

GHANA COMDEKS NEWS November, 2012

BUILDING THE RESILIENCE OF SIX COMMUNITY CLUSTERS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Six community clusters within the WETO landscape have been supported for the Satoyama Initiative in Ghana. The selected clusters which include Sanga-Bame, Bame-Saviefe, Peki-Todome, Kpeve-Woadze, Have-Jordanu, Nyagbo-Logba are experiencing increasing habitat destruction (biodiversity loss and reduced ecosystem services); unsustainable farming practices; inadequate livelihood support systems and weak institutional capacity to support conservation and production.



This initiative therefore seeks to promote:

- conservation of natural and semi-natural habitats and ecosystem services within the WETO landscape (watershed, sacred groves, wildlife habitats, agrobiodiversity areas)
- sustainable agricultural practices implemented across the landscape to enhance and revive traditional conservation and production practices and adoption of new technologies;
- enhanced livelihood enterprise development targeted at social groups within the landscape in line with the local tradition and culture; and
- development of institutional capacity at the landscape level to realize the goal of integrating conservation and production in the management of the target landscape.

COMDEKS STAKEHOLDER CAPACITY WORKSHOP IN ACCRA

A one-day stakeholder's capacity building workshop was held on the 3rd of October 2012 at the GEF/SGP secretariat in Accra for selected NGOs. The workshop which was attended by 20 persons from the 9 NGOs chosen to implement the WETO COMDEKS was aimed at exposing the participants to basic skills, knowledge and tools needed in project management. The workshop gave the needed opportunity for the participants to understand the COMDEKS concepts and the tracking of indicators. The participating groups were representatives from Centre for Youth in Agricultural Development, The Development Institute, HATOF Foundation, Environmental Development Youth Movement, Green

Globe Society International, Support Services Foundation, Socio-serve Ghana, Youth Aid Foundation for Winners and Volta Region Association of Beekeepers.

During the workshop, the grantees were guided through project management modules and revision of their project documents to develop detailed operational plans for the project implementation. Facilitation of the workshop was done by the National Coordinator (NC). At end of the workshop, participants expressed satisfaction and indicated their readiness to implement the project according to the national strategy.



FIRST BATCH OF COMDEKS MOAs SIGNED

The GEF-SGP has approved the first batch of four project proposals for implementation within the COMDEKS Weto range project area this year. At the MOA signing ceremony held at the SGP secretariat on the 30th of October 2012, the national Coordinator advised the grantees to implement the projects with the same enthusiasm they have shown from the beginning and significantly report comprehensively on all activities that will be undertaken.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS: COMDEKS AT COP 11

At the recently held 11th Conference of Parties (COP 11) on biodiversity, countries agreed to double resources for biodiversity protection by 2015. The COP also set targets to increase the number of countries that have included biodiversity in their national development plans, and prepared national financial plans for biodiversity, by 2015. The Global Environment Facility, the financial mechanism of the Convention, for the first time, was provided with an assessment of the financial resources required to meet the needs of developing countries for implementing the Convention. An in-depth



presentation was delivered on IPSI's active collaborative activities, namely Community Development and Knowledge Management for the Satoyama Initiative (COMDEKS) and indicators of resilience in SEPLS. Background information and the latest updates on COMDEKS was provided by Ms. Fumiko Fukuoka (UNDP), followed by insights provided by Mr. Prabhjot Sodhi (GEF-SGP) from on-the-ground application of the COMDEKS programme in India.