

Making knowledge work for forests and people



Annual Report 2010



**Making knowledge work for forests
and people of Ghana**

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2010

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Acronyms

BIRD	Bureau of Integrated Rural Development
CANR	College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
ECDO	Expertise Centre for Sustainable Development
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FORIG	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana
GIRAF	Governance Initiative for Rights and Accountability in Forest Management
IIED	International Institute of Environment and Development
IOI	Illegal or Incompatible
IPCC	International Project Coordinating Committee
IUFRO	International Union of Forestry Research Organisations
KNUST	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology
MSD	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
NFF	National Forest Forum
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NLBI	Non-Legally Binding Instrument on All Types of Forests
NREG	Natural Resources and Environmental Governance Programme
R-PP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
SMFEs	Small and Medium Forest Enterprises
TBI	Tropenbos International
TIDD	Timber Industry Development Division
VPA	Voluntary Partnership Agreement

Message from the Programme Director



The year 2010 has been another successful one for Tropenbos International Ghana as we celebrated our ten-year presence in Ghana and prepared for a mid-term evaluation exercise, even as we started to wind down on the activities for the current phase. We succeeded in further opening the space for stakeholder participation in the policy processes and created platforms for informed discourses to generate useful inputs into the on-going processes; we built new alliances, continued our capacity building efforts and carried out relevant research to make knowledge work better for forests and people.

Ghana's forestry sector has been the laboratory of many international initiatives; the sector has therefore benefitted from diverse donor-supported programmes. This however has not reflected positively in the status of forestry in the country. Many have also wondered about the extent to which forestry policy and practice have been informed by the excellent research work carried out in the country by the different agencies.

Following from the global economic crisis and the wind of political change blowing particularly across Europe, the context of international development assistance has been changing: the focus has been broadened from purely governments to include civil society; the new trend now is to focus more on the private sector. It is apparent that donor support to the sector will not continue in the same way. It is therefore imperative that Ghana moves quickly to capitalize on available support to effect the needed improvements in the forestry sector.

There has been a general call for an independent "think tank" that will support policy analysis of the sector and take grounded and relevant policy research to a higher level. TBI Ghana fully supports such an initiative. In a modest way, our work, particularly policy-relevant research and knowledge platforms could serve as a precursor for such a "think tank".

In this report, we share with you TBI Ghana's modest attempts at making knowledge work for forests and people in 2010.



Making knowledge work for forests and people

Millions of people in the tropics depend on forests for their livelihoods, and yet these resources remain undervalued and threatened. Over the years, TBI has established itself as an important platform supporting forest and development agenda in developing countries. We have built a reputation for generating knowledge and building personal and institutional capacity, facilitating dialogue, and strengthening the links between national and international forest debates. These are necessary to successfully introduce knowledge and evidence into major policy and management decisions. They also define TBI's role as an intermediary between the policy and management communities and the research community. Our ultimate goal is better governance and management of tropical forest resources.

TBI addresses problems by developing and managing multiple research and capacity building programmes. The research projects in each TBI programme address locally articulated forest sector issues, while creating individual and organisational capacity to generate and apply knowledge. The international agenda co-determines the selection of issues to be included in each programme; the outcomes of each programme help to feed the international forest debate with cases, experiences and lessons learned.

Our programmes are implemented through partnerships of organisations with varying interests and responsibilities relating to forests and forestry. Universities, research and training institutions are responsible for research and training, while partners representing forest policy and forest use define the issues and guide the direction of each project. Local partners assume a leading role in the implementation of each programme. Dutch and other Northern partners play an important supporting role. TBI itself facilitates the partnerships and resulting activities, and translates outcomes into information that is useful for decision makers and forest managers.

Over the years, we have evolved into an organisation that makes knowledge work for forests and people by enabling well-informed decision making for improved management and governance of tropical forests. Our longstanding local presence and ability to bring together local, national and international partners make us a trusted partner in sustainable development.

In 2010 there were five operational country programmes, in Colombia, Suriname, Ghana, Vietnam and Indonesia and a regional programme in the Congo Basin (Cameroon and DR Congo). TBI was also involved as a partner in projects in Bolivia and Guyana.

For more information on our different programmes and projects please visit our website: www.tropenbos.org



A decade of making knowledge work for forests and people in Ghana

In May 2000, Tropenbos International Ghana (TBI Ghana) made its debut in Ghana, with the mission of providing distinctive scientific input into sustainable forest management in Ghana through local and international cooperation. TBI Ghana aims to bridge the gap between forest policy, management and science; provide a forum for discussing topical forest issues; and carry out relevant research and training. For ten years, TBI Ghana has remained committed to providing relevant knowledge and guidance for policy-makers, resource managers, researchers, academia, civil society, timber industry, and forest communities for sustainable forest development in Ghana.

The year 2010 was marked as the programme's 10th anniversary and celebrated through planned activities staggered over the months. The formal launching of the anniversary was held on June 18. This brought together key partners and collaborators including Ghana's Forestry Commission, Forestry Research Institute of Ghana, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources of KNUST and civil society groups. Alumni of the programme were also on hand for the inauguration and subsequent interaction. The launching was preceded

by public awareness creation and sensitization in the print and electronic media on the state of Ghana's forests resources and TBI Ghana's contribution to national development.

A durbar of communities was also held at Asumura, a TBI Ghana project site. The aim was to interact with forest-adjointing communities, traditional authorities and administrative leadership on possible collaboration with TBI Ghana in addressing some of the challenges hampering sustainable forest management in the area. The durbar saw TBI Ghana donating stationery to primary schools in the area as part of our corporate social responsibility. Awards were also given to school children who excelled in a TBI Ghana organised essay competition on Ghana's forests.



