MINISTRY OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

GFIP | GHANA FOREST INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

PROJECT MID-TERM HIGHLIGHTS

THE WORLD BANK

Forestry Commission

COUNCIL FOR SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH • GHANA •

Ghana Cocoa Board
Poised to Maintain Premium Quality Cocoa

BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DEVELOPPEMENT
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GFIP | GHANA FOREST INVESTMENT PROGRAMME

Ghana Forest Investment Programme

BACKGROUND OF THE GFIP

The Forest Investment Programme (FIP), is a targeted programme under the Strategic Climate Fund (SCF) of the Climate Investment Fund (CIF).The FIP aims to finance country specific efforts to address the underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation and to overcome barriers that have hindered past efforts to do so.

Ghana was among eight (8) countries in the world selected as a pilot country for the FIP in March 2010. Each pilot country had to develop a Forest Investment Plan for the approval of the Climate Investment Fund Subcommittee.
Ghana prepared its Investment Plan together with stakeholders and was approved by the CIF subcommittee in November 2012.

The Investment Plan outlined three (3) projects and secured a total funding of 50 Million Dollars from the SCF which is being disbursed through Multilateral Development Banks (World Bank, African Development Bank and International Finance Cooperation). The African Development Bank also gave a grant worth 5Million Dollars to support the project 2 of the GFIP.

The aim of the Forest Investment Plan (FIP) for Ghana is to address the underlying drivers of deforestation and catalyse transformational change by providing upfront investment to support the implementation of the REDD+ strategy, and generate information and experience for policy and regulatory changes, with the ultimate aim of reducing the emissions of GHG within the LULUCF sector in Ghana.

The GFIP is being implemented in the High Forest Zone of Ghana covering the Western and the Brong-Ahafo Regions
The three projects under the Investment Plan are;
I. Project 1 (Enhancing Natural Forest and Agro-Forest Landscape Project- ENFALP) – USD 30M
ii. Project 2 (Engaging Local Communities in REDD+/Enhancing carbon Stock –ELCIR+) – USD 15M
iii. Project 3 (Engaging the private sector in REDD+) – USD 10M- This project was later discontinued by IFC because the private sector could not meet the fiduciary requirements of the bank. However, the total allocated budget has been taken up by the Government of Ghana as concessional loan for private sector investment in plantations.

Along the FIP funding is the Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM) of 5Miilion Dollars from the World Bank which seeks to build capacity of FIP projects communities to effectively engage in the FIP process.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECTS UNDER THE GFIP

Project 1:

(Enhancing Natural Forest and Agro-Forest Landscape project- ENFALP) – World Bank

The Project Development Objective of the ENFALP is to improve forest and tree management practices by cocoa farmers, CREMA communities and forest reserve managers to reduce forest loss and degradation in selected landscapes in Ghana's High Forest Zone.

The ultimate beneficiaries of this project are the rural communities (current and future generations) in the Western and Brong Ahafo Regions who manage agricultural landscapes and forests for their livelihoods, especially those involved in cocoa farming and members of CREMA.
The project has four main components;

I. Component 1 - Policy Reforms and Institutional Strengthening
ii. Component 2 - Pilot Investment for Improved Forest and Landscape Management
iii. Component 3 - Innovation, Capacity Building and Communications
iv. Component 4 - Project Management

The Key Project Development Objectives include:

I. People in targeted forest and adjacent communities with increased monetary or non-monetary benefits from forests (number), of which female (number)

ii. Area under improved CREMA management and climate smart cocoa management practices in targeted landscapes due to project interventions (ha), disaggregated by CREMA management and climate smart cocoa management practices

iii. Area of forest in targeted landscapes (ha), disaggregated by closed forest, open forest, and crop land

iv. Total greenhouse gas emission reductions plus enhancement of carbon stocks, estimated in tons equivalent CO2e/year (relative to 2012 reference level based on Ghana's REDD+ MRV system)

v. Direct project beneficiaries (number), of which female (percentage)

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECTS

UNDER THE GFIP

Project 2:

(Engaging Local Communities in REDD+/ Enhancing Natural Forest –ELCIR+) - African Development Bank

The Project development objective is to contribute to the increase of carbon stocks, and poverty reduction in the off reserve areas of the High Forest Zones, by engaging communities in land management approaches that generate direct financial and environmental benefits.

