



## Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Collaborative Research Support Program

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### Trip Report: Ghana 17-25 April 2010

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**Purpose of Trip:** to work with collaborators at the SARI farming systems research program in Wa on project start up activities surrounding the baseline survey and to discuss long run training activities

**Sites Visited:** Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi;  
Savannah Agricultural Research Institute, Wa

#### **Description of Activities**

**Overview** – A brief trip to Wa Ghana was taken to initiate the SANREM activities in Ghana. Dalton met with Jesse Naab, SARI/Wa Director, and Yahaya Iddrisu, economist, at the SARI farming systems research program headquarters in Wa. Additionally, meetings were held with the leadership of three NGOs who will be our collaborators in the project. In summary, a first draft of the questionnaire was developed by SARI in collaboration with Dalton, a survey sample strategy was developed, and training was held with a group of students from the University of Development Studies in Wa, and an meeting with the three NGOs on the survey and its implementation. Finally, Dalton gave a short presentation to SARI researchers during their annual research review meeting.

#### **April 17-18**

8:00 AM departure from Manhattan, Kansas to Accra, Ghana where Dalton was picked up at Kotoka Airport and transferred to Kumasi. Overnight in the Engineering Guest House at KNUST. Contact initiated with Dr. Ted Carey, sweet potato breeder from CIP based at CSIR in Kumasi.

#### **April 19**

Departure from Kumasi to Wa by car taking approximately 6.5 hours. Arrival in the late afternoon in Wa where I was met by Dr. Naab and Mr. Iddrisu. During the afternoon, project activities and a simplified agenda for the visit was clarified.

## **April 20**

Morning discussions with Dr. Naab and Mr. Iddrisu on project activities. An outline of the baseline report was developed (Appendix 1) and survey instruments were refined to collect information on all elements defined in the outline. Much of the work on developing the questionnaire was developed prior to my arrival in Wa by Mr. Iddrisu. We attempted to work collaboratively on the questionnaire via email but limited connectivity hampered the requisite “back and forth” needed to move the questionnaire forward. The face to face meeting provided the opportunity to complete the questionnaire. A sampling strategy was developed. Eight villages with collaborating farmers will be surveyed. Eight neighboring villages where project activities will not be conducted will also be surveyed. Project participants will serve as the “treatment” and those located in neighboring villages will act as the “control” group. A third group of participants farmers who reside in the villages where project activities take place, but who are not participating in the training and education activities will also be surveyed in order to determine the extent whether information spillovers occur and whether the project message auto diffuses. A stratified random sampling approach will be followed with 100 households selected for each of the three sub-samples.

## **April 21**

Training with potential survey enumerators was conducted during the morning and part of the afternoon. The training consisted of several elements. Sixteen individuals showed up for the training split equally male and female. A 40 minute exam was given to the group to test their knowledge of agricultural issues. The results of this exam will be used to select a subset of the trainees for employment as an enumerator. Following the exam, Dalton and Iddrisu presented the project and fielded questions. Following the question and an answer period, the survey was distributed for review. Approximately 30% of the instruments were covered the first day. At the end of the session, a one hour discussion was held to establish the “expectations” by the researchers and the enumerators. Trainees were dismissed at 2PM.

At 3PM leaders from the three NGOs that will collaborate with the project arrived to discuss the implementation of the baseline survey and an overall technology development and dissemination strategy. Attending the meeting were Linus Kabo-Bah (Langaal Centre for Rural Development Initiative), Dr. Francis Banka (Agroindustries), and Marshall Anala (Lassia Tuolu Agricultural Project). SANREM project activities will be conducted in two villages of the first two projects (for a sample of twenty and thirty households respectively) and four in the last project (fifty households). Each collaborator agreed to provide a list of their villages and participants for random selection. The meeting was adjourned at 5PM after presentations and a question and answer session.

## **April 22**

The remaining instruments of the questionnaire were discussed during the morning. After completing the review, any remaining questions by enumerators were addressed. Pre-testing of the questionnaire was set for April 27, 2010 and final selection of enumerators will take place after. The survey will be conducted in early May 2010. During the afternoon the team traveled to Tamale and arrived in early evening. A discussion was held with Dr. Naab on the training outcomes.

### **April 23**

During the morning, a presentation on the project was given by Dalton to all SARI scientific staff at the annual in-house planning meeting. Several questions on the project site and scaling out the activities were fielded. Travel from Tamale to Kumasi.

### **April 24**

Met with CIP sweet potato breeder Dr. Ted Carey to discuss project activities at CSIR headquarters in Kumasi. PM travel to Accra.

### **April 25**

Return from Accra to Manhattan.

### **Suggestions and Recommendations:**

### **Training Activities Conducted**

Program type (workshop, seminar, field day, short course, etc.)	Date	Audience	Number of Participants		Training Provider (US university, host country institution, etc.)	Training Objective
			Men	Women		
Workshop	21-22 April 2010	Students from University of Development Studies-Wa	8	8	Kansas State University and SARI/Wa	Prepare students as interviewers for baseline survey
Seminar	23 April 2010	SARI scientific staff	Approx 30	Approx. 8	Kansas State University	Overview of SANREM project

### **List of Contacts Made:**

Name	Title/Organization	Contact Info (address, phone, email)
Linus Kabo-Bah	Langaal Centre for Rural Development Initiative	PO Box ND 23, Nandom, UW/R, Ghana bsoya@yahoo.com
Dr. Francis Banka	Upper West Agroindustries	Francis_bank@hotmail.com
Marshall Anala	Lassia Tuolu Agricultural Project	

**Descriptive Baseline Report on Cropping Systems in Upper West Region, Ghana**  
Ghana SANREM CRSP Team  
April 20, 2010

1. Introduction
  - a. Problem
  - b. Overview
    - i. Geographical description
    - ii. Population description from Ghana Stats. Report 2000 and Ghana LSS (2004)
  - c. Why are we focusing on these communities?
    - i. Three districts
    - ii. Their relationship to (b)
    - iii. Collaborators/NGOs
    - iv. Sampling strategy
      1. Socioeconomic survey
      2. Soil testing
  - d. Types of questions asked and survey instruments (brief)
2. Community info
  - a. Market prices of crops
  - b. Market prices of livestock
3. Survey findings
  - i. Demographic info
    1. Household structure
      - a. Ages distribution
      - b. Extended family structure
      - c. Education
      - d. Out-migration
    - ii. Wealth indicators
      1. Physical
        - a. Housing structure
        - b. Ag implements
        - c. HH assets
      2. Animal assets
    - iii. Cropping system
      1. Male plots
      2. Female plots
      3. Crops grown and rotations
      4. Fallow periods and trends
      5. Input use
        - a. Purchased inputs (biochemical)
        - b. Labor
        - c. Animal traction versus manual and tractors
        - d. Land areas/locations

- e. Extent of organic inputs (manure or compost)
      - f. Seeds types and names(traditional versus improved)
      - g. Credit
    - 6. Production and yields
      - a. Grain
      - b. Fodder
    - 7. Livestock systems
      - a. Intensive
      - b. Extensive
  - iv. Non-agricultural income
    - 1. On-farm activities
      - a. Weaving, basket making
      - b. Charcoal
      - c. Wood
    - 2. Off-farm
      - a. Ag labor
      - b. Salaried work
      - c. Petty trading
      - d. Beer brewing
    - 3. Remittances
  - v. Farmer organizations
  - vi. Household food security
  - vii. Market participation
    - 1. Decision to sell
    - 2. Timing
  - viii. Conservation knowledge decision index
    - 1. Male
    - 2. Female