

# GhaFFaP National Dialogue -2021

Theme :

*“Smallholder Forest and Farm Producers, key agents for delivering sustainable development goals (SDGs) in the context of green recovery”*



20<sup>th</sup> May 2021

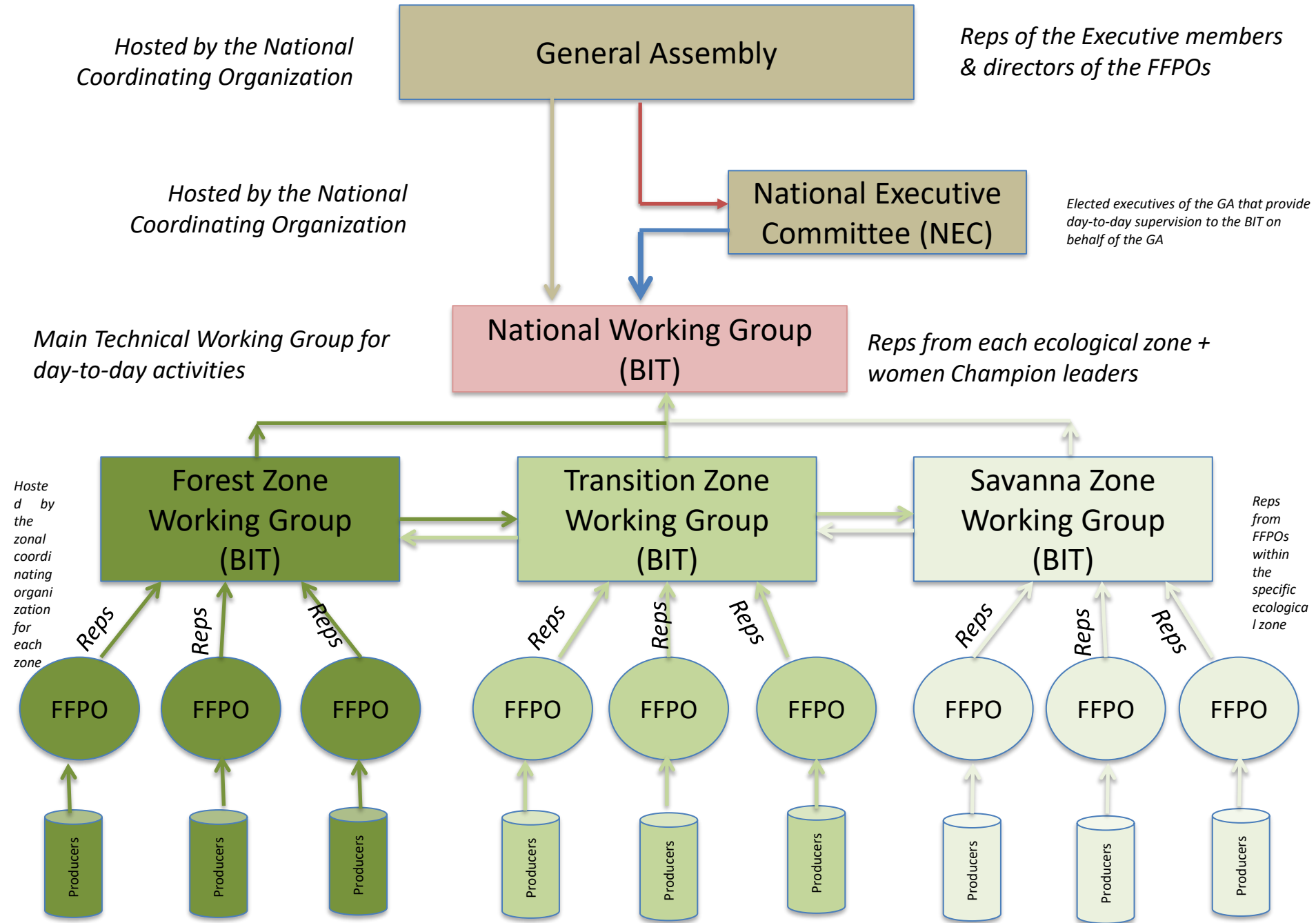


# GhaFFaP who we are

- » GhaFFaP is a Federation of Forest and Farm Producer Organisations( FFPOs)
- » Members drawn from three (3) Ecological Zones (ie **Savannah, Transition** and **Forest Zones** of Ghana)
- » GhaFFaP's evolution influenced by the **Forest and Farm Facility** ( FFF) & members desire to maximize Strength in Numbers to:
  - **Build Sustainable and Profitable Forest and Farm Businesses**
  - **Contribute to Shaping National Policy**
  - **Promote Climate Resilient Landscapes at scale**

