



# GhaFFaP AGENDA 2030



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# Abstract

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The Ghana Federation of Forest and Farm Producers (GhaFFaP) is a national federation of Forest and Farm Producer Organizations (FFPOs), with a membership of 478,623 (women 46%, 564,257 men 54% and youth 20%), representing twelve (12) Forest and Farm Producer Organizations (FFPOs) across the forest, transition and savanna ecological zones of Ghana. GhaFFaP' vision is "improved standard of living of members (Forest and Farm producers) through sustainable environmental management and landuse practices" and its mission is "Contribute to sustainable livelihoods of forest and farm producers through advocacy, capacity building, environmental management, business development and partnerships building". GhaFFaP evolution was largely influenced by the support of the Forest and Farm Facility and 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 was formally launched in March 2020. GhaFFaP Agenda 2030 has a very strong link to and contributes to fifteen (15) out of the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Apart from the SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and 14 (life below water), GhaFFaP agenda 2030 contributes directly to SDGs 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 16 and 17 and indirectly to SDGs 3, 4 and 9.

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GhaFFaP also acknowledges the strategic support and inputs from the FAO Ghana office and the FAO RAF that also provided funding support to organize the first national dialogue which is one of the strategic initiatives of the GhaFFaP Agenda 2030.

GhaFFaP wishes to specifically acknowledge and thank Ms. Jocelyn BrownHall (FAOR) and Benjamin Adjei of the FAO Ghana office for their support and contributions to the activities of GhaFFaP. Special thanks to Pamela Pozarny, Melisa Ayketin, Katrine Holvoet and Pious Asante of FAO RAF for all the inputs and comments provided in the development of the Agenda 2030.

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Lastly GhaFFaP recognizes the high commitment of members in the design of the agenda 2030 especially the National Business Incubation Team of GhaFFaP especially Mark Kebo Akparibo (Executive Secretary of Tele-bere Village Savings and Loans Association) for his high commitment throughout the writing of the Agenda 2030. The National Coordinating Organization of GhaFFaP (the Peasant Farmers Association) deserves special mention by GhaFFaP in ensuring the agenda 2030 is appropriately produced.

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## GhaFFaP Total Membership

SN	Name of FFP	Membership		
		Total	Women	Men
1	Peasant Farmers Association of Ghana (PFAG)	1,000,055	450,000	550,055
2	Abrono Organic Farmers Association (ABOFA)	6,000	3,800	2,200
3	Zuuri Organic Farmers Association (ZOVFA)	3,500	2,560	940
4	Achichire-Sureso Pebaseman Community Resource Management Area (ASP CREMA)	1,500	600	900
5	Kookoo Pa Farmers Association (KKFA)	11,200	2,800	8,400
6	Kattetaah Maali Lanbuure (KAMALA)	1,771	1,572	199
7	Tuna Women Development Programme (TUWODEP)	426	387	39
8	Community Action in Development and Research (CADER)	1,085	789	296
9	Kassena Nankana Baobab Cooperative Union (KANBAOCU)	12,861	12,376	485
10	Tele-bere Village Savings and Loans Association (Tele-bere)	4,350	3,697	653
11	Private Afforestation Developers Organization (PADO)	152	42	110
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,042,880 (100%)</b>	<b>478,623 (46%)</b>	<b>564,257 (54%)</b>

# Content

Background and Context.....	
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the GhaFFAP Agenda 2030.....	
About GhaFFAP.....	2
THE VISION OF GhaFFAP.....	2
THE MISSION OF GhaFFAP.....	2
OBJECTIVES OF GhaFFAP.....	2
GhaFFAP Five (5) Building Pillars - Comparative Advantage.....	3
GhaFFAP Gender Strategy.....	4
GhaFFAP Youth Strategy.....	5
GhaFFAP Disaster Preparedness Strategy.....	5
GhaFFAP Communication Strategy.....	5
GhaFFAP Business Incubation Strategy.....	5
GhaFFAP Green Market.....	8
GhaFFAP Strategic Initiatives - Agenda 2030.....	12
GhaFFAP National Dialogue Series.....	12
Context.....	12
Goal and Objectives.....	12
Key Activities and Approaches.....	13
Expected Outcomes.....	15
Key Institutional Partners & Collaborators.....	15
GhaFFAP Sustainable Financial Transformation.....	16
Goal and Objectives.....	17
Key Activities and Approaches.....	17
Expected Outcomes.....	18
Key Institutional Partners & Collaborators.....	18
GhaFFAP Green Ghana.....	20
Goal and Objectives.....	21
Key Activities and Approaches.....	21
Expected Outcomes.....	24
Key Institutional Partners & Collaborators.....	24
GhaFFAP Charcoal Producers in Forest Landscape Restoration.....	25
Goal and Objectives.....	26
Key Activities and Approaches.....	26
Expected Outcomes.....	27
Key Institutional Partners & Collaborators.....	
Schematic Outline.....	

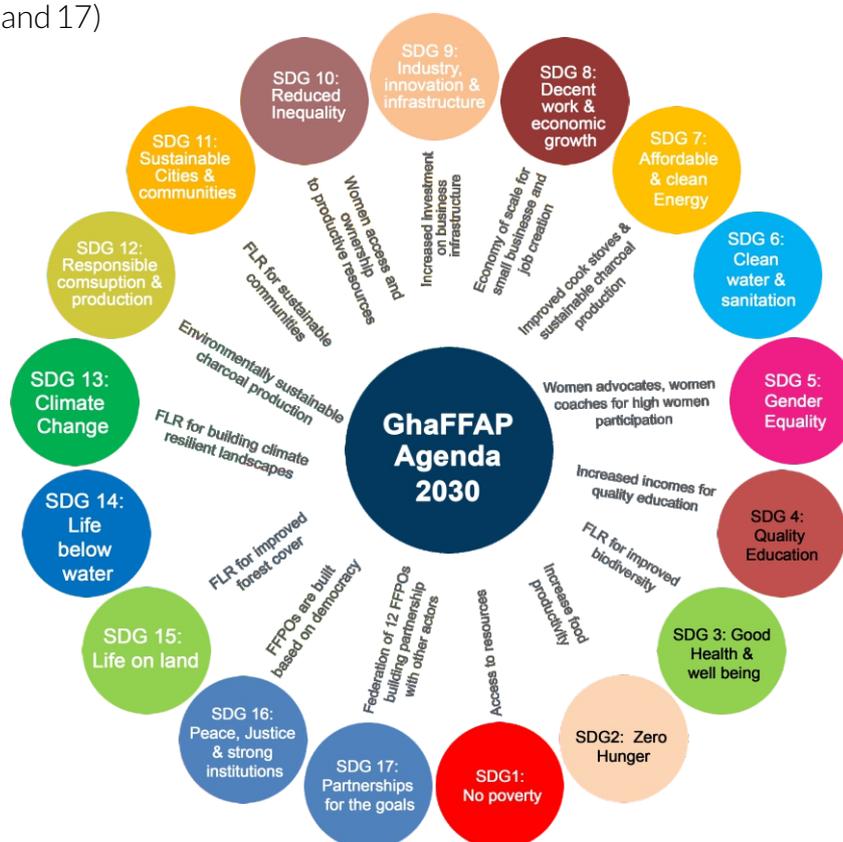


# Background and Context

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the GhaFFaP Agenda 2030

GhaFFaP Agenda 2030 has a very strong link to and contributes to fifteen (15) out of the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Apart from the SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) and 14 (life below water), GhaFFaP agenda 2030 contributes directly to SDGs 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 and indirectly to SDGs 3, 4 and 9.

