SAFEGUARDS MONITORING REPORT

ASUNAFO – ASUTIFI HIA

JAN – JUN,
2023

CLIMATE CHANGE DIRECTORATE

(NATIONAL REDD+ SECRETARIAT)

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

COCOBOD	Ghana Cocoa Board
CREMA	Community Resource Management Area
CRMC	Community Resource Management Committee
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
FC	Forestry Commission
FGRM	Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism
FR	Forest Reserve
GoG	Government of Ghana
HFZ	High Forest Zone
HIA	Hotspot Intervention Area
HMB	Hotspot Intervention Area Management Board
NCRC	Nature Conservation Research Centre
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
PMU	Project Management Unit
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation, the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
SAP	Safeguards Action Plan
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SHEC	Sub-HIA Executive Committee
SIS	Safeguards Information System
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB	World Bank

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Programme (GCFRP) is the premier emission reductions programme fully developed from a 25-year Ghana REDD+ Strategy (GRS) by the Government of Ghana through the Forestry Commission and Ghana Cocoa Board (Cocobod) with funding support from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) of the World Bank. The programme seeks to significantly reduce carbon emissions resulting from cocoa expansion into forests through the promotion of appropriate climate-smart cocoa production approaches, including intensification and yield enhancement. The programme spans a mosaic landscape that produces commodities of international and national importance - cocoa, timber, palm oil, and food crops. However, the dominant crop in the landscape and also of national importance is the cocoa from which the programme derives the name "Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Programme".

Cocoa is Ghana's most important agricultural commodity, accounting for roughly 57 per cent of all agricultural exports and supporting the livelihoods of about 2.5 million rural farmers and their dependents. Cocoa production is predominant in the High Forest Zone (HFZ) of Ghana. The Western Region holds the largest area of remaining primary forest in Ghana and produces over 50per cent of the country's cocoa beans. However, Ghana's forests have come under severe threat from agricultural expansion, which is the major cause of forest loss, mainly driven by cocoa production. This makes cocoa production the single biggest driver of deforestation in the landscape[1]. Underlying causes for this include limited financial and technical support for sustainable cocoa production leading to expansion into forest areas; legal disincentives to maintaining trees on farms; a lack of land use planning and landscape management; and a lack of collaboration amongst cocoa stakeholders.

In line with the goal of GCFRP, on-the-ground implementation of GCFRP is routed through Hotspot Intervention Areas situated within the GCFRP operational area. The Asunafo – Asutifi HIA is one of the designated landscapes where GCFRP implementation is underway with the support of a consortium made up of Forestry Commission, COCOBOD, World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), Mondelez, United Nations Development Programme, Proforest, Tropenbos Ghana and Touton. The partnership adopts a jurisdictional approach which ensures that all stakeholders across the cocoa sector commit to and collaborate on achieving Climate Smart Cocoa which is

[1] Partnership for Productivity Protection and Resilience in Cocoa Landscapes (3PRCL) – Touton https://3prcocoalandscapes.com/about/intro-background

tied to Ghana's Emission Reduction Programme. Key activities implemented in the HIA include restoration (Enrichment Planting, Modified Taungya System, Tree On Farm), livelihoods improvement interventions and Climate Smart Cocoa. All these interventions are primarily aimed at helping farmers with the necessary ecological and economic investments to ensure sustainable optimum cocoa production.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) requirements as stipulated in the Warsaw Framework for REDD+ recognizes that safeguards are a key part of REDD+ implementation and link the Cancun safeguards to results-based payment. This requires that countries implementing REDD+ should demonstrate how they have addressed and respected safeguards through the implementation of their REDD+ interventions. One of UNFCCC's key priorities is ensuring that social and environmental safeguards are adhered to, throughout the REDD+ process. In addition, since the Carbon Fund via the World Bank will be purchasing the ERs generated from the GCRFP, environmental and social risks associated with the GCRFP activities would be mitigated and addressed using the World Bank safeguards policies and procedures. To comply with the World Bank's safeguards requirements, Ghana has carried out a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) to better understand the environmental and social concerns of the programme, and to better define the necessary mitigation mechanisms and safeguards compliance issues associated with activities to be implemented in the GCFRP. Specifically, it details the risks and opportunities, and identifies the World Bank Safeguards policies triggered. The SESA report resulted in an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) to guide the implementation of the proposed ER programme. The National REDD+ Secretariat (NRS) of the Forestry Commission (FC) ensures that mitigation measures and recommendations in the ESMF applicable to the ER Programme area are implemented.

Table 1: World Bank Operational Procedures triggered by the GCFRP

World Bank Safeguard Policy	**Triggered under REDD+ in Ghana**
OP 4.01: Environmental Assessment	GCFRP will engage IN activities that use forest resources in the HIAs and potentially impact other environmental areas. These activities may have environmental impacts on a limited scale, but a safeguards screening checklist has

	been prepared to screen activities under the programme and ESMPs subsequently prepared to guide in addressing or mitigating potential impacts.
OP 4.04: Natural Habitats	Some of the HIAs contain critical ecosystems. GCFRP will enhance the quality of the management of these critical ecosystems and reduce risks associated with cocoa and other agroforestry practices. The ESMP provides guidance on avoiding or mitigating impacts on natural habitats.
OP 4.36: Forests	Forest policy and management are a primary focus of this project, in addition to trees in the agroforestry landscape. The screening done provides guidance on managing forest ecosystems and their associated resource as reflected in the ESMF.
OP 4.09: Pest Management	The project will not directly finance the use of pesticides but will promote integrated pest management (IPM) and climate-smart practices and resilient 'shade' cocoa. The project-specific Pest Management Plan has been prepared. The ESMF provides identification of IPM activities linked to cocoa enhancement activities. In addition, key environmental and social issues and risks associated with chemical applications in cocoa have been analyzed in the ESMP.
OP 4.11: Physical Cultural Resources	The ESMF and Process Framework incorporate screening to ensure that the project would not have any negative impact on sacred sites. Screening of sites for pilot activities will include specific screening under the ESMF.
OP 4.12: Involuntary Resettlement	No involuntary resettlement is expected. However, as part of plans for ensuring that forests are protected and well managed, there will be efforts to reduce encroachment due to the expansion of cultivated areas. These restrictions of access will be negotiated with farmers. Inputs and incentives will be offered to increase agricultural productivity within the historical boundaries of admitted farms. Process Framework will be used to guide and ensure participatory processes during implementation.

This Safeguards and Monitoring Report has been developed to demonstrate how environmental and social safeguards requirements of the World Bank, as well as the relevant national laws and regulations, policies and institutional requirements, are being adhered to throughout the implementation of activities/interventions in the Asunafo-Asutifi HIA.

2.0 ACTIVITIES/INTERVENTIONS IN ASUNAFO – ASUTIFI HIA

2.1 Restoration Activities

Restoration consists of activities that lead to tree planting in on-reserves and off-reserves. Under the emission reduction programme three main restoration activities are recognised in the HIA namely: Modified Taungya System (MTS), Enrichment Planting and Trees on Farm (ToF).

2.1.1 Modified Taungya System (MTS)

This is a system of agroforestry practice where farmers from fringe communities of Degraded Forest Reserves are allocated degraded areas on reserve to undertake plantation development. In this system, farmers provide labour for the site preparation, pegging, planting and tending of the plantation. The Forestry Commission provided logistics (including; pegs, tree seedling and some other farming tools as well as protective clothing) and technical support to the farmers. Farmers were allowed to grow food crops along with the tree seedlings and harvest the crops for themselves whiles tending the tree seedlings for three to four years when tree canopy closes and crop production becomes impossible under the shade. A Benefit Sharing Plan (BSP) was instituted for the MTS with a proportion of 40%: 40%: 15%: 5% to Farmers, Forestry Commission, Community and Traditional Authorities respectively.

