifications from the presenters. The questions and answers provided are given below;

Q. How do we deal with the influence of rural population increase on deforestation and forest degradation?

A. Innovative ways should be found to maximize productivity of lands eg. agroforestry practices. Governments should also provide job opportunities by creating the right environment for private sector investment.

Q. How sustainable will the REDD+ initiative be?

A. There are safeguards which are supposed to be in place to ensure its sustainability. Moreover brainstorming workshops as this is important to get views from stakeholders on how to ensure that the initiative delivers.

Q. What is the difference between deforestation and forest degradation?

A. Deforestation is complete conversion of forest to other land-uses for instance to agriculture, and forest degradation is the reduction of the capacity of forests to produce goods and services

Q. What are measures that can be put in place to control wildfire in the area since the district is a fire-prone area?

A. There is the possibility to extend plantation of fire resistant species in the area which are of economic benefits in terms of timber and charcoal production.

This is from the backdrop that FORIG recently carried out a study around Techiman and found that though the place is problems with wildfire, some species are still growing very well and are able to resist the fire because of the nature of the bark. There is also the need for more education and awareness creation since most fires are human-induced.

Q. Is the benefit from REDD+ and PES sufficient for a farmer/landowner who could use his land for agriculture?

A. It is important to look at the broad benefit of ecosystem services to the nation as a whole nation and not only the individual farmer.

The major discussion points which ensued are summarised as follows;

- Training of rural communities as fire volunteers must intensify and, these volunteers must be provided with incentives to encourage them to work
- Awareness creation and education on the relevance of services and goods from forests to local communities must be given a priority to get their support in the management and control of forest resources
- Forests in the country should be managed well to continue to provide the goods and services required by people irrespective of REDD+
- Improved agricultural system should be promoted, and government should provide alternative livelihood options for local communities.
- Government should provide employment opportunities for the youth especially in local communities
- Local communities must be made aware of the costs associated with deforestation and forest degradation

### 3.0 Survey Questionnaire administration

One of the main methodologies agreed for the study was the use of questionnaire to solicit views from participants on a wide range of issues regarding emission reduction from deforestation and forest degradation and improving forest ecosystem services. The next session was therefore used to administer survey questionnaires to participants. The questionnaire was designed to be used by all participating countries, but flexible enough for modifications to meet specific country needs. Information collected generally focused on awareness of forest ecosystem services and their importance, forest and tree tenure arrangements, deforestation and forest degradation and remedial measures, the involvement of various organisations in addressing REDDES, and general practices and measures necessary for maintaining ecosystem services. A sample of questionnaire is found in Appendix 2.



Fig.4: Participants filling the survey questionnaire on critical issues relevant for addressing REDDES

### 4.0 Breakout Groups

One major approach adopted by the study was to use multi-stakeholder engagement to review some critical issues relevant for developing and implementing strategies to address REDDES in the study area. There were three thematic areas covered; deforestation and forest degradation, tenure and rights and benefit sharing and compensation (including PES). Each thematic area had a number of sub-themes which generally covered important issues under those main concerns. The participants were divided into three groups through a random selection process to avoid undue influence from views of particularly stakeholder group. Representatives from the same organisation were distributed among the groups to avoid the tendency of moving discussions in one direction.

The participant from FORM-International Ghana was however co-opted into the group which discussed deforestation and forest degradation due to the experience of the organisation in plantation development in Offinso North district. There was a deliberate effort to ensure each group had a fair representation of women. The discussions did not follow any rigid format, but moderators agreed with their members on the form suitable to get responses to issues. Each group had an hour to address the issues under the thematic area, and a rapporteur to record proceedings. The following summaries provide an overview of responses, comments and other relevant outcomes of the group discussions.

#### 4.1 Group 1: Deforestation and forest degradation (DFD)

The issues discussed under this thematic area are;

- 1.1. What are your thoughts about deforestation and degradation?
- 1.2. What are the causes, and effects on livelihoods, community development and the environment?
- 1.3. How can it be addressed?
- 1.4. What roles can the various institutions play to address deforestation and forest degradation?
- 1.5. What do they think about alternative livelihoods options, and their roles in forest management?
- 1.6. Any other relevant issues

The moderator was Mrs. Stella B. Acquah, with Miss Dorcas Gyimah as the rapporteur.