1. GhaFFaP National Dialogue Series (SDGs 5, 8, 10, 16 and 17)
2. GhaFFaP Sustainable Financial Transformation (SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 17)
3. GhaFFaP Green Ghana (SDGs 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17)
4. GhaFFaP Charcoal Producers in Forest Landscape Restoration (SDGs 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, and 17)



# About GhaFFaP

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 564,257 men (54%) respectively of which 33,691 (20%) are youth forest and farm producers.

## THE VISION OF GhaFFaP

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

## THE MISSION OF GhaFFaP

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

## OBJECTIVES OF GhaFFaP

The objectives of the federation includes but not limited to;

- a. To serve as a platform in advocating for conducive forest and farm policies and

laws in Ghana

- b. To coordinate the establishment of partnerships with government, private sector and civil society organizations for the benefit of forest and farm producers and promote participation in national development
- c. To improve entrepreneurial and business capacities of members and provide business incubation services to forest and farm producers in Ghana
- d. To promote sustainable environmental management and climate resilient practices and landscape restoration.
- e. To ensure gender inclusive practices in all programmes and activities of member organizations and through the actions close gender gaps
- f. To serve as a platform for resource mobilization for member organizations.
- g. To provide internal economic, social, cultural and other appropriate and relevant welfare services to members

## GhaFFaP Five (5) Building Pillars

### Comparative Advantage

GhaFFaP is built on 5 key pillars that members agree will enable the realization of building inclusive communities, climate resilience and poverty alleviation in Ghana. GhaFFaP serves as a major entry point in delivering at scale national development programmes targeting smallholder farmers as key players and end beneficiaries. The 5 key pillars of GhaFFaP are:

- **Strength in Numbers (SIN):** The very high numbers of GhaFFaP members collectively makes it easy to achieve large scale impact in every aspect including business development and landscape restoration. This pillar is particularly useful towards partnership for delivery of government flagship programmes, the Ghana beyond Aid Agenda, Landscape Restoration, the National Determined Contributions and the SDGs.
- **Strength in communication and information:** information is power and a well performing communication and information system is set up between all levels of GhaFFaP  
**Strengthened Internal Governance (SIG):** Through GhaFFaP internal democracy strengthening approaches, GhaFFaP serves as a bigger voice for smallholder forest and farm producers that make decisions for GhaFFaP to implement. This therefore ensures that rural resource producers concerns are addressed through engagement with GhaFFaP
- **Strong Seat at the Table (SSAT):** GhaFFaP has adopted a capacity development approach and lessons sharing through exchanges among members and providing capacity building to members on policy opportunities and policy barriers towards

ensuring that GhaFFaP and its member organizations become competent and effective partners in national policy dialogue and policy formulation, implementation and monitoring.

- Strength in Businesses (SIB) collectively: GhaFFaP has established its national business incubation team with members across the 3 ecological zones to provide business incubation services to member organizations. GhaFFaP has also established business development teams in each of the ecological zones to provide business development services specific to each ecological zone. Key to GhaFFaP “strength in business” pillar is the development of business plans for “basket of products” for each ecological zone and facilitating the building of partnerships for implementation. Key in the business plans is the aggregation of products, market access and superior quality standards, access to finance, generating internal financing through “village Savings and Loans” Scheme, value addition and partnership with government flagship programmes.
- Strength in Climate Resilience landscapes building and forest land restoration collectively (SIC): GhaFFaP serves as a major entry point to build climate resilience landscapes and forest landscape restoration at a large scale across the three ecological zones in Ghana. GhaFFaP aims to use its strength in numbers to partner with government and other stakeholders to ensure members implement climate resilience plans and undertake forest landscape restoration including the integration of trees on their lands, use of farmer managed natural regeneration approaches and agro-ecology farming best practices.

## GhaFFaP Gender Strategy

The GhaFFaP Gender Strategy draws inspiration from the Forest and Farm Facility Gender Strategy document as well as the legal and development frameworks for addressing critical gender issues applicable in Ghana. The key approaches adopted by GhaFFaP on gender include:

- Women Advocates: GhaFFaP recognizes the significance of advocacy in advancing the promotion of gender inclusion; hence a conscious effort to identify gender concerns in all of the value chains it is supporting and supporting as well as promoting women leaders at all levels of the federation (grassroots, zonal and national) and providing them with continuous capacity building in the area of Advocacy is an integral approach. All members should be informed on how closing gender gaps in agriculture and forestry value chains can be a win-win situation for all GhaFFaP members and GhaFFaP believes through this approach a critical mass of Women Advocates adequately prepared to lead in various advocacy efforts is key.
- Women Coaches: GhaFFaP will identify 'women champions' with the requisite

experience and track record to serve as coaches to other women across the various levels.

- Women Business Mentors: to ensure that women derive sufficient benefits through our business facilitation efforts, GhaFFaP identifies women with very good business acumen within GhaFFaP to serve as business mentors to other women members

## GhaFFaP Youth Strategy

The strategic goal of GhaFFaP's youth strategy is to ensure youth-responsiveness is prioritized throughout the structures and activities with a view to promote thriving forest and farm businesses in Savannah, Transition and Forest zones of Ghana. The key approaches to promote youth active participation in GhaFFaP activities are:

- Youth Champions Wing' of GhaFFaP to promote youth participation in leadership at all levels (Grassroots, Zonal & National) and particularly ensuring active voices of youth in activities.
- Youth Advocates: GhaFFaP recognizes the significance of advocacy in ensuring favorable policy and legal environment that promote sustainable forest and farm businesses. GhaFFaP also understands that challenges and issues affecting youth enterprises are diverse and needs to be given special priority. Thus GhaFFaP will identify youth development gaps within the gender gaps and actively involve youth members at all levels of the federation (grassroots, zonal and national) to undertake analysis and organize the youth, mobilise youth and providing them with continuous capacity building in the area of Advocacy. GhaFFaP believes through this approach a critical mass of youth advocates adequately prepared to lead in various advocacy efforts is key.
- Youth business mentors and coaches: GhaFFaP will identify youth with promising business and enterprises skills and experience and track record to serve as coaches to other youth across the various levels.

