



## Regreening Ghana with Trees



Funded by the European Union

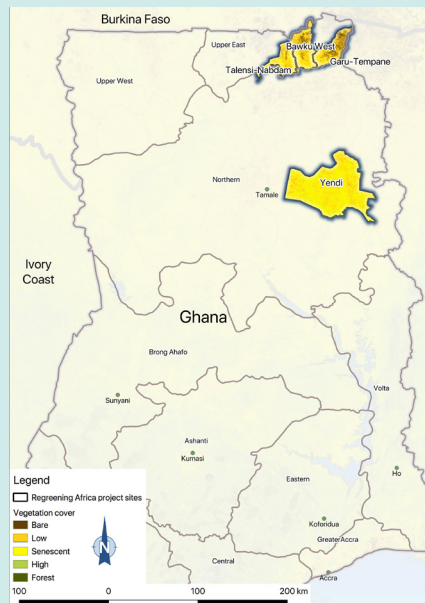
Regreening Africa with Trees in Ghana is implemented by World Vision in collaboration with CRS and, by 2022, aims to:

 reverse land degradation through increased tree cover and better management of trees on 90,000 hectares of land, and

 contribute to food security for some 40,000 households.

The Project is implemented at two main levels:

- 1. Direct implementation in three districts** (Bawku West, Garu-Tempene and Mion). At community level, scaling-up is premised on effective and low-cost agroforestry approaches, mainly Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) of trees and shrubs.
- 2. Campaign and advocacy:** work with multiple stakeholders to influence policy and change mind sets. The project embraces multi-layered interventions, working across scales to achieve regreening outcomes.



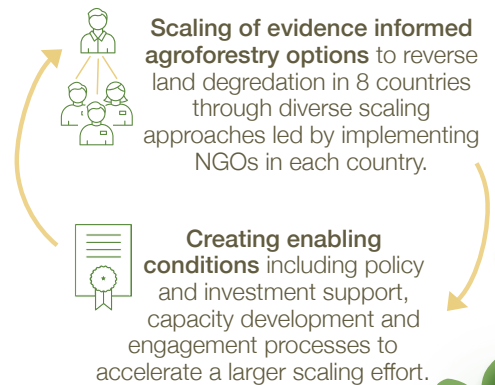
The Regreening program is building on lessons from the IFAD-funded West Africa Forest Farm Interface (WAFFI) project, which aims to identify practices and policy actions that will improve the income and food security of rural smallholder farmers through integrated forest/tree management systems that are environmentally sound and socially equitable.

*“ We and our partners are striving to meet national targets for restoring degraded land, increasing trees on farms, increasing our country-wide forest cover and thus enhance the lives and livelihoods of the people of Ghana. ”*

- HAJIA LARIBA ZUWEIRA ABUDU  
DEPUTY CEO, NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Regreening Africa with Trees is an ambitious five-year program that seeks to **reverse land degradation among 500,000 households, and across one million hectares in eight countries** in sub-Saharan Africa. This program supports the Government of Ghana's commitment to **restore 2 million hectares of land** as part of the Bonn Challenge and the Africa Forest Landscape Initiative (AFR100).

### Regreening Africa project approach



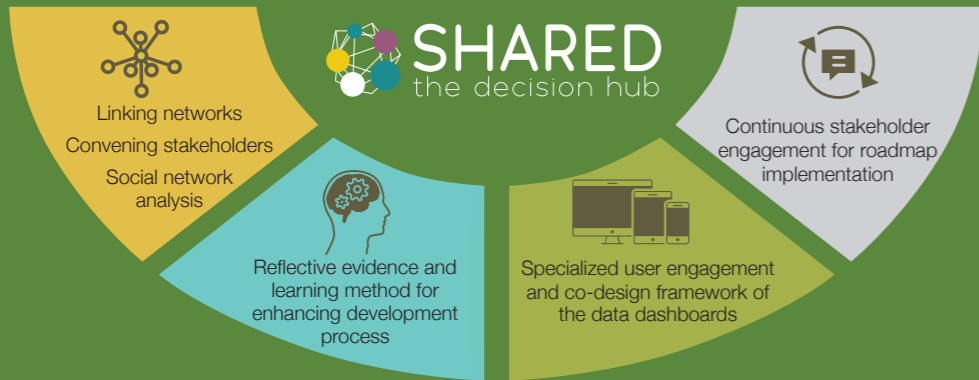
### A process for successful regreening

- Baseline:** measure initial conditions of livelihoods, environment and capture successful regreening practices
- Options:** compile set of suitable tree species, management, value chain and policy interventions for the target area
- Involve local actors** in defining their preferences amongst options and needs to locally adapt them
- Promote options** and gather feedback from stakeholders on their performance
- Reflect** on successes and failures and the reasons for them
- Leverage:** communicate successes and co-ordinate with other initiatives to spread regreening more widely
- Evaluate impact:** measure the extent regreening has changed lives and landscapes

OPTIONS FOR LOCAL CONTEXTS

LESSONS LEARNT

Structured stakeholder engagement processes in the regreening project are designed and implemented by the ICRAF SHARED Decision Hub. The four key project roles of the SHARED Decision Hub include:



**Phase 1. Context**

A multi-stakeholder workshop using the SHARED methodology for evidence based decision making was held in November 2018 to bring together stakeholders on regreening Ghana.

