

RELEVANCE OF SLCP INITIATIVE TO GHANAIAN AGRICULTURE

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Ghanaian Agriculture

- Agriculture in Ghana is basically rainfed and dominated by small-scale operators
- The crops subsector is the most dominant contributing over 60 per cent of AgGDP
- Livestock production is second to crops and mostly operated on extensive system except improved poultry
- Most farm households in Ghana, keep one type of livestock or the other

Ghanaian Agriculture

- The linkage between the livestock component and crops component are not well developed – limiting co-benefits
- Degradation of agriculture land in Ghana is major constraint to sustainable productivity and production
- Improved Manure management could provide opportunities for enhancing productivity of agriculture lands

Current policy initiatives

- Government continues to support initiatives to improve land productivity through fertilizer subsidies
- Integrated nutrient management approach is being promoted as a more sustainable nutrient management system
- Improved Livestock management including improved husbandry practices such as housing, disease management and breeds improvement
- These therefore provide opportunity for linking the CCAC initiative with ongoing on the ground initiatives

Projects/Initiatives

- Projects and initiatives that could provide entry point are
- Sustainable Land and Water Management Project
- Resilient Landscape for Livelihoods
- Adaptation of Agro-Ecological Systems to Climate Change
- All projects have the goal of promoting and up-scaling land improvement technologies including organic sources of plant nutrients

Projects/Initiatives

- In addition to land improvement the projects are also supporting improvement in animal husbandry practices i.e. breeds upgrading, housing, management practices
- The three projects are all being implemented in the northern part of Ghana which hosts the largest population of livestock

Participation

- The three projects are employing participatory approaches that provide opportunity for engagement of multiple stakeholders at the community level (watershed management approach)
- Additionally, the approaches provide opportunity for the use of multi-disciplinary teams
- The three projects are targeted to reach over 20 districts

Results Dissemination

- Ministerial CC Task Force provide opportunity for sharing results of the initiative at the sector level – opportunity for mainstreaming into extension delivery
- National CCAFS CC platform provide opportunity for sharing results with other countries through CCAFS network (website, newsletters and bulletins).

Government of Ghana Support

- The national extension system is wholly funded by the Government of Ghana. The support from government is expected to continue.
- The government in response to climate change impacts is working towards promoting climate smart (adaptation-mitigation) agriculture initiatives

Conclusion

- Agriculture in Ghana is mainly based on small scale production
- All farming households keep one type of animal or the other
- The linkage between crops and animal components are weak at farmer level
- CCAC initiative provides great opportunity to improving the linkage and contribute to improved land resources and increased production
- There is enabling environment within Ghana to support achievements of expected outcomes of the initiative

Areas for additional funding

- Support for promoting improved animal husbandry practices including housing, feeding, and pest and disease management
- Training of extension staff on improved manure management techniques