



**GHANA - UNITED STATES CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE  
ON  
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(CCARD)**

**WORKING GROUPS' MEETING**

**APRIL 22 - 23, 2002**

**ACCRA, GHANA**

**SUMMARY REPORT**





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**SUMMARY REPORT**

***Ghana Team Leader***

Dr. Francis Ofori  
Chief Director  
Ministry of Food and Agriculture

***U.S. Team Leader***

Lawrence Clark  
Deputy Chief for Science  
and Technology, NRCS  
USDA

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

## **Executive Summary**

The Government of Ghana, represented by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) and the United States, represented by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), convened the second session of the Ghana-U.S. Consultative Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (CCARD) in Accra on April 22-23, 2002. The two-day meeting divided into three working group sessions to address recommendations for implementation of activities that will support economic and agricultural growth in Ghana. A total of fifty-four participants attended this bilateral forum (Appendix 3), which was opened by the Honourable Major Courage Quashigah (Rtd), Minister of Food and Agriculture (Appendix 1). The Program of Events is provided at Appendix 2.

### **I. BACKGROUND**

The Ghana-U.S. CCARD was established under a bilateral agreement between MOFA and USDA on June 29, 2000. The purpose of the CCARD is to provide continuous and consistent high-level engagement between the MOFA and USDA to strengthen agriculture and rural development bilateral relations and to facilitate discussion and cooperation on agricultural programs, projects, and exchanges between the two countries in, but not limited to, the areas of natural resource conservation, and management; agricultural technology development for income generation; institutional development and capacity building; agricultural trade and market access, investment, and development; regulation and safety of food products; food and nutrition; trade information, extension, and research. The activities of the CCARD are intended to result in mutual benefits to Ghana and the United States through bilateral cooperation.

In this regard, three (3) Working Groups were constituted in November 2000 with Co-Conveners from Ghana and the U.S. to identify areas of cooperation and develop programs for implementation. The Working Groups are: (1) Market Access; (2) Institutional, Human Resources and Rural Development; and (3) Natural Resources Management.

The first Plenary Meeting of the Ghana-U.S. CCARD was held in Accra, Ghana in November 2000 to review and approve the Terms of Reference for the three Working Groups.

The second meeting of the Ghana-US CCARD was therefore, organized to review progress achieved by the Working Groups and to exchange ideas to arrive at workable programmes and initiatives. The meetings also served as a forum to discuss issues identified as technical barriers to trade (TBT) and recommend steps to resolve these trade issues in accordance with World Trade Organization (WTO) obligations.

## **II. WORKING GROUP REPORTS**

### **1.0 NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP**

The Natural Resources Management Working Group (NRMWG) was established under the Ghana–U.S. CCARD to provide a forum for discussion on natural resource issues to ensure effective natural resources management for sustainable development.

The NRMWG primary objective is to identify, initiate and support programs in the areas of natural resource management and conservation through the exchange of technical expertise, identification of and participation in collaborative research to enhance sustainable natural resources.

The following areas of coverage are identified in the NRMWG Terms of Reference:

- Information, monitoring and environmental auditing;
- Combating desertification;
- Promoting conservation ethics;
- Research and technology development;
- Biotechnology;
- Dry land farming and irrigation;
- Land use planning;
- Sustainable natural resource utilization for agricultural;
- Environmental impact assessment; and
- Conservation of biodiversity

The above listed areas cover almost all aspects of natural resources management. In order to clearly specify areas of corporation, the following topic areas were selected for possible implementation by the NRMWG during the initial Ghana-U.S. CCARD meeting in November 2000:

- Natural Resources Inventory;
- Watershed Planning and Management;
- Soil Erosion Prediction and Prevention;
- Community Conservation Initiatives;
- Farm Water Management and Water Harvesting;
- Use of GIS in soil and water conservation; and
- Improved Production and Management of Plant and Animal Systems

### **1.1 STATUS OF PROGRAMS – FY2001**

#### **1.1.1 Assessment of the Natural Resource and Agricultural Potential of the Afram Plains:**

This activity falls under the Natural Resources Inventory area. The Government of Ghana (GOG) chose the Greater Afram Plains Region as a priority area for economic development. In August 2001, a team of natural resource experts from Ghana and the U.S. spent eight (8) days reviewing agricultural resources, conditions, and opportunities within the Afram Plains throughout the Eastern and Ashanti Regions of Ghana. The team produced an assessment report that outlined findings and recommendations for a number of programs and projects to

be instituted over a five-year period (2002 –2007). Of paramount importance for investment in the region is infrastructure rehabilitation and development.

A summary of projects and estimated funding required to address the findings and implementation of this project are outlined below:

<b>Project (2002-2007)</b>	<b>Estimated Cost (US\$)</b>
Infrastructure Rehabilitation and Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve roads and establish impoundments</li> </ul>	\$60 million
Natural Resources Stabilization and Growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil resource utilization and development</li> <li>• Conservation on agricultural lands</li> <li>• Afforestation enhancement</li> <li>• Irrigation development</li> <li>• Nomads cattle grazing</li> </ul>	\$25 million
Land Tenure System (GOG initiative)	-
Access to credit collaboration (1Year)	1 million
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>US\$ 86 million</b>

### **1.1.2 Biotechnology Training**

Biotechnology was identified as a key area for value-added agricultural production in Ghana. The MOFA stated facilities and training are the key areas that must be addressed to develop Ghana's biotech industry.

In May 2001, two Ghanaian biotechnologists from the Ghana Crop Research Institute (CRI) attended a workshop held at the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), Ibadan, Nigeria for the purpose of ranking training needs for the institute, and to identify priority crops for biotechnology research. Upon meeting these project goals, the Ghanaian representatives prepared proposals for review by IITA based on the biotechnology priorities identified by their institution. Upon review of the proposals, IITA scientists in collaboration with the USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS) have selected the Ghanaian research scientists to participate in a 3-6 month Phase II study program beginning July 2002.

## **1.2 NRMWG PROPOSED INITIATIVES – FY 2002**

### **1.2.1 Program/Activity: Strategic Plan of Action for Agricultural Development in the Afram Plains Region**

#### **1.2.1.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

Much work and money can be expended to no avail unless project components are properly sequenced and accomplished in the manner required for success. Agricultural goods once produced need to be processed, stored, and transported to markets before their quality diminishes. With the Afram Plains being in a remote area accessible mainly by poor roads, road improvements and construction should be a prerequisite to agricultural development. Other key components need to be accomplished in proper sequence and at a commensurate

scale for agricultural development to be successful in the Afram Plains. Information gathered from the previously listed inventories and additional assessment information should be used in develop a plan that identifies various alternatives, selects an alternative, and lays out stages of development commensurate with natural resources capabilities and anticipated funding.

**1.2.1.2 Justification of Need:**

Development and acceptance of a plan will provide assurances that stakeholders are knowledge of project needs, tasks sequence, and scope of work to be accomplished. Armed with this information, Ghanaians can be more effective in seeking funds and assuring investors that projects will be successful.

**1.2.1.3 Action(s):**

Develop a proposal to be submitted to USAID for a plan to be developed that describes and quantifies work in physical and monetary units.

**1.2.2 Program/Activity: Soil Survey of Afram Plains**

**1.2.2.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The Afram Plain has been surveyed at the 1:250000 scale. This scale is too small to plan and implement agricultural enterprises. In the U.S., detailed soil surveys are conducted with results being displayed on maps at the 1 inch equals 24,000 feet for planning purposes. In addition, soil scientists are often called for on-site determines where soil series have inclusions.

**1.2.2.2 Justification of Need:**

The Eastern Region of the Afram Plain has been surveyed at 1:25000 scale using Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) funding. A need exists to survey the Ashanti Region at a comparable level of detail.

**1.2.2.3 Action(s):**

Develop a proposal to request funding to conduct and publish the Ashanti Region soil survey by June 15, 2002. (*Action by the Deputy Director General in charge of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Sector of CSIR*)

**1.2.3 Program/Activity: Dam Site Inventory in the Afram Plains**

**1.2.3.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

At certain times in a production season, supplemental irrigation would enhance crop production. It would allow crops to be grown during periods when not normally available thus enhance the cropping mix and rotations for soil health and productivity. Domestic water supplies for homestead and livestock use is also critical during the dry seasons. A need exists to build reservoirs and farm ponds to increase available water. The potential for these new water areas to support aquaculture should also be investigated.

**1.2.3.2 Justification of Need:**

Potential water storage reservoirs sites need to be inventoried. This may also need to be complemented with a road building policy. When the road-building agency of Ghana is to improve a road and the embankment-bed has to be raised, it should consider building the road so that the embankment and appurtenant structure design facilitate reservoirs.

### **1.2.3.3 Action(s):**

The Ghana Irrigation Authority under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture will work with the Transportation Agency to carry out an inventory of areas involving road improvements crossing valleys where water could be impounded by June 15, 2002.

## **1.2.4 Program/Activity: Ground Water Availability in Afram Plains**

### **1.2.4.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The Afram Plains has relatively level topography. Boreholes drilled for domestic water indicated that groundwater exists at depths that could be pumped. These aquifers are a likely source of water for irrigation. CCARD supports sustainable development. Agricultural development and groundwater withdrawal should not exceed the capacity of the aquifers to replenish on an annual basis.

### **1.2.4.2 Justification of Need:**

For aquifers to not be mined, an inventory needs to be completed that would map the aquifers and estimate their sustainable annual yield. This estimate of water available for irrigation would be an important factor in determining specific areas to be developed and the type of agricultural enterprises that could be included.