## GhaFFaP Disaster Preparedness Strategy

The COVID-19 global pandemic has revealed the level of social discrepancies and the lack of efficient social protection systems across the world. In Ghana, this situation has revealed the deep structural inadequacies with respect to providing social protection and /or safety nets to the most vulnerable sections of the society. The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has projected that the number of people facing food insecurity could nearly double in 2020 to 256 million due to the economic fallouts of COVID-19. It shares the view that

COVID-19 is potentially catastrophic for millions around the world, who are already 'hanging by a thread' with respect of access to basic needs such as food. This no doubt further reinforces the need for this GhaFFaP's Emergency Preparedness Strategy, which will work directly with smallholder forest and farm producers in Ghana towards the delivery of specific services aimed at enhancing productivity from forest and farm related value chains, while providing opportunities for bringing to scale successful innovations at landscape and national level. GhaFFaP would like to mobilize the support of government to develop a livelihoods diversification strategy for the different agro-ecological zones and this in collaboration with the national research.

This will make sure that farmers and forestry communities and households and the value chains they are involved in that are export oriented are not their sole livelihoods strategy and that extension services and government support focusses on this need for investment in diversification. In many of the households women are often the one's responsible for diversification strategies and for coping with the impact of crises. Their assets are the first to be used in times of crises and they provide through petty trade and labour the necessary labor and income to overcome the crises. The women should be effectively participating in this diversification strategy development.

Restoration of soils and reforestation should be conducted with the participation of women and their interests and needs should be priority as they are the first line caregivers and crisis managers. GhaFFaP will particularly provide an opportunity for creating a nexus between grassroots forest and farm producers and decentralized and/or local level authorities towards devising more sustainable approaches as a catalyst for pro-poor wealth creation and creating platforms for more concerted response to emergencies including but not limited to; floods, drought, pests infestations such as Fall Army Worm and Locusts among others.

In particular, as a response to the present and post COVID-19 impacts on small holder forest and farm producers and their organizations, specific interventions are integrated in GhaFFaP's actions aimed at mitigating present and future including the collaboration of forest and farm producers with metropolitan municipal and district assemblies and the National Disaster Management Organization (NADMO) to review disaster preparedness plans to ensure specific actions are incorporated to respond to global crises such as the COVID-19 Pandemic. Also, the role of women and youth will be highlighted specifically in our COVID-19 response actions to ensure the following: ensure equal representation of women and youth in all COVID-19 related response planning and decision making; derive transformative change for equity by addressing the 'care economy' paid and unpaid, which largely involves women and youth; and specifically target women and girls in all efforts to address the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.

## GhaFFaP Communication Strategy

The communication strategy is to guarantee information and communication with all of its members and raise the visibility of GhaFFaP, showcase members' activities and impact and promote effective engagement with key sectorial stakeholders towards promoting sustainable forest and farm businesses, building climate resilient landscapes and participation of forest and farm producers in policy and law processes that have direct effect on their livelihoods. Some of the key GhaFFaP communication approaches and/or activities include:

- Design GhaFFaP communication package including documentaries, brochure, reference manual, posters, stickers, GhaFFaP information booklets, GhaFFaP Strategic Initiatives booklet, etc
- Enhance internal communication to increase GhaFFaP visibility including website development and regular information updates, GhaFFaP newsroom, social media handles, display of information material during events, involvement in events such as World Food Day, World Forest day, World Environment Day etc.
- Enhance external communication with grassroot, sub-national, national and international levels and build media partnership with key strategic media actors in and outside Ghana
- Promote advocacy on GhaFFaP through sharing of brief materials during high level meetings, national sensitization seminars for policy makers, etc.

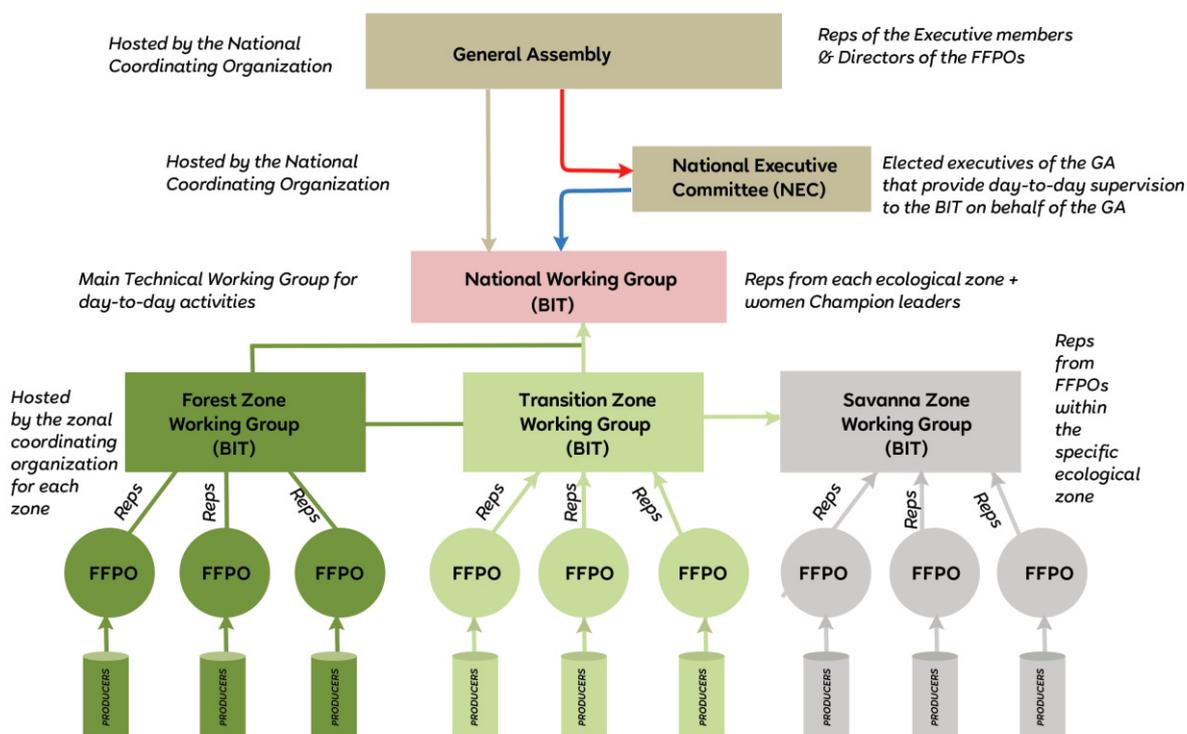
## The GhaFFaP Business Incubation Strategy

National Business Incubation Team (BIT): The GhaFFaP BIT is made of highly skilled staff of member organizations representing the savanna, transition and forest ecological zones including a member from the national coordinating organization of GhaFFaP and representative from the GhaFFaP women's champions wing. This will be a team of at least six (6) that will have the needed capacity to support the development of strong businesses for key GhaFFaP products and facilitate the implementation of the GhaFFaP business cases across the ecological zones.

Zonal Business Incubation Team (ZBIT): The GhaFFaP ZBIT is made of highly skilled staff of member organizations specific to each ecological zone and representative from the GhaFFaP women's champions' wing for each ecological zone. This will be a team of at least six (6) that will have the needed capacity to support the development of strong businesses for key basket of products specific for each ecological zone and facilitate the implementation of the GhaFFaP business case for the ecological zone. There shall be one ZBIT for the savanna zone and another for the transition and forest zones.