This workshop brought together national and regional government officials, donors, IGOs, NGOs, grassroots organizations and farmer representatives to:

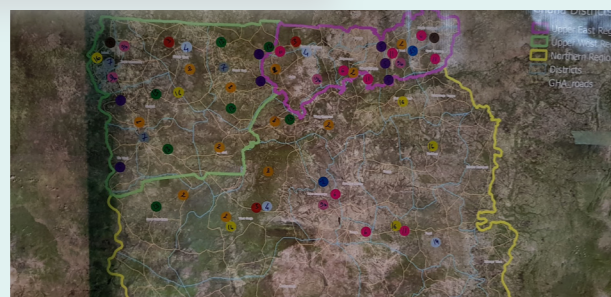
1. Review the evidence and benefits associated with integrating trees into landscapes.
2. Identify opportunities for taking re-greening practices to scale and developing policies to enable this process.
3. Collectively develop a road map for scaling up.

“ We must protect the environment. We must not do bush burning, people must not cut trees. As chief, that is my responsibility. ”

- PARAMOUNT CHIEF  
BONABA BABA SALIFU  
BONGO TRADITIONAL AREA

## Phase 2. Integrating Evidence

Stakeholders looked at the underlying causes of the challenges to regreening, reviewed evidence in the form of posters from stakeholders and indicated where their projects were working on a map of northern Ghana.



## Key terms

**Agroforestry** Land-use systems and practices in which woody perennials are deliberately integrated with crops and/or animals on the same land management unit

**Evergreen agriculture** A form of more intensive farming that integrates trees with annual crops or pasture, maintaining a green cover on the land throughout the year

**FMNR (Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration)** Systematic regeneration and sustainable management of trees and shrubs from living tree stumps, roots and seeds

## Phase 3. Prioritize Implementation

Road map for regreening northern Ghana, actions to overcome the underlying causes restricting regreening

### 2019

- **Form a coordination body** in charge of environmental issues for the 3 northern regions.
- **Develop laws** backing the coordination body
- **Research bodies to provide baseline data** and community needs identified  
Led by the EPA with MOFA, RCCs/DAs, FC, GNFS, NADMO, NGOs/CBOs, WRC, traditional rulers

- **Prepare a development restoration plan for northern Ghana**, with comprehensive budget, effective M&E system, implementation plan for all agencies, and knowledge-sharing to assess performance. Led by a technical committee coordinated by NADA, with members from FC, EPA, MOFA, FORIG, SARI, UDS, WRC, NGOS, MMDAs, private sector, NDA

- **Empower chiefs and traditional leaders** to enforce environmental management policies – Led by EPA, FC, DAs (2019 – 2022)
- **Organize workshops** for law enforcement agencies and the judiciary on environmental management – Led by Fire service, FC, and EPA, (year-round 2019 – 2022)

- **Conduct a massive sensitization.** Led by commitment from traditional authorities, chiefs and Tindana (2019 – 2021)
- **Community level engagement including women and youth.** Engage groups to deal directly with duty bearers and actually get the process embedded. Led by community leaders with NGOs, CSOs, Unit Committee members, landowners, youth and women's groups

- **A basket of options to suit different parts of the northern regions**
  - Organic certification – Led by ORGIIS, GSA, MOFA, private sector (2019 – 2022)
  - Formation of savings groups (VSLAS) – Led by WW, CRS, DAs (2019 – 2022)

- **Use an integrated research approach with multiple approaches to data collection and dissemination**
  - Complete a baseline survey – Led by scientists with community members
  - Disseminate survey results – Led by scientists with community members

### 2020

Implementation of the coordination body – led by EPA

- **Organize educational contest in schools** on fire prevention and environmental management - Led by Fire service, FC and EPA (all year round 2019 – 2022)
- **Scale up fire clubs in various junior and senior high schools** – Led by Fire Service (all year round 2019 – 2022)

- **Bee-keeping** – Led by MOFA, NGOs, consultants (2019 – 2022)
- **Rearing of small ruminants** – Led by NGOs, MOFA, Politicians (2019 – 2022)

- **Implement actions** – Led by farmers, community members, policy makers (Jan 2019 – June 2020)
- **Monitoring** – Led by scientist (2019 – 2022)

### 2021

- **First review of the coordination body**

- **Award communities for best compliance** – led by Fire Service, FC and AA district assemblies (June/July 2019-2022)

- **Evidence on importance of regreening Evaluation** – Led by community members and scientists (2021)