The project area is mainly in the high forest and some portions of the transitional zones. About 12,000 individuals involved in diversified livelihood options such as tree growing, cocoa and food farming, charcoal production and Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP) gathering are expected to directly benefit from the project. The indirect beneficiaries are estimated at about 175,000 people, which represents 5% of the total populations of the two regions are also expected to indirectly benefit from the project.

The project has four main components;

i. ***Component 1*** - ***Community Restoration of Degraded off-reserve forests and Agricultural Landscapes***
ii. ***Component 2*** - ***Promoting Climate Smart and Environmentally Responsible Cocoa and Agroforestry systems***
iii. ***Component 3*** - ***Community alternative livelihoods and capacity building***
iv. ***Component 4*** - ***Project Management***

Key indicators under the project include;

I. Degraded forest rehabilitated and woodlots established

ii. Guidelines for off reserve forest management developed

iii. Hectares of sacred groves/patches of forest identified and managed

iv. Number of fire volunteer squads established thanks to the project

v. Increase in Hectares under shade cocoa

vi. Increase in hectares under agroforestry

vii. Number of Communal Managed enterprises supported by the project

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GFIP

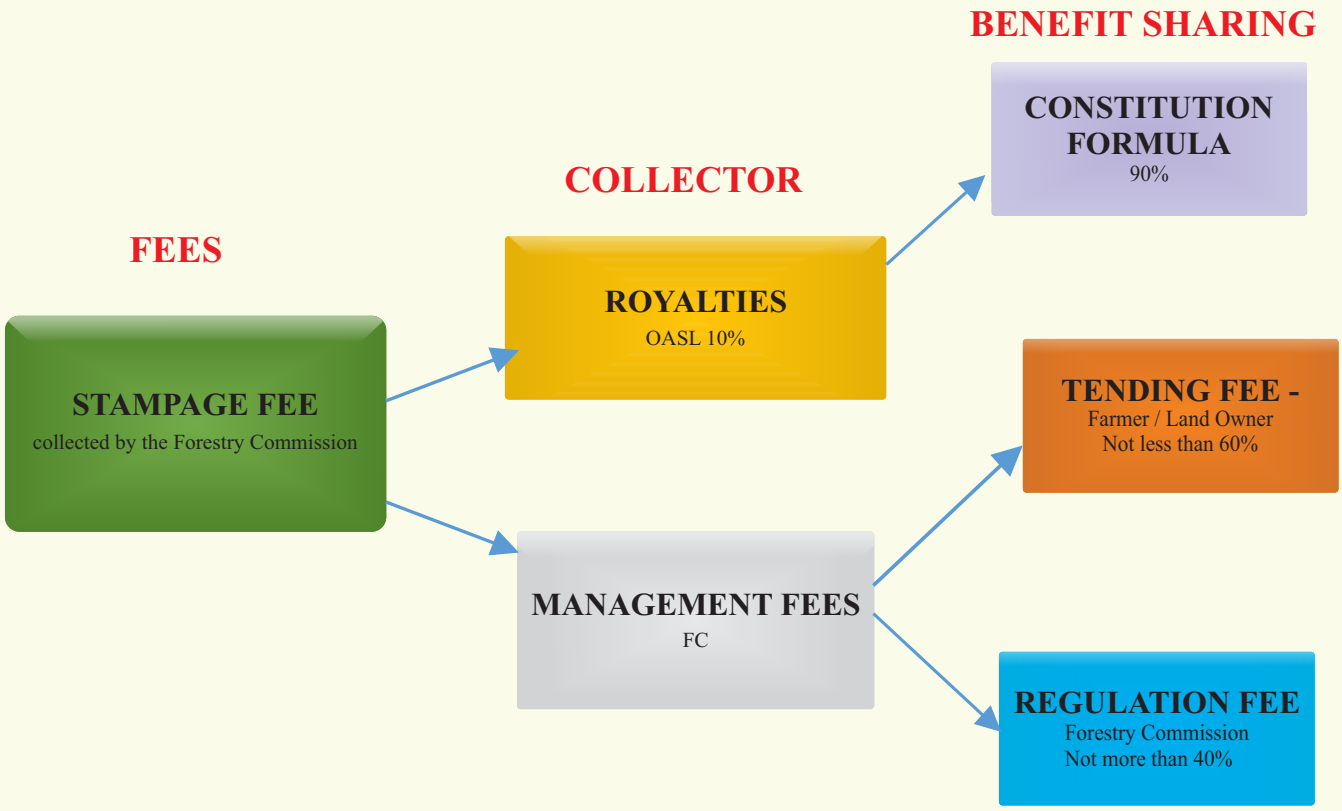
TREE TENURE AND BENEFIT SHARING POLICY REFORMS

A framework on Tree Tenure and Benefit Sharing Scheme which outlines incentives for farmers to maintain and nurture naturally occurring trees on their farms has been developed.

