IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study *(should be concise and within approximately 25 words)*			
Making landscapes work: A case of the Kakum Conservation Area in Ghana			
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)			
Conservation Alliance International			
Other contributing organization(s) *(IPSI members and/or non-members)*			
Biodiversity Heritage Associates			
Author(s) and affiliation(s)			
Yaw Osei-Owusu, Abigail Frimpong, and Paa Kofi Osei-Owusu (Conservation Alliance); Vincent Awotwe-Pratt (Biodiversity Heritage Associates)			
Format of case study *(manuscript or audiovisual)*	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords *(3-5 key concepts included in the case study)*			
Livelihoods; Biodiversity; Socio-cultural; Ecosystem; Cocoa			
Date of submission *(or update, if this is an update of an existing case study)*	19 February 2018		
Web link *(of the case study or lead organization if available for more information)*			

Geographical Information

Country *(where site(s) or activities described in the case study are located – can be multiple, or even "global")*									
Ghana									
Location(s) *(within the country or countries – leave blank if specific location(s) cannot be identified)*									
Central Region									
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link *(if location is identified)*									
https://www.google.com/maps/@5.3500604,-1.3841386,11z?hl=en									
Ecosystem(s) *(please place an "x" in all appropriate boxes)*									
Forest	x	Grassland		Agricultural	x	In-land water		Coastal	
Dryland		Mountain		Urban/peri-urban		Other (Please specify)			
Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area *(within 50 words)*									
The area is part of the Upper Guinean Hotspot in West Africa. It contains isolated populations of several globally endangered species, including the forest elephant. Designated a reserve in the 1930s, the area is not only rich in biodiversity, but also exhibits climatic conditions (temperature range: 20.2 to 31.6; two rainy seasons) that are an additional attraction for the migration of people into the area. The park also contains the headwaters of four major rivers that supply water to over 500,000 people.									
Description of human-nature interactions in the area *(land-use, traditional resource management practices etc. – within 50 words)*									
Available data indicated that there were around 80 farming communities with an estimated 2,000 households within a five-kilometre radius of the area. Each household typically maintains bout four to eight acres of cocoa and two to three acres of food crops.									

Contents

Status *("ongoing" or "completed")*	Completed	Period *(MM/YY to MM/YY)*	01/16 to 12/16

Rationale *(why activities or policies described, or information shared in the case study are needed – within 50 words)*

The designation of the Kakum Conservation Area sparked a number of socio-cultural, economic and environmental challenges. With an increasing population, declining farm productivity and land degradation within the Kakum Conservation Area, a need arose to develop and implement an agricultural system that would enhance the livelihoods of fringe communities without compromising the environmental integrity of the area.

Objectives *(goals of activities or policies described, or of producing the case study – within 50 words)*

To demonstrate the livelihood benefits of integrating biological and cultural diversity within the landscape. Traditional practices including adherence to taboos and norms were integrated into the landscape management plan to strengthen the management of the park and thus enhance the health of the ecosystem. As a means of diversifying sources of incomes without compromising the resilience of the ecosystem, certified cocoa production that is compatible with nature was promoted.

Activities and/or practices employed *(within 50 words)*

The project was built around three main thematic areas including:

1. Development of ecological and farm database;
2. Use of community-based approaches to address production challenges;
3. Promotion of economic incentives for adoption of sustainable cocoa production practices.

Results *(within 50 words)*

Generally, the project recorded significant improvement in the ecological health of the landscape and the local economy. The farm database provided an excellent tool for farmers to accurately predict crop production trends. Farmers were motivated to adopt improved practices to increase yield and earn higher cash premiums for their produce. This was a win-win situation for the environment and livelihoods of the farmers and their families.

Lessons learned *(factors in success or failure, challenges and opportunities – within 40 words)*

Cocoa production is undertaken by about 800,000 farmers and their families in Ghana. This makes cocoa production an important livelihood support pathway for most rural communities in the HFZ of Ghana. The Kakum Conservation Area project presented a good opportunity to support the argument that communities are willing to take part in conservation efforts if they understand the linkages between their livelihoods and the landscapes in which they live.

Key messages *(within 40 words)*

Constant engagement with farmers and their families in the form of investments into the provision of improved and additional livelihood options for fringe communities continued to sustain the local economy and promoted the sustainable use of natural resources in the area. There is an ongoing need for continuous engagement of farmers to sustain the gains made with the implementation of innovative activities.

Relationship to other IPSI activities *(if the case study is related to any other IPSI collaborative activities, case studies, etc.)*

This case study originally appeared in the Satoyama Initiative Thematic Review v. 3. The project was funded through the Satoyama Development Mechanism.

Funding *(any relevant information about funding of activities or projects described in the case study)*

The project was funded through the Satoyama Development Mechanism.

Contributions to Global Agendas

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/)

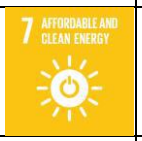
The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the "direct" or "indirect" contributions to the CBD's Aichi Biodiversity Targets respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B					
■	■	■				●			
									

Strategic Goal C			Strategic Goal D			Strategic Goal E			
●			■				■	●	
									

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs)

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the "direct" or "indirect" contributions to the SDGs respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

	■							
								
		●			●