- **Dry season vegetable farming** – Led by MOFA, IDA, youth, women, 2019 - 2022

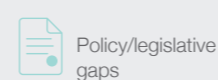
### 2022

Final review of the coordination body

- **Sensitize communities on relevant policies on wildfire (bush fire) prevention** – Led by Fire service and FC (September – March 2019, 2022)

- **Follow-up if necessary** – Led by scientists and community members

#### Key:



Policy/legislative gaps



Coordination



Social cultural norms



Funding, political will



Economic factors



Evidence on importance of regreening

#### Acronym glossary:

CBO	Community Based Organization	GNFS	Ghana National Fire Service	NADMO	National Disaster Management Organisation	SARI	Savanna Agricultural Research Institute
CSO	Civil Society Organizations	GSA	Global Shea Alliance	NDA	Northern Development Authority	UDS	University for Development Studies
CRS	Catholic Relief Service	IDA	International Development Association	NGO	Non-governmental organization	WRC	Water Resources Commission of Ghana
DAs	District Assistants or Assemblies	MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture	ORGIIS	Organisation for Indigenous Initiatives and Sustainability	WW	World Vision
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies	RCC	Regional Coordinating Council		
FC	Forestry Commission						
FORIG	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana						

## Tamale Declaration on Restoring Landscapes and Improving Livelihoods in Northern Ghana

*“We, the participants of the multi-stakeholder workshop, ‘Restoring landscapes for resilient livelihoods in northern Ghana’, do hereby declare that there is an urgent need for the Northern Development Authority (NDA), MMDAs (Metro, Municipal and District Assemblies), traditional authorities, and the Ministries of Land and Natural Resources (MLR), of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI), and of Food and Agriculture (MOFA), to develop and implement a comprehensive Regreening Plan that integrates management of trees, crops and livestock, and to allocate a budget and incentive systems to support the plan, thereby helping to restore landscapes and improve livelihoods in northern Ghana.”*

## Stakeholder commitments to regreening Ghana

Commitments made by stakeholders at the close of the workshop

### Plant and care for trees

“Collaborate with farmers and traditional authorities to plant trees on farms and nurture them to maturity”

“I will devote greater time and energy to support any activity that will gear towards regreening Northern Ghana on official and private basis”

“Encourage farmers I work with to conserve natural trees and plant more useful trees; Plant trees in my community”

“Raise 100,000 seedlings and distribute to institutions and communities: about to carry out fire education in the region”

“Plant a tree every month this year”

“As an assembly woman, as a presiding member for Wall Wall municipal assembly and a deputy CEO of northern development authority, in collaboration with some NGOs I will be able to convince my assembly to plant 100 trees per community”

### Collaborate and engage

“Assist civil society organizations to assess funds to help regreen the northern savannah”

“Collaborate with other institutions and NGOs to form a synergy in directing our efforts to greening the northern landscape”

“Continue to engage stakeholders in discussions on how to regreen Northern Ghana”

“Support development implementation in the zone of influence”

### Monitoring and learning

“Coach women on how to engage traditional authorities on possible inclusion in decision making and community planning”

“Sensitize youth in my community on regreening for future restoration of land degradation”

“Support in knowledge-based capacity building in integrated water and environment management”

“Work with communities to inculcate in terms of sustainable management of natural resources”

“Enforce the forest and wildlife laws of Ghana strictly”

“Support the regreening of Africa by increasing education of the youth, especially students on importance of regreening”

“To continue reaching out to communities and individuals with FMNR techniques”

“Continue to help farmers and householders generate income from trees and once they get value from trees, they turn to assist trees to grow and plant more on the land”

“Assist to prevent bush fires and train volunteers”

### Data and evidence

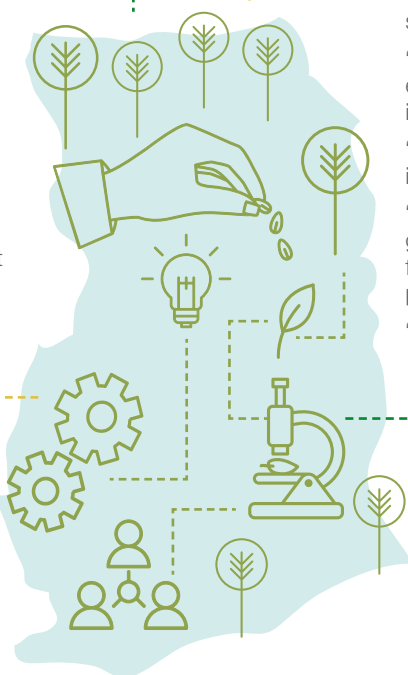
“Provide data to support women’s involvement in tree management and benefit sharing”

“Conduct ecosystem/agroforestry related research to provide reliable and realistic baseline data; be actively involved in monitoring and evaluation of the project”

“Share lessons and data from WAAFI”

“Conduct research and extension”

“Research fast growing species suitable for agroforestry practices in the northern belt”



## Reversing land degradation in Africa by scaling-up evergreen agriculture

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