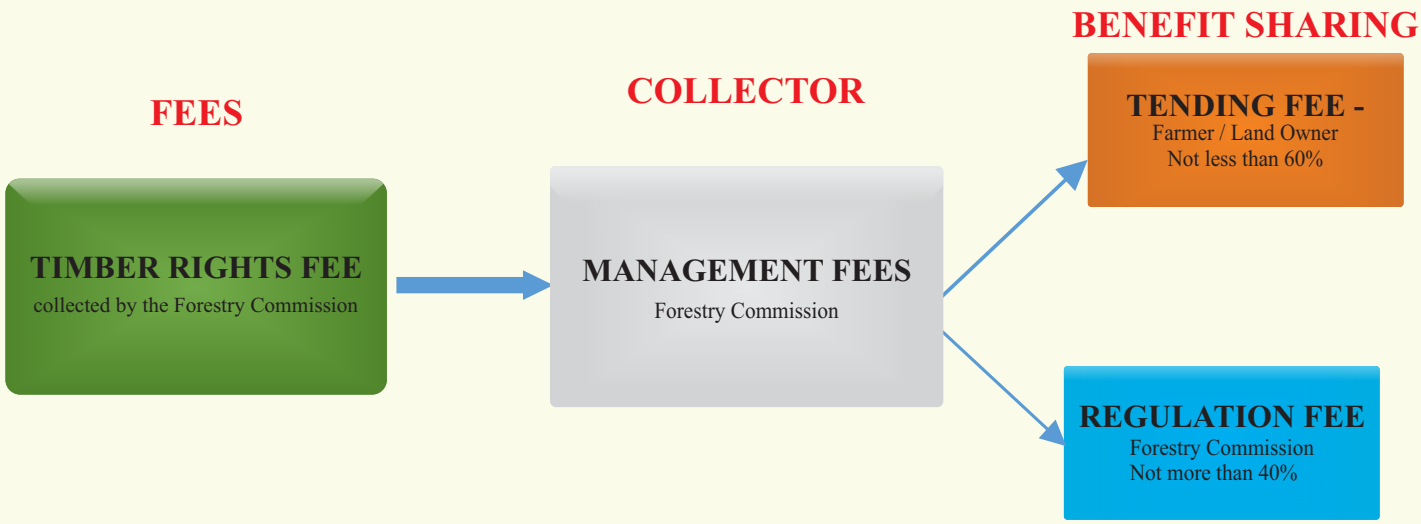
Expert Group consultation on the Tree Tenure and Benefit Sharing Schemes

Broader Stakeholder Workshop on the Tree Tenure and Benefit Sharing Scheme

PROPOSED BENEFIT SHARING DIAGRAM
STUMPAGE FEES FOR OFF - RESERVE NATURALLY OCCURRING TREES



PROPOSED BENEFIT SHARING DIAGRAM
TIMBER RIGHT (TRF) FEES FOR OFF - RESERVE NATURALLY OCCURRING TREES



REGISTRATION OF TREES ON OFF-RESERVE LANDS

The objective of this tree registration exercise is to provide a database of farmers who have planted or nurtured trees on their farms to make it easy for the benefit sharing arrangement to be implemented.

This form was designed through a collaborative effort of all stakeholders including UNDP and Civil Society Organizations.

Farmer /Group /Company Code:

REGISTRATION OF TREES ON OFF RESERVE LANDS

(A) Beneficiary Details

(A1) Farmer/Developer /Individual Details

*Type of ID*_____ *ID Number:*_____

First Name: _____ Surname: _____Other Names:_____

Gender:☐M ☐F Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy): _____ Age: _____

Address: (Postal / Residential):_____

Phone Number: _____Email Address (if any): _____

Next of Kin: _____ Relationship:_____ Date of Birth:_____

Age: _____ Gender: ☐Male ☐Female Phone Number: _____

Address (postal/Residential):_____

3.5cm

4.5cm

Picture

(A2) Group/Company Detail (A2.1) attachment

Group/Company Name: _____Reg. Number(RG) if any:_____

Group (President & Secretary/ _____/_____

Company(Directors): _____/_____

Group/ Company Address: (Postal / Residential):_____

Phone #: _____/_____ Email Address (if any): _____

(B) Location/ site

Region: _____Forest District: _____ TA/Stool/Skin/Family:_____

District Assembly: _____ Community: _____

Type of establishment: ☐ *Woodlot* ☐ *Commercial plantation* ☐ *Others (Specify):* _____