Membership-**1,042,780** made of **478,623** women (46%), and **564,157** men (54%)) of which 20%) are youth representing **12** FFPOs







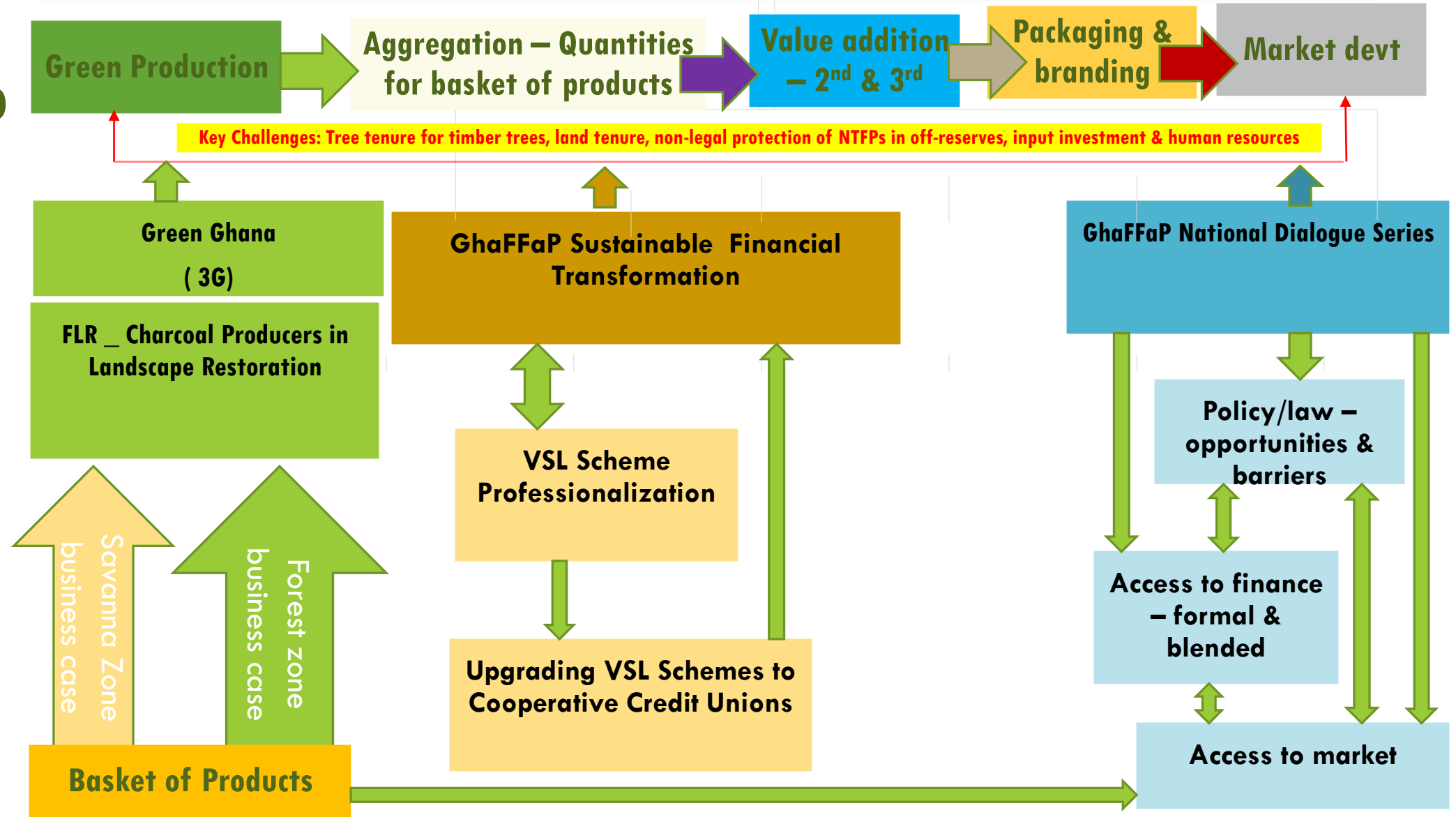
# GhaFFaP 10- year roadmap – strategic initiatives

