

Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Date

5th February 5, 2019

CEPF Grant 109621

Grantee

Resource Trust Network

Project Title

Supporting the Implementation of Best Management Practices in Smallholder Plantations.

Project Location

Agricultural lands on the South-eastern Cote D’Ivoire and South-western Ghana Biodiversity Conservation Corridor close to the Cape Three Point Forest Reserve – A Key Biodiversity Area (KBA)

Grant Summary

1. Grantee organization.: Resourcetrust Network
2. Grant title: Supporting the Implementation of Best Management Practices in Smallholder Plantations
3. Grant number: **109621**
4. Grant amount (US dollars). \$34,975.00
5. Proposed dates of grant.: 1st August 2018
6. Countries or territories where project will be undertaken: Ghana
7. Date of preparation of this document: 5th February 5, 2019

8. Introduction:

The surrounding landscape of Cap Three Point Forest Reserve- A Key Biodiversity area (KBA), has been converted largely to agriculture by smallholder oil palm and rubber plantation farmers. Plantation agriculture among other agricultural and land use activities is the main source of livelihood for farming communities within this conservation corridor. However, plantation agriculture activities around this KBA within the conservation corridor has been the main driver of deforestation contributing to habitat damage, fragmentation, loss of biodiversity and impacting negatively on ecological functions. Given that areas within the conservation corridor and around the KBA are agricultural lands, forest conversion and irreversible loss of biodiversity cannot be totally avoided but can be mitigated. Proper mitigation of conversion of forest in these agricultural land use areas within this conservation corridor can improve the structural connectivity and ecological function within the conservation corridor. However, these biodiversity conservation measures have not been incorporated successfully into agricultural practices especially among smallholder plantations.

The project aims to stimulate and catalyze a process for key actors of smallholder plantations within the SE CDI SW GH conservation corridor around Cape Three Points to work together towards achieving agricultural sustainability by incorporating biodiversity conservation in their management practices.

It uses the Smallholder-Private-Public Joint Participation, Collaboration and Contribution (PCC) Biodiversity Conservation model. Under this model, key actors will be facilitated to participate, collaborate and contribute to deliberate, develop plans and implement best management practices consistent with biodiversity conservation in smallholder plantation.