Question	Responses and Comments	Remarks
1.1	Clearing of lands to plant cocoa	
1.2	<u>Causes</u> Illegal logging and farming in the forest Poverty, and over population Practicing taungya system Expansion of settlements Inadequate forest guards Elimination of chiefs from forest decision-making process Ineffective monitoring Poor execution of laws <u>Effects</u> Irregular rainfall Drying up of streams	
1.3	Laws must be reviewed to meet current demands and enforced  Modified taungya system  Employment opportunities for local youth	Taungya system only works well, when farmers work on the lands given them effectively and obey laws associated with it
1.4	Plantation development must be encouraged  Chiefs must give room for private development in their communities especially in the forest	
1.5	Snail and grasscutter rearing are not enough  Taungya system must be managed well to ensure its sustainability	General consensus from group members was that control of deforestation and forest degradation is

		the responsibility of all
--	--	---------------------------

#### 4.2 Group 2: Tenure and rights

The issues discussed under this thematic area are;

- 2.1. What is your opinion of existing tenure arrangements?
- 2.2. How are they influencing the way they use forest resources?
- 2.3. How can they be improved to enhance forest management and ensure maintenance of ecosystem services?
- 2.4. Any other relevant issues

The moderator was Dr. Emmanuel Marfo, and note taker was Mrs. Ewurama Andoh.

Question	Responses and Comments	Remarks
2.1	Ownership rights on trees have been bestowed on the government and what is left to the farmer is very minimal.  Farmers are not involved in decisions concerning lands	Value on trees should be communicated well to farmers and other tree users
2.2	Lack of community involvement in the law enforcement process  When communities appreciate what the government is doing they will give information easily  Trust should built between the government, police and the farmers	
2.3	Accessibility of trees should be easy and some species importance must be known to us all.	
2.4	<u>How can we empower our farmers on tree planting?</u> Education on unnecessarily burning of trees  People should change their life style  We only encourage planting of teak. We also need to educate people on the importance of other trees.	The involvement of private partners would help  If every minister of state plant a tree in his term of office and his name embedded on it before he/she leave office it will encourage other people to do same. Local communities can have practice to plant a tree when

		a child is born as is done in Kenya to even indicate the age of trees
--	--	---



Fig.5: Mrs. Stella Acquah moderating Group 1 as members look on

Fig.6: Goup member making contribution

#### 4.3 Group 3: Benefit sharing and compensation (including PES)

The issues discussed under this thematic area are;

- 3.1. What do you think about paying compensation to local communities for their roles in maintaining forest ecosystems?
- 3.2. How can any benefits be shared?
- 3.3. How do you expect the benefits to flow?
- 3.4. Any other relevant issues

This thematic area was moderated by Dr. Lawrence Damnyag, and Miss Jacqueline Twintoh took the notes.

Question	Responses and Comments	Remarks
3.1	All agreed that communities should be paid to serve as motivation.	An example was cited as some 11 people in Awurapata around Techiman who were given part of the degraded forest for reforestation upon request were later rewarded with tools and financial incentives
3.2	The direct communities involved in helping to maintain ecosystem services should be identified and rewarded  The benefit should go to the chiefs, then to the community and eventually to the individuals who are directly involved	

3.3	<p>The flow should be at a considerable interval to ensure monitoring</p> <p>From time to time payment of benefit will help avoid people feeling neglected</p>	
3.4	<p>There should be proper documentation or structural arrangement</p> <p>The scheme should have accountability modalities</p> <p>Rules and modalities should be put before the commencement of any payment scheme</p> <p>Capacity building and succession plan are relevant</p> <p>Education and sensitization of local communities on the importance of any payment scheme to them to have a sense of belonging</p>	<p>Although capacity building activities are important, they should not overshadow the main activities in terms of cost.</p>

### 5.0 Plenary Discussions

During the last session a representative from each group presented the outcomes from the discussions to all the participants for further discussions. The chair then closed the meeting by given his concluding remarks. He stressed the need for urgent measures to be taken since deforestation in the area is alarming, with consequences on biological diversity. The workshop had provided a platform for all relevant stakeholders to discuss the issues, and it was important that the agreed measures are implemented to address the situation. He further noted that Kenya and Nigeria were already benefiting from REDD+, and Ghana should therefore address all necessary issues for local communities especially to benefit from the initiative.



Fig.7:Mr. Obed Addai of Group 1 given summaries of discussions



Fig.8: The chair addressing participants with him seated is the MCE for Offinso South Municipality, Hon. Baffour Kesse.

