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MINISTRY OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

MLNR WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER



HON. SAMUEL A. JINAPOR, MP

**MINISTER FOR LANDS AND
NATURAL RESOURCES**

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

(HEADLINES)

- **AFRICA BORDER DAY: LANDS MINISTER CALLS FOR INTENSIFIED AWARENESS CREATION IN BORDER COMMUNITIES**
- **GHANA DISTRIBUTES OVER 13 MILLION SEEDLINGS NATIONWIDE ON 2024 GREEN GHANA DAY - FORESTRY COMMISSION**
- **DAMONGO GOES GREEN TO BECOME GREENEST CITY IN GHANA: A MODEL FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSERVATION- JINAPOR**



AFRICA BORDER DAY: LANDS MINISTER CALLS FOR INTENSIFIED AWARENESS CREATION IN BORDER COMMUNITIES

Hon. Samuel A. Jinapor, MP, the Minister for Lands and Natural Resources has underscored the importance of creating awareness and sensitizing residents of border communities to sustain the peaceful and progressive relationship between Ghana and its neighbours.

In a Speech delivered on the floor of Parliament in commemoration of the 2024 African Border Day on Wednesday, June 12, 2024 the Minister noted that border communities bear the brunt of border-related challenges and urged for their involvement in decision-making processes to foster a sense of ownership and responsibility.

The Lands Minister highlighted an all-encompassing approach, which involves all stakeholders, must be implemented to ensure that the country continues to experience peace and development along its boundaries. He believes that such an approach will have a greater impact and assist the country in its efforts to build resilient border governance.

Addressing the theme for the commemoration, *"Educate an African Fit for the Twenty-First (21st) Century: Building Resilient Education Systems for Increased Access to Inclusive, Lifelong, Quality, and Relevant Learning in Africa,"* the Minister commended the Ghana Boundary Commission for their outstanding work in promoting and ensuring Ghana's territorial integrity and sovereignty.

He stressed that education serves as a powerful tool in promoting inter-cultural dialogue, tolerance, and mutual understanding, and urged for cross-border exchanges, economic cooperation, and joint development projects to overcome barriers and create stronger border communities.

"By empowering our youth to become active agents of change within their communities, we can create a formidable defense against the forces of violence and extremism which often target vulnerable populations, including youth in border communities," he emphasized.

He highlighted the Ghana Boundary Commission's efforts in promoting peaceful co-existence with neighbouring countries and resolving boundary disputes through peaceful cooperation.

"The Ghana Boundary Commission has led efforts to promote peaceful co-existence with our neighbour's through regular sensitization and cross-border activities with neighbouring countries," He added.

"We are called upon to recognize the crucial significance of educating our citizens, particularly those living in border communities, about the importance of land and maritime boundaries and their role as stakeholders in safeguarding our international boundaries.

"The Ghana Boundary Commission has worked tirelessly over the years to reaffirm and safeguard our international boundaries, ensuring that Ghana's territorial sovereignty is protected at all times. The Commission has led efforts to promote peaceful coexistence with our neighbours through regular sensitization and cross-border activities with neighbouring countries.

"The Commission's work in upholding international law to resolve boundary disputes through peaceful cooperation has been recognized across the continent, with several countries engaging the Commission to learn from their experience.

"To achieve a greater impact, it is essential that we engage and empower border communities, including Traditional Authorities, Border Security Committees, Municipal and District Assemblies in border areas, and other relevant stakeholders, to create awareness of the significance of boundaries and the contribution of stakeholders in border governance.

The African Border Day commemorates the significance of the African Union Border Programme and the Niamey Convention, which aims to promote integrated border governance and cross-border cooperation.



GHANA DISTRIBUTES OVER 13 MILLION SEEDLINGS NATIONWIDE ON 2024 GREEN GHANA DAY - FORESTRY COMMISSION

The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources and the Forestry Commission are pleased to announce that an impressive 13,875,286 seedlings has been distributed nationwide on the 2024 Green Ghana Day.

This achievement was revealed by the Chief Executive of the Forestry Commission, Mr. John Allotey, during a post-event press briefing held at the Forestry Commission Head Office in Accra on Thursday, June 13, 2024.

In his presentation, Mr. Allotey provided a comprehensive overview of the provisional seedling distribution results, highlighting that the Ashanti Region exceeded its target by 199%, distributing 4,170,552 seedlings, well above the initial target of 2,100,000. Additionally, 13 other regions successfully exceeded their targets, demonstrating a nationwide commitment to environmental conservation.