The selection of a community or farmer group for the MTS was based on the following criteria among others:

I. Proximity to the planting site; Since the plantation establishment is labour intensive especially during activities such as site preparation, selection of communities or farmer group was based on their proximity and thus those fringing the Forest Reserves are selected. Another reason was that communities are responsible for ensuring that the plantation and the Forest Reserve as a whole is protected from wildfire, illegality, etc. and so communities fringing the reserve were mostly selected.
II. Willingness to participate: As per the Benefit Sharing Plan, proponents are responsible for their individual roles, thus it requires a willing farmer or a community that understand and are willing to invest and wait for the returns in a long term. Some farmers would prefer to be paid for their labour and forfeit future returns.
III. Previous experience: With the implementation of MTS in Ghana nearing two decades, the FC has had a myriad interactions and engagements with communities fringing Forest Reserves and have institutional memory of committed communities based on their past

performance. Thus, the selection criteria of farmers also included past community performance in MTS establishment including their ability to protect previous plantation stands established.

IV. Ability to work on the farm: Selection of farmers was also based on their age and health conditions. Strong adults and youth were preferred regardless of the gender.

2.1.2 Enrichment Planting

Enrichment planting was undertaken in a fairly degraded forest with the aim of increasing tree cover by planting tree seedlings within the forest. This plantation model has introduced valuable species to degraded forests without the elimination of valuable individuals already present. In Asunafo Asutifi HIA, the FC Forest District manages Enrichment Planting activities. In Enrichment Planting, strips of 5-6-meter width are cut through the degraded portions of the compartment along which tree seedlings are planted and nurtured to increase tree density. This work is done under the supervision of Forestry Commission.

2.1.3 Trees on farms (ToF)

This system of carbon stock enhancement focuses mainly on cocoa farms in off-reserve areas that are unshaded or not fully shaded according to the right regime. Farmers were supported and have incorporated trees in their farms to ensure sustainable yield whilst at the same time contributing to climate change mitigation. By incorporating trees on their farms, they contribute to carbon stock enhancement, which serves as a carbon sink.

In executing this model, COCOBOD and private sector cocoa companies supported ToF implementation since it falls directly within their remit although under strong coordination and partnership with the Forestry Commission and COCOBOD. Farmers benefit from agricultural extension services as well as supervision and logistical support. In this HIA, Assin Fosu Forest District, COCOBOD Districts, and NCRC as well as Cocoa companies such as Ecom and Hershey are leading ToF.

2.2 Climate- Smart Cocoa

Climate-Smart Cocoa (CSC) consists of farm-level activities that lead to increased resilience, carbon sequestration and general improvement in the livelihood of farmers. At this, a number of REDD+ partners in the HIA including COCOBOD and the private sector cocoa companies undertake climate-smart related activities. The Ghana Cocoa Board generally term their version of CSC as Productivity Enhancement Programme (PEP). COCOBOD since 2017 has rolled out the PEPs to shore up cocoa production in the country and consolidate its position as the leading producer of premium quality cocoa beans in the world. The objective of the PEPs is to roll out a set of measures that will improve productivity per hectare and increase cocoa production levels well above 1 million metric tonnes per year (versus an average of 800,000 tonnes per year over the last ten years). The PEPs mainly entail measures to sustainably increase plant fertility; develop irrigation systems; rehabilitate aged and disease-infected farms; increase warehouse capacity; and create an integrated farmer database. Some of the activities under PEPs include the following:

- Cocoa Rehabilitation Programme
- Cocoa Diseases and Pest Control Programme (CODAPEC)
- Cocoa HiTech (Fertilizer) Programme
- Free Hybrid Cocoa Seedling Distribution
- Artificial Hand Pollination
- Mass Cocoa Pruning
- Cocoa Management System (CMS)
- Irrigation

1. Irrigation Cocoa Rehabilitation Programme

Under this programme, COCOBOD bears the full cost of the two-year rehabilitation process which involves the cutting of cocoa trees affected by the Cocoa Swollen and Virus Disease (CSSVD), treating whole farms and replanting them with disease-tolerant, early bearing, and high yielding cocoa hybrid cocoa seedlings as well as complementary plantain suckers to provide temporary shade for the young cocoa seedlings and recommended desirable shade tree species to provide permanent shade for the newly established cocoa.

2. Cocoa Disease and Pests Control (CODAPEC)

COCOBOD introduced the CODAPEC programme (Mass Spraying) in 2001/2002 to control black pod disease and mirids (capsids) to prevent their effects on cocoa production. The programme comes at no cost to the farmer. Only mapped farms in good condition are considered under this exercise. COCOBOD takes full responsibility of carting chemicals to the regions and districts for onward distribution to farmers through various task forces in districts and communities. The chemicals are allocated to farmers to arrange with supervisors of spraying gangs to plan spraying schedules to spray their farms. There are 2 components involved:

- Capsid control
  i. A 7-member spraying gang (supervisor inclusive) ensures two (2) rounds of insecticides application in April/May and September/October respectively.
  ii. Cocoa farmers are then expected to complement the first two (2) rounds with additional two (2) rounds in June and December within a cropping year.
- Black pod Control
  i. The first three (3) rounds of fungicides application spraying are carried out between 3-4 weeks' intervals by COCOBOD in June, July and August/October.
  ii. Cocoa farmers are encouraged to work closely with the gang to identify which periods within the intervals to complement with additional three (3) rounds application of the fungicides

3. Cocoa HiTech Programme

Management of Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) re-introduced the Subsidized Fertilizer Programme following evidence of widespread theft, nepotism, favouritism diversion and smuggling which characterized the then 'Free Fertilizer Programme' some years ago.The aim of the fertilizer distribution was to restore soil nutrients depletion to enable a smooth process during cocoa production. The Subsidized Programme, which makes use of the private sector in the distribution processes, seeks to ensure availability, equity, and transparency. The introduction of this new scheme, with active private sector participation, has also helped to create jobs to boost economic growth in the country. Generally, the Cocoa HiTech Programme has a number of benefits including:

- cutting off the needless politicization, nepotism and theft that hitherto characterized the distribution of fertilizers

- stimulating an industry that is one of Ghana's top earners of foreign exchange and accounts for about 7 percent of gross domestic product.
- eliminating market distortions as well as steps to map cocoa farms and soil, improving sector management, upgrading ports and storage facilities and rehabilitate ageing trees.
- enhancing access of the ordinary cocoa farmer to the right fertilizer which will help stimulate productivity and increase livelihood.
- Promoting a subsidized programme, which makes use of the private sector in the distribution processes, ensures availability, equity, and transparency

The mode of distribution of the farm inputs is done through the following processes:

- Farmer based Cooperatives are formed, in order to facilitate equitable distribution of fertilizers. Each farmer must belong to a community farmer based corporative.
- Cooperatives then must apply for the subsidized fertilizers at COCOBOD. Farmers can therefore apply through these approved farmer-based cooperatives.
- Farmers are given a one-year moratorium for the payment of the subsidized fertilizers.

4. Free Hybrid Cocoa Seedling Distribution program

Every year, Ghana Cocoa Board (COCOBOD) through the Seed Production Division (SPD) raises disease-tolerant hybrid cocoa seedlings for distribution to farmers free of charge. The initiative is aimed at increasing cocoa production and incomes of cocoa farmers.

Distribution of the seedlings to farmers is mostly done from May – July every year to enable farmers plant them. The mode of distribution takes the following processes:

- The seedlings are raised by the Seed Production Division (SPD) at over 380 nursery sites established in communities across the cocoa regions.
- The Cocoa Health and Extension Division (CHED) distributes the seedlings using farmer data.