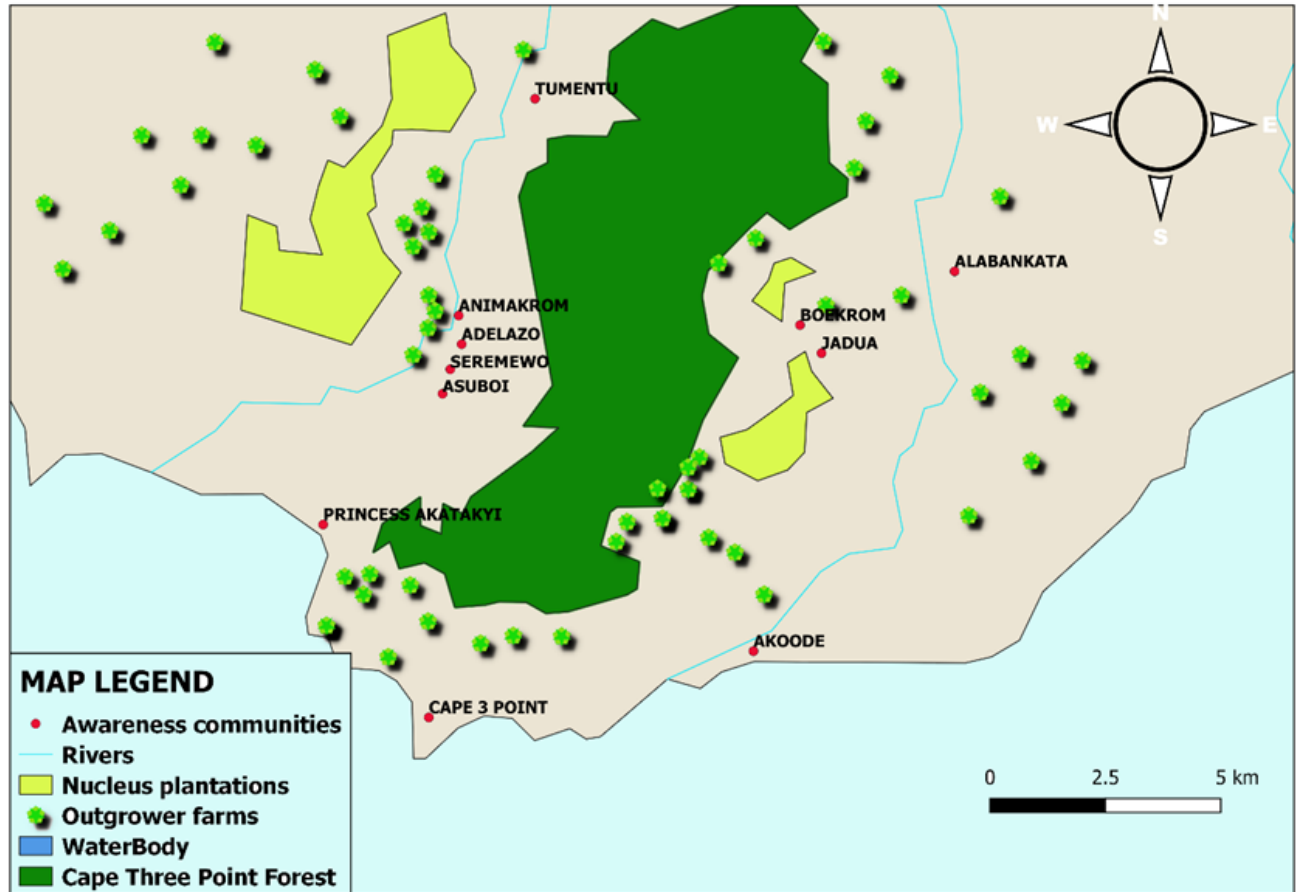


Fig 1: Map of project implementation area.

9. Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities:

Initial stakeholder engagement was held in November 2017 when the concept was introduced to leaders of the communities close to the Cape Three Point forest reserve for their consent and approval. When the project proposal was approved RTN continued meeting various stakeholders. This was to introduce project concept and rationale to key stakeholders. This was done with flyers summarizing the project background and concept. Meetings were held on the 29th of August 2018 with;

- Norpalm Ghana Limited at Premises of Norpalm, Plantation site Ahanta West
- Ghana Rubber Estates Limited at the GREL Outgrower Unit. Apimenim
- Ministry of Food and Agriculture Ahanta West Municipal Assembly Agona Nkwanta

Community awareness meetings have been held for forty six (46) smallholder farmers from eight (8) communities namely; Akodee, Cape Three Point, Nkwantanan, Tumemtu, Adelazo, Serewmowu, Alabankata and Akatakyi.

A workshop was organized for all smallholder stakeholder of smallholder plantation on the 19th December 2018 at Agona Nkwanta, Werba House. Materials used for the workshop were presentation slides from RTN, GREL and MOFA. Fifty nine (59) stakeholders from five different groups; government, NGO, farmers, large scale private companies and the media too part in the workshop. Issues discussed included the Participation Collaboration Contribution (PCC) towards

sustainable smallholder agriculture and biodiversity conservation, government initiatives and policies supporting smallholder agriculture in Ahanta West, GREL outgrower scheme among others. RTN reports back to stakeholders on all meetings while the phone number of the project officer is made available to all stakeholders.

10. Project Stakeholders:

- Smallholder farmer communities close to the forest reserve; Akodee, Cape Three Point, Nkwantanam, Tumemtu, Adelazo, Serewmowu, Alabankata and Akatakya
- Regulators (Government); Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Forest Service Division-Takoradi District, Ahanta West Municipal Assembly.
- Large private industries; Ghana Rubber Estates Limited (GREL) and Norpalm Ghana Limited.
- NGOs: Ghana Wildlife Society, Solidaridad West Africa, Hen Mpoana