☐ *Planted trees on farm* ☐ *Naturally Occurring Trees* ☐ *Fallow* ☐ *Sacred Grove*

(C) Tree Farm Information

(C1) Farm Information (C1.1) attachment Farm ID:

Tree Farm Area (Ha): _____

coordinates of the Plantation plot/ Farm (for the Development of Maps):

Date	Point ID	Latitude	Longitude	Way Point No.	Remarks

(C2) Tree Information on Plantation (Woodlot, Commercial plantations, others) (C2.1) attachment

No.	Species Planted	No. of Trees *(Stocking)*	Planting Distance *(Spacing)*	Year of Establishment	Remarks
1.					*E.g. Planting Completed*

(C3) Tree Information (Planted Trees on agricultural Landscape, Naturally occurring trees others)

(Applicable only for Trees on farms (C3.1) attachment

Tree No	Species	*Size of tree (dbh)*	Year planted	Year Nurturing started	*Tree Location*		
					Point ID	*Latitude*	*Longitude*
1.							

(D) Declaration

Farmer/ Group/ Company *rep. Signature (Thumbprint):* Date:

Witness Signature/Thumbprint

Name:

Date:

Phone #:

(E) Endorsement

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

District Forestry Manager's Signature & Stump

Name:

Date:

Phone #:

Comments:

NOTE:

- *This form is not an indenture.*
- *Before planting the trees, I had sought the approval of the land owner(s).*

THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AREAS (CREMA) IN PERSPECTIVE

Five Community Resource Management Areas have been established to manage and protect the Forest Resources