5. Artificial Hand pollination programme

This is done to induce pollination of matured cocoa trees top enhance productivity. The processes involved are detailed below:

- A farm ear-marked for pollination must be pruned two months before it is pollinated
- Transfer of pollen grains is aided by forceps and containers
- Application of fertilizers is essential to support pod setting and development

6. Mass cocoa pruning programme

A strategy to prune all productive cocoa across all cocoa growing regions and districts. To this end COCOBOD has supplied 100,000 motorized pruners to various farmer cooperatives to encourage pruning and weeding/slashing as pruning is the master key that unlocks flowering in cocoa to aid flowering and pod setting. It also helps to reduce the incidence of pests and diseases that affects cocoa farms.

7. Cocoa Management System (CMS)

Popularly known as Cocoa farmer census is a program under which all cocoa farmers are enumerated with their data captured including useful sociodemographic characteristics. Their farm sizes and other farm characteristics are also captured. This data will eventually be the platform upon which essential services like cocoa farmers pension scheme would be rolled out for farmers by COCOBOD

8. Irrigation

Due to climate change and its devastating effects COCOBOD has embarked on an aggressive irrigation programme to bring irrigation to the farm gate of the ordinary cocoa farmer as a climate change mitigating and coping strategy. To this end a lot of boreholes have been sunk and solar powered to irrigate some clusters of farms in the various district. Plans are far advanced to dam some big rivers in the cocoa districts for irrigation purposes.

2.3 Wildlife Conservation and Protection

The Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission has a mission to ensure conservation, sustainable management and development of Ghana's wildlife resources for socio-economic benefit to all segments of society. Specially, the Division has adopted the following strategies:

- Protect and develop Ghana's permanent estate of wildlife-Protected Areas (PAs).
- Promote management and development of wildlife outside wildlife-Protected Areas.
- Develop Eco- tourism potentials of the PAs.
- Promote the development of wildlife - based enterprises.
- Develop linkages with other agencies and NGOs whose activities impact wildlife.
- Assist local communities to develop and manage own reserves
- Foster closer collaboration with communities closer to PAs through the promotion of community resource management areas (CREMA).

- Promote public awareness and education on wildlife management issues.

In line with the above, in the Asunafo Asutifi HIA, the Wildlife Division at the district level embarks on a number of activities including community education and sensitization, as well as patrolling and monitoring of forest reserves for biodiversity protection and conservation.

2.4 Proforest Production Landscape Programme (PLP)

The Production Landscape Programme (PLP) is aimed at helping companies and other stakeholders throughout the agro-commodity production landscape to align with national policy processes to address challenges such as deforestation, child labour, low productivity, smallholder inclusion, access to land, and gender equality inherent in agro-commodity production. The PLP is a three-year programme being implemented in Ghana, Cameroon, Liberia, Indonesia and China, with funding support from the UK Aid through the Forest Governance, Markets and Climate (FGMC) Programme to help companies align with national initiatives to reduce deforestation and improve social and environmental outcomes of agricultural commodity production. The implementation of the PLP in Ghana, provided the opportunity for Proforest to get actively engaged in the production landscape, bringing on board its vast experience and expertise in responsible sourcing and responsible production principles and approaches to facilitate the development of the Asunafo-Asutifi Landscape Programme.

3.0 UPTAKE OF SAFEGUARDS IN REDD+ PROGRAMMES/ACTIVITIES AT THE HIA LEVEL

Generally, the mix of projects/interventions being implemented in the Asunafo-Asutifi HIA have contributed to many transformational positive impacts with minimal risks/impacts. This attests to the fact that stakeholders have taken safeguards adherence extremely seriously following the capacity building/training on safeguards in project implementation. Additionally, community members interacted with during the monitoring exercise attested to the numerous trainings / capacity building opportunities they have received from various stakeholders on a number of topics. The topics include climate-smart cocoa, farmer business school, safe handling of agro-chemicals, proper disposal of agrochemicals, compost/organic fertilizer application, buffer zone protection, wildlife and forest protection, to mention a few. Again, it came to light that there has been deep involvement of local traditional systems and decision-making processes throughout REDD+ related activities fostering many impacts including community ownership and acceptance of the Ghana emission reduction programme. The rights and knowledge of local communities were observed to have been strictly respected including taboos and totems, experience/knowledge in cocoa farming and traditional conflict resolution mechanisms. It worthwhile to share that gender has been progressively integrated and mainstreamed in project implementation by the project proponents.

Furthermore, the non-carbon component of the emission reduction programme has been much emphasized. Greater number of communities have been supplied with farm inputs such as cocoa and shade tree seedlings free of charge to enhance contributions towards emission reductions and yield enhancement.

The adherence of the safeguard in the REDD+ implementation the HIA has helped to maximize both environmental and social benefits with some examples below:

- improved vegetative or tree cover in the project communities
- improved environmental integrity of the project landscape
- Lead to livelihood improvement of beneficiary communities
- improved resilience to climate change
- Encourage knowledge sharing among beneficiaries and communities
- Increased livelihood and economic activities of beneficiary communities
- Enhanced health standards

- Good time management for productive activities
- Reduced conflicts and enhance peaceful co-existence amongst community members
- Accelerated development of communities
- Improved income for farmers

Table 2: Results of monitoring of activities in the HIA

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
Modified Taungya System	Poor records of primary supply and contract workers	4.01 Environmental Assessment	• Proper records of workers are kept and updated as appropriate	• Records of workers	
	Failure to honour MTS benefit arrangement	4.04 Habitats	• Ensured engagement of MTS beneficiaries on the right percentages due them.	• Records of engagement	
	Unavailability and no/limited use of personal protective equipment	4.36 Forests	• Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate. • Education and sensitization were done on the need for and proper usage of PPEs	• Records of PPE supply • Confirmation with workers	
	Limited awareness creation programs on health and safety including chemical handling.		• Design and implementation of awareness creation programs to educate persons on protecting workers' health and safety including paying attention to chemical handling was done	• Confirmation with workers • On-site verification with farmers	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			• Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate.		

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
Enrichment planting	Poor records keeping of primary supply workers	4.01 Environmental Assessment 4.04 Habitats 4.36 Forests	• Employment and other opportunities were given to local communities as much as possible. • Proper records of workers are kept and updated as appropriate	• Confirmation with communities	
	Poor records keeping of contract workers				
	Unavailability and no/limited use of		• Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate.	• Site observation • Confirmation with communities	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	personal protective equipment		• Education and sensitization were done on the need for and proper usage of PPEs		
	Limited awareness creation programs on health and safety		• Design and implementation of awareness creation programs to educate persons on protecting workers' health and safety including paying attention to chemical handling was done • Workers wore suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate.	• Confirmation with communities • On-site verification with farmers	
	Delay in payment of contract workers		• Ensured workers were paid on time	• Records of payments	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
Trees on Farms	Disturbance of flora and fauna	4.01 Environmental Assessment	• Environmentally sensitive sites and unnecessary exposure or access to sensitive habitats were avoided	• Site observation	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
		4.04 Natural Habitats 4.09 Pest Management 4.36 Forests	• Planting was designed to include both exotic and indigenous plants in the right proportions and positions • Organic farming practices were implemented and this helped minimize the use of inorganic fertilizers and herbicides that are major contributors to soil and surface water quality deterioration • Labour-intensive approach using simple farm tools like hoes and cutlasses was employed.		
	Planting single tree species		• Planting was designed to include variety of both exotic and indigenous plants in the right proportions and positions • Planned and strategized the procurement of desirable and diversified seedlings	• Site observation • Records of seedlings supplied	
	Planting/ keeping shade tree with undesirable characteristics e.g., Disease prone shade				