A Brief Overview



# GhaFFaP Green Market ( GGM)

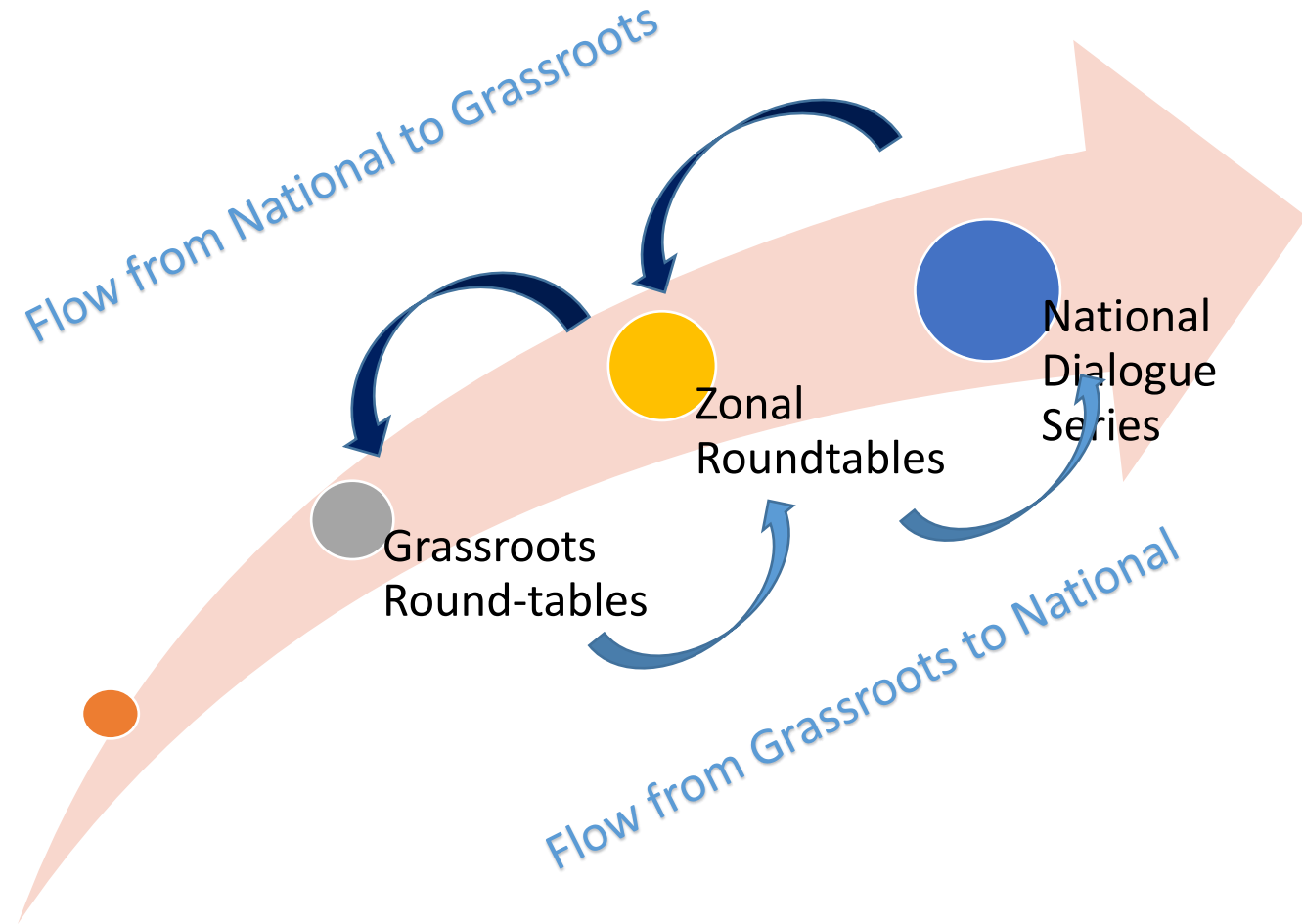
## GHAFFAP THEORY OF CHANGE





# GhaFFaP National Dialogue Series :

To promote FFPOs influence on Policy, Access to Finance & Access to Markets



# GhaFFaP Green Ghana ( 3Gs)

## Smallholder Forest and Farm Producers ( FFPOs) as key agents for Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR)

### Key objectives :

- Contribute to restoring **30,000+** hectares with conservation farming and tree growing-addressing climate change
- To create **20,000** jobs for FFPO members- including women , youth, PWDs through creation of green businesses and farms

### Approaches :

- Establish 3 Ecological GhaFFaP green tree centers
- Facilitate establishment of 60 GhaFFaP green community gardens ; 30 community nurseries strategically located to produce tree seedlings
- Business skills training to 5000 forest and farm producers working in tree value chains





# GhaFFaP Sustainable Financial Transformation

Towards FFPO Financial Inclusion , Financial Literacy and access to finance for forest and farm businesses

## Strong Focus on :

- Financial Inclusion
- **Mainstreaming Gender**

## Key Approaches

- **Capacity support** : strengthening FFPO internal resource mobilization e.g., VSLA schemes
- **Linkages** – with formal financial and business development services
- Facilitating **cross-sectoral** processes & partnerships
- Formalising local savings scheme through introduction of basic **ICT & Financial Literacy** for FFPOs