To facilitate exchange of knowledge and strengthen relationships between our partners in northern and southern universities and research institutions, TBI Ghana organised two lectures as part of the 10th anniversary celebration. The first held on the topic, "Forests, people and livelihoods: entitlements to the world's forestry resources" was delivered by Prof. Ton Dietz with support from Dr. Mirjam Ros-Tonen, both of University of Amsterdam. About twenty key scientists from our partner institutions attended. A second lecture

attended by over 120 researchers, resource managers, university teachers and students was held on the topic, “Multi-level governance of timber legality: FLEGT, local livelihoods and social safeguards. Prof. Bas Arts of Wageningen University was the speaker.

In the anniversary celebration, a workshop was organized in support of forest policy processes in Ghana. The objective was to make direct contribution to the revision of Ghana’s 1994 Forest and Wildlife Policy. During the workshop on the theme “Making the revised Forest and Wildlife Policy responsive to livelihood challenges in Ghana”, TBI Ghana offered participants the platform to make inputs to the policy review process.

In spite of the many interventions and injections Ghana’s forest sector continues to experience deforestation and forest degradation continue to soar. What could be amiss? TBI Ghana hopes to find an answer to this question by climaxing the 10th anniversary celebration with a public debate among key forest actors on the theme “Halting deforestation and forest degradation in Ghana - the missing link’.





Supporting Forest Policy Processes in Ghana

In 2010, TBI Ghana supported and informed Ghana's forest policy processes in several significant ways including the following:

Review of Ghana's 1994 Forest and Wildlife Policy

Ghana's Forest and Wildlife Policy (FWP) has been operative for sixteen years. Stakeholders are of the view that the 1994 Forest and Wildlife Policy is highly timber-oriented, tilting national forestry planning towards the industrial logging and processing enterprises to the peril of small and micro forest enterprises (SMFEs). Formal timber industry has been very influential in shaping forest policy and management practices due to its dominance in revenue generation and contribution to the national economy. Even though the formal industry is known to employ about 100,000 people, it is estimated that SMFEs serve as main or additional source of income for about 3,000,000 people. SMFEs are better placed to contribute to livelihoods and local economy and provide an important avenue for alleviating poverty in Ghana. Yet, SMFEs have received little or no attention in national forestry planning. Such operational provisions like the Legislative Instruments, Manual of

Procedures, resource allocation procedures and regulation are available for only the formal industry.

The Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources and the Forestry Commission started a process of reviewing the policy and the Forestry Development Master Plan to address shortcomings that have been identified with them. A Policy Review Committee was commissioned to, among other things, collate views from stakeholders and propose possible amendments for enactment.

TBI Ghana responded actively to this policy review process by making direct submissions to the Policy Review Committee and taking part in platforms provided by the Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources to collate views from civil society.



On September 9, TBI Ghana initiated a multi-stakeholder workshop for actors in the timber industry and grassroots civil society organisations to interact with the Policy Review Committee. The aim was to foster national consensus on a revised policy that effectively responds to contemporary livelihood challenges associated with sustainable forest management. TBI Ghana has since submitted stakeholders' recommendations for the review of the 1994 Forest and Wildlife Policy to the Policy Review Committee.

Box 1: Stakeholders' recommendations for livelihood considerations in the review of the Forest and Wildlife Policy:

- The revised Forest and Wildlife Policy should place commensurate emphasis on promotion of community-based forest livelihoods to complement the timber sector.
- When the new policy document mentions that community-based livelihoods and enterprises be catered for in forestry planning and management, it should also make clear how this agenda will be pursued, at least in its 'strategy section'. This is very important because once missing in the 'strategy section' there is a high chance that it will be missing in the Forestry Development Master Plan too.
- The new policy should make provisions for the institution of clear, simplified, decentralized and affordable procedures for small and medium forest enterprises (SMFEs) to access their wood and non-wood raw materials from the forest legally.
- A revised Policy should maximize the rate of social and economic development of the country and secure optimum welfare and adequate means of livelihood for all Ghanaians.
- It is expected that the new policy makes provisions to promote the development of timber plantations to feed the timber industry.



- The new policy should make provisions to enable community-based plantation establishers to obtain harvesting permits from their district forestry offices. The current situation where they have to travel to the national capital for harvesting approval serves as a disincentive to community based plantation development.
- As part of the strategies to promote community based forest livelihoods and enterprises, a Non-timber Forest Products (NTFP) unit should be established within the Forestry Commission to develop, coordinate and regulate NTFPs.

Box 2: Strategic recommendations from stakeholders towards the development of the timber industry

- Develop a sustainable forest resource base and secure raw material supplies:
 - Promote sustainable forest management;
 - Promote reforestation and the improved development of plantation timbers in strategic locations allowing investments in downstream processing; and
 - Facilitate intra-African trade in raw materials between producer countries and resource-poor countries.
- Promote incentive-based policies and regulations:
 - investment charter: increase in investment and technology transfer;
 - national industrialization master plans and basic blueprint for further processing.
- Strengthen institutional capacity:
 - strengthen the human capacity and financial resources of administrations in charge of industry, trade and forests;
 - improve coordination between administration in charge of forests and those of industry, trade and investment;
 - provide training for administration and company personnel;
 - support the development of specialized organizations targeted at the development of forest industries.
- Develop African domestic regional and international markets by:
 - developing policies to promote further processed timber products for domestic and export markets;
 - promoting the utilization of lesser-known species.
- Ensure that primary-processing capacity is adapted to forest production potential.
- Promote and develop small-to-medium sized timber-processing enterprises and the informal sector.



Climate Change and REDD

To address the challenges of deforestation and forest degradation Ghana has embarked on a number of forest and natural resource governance initiatives in recent past. Notable among them are the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) and the multi-donor sector budget support through the Natural Resources and Environmental Governance Programme (NREG). In support of these existing initiatives and policies, Ghana sought to

explore the REDD-plus initiative as an additional mechanism for sustainable forest protection and land-use. Ghana was one of the first African countries to proactively initiate discussions on how REDD-plus initiative could be applied to advance sustainable forest management.

