



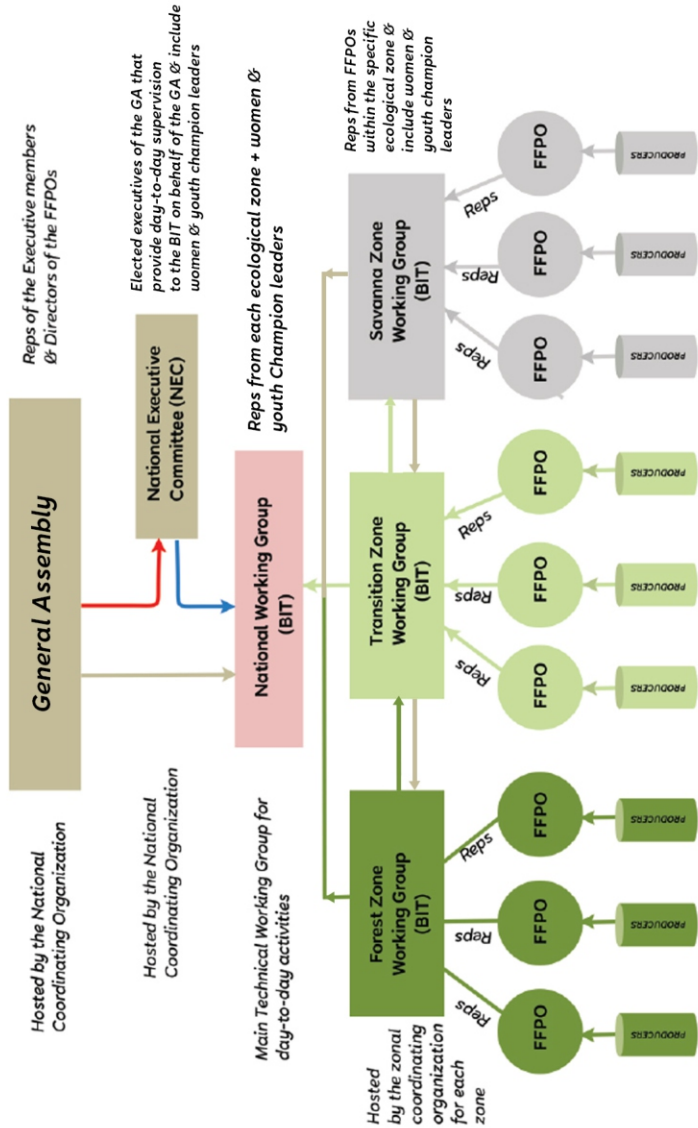
ABOUT US

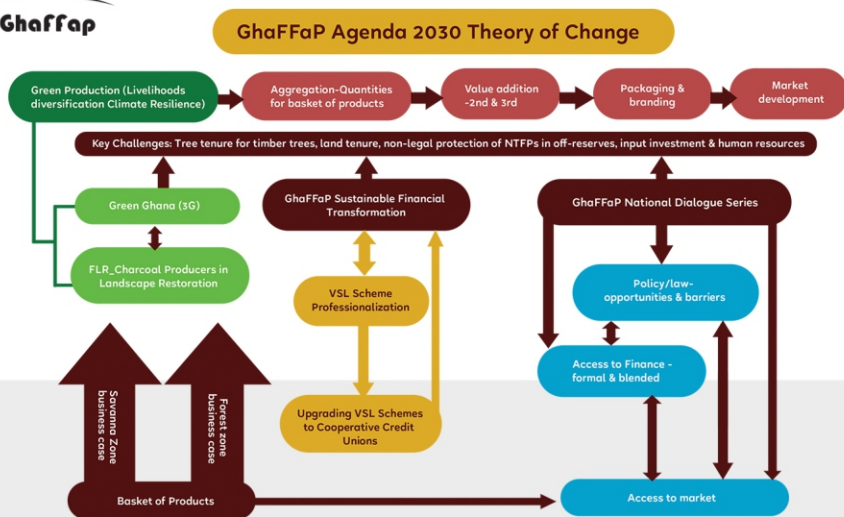
The Ghana Federation of Forest and Farm Producers (GhaFFaP) is a national federation of Forest and Farm Producer Organizations (FFPOs) drawn from three ecological zones of Ghana –the Savannah, Transition and Forest ecological zones – for promoting the interest of forest and farm producers in Ghana. The evolution of GhaFFaP has been influenced by the desire of members to maximize their strength in numbers towards building strong and profitable forest and farm-based businesses, contribute to shaping national policies for sustainable development and promote climate resilience landscapes across the forest, transition and savannah ecological zones in Ghana. GhaFFaP currently has a membership of 1,042,880 representing twelve (12) Forest and Farm Producer Organizations (FFPOs) across the respective ecological zones and is open to all forest and farm producer organizations in Ghana that share in its objectives. The current membership is made of 478,623 women (46%), and 564,157 men (54%) respectively of which 208,291 (20%) are youth forest and farm producers.

