

Country report Finland

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UEF

- During last year, large joint programme “High Value Biocarbon Development” was started the CIFOR, the University of Helsinki, and the University of Eastern Finland.
- The Programme aims to demonstrate the multiple developmental and environmental wins that result from a high value biocarbon approach to climate change and variability in large landscapes principally in Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone and Guinea.
- It includes several components and partly restoration related activities are included. University of Eastern Finland is coordinating package, which is focusing on assessing future energy and fuel wood needs and working with villages to identify feasible strategies for meeting these needs.

UEF Ghana activities

- The dry semideciduous forest zone is one of the most fragile and highly threatened ecosystems in Ghana. Recurrent bushfires and other anthropogenic disturbances have degraded this forest zone and converted a large proportion to savannah woodland.
- The study aims to
 - investigate the levels of phenotypic plasticity and ecogeographic and morphometric variation as well as similarity among populations of *Khaya anthotheca* and *Khaya ivorensis* with respect to leaf morphology as a basis for developing a preliminary framework for seed zonation for restoration;
 - determine the effects of stand structure and native tree density on the recruitment of mahogany species in line-enrichment planting; and
 - assess the effects of mahogany species on resident or native tree species diversity and soil chemical properties in restorations of degraded semi-deciduous forest ecosystems in Ghana

UH

- Sudan is one of main research areas of University of Helsinki.
- A Nile Basin Community Watershed Management Project is focusing to capacity building and training aims at communities and the support of institutions using local academic and technical expertise in the design and implementation of curricula and programmes.
- Using evidence from the field is the basis for developing useable tools for practical watershed management - Community Watershed Management Plans (CWMp) and Community-based PartIcipatory Watershed Development Guidelines (CBPWDG).
- A few, dryland management studies have been completed during recent years - Mustafa Fahmi: "Community-based acacia forests management for improved land productivity and livelihood in Sudan" and Wafa Abaker: "Dryland carbon dynamics in Sudan"

Training and extension

- The training related projects have been part of University level activities. Project “Higher Education Exchange in Forest Sciences between Ethiopia, Sudan and Finland” was implemented by UH. Exchange of staff and students between the three countries, and (from 2007 onwards) annual intensive courses in Sudan or Ethiopia mainly for participants from those countries on sustainable land management and production system rehabilitation using agroforestry as a tool, and on monitoring techniques for climate change and carbon sequestration in dryland agroforestry systems.
- To provide students in the UH and partner institutions in the Sudan and Ethiopia with up-to-date information and methodologies in forestry so as to respond to the increasing challenge for sustainable management of forests and related natural resources under anticipated climate change

BIODEV - Sustainable Wood energy



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Project activities

- Participatory value chain analysis conducted on four priority trees species *Vitellaria paradoxa* (Karité) and *Parkia biglobosa* (Néré) in Burkina Faso, and *Anacardium occidentale* (cashew nut) and *Elaies guineensis* (oil palm) in Sierra Leone. The establishment of the multi-actor platforms were initiated taking into consideration existing networks.
- Establishment of Rural Resource Centers (RRCs) in Burkina Faso with a production of about 23,000 planting materials for 10 species on-station in Mali and Burkina Faso; and 2,000 planting materials of 7 species by farmers in Sierra Leone. An integrated soil fertility management experiment was established in Burkina Faso, while an experiment demonstrating the effect of sowing methods on rice (the staple crop) was established in Sierra Leone.

Project activities

- Household surveys conducted in Burkina Faso, and a network of learning to strengthen capacity building with and through National public and private universities in Burkina Faso setup. The Burkina Faso country profile document is being reviewed. Assessment of the forest co-management model in Guinea is on-going while plans were advanced to launch the assessment of co-management attempts in Sierra Leone and to conduct a socio-economic baseline study.
- Training was conducted for local staff on above ground biomass measurements and data collection completed in both Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone. The desk review of wood energy and a survey with interviews of key informants in both countries is also completed.

Project activities

- Field data collection from Taita (Kenya), Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone was completed. National partners were trained in land health surveillance and field data collection for measuring above and below ground carbon stocks in the project sites. Preliminary results of carbon estimates using LiDAR data - Taita, in Kenya are available as well as tree structural composition, tree diversity and land cover from LDSF data collected at the sentinel sites in Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone.

Thank you!

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