A national Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) was developed with the view to assisting Ghana to prepare itself for

reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and become 'ready' for the implementation of international mechanism for REDD-plus. Consultation and Participation (C&P) process is integral to the development of an effective strategy for REDD-plus. In its design and implementation, the C&P Plan draws on many contributions provided by stakeholders during the REDD Readiness Preparation Proposal development process as well as lessons learned from the development of the FLEGT/ VPA and NREG programme.

Box 3: The Ghana REDD process

Ghana expressed interest in the REDD-plus initiative in 2007 and submitted a Readiness Plan Idea Note, which the World Bank approved in 2008. Later, Ghana developed another document called Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP) which provided details of arrangements Ghana will put in place in order to be ready for the implementation of the REDD-plus initiative.

Implementation of the R-PP which would last for a period of four years (2010-2013) is on-going with financial support from the World Bank. It will involve several processes including widespread awareness creation on REDD-plus. When this phase is successfully executed, Ghana will be ready for full-scale REDD-plus implementation. The whole process in Ghana is being coordinated by the Forestry Commission.

TBI Ghana was involved in the Consultation and Participation process, serving as chair of the consultation working group on Ghana's preparation for REDD-plus Readiness. Major stakeholders including forest communities and traditional authorities would be engaged by the Forestry Commission to share information on Ghana's REDD-plus process to ensure their effective participation in REDD-plus implementation. Here, again, TBI Ghana was engaged by the Forestry Commission to organize a REDD-plus awareness creation and consultation workshop for forest communities and traditional authorities. This resulted in inputs for the development of a brochure by TBI Ghana on 'REDD-plus in Ghana' for the purpose of awareness creation among forest communities and traditional authorities. It is anticipated that this awareness shall enable local stakeholders participate effectively in the design of Ghana's REDD-plus scheme.

Forest Investment Programme

The Forest Investment Programme (FIP) which has the objective of mobilizing significant funds to support developing countries' efforts in reducing deforestation and forest degradation has an ultimate aim of promoting sustainable forest management, leading to emission reductions and the protection of terrestrial carbon sinks. In March 2010, Ghana was selected as one of the countries to implement the Forest Investment Programme and could receive up to \$48 million to pilot her carbon programmes under climate change.

In line with this, a team of experts from the World Bank and the African Development Bank (AfDB) was in the country in September 2010 to undertake a Scoping Mission on FIP. A series of consultations was held with key stakeholders from Government, Civil Society Organisations, Private Sector and Development Partners. TBI Ghana participated in the meeting as a critical stakeholder and made very useful inputs in charting the pathway for the Forest Investment Programme in Ghana.



At the meeting, TBI Ghana noted a clear opportunity for awareness creation on FIP and to seek inputs from local stakeholders in identifying potential options for deploying FIP resources in Ghana. As a follow up to this, TBI Ghana has planned a workshop for key stakeholders on the subject to solicit inputs to feed into Ghana's development of FIP.

Constitutional Review Commission Meeting

TBI Ghana's contribution to policy processes in Ghana transcended the realm of forestry in 2010. The programme was involved in a constitutional review committee meeting aimed at proposing amendments for possible enactment to Ghana's Constitution and the natural resource tenure and governance regimes thereof. The meeting resulted in a memorandum on rights, resources and the constitution submitted to the Constitutional Review Commission by a coalition of five civil society networks, namely, Civil Society Coalition on Land, Forest Watch Ghana, Network for Women's Rights, National Coalition on Mining and Peasant Farmers' Association of Ghana.

VPA Process

TBI Ghana's contribution to the implementation of Voluntary Partnership Agreement in Ghana remains largely significant. In 2010, TBI Ghana maintained its status as one of two representatives of civil society organisations on the VPA Multi-Stakeholder Implementation Committee (M-SIC). This committee has oversight of the overall implementation of the VPA in Ghana. Among other things, it coordinates the delivery of outputs of various tasks to ensure that VPA objectives are met; ensures that VPA implementation continues to be linked to national aspirations; and maintains open communication with relevant stakeholders on VPA implementation.

TBI Ghana actively participated in VPA M-SIC meetings and supported tasks related to VPA communications among national stakeholders. On January 28 when EU delegates and Ghanaian forest stakeholders (civil society and timber industry) met to discuss status of VPA implementation in Ghana since signing the agreement, TBI Ghana was on hand to share in identifying key challenges to the implementation of the agreement.



Promoting Dialogue and Uptake

TBI Ghana creates and participates in national platforms for the exchange of knowledge and mutual learning, discusses topical forest issues and actively pursues the practical application and adoption of information and knowledge from the programme into policy and practice. We therefore place special emphasis on communication, dissemination and creation of knowledge-based dialogue between forest stakeholders. While doing this, TBI Ghana consciously work to maintain its position as an impartial and independent broker of knowledge and information.

Chainsaw milling in Ghana is one vexed issue which TBI Ghana is at the moment addressing by harnessing viewpoints from relevant stakeholders through dialogue platform for workable consensus-based action plans. In 2010, two national and 16 district-level multi-stakeholder dialogue (MSD) meetings were held. Feedback mechanism to allow inputs from stakeholders into decision making and vice versa is one key thrust of the multi-stakeholder dialogue.

Box 4: Key outcomes of the various MSD meetings

- Consensus was reached that a policy option that allows sawmillers and artisanal millers to supply the domestic market with legal lumber is preferred.
- Strategies were developed for engaging with policy makers on the preferred policy option.
- A proposal on the definition of artisanal milling was made based on eight criteria as follows:
 - Equipment should not be free-hand chainsaw but be guided tool, mobile, framed and motorized.
 - Should operate in both in-situ and ex-situ milling on and off-reserve areas.
 - Scale of operation should be based on the horse power of the equipment.
 - Markets should be strictly domestic.
 - Access to timber resources should conform to legal regimes and permits.
 - Fiscal and social obligations such as stumpage fees and Social Responsibility Agreements should be met.
 - Operators of the equipments should be trained, certified and registered.
 - Equipment should be registered and licensed.