Improved standard of living of members (Forest and Farm producers) through sustainable environmental management and climate resilient landscapes.

Contribute to sustainable livelihoods of forest and farm producers through advocacy, capacity building, environmental management, business development and partnerships building.

The Structures of GhaFFaP





The GhaFFaP Agenda 2030 Theory of Change as illustrated in the diagram above is hinged on a series of carefully thought through approaches which are expected to ultimately contribute to sustainable ‘green’ businesses led by FFPOs and promoting more diverse, inclusive, and climate-resilient livelihood opportunities for smallholder forest and farm producers. The theory of change outlines GhaFFaP’s intended path to impact as outlined in the following relationships of the various approaches; there is both a vertical and horizontal relationship of the approaches intended to achieve short-term, intermediate, and long-term outcomes:

HORIZONTAL: If smallholder forest and farm producers are provided appropriate support to undertake ‘green production’ it will offer opportunities for livelihood diversification and climate-resilience ; this is expected to contribute to improved productivity (increased quantities) supporting the aggregation of a ‘basket of products’ using FFPO strength in numbers increasing their ability to meet demand by bulk buyers and increased market share ; with an increased market share FFPOs can begin to make collective investments in Value Addition (ie 2nd & 3rd level value added products) which will lead to increased margins from value added products; Further investments can then be made in packaging and branding and overall market development for various product value chains which ultimately should generate more sustainable income streams for smallholder forest and farm producers



VERTICAL: If smallholder forest and farm producers are provided business incubation services it will provide relevant capacity to prioritise and identify a 'basket of products' and develop business cases further developing products; this should lead to the adoption of 'greener' and climate-resilient production options and contributing to access to markets ; Also , if smallholders are supported to professionalise and upgrade existing Village Savings Schemes such as upgrades to Cooperative Credit Unions, then it provide opportunities for access to blended financing options which will then lead to sustainable financial transformation which will contribute to facilitating green production, product aggregation, value addition packing/branding and overall market development

Key Challenges:

1. Tree Tenure for timber trees
2. Land tenure
3. Non-legal protection of NTFPs in off-reserves
4. Inadequate capital for input investment by FFPOs
5. Inadequate Human Resources & Capacity

GhaFFaP Approach

Through the National Dialogue Series GhaFFaP works towards addressing these key challenges towards:

- Improved policies and laws
- Access to Markets
- Access to Finance



GhaFFaP Agenda 2030

GhaFFaP Green Market:

Towards more sustainable and climate-resilient forest and farm businesses through business incubation for livelihood diversification

Green Production

GhaFFaP will prioritise 'green production' including but not limited to the promotion of agroforestry practices, agroecology, woodlot establishment for wood fuel and charcoal production and above all ensure that production processes are environmentally friendly. Sustainable production will therefore be a central focus for GhaFFaP in a bid to ensuring that its activities support climate resilient landscapes. The Green Market (GGM) strategy is aiming to promote and develop environmental and socio-economically sustainable, equitable and fair forest and farm business value chains across the forest, transition and savanna ecological zones in Ghana. This includes the establishment of national and zonal business incubation teams and local business development teams (BDTs) made up of FFPO representatives and staff. Within this structure, the women's champions wing and network of women's business coaches and mentors have a specific role to ensure these services equally reach and benefit female members. This will also include working with youth groups through youth champions.

