

**GHANA COCOA FOREST REDD+ PROGRAMME (GCFRP)**

**SCREENING CHECKLIST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS ISSUES**

<b>1. Project Information: Name and Contact Details:</b>			
Project Name GHANA COCOA FOREST REDD+PROGRAMME (GCFRP)	Location: (region/district/village) CENTRAL/ASSINFOSU/BANKYEASE&SESEKO		
	If other, explain:		
FSD District Manager	EMMANUEL DONKOR AGYAPONG =		
Name of reviewer:	MRS. DOROTHY DAMPSON	Date of screening:	1 <sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021

<b>Subproject Details: Attach location map (longitude – latitude coordinates (GPS reading) if available):</b>	
Type of activity: <i>What will be done, who will do it, what are the objectives and outcomes</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MODIFIED TAUNGYA SYSTEM (MTS)</li> <li>• MTS FARMERS</li> <li>• RESTORE ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY AND INCREASE FOREST COVER, CONTRIBUTE TO FOOD SECURITY, LIVELIHOOD ENHANCEMENT</li> </ul>
Estimated Cost:	GHC 63,993.6
Proposed Date of Commencement of Work:	MARCH 2021
Expected Completion of Work	MARCH 2023
Technical Drawing/Specifications Reviewed:	<u>YES</u>

<b>2. Physical Data:</b>	Comments
Subproject Site area in ha	40 (HA)
Extension of or changes to existing land use	NO
Any existing property?	NO
Any plans for construction, movement of earth, changes in land cover	NO

<b>3. Preliminary Environmental Information:</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Refer to Process Framework</b>	<b>Specify/ Provide Comments</b>
Is there adjacent/nearby critical natural habitat?	YES		THERE IS A COCOA FARM THAT SHARES BOUNDARY WITH THE RESERVE
Is there activities On Forest Reserve?	YES		MTS AND ENRICHMENT PLANTING ACTIVITIES IN OTHER COMPARTMENTS IN THE RESERVE
Is there activity adjacent to Forest Reserve?	YES		COCOA FARMING

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3. Preliminary Environmental Information:	Yes/No	Refer to Process Framework	Specify/ Provide Comments
What is the land currently being used for? (e.g. agriculture, gardening, etc.)			FOREST RESERVE

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Will the proposed activities have any impact on any ecosystem services, biodiversity issues or natural habitats?	Yes		ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION, SOIL FERTILITY IMPROVEMENT
Will there be restrictions or loss of access to using natural resources in any traditional areas including medicinal plants or those of economic value for livelihoods?	NO	✓	NO RESTRICTIONS TO THE COLLECTION OF NTFPs FOR HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION.
Will there be water resource impacts?	NO		
Will there be soil impacts?	NO		ADAPT THE USE OF SIMPLE FARM TOOLS TO PREVENT SOIL IMPACT
Will the subproject require use of pesticides?	NO		HOWEVER IF THERE IS PEST INVASION RECOMMENDED PESTICIDES WILL BE APPLIED IN THEIR RIGHT AMOUNT ADAPTING ACTIONS IN THE PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN
Are there any new or changing forest management planning or activities?	NO	✓	
Any cultural heritage/sacred sites in project area?	NO	✓	NO SACRED SITES HOWEVER, TUESDAYS ARE TABOO DAYS FOR THE BANKYEASE AND SESEKO COMMUNITIES

<b>4. Preliminary Social and Land Information:</b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Refer to Process Framework</b>	<b>Specify/ Provide Comments</b>
Has there been litigation or complaints of any environmental nature directed against the proponent or subproject?	NO	✓	
Will the subproject require the acquisition of land?	NO		
What is the status of the land holding (customary, lease, community lands, etc.)?		✓	GOVERNMENT LAND
Is there evidence of land tenure status of farmers and/or occupants (affidavit, other documentation)?	NO	✓	
Are there outstanding land disputes?	NO	✓	
Has there been proper consultation with stakeholders?	YES	✓	KEY STAKEHOLDER (FARMERS, TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES)
Is there a grievance process identified for PAPs and is this easily accessible to these groups/individuals?	YES	✓	PROCEDURES MECHANISM IN PLACE TO ADDRESS ANY LITIGATION CHALLENGES. GCFRP FGRM IN PLACE
Will there be any changes to livelihoods?	YES	✓	FARMERS LIVELIHOODS WILL BE IMPROVED FROM PROCEEDS OF THE CROPS SOLD
What are the main issues associated with farmer benefits and community benefits?		✓	NO CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED AT THE TIME OF SCREENING

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Will any restoration or compensation be required with "admitted" farmers?	NO	✓	
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### 5. Impact identification and classification:

When considering the location of a subproject, rate the sensitivity of the proposed site in the following table according to the given criteria. Higher ratings do not necessarily mean that a site is unsuitable. They indicate a real risk of causing undesirable adverse environmental and social effects, and that more substantial environmental and/or social planning may be required to adequately avoid, mitigate or manage potential effects. The following table should be used as a reference.