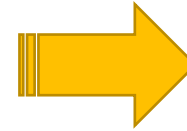
# GhaFFaP VSLA Financial Mobilization per Year

SN	Name of FFPO	Total number of VSLA groups	Annual Total Amount	
			GHS	US\$
	Savanna Zone			
1	KANBAOCU	442	4,287,024	739,142
2	Tele-bere	125	1,740,000	300,000
3	TUWODEP	14	210,000	36,207
4	PFAG	25	250,000	43,103
5	CADER	15	180,000	31,034
6	KAMALA	85	521,376	89,892
7	ZOVFA	328	9,840,000	1,696,552
	Sub-Total (Savanna Zone)	1,034	17,028,400	2,935,931
	Forest and Transition Zone			
8	KKFA	89	2,211,695	381,327
9	ABOFA	139	5,022,000	865,862
	Sub-Total (Forest & Transition Zone)	228	7,233,695	1,247,189
	Grand Totals	1,262	24,262,095	4,183,120

# GhaFFaP Green Market ( GGM)

Towards sustainable and climate resilient FFPO businesses through business incubation for livelihood diversification

Focused on Green Production towards livelihoods diversification & profitable FFPO businesses



Forest & Transition Zones  
Business Case : Cashew,  
Black Pepper & Cocoa By  
prod



Savanna Zone Business  
Case : shea , straw products  
and vegetables



# Linkage of GhaFFaP 10-year roadmap with National , Regional & Global Strategies



## Sustainable Development Goals ( SDGs)

ECOWAS  
Environmental Action  
Plan (EAP)