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	trees, host of pest and diseases, easily broken branches etc.				
	Planting inadvisable shade tree species e.g., invasive species				
	Planting more trees than required leading to over-shadowing of cocoa farms.		• Farms were mapped to determine farm sizes and site/area specific conditions to avoid over supply of seedlings • Thinning out was done to adjust the number of trees on the farms		
	Limited understanding on shade tree management.		• Education/ adequate trainings were provided to farmers	• Training report	
	Destruction from harvesting of timber resources on farm		• A grievance mechanism was established to ensure any complaints/comments regarding the Project is received and responded to in a timely manner,	• FGRM operationalized • Reports	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			providing solutions and taking corrective measures as appropriate • Appropriate sanctions were applied on offenders including fines and jail sentences		
	Failure to register farmers		• Records of farmers are kept	• Records of farmers	
	Limited awareness creation on health and safety including tools and equipment handling		• Design and implementation of awareness creation programs to educate persons on protecting workers' health and safety including paying attention to chemical and equipment handling was done • Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate	• Training report • On-site verification with farmers	
	Unavailability and no/limited use of		• Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate.	• Records of PPE supply • Training report	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	personal protective equipment		• Education and sensitization were done on the need for and proper usage of PPEs		

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
Climate Smart Cocoa	Exposure of local folks (farmers) to chemicals during and after application of agrochemical on cocoa farmers.	4.01 Environmental Assessment 4.04 Natural Habitats 4.09 Pest Management 4.36 Forests	• Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate. • Education and sensitization were done on the need for and proper usage of PPEs • The use of agrochemicals including inorganic fertilizers, weedicides and pesticides was reduced as much as possible. Where possible, mechanical weed control was considered instead of the use of weedicides.	• Records of PPE supply • Training report	
	Generation of fumes during cutting down of		• Minimized burning of biomass as much as possible	• Site observation	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	diseased or over-aged cocoa trees.		• Fire was used only in situations where this was effective and least environmentally damaging • The use of agrochemicals including inorganic fertilizers, weedicides and pesticides was reduced as much as possible. Where possible, mechanical weed control was considered instead of the use of weedicides.	• Records of PPEs provided	
	Impacts on flora and fauna		• Environmentally sensitive sites and unnecessary exposure or access to sensitive habitats were avoided • Planting was designed to include both exotic and indigenous plants in the right proportions and positions • Organic farming practices (planting nitrogen-fixing species, agroforestry practices, composting, application of	• Site observation	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			organic fertilizers) were implemented and this helped minimize the use of inorganic fertilizers and herbicides that are major contributors to soil and surface water quality deterioration • Labour-intensive approach using simple farm tools like hoes and cutlasses was employed.		
	Land clearing and vegetation loss at rehab farms		• Organic farming practices (planting nitrogen-fixing species, agroforestry practices, composting, application of organic fertilizers) were implemented and this helped minimize the use of inorganic fertilizers and herbicides that are major contributors to soil and surface water quality deterioration	• Site observation	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			• Labour-intensive approach using simple farm tools like hoes and cutlasses was employed. • Felled trees and cleared under- brushes were chipped and formed into windrows and allowed to decompose and/or used as pegs for planting		
	Risks of accelerated erosion		• Sensitive sites with high erosion risk were identified and were not cultivated. Vegetation of such areas was maintained to help control erosion as well as to ensure soil stability • Implementation of standard erosion and sediment control best management practices	• Site observation	
	Risks of pollution / contamination of water bodies with herbicides,		• The use of agrochemicals including inorganic fertilizers, weedicides and pesticides was reduced as much as	• Site observation • Training report	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	pesticides, insecticides, weedicides, ash, dust)		possible. Where possible, mechanical weed control was considered instead of the use of weedicides. • Promotion of buffer zones along the local streams to ensure their integrity and protection of other aquatic life forms. The buffer reserves serve as natural filters for surface runoff from the planting areas. The reserves also play a major role in protecting the banks of the waterways from channel erosion. • Farmers trained and provided with tools to create buffer of no-spray zones in farms with close proximity to water body(s) • Farmers whose farms located along water bodies were provided with technical		

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			assistance to leave a vegetation cover as a buffer zone along the water bodies. • Implementation of standard erosion and sediment control best management practices • Organic farming practices (planting nitrogen-fixing species, agroforestry practices, composting, application of organic fertilizers) were implemented and this helped minimize the use of inorganic fertilizers and herbicides that are major contributors to soil and surface water quality deterioration		
	Risks involved with the harvesting of timber resources		• A grievance mechanism was established to ensure any complaints / comments regarding the Project is received and responded to in a timely manner,	• FGRM operationalized	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			providing solutions and taking corrective measures as appropriate • Appropriate sanctions were applied on offenders including fines and jail sentences		
	Cultivating cocoa without adherence to the buffer zone policy		• Farmers trained and provided with tools to create buffer of no-spray zones in farms in close proximity to water body(s) • Farmers whose farms are located along water bodies were provided with technical assistance to leave a vegetation cover as a buffer zone along the water bodies. • Technical officers and farm inspectors sampled and visited farms to check compliance	• Training report • Site observation	
	Increase in pests and disease due to too much		• Producers (farmers) trained on pruning techniques to reduce unnecessary shade	• Site observation • Training report	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	shade and undesirable shade trees		• Producers (farmers) trained to control pest using the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques to use only approved crop protection products for all other crops fields.		
	Involve the use of unapproved/ not recommended agrochemicals (weedicides, pesticides, insecticides etc.)		• Raised awareness on the list of approved agro-inputs and the list shared/pasted at vantage points for public viewing	• Confirmation with communities • List of approved and unapproved agrochemicals shared	
	Over-use of agro-inputs such as fertilizers and agro-chemicals.		• The use of agrochemicals including inorganic fertilizers, weedicides and pesticides was reduced as much as possible. Where possible, mechanical weed control was considered instead of the use of weedicides.	• Training report • List of approved and unapproved agrochemicals shared	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			• Education and sensitization were done on the proper use and dosage of agro-inputs		
	Use of fire during land preparation		• Fire was used only in situations where this was effective and least environmentally damaging • Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate.	• Site observation • Records of PPEs provided	
	Limited and/or untimely supply of cocoa seedlings		• Seedlings were supplied on time to meet onset of reliable rainfall • Seedlings were sourced within close proximity/catchment area	• Records of seedlings supply	
	Establishing new farms cocoa farms within forest reserves.		• Admitted farmers that expanded beyond allowed limits were made to return to the permitted areas only • District Assembly by-laws used to support the conservation of dedicated forests and to sanction encroachment	• Engagement/training Reports • Records of admitted farms • DA by-laws	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			• Farmers trained and encouraged to involve in alternative livelihood programs to prevent the risk of expansion in to protected areas.		
	Generation of hazardous waste such as arboricides, herbicides, weedicides, and pesticides.		• Mass sprayers who spray agro-chemicals for farmers have been cautioned and educated on proper disposal of chemical containers after use • Famers have been encouraged to report hazardous activities of neighbors to through the FGRM for correction remedy • Training on safe chemical application was given • Trained spraying gangs (farmer) on how to wear PPEs and the essence of PPEs.	• Training report • Awareness creation materials displayed • List of approved and unapproved agrochemicals shared • FGRM operationalized	
	Risks with transportation of hazardous chemicals (arboricides, herbicides, weedicides, and pesticides)				
	Improper disposal of hazardous waste				
	Poor storage of hazardous chemicals				