The savanna ZBIT will lead and coordinate the implementation of the savanna business case and the forest ZBIT will lead the coordination and implementation of the forest zone business case. The leader of the ZBIT shall be a member of the BIT.

Business Development Teams (BDT): Each member FFPO of GhaFFaP shall have in place at least a three (3) member BDT made of highly skilled staff of the FFPO. The leader of the BDTs shall be a member of the ZBIT. The BDT will have the needed capacity to support the development of strong businesses of the FFPO including pipeline products and facilitate the implementation of the business plans of the FFPO.



## The GhaFFaP Green Market

### Projected Budget

(Note: The budget projections for this and subsequent initiatives are made for the first 3 years of implementing this strategy is 2021 to 2023. A yearly break-down for the first three (3) years is provided at the concluding sections of the document below)

Total Resource Investment Required (USD)	Total Available Resources (USD)	Total Resources to be mobilised (USD)
550,000	150,000	400,000

## 1. 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 our production processes are environmentally friendly. Also, as much as possible, GhaFFaP will vigorously work towards the adoption of cleaner and renewable energy sources such as solar energy in our production processes in a bid to ensuring production occurs in the most sustainable manner with very minimal carbon foot prints. Sustainable production will therefore be a central focus for GhaFFaP in a bid to ensuring that our activities ensure climate resilient landscapes.

## 2. Aggregation

GhaFFaP recognises product aggregation can be a catalyst for the promotion of thriving and profitable forest and farm businesses. In this regard, GhaFFaP through the green market initiative will facilitate processes in close collaboration with key stakeholders towards aggregation of products. This will be carefully structured to take advantage of the strength in numbers of GhaFFaP members across three (3) ecological zones of Ghana; this will be actualized through aggregation of products at both the grassroots and zonal level and appropriate market linkage facilitation to ensure the uptake of these aggregated products. To ensure that aggregation is done by GhaFFaP members in the most efficient manner there shall be capacity building for GhaFFaP member FFPOs in warehouse operating processes and principles, Inventory management, product classification and quality control. GhaFFaP will pursue mutually beneficial collaborations and partnerships with various stakeholders towards the provision of warehousing infrastructure and related support services to GhaFFaP members.

## 3. Value addition

GhaFFaP will vigorously work towards value addition to primary products produced by member FFPOs. This will include facilitating and building relevant collaborations for the provision of technical training for GhaFFaP members in value addition and ensuring members access machinery to facilitate value addition. We view value addition as a very critical success factor for smallholders as it can contribute to more diversified incomes and overall increase in profitability of smallholder forest and farm businesses.

3 Key areas of GhaFFaP's value addition strategy have been identified including:

- a) Capacity building programmes for FFPO primary producers in value addition
- b) Facilitating access to basic machinery and processing equipment for producers
- c) Capacity building to GhaFFaP members quality standards including but not limited to phytosanitary standards and health and safety consideration
- d) Facilitate processes for GhaFFaP members compliance with various regulatory agencies such as the Food and Drugs Authority, Ghana Standards Authority among others

## 1. Branding and Marketing

GhaFFaP aims to develop a sustainable green brand (GhaFFaP Green Label) for its members' products as a brand of national and global choice. The key strength of the GhaFFaP Brand will be the element of Sustainable Production in the context of climate resilient landscapes. All GhaFFaP branded products will show evidence of landscape restoration, integrated production landscapes, good carbon footprints, compliance with national and global protocols and the SDGs. *For example GhaFFaP Green Charcoal will demonstrate the use of woodlots for charcoal production (no deforestation), increases in landcover under forest (landscape restoration), the use of improved production techniques that reduces carbon emission (good carbon footprint), the application of decent working environment for charcoal producers, etc.*

The GhaFFaP Green Brand – A checklist

### **Integrates Forest Landscape restoration interventions**

- Agroforestry
- Agroecology
- Climate Smart Agriculture
- Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR)
- Watershed Management eg. Riparian Buffer Restoration

### **Contributes to reduced carbon footprints**

- Energy efficient cookstoves
- Renewable Energy Sources – eg Solar energy
- Reduced 'food miles' through aggregation and collective

### **Avoids Deforestation**

- Minimal or no destruction of trees in the production process
- Replacement planting in cases where trees are affected as a result of the production process
- Wildfire prevention and control
- Sustainable Harvesting -eg. Integrating woodlot establishment in the case off charcoal production



## Health and Safety

- Prioritise health such as organic production
- Reduced use of chemicals including proper application when used
- Maintaining rigorous health and safety protocols in the production process
- Total elimination of child labour

## Socially Inclusive Value Chains

- Inclusive production -especially for women, youth & vulnerable populations
- Avoids conflicts -eg. Land use conflict
- Promotes social cohesion eg. Promotion of cultural heritage through ecotourism

# GhaFFaP Agenda 2030

## Strategic Initiatives

### GhaFFaP National Dialogue Series

Context

Projected Budget

Total Resource Investment Required (USD)	Total Available Resources (USD)	Total Resources to be mobilised (USD)
430,000	80,000	350,000

Forests and Farm Producers (FFPs) need to strongly put on the table the need for the formalization of their roles in carrying out independent monitoring of forests and farm (agriculture) programmes as they are major contributors to food and livelihood security. Forests and Agricultural Landscapes' Protection is conditional on good governance, which includes accountability, transparency, coordination, participation and capacity. Strengthening governance will allow Ghana's foresters and farmers to play their role in the fight against global warming, thereby enabling the country to deliver on its commitments under the Paris Agreement. Fundamental problems remain, such as poor enforcement of forest and natural resources governance legislation (with few sanctions), weak inclusion of local communities and insufficient coordination between ministries. FFPOs need to strongly bring to the fore their situation, and demand immediate and concrete actions from stakeholders and government to address the policy and legal challenges to building strong and sustainable forest and farm businesses in Ghana.

### Goal and objectives

GhaFFaP intends to institutionalize the GhaFFaP national dialogue every six (6) months (ie twice a year) with selected financial institutions, market actors, women and youth cooperatives/organizations government and other stakeholders and ensure the implementation of action plans developed during the dialogue series to promote FFPOs influence on policy, access to finance and access to markets. This will involve GhaFFaP

members and stakeholders within the forest and farm business value chains on three broad areas focusing on;

- Policy – this will involve key policy makers and implementers within the forest and farm sector for addressing policy barriers and facilitating the accessing of existing policy opportunities
- Access to Markets- This will involve buyers of GhaFFaP members' products and building market linkages for value added products
- Access to Finance- This will involve financial institutions and Government financial service providers for accessing financial services for members
- Donors – FFF funders local diplomatic missions in Ghana for resource mobilization

The strategy is builds on the multi-stakeholder cross sectoral grassroot, zonal and national round tables established in 2019 to generate issues relating to forest and farm businesses that will largely form the agenda for the national dialogue. The event will highlight GhaFFaP mandate, the dialogue objectives and what it seeks to achieve, followed by simultaneous breakout sessions focusing on policy advocacy, access to finance and access to markets. The final session of the dialogue will be to consolidate action points into an action plan. The progress in the implementation of the action plan will be reviewed and addressed during next dialogue.