Mr. Allotey acknowledged that two regions faced challenges in meeting their targets, but emphasized the Forestry Commission's dedication to supporting these regions to achieve their goals.

He commended leading private plantation companies and churches for their contributions to the project's success, specifically mentioning the Church of Pentecost, Presbyterian Church, Catholic Church, Seventh Day Adventist (SDA), and Methodist Church as the top five contributing churches.

Mr. Allotey also named Eco planet Bamboo West Africa, Messrs Evans Sawmills Ltd, and Miro Forestry Ghana Ltd among others, while also commending the Muslim community, particularly the Chief Imam, for their support.

He further revealed that despite the number of seedlings already planted, more seedlings are available at various pick-up centers. He urged all interested parties to visit their nearest Forestry Commission office to obtain a seedling to plant.





DAMONGO GOES GREEN TO BECOME GREENEST CITY IN GHANA: A MODEL FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSERVATION- JINAPOR

In alignment with government's Green Ghana project, the Minister for Lands and Natural Resources and Member of Parliament for Damongo, Hon. Samuel A. Jinapor, has initiated a privately-led tree planting drive in his constituency.

The launch, which took place on Friday, June 14, 2024, saw the MP underscore his dedication and unalloyed commitment to the greening of Ghana and building of a resilient climate.

The scope of the Green Damongo Project as disclosed by Hon. Samuel Jinapor indicates that over 32,000 trees will be planted to serve multiple purposes of beautifying the town and also contributing to the fight against climate change.

Divided into three phases, the first phase of Green Damongo will involve planting approximately 2,670 trees along major roads in the town and at selected sites such as the old and new markets, as well as the stretch from Military Junction to the hospital.

The second phase will extend over 66 km on each side of the road between Jojo Pe and Damongo, while the third phase will encompass each side of the road between Damongo and Sieyiri, totaling 83 km.

Tree species selected for the Green Damongo Project include the Savannah Mahogany and Cassia.

Other areas which will be captured in the exercise include , from Military junction to Hospital road, from Agric College junction to Kasha restaurant, from Damongo bypass to Agric College, and from Sawla highway to RCC.

Addressing an enthusiastic crowd of traditional leaders and residents who turned up massively with great eagerness to support his initiative, Hon. Jinapor charged the constituents to step as custodians of the environment and embrace their collective responsibility of protecting the environment.

He highlighted the Green Damongo project's goals, which include raising awareness about the need for collective action to restore the degraded landscape in Damongo and instilling the values of planting and nurturing trees, along with their associated benefits, in the youth of the area.

"I stand before you today, in all humility and modesty, to say that, the Green Ghana Day initiative, has been wholeheartedly embraced by the entire citizenry and residents of Ghana. As Minister for Lands and Natural Resources, under whose stewardship this project was birthed, I have decided to bring the project home. For it is said, "the power of a great idea is amplified when it is shared with the place that holds your heart."

"This morning, I am honoured to share with you a vision that is close to my heart and crucial for the future of our community, "the Green Damongo Project." Ours is a Constituency that is blessed with vibrant people, rich culture, and a promising future. However, to ensure that our future remains bright, we must take concrete steps today to safeguard our environment. One such step is the planting of trees on the medians of our roads.

"Therefore, it is with great pleasure and deep sense of optimism that I unite with you once again, to launch this significant initiative, in our beloved Constituency. Today, we come together not just as natives and residents of Damongo, but as custodians of our environment, united by a shared responsibility to nurture and protect the natural environment that sustains us," he said.

The vibrant ceremony, graced by several dignitaries including the the Municipal Chief Executive for Damongo, Hon. Musah Karim Kusobari, the Deputy CEO of Forestry Commission, Mr. Nyadia Sulemana Nelson culminated in the planting of commemorative trees to signify the initiative's inauguration.

Chief Executive for the West Gonja Municipal Assembly, Mr Karim Musa paid special tribute to Hon. Samuel Jinapor for the initiative, describing it as a laudable gesture that will go a long to help reduce deforestation and land degradation in the area.

He explained that the municipality will ensure the success of the project by form committees who will be tasked with monitoring and nursing the trees.

Launched in 2021 by the government of Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo and led by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources under Hon. Samuel A. Jinapor, the Green Ghana Day initiative has become a significant movement for protecting and enhancing Ghana's forest and green cover.

SECTOR MINISTER & HIS DEPUTIES



Hon. Samuel A. Jinapor (MP)
Minister – Lands & Natural Resources



Hon. George Mireku Duker (MP)
Deputy Minister in charge of Mines



Hon. Akwasi Konadu (MP)
Deputy Minister in charge of Lands & Forestry

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