*Ghana Climate  
Change Policy*

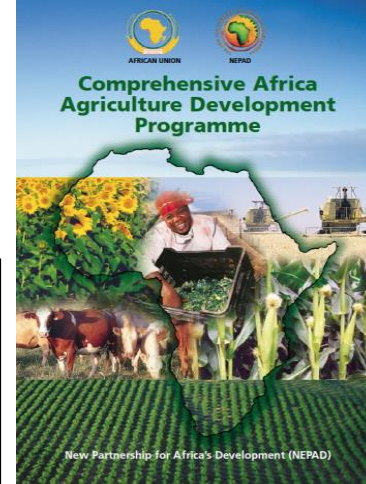
African Union  
Agenda 2063

*Ghana's Nationally  
Determined  
Contributions  
(NDCs)*

Malabu Declaration  
on Agriculture &  
Food security

*Ghana Social  
Protection Policy*

**UN-SERRP**



**Thank you!**





# Updates on implementation of first National Dialogue

**By : Fidelis Ayipe**



# Introduction

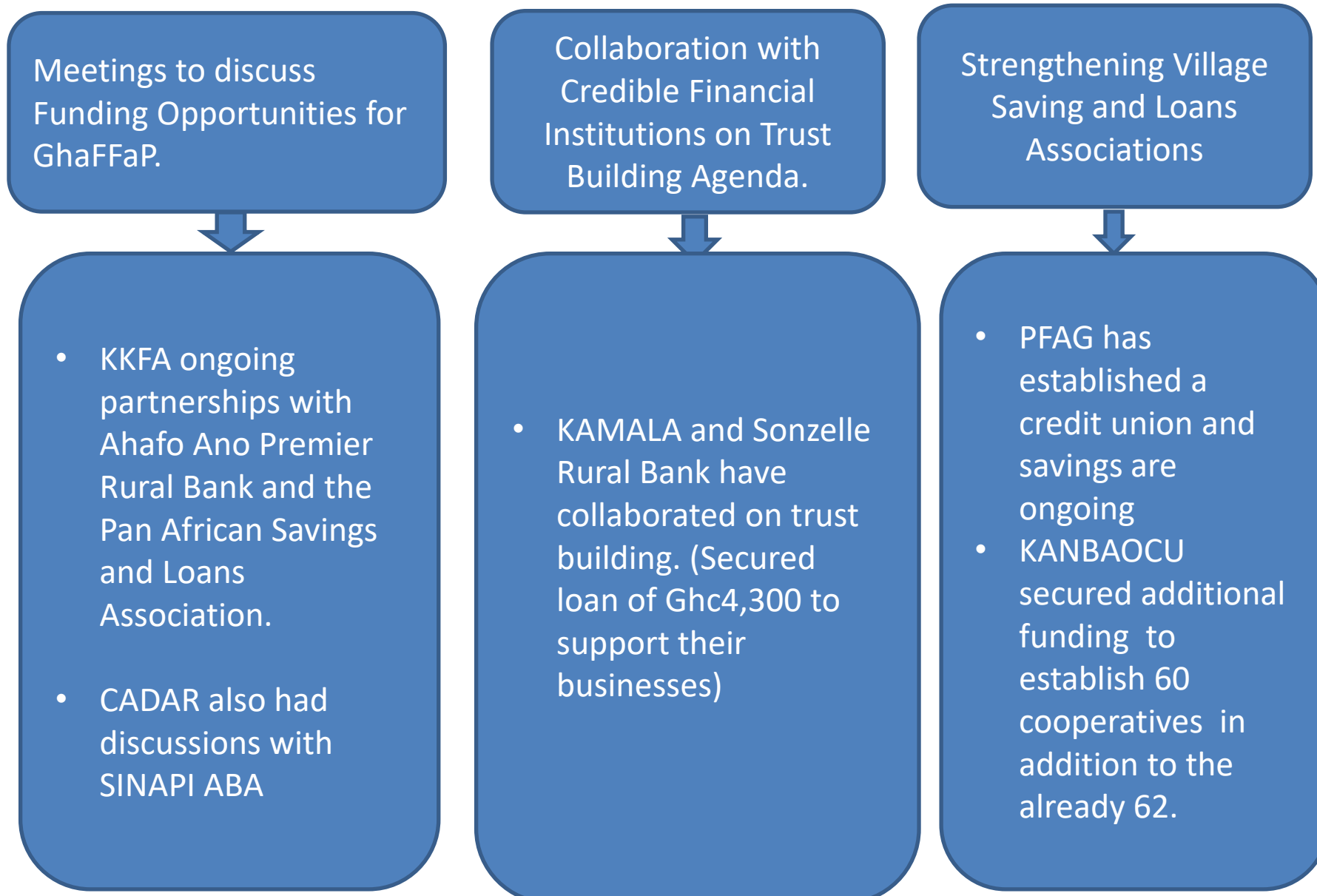
GhaFFaP organized the first national dialogue in Accra at the Golden Tulip Hotel on the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

These series of the national dialogues Aims at:

- enhancing FFPOs influence on *policy*,
  - *access to finance*
  - ... *access to markets*
- 
- This presentation details the progress of implementation of the action plan.



# What Was Achieved-Access to Finance



# What was Achieved- Access to Market

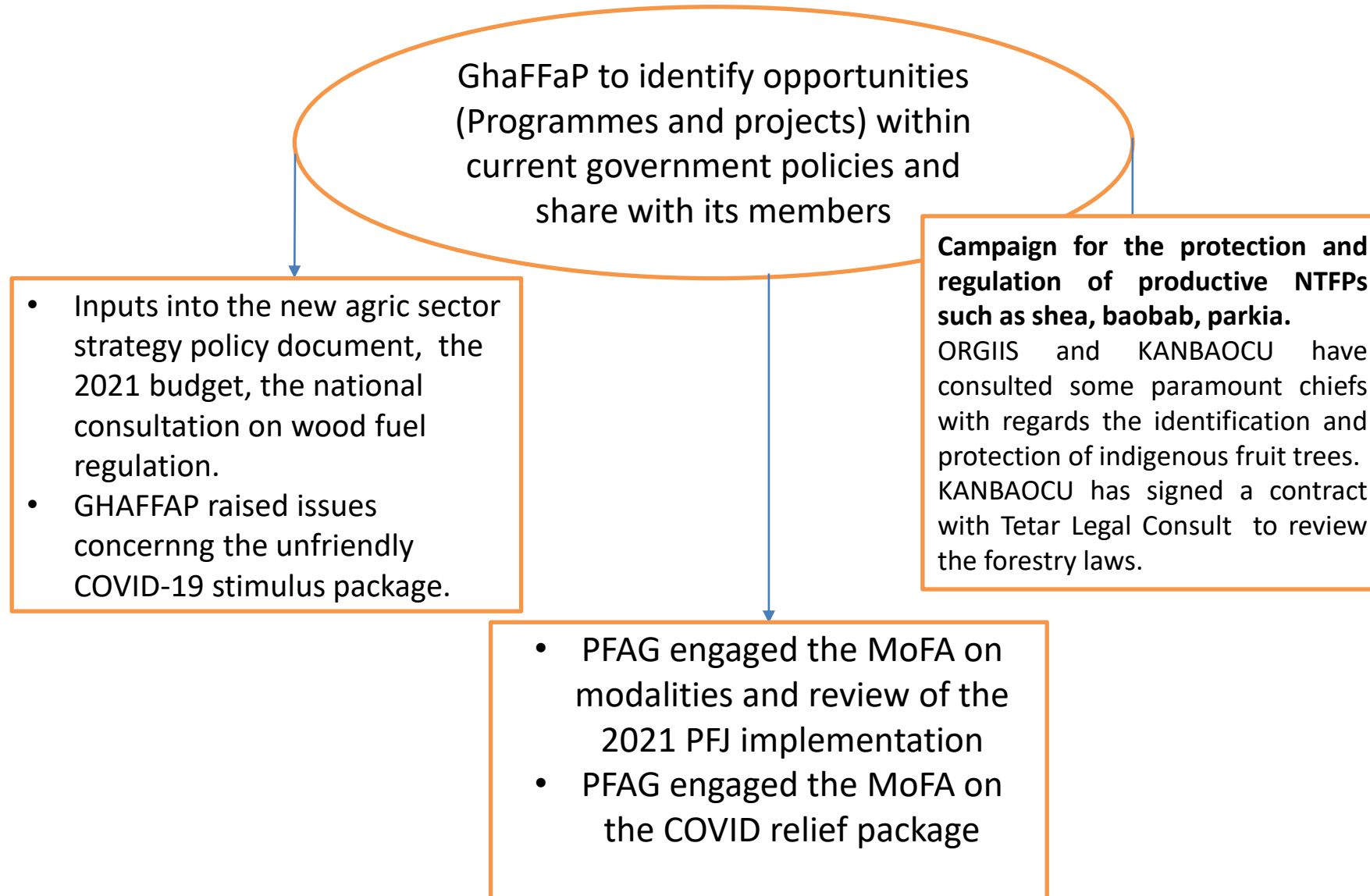
## 1. **Development of Aggregation Centers for GhaFFaP members**