### **1.2.4.3 Action(s):**

Develop a proposal to inventory and map aquifers, recharge areas, and allowable withdrawals without depletion from one year to the next. (*Action by the Water Resources Research Institute through the Deputy Director General of CSIR*)

## **1.2.5 Program/Activity: Establishment of Land Ownership Boundaries in Afram Plains**

### **1.2.5.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The Afram Plains is still relatively undeveloped and the pressure to establish land ownership boundaries is significantly less than in other more developed regions. Presently some 60,000 disputes on land ownership are in the Ghanaian courts. Establishment of land ownership and jurisdiction needs to occur at 3 levels, stool level (tribal), family, and other including individuals. An assessment of Ghanaian procedures needs to be conducted to determine the legal standing of such boundary work.

### **1.2.5.2 Justification of Need:**

This assessment needs to be conducted to provide assurances to out-of-country investors that the agreements that they enter will have legal standing. Without these assurances, the risk for investors increases. This would jeopardize the infusion of essential non-Ghanaian capital.

### **1.2.5.3 Action(s):**

Develop a proposal to obtain funding to assess and evaluate boundary establishment procedures and to accelerate establishment of stool land boundaries as a first priority by July 1, 2002.

District level Land Planning is currently on going in 2 districts as pilot. CCARD, through the Minister of Agriculture, should recommend the Afram Plains to be included in the pilot emphasizing the potential for development aid and attracting working partners from the U.S.

## **1.2.6 Program/Activity: Develop Funding Proposal for Afram Plains Afforestation**

### **1.2.6.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The Afram Plains is being deforested at a rapid rate. A pilot project has been developed to plant trees in a defined area. The individuals involved in this project are having a cash flow problem. Trees require several years to grow to sufficient size for harvesting and selling of products.

### **1.2.6.2 Justification of Need:**

Financial support is needed to plant the trees and see these people through the lean years while the trees are growing of sufficient size to harvest and sell. At the time of selling, money would be paid back and the fund would be replenished allowing a new cycle of planting to begin in a different area.

### **1.2.6.3 Action(s):**

Develop a proposal to request establishment of a revolving fund for afforestation by June 15, 2002. This action is to be carried out by the representative from Ministry of Lands and Forestry.

## **1.2.7 Program/Activity: Establish Revolving Fund for Smallholder Livestock Farmers**

### **1.2.7.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

Technology is available that would greatly enhance the production of animals. Items such as improved grazing management, watering facilities (mentioned in previous reservoir item), use of improved breeds, vaccinations and use of medicines to control disease, pests, and parasites, and other practices that would contribute to overall improved animal health and survival rates. This improved production would generate income that should improve food security and reduce poverty in the resource poor communities.

### **1.2.7.2 Justification of Need:**

Farmers do not have the money to purchase the materials and animals to capitalize on improved production methods. A revolving loan fund is needed to make low interest loans available to get farmers started. Income generated at the time animals are sold, would be used to pay back the loan from the revolving fund.

### **1.2.7.3 Action(s):**

Develop a proposal to apply for establishment of a revolving fund by June 15, 2002.

## **1.2.8 Program/Activity: Funding for a Pilot Project for Grasscutter Production**

### **1.2.8.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The Grasscutter (also know as cane rats) is a local delicacy in Ghana. This large rodent is endogenous to Ghana and should be well adapted to local conditions. Its' commercial production would have many benefits including local marketing, reduction in burning of vegetation (a hunting practice), reduction of soil erosion stemming from burning, maintenance of better habitat, and better utilization of grass resources.

### **1.2.8.2 Justification of Need:**

Grasscutter production has begun on a limited basis in the Republic of Benin. Ghana has one research production experiment underway. This is proving to be feasible technology. Funding is needed to transfer these production techniques and to develop a support structure for producers that would add this enterprise to their farming operations.

### **1.2.8.3 Action(s):**

Prepare a proposal to seek funding for a pilot project for Grasscutter production in the Afram Plains by June 15, 2002. (*Action by CSIR-ARI/ MOFA-APD*)

## **1.2.9 Program/Activity: Improving Biotechnology Capability in Ghana**

### **1.2.9.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

Ghana has scientist trained in such advanced technologies as tissue culture and other genetic breeding and disease control technologies. They lack the laboratory equipment and supplies to adequately apply this technology and engage in these activities.

### **1.2.9.2 Justification of Need:**

Finding and propagating local species that are disease resistant would be preferable to importing non-endogenous species.

### **1.2.9.3 Action(s):**

Prepare a funding proposal to enhance biotechnology capability in Ghana, particularly for the Afram Plains by June 15, 2002. (*Action by BNARI*)

## **1.2.10 Program/Activity: Wood Waste**

### **1.2.10.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The Kumasi area produces large amounts of wood waste. This material should be treated as a resource rather than waste. Discussion centered using this waste to manufacture fiberboard for construction and charcoal briquettes. However, a project proposal has been developed outside of CCARD to utilize the wood waste materials as a fuel source to power an electricity generating facility.

### **1.2.10.2 Justification of Need:**

The CCARD NRMWG decision was to stay action on this activity until it became clearly visible that an electrical generating plant would not be constructed.

### **1.2.10.3 Action(s):**

No action recommended at this time.

## **1.2.11 Program/Activity: Infrastructure Development**

### **1.2.11.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The roads to the region are either non-existent or in very deplorable state. The river separating the region from the other parts of the country has only one ferry for crossing.

### **1.2.11.2 Justification of Need:**

Road access is very important for private sector involvement in development of the region. The infrastructure needs significant rehabilitation and development.

### **1.2.11.3 Action(s):**

High-level government action is required. A request from the President of Ghana to the U.S. President is an important route. The GOG to present correspondences addressing the transportation needs of Afram Plains be initiated with U.S. Government in Washington D.C.

## **2.0 THE INSTITUTIONAL HUMAN RESOURCE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

The primary objective of the Institutional Human Resources and Rural Development Working Group (IHRRDWG) is to focus on agriculture and agribusiness development, farm entrepreneurship, the development of off-and-on farm human and institutional development, and public service and human resource development.

At the first meeting of the Ghana-U.S. CCARD on 13-14 November 2000, the IHRRDWG selected five (5) projects for implementation. The projects selected were:

- i. Co-operative College curriculum development
- ii. Appropriate co-operative models for Ghana
- iii. Improving Ghana's farm to market transportation cost
- iv. Ghana agricultural extension capacity building
- v. Agricultural peer-to-peer exchanges between Ghana and the United States.

## **2.1 STATUS OF PROJECTS**

### **2.1.1 Co-Operative College Curriculum Development**

The objective of the project is to review the curriculum and update it to provide training to prospective and operating farmer co-operatives capable of meeting the marketing and trade challenges of contemporary domestic and world markets. After the development of the curriculum there will be a train-the-trainer program to equip a core group of co-operative assistance providers with skills in co-operative organization and co-operative assistance.

The only activity that had been taken under this project is the contracting of Ms. Rosemary Mahoney, by the USDA, to review the curriculum of the Co-Operative College in Kumasi. Ms. Mahoney performed her review in Ghana from March 9 - April 3, 2002. After contacting major stakeholders in Accra, such as Ghana Co-Operative Council, Department of Co-Operatives, the Co-Convener of the IHRRD, the Opportunities Industrialization Centers International (OICI), the Ministry of Manpower Development and Employment and the World Bank, she proceeded to Kumasi on March 18, 2002 to carry out her assignment. Ms Mahoney returned to Accra and debriefed the Registrar of Co-operatives and the IHHRD Co-Convener on March 27, 2002.

### **2.1.2 Appropriate Co-Operative Model For Ghana**

Before the initiation of the CCARD program, the USDA under the Africa Trade and Investment Policy (ATRIP) program was already supporting a capacity building for agricultural marketing co-operatives in Ghana under the supervision of OICI. This project also started in 2000 but was not under the CCARD program.

Under this project, two societies have been selected for assistance. The societies are:

- i. Dawhenya Co-operative food farming and marketing society
- ii. Weija Co-operative food farming and marketing society.

The technical and training assistance to the two societies involves the improvement of the marketing capacities of the societies and linking them to institutional buyers both local and international. The training will include effective bargaining techniques and planning, and also the development of central marketing system.

Activities undertaken were as follows:

- A needs assessment of the two societies was conducted in June 2001 by a team from USDA and OICI. The assessment team reviewed the irrigation system at the Weija, and assessed irrigation system and water use at both Weija and Dawhenya irrigation projects. Draft reports are being prepared. At Weija it was discovered that many of the underground pipes have become obsolete and are leaking thus increasing the cost of production. The pumps have also not been serviced for many years and if not serviced now they may break down. It was observed that the Dawhenya Co-Operative Society needs value addition technology and a new milling machine and detoner has to be installed to improve the quality of rice.
- Dawhenya Co-Operative Society has been linked to an institutional buyer called CCTS, which bought 1000 bags of rice from the society, packaged and sold them to the public.
- A leadership-training course was organized in March 2002 for the leaders of the two Co-Operative Societies. Another training course on business planning will be organized in May 2002.

It is planned that the ATRIP program will be brought under the CCARD program this year.

### **2.1.3 Improving Ghana's High Farm-To-Market Transportation Cost**

The objective is to reduce the high transportation and handling cost of agricultural products to make them competitive at both local and foreign markets.

The only activity on this project is that a researcher had been contracted by USDA and will soon be in Ghana to carry out a survey. Since it has been agreed by all the working groups of CCARD that all activities will be concentrated at the Afram Plains so as to have greater impact, the researcher will conduct the survey in the Afram Plains. It is proposed that the consultant should first carry out a nationwide assessment before zoning in on the Afram Plains.