## **6.0 Conclusion**

Deforestation and forest degradation are a major challenge for the forest district, with consequences for provision of forest ecosystem services. It is therefore important to design strategies which can help deal with this challenge. Developing these strategies with the involvement of key stakeholders especially local policy decision-makers has the potential to make them more acceptable, and thus increase the likelihood of successful implementation. This workshop organised under the ITTO/IUFRO REDDES project therefore provided the platform for stakeholders to agree on preferred strategies if implemented could help address deforestation, and improve services from forests in the two areas.



## Appendix 1: Workshop Programme

Programme- Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services from Forests (REDDES) District Level Stakeholder Workshop, 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2012

Venue: Offinso Municipal Assembly Hall, Offinso Township

Time	Activity	Presenter	Chairman	
08:30-09:00	Arrival of Participants and Registration	Organisers	District Manager-Forest Services Division	
09:00-09:40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening prayer</li> <li>• Opening Remarks</li> <li>• Welcome address</li> <li>• Workshop Objectives and Participant Introduction</li> <li>• Overview of deforestation and climate change in Offinso Forest District</li> <li>• Overview of REDDES(including Payment for Environmental Services)</li> </ul>	Mr. Shalom Addo-Danso  Dr. Lawrence Damnyag  MCE-Offinso Municipal  Dr. Lawrence Damnyag  Mr. Shalom Addo-Danso  Dr. Lawrence Damnyag		
09:40-10:00	Questions and clarifications on presentations	Presenters		
10:00-10:30	Health Break/Group Photograph			
10:30-11:30	Completion of Questionnaire	Organisers		
11:30-12:30	Group Discussion	Dr. Emmanuel Marfo		
13:00-13:30	Summary of Group Discussions	Dr. Emmanuel Marfo		
14:00-14:15	Lunch Break			
14:15	Closing			Chairman

Appendix 2: Sample survey questionnaire

**SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE-DISTRICT LEVEL STAKEHOLDERS**

**Strengthening the Capacity of ITTO Producing Countries in Africa in Generating and Disseminating Scientific Information on Reducing Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhancing Environmental Services from Forests**

As part of efforts to address deforestation and forest degradation as well as improve environmental services from forests in tropical countries, IUFRO and FORNESSA, in conjunction with ITTO, are cooperating to conduct this study in Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia and Cameroon. The main aim of the study is to strengthen the capacity of African countries to generate and disseminate information to stakeholders especially policy makers on reducing deforestation and degradation and improving services from the forests. The information collected through this survey will serve as a basis for recommending strategies which can reduce deforestation and at same time enhance forest environmental services. It will also be useful as a guide for policy makers in making decisions about forest land use and management with regard to forest degradation and enhancement of ecosystem services.

Your participation would be very much appreciated. Thank you.

**SECTION 1: Personal/ Organisational Profile**

Q1. Name: .....

Q2. Name of Organisation/Institution: .....

.....

Q3. Position in Organisation/Institution.....

Q3b. Area of expertise .....

Q3c. District.....

Q4. Gender: Male  Female

Q5. Age

< 30 years

40-50 years

>50 years

Q6. Please indicate your highest level of education?

Certificate  Diploma  BSc  MSc  PhD

Other (please specify): .....

Q7. What is the main area of your Organisation's/Institute's work?

Extension  Management  Policy formulation

Policy enforcement  Advocacy and awareness creation

Rural development  Prevention and control

Others (please specify).....

**SECTION II: Awareness of forest ecosystem goods and services**

<sup>1</sup>Q8 (a). Are you aware of any forest ecosystem function, goods and services? (Check footnote for explanation of ecosystem function, goods and services)

Yes  No  Not sure

Q8 (b). If yes, which ones?

Provisioning  Supporting  Regulatory  Cultural

Q9. Which other services from the forests are you aware of?

Spiritual purpose  Clean water  Storm/flood protection

Poles/twines  Crop pollination  Crop protection

Erosion control  Improving air quality  Ecotourism/Aesthetics

Stores genetic resources  Soil protection  Education

Others .....

<sup>1</sup> \*\*The forest ecosystem provides the goods and services, and the goods and services are the end products beneficial to society. These include Provisioning-functions which provide goods for consumption such as food, fruit, raw materials; Supporting-functions which provide suitable living space for wild plants and animals; Regulatory-functions which provide services like clean water, air and fertile soil; Cultural-functions which enhance cultural development.



Q11(b). If yes, list them;

.....  
.....  
.....

**SECTION III: Forest and tree tenure arrangements**

Q12. Is your Organisation/Institution involved in land administration or management?