Community Consultations on the CREMA establishment

Project Team at a CREMA site at Bia

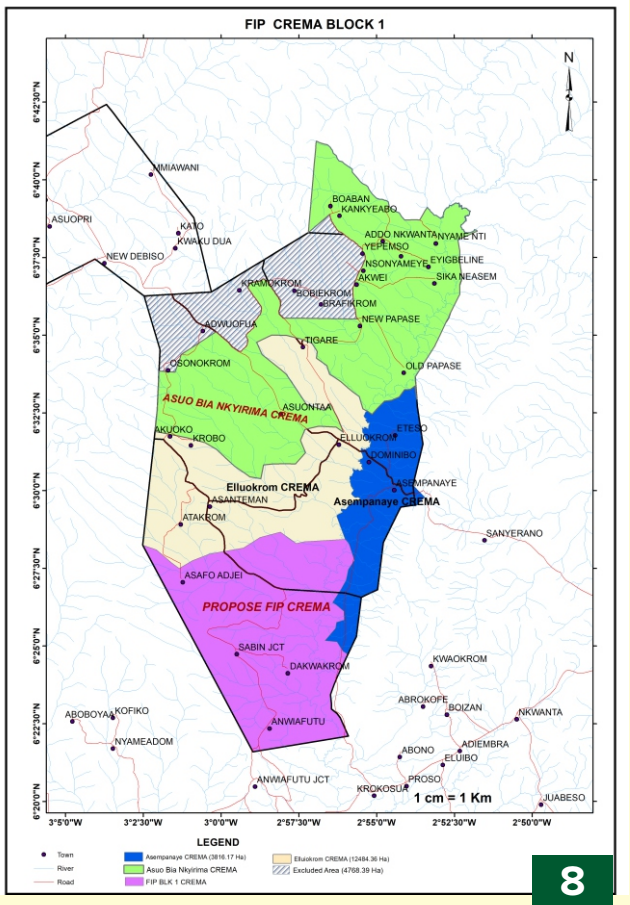
A MAP of one of the CREMAs

Discussion on the CREMA concept

Proposed Crema Blocks

CREMA BLOCK ONE (BIA ENCLAVE) – 38,825.03HA

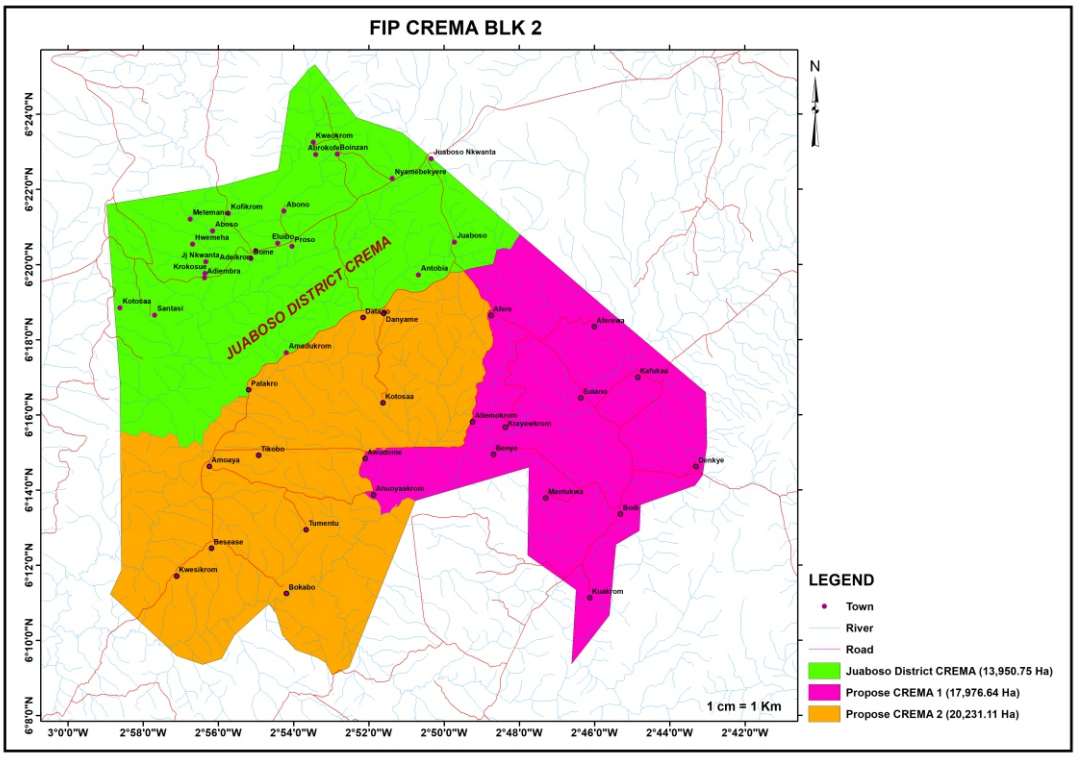
Block one already has 2 existing CREMA's. Asempaneye CREMA and Elluokrom CREMA. FIP has identified two additional CREMA's and developed one (ASUO BIA NKYIRIMA CREMA) with a size of 14,119.18ha.



CREMA BLOCK TWO
(JUABOSO ENCLAVE) – 52,158.51HA

This block has no existing CREMA's.

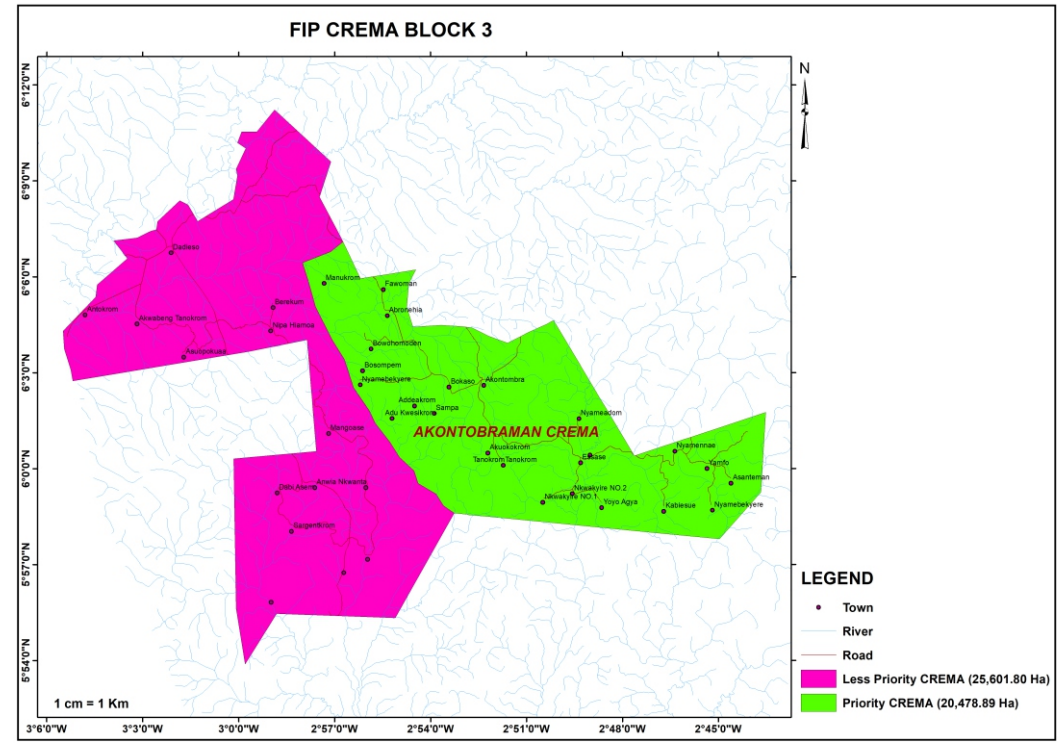
Currently FIP has identified 3 CREMA's for the entire Block of which one has been developed (i.e. the Juaboso District CREMA) with an area size of 13,950.75ha.