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	Recycle of hazardous chemicals				
	Improper or poor records keeping of direct workers		• Employment and other opportunities were given to local communities as much as possible. • Proper records of workers are kept and updated as appropriate	• Records of workers	
	Improper or poor records keeping of contracted workers				
	Improper or poor records of primary supply workers				
	Potentially could cause or aggravate land-use conflicts		• A grievance mechanism was established to ensure any complaints/comments regarding the Project is received and responded to in a timely manner, providing solutions and taking corrective measures as appropriate	• FGRM operationalized • Forest Management plan • Engagement/training Reports	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			• Stakeholder consultations done to identify best practices and guide implementation in partnership with traditional authorities • Forest Management plan prepared for all sites to also reflect community expectations • Admitted farmers that expanded beyond allowed limits were made to return to the permitted areas only • District Assembly by-laws used to support the conservation of dedicated forests and to sanction encroachment	• Records of admitted farms • DA by-laws	
	Unavailability and no/limited use of personal protective equipment		• Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate. • Sensitization was done on the need for and proper usage of PPEs	• Confirmation with workers	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	Limited awareness creation of programs on health and safety including chemical handling		• Design and implementation of awareness creation programs to educate persons on protecting workers' health and safety including paying attention to chemical handling was done • Workers were required to wear suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate	• Training report • On-site verification with farmers	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
Additional livelihoods Activities/Interventions	Potentially pollute/contaminate water bodies (herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, weedicides, ash etc.)	4.01 Environmental Assessment 4.04 Habitats	• The use of agrochemicals including inorganic fertilizers, weedicides and pesticides was reduced as much as possible. Where possible, mechanical weed control was considered instead of the use of weedicides. • Promotion of buffer zones along the local streams to ensure their integrity and	• Site observation • Training report	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
		4.09 Pest Management 4.36 Forests	protection of other aquatic life forms. The buffer reserves serve as natural filters for surface runoff from the planting areas. The reserves also play a major role in protecting the banks of the waterways from channel erosion. • Farmers trained and provided with tools to create buffer of no-spray zones in farms with close proximity to water body(s) • Farmers whose farms located along water bodies were provided with technical assistance to leave a vegetation cover as a buffer zone along the water bodies. • Implementation of standard erosion and sediment control best management practices • Organic farming practices (planting nitrogen-fixing species, agroforestry		

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			practices, composting, application of organic fertilizers) were implemented and this helped minimize the use of inorganic fertilizers and herbicides that are major contributors to soil and surface water quality deterioration		
	Potentially could be located within buffer zones or water bodies		• Promotion of buffer zones along the local streams to ensure their integrity and protection of other aquatic life forms. The buffer reserves serve as natural filters for surface runoff from the planting areas. The reserves also play a major role in protecting the banks of the waterways from channel erosion. • Farmers trained and provided with tools to create buffer of no-spray zones in farms with close proximity to water body(s)	• Site observation • Training report	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			• Farmers whose farms located along water bodies were provided with technical assistance to leave a vegetation cover as a buffer zone along the water bodies. • Technical officers and farm inspectors sampled and visited farms to check compliance		
	Use of fire during land maintenance		• Fire was used only in situations where this was effective and least environmentally damaging • Most biomass generated was used as firewood and also as pegs • Minimized burning of biomass as much as possible • Workers wore suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate • A grievance mechanism was established to ensure any complaints/comments regarding	• Site observation • Records of PPEs provided • Training report • FGRM operationalized	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			the Project is received and responded to in a timely manner, providing solutions and taking corrective measures as appropriate		
	Over-use of agro-inputs such fertilizers and agro-chemicals		• The use of agrochemicals including inorganic fertilizers, weedicides and pesticides was reduced as much as possible. Where possible, mechanical weed control was considered instead of the use of weedicides. • Education and sensitization were done on the proper use and dosage of agro-inputs	• Training report • List of approved and unapproved agrochemicals shared	
	Lead to the transportation of hazardous chemicals (herbicides, weedicides, and pesticides)		• Mass sprayers who spray agro chemicals for farmers have been cautioned and educated on proper disposal of chemical containers after use • Famers have been encouraged to report hazardous activities of neighbours to through the FGRM for correction remedy	• Training report • Awareness creation materials displayed • List of approved and unapproved agrochemicals shared	
	Generation of hazardous waste such as herbicides,				

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	weedicides, and pesticides.		• Training on safe chemical application was given • Trained farmers on how to wear PPEs and the essence of PPEs.	• FGRM operationalized	
	Improper disposal of hazardous waste				
	Improper storage of hazardous waste				
	Improper or poor records keeping of workers		• Employment and other opportunities were given to local communities as much as possible. • Proper records of workers are kept and updated as appropriate	• Records of workers	
	Potentially could cause or aggravate land-use conflicts		• A grievance mechanism was established to ensure any complaints/comments regarding the Project is received and responded to in a timely manner, providing solutions and taking corrective measures as appropriate	• FGRM operationalized • Forest Management plan • Engagement/training Reports	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
			• Stakeholder consultations done to identify best practices and guide implementation in partnership with traditional authorities • Forest Management plan was prepared for all sites to also reflect community expectations • District Assembly byelaws used to support the conservation of dedicated forests and to sanction encroachment • Admitted farmers that expanded beyond allowed limits and were made to return to the permitted areas only	• Records of admitted farms • DA by-laws	
	Low percentage of women in livelihood improvement activities		• Employment and other opportunities were given to local communities as much as possible. • Equal opportunity was given to all abled bodied persons who wanted to participate	• Records of farmers • Training reports	
	Prioritization of a few demographics in terms of labour				

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
	Unfair selection of beneficiaries		• Gender empowerment trainings were carried out for farmers		
	Limited awareness creation of programs on health and safety issues		• Design and implementation of awareness creation programs to educate persons on protecting workers' health and safety including paying attention to chemical and equipment handling was done • Workers wore suitable Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as appropriate	• Training report • On-site verification with farmers	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
Wildlife protection and management	Public health risks resulting from poor beekeeping management practices	4.01 Environmental Assessment 4.04 Habitats	• Beehives sited in safe environment away from settlements and people • Protective gears put on when performing operational activities on beehives	• State of beekeeping protective gears and extraction equipment	

ACTIVITY	RISKS	OP TRIGGERED	MITIGATION MEASURES	INDICATOR/ MEANS OF VERIFICATION	REMARKS
		4.36 Forests	• Honey extraction equipment kept safe and professionally cleaned during and after use • Community members sensitized on the locations of beehives • Warming signals strategically placed in locations of beehives to turn off people	• Field observation • Report • Evidence of warning signals	

NB: With regards to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), stakeholders are entreated to protect themselves as much as possible even in the absence of industrial grade PPE. That is, clothing that covers every inch of the body like PPE would (long sleeved shirts, jeans, boots/footwear, mask).

4.0 OPERATIONALISATION OF FEEDBACK AND GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM (FGRM)

NRS has made provisions for FGRM hotlines and stakeholders have been made aware of this through sensitization and awareness creation. While activities are being implemented within the Asunafo Asutifi HIA, there have been a few reports on grievances, and feedback has been received.

Support is provided by private sector, NGOs/CSOs, and other stakeholders necessary for helping local actors submit their grievances.

The ERPD identified potential conflict sources for categorising grievances. The potential conflict sources are;

- Resource use and access
- Land and tree tenure
- Benefit Sharing
- Safeguards
- Participation and inclusiveness
- Capacity-Building

ASUNAFO - ASUTIFI		
Grievance/Feedback	**2023**	
Resource use and access	2	
Land and tree tenure		
Benefit Sharing		**M = 1**
Participation and inclusiveness		**F = 0**
Safeguards		
Capacity-Building		
Feedback		

5.0 CONSULTATIONS, TRAININGS AND CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES

In every engagement NRS has with stakeholders, the opportunity is taken to continuously build their capacities on REDD+ topics and provide updates on activities within the HIA and GCFRP as a whole. Partners also carry out trainings and capacity building activities within the landscape.