### **2.1.4 Ghana Agricultural Extension Capacity Building**

For our goods and services to be competitive in the local and global markets our agricultural products should be of high quality standards. High quality products start with good quality farm produce. This project will therefore develop and implement a series of train-the-trainer programs to be provided to public and private agricultural extension personnel and non-government organizations (NGOs) in Ghana in a variety of areas from production through post harvest handling, value added processing and export marketing. The skills acquired by

the extension agents will enable them to guide farmers and other producers in developing the ability to produce for and participate in world trade.

Two activities taken under this project were:

***i. Visit to Ghana by Dr. John Dunn, Ms. Kennedy and Ms. Fulton.***

The objective of the visit was to follow up with some detail studies of the projects selected. Mr. Yaw Asante Kwabiah, U.S. Embassy, Ghana, coordinated the visit that included the following institutions:

- a. University of Cape Coast Agricultural Extension Department, Sasakawa Center – Cape Coast
- b. Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology – Kumasi
- c. Co-operative College – Kumasi. Mr. Buachie Aphram, the Registrar of Co-operatives co-coordinated the visit.
- d. Weija Vegetable Production Co-operative, Weija
- e. Farmapine Pineapple production program, Nsawam
- f. University for Development Studies, Tamale.
- g. Vegetable Producers and Export Association of Ghana (VEPEAG)
- h. Ghana Vegetable Marketing Company Limited (GVMC)
- i. Dawhenya Rice Farmers Co-operative

The team had detailed insight into the programs and operations of the institutions visited. However, a report on visit is yet to be submitted.

***ii. Research and Extension Workshop***

The objective of the workshop was to identify ways to improve the co-ordination and linkages between research and extension for the purpose of improving services to Ghanaian farmers and producers with respect to marketing, exporting and value-added processing.

The workshop was held at Elmina on June 27-29, 2001. Twenty-two participants from the four (4) local universities, MOFA, CSIR and USDA attended the workshop. The outcomes of the workshop were the following:

***a. Formation of Advisory Committee for a Train-the-Trainer Program.*** The committee members are:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| - Pascal B. Atengdem  | Agric Extension Dept. UG   |
| - Joyce Afua Bediako  | Head, Dept of Agric Econs. & Ext., UDS                           |
| - J. A. Bakang        | Dept. Agric Econs & Farm Mgt. KNUST                              |
| - S. Akuamoah-Boateng | Dept. Ag. Econs & Ext. UCC                                       |
| - Kwame Amezah        | MOFA   |
| - Johnson             | CSIR   |
| - Arthur              | Co-operative College   |
| - Opoku-Asiamah       | Agric Ext. Service MOFA  |
| - Ernest P. Mallet    | Human Resource Dev. & Management, MOFA                           |
| - Patty Fulton        | Cooperative State Research, Education & Extension Services, USDA |

The committee is to advise on the design and implementation of the Train-the-Trainer program in the areas of marketing, post harvest handling and exporting.

***b. Formation of Steering Committee for Information Clearing House.***

The committee is to design and plan for central clearing house for information on marketing, post harvest handling, value-added processing, and export. The proposed central clearing house and information referral system would link the information production and dissemination activities of MOFA with those of research institutions, universities, NGOs and other institutions in Ghana. This will provide extension personnel, researchers, farmers, and others with comprehensive access to the range of complex technical and popularized reports on research, markets and market opportunities, and data made available through participating institutions, governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The committee members are:

Franklin Donkor	MOFA, Leader
F. W. Aidoo	MOFA
Buachie Aphram	DOC
John Bakang	KNUST
Pascal Atengdem	UG
F. N. Dapaah	OICI
Joel-Sam	GAINS (CSIR)

The report of the workshop was received in March 2002 and as such none of the proposals recommended had been effected. Terms of Reference will have to be prepared to enable the two committees to carry out their assignments. The membership of the steering committee is to be expanded to include representatives from Statistics Research and Information Directorate and Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate of MOFA.

***c. Identify Ten (10) Community-based Organizations to Strengthen in the Areas of Marketing, Exporting and Value-added processing.***

Since activities of the CCARD are to be concentrated in the Afram Plains it was decided that the ten (10) FBOs/CBOs should be selected from the regions that constitute the Afram Plains, namely –Eastern, Ashanti and Brong Ahafo. Respective Regional Directors of Agriculture in consultation with the Regional Co-operative Officers should do the selection.

***d. Curriculum Review on Marketing, Exporting, Post-harvest Handling, and Value-added processing.***

Each University and MOFA agreed to undertake their own internal reviews of the content and adequacy of their curricula in the areas of marketing, exporting, post harvest handling and value-added processing.

***e. Agricultural Peer-To-Peer Exchange***

Peer exchanges have proven to be a highly effective method for advancing the base of knowledge and improving the performance of farmers and agricultural tutors in developing countries. In order to have multiplier-effect the exchanges should be between US farmers with Ghanaian farmer-groups and associations and not

individual farmers. Participants for the program should include farmers, processors, marketers, extension agents, both public and private, tutors of agriculture, FBOs/CBOs and NGOs. No activity has so far been undertaken under this project.

## **2.2 IHRDWDG PROPOSED INITIATIVES – FY 2002**

### **2.2.1 Promotion of Small Scale Irrigation**

This project involves the provision of boreholes to farmers. The objective of the project is to enable farmers to increase productivity by ensuring adequate moisture during the critical growth period of crops and animals and also to carry out all year round production. In this regard tube-well techniques and low-pressure drips are methods to be explored.

### **2.2.2 Community Development Planning and Training**

#### **2.2.2.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

It is the government's policy to use community development as a basis for agricultural development so as to achieve poverty reduction in the rural communities. Currently, MOFA, with support from the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation, is developing a District Participatory Village Development Program for the Ejisu Juabeng District, Ashanti Region, which will be ready for implementation in October 2002.

#### **2.2.2.2 Justifications of Need:**

The rationale of the program is to use the holistic community development approach as basis for creating wealth in the rural communities. Under this program all service providers, both public and private will work collaboratively and complement each other in the development of the community. The project will need funding for implementation and it is recommended for support under the CCARD.

#### **2.2.2.3 Action(s):**

- a. A five (5) day workshop in Kumasi in September 2002 to: (i) revise Ejisu-Juabeng District Participatory Village Development Planning Program; and (ii) develop training manual for community development of strategic plans.
- b. Cochran program visit to the US by Ghanaian rural development specialists over 6 to 12 month period.

***Proposed Budget:*** \$50,000

### **2.2.3 Program/Activity: Train-The-Trainer Program**

#### **2.2.3.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The quality standards of goods and services from Ghana are currently below international standards. A series of train the trainer programs aimed at public and private agricultural extension personnel and NGOs in Ghana in a post harvest handling, value added processing and export marketing would be organized.

#### **2.2.3.2 Justification of Need:**

To be competitive in the local and global markets our agricultural products should be of high quality standards. High quality products start with good quality farm produce. The skills

acquired by the extension agents will enable them guide farmers and other producers in developing ability to produce for and participate in world trade.

### **2.2.3.3 Action(s):**

*a. The following short-term initiatives are proposed:*

- Training needs assessment carried out to produce a program design in June 2002.
- Four (4) workshops based on the four selected crops (pineapple, chili, Okra and sweet potato) to be held in July-August 2002.
- Develop an agri-business curriculum for colleges and universities.

**Proposed Budget:** \$120,000 (in-hand)

*b. The following initiatives are proposed for medium-term (6-12 months) accomplishment:*

- Expand the workshops to cover the other selected commodities in 2003. (yam, mango, eggplant, papaya, sweet pepper, ginger).
- Organize water system management training program in 2003.

**Budget:** \$350,000 (to be requested)

*c. The long-term outlook would be replication of workshops throughout Ghana in 2004.*

**Proposed Budget:** \$1 million

## **2.2.4 Program/Activity: Farmer-To-Farmer Exchange**

### **2.2.4.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

In the past, agricultural produce in Ghana was geared towards domestic consumption and the local market. The quality and quantity of agricultural produce could not match the high standards demanded in the overseas markets. It is also noted that Ghanaian farmers tend to cover the whole range of agricultural production, processing and marketing and therefore are unable to do any of these very well. It has been reported that Winrock and OICI do have a farmer-to-farmer exchange program and the group intends to explore the possibility of asking them to include the four selected agricultural commodities in their peer-to-peer exchange program. It is also intended to have American farmers make contact with farmer groups instead of individual farmer-to farmer contacts.

### **2.2.4.2 Justification of Need:**

Farmer exchanges among nations have proven to be a highly effective method for advancing the base of knowledge and improving the performance of farmers in developing countries. Exchanges which, match US farmers with their peers in a host country, provide a format for analysis, advice, and exchange of ideas, which have significant effects on improving the performance and profitability of farming activities in developing nations. The aspect of this strategy that makes it so effective is the knowledge, empathy, and credibility that can be shared among peers in ways that other avenues of knowledge dissemination cannot touch.

### **2.2.4.3 Action(s):**

The Agricultural Engineering Services Directorate (AESD) to do literature review on the 4 selected commodities and come out with training program. The IHHRWG will also contact Winrock and OICI to access their farmer-to-farmer exchange program by end of June 2002.

**Budget:** None

### **2.2.5 Program/Activity: Peer-To-Peer Exchange**

#### **2.2.5.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The post-production activities in handling agricultural commodities are very poorly developed resulting in very high post-production losses. The losses incurred during handling translate into higher costs for food items to the consumer. It is important that the capacity of the various service providers be enhanced to make agricultural products competitive on the world market.