## Key Activities and Approaches

GhaFFaP has already established the grassroot, zonal and national round tables involving FFPOs and other stakeholders in the savanna, transition and forest zones and at the national level. These multi-stakeholder cross sectoral platforms will be strengthened and serve us the precursor to the GhaFFaP national dialogue series. The activities will include:

### 1.Pre-dialogue activities:

- Identification and Preliminary Analyses of Issues: At the District & Zonal Levels FFPOs sit together to identify and analyse issues that negatively affect their businesses and livelihoods. This will be done through the quarterly grassroot (district & regional level) and zonal (savanna, transition and forest zones) round tables.
- The GhaFFaP Zonal Business Incubation Teams: will research further into the issues collated and gathered at the grassroot and zonal levels and develop advocacy briefs on them.
- The GhaFFaP National Business Incubation Team: will review and consolidate

the advocacy briefs from the three ecological zones (savanna, transition and forest) into a national advocacy brief. They will then develop position papers on gender specific policy and legal barriers affecting the businesses of forest and farm producers and another position paper on accessing existing policy and legal opportunities for forest and farm producers.

- Stakeholders' Identification and consultations: The National Business Incubation Team in consultation with the GhaFFaP National Executive Committee, will identify the most relevant stakeholders based on the priority advocacy issues consolidated through the round tables and undertake initial consultations to agree on the agenda. Position Papers shall be shared alongside formal invitation letters that shall also clearly set out the Key Objectives and Expected Outcomes of the Dialogue(s).  
Meeting with FFF funders' diplomatic missions: GhaFFaP will hold meetings with diplomatic missions of FFF funders in Ghana to provide updates on progress of activities, build synergies and explore local opportunities for resource mobilization for GhaFFaP activities.

## 2. National Dialogue Events:

- Hold National Dialogue: The national dialogue shall be held on agreed dates and venues to be decided by the GhaFFaP National Executive Committee. Meeting participants shall include reasonable numbers of the direct members of the FFPOs. The event will involve presentations and discussions. The consolidate advocacy briefs will be presented and discussed followed by simultaneous breakout sessions focusing on policy advocacy, access to finance and access to markets. The final session of the dialogue will be at plenary to consolidate action points into an action plan. The progress in the implementation of the action plan will be reviewed and addressed during next dialogue.

## 3. Post Dialogue:

- GhaFFaP National Executive Committee and the National Business Incubation Team will coordinate the implementation of the national dialogue action and provide regular updates to members. A report on the progress of the implementation of the national dialogue action plan shall be compiled and presented in the next national dialogue.

## Expected outcomes

The following expected results are envisaged:

1. Improved access to finance by GhaFFaP members towards building strong forest and farm businesses.
2. Increase access to markets for basket of products by GhaFFaP members through aggregation and high quality value addition.
3. GhaFFaP as a federation of choice for government and stakeholders on policy and law formulation, implementation and monitoring processes.
4. Improved synergy and resource mobilization with ongoing programmes of government and other stakeholders.

## Key institutional Partners & collaborators

1. Government of Ghana: Ministry of Business Development; Ministry of Food and Agriculture; Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources; Ministry of Science, Environment and Innovation; Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development; SDGs secretariat, etc
2. Financial Institutions: Rural Banks (ARB Apex Bank); Cooperative Credit Unions; Micro-credit and savings and loans institutions; Cooperate banks (eg Agriculture Development Bank); etc
3. Marketing organizations: Local markets at the district and regional markets; Big market destinations in the big cities in Ghana mainly Kumasi and Accra; Markets actors in the Africa region; International market actors
4. Donor community: diplomatic missions of donor countries of FFF in Ghana, FAO (Ghana office and RAF), Office of the UN resident coordinator, etc

# GhaFFaP Sustainable Financial Transformation

## Context

### Projected Budget

Total Resource Investment Required (USD)	Total Available Resources (USD)	Total Resources to be mobilised (USD)
<b>710,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>560,000</b>

Access to finance for smallholder forest and farm producers in Ghana remains a critical challenge. From the FFPO perspective, two important starting points in improving access to finance are:

- i) Ensure that FFPO members themselves recognize that they are the most important and accessible sources of financing through internal mobilization
- ii) FFPOs must also endeavor to ensure that there is no financial leakage between the FFPO business and the broader interest and activities of FFPOs and their members

The Promotion of financial inclusion and financial literacy within FFPO businesses must be critical for organizational strengthening. A good number of GhaFFaP Member FFPOs have experience of managing local savings schemes such as the Village Savings and Loans (VSL) scheme in which collective accountability is a prominent feature. It is worth noting that these skills and principles can be built into FFPO business finances. The challenge however, is the inability of these local savings and loans schemes to access more formal financing and related business development services. In the light of the above, GhaFFaP would work towards formalizing and/or professionalizing 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.

## Goal and objectives

Access to finance for smallholder forest and farm producers in Ghana remains a critical challenge. From the FFPO perspective, two important starting points in improving access to finance are:

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/professionalize local savings schemes to better access formal financial and business development services
3. Upscale and consolidate the VSL Scheme at the GhaFFaP level as an internal financial mobilization tool for accessing finance  
Explore avenues for the introduction of Information Communication Technology (ICT) tools for the deployment of more efficient internal resource mobilization for GhaFFaP members

## Key Activities and Approaches

1. Develop Internal Capacities of GhaFFaP member FFPOs in the area of internal financial mobilisation through the introduction and expansion of existing Village Savings and Loans Schemes
2. Implement in each of the value chains gender transformative processes
3. Make the case : youth and women coaches
4. Communication and information for all
5. Facilitate the formalisation of existing VSL Schemes through the introduction of basic ICT tools for improved financial record keeping and financial literacy for GhaFFaP members
6. GhaFFaP will facilitate engagements of members with formal financial and Business Development Service Providers towards ensuring that local savings schemes are formalised to meet their requirements
7. Engage the Ghana Cooperative Credit Unions Association (CUA) to support GhaFFaP members towards elevating VSL groups into cooperative credit unions
8. GhaFFaP to initiate discussions with Mobile Money Operators on how existing VSL groups can be better integrated into their current services
9. Initiate discussions with government schemes such as the National Food and Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO) and the Ghana Commodity Exchange on how exiting VSL Schemes can be used as a catalyst for product aggregation
10. GhaFFaP to work closely with the Department of Cooperatives and the Department of Social Welfare to facilitate formal registration of existing VSL Groups

## Expected outcomes

The following expected results are envisaged:

1. Improved internal mobilization of finance for FFPO forest and farm based businesses
2. GhaFFaP member FFPOs have improved and formalized internal resource mobilization schemes enabling access to more formal financial and business development services
3. GhaFFaP members are able to deploy and integrate basic ICT Tools in internal financial mobilization and record keeping ensuring more efficient and robust internal financial management.
4. Leverage on improved and formalized VSL/FFPO internal resource mobilization to attract external blended financing and funding to GhaFFaP members from government, financial institutions and other development partners.