Table 3: Consultations, trainings and capacity building activities

INSTITUTION/ FACILITATOR	ACTIVITY	RECIPIENTS
NRS	Strengthening awareness on the benefits-sharing arrangement under the GCFRP. To ensure community led, transparent and participatory approach to the benefit-sharing arrangements, the need for safeguards adherence was emphasized to avoid or minimize any complaints or grievances that may arise during this process.	34 (25 M & 9 F) beneficiaries
	Community engagement on community and farmer benefits. The need for safeguards compliance was heavily addressed and the availability of the FGRM was communicated again	32 (19 M & 13 F) beneficiaries
Ecom	Preserving Ecosystem: Training on Ecosystem Conservation and Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA)	3,610 (2,708 M & 902 F) farmers
	Farmer Field School (FFS): Farmers received training on FFS such as GAP, GEP & GSP. Topics treated include but not limited to; Harvest and post harvest, IPM, soil health, safe disposal of empty agrochemicals containers	4,134 (3,100 M & 1,034 F) farmers
	CLMRS:	2,239 (1487 M & 752 F) farmers

	Awareness creation through training for staff and committees	
	Gender & empowering youth: Farmers trained on gender policy and youth empowering. Youth farmers trained on financial and business skills	963 (558 M & 405 F) Farmers 722 (375 M & 347 F) Youth farmers
	Livelihood improvement: Farmers trained on vegetable production and market linkage to enhance livelihood improvement	397 (258 M & 139 F) farmers
	Women (economic) empowerment: Farmers trained on financial literacy (P&L)	620 (186 M & 434 F) farmers

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

The proponents of GCFRP as well as implementing partners (from government, private sector and CSOs/NGOs) have exhibited strong dedication to sound environmental and social safeguards measures in the implementation of interventions/activities under GCFRP by demonstrating robust compliance to both national and the World Bank safeguards policies. By involving communities in methods that provide them with environmental and financial benefits, the programme has a strong potential to increase carbon stocks (achieve emissions reductions) in the High Forest Zones by reducing deforestation and forest degradation. Certain negative environmental and social effects (soils, water supplies, biodiversity, and some socioeconomic issues) that result from GCFRP implementation have been identified and mitigated against thereby maximizing the reputational, economic and social benefits of the programme

The recommended mitigation measures are sufficient to protect the environment and promote social growth.

Some recommendations to further enhance programme implementation were drawn based on monitoring of the safeguards implementation:

- There is a need to strengthen partnership and coordination with key stakeholders at the HIA level
- Regular and timely monitoring of activities/interventions undertaken by partners is encouraged
- Continuous stakeholder engagement with project proponents on safeguards implementation is recommended

ANNEXES

Annex 1: Lists of stakeholders engaged/trained

AAS

Forestry Commission GhREDD+

ATTENDANCE SHEET

SAFEGUARDS MONITORING

NAME	M/F	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	CONTACT	SIGN
Nifaasoyir Chrisantus	M	FSD	NKawie	0243509444	
Nyamaah Edward	M	FSD	NKawie	0243462897	
GODWIN AGYEMANG	M	FSD	MANKRANSO	0243554944	
SETH AMPONSAH	M	FSD	MANKRANSO	0244201073	

AAS

Forestry Commission GhREDD+

ATTENDANCE SHEET

SAFEGUARDS MONITORING

NAME	M/F	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	CONTACT	SIGN
Amponsah Samuel	M	CHED	Achiase	0551944174	
Kwabena Adomako	M	"	Achiase	—	
Osman Adam	M	"	Achiase	—	
Samuel K. Asomie	M	"	Achiase	0549869	
Abdul Karim Abdulai	M	"	Achiase	0542282954	
Amankwa Abraha	M	"	Achiase	0241582937	
Ama Dufie	F	"	Achiase	0542709436	
Akosua Kamuna	F	"	Achiase		
Sara Ampong	F	"	Achiase	0530217486	
Kwadwo Owusu	M	"	Achiase	0245125617	
Fauzia Zakari	F	"	Achiase	0559502445	

AAS

ATTENDANCE SHEET

SAFEGUARDS MONITORING

NAME	M/F	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	CONTACT	SIGN
Owusu Christian		Collaborator	Ahyeism	0240523941	
Kwabena Gyan	M	CHED	Ahyeise	0592472360	
Ieley Nartey	M	"	Achiase	0556977537	
Kwaku Duah	M	"	Achiase		
Yakubu Jaspong	M	"	Achiase	0545198978	
Mallam Suala Ibrahim	M	"	Achiase	0551415543	
Ibrahim Salifu	M	"	Achiase	0596222234	
Kwabena Adomako Mark	M	"	Achiase	0256215219	
Haruna Badu	M	"	Achiase	0555279651	
David Asante	M	"	Achiase	0206931648	
Daniel OPoku	M	"	Achiase	0541239693	

AAS

ATTENDANCE SHEET

SAFEGUARDS MONITORING

NAME	M/F	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	CONTACT	SIGN
Samuel Ayande	M	CHED	Achiase	0544848859	
Kwabena Amatey	M	"	Achiase	0548530545	
Oduro Peter	M	"	Achiase	0543204182	
Nana Fosu Akomah	M	"	Achiase	0551408080	
Nana Akua Fosuaa	F	"	Achiase		
Kwabena Grandaa	M	"	Achiase		
Amoako Anthony	M	"	Achiase	0544245822	
Hannah Adomako	F	"	Achiase	0244442605	
Agnes Aku	F	"	Achiase	0256591946	
Akosua Asiah	F	"	Achiase	-	
Koji Owusu	M	"	Achiase	-	

AA5

ATTENDANCE SHEET

SAFEGUARDS MONITORING

NAME	M/F	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	CONTACT	SIGN
Odwo Owusu	F	CHED	Achiase	—	
Kwame Boakye	M	"	Achiase	—	
Kofi Alsiah	M	"	Achiase	—	
Joseph Donkor	M	"	Achiase	0504294488	
Adwoa Akotu	F	"	Achiase	—	
Kofi Paul	M	"	Achiase	0554896323	
Kobo Manze	M	"	Achiase	0256[illegible]	
Amyande Moses	M	"	Achiase	0246659317	
Adjei Mika	M	"	Achiase	0556579567	
Millicent Twumasi	F	"	Achiase	—	
Akosua Laade	F	"	Achiase	0551358241	

AA5

ATTENDANCE SHEET

SAFEGUARDS MONITORING

NAME	M/F	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	CONTACT	SIGN
Ben Antwi	M	CHED	Achiase	0240211903	
John Kwaku	M	"	Achiase	—	
Samuel Twumasi	M	"	Achiase	0540904122	
Kwaku Abaagye	M	"	Achiase	050[illegible]89	
Kwame Dwomo	M	"	Achiase	—	
Illiasu Issaka	M	"	Achiase	0247470784	
Idrisasu Dramaani	M	"	Achiase	0556886865	
Yaw Onenarse	M	"	Achiase	0531604505	
Samuel Ayande	M	"	Achiase	0595198589	
Anatos Nicholas	M	"	Achiase	0545575349	
Emmanuel Aboom	M	"	Achiase	0533807292	

DAY 5

ATTENDANCE SHEET

SAFEGUARDS MONITORING

NAME	M/F	ORGANIZATION	LOCATION	CONTACT	SIGN
Ama Kumadu	F	CHED	Achiase	0551090886	
Amponsah Yaw	M	//	Achiase	0554165341 ~~0541~~	
Joseph Dakwa	M	//	Achiase		
Emmanuel Kankam	M	COCOBOD	Achiase	0249344731	

Annex 2: Recorded FGRM

Table 4: Recorded FGRM at EPA

DATE	NATURE OF COMPLAINT	LOCATION	NAME OF COMPLAINT/ CONTACT NO.	NAME OF OFFENDER / CONTACT NO.	OBSERVATION MADE DURING VISIT	ACTION TAKEN
29/11/2022	Land Degradation and Air pollution from Smooth operators.	Hwidie	Esther Appiah	Mallah and Mumuni	visited	Resolved
10/03/2023	Air pollution from Charcoal burners	Ayomso		Ante Yaa	Visited	Resolved
29/05/2023	Air pollution from burning of charcoal	Bediako	Nichlas Sakodie 0549213073		Yet to visit	pending

