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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

Coastal Sustainable Landscapes Project (CSLP)

Climate Smart Agriculture: building food secure communities

In Ghana, more than 60% of rural livelihoods are heavily dependent on agriculture with more than half of this figure being that of rural women. To build food secure communities and a strong nation, farmers are adopting innovations that improve their lives and reduce environmental degradation.

The USAID funded and US Forest Service managed CSLP is working with farmers, NGOs, government and private institutions to implement climate smart agriculture (CSA) in the six coastal districts in the Western Region of Ghana to build resilience to climate change. Grace Ansa, a 49 year old mother of five from Cape Three Points is a beneficiary to the project. She joined the “Mmoa Kuo” Enterprise Group when it first began in 2016.

“Now I get very good prices for my vegetables because they don’t contain chemicals. My customers say that they taste better and do not easily go bad. Initially when I take my vegetables to the market, people will quote the price at which they want to buy them because it was just like the ones on the market already. Now I get about one and a half times the money I used to get,” says Grace Ansa.



Grace Ansa showcasing cucumbers grown on her CSA plot. Photo Credit: CSLP

“I am also glad that we don’t need chemical fertilizers, they cost us money and they are not good for our health. My family’s nutritional levels have improved and we are stronger because our food is healthy,” she continued.



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“The interventions have brought us a lot of joy and hope. There was a lot of poverty here because we were not getting good money from our work but now we know things will get better. We see the changes already,” said Stephen Quaicoe, a 50 year old father of four and a member of “Mmoa Kuo” Enterprise Group.



Members of Mmoa Kuo working to establish the CSA demonstration plot.



Members of Mmoa Kuo selling their produce at the local market

The Cape Three Points “Mmoa Kuo” Enterprise Group had their first CSA organic vegetables market entry at one of the local markets in the latter part 2017, where demand for their organic produce was more than they could meet. The leader of the group, Paul Ansah, who is also a secretary to the “Yesu Mo” VSLA group could not hide his surprise at this development.

Since 2016, the CSLP have mobilised 400 farmers in the Western Region who are learning sustainable agricultural practices and are applying their new knowledge in their group demonstration farms and on their individual farms. In addition, the CSLP is establishing market linkages for the farmers to create lasting markets for their produce.

The Cape Three Points “Mmoa Kuo” Enterprise Group was full of praise for the CSLP implementation team, who have been working tirelessly to train them and help them understand the benefits of adopting sustainable agriculture practices and planting improved seeds. Grace Ansah and many farmers like her have already cleared additional land to practice what they have learned at the demonstration plots on their own.



Grace Ansah, a proud adopter of climate smart agriculture principles

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