In 2010, TBI Ghana organised an international workshop aimed at informing policy processes in Ghana and the EU on anticipated adverse impacts of the implementation of Voluntary Partnership Agreement on livelihoods. It was also meant to chart the way forward in mitigating these impacts by means of social safeguard mechanisms. Participants were drawn from policy, research, academia, civil society, forest practitioners, forest users and the media. The Minister responsible for the forest sector also sat through the discussion.



Apart from participants from Ghana, delegates were also drawn from Cameroon, Denmark, Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, and the Netherlands.

The workshop resulted in far-reaching recommendations for the consideration of policy makers in both the EU and Ghana towards mitigating adverse impacts of VPA implementation. Already, the multi-stakeholder implementation committee of the VPA has taken up these recommendations for possible operationalisation.

Box 5: Steps towards mitigating negative social impacts in the implementation of the VPA

To ensure that social safeguards contribute to good forest governance under FLEGT/VPA, the workshop made the following recommendations regarding the implementation of the agreement:

- Dedicate a special working group for elaborating social safeguards to mitigate anticipated adverse socio-economic impacts of the Agreement;
- Strengthen the ongoing forest policy and legislative review processes through multiple stakeholder engagement as a way to better incorporate social safeguards in law and policies;
- Incorporate VPA issues into broad societal debate on “sustainable” and “socially just” forestry in Ghana through platforms such as the multi-stakeholder dialogue on domestic lumber supply and forest forums.
- Strengthen the VPA development process in Ghana by supporting civil society, small and medium scale lumber industries, producer associations, and community representatives to participate meaningfully in VPA implementation.
- Further research on those groups that are expected to be most adversely affected by the VPA implementation to be able to design and prioritize tailor-made safeguard mechanisms “at the earliest”;
- Learn from available regional lessons and best practices in VPA design and implementation on how to mitigate negative implications for forest actors; and
- In order to get more clarity on the concept of social safeguards in the FLEGT Action Plan, the EU should develop a briefing note in the FLEGT series elaborating social safeguards in VPA processes.



Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening

TBI Ghana recognizes that adequate local capacity and strong institutions are crucial for the generation and use of relevant information on forest-dependent livelihoods. Training and institutional strengthening therefore spearhead the programme. Besides the training of mid-career professionals and graduate students, the programme supports undergraduate students, and offers internship opportunities to both national and foreign students to acquire on-the-job skills and experience. In 2010, TBI Ghana hosted ten students associated with northern universities who were in Ghana for various purposes.

Moreover, a small grant facility supported the fieldwork of forty-one students from KNUST, the highest in the annals of the programme. That was besides the communication training of twenty-three final year students of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR) of KNUST in scientific writing, presentation skills, proposal writing and citation facilitated by the Programme Director and Communication Officer. Priority was given to female students.

Table 1: TBI Ghana’s support to students studying in northern universities in 2010

Nationality	#	Institution	Study Level	Purpose
Canada	1	Lakehead University, Canada	MSc.	Internship
Denmark	1	University of Copenhagen, Denmark	PhD.	Explore possibilities for collaboration of research.
Ecuador	1	University of Freiburg, Germany	MSc.	IAESTE Exchange programme
Germany	1	Bielefeld University, Germany	MSc.	Field data collection for thesis.
Ghana	2	Freiburg University, Germany	MSc.	Field data collection for thesis.
Ghana	1	Freiburg University, Germany	MSc.	Internship
Netherlands	2	University of Amsterdam, Netherlands	MSc.	Field data collection for thesis.
Netherlands	1	Utrecht University, Netherlands	MSc.	Field data collection for thesis.

As part of its change process towards the use of Integrated Natural Resource Management approaches in addressing societal challenges, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources of KNUST is moving away from the traditional practice of informing stakeholders about programmes they have already developed towards a practice of incorporating stakeholder inputs at the developmental stage of its curricula. TBI Ghana actively contributed to this process aimed at addressing existing competence gaps within the agriculture and natural resource sectors. Related to this, TBI Ghana has already initiated discussions with CANR for partnership and the eventual institutionalization of communication training in the College’s curriculum to sustain the interest engendered in students by our communication training.

During a joint symposium with the Students’ Representative Council of the Faculty of Forest Resources Technology of KNUST, TBI Ghana extended capacity building of Natural Resource students to over 130 students on the theme “Potential job opportunities for prospective natural resources managers in Ghana”. This aside, TBI Ghana participated in discussions on the theme “Participatory approach - A sure means to mitigating climate change” organised by Renewable Natural Resources Student Association (RENARSA) as

part of her 26th anniversary celebration at the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

To build the capacity of research scientists in scientific writing skills, TBI Ghana organised a training workshop on the topic “Writing to be published” for our key partners. Facilitated by Dr. Mirjam Ros-Tonen, of University of Amsterdam, Netherlands, the training was attended by twenty participants from research and academia.

Beyond the academic target, TBI Ghana also strengthened the capacities of forest users and traditional authorities in sustainable forest development through education and awareness creation efforts in collaboration with our partners in civil society. TBI Ghana supported forest forums in the Nkawie and Juaso Forest Districts on forest rights, accountability and transparency. The programme also engaged with forest actors in Wa and Walewale Forest Districts in Northern Ghana and the Assin Fosu and Nkawie Forest Districts in Southern Ghana on unacceptable forest practices in Ghana and their management.





Contributing Knowledge to Forest Management

Over the years, TBI Ghana has promoted the availability and use of adequate and relevant information for decision making with regard to forest-dependent livelihoods. This is done by generating knowledge focused on the needs of key stakeholders in Ghana through research. Each research is carried out in partnership with local and/or international institutions. In Ghana, our key research partner is the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG) of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

In June 2010, FORIG supervised a team of experts commissioned by TBI Ghana to conduct cost-benefit analyses of three policy options recommended for supplying legal lumber to the domestic market. This aside, FORIG is leading the implementation of yet another TBI Ghana research project which aims to develop alternative scenarios for the management of on-reserve and off-reserve forest resources in Ghana. This and other TBI Ghana-supported PhD studies were executed in partnership with southern and northern universities in 2010. One of the studies was successfully completed, remaining three at various stages of completion.