Annex 3: Pictures

Annex 3: Forest reserves condition scores and biodiversity assessment

Table 5: Description of Forest Condition score

Score	Designation	Description
1	Excellent	Few signs (<2%) human disturbance, with good canopy and virgin or late secondary forest throughout
2	Good	Less than 10% heavily disturbed. Logging damage restricted or light and well dispersed. Fire damage none or peripheral
3	Slightly degraded	Obviously disturbed or degraded and usually patchy, but with good forest predominant; maximum 25% with serious scars and poor regeneration; maximum 50% slightly disturbed, with broken upper canopy
4	Mostly degraded	Obviously disturbed and patchy, with poor quality forest predominant; 25-50% with serious scars; maximum 75% disrupted canopy or forest slightly burned throughout
5	Very poor	Forest with coherent canopy < 25% or more with half the forest with serious scars and poor regeneration; or almost all heavily burned with conspicuous pioneer species throughout
6	No significant forest left	Almost all deforested with savanna, plantation, or farm; <2% good forest; or 2-5% very disturbed forest remaining; or 5-10% left in extremely poor condition

Table 6: Star rating system for plant species in Ghana

Star Rating	Description
Black	Highly significant in context of global biodiversity; rare globally and not widespread in Ghana
Gold	Significant in context of global biodiversity; fairly rare globally/nationally
Blue	Mainly of national biodiversity interest, e.g., globally widespread, nationally rare; or globally rare but of no concern in Ghana due to commonness
Scarlet	Common and widespread commercial species with potential seriously threatened by overexploitation

Red	Common and widespread commercial species; under significant pressure from exploitation
Pink	Common and widespread commercial species; not currently under significant pressure from overexploitation
Green	Species common and widespread in tropical Africa; no conservation concern
Others	Unknown, or non-forest species

Table 7: Ten most important tree species identified in forest ecosystems

Species	**Frequency**
Celtis mildbraedii	182
Broussonetia papyrifera	107
Triplochiton scleroxylon	106
Nesogordonia papaverifera	77
Ricinodendron heudelotii	69
Calpocalyx brevibracteatus	64
Hymenostegia afzelii	64
Diospyros canaliculata	53
Sterculia rhinopetala	47
Discoglypremna caloneura	40

Table 8: Ten most important tree species identified on cocoa farms

Species	**Frequency**
Morinda lucida	77
Persea americana	57
Citrus sinensis	31
Carica papaya	20
Terminalia superba	18
Milicia regia	16
Antiaris toxicaria	15
Ficus exasperata	15

Ficus vogeliana	12
Holarrhena floribunda	12

Table 9: Red and Scarlet star rating of plant species recorded in the forests

Species	**Star Rating**
Chidlowia sanguinea	Blue
Breviea leptosperma	Blue
Xylia evansii	Blue
Afzelia bella	Red
Amphimas pterocarpoides	Red
Anopyxis klaineana	Red
Antrocaryon micraster	Red
Canarium schweinfurthii	Red
Ceiba pentandra	Red
Celtis zenkeri	Red
Daniellia ogea	Red
Distemonanthus benthamianus	Red
Guarea cedrata	Red
Lovoa trichilioides	Red
Mansonia altissima	Red
Piptadeniastrum africanum	Red
Pycnanthus angolensis	Red
Terminalia superba	Red
Albizia ferruginea	Scarlet
Antiaris toxicaria	Scarlet
Entandrophragma angolense	Scarlet
Entandrophragma candollei	Scarlet
Entandrophragma cylindricum	Scarlet
Entandrophragma utile	Scarlet
Guibourtia ehie	Scarlet
Khaya grandifoliola	Scarlet

Khaya ivorensis	Scarlet
Milicia excelsa	Scarlet
Milicia regia	Scarlet
Nauclea diderrichii	Scarlet
Pouteria altissima	Scarlet
Pterygota macrocarpa	Scarlet
Tieghemella heckelii	Scarlet
Triplochiton scleroxylon	Scarlet

Table 10: Red and Scarlet star rating of plant species recorded in cocoa farms

Species	**Star rating**
Pycnanthus angolensis	Red
Albizia ferruginea	Scarlet
Antiaris toxicaria	Scarlet
Entandrophragma angolense	Scarlet
Khaya grandifoliola	Scarlet
Milicia excelsa	Scarlet
Milicia regia	Scarlet
Milicia regia	Scarlet
Pouteria aningeri	Scarlet
Pterygota macrocarpa	Scarlet
Triplochiton scleroxylon	Scarlet

Table 11: Red and Scarlet star rating of plant species recorded in the cropland

Species	**Star rating**
Afzelia bella	Red
Amphimas ptrecapioides	Red
Ceiba pentandra	Red
Celtis zenkeri	Red
Daniellia ogea	Red

Distemonanthus benthamianus	Red
Pouteria altissima	Red
Pycnanthus angolensis	Red
Terminalia ivorensis	Red
Terminalia superba	Red
Albizia ferruginea	Scarlet
Antiaris toxicaria	Scarlet
Entandrophragma angolense	Scarlet
Entandrophragma candollei	Scarlet
Milicia excelsa	Scarlet
Milicia regia	Scarlet
Pterygota macrocarpa	Scarlet
Triplochiton scleroxylon	Scarlet

Table 12: Plant Species of Global Conservation significance recorded in the Asunafo-Asutifi HIA

Species	**IUCN Red List Category**
Tieghemella heckelii	Endangered
Albizia ferruginea	Vulnerable
Anopyxis klaineana	Vulnerable
Antrocaryon micraster	Vulnerable
Bombax brevicuspe	Vulnerable
Entandrophragma angolense	Vulnerable
Entandrophragma candollei	Vulnerable
Entandrophragma cylindricum	Vulnerable
Entandrophragma utile	Vulnerable
Guarea thompsonii	Vulnerable
Khaya grandifoliola	Vulnerable
Khaya ivorensis	Vulnerable
Nauclea diderrichii	Vulnerable
Milicia regia	Vulnerable
Nesogordonia papaverifera	Vulnerable

Pterygota macrocarpa	Vulnerable
Sterculia oblonga	Vulnerable
Terminalia ivorensis	Vulnerable
Vitex ferruginea	Vulnerable
Breviea leptosperma	Near Threatened
Chrysophyllum albidum	Near Threatened
Lannea welwitschii	Near Threatened
Milicia excelsa	Near Threatened
Pouteria altissima	Near Threatened

Table 13: Mammal Species of global and national conservation concern and forest reserve sites of their recorded presence in the HIA

Species		Threat status	National	Sites
Pan troglodytes verus	Chimpanzee	CR	Schedule I	Subim, Bonsambepo
Loxodonta africana cyclotis	Forest Elephant	VU	Schedule I	Asukese
Colobus vellerosus	White-thighed Colobus	CR	Schedule I	Bonsambepo,
Procolobus verus	Olive Colobus	VU	Schedule I	Bonkoni
Cercopithecus lowei	Lowe's monkey	VU	Schedule II	Asukese, Bonkoni, Ayum, Subim, Bonsambepo
Anomalurus pelii	Pel's Flying Squirrel	DD	Schedule II	Asukese, Bia-Tano, Ayum, Bonkoni, Bonsambepo
Syncerus caffer nanus	Forest Buffalo	NT	Schedule II	Bonkoni, Bia-Tano, Subim
Tragelaphus eurycerus	Bongo	NT	Schedule I	Bonsambepo, Bonkoni