- ABOFA has renovated its warehouse to be used as an aggregation center and store for cashew.
- TUWODEP has also facilitated the aggregation of a basket of products including shea and soya beans within their groups.
- KANBAOCU to aggregate dry baobab fruits for exports to the UK.
- PFAG has aggregated paddy rice and sold to Avnash Rice Company.

## 2. **Link members to Collaborate with Institutions to Get Ready Market**

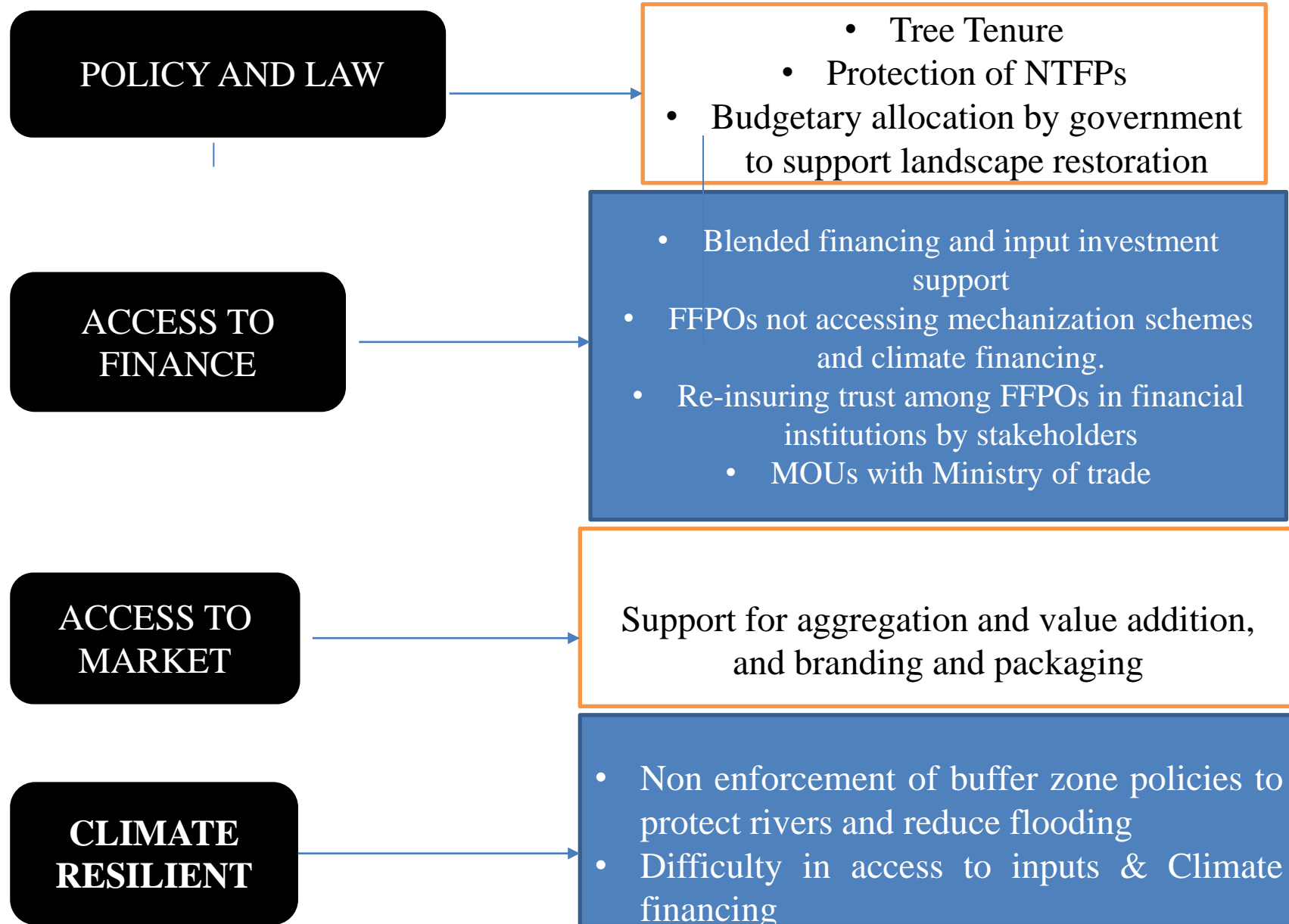
- PFAG organized rice price negotiation forum where various actors in the rice value chain were invited.
- GhaFFaP served NAFCO a letter for possible contract to supply food items aggregated by their members

