

IPSI Collaborative Activity Proposal Form

The following form is for use when submitting proposed IPSI Collaborative Activities for consideration by the IPSI Steering Committee. See the Collaborative Activity Guidelines on p. 3 for more information.

Please return the completed form to the IPSI Secretariat (isi@unu.edu).

IPSI Collaborative Activities are the activities that shall be undertaken by more than one IPSI member and constitute an important part of IPSI activities with the purpose of fostering collaboration within the IPSI membership and implementing the IPSI Strategy and Plan of Action. The IPSI Collaborative Activities shall be developed and implemented with the endorsement of the Steering Committee in accordance with the Collaborative Activity Guidelines. Resource mobilization for IPSI collaborative activities shall be the responsibility of the implementing members in principle. – IPSI Operational Guidelines, Chapter 5.4

Date of Application:	April 1st, 2019
Project title:	
Livelihood Enhancement and Institution Building for Natural Resource Management on the Weto Landscape	
Collaborating organizations (IPSI members): (*Please underline the leading organization)	
<u>Greenglobe Ghana</u> ; Accelerated Development Organization (ARDO)	
Other contributing organization(s) (including IPSI non-members):	
University of Cape Coast (Faculty of Agricultural Economics and Extension); Volta Region Beekeepers Association (VORAB); Forestry Commission; Ghana National Fire and Rescue Services; Ministry of Food and Agriculture	
Expected term (e.g. 1st February 2019 – 1st February 1, 2020):	
IPSI strategic objective(s) addressed (tick all that apply; see p. 3 for more details):	
*	1. Increase knowledge and understanding of SEPLS
*	2. Address direct and underlying causes responsible for the decline or loss of SEPLS
*	3. Enhance benefits from SEPLS
*	4. Enhance human, institutional and sustainable financial capacities

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Description of the activity:

Please provide as much information as possible on:

- Background
- Activities (including site locations if applicable)
- Expected outcomes
- Actors and task sharing
- How the activity relates to the *IPSI Strategy* and *IPSI Plan of Action*
- Resources, funding
- Monitoring and reporting

Background

The Weto socio-economic ecological production landscape, which is part of Togo-Akwapim ranges also known as the Atakora Range measuring about 14,863 ha, spanning over eleven traditional and three political and administrative areas in the Volta Region of Ghana; a narrow belt of ridges and hills in Western Africa. The ranges begin west of Accra capital city of Ghana and continue to the frontier into Togo and Benin. The area is inhabited by people with cultural beliefs which have guided the conservation of biodiversity and protection of ecological sensitive areas. The area has been classified as biodiversity hotspot of global importance; the landscape challenges are increasing habitat destruction, biodiversity loss and reduced ecosystem services; unsustainable farming practices; inadequate livelihood support systems and weak institutional capacity to support conservation and production; land degradation and widespread poverty. Generally, the use of resources in the landscape are unsustainable with increasing use of agrochemicals, cultivation of lands along river courses, streams are drying up, reduction of soil fertility, rarity and loss of flora and fauna, and increasing erosion; no concerted resource management action as well as lack of authoritative action concerning resource use, hence the need for activities towards resilience.

To promote resilient and sound socio-ecological production actions to conserve biodiversity, and also meeting the socio economic needs of project communities along the landscape, a participatory transformative strategy has been developed by Greenglobe Ghana; Accelerated Rural Development Organization (ARDO) and collaborating organizations as University of Cape Coast; Forestry Commission; Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana National Fire and Rescue Services and Volta Beekeepers Association. The long term objective is to see a conserved natural and semi-natural habitat and ecosystems services and strengthened institutions capacity at landscape level to realize the goal of integrating conservation and production in the management of socio-ecological production landscape, as well as a sustainable agricultural practices implemented in project communities, to ensure harmony in the ecosystem and reduction in poverty induced resource degradation.

Activities

The project will achieve the following objectives by the end of the project period:

- Natural and Semi- natural habitats and ecosystem services within the project communities are conserved
- Sustainable climate smart agricultural practices implemented across project communities on the landscape to revive and enhance traditional conservation and production practices and adoption of new technologies.
- Livelihood and wellbeing of target social groups within communities sustained and enhanced through the development of livelihood enterprises in line with local tradition and culture
- Strengthened institutional capacity at the landscape level to realize the goal of integrating conservation and production in the management of Weto landscape.

Expected Outcomes:

OUTCOME 1:

Natural Resource and Semi-natural resources and ecosystem services within the landscape conserved:

About 200 people trained to invest in sustainable land management as well as 6 institutions received capacity building to participate in natural resource management. To achieve this, landowners would be involved actively in discussion on identification of valuable natural and semi-natural resources on their land and what to do to conserve them. The capacity of the landowners and their tenant farmers numbering 200 would be built and supported to identify and implement innovative strategies, procedures and opportunities to invest in sustainable land management.