CREMA BLOCK THREE
(SEFWI-WIAWSO ENCLAVE) – 46,079.57HA

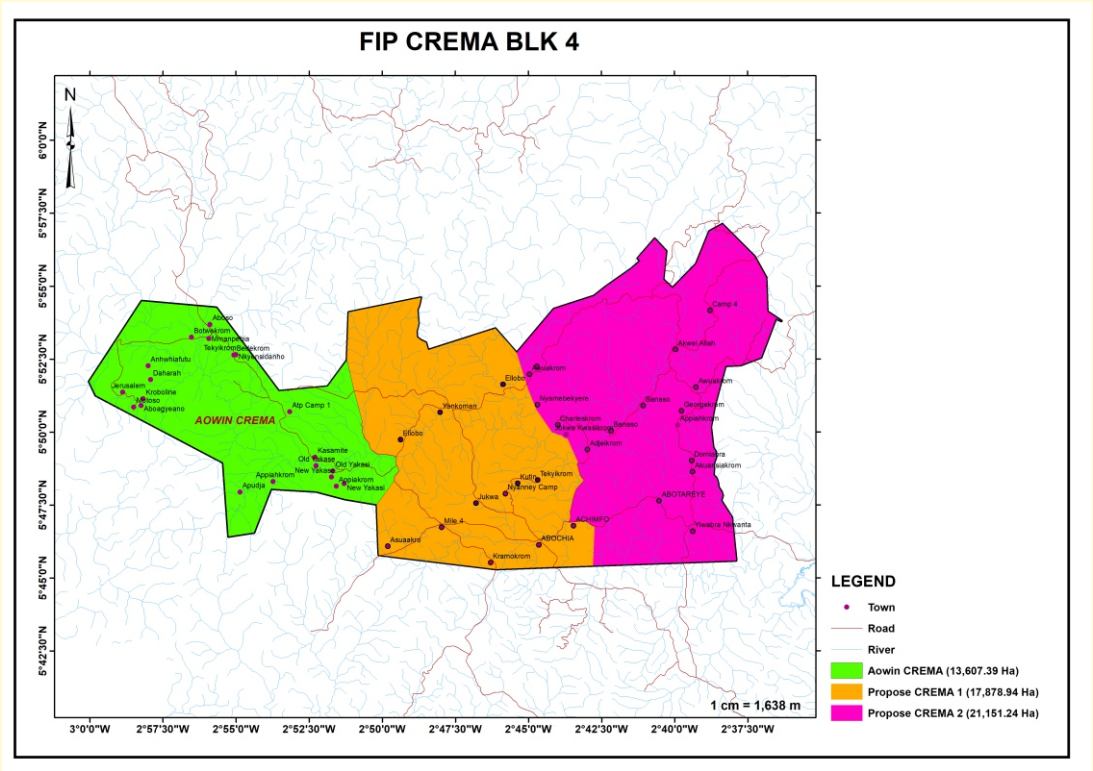
FIP has identified two CREMA's within this Block.

Currently, one of the CREMA's has been developed called AKONTOMBRAMAN CREMAwith an area size of 20,478.89ha.



