



World Food
Programme

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Republic of Ghana at a glance

South – South and Triangular Cooperation
(SSTC) Country Project

Supported by the Ministry of Agriculture
and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China

May 2023



REPUBLIC OF GHANA

Capacity Strengthening and Value Chain Development for Smallholders, Post-harvest Loss Management and Food Systems in support of Ghana Smallholder Farmers E-Commerce Access (SFEA) initiative Implementation through SSTC.

OBJECTIVE

To enhance food systems and value chains, strengthen private-sector capacity to produce affordable, safe, and accessible nutritious foods, create demand for nutritious products through public-private partnerships, market the products through a network of retailers, and build awareness and stimulate demand for the consumption of nutritious foods through social and behavior change communication

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Ministry of Food and Agriculture of the Republic of Ghana (MOFA)
Ghana Commodity Exchange (GCX)
National Food buffer Stock Company (NAFCO)
Chamber of Agribusiness, Ghana

PHASE OF THE INITIATIVE

III (July – December 2022)

THEMATIC AREAS



Value Chain Development
for Smallholder Farmers



Post-harvest Loss
Management and
Food Systems



Innovative Poverty
Alleviation Initiative,
including rural e-commerce

SSTC MODALITIES



Workshops (Webinar)

32 PEOPLE ENGAGED



30 at the institutional level
(24 men and 6 women)



2 at the grassroots level
(1 man and 1 woman)

TECHNICAL PARTNERS INVOLVED IN THE SSTC ACTIVITY

Ministry of Agriculture and
Rural Affairs of the People's
Republic of China

WFP Centre of Excellence for
Rural Transformation in the
People's Republic of China
(China)

Private sector

International Organization

Henan University
of Technology



Development challenge and the SSTC solution

Over the past 20 years, the Republic of Ghana (RoG) has made progress in reducing poverty and hunger among its population. However, improvements at the national level mask huge inequalities between the north and the south of the country, as well as between rural and urban areas. Hunger and malnutrition persist primarily in northern Ghana, as well as in many rural and peri urban communities across the country.

The WFP-MARA SSTC project in the RoG supports the Government of Ghana in its endeavor for rural transformation through facilitating smallholder farmers' access to structured markets and financial services. In particular, the pilot initiative is mainly focused on building the capacity of government agencies and ministries to sustainably support agricultural value chain activities.

This is ultimately aimed at reducing high post-harvest losses and thereby improving quality and safety standards. The pilot project also aimed at building the capacity of government agencies like NAFCO and GCX to create sustainable structures and systems that facilitate access to better markets for farmers' products.

Through this arrangement GCX and NAFCO, thanks to the successful experience of China, will promote e-commerce models, and innovations that will enhance key services in the value chain with particular attention to women and young people.

In China, innovative and digitalized models, such as grain bank and an e-trading platform, were adopted to support smallholder market access and better post-harvest management. The grain bank supports smallholders from grain storage and processing to financial services, among other activities.

There are large grain banks in Shandong, Henan, Heilongjiang, and other major grain-producing areas in China. The e-trading platform is another model showcasing the informatized and digitalized grain storage to support smallholder market access. China has gained experience from the past decades in the above-mentioned models, which can be shared and exchanged with other countries.



SSTC partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of China (MARA)



The WFP's Global Field Pilot Initiative on SSTC in the RoG started in 2022, with the support of WFP's Global SSTC Team in the Programme Humanitarian and Development (PRO-T) Division and WFP's Centre of Excellence for Rural Transformation in China (China CoE).

The project in RoG marks the beginning of the financial SSTC partnership with MARA aimed at leveraging the SSTC mechanism to create benefits for the most vulnerable rural populations.

In 2022, the initiative focused on addressing high post-harvest losses and poor market linkages, as these were expressed as areas for improvement from key government/authorities.

In particular, GCX and NAFCO offer well-known and organized market linkages for smallholder farmers and therefore create better awareness on such opportunities for smallholder farmers that increase their participation on the GCX and NAFCO platforms. GCX and NAFCO expressed the lack of awareness about their operations, poor quality grain quality standards, and limited participation of smallholder farmers in structured markets.

Key SSTC results achieved in 2022

This document provides a quick overview of the progress of the SSTC pilot project in the RoG in year 2022. During this timeframe the following activity was carried out:



Facilitating SSTC knowledge sharing

As a response to the local needs expressed by the government and key stakeholders in Ghana, thanks to the technical support provided by the China CoE, WFP Ghana Country Office (CO) organized a virtual webinar on 18 October 2022. The webinar aimed at sharing China’s innovative model and pragmatic practice to support smallholders’ grain storage and processing, improve smallholder market access, as well as strengthen resilience against market risks. Two Chinese experts from Henan University of Technology and Gansu Xinliyuan Farmer Cooperatives presented China’s experience in an Innovative model for smallholders as well as China’s local case on a post-harvest service for smallholders. 30 participants from Ghana, India, Sri Lanka, and China attended the event including government representatives, the private sector, and international organizations. This is the first of a series of Workshops on Innovative and Digitalized Smallholder Market Access aimed at improving smallholder market access in Ghana using the SSTC mechanism..

Next Steps

Building on the results of 2022, in 2023 the team will collect and consolidate evidence based on the previous activity of the SSTC country project. In particular, the CO will develop and share a testimony or a success story from one of the participants of the webinar in the subsequent reporting.

During this phase, the Ghana CO intends to facilitate GCX and NAFCO to conduct training activities in selected regions of Ghana.

These training sessions aim at building the capacity of government staff, regional leaders, and lead farmers on various subjects including post-harvest management, grain quality standards, and structured markets, but they also aim at creating visibility and understanding of GCX and NAFCO operations.

This will be achieved through a combination of activities such as physical workshops, radio sensitization programmes, and farmer mobilization meetings. The CO will facilitate a forum to discuss innovative financing and insurance models suitable for the value chain actors in Ghana.

Sharing SSTC lessons learned

Organization of workshops (virtual and in-person) for the dissemination and expansion of the integrated rice-duck farming system within the Latin America region, considering the basic needs and strategic interests of women and men, such as equal participation in decision-making, autonomy and care work at home.



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