#### **2.2.5.2 Justification of Need:**

Peer exchanges among nations have proven to be a highly effective method for advancing the base of knowledge and improving the performance of agricultural service providers in developing countries. Exchanges, which match US individuals with their peers in processing, marketing, transport, storage, extension, and teaching in a host country, provide a format for analysis, advice, and exchange of ideas, which have significant effects on improving the performance and profitability of post-production activities in developing nations. The aspect of this strategy that makes it so effective is the knowledge, empathy, and credibility that can be shared among peers in ways that other avenues of knowledge dissemination cannot touch.

#### **2.2.5.3 Action(s):**

a. AESD to do literature review on the 4 selected commodities and come out with training program. Experts in the following technical areas will visit Ghana between October – December 2002:

- |                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| i. Processing               | ii. Transport |
| iii. Market                 | iv. Storage   |
| v. Extension                | vi. Teaching  |
| vii. Animal feed production | viii. Dairy   |

b. The USDA Cochran program will sponsor visits for Ghanaian technical specialists to the U.S. over a six to twelve month period.

**Proposed Budget:** \$200,000

### **2.2.6 Program/Activity: Co-Operative Development Assistance**

#### **2.2.6.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The Co-Operative College in Kumasi is a small college devoted to the provision of knowledge and training in the area of cooperative organization and operations. The Co-operative College has continued to operate in recent years, but at a very minimal level due to years of funding neglect. The recently heightened role of cooperatives as a part of the Ghanaian government's policies on education and agricultural development have led to a commitment by the Ghanaian government to upgrade facilities, faculty and curriculum of the

Cooperative College. While Ghana has committed limited financial resources to the facilities and faculty upgrades, they lack the capacity to take the necessary steps to update the college's curriculum to provide training on organizing and operating farmer cooperatives capable of meeting the marketing and trade challenges of contemporary domestic and world markets.

#### **2.2.6.2 Justification of Need:**

The ultimate goal of this project will be a marked improvement in the ability and capacity of the farmers of Ghana to gain access to domestic and export markets through a system of strong farmer-owned cooperatives. The long run strategy of this project is to create agricultural cooperatives that can effectively link local farmers to the world marketplace. Stronger, more effective cooperatives will present local farmers with the ability to sell their products outside of their local markets in national and international markets.

#### **2.2.6.3 Actions(s):**

- Cooperative College Curriculum and Faculty Development
- Research Cooperative Model for Ghana
- On-going technical assistance to targeted co-operatives in Ghana

*Proposed Budget:* \$500,000 a year for 3 years

### **2.2.7 Program/Activity: Information Clearing House Development**

#### **2.2.7.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

Ghana has no centrally located center for provision of one-stop information on agricultural production and other related post-production activities for use by farmers, planners and investors. There are a lot of data on agricultural production and post-production activities, which are with various agricultural organizations where they are generated. There is the urgent need to bring these data together for analysis and make the information available to the general public.

#### **2.2.7.2 Justification of Need:**

To become effective participants in agricultural trade, farmers and service providers in Ghana need to be capable of accessing information that will enable them to produce goods and services for the world marketplace. Farmers require information, advice and training on agricultural commodity selection, production practices, input management, harvest and post harvest handling and marketing.

#### **2.2.7.3 Action(s):**

Design and implement a web-based information system on agricultural processing and post-harvest handling involving government, non-governmental organizations, research institutes, and universities as partners in providing information.

- Steering committee formed by end of June 2002
- Bring in an expert to design concept by July 2002
- Implementation as second phase

*Proposed Budget:* \$100,000

## 2.2.8 Program/Activity: Farm-To-Market Hauling Costs Study

2.2.8.1 Background/Problem/Issue: *(See Market Access Working Group)*

2.2.8.2 Justification of Need: *(See Market Access Working Group)*

2.2.8.3 Action(s):

Action transferred to Market Access Working Group

**Budget:** \$40,000 (in-hand)

### EXPECTED TIMING OF ACTIVITIES AND BUDGET SUMMARY

Pineapples, Chilies, Okra, Sweet Potato	Short term (Now)	Intermediate Term (6-12 months)	Long term > 1 – 3 years
Train-the-Trainer	X	X	X
Farmer-to-Farmer		X	
Peer-to-Peer Exchange		X	
Coops Development	X	X	X
Community Development Workshop		X	
Info. Clearing House	X	X	
Promotion of Small Scale Irrigation	X		

1.	Train-the-Trainer	\$120,000	-	\$120,000 - 1,350,000
2.	Farmer-to-Farmer			\$0
3.	Coop. Development	\$250,000	-	\$1,500,000
4.	Info Clearinghouse	\$100,000		
5.	Peer-to-Peer	\$200,000	-	\$600,000
6.	Community Dev. Workshop			\$50,000
7.	Promotion of Small Scale Irrigation			\$0

## 3.0 MARKET ACCESS WORKING GROUP

The objectives of the Market Access Working Group (MAWG) are to: (1) address factors that impede agricultural trade; (2) identify training needs and opportunities that will improve trade, and examine the implications of bilateral and multilateral trade arrangements on agricultural market access; (3) to facilitate co-operation and exchange information on sanitary/phytosanitary (SPS) and food safety issues; and (4) to improve communications and transparency between Ghanaian and U.S. officials concerning market access in agriculture.

During the initial meeting of the Ghana-U.S. CCARD, the MAWG selected the following deliverables for action:

### A. Post-Production Management and Food Safety

- Identify priority agricultural commodities for market access to the U.S.;

- Facilitate, support and nominate Ghanaian technical specialist for U.S. training in the area of food safety, animal and plant risk assessment and management, food transportation and storage; and
- USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service to support a program to exchange information on agricultural grades and standards for fruits and vegetables.

## **B. Agricultural International Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Standards**

Provide comprehensive assistance to Ghana in the area of SPS standards by:

- USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to provide risk assessment training for Ghanaian officials.
- A mentoring program in which Ghanaian officials will work side by side with APHIS officials in the U.S. to learn first hand how products, particularly Ghanaian products, are inspected and cleared into the U.S.

## **C. Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Arrangements**

### *1. Tariff and Non-Tariff Barriers for Promoting Increased Trade*

- U.S. Export Certificates and Ghana dioxin regulations
- U.S. – Ghana cooperation and understanding in the area of SPS

*2. The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) - Import-export regulations to help Ghana maximize the opportunities offered under AGOA.*

## **D. Agricultural Trade Negotiations in the World Trade Organization (WTO)**

- US Proposal concerning the recently started negotiations in agriculture.

## **3.1 STATUS OF PROJECTS – FY2001**

### **3.1.1 Post Production Management and Food Safety**

Identified priority agricultural commodities to focus on for market access to U.S. Nine commodities have been selected and these include: *Yam, Mango, Eggplant, Okra, Papaya, Sweet pepper, Chili pepper, Pineapple, and Ginger*. These were chosen based on production and export records.

### **3.1.2 Training in Food Safety and Risk Assessment and Risk Management**

- Two (2) Ghanaian Veterinarians attended a training seminar on meat and poultry inspection at the Texas A & M University College Station from February 20 – March 10, 2001.
- The Directors of Plant Protection and Regulatory Services and Veterinary Services Directorates participated in the SPS Risk Assessment Seminar in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire from January 14 – 18, 2002.
- The USDA Cochran Program has sponsored training for 16 Ghanaians in the areas of flour milling, Health Inspection, Laboratory Research Techniques and Retail Management.

- Tuskegee University in collaboration with USDA, will provide a two week risk assessment workshop in Accra, Ghana for 4 countries from the region during September 2002. The participation of 5 Ghanaians will be supported through ATRIP/USAID funding. An advanced level workshop (continuation of this first set) will be repeated in 2003. Followed by a final Train-the-Trainer workshop of 3 days duration will be held in Kenya.

### **3.1.3 Support a Program to Exchange Information on Agricultural Grades and Standards for Fruits and Vegetables**

USDA/Agricultural Marketing Services (AMS) sent two marketing Specialist to Ghana in February 2001, to implement the Ghana Agricultural Grades and Standards mandated by the Participating Agency Services Agreement (PASA) between USAID and USDA.

### **3.1.4 Agricultural International Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Standards**

- The Deputy Director of Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Directorate (PPRSD) in charge of Plant Quarantine attended training program in Regulatory Decision making in Riverdale, MD, from October 29 – November 11, 2001.
- An entomologist from the PPRSD was trained in Pest Risk Assessment at Riverdale, Maryland, from October 21, 2001 – January 19, 2002. Under this training program six (6) of the selected agricultural commodities (papaya, eggplant, mango, okra, sweet pepper and chilies) were assessed. The draft assessment reports are prepared for further action.
- Eight (8) Ghanaian Phytosanitary Inspectors were selected for a mentoring program in which they will work side by side with APHIS officials in the United States to learn first hand how products particularly Ghanaian products are inspected and cleared into the U.S.

### **3.1.5 Bilateral and Multilateral Trade Arrangements**

In February 2001, USDA/APHIS, conducted their initial assessment for establishing a pre-clearance centre in Ghana, to certify Ghanaian agricultural exports, facilities and to train inspectors. The APHIS representative determined that from phytosanitary perspective, the current and projected volume of agricultural exports to the U.S. does not justify a pre-clearance program. Pest risk assessments for additional commodities need to be completed to determine the likelihood of meeting U.S. SPS import requirements. Technical phytosanitary assistance can be provided by USDA as a part of the planning process for a pre-clearance center.

### **3.1.6 The African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)**

In February 2002, USDA/Agricultural Marketing Services (AMS) conducted their initial assessment of Ghana's transportation and post harvest handling systems with the primary focus of shipping and handling agricultural products. Recommendations evolving from this assessment will lay the groundwork for developing the agenda for training activities to enable Ghana maximize the opportunities offered under AGOA.