CREMA BLOCK FOUR
(ENCHI ENCLAVE) – 51,437.97HA

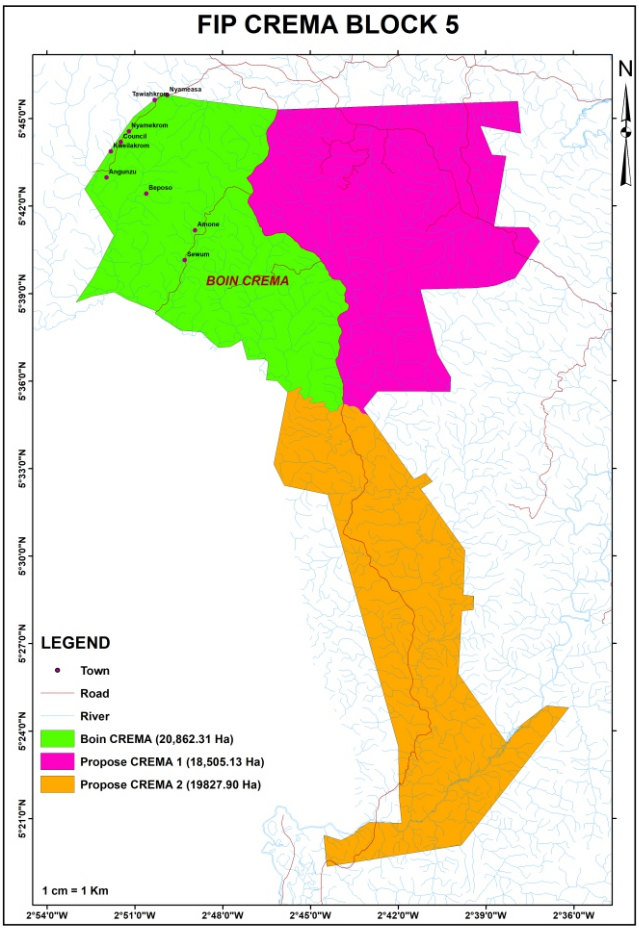
FIP has identified 3 CREMA's in the Block and currently one is being developed called AOWIN CREMA which has an area size of 13,607.39ha.



CREMA BLOACK FIVE
(ENCHI II) – 60,483.33HA

FIP has identified 3 potential CREMA's in this Block.

Currently, one is under development called BOIN CREMA with an area size of 18,505.13ha.



MODEL PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT

Cedrella Stands at a Model plantation farm at Sui River Forest Reserve

GFIP project target 360ha (ENFALP -300ha and ELCIR+-60ha)

To provide hands-on training for interested plantation developers and community members, the project has developed 550.5ha (ENFALP -365ha and ELCIR+ -185.5ha) of model plantations, which serves as demonstration site and farmer fields schools for project beneficiaries to enhance their silvicultural practices

Cedrella Stands

ENRICHMENT PLANTING

A total area of 8,542.64ha (GFIP target of 10,000ha) has been established through enrichment planting as part of effort to restore degraded forest reserves in the Western and Brong Ahafo Regions.

NATIONAL TREE SEED CENTER

To promote availability of high quality seedlings including production and storage, the National Tree Seed Center at the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG) has been equipped with power plant, two cooling systems and operational funds to ensure that the Center is able to store the seedlings procured from provenances across Africa and Asia.

1. Collection of seeds at the NTSC

2. Drying Equipment at NTSC

3. Seedlings from provenances in Tanzania and Costa Rica in Cold Room Storage Facility at NTS

SEED ORCHARD ESTABLISHMENT

A total of 242ha (GFIP target of 150ha) of tree seed orchards and stands established to produce mass seedlings for plantation development programmes in the future. The stands and orchards includes fast growing, economically viable carbon enhancing timber production species procured from provenances in Africa and Asia

Pericopsis elata Stands (Seed Orchard)

FOREST RESERVE BOUNDARY PLANTING

To protect and clearly demarcate forest reserve Boundaries to prevent further encroachment, a total area of 1,083.15km (GFIP protect target of 807 Km) developed along various Forest Reserves in the project regions

Cedrella Stands planted along the boundaries of Sui Forest Reserve

Boundary planting at Muro Forest Reserve

COMMUNITY WOODLOT PLANTATION

A total of 289ha of fast growing tree species established as woodlot stands for charcoal producing communities.

Cassia Siamia Stands at Kintampo

WATERSHED PLANTING

To restore and protect degraded watersheds, a total area of 369.83ha (GFIP target of 500ha) of plantation established around identified watersheds within ecological corridors.