# What was Achieved-Access to Policy/Initiatives





# Emerging Issues-2021 Zonal Round Tables



# Thank You

## Question, Comments and Suggestions



# Presentation on impacts of COVID-19 and 2020 Flooding on GhaFFaP members

**By : Dr. Charles Nyaaba**



# Background

- Agriculture plays an important role in global economic development, yet the millions of smallholder farmers (SHF) who depends on it for their livelihoods are the poorest in Ghana (GSS, 2018; Dittoh & Akuriba, 2018).
- In 2020, SHF in Ghana were further hit by COVID-19 worsening their situation and floods
- The government took some policy initiatives to contain the situation which which also has its own implication on the farmers.
- Being a federation whose members were highly affected by the double pandemic, we conducted an assessment to understand the extend of the effect to be able to engage government for possible support
- My presentation will focus on some key findings of that assessment

# Objectives of the assessment

➤ **Overall objective:** To understand the socio-economic implications of the COVID-19 and the 2020 floods on economic activities of GhaFFaP members

➤ **Specific objects:**

- ✓ To understand the effect of COVID-19 on food production among GhaFFaP members in Ghana

- ✓ To examine the effect of COVID-19 on incomes of GhaFFaP members

- ✓ To establish the impact of COVID-19 on food security of smallholder farmers in Ghana

- ✓ To assess the damage course by the 2020 flooding on GhaFFaP members

# Methodology used

- The study employed qualitative approach consisting of focus group discussions (FGD), individual interviews and field observations to obtain the needed information.
- Eighteen communities were purposively selected in fourteen districts of forest, transition and savannah ecological zones where GhaFFaP members operate.
- The data collection covered a period of three months (August- October, 2020).
- Two FGD each in eighteen communities were conducted. Also 80 individual interviews were conducted in the study areas.
- Total of 650 GhaFFaP members participated in the assessment.
- Secondary data was also obtained through review of literature on policies related to food security, COVID-19 and climate change.



**Table 3.0: Summary of sample regions, districts and communities**

<b>Ecological Zone</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Communities</b>
Forest Zone	Ashanti	Adansi South	· Obuobi
		Ejura-Sekyeredumasi	· Drobon, Kasei
	Ahafo	Goaso	· Bitre, OseiKwadwo krom
	Western –North	Bibiani/Awiaso	· Abofrem
Transitional Zone	Bono East	Techiman South	· Forikrom
		Techiman North	· Akrofrom
		Nkoranza North	· Bremen
	Upper East	Bolgatanga East	· Bindure
Savannah zone	Upper West	Nadowli Kaleo	Naro
		Daffiama Bussie Issah	· Owlo
		Lawra	· Dangne, Biire, Mettoh
		Nandom	· Kandemegan
		Lambussie	· Piina
		Sawla –Tuna-Kalba	· Nahariziri