## **3.2 MAWG PROPOSED INITIATIVES – FY 2002**

During the second plenary meeting, the MAWG convened to review progress and propose changes needed to meet the mandate of the Ghana-U.S. CCARD.

The 12 member working group, headed by Mr. Vesper Suglo, MOFA, Ghana, Mr. Darrell Upshaw and Dr. Cheryl French, USDA, United States, included representatives from the Agricultural Development Bank, Ghana Standards Board, Ghana Export Promotion Council, Ghana Food and Drug Board, Ghana Ministry of Trade and Industry (MOTI), and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

After review of ongoing activities, the MAWG concluded significant progress had been made in improving Ghana's phytosanitary infrastructure through the collaborative activities with USAID and USDA. To build on the progress realized to date, recommendations for future collaborative efforts between MOFA, USDA and USAID in the following areas were identified:

- Pest Surveillance Program;
- Phytosanitary Certification and the Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) Process;
- Post Entry Quarantine Techniques and Technical Assistance;
- Grades and Standards Development;
- Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Division (PPRSD) Inspector Training;
- Pesticide Residue Standards and Testing;
- Transportation and Post Harvest Handling;
- Pre-Clearance Certification Center; and
- Technical Barriers to Trade (Dioxin Requirements and Fat Content Restrictions)

### **3.2.1 Program Activity: Pest Surveillance Program**

#### **3.2.1.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

A pest surveillance program is necessary to bring Ghana in full compliance with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Plant pest survey data is needed to (1) support import and export decisions and regulatory actions; (2) to issue Phytosanitary certificates; (3) to conduct pest risk assessments; (4) to determine the presence or absence of specific pests; and (5) to support integrated Pest Management, and other pest management efforts.

#### **3.2.1.2 Justification of Need:**

A team of experts from USDA/APHIS conducted a review of survey activities being conducted at selected institutions and organizations in Ghana to determine if any official prescribed method of implementing phytosanitary regulations was in place and to assess the data collection capabilities of the various University and Research institutions associated with PPRSD. The team concluded pest surveys are being done on an ad hoc basis and results are generally not available to regulatory decision makers. Furthermore, there is no system in place to collect and distribute plant pest data.

#### **3.2.1.3 Action(s):**

Design and implement a National Plant Pest Survey and Detection Program in Ghana. Create within the Ministry of Food and Agriculture/Plant Protection and Regulatory Services Division (MOFA/PPRSD) a new position of National Survey Coordinator. The person

selected would be trained to design and implement a pest survey program in order to safeguard national agriculture and support Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) activities.

### **3.2.2 Program Activity: Phytosanitary Certification and the Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) Process**

#### **3.2.2.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

Plant protection is the focal point for Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) information in Ghana, but there is no access to the Internet. Internet resources have been identified as a major bottleneck for information transfer.

#### **3.2.2.2 Justification of Need:**

An office has been acquired by MOFA in Accra for Internet access. The office requires equipment and other miscellaneous items for functionality. The Government of Ghana (GOG) can provide space and a secure environment for the information centre. Performance of Pest Risk Assessments (PRA) is a priority for Ghana and support of this initiative provides a central venue for data collection and will serve as a communication and information center for PPRSD.

#### **3.2.2.3 Action(s):**

MOFA expedite the establishment of the satellite PPRSD office with the appropriate facilities, equipment and Internet access to facilitate pest risk assessment processes. CCARD will support the PPRSD facility through satellite/journal/data base subscriptions.

### **3.2.3 Post Entry Quarantine Techniques and Technical Assistance**

#### **3.2.3.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

Requests to import new genetic plant materials for propagation (seeds, rootstock, cuttings, etc.) to improve crop production in Ghana are increasing because Ghana is broadening their plant base. Importation of plant germplasm presents a high risk of introducing new plant pests. Ghana needs germplasm assessed prior to distribution in country.

#### **3.2.3.2 Justification of Need:**

The current facilities in Pokuase are lacking examination and treatment equipment. The current regulations, procedures and laboratory for processing imported plant germplasm are not adequate and must be update to ensure plant imports are free of pest/diseases.

#### **3.2.3.3 Action(s):**

Mr. John Samwin, MOFA/PPRSD, has completed phase one of a three phase training program on germplasm. Recommend completion of training in the areas of support legislation and funding for facilities. The MAWG also recommends the following: (1) Parliament review and approve Ghana's new Plant Health Legislation; and (2) MOFA/PPRSD consider incorporating existing University and research facilities into PPRSD post entry quarantine system.

### **3.2.4 Grades and Standards Development**

#### **3.2.4.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

Ghana agribusiness firms currently lack the knowledge of international market requirements, the management capacity to address those requirements effectively and contacts in the

international market to capitalize on investments made to adjust their operations to international standards. The Ghana Standards Board needs support to develop standards and organize training for stakeholders and develop education literature.

#### **3.2.4.2 Justification of Need:**

A major constraint to the competitiveness of Ghanaian agricultural products in regional and global markets is the lack of established grades and standards for agricultural products and systems to manage and certify product quality. Ghana must establish viable grades and standards to meet consumer demands.

#### **3.2.4.3 Action(s):**

USDA/Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) completed an assessment of Ghana's current grades and standards in February 2001. Follow-up training by USDA/AMS is required to provide assistance in the process of establishing standards. The training module should focus on a prioritised list of commodities that have the greatest opportunity to enter the global market.

### **3.2.5 Plant Protections and Regulatory Services Division (PPRSD) Inspector Training**

#### **3.2.5.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

Under the USAID/USDA Participating Agency Service Agreement (PASA), USDA/APHIS trained 8 MOFA/PPRSD inspectors on plant protection and quarantine procedures at USDA facilities and other appropriate locations. The training covered many topic areas such as: Phytosanitary certification requirements, import permit procedures, fumigation and other treatment procedures, etc.

#### **3.2.5.2 Justification of Need:**

The training was established to improve phytosanitary inspection activities in Ghana consistent with IPPC standards. Follow-up training is required to ensure proper application of techniques and adequate resources are available for inspectors.

#### **3.2.5.3 Action(s):**

In January 2003, USDA/APHIS will schedule a 1-week seminar on inspection techniques for 100 Ghanaian inspectors as a follow-up to the initial training phase. USAID/USDA/CCARD will ensure required training materials and inspection tools are available.

### **3.2.6 Pesticide Residue Standards and Testing**

#### **3.2.6.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The European Union (EU) private sector will set new import standards under EUREPGAP (Global Partnership for Safe and Sustainable Agriculture) effective 2003 that are in wide variance to current maximum residue levels (MRL). Producers in Ghana are faced with meeting the EUREPGAP standards to continue exporting to the EU.

#### **3.2.6.2 Justification of Need:**

The EU is currently the primary market for Ghanaian goods. As EU regulations and food safety standards increase, technical assistance provided to the agricultural sector must be directed toward gaining entry and maintaining market share in the European market. Ghana requests assistance for monitoring pesticide/herbicide maximum residue levels and testing.

### **3.2.6.3 Action(s):**

USAID has purchased necessary equipment to facilitate pesticide residue analysis. CCARD will monitor progress and provide assistance as required.

## **3.2.7 Transportation and Post Harvest Handling**

### **3.2.7.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

The high cost of transportation and lack of proper post-harvest agricultural handling practices are two of the largest constraints restricting Ghanaian economic growth and trade. The current system for handling produce is not adequately meeting international quality and safety standards, and bottlenecks exist that cause severe post-harvest losses.

### **3.2.7.2 Justification of Need**

Ghanaian exporters commonly experience a 25 to 35 percent loss in exportable yield (produce that does not meet export market specifications) and produce intended for the domestic market is estimated to have post-harvest losses of 35 percent or more. Based on an assessment performed by USDA/AMS, significant improvement in produce quality, safety, and shelf life and improved profits could be achieved by handlers if they were to adopt some simple, low-cost post-harvest handling and transportation practices.

### **3.2.7.3 Action(s):**

USDA/AMS will sponsor a workshop on Post-Harvest Handling and Transportation practices in Accra, Ghana, September 2-4, 2002 for Ghana exporters and producers. The overall training goal is to introduce an integrated post-harvest handling system that will assist exporters to:

- Reduce physical losses;
- Protect produce quality;
- Ensure food safety;
- Maintain economic value;
- Reduce handling costs; and
- Increase profits.

## **3.2.8 Pre-Clearance Certification Center**

### **3.2.8.1 Background/Problem/Issue:**

USDA/APHIS performed an assessment in April 2001, to determine the feasibility of establishing a pre-clearance center in Ghana for commodities being exported from Ghana. The results of this review indicate a Phytosanitary inspection point is required, however, the volume of commodities for export does not justify a fully staffed pre-clearance center.

### **3.2.8.2 Justification of Need:**

A pre-inspection centre is required for locally trained inspectors to complete Phytosanitary inspections on commodities to meet SPS requirements of importing countries. Inspectors will require upgraded facilities and equipment to perform adequate inspections.

### **3.2.8.3 Action(s)**

CCARD will submit a proposal to USAID recommending that Ghana establish a pre-inspection center and recommend this issue for discussion at the next U.S.-Ghana Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) meeting.

### **3.2.9 Technical Barriers to Trade (Dioxin Requirement and Fat Content Restrictions)**

#### **3.2.9.1 Ghana Dioxin Requirement**

##### **A. Background/Problem/Issue:**

In July 1999, the Government of Ghana (GOG) banned all imported poultry and meat derived from animals fed with animal fat in response to the dioxin contamination that occurred in the EU. The ban was replaced in August 1999 with a requirement that all imports be accompanied by dioxin-free certification. This requirement for dioxin testing is a technical barrier to trade (TBT). The United States Government (USG) has received verbal confirmation that U.S. export certificates meet Ghana's dioxin requirements and now seek written confirmation that the USDA-Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) certificate meets Ghana's import requirements.