PROJECT BENEFICIARIES

Community Work Gangs with Implementation Support Team

Beneficiary farmer holding a tree in his cocoa farm

Community Nursery Operators

CAPACITY BUILDING

Monitoring and Evaluation Training for GFIP Implementing Institutions

Financial Management Training for Accounting and Non-accounting Project Staff

IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFEGUARDS INSTRUMENT

The main responsibility for implementing the Safeguards Instrument rests with the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources. MLNR has assigned a staff as a "Focal Person" to support the implementation of the Social and Environmental Instruments i.e. Environment and Social Management Framework -ESMF, Pest Management Plan- PMP, Process Framework -PF.
Additionally, the Project Management Unit has engaged Sal Consult on a retainer basis to provide Technical support and advice to the project in the implementation of responsibilities of the Ministry under the Grant Agreement.

Progress so far:

Selection of new Safeguard Focal Persons
Based on feedback from the field and M&E reports, it was evident that the initial selected Focal Persons i.e. Regional Managers and District Managers had busy schedules hindering the ability to function effectively as Focal person therefore management together with the Forestry Commission took a decision to use the Assistant Regional managers and Assistant District managers in that regard.

Consequently, an assessment was undertaken to select new focal persons. In line with this, the following activities were undertaken:

- 13 Focal Persons from all the forest Districts and two Regional Focal Persons selected
- Database created which includes their Telephone Numbers and Email
- Focal Persons of NGOs engaged under the GFIP in the Western Region selected as community liaisonssince they had direct access to most project beneficiaries by virtue of working in the ecological corridors
- Whatsapp group Platform created for focal persons to allow for constant communication and support to each other

Training programmes

- Orientation training provided to all Focal Persons including the NGOs – an initial orientation was organized for all the focal persons to bring them to speed on their roles and the task ahead. The Bank was officially invited to be part of the training to introduce the focal persons to the Bank's perspective on safeguards.
- On-field and Hands on training for focal persons – as a follow-up to the orientation, the PMU together with Sal Consult organised a field session for the focal persons on the screening and documentation of field based activities as well as the Grievance Redress Mechanism in place.

Meeting with EPA to Register and Permit the Subprojects

The PMU together with Sal Consult have had a series of meetings with Environmental protection Agency of Ghana to bring them on board and also facilitate the process of registering the subprojects in line with Ghana EA laws and that of conditions set in the Grant Agreement. In this regard, a Principal Programmes Officer has been assigned by EPA to support and facilitate the process of registering and permitting the project.

Roadmap for Implementation of Safeguards

Through the quarterly work programme of Sal Consult, a road map has been prepared to guide the implementation of safeguards in line with the tenants of the project and the safeguard instruments being prepared.

PROJECT SAFEGUARD ACTIVITIES

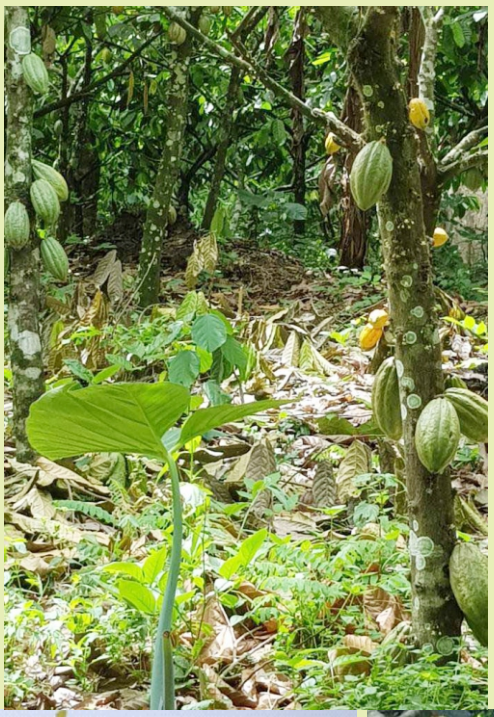
Safeguard Screening Exercise at Bura Forest Reserve

Meeting with NGO's and Safeguards Focal Persons at Asankrangwa FSD Office

CLIMATE SMART COCOA

The objective of the Climate Smart Cocoa Programme is to encourage farmers to plant at least 18 trees per hectare to provide shade and improve yield. The trees will also provide an additional source of income in the future. So far over 2 million seedlings have been supplied to farmers in the FIP project areas.

Other incentives that have been provided to farmers include support for early pruning, plantain suckers and hand pollination of cocoa.



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