Yes  No  Not sure

Q12 (b). If yes, which activities of your organisation/Institution are relevant to land management or administration?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Q13. Are you aware of any policy (ies) relevant for land/tree tenure arrangements in the country?

Yes  No  Not sure

Q13 (b). If yes, please name them

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Q14. Please indicate if you agree or disagree to the following statements in the context of your area

	Agree	Disagree
Present national policies on land-use and management are sufficient to control deforestation and degradation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The current national policies on tree/land-use and management address the needs of farmers and landowners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local communities are very much involved in addressing issues affecting tree/land administration and management in your district	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local communities are motivated enough to retain trees on their farm and fallow lands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Present land-use and management policies are strong enough to deal with conflicts related the land-use in your district	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SECTION IV: Deforestation, forest degradation and emissions**

Q15. In your opinion, are forest cover and forest resources in your area dwindling?

Yes  No

Q15b. If yes, what are the possible causes?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Q15c. Please list the three most important causes in your opinion

I).....

II).....

III).....

Q16. Is deforestation and degradation negatively affecting the livelihoods of communities in your area?

Yes  No

Q16b. If yes, what are the negative impacts?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Q17. Are you aware of measures/initiatives addressing deforestation, degradation and emission reduction in your district?

Yes  No  Not sure

Q17b. If yes, please list:

.....  
.....  
.....

Q17c. In your opinion, what are the three most important measures/approaches in addressing deforestation and forest degradation in your area?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Q17d. Please rank the above mentioned measures in order of importance

I).....  
II).....  
III).....

Q18. Is your Organisation/Institute involved in any activity (ies) addressing deforestation, degradation and emission reduction as well as improve forest ecosystem services?

Yes  No

Q18b. If yes, please list them

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Q19. In your opinion, what should be done to maintain the environmental services that the community derives from the forest?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Q20. What should government/society do to contribute to the social and economic sustainability of forest dependent communities for the communities to collaborate more effectively in protecting the forest?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Q21. Are you aware of Payment for Environmental Services<sup>2</sup> (PES-check footnote for explanation)?

Yes  No

Q21b. If no, would like to participate in a PES scheme?

Yes  No

---

<sup>2</sup> PES- It is a monetary reward for protecting forest, and the environmental services involved. Dominant PES are payments made for carbon sequestration, biodiversity protection, watershed protection and landscape beauty.



Q21c. If yes, what in your opinion will motivate local communities to participate in such a scheme?

.....  
.....  
.....

Q21d. What do you think can be done to ensure protection of the forest ecosystem under a PES scheme?

.....  
.....  
.....

Q22. What mechanism can you suggest for an effective payment scheme for forest-based environmental services?

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

THANK YOU

## Appendix 3: Sample Focus Group Discussion Questions

### ITTO/IUFRO/FORNESSA District Level Workshop-Focus Group Discussion Main Issues

#### **1.0 Deforestation and forest degradation (DFD)**

- 1.1. What are your thoughts about deforestation and degradation?
- 1.2. What are the causes, and effects on livelihoods, community development and the environment?
- 1.3. How can it be addressed?
- 1.4. What roles can the various institutions play to address deforestation and forest degradation?
- 1.5. What do they think about alternative livelihoods options, and their roles in forest management?
- 1.6. Any other relevant issues

#### **2.0 Tenure and rights**

- 2.1. What is your opinion of existing tenure arrangements?
- 2.2. How are they influencing the way they use forest resources?
- 2.3. How can they be improved to enhance forest management and ensure maintenance of ecosystem services?
- 2.4. Any other relevant issues

#### **3.0 Benefit sharing and compensation (including PES)**

- 3.1. What do you think about paying compensation to local communities for their roles in maintaining forest ecosystems?
- 3.2. How can any benefits be shared?
- 3.3. How do you expect the benefits to flow?
- 3.4. Any other relevant issues

#### Appendix 4: List of Participants

ITTO/IUFRO/FORNESSA PROJECT DISTRICT LEVEL STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP FOR OFFINSO SOUTH MUNICIPAL AND OFFINSO NORTH DISTRICT (VENUE: OFFINSO MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY HALL); NAMES, INSTITUTION, TELEPHONE NUMBER, AND EMAIL OF PARTICIPANTS, 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2012