## Key institutional Partners & collaborators

Institutional Partners	Expected Roles
Ministry of Business Development	Finance Facilitation & Business Development Services
Ministry in charge of Gender	Chamber of Agriculture
Financial Institutions eg. Sanapi Aba etc <a href="https://sinapiaba.com/">https://sinapiaba.com/</a>	Financial Planning, Record Keeping & Business Development Services
Business Development Service Providers	Finance Facilitation & Business Development Services
Ghana Cooperative Credit Unions Association (CUA) <a href="https://www.visionfund.org/">https://www.visionfund.org/</a>	Facilitating Financial and Technical Services for Credit Union Formation
Vision Fund <a href="https://www.visionfund.org/">https://www.visionfund.org/</a>	Formalising VSL Schemes & Microfinance
National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Fund (NEIP) <a href="https://neip.gov.gh/">https://neip.gov.gh/</a>	Finance Facilitation & Business Development Services (especially youth in agribusiness)
Mobile Money Operators – (Telecos)	ICT – Mobile Money integration
National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI) <a href="http://nbssi.gov.gh/about-us/">http://nbssi.gov.gh/about-us/</a>	Business Development & Support Services
National Food and Buffer Stock Company (NAFCO) <a href="https://mofa.gov.gh/site/sports/sub-vented-organization-soes/national-food-buffer-stock-company">https://mofa.gov.gh/site/sports/sub-vented-organization-soes/national-food-buffer-stock-company</a>	Formalising Product Aggregation Schemes

Department of Cooperatives	Cooperative Registration
Ghana Commodity Exchange <a href="https://gcx.com.gh/">https://gcx.com.gh/</a>	Formalising Product Aggregation Schemes

# GhaFFaP Green Ghana

## Context Projected Budget

Total Resource Investment Required (USD)	Total Available Resources (USD)	Total Resources to be mobilised (USD)
1,030,000	260,000	770,000

Forest resources of Ghana play a significant role in the livelihood strategies of the rural poor serving as important sources of fuel wood, poles, timber, hunting grounds, and numerous non-timber forest products. However, the potential for the forest resources to contribute significantly to the socio-economic development of the country is constrained by the dwindling resource base. Under the circumstances, many have proposed the community led approaches to restoration and greening of Ghana's landscape. This approach is clear in the Ghana forest policy (1994) which stressed on the need for farming communities in Ghana to become committed to the conservation of the reserves.

Forestry and Wildlife Master Plan (1996-2020) set the necessary framework for increasing forest and tree cover areas through community led initiatives. The recent Greening Ghana programme (2016-2040) spearheaded by Forestry Commission target at making Ghana green within the next 10 years through planting trees at public places with community support. Unfortunately, tree planting and adoption of sustainable land restoration and conservation practices are yet to be fully accepted as a shared responsibility among many Ghanaians.

Data from the Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA) 2020 show that the country's forest cover has dwindled from a high of 8.4 million hectares as at 1900 to a low of 1.8 million hectares currently which the forestry commission is working to overcome. If only communities, producers and individuals put in efforts to complement the work of the forestry commission, greater results should be achieved and Ghana would grow green again. Promoting community interest in Ghana's Landscape restoration would require that Specific constraints to community forestry

development and the plantation including ; inadequate forest extension service; inadequate high quality seed and vegetative planting material; rampant bush fires; problems of land and tree tenure arrangements and absence of an adequate policy framework for benefit sharing in plantation development are addressed.

GhaFFaP Green Ghana (3G) Initiative has been designed in the context of the ongoing Government Flagship project (Planting for Export) and the country's Natural Resource Management Programme which is the vehicle for the implementation of the forest and wildlife master plan. The GGG project is expected to enhance sustainability of the resources therein, as well as ensuring the conservation of the environment for future generations while creating an enabling environment for private sector investment for increased tree planting and sustainable land restoration. 3G project initiative would complement the efforts of the Ghana Forestry Commission in achieving its goal of natural resources management through reduced costs of plantation establishment and maintenance. At the same time, the costs to the Forestry Commission for the control of bush fire would also fall, as farmers and communities will take over a share of that responsibility. In addition, it is expected that the communities would reduce the incidence of illegal chainsaw operators through enhanced control of the forests.

## Goal and objectives

The purpose of 3G is to achieve sustainable development in the forest, transition and savannah zones of Ghana by promoting comprehensive green economy, through the adoption of sustainable production patterns, while generating growth, creating decent jobs and reducing poverty. The specific objectives are:

- To restore over 30,000 hectares of land locally with conservation farming and tree planting and address climate change in the forest, transition and savannah zones of Ghana.  
To create 2,000 jobs for forest and farm producers including youth, women and persons with disability through creation of green businesses and farms in the forest, transition and savannah zones

## Key Activities and Approaches

1. Provide support for establishment of 3 ecological GhaFFaP green tree seed centers in each zone: The center would have the responsibility to produce high quality seed and planting for indigenous tree species. These centers would be managed by the producer organizations and would feed the community

- nurseries with the seeds to produce at least 50,000 seedlings annually.
2. Provide technical support for the establishment of 60 GhaFFaP green community gardens: In each of the ecological zones, 30 community nurseries would be strategically located and well established to produce tree seedlings. These nurseries are expected to provide direct employment for over 500 forest and farm producers in the various tree species value chains. The nurseries would receive technical support from MoFA and the forestry commission.
  3. Undertake Enrichment planting in 5,000 degraded lands: This intervention aimed at enhancing the commercial productivity and functionality of a degraded forest caused as a result of mining activities. GhaFFaP would work with the minerals and forestry commissions to identify such areas for the enrichment planting. It is estimated that in the period of 5 years, over 5,000 hectares of degraded lands would be enriched with the economic tree species coming from the community nurseries. The activity is intended to accelerate the recovery of degraded forest with respect to its stocking, functions and resilience.
  4. Support the planting of 496,975 Trees-on-Farms in the period of five years: GhaFFaP has current membership of 172,000 producers with 7,931 and 11,948 from the Savannah and Transition zones. This intervention would target producers in the transition and Savannah Zones. Each of the producers in these two zones is expected to plant a tree on five different farms annually. This would translate into 99,395 trees annually and 496,975 trees in the period of five years of the proposed project. The purpose of the Trees-on-Farms intervention is to optimize the productivity and sustainability of smallholder farming systems by developing appropriate technologies that involve trees.
  5. GhaFFaP tree planting in 80 Schools across the three ecological zones: This activity aims to educate local communities including teachers and students, deliver training and plant 25,000 trees in 80 schools in the forest, transition and Savannah zones. The activity intends to foster and promote interest in the natural environment and tree planting among children and neighboring communities. Teachers will also incorporate some of the knowledge and skills into their daily classes, and in their management of school gardens.
  6. Celebrating the GhaFFaP 3G day: This would be an annual fora intended to bring together different forest and farm producers from the three ecological zones, stakeholders and community people to assess the progress of GhaFFaP green Ghana initiatives. This would also be good platform to share lessons and build synergy for collective actions towards achieving the GhaFFaP green Ghana project.
  7. Formation and training of Community Forest Management Committees: The committee will provide strategic services including, leading tree planting