OUTCOME 2: Sustainable climate smart agricultural practices implemented across project communities to enhance and revive traditional conservation and production practices and adoption of new technologies.

Practical demonstration activities would be carried out in project communities by agriculture and extension officers on cash and arable crops and spices demonstration farms to be established by the project. Twenty (20) persons per community would be trained in special workshops to assist in technology dissemination in the communities in addition to the extension officers' activities. In all, over 100 hectares of land shall be put under sustainable climate smart agricultural practices by individuals and groups, in all the communities in the project area. Cocoa, avocado and Citrus production would be used to promote biodiversity, while traditional crops grown in the area would be put on demonstration sites while new climate smart ones would be introduced.

OUTCOME 3: Strengthened institutional capacity at the landscape level to realize the goal of integrating conservation and production in the management of Weto landscape.

Capacity building would be undertaken for Traditional Rulers, Fire Volunteers, Faith Based Organizations Community Forest management groups and producer associations totaling ten (10) groups to participate in resource management. The environmental committee of the district assembly is a target beneficiary of this outcome. Also resource management clubs would be formed in community schools in the project area and assisted to undertake educational programs. Regular meetings and fora would be organized; issues on land, trees, animals, river system will be captured into bye laws and implemented. Training on value chain development approaches will be incorporated along the landscape

OUTCOME 4: Livelihood and wellbeing of target social groups within the communities enhanced and sustained through the development of livelihood enterprises in line with local tradition and culture:

The following activities would be considered to be intensified in the project area based on prevailing conditions;

- Establishment of micro-credit and village savings and loans schemes to promote investment to raise household income from the current level. This would be determined as part of project implementation.
- Beekeeping would be carried out at three demonstration sites involving the provision of 30 beehives per site. However about 80 persons would be trained in beekeeping and arrangements put in place to assist them in turns.
- One hundred (100) persons would be trained and equipped to undertake commercialize mushroom, and snails farming, piggery grasscutter and rabbitry.

- Establish a products/skills development center and revolving micro credit system.
- Documentation of lesson learned.

Actors and task sharing:

Greenglobe Ghana (GG) will be responsible for project management and coordinating organization responsible for stakeholder development, and also participate in capacity building activities.

Accelerated Rural Development Organization (ARDO) will be in charge of capacity building programs and development of training material and activities with the University of Cape Coast

University of Cape Coast (UCC) Faculty of Agricultural Economics and Extension will be responsible for research and landscape development in the project area, and also assist in the development of educational materials

Ghana National Fire and Rescue Services will be responsible for programmes aimed at capacity building in wildfire and rescue programmes along the landscape project communities.

Forestry Commission (FC) will be responsible for landscape conservation activities

Volta Region Beekeepers Association(VORAB) will be in charge of beekeeping training and kits, beehive and apiary establishment in the project communities

Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) will be responsible for agriculture extension services and capacity development of farmers and farmer based organizations (FBOs).

How the activities relate to IPSI Strategy plan of Action

The activities of this project contribute actively to support the strategic objectives of IPSI and its action plan.

Objective 1. The project emphasized on improving the indigenous knowledge and understanding the functions of socio-ecological production landscapes and seascapes (SEPLS). Where project communities would be sensitized on the benefits and values of conserving biodiversity and its importance to life.

Objective 2. Addresses the effects of deforestation and forest degradation, by establishment of tree nurseries of economic and indigenous species for enrichment planting of degraded areas and establishment of woodlots.

Objective 3. Stresses on enhancement of benefit from sustainable management of landscape resources, to promote afforestation and sustainable participatory land use management for increase in agriculture productivity.

Objective 4. Also acts on capacity building of resource management groups, livelihood enhancement activities as economic support of project communities.

Resources funding

Collaborating and contributing organizations will start the project with internally generated funds, and funds from ongoing projects for project implementation, and continue to mobilize resources from potential funding organizations.

Monitoring and Reporting

Monitoring of the project would be done in continuum to measure performance in terms of qualitative and quantitative increase. This activity and impact purposes would be monitored and evaluated. A Project Monitoring Committee would be formed among project partners and collaborating organizations to monitor, evaluate and report on the project regularly to the Project Management Committee and relevant stakeholders. The project team would also carry out another level of monitoring and evaluation monthly, quarterly, yearly and at the end of the project and report to donors and IPSI.

Instruments such as observation, interviews, focused group discussion; questionnaire would be used to collect monitoring and evaluation data on the project at each stage of the project. Input and output processes evaluation would be carried out to determined their adequacy and effectiveness.

Please attach additional pages as necessary.

IPSI Secretariat use only