# Pictures of FGD



# KEY FINDINGS



# Objective One: Impact of COVID-19 on food production

- During the FGD, all respondents complained about difficulty they face in access to agro-inputs and farm machinery in 2020 compare to 2019
- 20 farmers in the forest zone and 15 in the transitional zone complained about difficulty in getting labour during the lockdown period
- 100% of the individual respondents complained of difficulty the have in access to finance from informal financial sector.
- 100% of all respondents indicated expected lower harvest in 2020 season compare to 2019
- Observations from the market trend and speaking to poultry farmers suggest limited supply of maize and soya leading to price hikes in 2020

*A farmer in Techiman in the Bono Region indicated "I have to reduce my farm size in 2020 due to difficulty in getting tractors. I have spoken to tractor operator from Ejura who usually provide tractor services but he complained that all his machinery from Brazil for 2020 delayed due to the banned of movement of goods and people. We pray for God intervention, otherwise, things may get worst"*

*A farmer in Goaso has this to say during one on one interview "Getting labour for farm work is problem this year. The young people who usually come from Burkina and Togo didn't come this year. The youth in this area don't want work so I have to reduce my farm size".*

## Objective 2: Impact of COVID-19 on incomes

- During the FGD, all respondents complained of their inability to sale their vegetables (pepper, garden eggs, tomatoes, cabbage etc) leading to post harvest losses.
- Whiles 100% of the farmers in the savanna and transitional zone complained of lack of market access, those in the forest zone were concern of high cost of staple food.
- Our findings is consistent with findings of GSS (2020) that 77.4% of households (approximately 22 million people) in Ghana have experienced declined in income due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Given existing high levels of poverty in Ghana, especially among SHF, these declined in household incomes has deepened the prevailing precarious living conditions of the GhaFFaP members in the study areas.

*During the FGD “A 25 year pepper farmer in Bindure in the UE indicated “ I have invested in water pumping machine, fertilizer and labour, the pepper is ready for harvesting but no buyers, what can I do. Now money to buy basic food staff is a problem”*

*Another farmer from Nkuranza in the Bono Region indicate “ I left my cabbage to root because nobody was interested in it. Because of the white man sickness, the market women don’t come here again. If there is anything you people can do to help us, this is the time”.*

# Objective 3: Impact of covid-19 on food security

- 100% of respondents in the FGD were worried about difficulty they face in purchasing basic food staffs due to high prices.
- 60 farmers from the individual interviews said they have to reduce intake of meat and other ingredients due to high prices
- There was general concerns of worsening food and nutrition insecurity situation due to rising food prices and declines in household incomes.
- This finding is also consistent with study conducted by the Agriculture Policy Research in Africa (APRA) in south-western Ghana of worsening food and nutrition insecurity in the country.

“More than a half (58.2%) of respondents in the APRA study indicated high cost of living in Ghana due to COVID-19 crises.

- Also, GSS (2020) report revealed that: *“almost a half (45.4%) of households ate a few kinds of food, 44.6% were worried about not having enough food, 42.8% ate less than they thought they should, 41.4% were unable to eat healthy and nutritious/preferred foods, 39.1 had to skip a meal, 31.3 ran out of food, 26.8% were hungry but did not eat, and 8.9% went without food for a whole day”*

This is what 35 year old mother from Oboabi in the Ashanti region said *“this year things are hard, common food to eat is a problem, I have never experience this in my life. Even if you managed to get food staff, you can’t buy meat.*



## Objecti 4: To assess the damage course by the 2020 flooding

- In Binduri area in the UER, 20 farmers complained about total loss of their farms and shelter due to the flooding in 2020
- They attributed the flooding to the spillage of Bagre dam coupled with the heavy downpour in later part of August
- During the FGD, respondents complained of loss of livestock, drinking water source, farms and destruction of road connecting Bawku and Bolga





# Conclusions

- The COVID-19 impacted negatively on food production in 2020. The impact is in the area of high input cost due to banned of shipment of agro inputs and farm machinery
- The high cost of food prices and the shortage of legumes and cereals in 2021 is partly due to impact of COVID-19 and partly due to flooding in 2020
- Majority of GhaFFaP farming households were food insecure in 2020. This due to high prices, postharvest losses and non-availability of some food items
- Most GhaFFaP members have experienced lost of income due to lack of market for their produce during the lockdown period
- Most GhaFFaP members experienced difficulty in access to food in 2020
- The 2020 flooding caused lost of farms, shelter, drinking water and destruction of roads

# Recommendations

- In order to improve food production in 2021, government should provide more input subsidy to farmers to cushion them against the impact of COVID-19
- Government should also mandate financial institution to increase their loan portfolio on agriculture
- Government should consider developing a farmer friendly covid-19 stimulus package
- Government should speed up the construction of the Bagre dam project to help address the annual flooding in northern Ghana
- The IVID project should be reviewed and implemented properly to ensure there is all year water for farming activities

# Thank you!

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