- exercises in the various communities in the three ecological zones. 20 committees would be formed in each ecological zone and will be capacitated to lead all land restoration activities including development of community restoration plans to achieve sustainability with technical assistance from the forestry commission.
8. Provide business skills training to 500 forest and farm producers working in the tree value chain: The strategy is to offer various socio-economic benefits to the key forest and farm producers that will be involved in the implementation of the Strategy, especially the local communities. These benefits include skills development and the creation of direct jobs such as: operating commercial tree nurseries; plantation establishment (e.g. site preparation, pegging and planting); maintenance (e.g. weeding, pruning, thinning, and fire protection); participation in out-grower schemes; Bee-keeping and cultivation of food crops.
  9. Support in the establishment of 150,000 green businesses in 3 ecological zones through capacity building: Series of business skills development in various green business modules would be introduced to GhaFFaP member through trainings. These would include production of organic fruits and vegetables, moringa production and processing, rabbit rearing and mushrooms. This would provide direct businesses.
  10. Support in the construction, production and usage of 100,000 green stoves: Construction and usage of these stoves would reduce quantity of firewood used by forest and farm producers in cooking a meal by 60%. The technical capacities of 100 forest and farm producers would be built in the construction of these stoves in each ecological zone. These trained producers would offer construction services to other producers and help to build 100,000 green stoves.
  11. Establish 3 GhaFFaP green skills capacity building centers: In each ecological zone, a GhaFFaP green skill capacity building center would be developed to serve as training center for farmers and other professionals on green Ghana modules. The instruction would be practical which would provide for easy understanding. This would provide learning opportunities for students, workers and farmers. Beneficiaries would acquire skills including grafting, nurseries and climate smart agriculture. Instructors would include producer organizations themselves in each ecological zone.
  12. Training and formation of 3 GhaFFaP Green Ghana Youth Networks: 100 self-motivated youth would be nominated by the producer organizations to be trained on various forms of managing forest resources. These youth would be linked with the forestry commission to lead in community and District level tree planning and nurseries activities. This would provide source of income for these youth while creating opportunities for them to contribute to environmental

protection in their communities.

## Expected outcomes

1. Three (3) ecological GhaFFaP green tree seed centers established in each zone to produce least 50,000 seedlings annually.
2. Sixty (60) GhaFFaP green community gardens established and providing direct employment for 500 forest and farm producers in the various tree species value chains.
3. Enrichment trees planted in 5,000 hectares of degraded lands
4. 496,975 Trees planted on Farms in the period of five years
5. 80 Schools across the three ecological zones benefit from GhaFFaP green schools initiative
6. 5 GhaFFaP National 3G day celebrated and used as platform to advocate for stakeholders support for Green Ghana initiatives
7. 500 forest and farm producers provided with different green business skills
8. 150,000 green businesses established in 3 ecological zones through capacity building
9. 100,000 energy stoves constructed and used by forest and farm producers
10. 3 GhaFFaP green skills capacity building centers in three ecological zones providing services to 170,000 farmers
11. 3 Training and GhaFFaP Green Ghana Youth Networks formed to lead community forestry actions providing direct employment for 100 youth

## Key institutional Partners & collaborators

Government: Forestry Commission, Environmental Protection Agency, District Assemblies, Traditional authorities, etc

Private sector: media, businesses promoting sustainable integration of trees

# GhaFFaP Charcoal Producers in Forest Landscape Restoration

## Context

### Projected Budget

Total Resource Investment Required (USD)	Total Available Resources (USD)	Total Resources to be mobilised (USD)
580,000	160,000	420,000

Finding ways to effectively monitor, manage and support sustainable production and trade in wood fuel, especially charcoal, is critical for countries across Africa today. At present, Ghanaian charcoal industry is characterized by operators who are seen as illegally and therefore fear recognition by government, private investors and local community leaders /members. However, if charcoal value-chain actors become organized and are able to obtain recognition from government and the community, it could provide an opportunity for capacity building in environmentally friendly charcoal production and restoration of the forest landscape while contributing to economic development.

Charcoal and wood fuel are a major source of energy for domestic purposes in Ghana. The Energy Commission estimate wood fuel to account for more than 60% of the nation's energy consumption. Not only are charcoal and firewood widely used in households. They also provide the bulk of energy for many informal enterprises and a complement of energy to other formal ventures. Notwithstanding the above stated, charcoal and wood fuel are a direct source of income for forest and farm producers in local communities. Some of these producers also engage in the activity as an alternative livelihood, especially as a climate change adaptation strategy. All together wood fuel and charcoal support the livelihoods of 3 million Ghanaians and it has been estimated more than 65% of those involved are women.

The charcoal and wood fuel sector contribute significantly to deforestation and degradation. As natural forests decrease, supply of suitable wood for fuel and charcoal is decreasing as well.

On the other hand, demand for firewood and charcoal are increasing, as are the costs for transport, leading to higher charcoal/firewood prices. In spite of its importance within the national energy mix and in spite of its significant effect on deforestation and degradation, the harvesting and production of fire wood and especially the production and trade of charcoal are only very partially regulated. Absence of a complete and coherent legal framework has led to unsustainable harvesting of trees, especially in the already fragile transition and savannah zone. There are numerous challenges related to production of charcoal in Ghana. Some of the major challenges identified includes:

- Lack of clarity on tenure and user rights to land and resources, including trees.
- Charcoal producers harvest excessive amounts of wood and use inefficient methods of production resulting in large areas of forest being degraded to meet the increasing demand.
- The government of Ghana loses potential revenue from the charcoal trade which could be used for sustainable forest management - because most producers and traders do not pay their required levies/taxes.
- Current charcoal value-chain management has driven some charcoal producers into the black economy – where they try to avoid being identified, they trade illegally and offer low prices compared to the market value in order to meet their basic financial needs.

## Goal and objectives

The objective is to facilitate the establishment of a more formalized and functional national charcoal producers association contributing to environmentally sustainable charcoal production and engaging in large scale forest landscape restoration activities.

## Key Activities and Approaches

1. GhaFFaP will engage key stakeholders especially the Forestry Commission and the Energy Commission on the legal framework relating to firewood and charcoal. The Forestry Commission is responsible for the regulation and utilization of forest resources and for the coordination of policies related to them hence a step in the right direction to engage them.
2. GhaFFaP will identify, mobilize and organize charcoal producers into producer groups by districts in the 3 ecological zones and encouraged them to form district networks of producers for capacity development in best ways of doing business sustainably and participate in policy dialogue on the ongoing consultations in developing a regulatory regime on woodfuel and charcoal.

3. GhaFFaP will provide technical support to wood fuel and charcoal producers to adopt environmentally friendly approaches including tree planting, woodlots establishment, and charcoal production.
4. GhaFFaP will ensure producer groups (women, youth and local people) serve as agents of climate resilience and forest landscape restoration considering the effect of charcoal production on climate change and forest depletion.
5. GhaFFaP will promote and build its own sustainable charcoal production label for members that show evidence of increasing forest cover in charcoal production areas as a result of sustainable charcoal production practices and charcoal producers that have become agents of forest landscape restoration.