Table 2: Profile of PhD research supported by TBI Ghana

Title	Objectives	Partner(s)	Key activities in 2010
Conflict Over Forest and Tree Related Livelihoods in the Governance Context of Ghana High Forest Zone	To analyze the dynamics of forest and tree-related livelihood conflicts and management pathways in the context of forest governance in Ghana.	University of Amsterdam and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)	Data analysis, developed four info-sheets, contributed script to TBI Ghana workshop proceedings 8, made a presentation at an international seminar, developed peer reviewed manuscripts for peer reviewed journals. Work expected to be completed in 2012.
Scenarios analysis for sustainable management of Ghana's High Forests	To develop consistent scenarios of timber production in Ghana's High Forest Zone under different constraints.	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana and Wageningen University	Presentation of research results at IUFRO conference, draft paper submitted to TBI Ghana, two other scientific papers drafted.
Forest Governance Arrangements and Innovations for Improved Forest and Tree-Related Livelihoods in Ghana's High Forest Zone	To examine the role of forest governance in the context of governance arrangements and innovations, in contributing to improved forest and tree-related livelihoods and poverty reduction in forest area communities.	University of Amsterdam and KNUST	Data collection, data verification visits, data analysis, preparation of two articles for publishing. Work expected to be completed in 2012.
Governance of timber resources in the High Forest Zone of Ghana: A positive political economy perspective.	To analyze the impact of the current regulation and management of timber resources in Ghana on the resource and to ascertain the extent to which this may contribute to outcomes such as high rates of deforestation and illegal logging that can be observed in Ghana.	Danish Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning	Completed

Three of our four MSc. research projects were also successfully completed at various northern universities. Our small grant scheme which aims to support the field work of undergraduate students resulted in about twenty theses on various subjects related to natural resources.

Table 3: Profile of MSc research supported by TBI Ghana			
Title	Objectives	Partner(s)	Key activities in 2010
Management of timber resources in areas outside forest reserves in Ghana: The role of stakeholders.	Contribute to the efforts of sustainable off-reserve timber resources management. Provide information for policy consideration on tenure of naturally occurring timber tree and framework for economic benefit sharing.	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana, University of Freiburg	Field data collection and Presentation of final thesis. Completed
Species survival and growth in a Moist Semi-Deciduous Forest in Ghana: comparison of monoculture and mixed-species plantations	To examine the effect and growth performance of tree species diversity in pest management	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana, University of Freiburg	Field data collection and Presentation of final thesis. Completed
Assessing the impacts of silvicultural treatment systems on ecosystem services	To contribute to the adoption of forest management strategies appropriate for multiple benefits with a major focus on sustainable environmental services	University of Twente (Faculty of Geo-information Science and Earth Observation), (KNUST)	Field data collection and Presentation of final thesis. Completed
Community forest rights and implications for local livelihoods	To evaluate the evolution and status of community forest rights, their administration and impact for local livelihood development.	KNUST	To be completed in 2011.



Partnerships and Linkage

TBI Ghana reckons that in dealing with the challenges of sustainable forest management, pooling diverse expertise and competencies is required. The philosophy is that a working system that represents different views on a perceived challenge is more likely to engender well-informed and feasible solutions that are broadly owned. Thus in 2010, TBI Ghana created new and strengthened existing partnerships by undertaking a number of activities with other organisations. Some of these activities sought to connect national and international forest agendas.

With Civil Society Organisations

The border between Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire intersects major forest and mineral resources, access to which has become a subject of border conflict posing real challenges to both countries. In January 2010, TBI Ghana participated in a collaborative effort of developing and implementing a

coherent conflict capability programme that would address the needs of stakeholders during a workshop organised by CARE International Ghana.

TBI Ghana was also involved in other initiatives implemented by civil society organisations. Notable among them was the Governance Initiative for Rights & Accountability in Forest Management (GIRAF). The project, funded by the EU (with counterpart funding from CARE-Denmark) aims to increase public awareness through the promotion of platforms for multi-stakeholder dialogue and capacity building among NGO's and forest communities for effective monitoring of compliance with national legislation for forest resources. It also seeks to support dialogue among local stakeholders at forest forum meetings.

Under the GIRAF project, TBI Ghana planned, organised and executed forest forums between October and December 2010 in twelve communities in Juaso and Nkawie Forest Districts of the Ashanti Region. This aside, TBI Ghana provided technical backstopping to the development of a communication strategy for the GIRAF project. Organisations involved in partnership on the GIRAF project include Civic Response, CARE International Ghana, Friends of the Earth Ghana and Centre for Indigenous Knowledge and Organizational Development (CIKOD)



TBI Ghana supported the Ghana programme of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-Ghana) on the promotion of pro-poor REDD options as part of national REDD readiness processes in Ghana. The aim was to strengthen and shape pro-poor options and elements as core principles of national REDD actions and strategies. This aside, TBI Ghana shared in brainstorming

session organised by IUCN Ghana on outputs of various analytical studies and communication planning potentials of Growing Forests Partnership in Ghana.

In 2010, Forest Watch Ghana remained TBI Ghana's single most important partner in civil society. The Programme participated in meetings of the coalition during which capacity building of grassroot organisations was

undertaken. TBI Ghana contributed to a number of pro-poor policy discussions organised by Forest Watch Ghana and partners and supported the implementation of community forest forums. The coalition also provided a platform for TBI Ghana to exchange lessons with other civil society groups.

Box 6: About Forest Watch Ghana

Forest Watch Ghana (FWG) is a national campaign vehicle made up of over thirty civil society organisations and many individuals linked to forest community-based organisations and committed to the rights of poor forest users. Since its formation, FWG has actively advocated pro-poor policy changes in the forestry sector in Ghana.