##### **B. Justification of Need:**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has taken aggressive actions to control dioxin in the United States by placing strict regulatory controls on the major industrial sources. Ghana has not produced any scientific justification to require certification for dioxin. Ghana imposed this restriction globally based on EU requirements; however, those requirements are no longer a threat to health or required by the European market, therefore, the TBT should be withdrawn.

##### **C. Action(s):**

Interim permits have already been withdrawn by Ghana. Ghana requests assistance in developing capacity for MRL testing and associated equipment. CCARD will review funding capacity to support this training initiative. USDA will also provide Ghana with a copy of the USDA-FSIS "Blue Book" and Code of Federal Regulation 9 (CFR). Ghana will use these references to verify FSIS export certificate and testing procedures for MRL and use those decisions to remove the TBT.

#### **3.2.9.2 Fat Content Issue**

##### **A. Background/Problem/Issue:**

After lifting its ban on all U.S. meat and poultry products the GOG enacted new policies that continue to restrict U.S. exports of meat and poultry products. The GOG has set arbitrary fat content levels on meat and poultry imports. Poultry, beef and pork must have a fat content of less than 15, 25, and 35 percent respectively. During the July 2001 U.S.-Ghana TIFA Council meeting, this TBT was discussed, and the Ghanaian representatives agreed to review their position. The USG requests status of the review and continued discussion on immediate steps for resolution.

##### **B. Justification of Need:**

The GOG fat content requirements on poultry, beef and pork restrict importation of U.S. commodities. This TBT not only impacts Ghana's market but effects trade to surrounding countries as Ghana is a transient shipment point to the West African region. In accordance with its WTO obligations, Ghana must present scientific justification to support the current restrictions on commodities.

**C. Action(s):**

CCARD recommends USDA/USAID provide training on US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) food quality/health standards (Center for Food Safety and Nutritional-CFSAN) in order to facilitate resolution of trade barriers. The actual TBT will be referred to the U.S.-Ghana TIFA Council (scheduled for July 2002) for resolution.

**GENERAL LIST OF COMMODITIES FOR SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA**

<b>COMMODITIES ALLOWED FROM GHANA</b>	<b>COMMODITIES FROM SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA</b>
Allium	Aloe Vera (above ground parts)
Banana (fruit, leaf)	Bat Nut or Devil Pod
Cassava	Cannonball Fruit
Dasheen	Chinese Water Chestnut
Ginger Root	Coconut
Palm Heart	Corn Smut Galls <sup>2</sup>
Pineapple (prohibited into Hawaii)	Cyperus Corn
Yam, T101-f-3	Garlic Cloves, Peeled
	Lily Bulb
	Maguey Leaf
	Matsutake
	Mushroom
	Palm Hearts, peeled <sup>3</sup>
	Peanut (except prohibited from Burkina Faso, China (People's Republic of), Côte d'Ivoire, India, Indonesia, Japan, Philippines, Senegal, and Thailand)
	St. John's Bread
	Singhara Nut
	Tamarind Bean Pod
	Truffle
	Water-Chestnut

## APPENDIX 1: SPEECH I

### CHAIRMAN'S REMARK

*Prof. Owusu-Bennoah, Deputy Director General, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Accra.*

Honorable Minister, Distinguished Participants, Invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

2. I feel honoured to be given the opportunity to chair the opening ceremony of this important meeting of the Working Groups of the Ghana-US Consultative Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (CCARD).

3. I am particularly happy to be associated with the CCARD. I recall that in November 2000, when the first meeting was held in this same hotel, I participated in the Working Session of the Natural Resources Management Working Group where we identified and prioritised a number of areas to be our focus of attention.

4. Even though I could not continue to fully participate in subsequent meetings, due to pressure of work, I am fully aware of the progress of work through my colleague, who replaced me on the Committee.

5. I am aware that the Natural Resource Management Working Group had made some interesting progress especially in the Afram Plains; and I trust that the other Working Groups are equally working hard.

6. I believe that the CCARD is an important instrument that could be used to move agriculture forward to the mutual benefit of the two countries (Ghana and US).

7. Natural Resource Management would ensure sustainability. We would be sure that resources would be used in ways that our children would not curse us in future. Market Access would open the doors of trade and investment between the two countries. This is especially important, as Ghana has declared a Golden Age of Business. Institutional and Human Resource Management will build the capacity to achieve development.

8. Agriculture which is the mainstay of Ghana's economy is dominated by the rural poor as such any effort which moves agriculture development alongside with the development rural economy is an indispensable step in the direction of overall economic development and poverty reduction. It is in this context that I commend the idea of this high level consultation. I trust that the working sessions would be characterized by high level of enthusiasm and exchange to ideas to come out with workable programmes and initiatives.

9. I know two days is a short time to discuss the many issues and challenges facing you and will not like to take any more of the time.

10. I will now call on Dr Francis Ofori, the Acting Chief Director and Director of Crop Services to deliver the Welcome message. **Thank you.**

## **APPENDIX 1: SPEECH II**

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY REMARKS**

*Dr. Francis Ofori, Ag. Chief Director, Ministry Of Food And Agriculture*

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Minister, Distinguished Participants  
Ladies and Gentlemen

2. On behalf of the Honourable Minister of Food and Agriculture and the Government and People of Ghana, I extend a warm welcome to all of you on the occasion of the Second Plenary Meeting of the Ghana–US Consultative Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (CCARD) being held in Ghana. I acknowledge, with appreciation, the participants from other Ministries, Departments and Agencies and our counterparts from the United States of America.

3. I also wish to thank the USDA for co-sponsoring this meeting. According to the Terms of Reference of our Agreement on the CCARD, this meeting should be held in the United States of America with an appreciable number of Ghanaian participating. Unfortunately, our financial situation could not allow us to sponsor the trip to the US. For the USDA to agree to bring this number of participants here and also to co-sponsor is a clear indication of its commitment to the CCARD.

4. Mr. Chairman, the CCARD was conceived in 1999 followed by a number of activities such as formation of Working Groups, and development of their Terms of Reference. In 2000, the Agreement between Ghana and US was signed for the establishment of the CCARD. However, due to changes in the administration of Ghana and the US, a Plenary Session could not be organized. Despite these changes, it is gratifying to note that the three Working Groups (Market Access, Natural Resource Management and Institutional and Human Resource Management) have made some strides.

5. The Market Access Group had sent a number of Phytosanitary Inspectors to the US for training. Recently, a mission was fielded to study the transportation of agricultural commodities with the aim to develop effective post harvest handling systems for quality assurance.

6. The Natural Resource Management Group also carried out an assessment of the agricultural and natural resource potential of the Afram Plains with the view to attract private investments in the agricultural sector.

7. The Institutional and Human Resource Group had also conducted training and fielded a Consultant to assist the Cooperative College to review its curriculum.

8. I wish to state that these are just a few areas considering the opportunities that exist to be tapped under the CCARD. The areas cover a wide range of issues confronting agriculture development in Ghana. We are therefore, optimistic that the CCARD would contribute immensely to growth on the agricultural sector by addressing some of the problems impending accelerated growth of the sector.

9. Mr. Chairman, I am hopeful that the job at hand will be carried out thoroughly. I know that my Honourable Minister shares the same enthusiasm with me.

10. I must confess that when confronted with funding for this programme as the Acting Chief Director and Vice Convener, I was apprehensive. But the Honourable Minister did not hesitate to approve the programme and the associated budget despite the budgetary constraints being experienced. This is a clear manifestation of his commitment and interest in the work of the CCARD. Also his presence here with us further confirms my assertion.

11. Mr. Chairman, once again, I would like to welcome all participants to the second Plenary Meeting of the Ghana – US CCARD. I urge our colleagues from the US a happy stay in our beautiful country Ghana. We trust that you would find time to enjoy the warm hospitality of our land and people.

**Thank you.**

## **APPENDIX 1: SPEECH III**

### **OPENING ADDRESS**

*Hon. Major Courage Quashigah (Rtd), Minister Of Food And Agriculture (MOFA)*

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Participants, Invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

2. I wish to express my happiness and appreciation to be invited to deliver the keynote address at the 2nd Plenary Meeting of the Ghana-US Consultative Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (CCARD), which will review activities carried out by the three (3) Working Groups since its inception in November 2000, and to discuss proposals for this year.

3. On behalf of the Government and People of Ghana and on my own behalf, I welcome you all, particularly our brothers and sisters from the U.S., to this CCARD session.

4. Mr. Chairman, I wish to recall from the available records that the Ghana-US CCARD was established about two years ago to provide a high-level forum to strengthen agricultural bilateral relations between the United States of America and the Republic of Ghana. It is to facilitate discussion and cooperation on agricultural programmes, projects, and exchange between the two countries, in the areas of natural resource conservation and management, agricultural technology development for income generation; institutional development and capacity building; agricultural trade and market access, investment and development; regulation and safety of food products; food and nutrition; trade, information, extension and research.

5. I am told that the activities of the 3 Working Groups of the CCARD are focused on:

- a) *Market Access* - for the promotion of trade, research and information flows;
- b) *Institutional, Human Resources and Rural Development* - for the agriculture and agribusiness development, the development of off and on-farm human and institutional infrastructure and public service and human resource development; and
- c) *Natural Resources Management* - for natural resource issues.

6. These areas mentioned are very critical to the country's growth and development. The development of market access for Ghana will help producers and exporters of commodities to dispose of their produce both locally and for export. This will also have a multiple effect of increasing production and incomes for producers and exporters and foreign exchange for the nation.