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Issues	Site Sensitivity			Rating (L,M,H)
	Low	Medium	High	
<b>Natural habitats</b>	No natural habitats present of any kind	No critical natural habitats; other natural habitats occur	Critical natural habitats present; within declared protected areas	<b>If High Refer to Annex 3.1 and Contact Regional EPA</b>
<b>Water quality and water resource availability and use</b>	Water flows exceed any existing demand; low intensity of water use; potential water use conflicts expected to be low; no potential water quality issues	Medium intensity of water use; multiple water users; water quality issues are important	Intensive water use; multiple water users; potential for conflicts is high; water quality issues are important	<b>If High Refer to Annex 3.1 and Contact Regional EPA</b>
<b>Natural hazards vulnerability, floods, soil stability/ erosion</b>	Flat terrain; no potential stability/ erosion problems; no known flood risks	Medium slopes; some erosion potential; medium risks from floods	Mountainous terrain; steep slopes; unstable soils; high erosion potential; flood risks	<b>If High Refer to Annex 3.1 and Contact Regional EPA</b>
<b>Land and Farming Tenure</b>	No conflicts, disagreements around use of land, tenant farmer rights and location of admitted farms and farmers transparent	Process of land regularization and rights to natural resources being worked out with clear communication and grievance process in place	Land conflicts historically unresolved, admitted farmers being evicted, tenant farmers losing rights and no transparency or grievance redress available	<b>If Medium or High Refer to Process Framework</b>

Summary of Site Sensitivity (Rate as Low/Medium/High for the site and provide comments)					
Site	Natural habitats	Water quality and water resource availability and use	Natural hazards vulnerability, floods, soil stability/ erosion	Land and Farming Tenure	Comments
APIMANIM FOREST RESERVE/ COMPARTMENT 11	Medium	Low	Medium	Low	<p>THE MTS ESTABLISHMENT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY, RESTORE FOREST COVER. ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN WILL NOT HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THE NATURAL HABITATS,</li> <li>• LANDSCAPE.</li> <li>• SOIL STABILITY AND EROSION</li> <li>• CATCHMENT AREA</li> </ul>

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6. E & S assessment comments based on site visit (use additional sheet and attach if necessary):

Summary Observations

THE TOTAL SITE DEVELOPMENT OF 40(HA) WOULD PURPOSELY BE DONE TO RESTORE THE DEGRADED FOREST COVER OF THE FOREST RESERVE, IMPROVE UPON THE LIVELIHOODS OF FARMERS AND CONTRIBUTE TO INCREASING THE FLORA AND FAUNA COMPOSITION IN THE RESERVE THEREBY CONTRIBUTING TO BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENT. <sup>PRIMA</sup> ~~AEUSO~~

## GHANA FOREST INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (GFIP)

### Potential Environmental and Social Issues That Require Referral to EPA or Using EA1 Form

	Benchmark and Issues	Impact description	Yes	No	Remark
1.	Statutory provisions	Is the proposed plantation area less than 40ha?		No	If yes, proceed with EA1 Form
2.	Statutory provisions (see <i>Natural Habitat Issues in Checklist</i> )	Are there any ecologically sensitive/ critical areas within the proposed project area		No	
3.	Protected areas and wildlife	Will project activities potentially impact natural habitats or critical wildlife species	Yes		
4.	Biodiversity loss	Will land use change or vegetation clearance lead to loss of exceptional flora/ fauna		No	
	Water pollution	1. Is there a local stream close to the project site? 2. Does it flow all year round? 3. How long does it take to walk to this stream 4. Do you think any project activity will affect this stream	Yes		
6.	Soil erosion	Are there steep slopes in the project area? Can you easily walk on the slopes without falling		No	

7. Impact Identification and Mitigation (use additional sheet and attach if necessary)	
Impact/Risk	ESMF Mitigation Options & Others
ALTERATION OF NATURAL VEGETATION WITH EXOTIC TREE SPECIES	MTS PLANTATION ADAPTS MIXED SPECIE PLANTATION WITH INTEGRATION OF CEDREAL, TERMINALIA SUPERBA (OFRAM) AND MAHOGANY.
ILLEGAL CHAINSAW OPERATION	UNDERTAKE FREQUENT MONITORING OF SITE, EDUCATE STAKEHOLDERS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FOREST AND THE NEED TO DESIST FROM FOREST ILLEGALITIES
INJURY OF WORK GANG PERSONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ THERE WILL BE REGULAR EDUCATION ON WORK PLACE SAFETY.</li> <li>➤ FIRST-AID KITS WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE WORK SITE</li> <li>➤ ENSURE ALL WOK GANG MEMBERS ENGAGED ARE ON THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE SCHEME FACILITY</li> <li>➤ THE WORK GANGS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH PPES AND ENSURE STRICT COMPLIANCE OF USAGE</li> </ul>
FOREST FIRE	MONITOR FOREST ACTIVITIES PROCECUTE OFFENDERS
DRYING UP OF WATER BODIES IN RESERVE	UNDERTAKE WATERSHED MANGEMENT BY PROTECTING TREES AROUND WATERBODIES AND PLANTING AROUND AREAS OF DEGRADATION

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**Determination of environmental category based on findings of the screening: A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_**

- A  Requires an EIA/ESMP
- B  Requires preparation of additional E&S information to support ESMF
- C  Does not require further environmental or social due diligence – Refer to ESMF

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**Prepared by: GERALD KUSI**  **Date: 1<sup>ST</sup> FEB, 2021**

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