## Expected Outcomes

1. Charcoal producers whose activities are classified as destructors of forests and landscapes will be recognized as a necessary and potentially sustainable business ventures that contributes to forest landscape restoration rather than the status quo as agents of degradation.
2. Knowledge and capacity development in improved environmentally friendly production to maximize the volume of trees used in charcoal production.
3. Increased forest cover resulting from forest landscape restoration and tree planting initiatives of charcoal producers.
4. Recognition of wood fuel and charcoal producers as forest landscape restoration agents through afforestation.

## Key institutional Partners & collaborators

Forestry Commission, Energy Commission, Ministry of Land and Natural Resources and Ministry of local government; setting out clear guidelines on operations of wood fuel and charcoal actors instead of unfriendly policing role and wrongful tagged of charcoal production as illegal.

Forestry Commission and the Ghana Revenue Authority; Improved monitoring of players in the charcoal value chain to grant Government the opportunity to mobilize taxes and levies in fostering forest management financing.

Forestry Commission and Ministry of Business Development; Providing improved knowledge and capacity building trainings to charcoal producers in accepted and standard practices to reduce emissions from their operations.

Forestry Commission, Ministry of Land and Natural Resource; Supply of fast maturing seedlings to charcoal producer associations for forest landscape restoration and establishment of sustainable woodlots for their business activities.

## Budget Summary: Year 1 – Year 3 (i.e. 2021 – 2023)

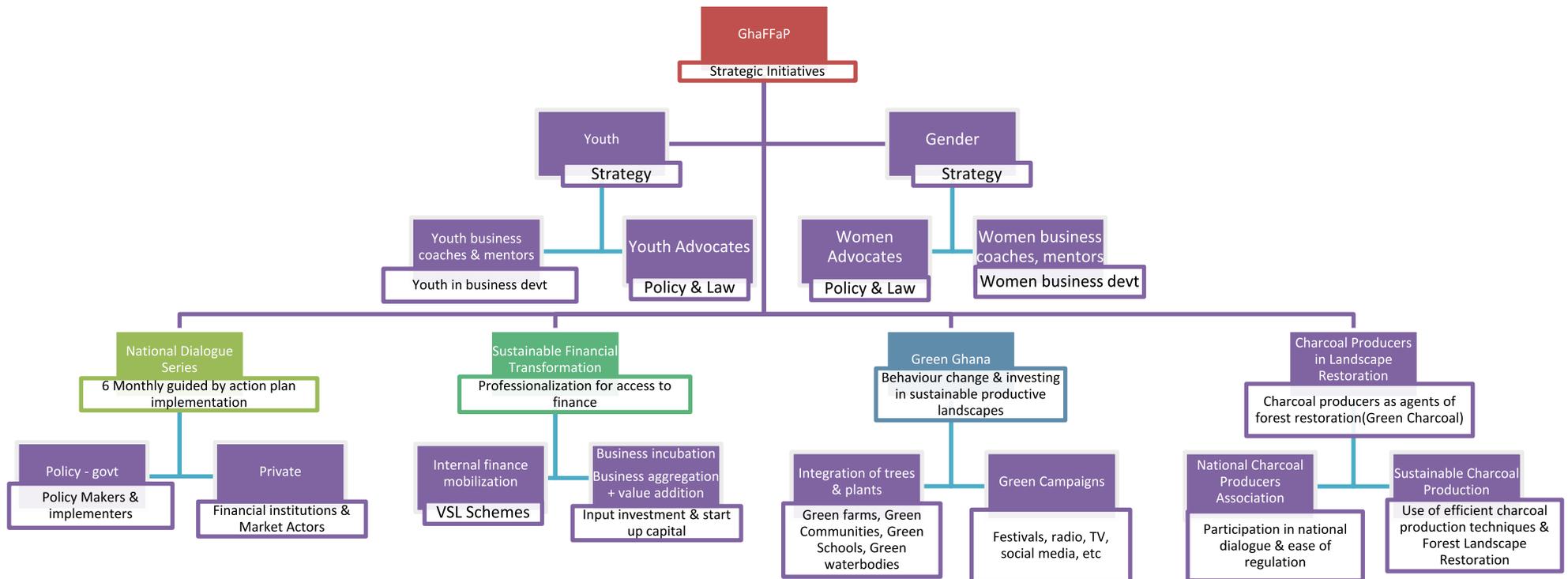
Strategic Initiative	Available Funding (USD)	Funding Gap (USD)	Total Budget (USD)
GhaFFaP Green Market	150,000	400,000	550,000
National Dialogue Series	80,000	350,000	430,000
GhaFFaP Sustainable Financial Transformation	150,000	560,000	710,000
GhaFFaP Green Ghana	260,000	770,000	1,030,000
GhaFFaP Charcoal Producers in Landscape Restoration	160,000	420,000	580,000
<b>Grand Total Year 1 -Year 3</b>	<b>800,000</b>	<b>2,500,000</b>	<b>3,300,000</b>

## Annual Budget Projections per Strategic Initiative Year 1 (2021) Budget Projections

Strategic Initiative	Available Funding (USD)	Funding Gap (USD)	Total Budget (USD)
GhaFFaP Green Market	50,000	135,000	185,000
GhaFFaP National Dialogue Series	26,000	115,000	141,000
GhaFFaP Sustainable Financial Transformation	50,000	180,000	230,000
GhaFFaP Green Ghana	86,000	256,000	342,000
GhaFFaP Charcoal Producers in Landscape Restoration	54,000	140,000	194,000
<b>Grand Total Year 1</b>	<b>266,000</b>	<b>826,000</b>	<b>1,092,000</b>

<b>Strategic Initiative</b>	<b>Available Funding (USD)</b>	<b>Funding Gap (USD)</b>	<b>Total Budget (USD)</b>
GhaFFaP Green Market	50,000	132,500	182,500
GhaFFaP National Dialogue Series	27,000	117,500	144,500
GhaFFaP Sustainable Financial Transformation	50,000	190,000	240,000
GhaFFaP Green Ghana	87,000	252,500	339,500
GhaFFaP Charcoal Producers in Landscape Restoration	50,000	100,000	150,000
<b>Grand Total Year 2</b>	<b>264,000</b>	<b>792,500</b>	<b>1,056,500</b>

<b>Strategic Initiative</b>	<b>Available Funding (USD)</b>	<b>Funding Gap (USD)</b>	<b>Total Budget (USD)</b>
GhaFFaP Green Market	50,000	132,500	182,500
GhaFFaP National Dialogue Series	27,000	117,500	144,500
GhaFFaP Sustainable Financial Transformation	50,000	192,000	242,000
GhaFFaP Green Ghana	87,000	252,500	339,500
GhaFFaP Charcoal Producers in Landscape Restoration	56,000	187,000	243,000
<b>Grand Total Year 3</b>	<b>270,000</b>	<b>881,500</b>	<b>1,151,500</b>



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