7. A nation's development depends heavily on its institutional and human resources. It is therefore gratifying to note that a Working Group is also handling this. I am confident that the activities of Working Group would go a long way to support the developmental effort of the country. The work of the Natural Resource Management Working Group will ensure sustainable agricultural growth, which depends mainly on the effective management of natural resources that support agriculture and agriculture-related activities.

8. Mr. Chairman, the Government of Ghana recognizes agriculture as the mainstay of the national economy as it contributes about 40% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employs about the 60% of the labor force, and over 70% of the rural workforce. The crop and livestock sub-sectors generate the bulk of the nation's wealth, and the agricultural sector constitutes a major raw material base for the country.

9. However, despite the importance of the agricultural sector in the national economy, most food crops are produced through subsistence farming with its characteristic use of low-input, rudimentary technology, large post-harvest losses, and minimal processing in the country. The crops are either sold or consumed fresh and often remain under-utilized. Processing into higher create increased income and provide farmers with incentives to intensify production and avoid seasonal price fluctuations.

10. It is therefore the determination of the Government to address issues related to post-production in the agricultural sector with the active participation of the private sector in the harvesting, storage, haulage, processing, packaging, improvement of products, and development of new products for market expansion and increased demands. It is my conviction that this approach would ensure ready markets for farmers' produce and encourage them to expand the production base for increased incomes. We are also determined to develop rural agro-enterprises to enhance market opportunities to impact positively on the economic and social benefits of our rural folks.

11. Mr Chairman, may I emphasise that Ghana considers the interactions with the U.S. under the CCARD, particularly in the areas of agriculture and agribusiness, as very important to the nation's agricultural growth and development. It is our expectation that through increasing interactions with the U.S., issues of market access, effective natural resources management and vastly improved institutional human resources and rural development will be achieved through the efforts of the Working Groups in the short and medium term, and in a transparent manner for the mutual benefit of our two countries.

12. On our part, we assure our counterparts from the U.S. of our readiness to share information and our determination to acquire scientific and technological knowledge, which will enhance our nation's economic growth and development for the mutual benefit of Ghana and the U.S.

13. Mr Chairman, we also intend to use our emerging relationship with United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to create roundtable discussion fora to facilitate interactions between the private sector and Government to create dynamism for shaping our policies to enhance the functioning of the private sector which is recognised by our Government as the engine of economic growth in our declaration of the Golden Age of Business.

14. Finally, we are willing to shift from national to regional systems of doing business to enhance our collective competitiveness as a region with Ghana as the gateway. In this regard, we wish to call for your support in fostering the New Partnership for Africa Development (NPAD). We shall achieve rapid development only when our development partners (including United States) would expedite action on debt reforms, the reversal of the unfavorable terms of trade and the opening up of their markets. It is through such means that low-income food deficit countries (including Ghana) could attain middle-income food exporting status.

15. Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, with these few remarks, I wish to appeal to the various Working Groups to put in their maximum best towards the achievement of the goals of the Consultative Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (CCARD).

16. On behalf of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, and my own behalf, I wish to thank members of the Ghana-US Consultative Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (CCARD) for their untiring effort they are making to ensure total development of our dear nation, Ghana. We should be promised of some positive results in the near future.

17. Long Live Ghana-US bilateral relationship for mutual prosperity under the CCARD.

**Thank You.**

## APPENDIX 1: SPEECH IV

### UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT'S (USAID) INITIATIVE IN GHANA.

*Mr. Fenton Sands, Chief of the Trade, Agriculture and Private Sector office, United States Agency for International Development (USAID)*

The original presentation is not available. A summary is presented here. He outlined the activities of USAID as gearing towards the achieving of Economic Goals in Ghana. These activities are classified under 3 Result Packages (RP's)

#### **(i) Policy Reforms and Financial Intermediation (RP1)**

- Assist Government to review and analyse policy implications.
- Strengthen capacity of local institutions
- Adopt and Implement policy reforms e.g. Labour legislation,
- Implement Monitoring and Evaluation Systems
- Facilitate the development of financial services.

#### **(ii) Private Sector Development (RP 2)**

- Private Enterprise Development
- Micro-enterprise development
- Promote activities to improve capacities to produce to meet International Standards and grades.
- Development of Tourism by rehabilitating tourism sites.

#### **(iii) Promotion of Energy Program (RP 3)**

Capacity is being built for ECOWAS to facilitate the construction of the West Africa gas pipeline from Nigeria through Benin and Togo to Ghana.

#### **(iv) Transformation in Program**

- The leadership of USAID is being transformed. However, USAID's program will continue to promote agriculture and private sector development while the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy and the National Economic Dialogue documents provide guidance.
- The transformation as was noted would not have effect on the work of the Ghana-US CCARD since interactions are going on and there will be communication between CCARD and USAID. Moreover, there are two permanent staff of USAID who will continue the process with the new mission.

Effects of the EUREPGAP on exports, it was revealed that the EUREPGAP, although not being imposed by the EU, could be a trade barrier, which is very strict and excessive. Currently, AMEX International in consultation with USAID is building capacity to be able to test for standard limits. There was however the suggestion that, exporters come together to form an apex organization to be able to negotiate better. This, he indicated will allow a feedback systems can be established.

## APPENDIX 2: MAIN AGENDA

MONDAY, APRIL 22, 2002

### I. OPENING OF THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

**Opening Prayer**

*(Mrs. Rosetta Annan, MOFA)*

**Chairman's Remarks**

*(Prof. Owusu Bennoah)*

**Welcome and Introductory Remarks**

*(Dr. Francis Ofori, Chief Director, MOFA)*

**Introduction of Special Guest & Co-Conveners (USDA/MOFA)**

*(Lawrence Clark, Deputy Chief, NRCS/USDA and Dr. Francis Ofori, Acting Chief Director, MOFA)*

**Self-Introduction of Participants**

**Opening Remarks**

*(Rt. Major Courage Quashigah, Hon. Minister of Agriculture, MOFA)*

10:15 - 10:30 a.m.

**Coffee/Tea Break**

### II. PLENARY OF THE TECHNICAL SESSIONS

*(Chaired by Prof. Anna Barnes, Dean of Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ghana, Legon)*

10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**PRESENTATION ON USAID INITIATIVES IN GHANA**

*(Fenton Sands, Chief of the Trade, Agriculture and Private Sector Office, United States Agency for International Development)*

11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

**WORKING GROUP REPORT OF FY 2001 ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSIONS**

11:30 - 12:00 noon

Natural Resources Management Working Group:  
Co-Conveners, Dr. Francis Ofori, Acting Chief Director, Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) and Dr. Lawrence Clark, Deputy Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, (NRCS), USDA

12:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Market Access Working Group: Co-Conveners, Vesper Suglo, Acting Director, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services, MOFA and Darrell Upshaw/Cheryl French, Acting Vice Co-Conveners, Foreign Agricultural Service, (FAS), and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), USDA

12:30 - 1:00 p.m.

Institutional Human Resources and Rural Development Working Group:  
Co-Conveners, F.W. Aidoo, Director, Human Resources Development and Management, MOFA and John Dunn, Director, Cooperative Management Division, Rural Development (RD), USDA

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**Lunch**

**Venue: Miklin Hotel**

### III. BREAKOUT TO WORKING GROUP SESSIONS

- 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.** Groups Assemble into Working Group Sessions
- 5:00** **Adjourn**
- 6:30** **Cocktail Reception**  
**Venue: La Palm Royal Beach Hotel, Damba Room**

### TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2002

- 8:15 - 10:15 a.m.** Working Group Sessions Continue
- 10:15 – 10:30 a.m.** **Coffee/Tea Break**
- 10:30 - 12:30 p.m.** Working Group Sessions Continue
- 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.** **Lunch**  
**Venue: Miklin Hotel**
- 1:30 – 3:15 p.m.** Working Group Summary Sessions
- 3:15 – 3:30 p.m.** **Coffee/Tea Break**

### IV. CLOSING SESSION OF THE CCARD WORKING GROUP MEETING

*(Chaired by Mr. O.K. Gyarteng, Chief Executive of Ghana Irrigation Development Authority)*

- 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.** **WORKING GROUP REPORTS**
- 3:30 – 4:00 p.m.** Natural Resources Management Working Group:  
Co-Conveners, Dr. Francis Ofori, Acting Chief Director, Crop Services, Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) and Dr. Lawrence Clark, Deputy Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, (NRCS), USDA
- 4:00 - 4:30 p.m.** Market Access Working Group: Co-Conveners, Vesper Suglo, Acting Director, Plant Protection and Regulatory Services, MOFA and Darrell Upshaw/Sarah Hanson, Vice Co-Conveners, Foreign Agricultural Service, (FAS), USDA
- 4:30 - 5:00 p.m.** Institutional Human Resources and Rural Development Working Group: Co-Conveners, F.W. Aidoo, Director, Human Resources Development and Management, MOFA and John Dunn, Director, Cooperative Management Division, Rural Development (RD), USDA
- 5:00 – 5:15 p.m.** **SUMMARY**  
*Acting Chief Director Ofori, MOFA*
- 5:15 – 5:45 p.m.** **CLOSING REMARKS**  
*Honorable Minister of Food and Agriculture*