Aggregation

GhaFFaP recognises product aggregation as a catalyst for the promotion of thriving and profitable forest and farm businesses. This will be carefully structured to take advantage of the strength in numbers of GhaFFaP members across three (3) ecological zones of Ghana and will be realized through aggregation of basket of products at both the grassroots and zonal level and appropriate market linkage facilitation to ensure the uptake of these aggregated products in bulk supplies for high market share. This will also include facilitating the establishment and collective use of aggregation centers, aggregation for transport and storage and collective use of equipment.

Value Addition, Branding and Marketing

GhaFFaP will work vigorously towards value addition, processing and commercialization of primary products produced by member organizations. GhaFFaP views value addition as a critical success factor for smallholders as it can contribute to more diversified incomes and overall increase in profitability of smallholder forest and farm businesses. It is also envisaged that the GhaFFaP 'green production strategy' will further enhance value of products invariably leading to increased income.

GhaFFaP Green Brand

Green Market Checklist

Avoids Deforestation
Integrates Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR)
Reduce Carbon footprints
Integrates various Nature-Based solution (NbS) :
-Agroforestry-
Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) - Agroecology , Fire management etc

Decent Income – Focused on the following

Operational Health & Safety standards
Child Labour free production
Compliance with national & international Labour standards

Livelihood Diversification – through promotion of 'green production' Aggregation and Bulk sales to capture higher market share
Value addition to increase economic returns higher up the value chain
Competitive branding to increase market share
Inclusive production and processing (women, youth, vulnerable populations) Avoids conflicts (eg. Land use) promoting social

Uses a 'Basket of Products Approach' Comprehensive Business Cases Developed

Savanna Zone Shea, Straw Products & Traditional Vegetables

Transition & Forest Zones Cocoa – black soap, burnt cocoa husk , Abinkyi, Black Pepper and Cashew



GhaFFaP Agenda 2030

Sustainable Financial Transformation

A roadmap towards FFPO financial inclusion, financial literacy, and access to finance for forest and farm businesses

The promotion of financial inclusion and financial literacy within Forest and Farm Producer Organisations (FFPOs) businesses is critical for organisational strengthening. A good number of GhaFFaP member FFPOs have experience in managing local Village Savings and Loans (VSL) Schemes in which transparency and collective accountability is a prominent feature. GhaFFaP will work towards formalising and/or professionalising these local savings schemes into more robust schemes capable of deploying basic technology and record keeping to enable GhaFFaP members access more formal financial and business development services expanding their access to finance.

Objectives

1. Support GhaFFaP members' efforts towards the promotion of financial inclusion through initiatives such as Village Savings and Loans (VSL) Schemes
2. GhaFFaP will support members to formalize local savings schemes to better access formal financial and business development services
3. Upscale and consolidate the VSL at the GhaFFaP level as an internal financial mobilisation tool for access finance
4. GhaFFaP member VSL groups mobilised into formalised cooperative credit unions

Key Activities and Approaches

- Develop internal capacity of GhaFFaP Member FFPOs in internal financial mobilisation through the introduction and expansion of Village Savings and Loans (VSL) Schemes
- Facilitate the formalisation of VSL schemes the introduction of basic ICT Tools for improved financial record keeping and promotion of financial literacy
- GhaFFaP facilitates engagement of members with formal financial and business development services
- Facilitate engagement with the Ghana Cooperative Council towards support for GhaFFaP members towards elevating VSL groups into Cooperative Credit Union
- Initiate discussions with government initiatives such as the National Food and Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO) and the Ghana Commodity Exchange on how GhaFFaP member VSL Schemes can be a catalyst for product aggregation

Expected Outcomes

1. Improved internal mobilisation of finance for GhaFFaP member FFPO businesses
2. GhaFFaP members are able to deploy and integrate basic ICT Tools in internal financial mobilisation and record keeping ensuring more efficient and robust internal financial management
3. GhaFFaP members leverage on improved and formalized VSL/FFPO management to attract external blended financing for business expansion
4. GhaFFaP members VSL groups into formalized cooperative credit



GhaFFaP

GhaFFaP Agenda 2030 GhaFFaP National Dialogue Series

Facilitating multi-stakeholder processes towards improved policy, laws, access to market and access to finance

Context

GhaFFaP strives to serve as a platform in advocating for inclusive and equitable forest and farm policies and laws in Ghana and to engage its members, as agents of change, in discussing solutions towards strong, sustainable and climate resilient forest and farm businesses that improve members standard of living. To this end, GhaFFaP will organize a National Dialogue Series, to be held every six months, with members representatives, policy makers, financial institutions (Public and Private), input and output market actors, and development partners to give a voice to members collective challenges and find solutions that address critical policy, market, and finance opportunities.