With Government

TBI Ghana's partnership with state institutions reached a new height in 2010. Besides the programme's contributions to national policy processes, TBI Ghana partnered the Forestry Commission in key activities that aimed at contributing to sustainable forest management in Ghana. A case in point is the programme: "Moving forward in the implementation of Non-legally Binding Instrument on all types of forests in Ghana: A contribution to Reducing Deforestation and Forest degradation" (NLBI).

TBI Ghana signed a partnership agreement with the Forestry Commission and the Food and Agriculture Organisation in respect of the implementation of two NLBI projects. The first is intended to build the capacity of local communities and key stakeholders to enable them play their expected watch dog roles in combating corruption and other unacceptable practices in the forest sector. This is to be pursued through making information on unacceptable practices in the forest sector available to these stakeholders and training them in how to use a toolkit for combating corruption and other

unacceptable practices. The second is intended to develop a blueprint for the development of district forestry programmes and training materials that could be used to build the capacity of selected District Assemblies on the development and implementation of forestry programmes. Toward the implementation of the projects, a number of district level meetings and data collection activities were conducted in four administrative districts of the Savannah and High Forest Zones in 2010. The projects are expected to end in 2011.

To promote uptake and application of outcomes of TBI Ghana's multi-stakeholder process under the EU chainsaw project, TBI Ghana worked jointly with the Timber Industry Development Division (TIDD) of the Forestry Commission. TIDD has been mandated to address the problem associated with domestic lumber supply in Ghana.

TIDD's approach to finding solution to the supply problem and proposed policy directions are similar to that of TBI Ghana. A partnership between these two parallel processes was therefore sought. Two joint meetings were held in 2010 resulting in key decisions related to the supply of legal lumber to the domestic market.



Box 7: Key decisions reached during TBI Ghana's joint meeting with TIDD

- Free hand chainsaw milling is wasteful and should remain banned.
- TBI Ghana and TIDD shall closely work together to present selected policy option to policy makers and key stakeholders.
- To assure favorable policy response, TIDD should lead the joint process while TBI Ghana facilitates and supports it.
- New regulations need to be put in place to ensure fairness to all responsible actors who shall be supplying the domestic market with legal lumber.
- TIDD and TBI Ghana should meet with the timber industry to address their concerns.



- Chainsaw operators should be considered in the use of mobile mills to supply the domestic market with legal lumber.

- TIDD and TBI Ghana should jointly prepare an action plan on agreements made and outcomes of meetings.

- Recommended/selected policy option for addressing chainsaw milling

in Ghana is that saw millers and artisanal millers to supply the domestic market with legal lumber.

TBI Ghana also contributed to several meetings organised by the Forestry Commission including those related to REDD-plus, FAO/ACP/FLEGT project, VPA communication and stakeholder consultative workshops to review management plans of forest reserves.

With International Organisations

Under the coordination of the International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), TBI Ghana spearheaded activities of the Forest Connect project in Ghana. The project which forms part of an international agenda to promote small and medium forest enterprises (SMFEs) in 13 countries commenced in 2008 in Ghana and is in its third phase.

In 2010, the project had the overall aim of facilitating access of SMFEs in Ghana to existing support services and opportunities. This was to be pursued through the development of a sourcebook on SMFEs in Ghana to create awareness of the existing support services among SMFE proprietors. To this end, relevant materials on SMFEs, service providers and proprietors were gathered and reviewed.

A national survey of key SMFE activity centres, key actors, major markets and service providers was also carried out. Following this, a draft sourcebook ‘Small and Medium Forest Enterprises in Ghana: A Simplified sourcebook on enterprise characteristics, activity centres, product markets, support institutions and service providers’ was prepared in 2010. Printing of the sourcebook is expected in 2011, following which an awareness creation workshop on the sourcebook shall be held.



A partnership agreement between the Directorate-General for International Cooperation of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs Wageningen University and Research Centre and Tropenbos International resulted in a research project “Illegal or Incompatible: Managing the consequences of timber legality standards on local livelihoods” (IOI project). The project assesses how timber trade agreements impact on the livelihoods of forest dependent people, and searches for governance mechanisms to mitigate these impacts.

On November 25th and 26th, 2010 TBI Ghana organised a two-day international workshop aimed at informing policy processes in Ghana and the EU on anticipated adverse impacts of the implementation of Voluntary Partnership Agreement on local livelihoods. Policy makers, legislators, researchers, academia, forest managers and practitioners, timber industry and civil society groups took part in the workshop. Apart from participants from Ghana, delegates were drawn from Cameroon, Denmark Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia and the Netherlands.



The annual meeting of the International Project Coordination Committee (IPCC) of the EU chainsaw milling project took place in Ghana in 2010. The IPCC comprises Project Management Teams from Ghana and Guyana and the overall Project Coordinator from the Netherlands. The IPCC meets annually to review progress made in the implementation of the project in the current year and plan for the ensuing year.

Programme Partners

National

- Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology - KNUST
 - College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, CANR
 - Department of Silviculture
 - Department of Fisheries and Watershed Management
 - Department of Agro-forestry
 - Faculty of Forest Resources Technology
 - Bureau of Integrated Rural Development
 - Faculty of Agriculture
 - Department of Planning
 - Department of Agricultural Engineering
 - Faculty of Biosciences
- Forestry Research Institute of Ghana - FORIG (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, CSIR)
- Forestry Commission - FC
 - Forest Services Division
 - Resource Management Support Centre
 - Timber Industry Development Division
 - VPA Secretariat
 - Wildlife Division

International

- University of Amsterdam - UvA
 - AMIDst,
 - ECDO
- Wageningen University and Research Centre - WUR
 - Nature Conservation and Forest Policy
 - Centre for Development Innovation
- University of Freiburg: Department of Forest Biometry
- International Centre for development oriented Research in Agriculture - ICRA
- International Institute for Environment and Development - IIED
- University of Twente (Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC))



Communication Outputs

TBI Ghana undertook a number of communication activities to increase corporate visibility and identity among partners and the general public. In 2010, besides the corporate brochure, TBI Ghana combined press briefings, newspaper article and banners to increase the local awareness of the existence and the focus of the Programme. A radio panel discussion was employed to engage the general public on the state of Ghana’s forests, the Tropenbos Ghana Programme and activities marking ten years of Tropenbos International in Ghana.