11. Stakeholder Engagement Program:

Stakeholder Engage Program	Purpose
Create biodiversity benefits and long-term agriculture productive system sustainability awareness	To familiarize all stakeholders with the project concept and inform them on the benefits of sustainability to agriculture
Organize a workshop for all stakeholders of the project	To Train 20 actors on the use of the PCC model, how to develop and implement biodiversity conservation measures, how to monitor the effectiveness of measure and biodiversity status
Disseminate project results to the wider stakeholders	To present the results/ output after the project implementation

12. Consultation methods:

Stakeholder Engage Program	Method
Create biodiversity benefits and long-term agriculture productive system sustainability awareness	Meeting, sharing leaflets, sharing reports after completion
Organize a workshop for all stakeholders of the project	Workshop Reports from workshop
Disseminate project results to the wider stakeholders	Workshop Reports from project Publication on websites

13. Other Engagement Activities:

Resource Trust Network (RTN) and Ghana Wildlife Society (GWS) have agreed to align and jointly implement similar activities aimed at same target groups and have already shared and aligned our work plans. RTN will take advantage of the existing GWS Technical Steering Team (TST) for the project “Mainstreaming Site-Scale Ecosystem Value into Local Decision Making in Ghana” of which RTN is an organisational member of the TST to derive the needed technical advice as part of its project implementation governance.

14. Timetable:

Stakeholder Engage Program	Time	Location
Create biodiversity benefits and long-term agriculture productive system sustainability awareness	August 2018- November 2018	Communities, MOFA, GREL premises, Norpalm plantation
Organize a workshop for all stakeholders of the project	December 2018	Central Location where all stakeholders can easily attend. Preferably Agona Nkwanta
Disseminate project results to the wider stakeholders	July and August 2019	Central Location where all stakeholders can easily attend. Preferably Agona Nkwanta

15. Resources and Responsibilities:

Stakeholder Engage Program	Responsibility	Resources	Budget Allocation
Create biodiversity benefits and long-term agriculture productive system sustainability awareness	The project officer and the project coordinator	Communication materials (flyers), vehicle,	\$785.00
Organize a workshop for all stakeholders of the project	The project officer and the project coordinator	Communication materials (reports, presentation slides, posters) vehicle, laptop, projector, venue,	\$2464.00
Disseminate project results to the wider stakeholders	The project officer and the project coordinator	Communication materials (reports, presentation slides, laptop, projector, posters) vehicle, venue,	\$ 5030.00

16. **Grievance mechanism:**

Grievance mechanism will be posted on Resourcetrust website, project flyers, and presentation slides or attached as signature to emails related to the project as;

All grievances should be addressed to the;

Project office: Michael Ayeh at 0247773521 or mayeh@resourcetrustgh.net

Alternatively grievances can be registered directly to the

Project coordinator Joseph W Osei at 0244829300 or jwosei@resourcetrustgh.net

Grievances will be responded to within two (2) working days, if response is not received within two (2) working days or complainant is not satisfied with the response, complaint should be sent to the CEPF at cepfexecutive@conservation.org

“We will share all grievances – and a proposed response – with the Regional Implementation Team (gfw_rit@birdlife.onmicrosoft.com) and the CEPF Grant Director within 15 days. If the claimant is not satisfied following the response, they may submit the grievance directly to the CEPF Executive Director at cepfexecutive@conservation.org or by surface mail. If the claimant is not satisfied with the response from the CEPF Executive Director, they may submit the grievance to the World Bank at the local World Bank office.”

World Bank office: Independence Avenue King Hassan Rd, Plot no. 3 P.O. Box M. 27. Ridge, Accra, Ghana. +233-30-221-4100, Email: ghanaalert@worldbank.org

17. **Monitoring and Reporting:**

Monitoring of project impact will be done using a few methods.

- Monitoring the impact of community awareness meeting is done using a baseline and impact monitoring questionnaires which are administered to sampled participants before and after the meeting.
- Workshop impact monitoring is measured based on the response and approval of PCC module by participants. Stakeholder response to other activities after the workshop is monitored.
- Government, smallholder farmers and their counterpart large private industries are all incorporated into the project impact monitoring stage. While the farmers and the private industries will be monitoring on the field with the project team, the government agencies will be provided as to reports, maps, pictures, etc. of the project impact.