



FARMER EMBARKS ON BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE CAMPAIGN

Listowell Adus Medwenlemenwo is a 38-year-old farmer in Adusuazo in the Jomoro District of Ghana's Western Region and actively engaged in the cultivation of vegetables including tomatoes, peppers, and garden eggs. Prior to the start of the USAID-funded, and US Forest Service managed, Coastal Sustainable Landscapes Project (CSLP), Listowell was farming using large quantities of agrochemicals. He was using herbicides to clear weeds, burning the landscape to clear undergrowth, applying inorganic fertilizers to improve soil fertility and applying pesticides to control pests/disease. After participating in CSLP trainings on Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) practices, Mr. Adus now manually clears weeds from his farm and has adopted Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices across his fields. He now uses organic pesticides (e.g. chili pepper and garlic) to control pests and diseases and applies organic manure (e.g. cow dung) as fertilizer. Compared to his previous use of agrochemicals, he has observed that it is less expensive to employ the CSA practices. He has integrated over 200 trees in his cash crop farms. Currently, he encourages other vegetable farmers to go the CSA way rather than the input intensive methods he previously used. According to Listowell, if vegetable farmers move toward using CSA practices, they will greatly benefit in the long run. Mr. Adus now actively shares the lessons he is learning with other farmers and is very optimistic more farmers will join him to practice the improved farming practices being promoted by CSLP. In addition, Adus has a secondary forest on his farm that he is reserving for an apiary. He is waiting for the next cycle of beekeeping training and the supply of start-up kits from CSLP to establish his apiary which will have the added benefit of conserving his patch of secondary forest thereby continuing to sequester carbon and reduce rates of deforestation in the Western Region.



Adus at his CSA vegetable farm

Born at Adusuazo, Adus dropped out of senior high school after his father's passing in 1998. He had a car accident in 1998 that made him physically challenged from which he miraculously recovered in 2002. In 2004, he started farming, with a focus on vegetables and has since remained a farmer. Adus has not only inspired the CSLP team with his resilience and commitment to change, he continues to inspire his community members as well. In early December 2015, the CSLP used the occasion of the 31st Farmers' Day celebration in Jomoro District to honor Mr. Listowell Adus Medwenlemenwo as a best organic vegetable farmer under climate smart vegetable production.