

Introducing non-timber forest products in reforestation schemes and tree-crop farms in Ghana



Summary

Benefits of gender-sensitive reforestation schemes like Ghana's Modified Taungya System (MTS) that combine trees and food crops are reduced after canopy closure, when farmers lose interest as food crops can no longer be grown. This project seeks to enhance food and income security for MTS/tree farmers after canopy closure by examining and building capacity on how three previously introduced shade-tolerant non-timber forest products can be successfully harvested, processed and marketed. It involves farmers, practitioners, policymakers, NGOs and value-chain actors in a stepwise collaborative learning approach including inception, joint implementation, and dissemination. Built on knowledge gaps identified by farmers and practitioners, this proposal contributes to the broader debate on landscape approaches that aim to integrally address food insecurity, deforestation, environmental degradation, and climate change. Deliverables include insights into opportunities for improved production, processing and marketing and how continual learning can be institutionalised in farmer groups, communities of practice, and learning platforms.