Cephalophus silvicultor	Yellow-backed duiker	NT	Schedule I	Ayum
Cephalophus dorsalis	Bay Duiker	NT	Schedule II	Asukese, Ayum, Bia-Tano, Bonkoni, Bonsambepo
Protoxerus aubinnii	Slender-tailed squirrel	NT	Schedule III	Bia Tano
Phataginus tricuspis	White-Bellied / Tree Pangolin	EN	Schedule I	Asukese, Bonkoni, Ayum, Bia Tano
Phataginus tetradactyla	Black-bellied / Long-Tailed Pangolin	VU	Schedule I	Asukese, Bia Tano
Civettictis civetta	African Civet		Schedule I	
Genetta pardina	Forest Genet		Schedule I	
Mellivora capensis	Honey Badger		Schedule I	
Nandinia binotata	Two-Spotted Palm Civet		Schedule I	
Perodicticus potto	Bossman's Potto		Schedule I	
Galagoides demidovii	Galago demidoff		Schedule I	
Epixerus ebii	Palm Squirrel		Schedule I	

Table 14: Avifauna Species of global conservation concern recorded across some of the reserves in the HIA

Species			Threat status	Sites
Necrosyrtes monachus		Hooded Vulture	CR	Ayum
Psittacus erithacus		Grey Parrot	EN	Ayum
Picathartes gymnocephalus		White-necked rockfowl	VU	Ayum, Subim, Bonsambepo

Bleda eximia		Green-tailed bristle-bill	NT	Ayum, Subim
Lamprotornis cuprecauda		Copper-tailed glossy starling	NT	Ayum, Subim
Rufous-winged Illadopsis		Illadopsis rufescens	NT	Subim/Ayum

Table 15: Reptile species of global conservation concern recorded across some of the reserves in the HIA

Species		**Conservation Status (IUCN)**	**Site of Occurrence**
Common Name	**Scientific Name**		
Home's Hinged Tortoise	Kinixys homeana	EN	Bia-Tano
Serrated Hinged Tortoise	Kinixys erosa	VU	Asukese
West African Dwarf Crocodile	*Osteolaemus tetraspis*	VU	Bia-Tano, Bonsambepo

Annex 4: List of approved and banned agro chemicals

TRADE NAME	ACTIVE INGREDIENT	PRE-HARVEST INTERVAL	RE-ENTRY INTERVAL	DOSAGE
AKATE MASTER	*BIFENTRIN*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	100 ML/ 11L of water
AKATE STAR 3 EC	*BIFENTRIN*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	20 ML/ 11L of water
ACTARA	*Thiamethoxam*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	17ML/11L of water
ACETA STAR	*Acetamiprid&Bifenthrin*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	120ML/11L of water
ACATI POWER	*Thiamethoxam*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	20ML/11L of water
PRIDAPOD	*IMIDACLOPRID*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	20ML/11L of water
VIPER SUPER	*INDOXACARB ANDACETAMIPRID*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	105ML/11L of water
GALIL 300	*IMIDACLOPRID AND BIFENTRIN*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	13ML/11L of water
AF CONFIDENCE	*CAPSAICIN*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	200ML/11L of water
SIVANTO	*FLUPYRADIFURONE*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	40ML/11L OF WATER
NORMAX 150	*ALPHA-CYPERMETHRIN TEFLUBENZURON*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	52 ML/11L WATER
BUFFALO SUPER	*ACETAPRIMID*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	98ML/11L WATER

THODAN SUPER	*LAMBDACYHALOTHRIN+ACETAMIPRID*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	110ML/11L WATER
A1	*IMIDACLOPRID*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	20ML/11L WATER
CALLIFAN SUPER	*BIFENTHRIN+ACETAMIPRID*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	20ML/11L WATER
AKATE GLOBAL	*THIAMETHOXAM*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	20ML/11L WATER
RAGENT 200	*FIPRONIL*	21 DAYS	48 HRS	17ML/11L WATER

FUNGICIDES

TRADE NAME	**ACTIVE INGREDIENT**	**PRE-HARVEST INTERVAL**	**RE-ENTRY INTERVAL**	**DOSAGE**
RidomilGold	*CuprousOxide&Mefonoxam*	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
Funguran-OH	*CupricHydroxide*	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
Metalm72WP	*Metalxyl*	21 DAYS	12 HRS (0.5 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
*Fungiki **l** 50WP*	*Metalxyl*	21 DAYS	12 HRS (0.5 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
Kocide2000	*CupricHydroxide*	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
CopperNordox75WG	*CuprousOxide*	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
Champion	*CupricHydroxide*	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water

SidalcoDefender	*DicopperChroride trihydroxide,SC*	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	150ML/ 16L of water
Fantic	Benalaxyl M+Copper(I)Oxide	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
Forum R	homorph + 400 g/kg Co	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
Vamos 500SC	500 g/L Fluazinam	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	75ML/ 16L of water
Banjo Forte 400 SC	methomorph + 200 g/L	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	75ML/ 16L of water
Royal Cop 50WP	50% Copper (II) hydroxide	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water
Delco 75WP	75 % Cupper (I) oxide	21 DAYS	24 HRS (1 DAY)	1 Sachet/ 16L of water

FERTILIZERS GRANULAR (ORGANIC)

TRADE NAME	ACTIVE INGREDIENTS	DOSAGE
Asaasewura	NPK 0-22-18+9CaO+75+MgO	3 Bags/ acre
Cocofeed	NPK 0-30-20	3 Bags/ acre
Cocoa Master	NPK-1-21-19+9CaO+65+6MgO +18	3 Bags/ acre
Dua Pa	NPK 3-25-18-7CaO+45+6MgO+0. 3(B+Zn)	3 Bags/ acre
Ferta Agra Cacao Sup	NPK 3-21e20+10CaO+55+5Mg	3 Bags/ acre

	O+0.5(B+Zn)	
So Aba Pa	NPK 4-22- 18+4CaO+45+5MgO +0.5B+0.2Zn	3 Bags/ acre
Adom Cocoa Fertilizer	NPK2-23- 18+8 CaO+6SO3+6MGO +0.5ZN+0.5B	3 Bags/ acre
Adehye Cocoa Fertiliz	NPK2-23- 18+8 eCaO+6SO3+6MGO +0.5ZN+0.5B	3 Bags/ acre
Sidalco	NPK 6:0:20 + Trace elements (Mg, Fe, Mn,Cu,Zn)	21 DAYS
Lithovit	Urea+Carbonates of Ca and Mg+Trace elements	21 DAYS

List of banned agro-chemicals

GAMALIN 20 (DDT)

UNTENT

COCOSTAT

KABAMALT

PARAQUATS

Banned pesticides

1. 2,4,5-T and Its salts and esters

2. Aldrin

3. Binapaeryt

4. Cantalo

5. Chlordane

o Clordinciorn

7. Chlorobenzilate

8. Dichlorodiphenyitrichloroethane(DDT)

9. Dieldrin

10. Dinoseb and its calts and esters

11. Dinitro-orthocresol (DNOC) and its salts (such as ammonium salt, potassium salt and sodium salt)

I2. Endria

13. HCH (aixed isomere)

14. Heptachlos

15. Hcxachlorobenxene

16. Parathion

17. Pentachlorophenol and its salts and esters

18. Toxaphene

19. Mirex

20. Methamidophos (Soluble Iquid formulations of the substance that exceed 600 g active ingredient/I)

21. Methyl-parathion (emulsifiable concentrates (EC) with at or above 19.5% active ingredient and dusts at or above 1.5% active ingredient)

22. Monocrotophos (Soluble liquid formulations of the substance that exceed 600 g active ingredient/D

23. Parathion (all formulations - aerosols, dustable powder (DP), emulsifiable concentrate (EC), granules (CB) and wettable powders (WP) - of this substance are included, except capsule suspendions (CS))

24. Mosphamidon (Soluble liquid formulations of the substance that exceed 1000 1 active ingredient/l)