Special attention was given to publications. Seven infosheets were produced under the research project, “Governance for sustainable forest and tree-related livelihoods in Ghana’s High Forest Zone”. The Forest Connect Ghana project resulted in the production of a book “Hidden Forestry Revealed”. Under the chainsaw project, another book “Chainsaw Milling in Ghana: Context, drivers and impacts” was produced. (All of these are downloadable from www.tropenbos.org).

TBI Ghana produced one workshop proceedings, two infosheets and one policy brief under the IOI project workshop. (Downloadable from www.vpa-livelihoods.org)

Table 3: 2010 Publication List	
Title	Type
Timber legality, local livelihoods and social safeguard	Document: workshop proceedings
Social safeguard for actors who will be potentially affected by VPA implementation in Ghana	Infosheet
Research agenda for managing the consequences of VPA implementation on livelihoods	Infosheet
Hidden forestry revealed	Book
Chainsaw milling in Ghana: context, drivers and impacts	Book
Geo-information applications for off-reserve tree management	Book
Social safeguard in the Ghana-EU Voluntary Partnership Agreement: triggering improved forest governance or an afterthought	Policy brief
Forest and tree-based livelihoods in Ghana's High forest Zone: timber from forests and farmland	Infosheet
Governance for sustainable forest and tree-related livelihoods in Ghana's High Forest Zone	Infosheet
The importance of non-timber forest products to people's livelihoods in the High Forest Zone	Infosheet
Forest-related livelihoods in Ghana's High Forest Zone: The Modified Taungya System	Infosheet
Forest and tree-based livelihoods in Ghana's High Forest Zone: Reforestation schemes	Infosheet
Forest governance: What it is and what it looks like?	Infosheet
Actors in Ghanaian forest use and governance	Infosheet
Potential of on-farm timber revenue in reducing poverty	MSc Thesis
Management of timber resources in areas outside forest reserves: roles of stakeholders	MSc Thesis

Assessing the impact of silvicultural treatment systems on ecosystem services: a case of carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation	MSc Thesis
What are the consequences of the introduction of Modified Taungya System in Ghana's high forest zone for the livelihoods of forest fringe communities?	MSc Thesis
Access to forest resources: using non-timber forest products in Ghana's high forest zone to improve rural livelihoods	MSc Thesis
The impact of forest governance arrangements on the livelihoods of bush meat hunters and traders in Ghana's high forest zone	MSc Thesis
Benefits of forest plantation development for local people's livelihoods in Ghana's high forest zone: a comparison between the Community Forest Plantation Development and HIPC programmes	MSc Thesis
Small scale exporting sawmills and the VPA	MSc Thesis
Spatial arrangements and the long term success of the Modified Taungya System of plantation development	MSc Thesis



Alumni Strategy

TBI Ghana alumni comprise all persons who have directly benefitted from the programme in one way or another. Notable among them are our PhD and MSc students, beneficiaries of TBI Ghana's small grants scheme and communication trainings as well as mid-career professionals who have been supported on short courses either home or abroad. Their number runs into several hundreds and still counting. In 2010, TBI Ghana initiated a video documentary that prominently features alumni. The aim is to track the impact of TBI Ghana's human capacity building efforts on sustainable forest management and development in Ghana. This is besides the regular updates on alumni in the programme's database.

TBI Ghana's 10th anniversary celebration offered a golden opportunity for alumni to get in touch with base. They featured in the inauguration of the anniversary, a sporting event and a special evening of re-union aimed at fostering interaction amongst themselves and with staff of TBI Ghana. At the moment, TBI Ghana alumni are found working as researchers at the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana, lecturers at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, and forest managers at the Forestry Commission. Others are absorbed by NGOs and civil society groups, Ghana's Development partners, other governmental organisations and the timber industry.

Key Events

In 2010, TBI Ghana organised or participated in the following key events.

Event	Date	Venue	Organisers
Launching of National Forest Plantation Development Programme by the President of Ghana	January 20	Abofour, near Kumasi	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources and the Forestry Commission
Seminar: Potential job opportunities for prospective natural resource managers	February 22	Sunyani	TBI Ghana, Environmental Solutions Club of KNUST
National REDD Steering Committee meeting	March 30	Accra	Forestry Commission
EU Chainsaw Project Advisory Committee meeting	March 31	Accra	TBI Ghana
National Forest Forum Annual Meeting	April 8-9	Kumasi	NFF
Forest Connect Project Steering Committee	April 16	Kumasi	TBI Ghana
Commissioning of Conference Centre Complex under the NPT project	April 29	Kumasi	BIRD, KNUST
Mass presentations by small grants' beneficiaries on their undergraduate theses.	May 12-13	Kumasi	TBI Ghana
TBI Ghana in a radio panel discussion on Hello FM	June 17	Kumasi	TBI Ghana
Launching of TBI Ghana's 10 th anniversary celebration	June 18	Kumasi	TBI Ghana
Grand durbar of forest communities, local government and traditional authorities.	June 24	Asumura, near Goaso	TBI Ghana
Annual meeting of General Board of Tropenbos International	July 5-9	Kumasi	TBI Ghana