Pre-Dialogue Events

Preparatory roundtable meetings at grassroots and zonal level

Identification & Preliminary analysis of issues and opportunities

Synthesis of key emerging issues & opportunities from grassroots roundtables by Zonal Business Incubation Teams

GhaFFaP National Business Incubation Team review & synthesis of emerging issues from zonal roundtables

Stakeholder Identification and consultations

National Dialogue Events

Hold National Dialogue Event

Consolidated advocacy briefs

Presentations: summary of challenges and opportunities identified

Break-out sessions

Closing Plenary session & action planning

National Forum involving key stakeholders

Policy Briefs / Position Papers targeting specific sectors

Presentations and Plenary Discussions

Policy
Access to Market
Access to Finance

Develop Action plan for the next six months

Post Dialogue

GhaFFaP National Executive Committee (NEC) and National Business Incubation Team will coordinate the implementation of the National Dialogue Action Plan, monitor progress and provide updates to members and stakeholders. A progress report on implementation of action plan will be prepared which will feed into the next National Dialogue

Pre-Dialogue Events

1. Access to Finance: Improved access to finance by GhaFFaP Members towards building strong, resilient and inclusive forest and farm businesses
2. Access to Markets: Increased access to markets for GhaFFaP members products through aggregation and value addition
3. Policy: GhaFFaP participation and influence on forest and farm policies in collaboration with government and other relevant stakeholders
4. Improved partnerships and synergies with government and other stakeholders

Key Stakeholders

Government of Ghana: Ministries, Commissions, Agencies, SDGs secretariate etc
Financial Institutions: Microfinance Institutions, Cooperative Credit unions, Savings & Loans Institutions, Venture funds, Financial and business service providers etc
Market Actors: Public and private market actors, local markets, regional and international markets
Development Partners: FAO- FFF, IUCN, Agricorn, IIED, Agriterra, Diplomatic Missions, UN Resident Coordinators Office, National and International NGOs etc



FARMING-RELATED CHALLENGES

GhaFFaP Agenda 2030

GhaFFaP Women and Youth Champions' Strategy

Mainstreaming gender and youth for
inclusive forest and farm value chains

GhaFFaP recognizes effective gender and youth mainstreaming as a critical step towards inclusive forest and farm businesses. To this end, GhaFFaP strives to develop gender and youth sensitive value chains that successfully integrate men women and youth working together towards developing mutually beneficial forest and farm value chains.

Women and youth are important actors in the forest and agricultural sectors. However, they face a major challenge of the lack of active participation and decision-making power at household, community and organizational levels resulting in widespread and cross-cutting constraints that lead to productivity losses and inefficiency along the value chain. Women in particular are faced with specific constraints at individual and household level that affect their ability to make forest and farm related production decisions. These constraints are also significant factors in determining women's work burden and use of time including but not limited to 'unpaid care work', their mobility, their participation in group activities and their access to necessary services and inputs.

Similarly, women and youth low levels of participation in rural organizations and institutions limit their ability to access essential services and markets and reduce their opportunities to strengthen links with other value chain actors and exercise an influence on matters affecting the governance of the production systems and value chains.

In recognition of the key constraints faced by women and youth forest and farm producers, GhaFFaP has institutionalized the GhaFFaP Women and Youth Champions Wing (WCW) which has been integrated across all GhaFFaP Structures from the grassroots, zonal and national levels. The GhaFFaP Women and youth Champions Wing is thus an important component of GhaFFaP structures which is consciously integrated at a Vertical (grassroots through zonal and national level) and horizontal (across zonal level: savanna, transition and forest ecological zones) levels

Key Elements of GhaFFaP Women and youth Champions Wing