### APPENDIX 3: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

NAME	POSITION/TITLE	ADDRESS
<b>MARKET ACCESS WORKING GROUP</b>		
1. Mr. Vesper Suglo	Ag, Director, PPRSD, MOFA	P. O. Box M. 37, Pokuase, Accra 024388275/021302638 <a href="mailto:icpacc@ghana.com">icpacc@ghana.com</a>
2. Mr. Darrell A. Upshaw	Program Analyst, USDA/FAS	1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C. 20250 0012026901786 <a href="mailto:Upshaw@Fas.usda.gov">Upshaw@Fas.usda.gov</a>
3. Dr. D.B. Etse	Director, APD, MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021670273/4 Fax. 021670274
4. Mrs. Rosetta Annan	Director, WAID, MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra Tel :021662253 <a href="mailto:rosettaana@yahoo.co.uk">rosettaana@yahoo.co.uk</a> .
5. Don Husnik	USAID Consultant	417 Birchwood Cts, Birchwood, MN USA 55110, 001651407-8320 <a href="mailto:dfhusnik@aol.com">dfhusnik@aol.com</a>
6. Cheryl French	USDA/APHIS Attache	877 Pretorius St., Arcadia, Pretoria USA. 27-12-342-1048 Fax. 27-12-342-3385 <a href="mailto:Cheryl.m.french@aphis.usda.gov">Cheryl.m.french@aphis.usda.gov</a>
7. Mr. Patrick Kojo Ofori	Asst. Agric. Economist, PPMED/MOFA	P. O. Box 37, Accra 021668527 <a href="mailto:rastygh@yahoo.com">rastygh@yahoo.com</a>
8. Ms. Adelaide Boateng-Siriboe	Dep. Director, PPMED, MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021668157/7011520
9. Mrs. Isabella M. Agra	Senior Scientific Officer	Ghana Standards Board 021500065/500231 <a href="mailto:isabelmansa@yahoo.com">isabelmansa@yahoo.com</a>
10. Mr. Sam Ayensu	Dep. Director, GEPC,	P. O. Box M.146, Accra 021228813 Fax. 021233725
11. Mr. Paul Agyiri	Sohicirol, Agric. Dev. Bank	Agric. Dev. Bank, 021673721 <a href="mailto:ADB@Africaonline.com.gh">ADB@Africaonline.com.gh</a>
12. Mr. Kofi Amenyah	Snr. Com. Officer, MOTI	Min. of Trade & Industry P. O. Box M.47, Accra Tel: 021686529
13. Mr. Roderick Daddey-Adjei	Head of Dept. (Food Safety & Nutrition)	Food and Drugs Board, CT 2783, Accra. 021661248/673090 <a href="mailto:fdb@ghana.com">fdb@ghana.com</a>
14. Mallam I. Seidu	Director, PPMED/AgSSIP	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021668248/64
15. Mrs. Theodora Froko	Export Development Officer Ghana Export Promotion Council (GEPC)	GEPC P. O. Box M.146, Accra 021228830 Fax. 021233725
16. Prof. Kwadwo Asenso- Okyere	Director, ISSER	P. O. Box 74, Legon 021572506
17. Mr. Kofi Larbi	Ag. Director, (Multilaterals)	Min. of Trade & Industry P. O. Box M.47, Accra 021665586/686535 <a href="mailto:kofilarbi@internelghana.com">kofilarbi@internelghana.com</a>

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP		
18. Dr. Francis Ofori	Ag. Chief Director, MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021665066 Fax. 021671715 <a href="mailto:Cropserv@gh.com">Cropserv@gh.com</a>
19. Dr. Larry Clark	Deputy Chief, NRCS, USDA	P. O. Box 2890, Washington D.C 0012027204630 <a href="mailto:lawrence.clark@USDA.gov">lawrence.clark@USDA.gov</a>
20. Prof. E. Owusu-Bennoah	DDG (AFFS), CSIR	P. O. Box M.32, Accra 021760166 Fax. 021779809
21. Mr. E. Aggrey-Fynn	Ag. Director, SRID, MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021664317
22. Dr. J. A. Poku	Dep. Director, Crops Services	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021668187 <a href="mailto:ponja@hotmail.com">ponja@hotmail.com</a>
23. Mr. O. K. Gyarteng	Chief Executive, IDA	021662481/668661 Fax. 021664286
24. Prof. Victoria Appiah	Dep. Director/PNF.	BHARI, GAEC, Box LG 80, Legon. 021400310/402286 <a href="mailto:bnargaec@gh.com">bnargaec@gh.com</a>
25. Dr. (Mrs.) Bertha Gana	Asst. Agric, Crop Services, MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021665066/670527
26. Dr. Joseph O. Gogo	Director, CSIR - STEPRI	CSIR, STEPRI 021773068/024-355179 <a href="mailto:stepri@africaonline.com.gh">stepri@africaonline.com.gh</a> <a href="mailto:jgogo@email.com">jgogo@email.com</a>
27. Ms. Emelia R. Anang	Ag. Director of Fisheries	P. O. Box 630, Accra 021772302 Fax. 021776005
28. Dr. M. Agyen-Frempong	Director, Veterinary Services	P. O. Box M.161, Accra 021775777 <a href="mailto:vetsdept@africaonline.com.gh">vetsdept@africaonline.com.gh</a>
29. Dr. Joseph Cobbina	Principal Scientific Officer	AFFS, CSIR P. O. Box M.32, Accra 021777651-4
30. Mr. Timothy Ayamya	GIS Specialist	Soil Research Institute (CSIR) P. O. Box M.32, Accra 021778226 <a href="mailto:soilri@ghana.com">soilri@ghana.com</a>
31. Mr. Paul Tweneboah	Ag. Technical Director (SRI)	Min. of Lands & Forestry Accra. 020-8172014 <a href="mailto:Pault@mlf.gh.com">Pault@mlf.gh.com</a>
32. Mr. E.N.K. Ashong	Dep. Director, (Development)	Dept. of Feeder Roads, PMB, Ministries, Accra 021678118 Fax. 663047 <a href="mailto:Dfr@ghana.com">Dfr@ghana.com</a>
33. Dr. K. G. Aning	Principal Research Scientist	CSIR, Animal Research Inst. P. O. Box AH 20, Achimota 021511746 Fax 021511548
34. Ms. Renna Owens	Ag Economist, USDA/NRCS	47412 Torrington Drive Canton, MI 48188 Tel: 734-844-8896 <a href="mailto:rennaowens@aol.com">rennaowens@aol.com</a>
35. Wildon "Wil" Fontenot	Natural Resources Specialist, USDA/NRCS	700 Cajundome Blvd, Lafayette, LA 20506 Tel: 337-291-3098 Fax. 337-291-3085 <a href="mailto:Wildon.fontenot@usda.gov">Wildon.fontenot@usda.gov</a>

<b>INSTITUTIONAL, HUMAN RESOURCES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP</b>		
36. Mr. F. W. Aidoo	Director, HRDM, MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra. 021665598/687229 Fax.: 021671864
37. Dr. John Dunn	Director, Cooperative Services, RBCS/USDA	Stop 3252 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington DC 20250 2026901375 John.Dunn@usda.gov
38. Mr. Ernest P. Mallet	Deputy Director, HRDM, MOFA	P. O. Box M. 37, Accra 021 687230 <a href="mailto:Ernestmallet@hotmail.com">Ernestmallet@hotmail.com</a>
39. Mr. Samuel O. Ayim		GNAFF, Dange East 021 662759
40. Mr. Franklin Donkoh	Director, Extension, MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021665282
41. Dr. S.G.K. Adiku	Vice Dean, Faculty of Agric.	Dept. of Soil Science, Faculty of Agric. Legon. 021500467 Fax.: 021500467
42. Mr. Robert Buachie-Aphram	Registrar of Co-op Societies	Dept. of Co-ops P.O. Box M.150, Accra 021666212/13
43. Mr. F. N. Dapaah	Project Coordinator, USDA-OICI ATRIP	P. O. Box CT 1914, Accra 021500230 <a href="mailto:fndapaah@africaonline.com.gh">fndapaah@africaonline.com.gh</a>
44. Rick Wetherill	Director, Empowerment Programs	300 7 <sup>th</sup> St. SW Suite 266 Washington, D.C. USA. 0012026197980 <a href="mailto:rick@ocdv.usda.gov">rick@ocdv.usda.gov</a>
45. Dr. K. Boa-Amponsem	Technical Specialist (Livestock & Fish) CSIR	CSIR, AFFSD, P. O. Box 32, Accra. P. O. Box 760166 <a href="mailto:Kboaamponsem@yahoo.com">Kboaamponsem@yahoo.com</a>
46. Mr. Kwabena Appenteng	Private Sector Officer, USAID/Ghana	P. O. Box 1630, Accra 021228440 <a href="mailto:Kapenteng@Usaid.gov">Kapenteng@Usaid.gov</a>
47. Mrs. Adeline Ofori-Boh	Program Management Specialist USAID – Ghana	USAID, 021228440 <a href="mailto:aofori-boh@usaid.gov">aofori-boh@usaid.gov</a>
48. Mr. Tabi Karikari	Asst. Agric. Engineer, AESD/MOFA	P. O. Box M.82, Accra 021777787/89 <a href="mailto:RTIV@ghana.com">RTIV@ghana.com</a>
49. Mr. Simon Addom	Prin. Agric. Engineer, AESD/MOFA	02177789 <a href="mailto:smaddom@yahoo.com">smaddom@yahoo.com</a>
50. Mr. B. M. Oppong	National Coordinator, VIP/MOFA	P. O. Box CT3742, Accra 021770246 Fax. 021770247
51. Prof. A. Ayensu	Ag. Director-General	CSIR, P. O. Box M.32, Accra 021776991/777651-4, 021777655
<b>OTHERS</b>		
52. Fenton Sands	Chief, TAPS Office, USAID	USAID, Accra Tel: 021228440 <a href="mailto:fsands@usaid.gov">fsands@usaid.gov</a>
53. Mr. A. Onyinah Mensah	Director, Finance & Administration/MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021687205/664096
54. Mr. Boadi-Asamoah	Head Video Production Unit/MOFA	P. O. Box M.37, Accra 021665282 Fax. 021665282