NO.	NAME	INSTITUTION	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NO.	EMAIL
1	Emmanuel Amenorhu	Ghana Police Service	P.O. Box 6, Offinso	0244880259	
2	Willem Fourie	Form International-Ghana	P.O. Box 8597, Ahensan, Kumasi	0544441440	w.fourie@formghana.org.
3	Nana Akom Mensah Aprampah	Afrancho Chief		0243563433	
4	Suleman A. Nayaw	National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO), Akumadan	P.O. Box 2, Offinso	0204600027	
5	Nana Osie Bonsu	Koforidua Chief	P.O. Box 94, Koforidua-Offinso	0249338693	
6	DSP Philbert Zubaviel	Ghana Police Service, Akumadan	P.O. Box 31, Akomadan	0244013128	pzubaviel@yahoo.com
7	Saviour Ailey	Ghana Police Service, Akumadan	P.O. Box 31, Akomadan	0242714469	

NO.	NAME	INSTITUTION	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NO.	EMAIL
8	Obed Owusu-Addai	Tropenbos International-Ghana	P.O. Box UP 963, KNUST, Kumasi	0203800800	greatobadiah@yahoo.com
9	Margaret Owusu	Ghana National Fire Service	G.N.F.S, Offinso	02433700584	
10	Ewuntomah Alhassan	Ghana National Fire Service	G.N.F.S, Offinso	0542002770	
11	Senanu Elizabeth	National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO), Offinso		0208208452	
12	Ernest Nkansah Kwarteng	Forest Service Division (FSD), of FC		0244702924/0208093240	
13	William Agyapong Donkor	Forest Service Division (FSD), of FC		02777353959/0202988817	
14	Stephen Nti	Information Service Department	Offinso	0242048682	

NO.	NAME	INSTITUTION	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NO.	EMAIL
15	Richard Blevi	Offinso Municipal Assembly (Deputy Coordinating Director)	P.O. Box 2, Offinso	0207333333	blevirichard@yahoo.com
16	Charles Baah	Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA)	P.O. Box 4, Offinso	0242512105	
17	Osei-Poku Gyamfi	Information Service Department	Offinso	0246220886	
18	Ibrahim Sulley	Ghana Police Service	Offinso	0246013011	sulleyibrahim28@yahoo.com
19	Edwin Sakyi	Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA)	Akomadan	0242028116	
20	Abdullai Yahaya	Ghana Judicial Service	P.O. Box 82, Offinso	0243420483	yeddor@gmail.com
21	Tony Kwenin	Offinso North District Assembly (District Coordinating Director)	Akomadan	0208082900	tonykwenin@yahoo.com

NO.	NAME	INSTITUTION	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NO.	EMAIL
22	George O. Boateng	Ghana Judicial Service	P.O. Box 82, Offinso	0243724631	
23	Bosompem E.O.	Ghana Irrigation Development Authority	P.O. Box 46, Akomadan	0242201960	bosomeo@yahoo.com
24	Evelyn Acquah	Offinso Municipal Assembly	P.O. Box 2, Offinso	0244977272	Eacquah85@yahoo.co.uk
25	Akuffo Bekoe	Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA)	P.O. Box 4, Offinso		
26	Owusu Danso Richard	Offinso North District Health Directorate	P.O. Box 8, Akomadan	0246146667	richardowusudanso@gmail.com
27	Johnson Francis Nabie	Ghana Health Service, Offinso	P.O. Box 237, Offinso	0242223973	
28	Hon. Baafour Kese	Municipal Chief Executive (MCE), Offinso Municipal Assembly	P.O. Box 2, Offinso	0266672926	

NO.	NAME	INSTITUTION	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NO.	EMAIL
29	Dr. Emmanuel Marfo	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	P.O. Box UP 63, KNUST, Kumasi	0244627274	emarfo@csir-forig.org.gh
30	Dr. Lawrence Damnyag	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	P.O. Box UP 63, KNUST, Kumasi	0244927340	ldamnyag@yahoo.com
31	Mrs Stella Britwum Acquah	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	P.O. Box UP 63, KNUST, Kumasi	0244381635	S_britwum@yahoo.com
32	Mr. Shalom Daniel Addo-Danso	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	P.O. Box UP 63, KNUST, Kumasi	0277370504	sadanso@csir- forig.org.gh/shalomdanso@yahoo.com
33	Miss Jacqueline Twintoh	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	P.O. Box UP 63, KNUST, Kumasi	0543855987	
34	Miss Dorcas Gyimah	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of	P.O. Box UP 63, KNUST, Kumasi	0242153472	

		Ghana			
35	Mrs. Ewurama Andoh	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	P.O. Box UP 63, KNUST, Kumasi	0244033495	
36	Miss Winnie Coffie	CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	P.O. Box UP 63, KNUST, Kumasi		