Public lecture on 'Forest, people and livelihoods' by Prof. Ton Dietz.	July 7	Kumasi	TBI Ghana
Partnership Agreement signed between TBI Ghana and the FC/FAO on the implementation of NLBI projects	September 23	Accra	FAO
Workshop: Making the Revised Forest and Wildlife Policy Responsive to the Livelihood Challenges in Ghana'	September 9	Kumasi	TBI Ghana
Forests for the future: Sustaining Society and the Environment	September 17-20	South Korea	IUFRO
Inception meeting of Pro-Formal, CIFOR project on the informal timber market	September 25-30	Yaoundé	CIFOR, Cameroon
Joint TBI Ghana and TIDD meeting on options for supplying legal lumber on the Ghanaian market.	October 29	Accra	TBI Ghana, TIDD
Communication training for final year undergraduate students of KNUST	November 12	Kumasi	TBI Ghana
Joint Monitoring Review Mechanism under the implementation of the VPA	November 17	Accra	EU/Ghana Government
International workshop: FLEGT/VPA and implications for livelihoods in Ghana	November 25-26	Elmina	TBI Ghana
Public lecture: Multi-level governance of timber legality: FLEGT, local livelihoods and social safeguards by Prof. Bas Arts	November 30	Kumasi	TBI Ghana
Bi-national Steering Committee meeting	December 2	Akosombo	TBI Ghana
Revision of Ghana's REDD+ Readiness Plan Proposal	December 17	Accra	World Bank

Bi-National Steering Committee

TBI Ghana has a 14-member Bi-National Steering Committee (BNC) that provides oversight. The BNC ensures that TBI Ghana stays on course and addresses issues of national relevance. It comprises representatives of key forestry stakeholders in Ghana and of Tropenbos International. It meets at least once a year to receive progress reports and approve work-plans for the ensuing year. The full list as at December 2010 is as follows:

Table 6: Composition of the TBI Ghana BNC in 2010

Name	Organisation	Position
Mr. Samuel Afari Dartey	Forestry Commission (FC)	Chief Executive Officer & Board Chairman, TBI Ghana
Dr. Victor Agyeman	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	Director
Prof. William Oduro	Faculty of Renewable Natural Resources, KNUST	Dean
Mr. Edward Obiaw	Resource Management Support Centre, FC	Director & Programme Coordinator, TBI Ghana
Prince Nana Yaw Adomako	Ghana Commercial Bank	Asumurahene, representing landowners
Mrs. Edith Abroquah	Forest Services Division, FC	Representative for Women in Forestry
Nana Adu Nsiah	Wildlife Commission, FC	Executive Director
Mr. Albert Katako	Care International Ghana	Civil society representative
Dr. Kyereh Boateng	Faculty of Renewable Natural Resources, KNUST	Scientific Coordinator, TBI Ghana
Mr. Jonathan Allotey	Environmental Protection Agency	Executive Director
Mr. Musah Abu-Juam	Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources	Technical Director
Mr. K. S. Nketiah	Tropenbos International Ghana	Programme Director (Resource Person)
Mr. Hans Vellema	Tropenbos International, Netherlands	Programme Coordinator
Prof. Rene Boot	Tropenbos International, Netherlands	Director

Programme Staff

The TBI Ghana Programme is implemented by a Programme Management Unit, comprising the Programme Director, Scientific Coordinator, Programme Coordinator and Communication Officer with general oversight from the Bi-National Steering Committee. The Programme maintains a small secretariat of six full-time staff; there are other high calibre professional staff recruited for specific projects which are externally-funded.



Below is the full complement of professional and support staff.

Mr. Samuel K. Nketiah	Programme Director
Mrs. Olivia Ansu Amponsah	Programme Assistant
Mr. Michael Zusain	Accounts Officer
Mr. Bossman Owusu	Communication Officer

EU-Chainsaw Project

Mr. James Mckeown Parker	National Project Coordinator
Mrs. Mercy Owusu Ansah	National Facilitator
Ms. Jane Aggrey	Communication Officer
Mr. Emmanuel Fosu	Project Assistant
Mr. Peter Ackromond	Driver/Handyman

Mr. Paul Osei Tutu	Forest Connect Project Officer
Mr. Evans Sampene	Project Assistant
Mr. Obed Owusu-Addai	Project Assistant
Miss Eva Kyei-Sampong	Intern (National Service)
Mr. Kwame Osei	Accounts Clerk
Mr. Samuel Dankwa	Driver/Handyman
Mr. William Tortoe Asamoah	Driver/Handyman
Mrs. Judith Acheampong	Front Desk Manager
Ms. Vivian Haward	Office Assistant
Ms. Sarah Eshun	Office Assistant
Mr. Kwame Appiah	Groundsman

Dr. Kyereh Boateng	Scientific Coordinator
Mr. Edward Obiaw	Programme Coordinator

Finances

TBI Ghana has two main sources of funding for its activities; these are core funds from the Directorate General for International Cooperation of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DGIS) received through the parent organisation, Tropenbos International; and funds raised from external sources through the writing of proposals. Collaboration and partnership are two key strategies that the programme uses to access extra resources through in-kind contributions from partners.

Financial resources irrespective of the source are deployed in key result areas of generation of knowledge, developing human capacity, institutional strengthening, communication and dialogue and in linking national and international forestry agendas. To ensure accountability, TBI Ghana reports monthly on its financial transactions to the head office, using the EXACT GLOBE software and subjects itself each year to external financial auditing by an international audit firm. Revenue flows and expenditures for 2010 are indicated below.

Table 7: 2010 Annual Accounts

Revenues	Euros (€)	Cedis (GH¢)
DGIS funds	229,607.00	435,622.00
Forest Connect-IIED	34,245.00	67,902.00
NLBI-FAO	11,408.00	21,450.00
EU-Chainsaw Project	135,393.00	256,873.00
Others	5,330.00	10,021.00
Total	415,983.00	791,868.00

Expenditures	Euros (€)	Cedis (GH¢)
Programme Activities	154,484.00	290,445.00
Organisational Cost	115,023.00	216,254.00
Programme Development and Monitoring	1,181.00	2,220.00
Consultancy Projects	27,767.00	52,205.00
EU-Chainsaw Project	135,393.00	256,873.00
Total	433,848.00	817,997.00

By making knowledge work for forests and people, Tropenbos International contributes to well-informed decision making for improved management and governance of tropical forests. Our longstanding local presence and ability to bring together local, national and international partners make us a trusted partner in sustainable development.



www.tropenbos.org