### From wildlife conservation to REDD+: Role of the CREMA Concept in Ghana



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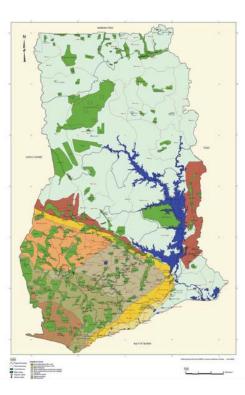


### Outline

- \* Forest and Wildlife Resource Management in Ghana
- Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA)
- Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+)
- \* REDD+'s challenges
- \* Prospects of CREMA in the context of REDD+
- Conclusion

# Forest and wildlife resource conservation in Ghana





**Resource base** 8.2 million hactares – before 1950

1.2million hactares currently

#### **Historical excurses**

- control the felling of commercial tree species
- demarcation and reservation of the forest estate

### Forest and wildlife resource conservation in Ghana

- Forest and wildlife resources diminished over time
  - Poor management and population growth
- \* Increased local and international concern
- Formulation of the Collaborative Community Based
  Wildlife Management (CCBWM) policy.
- One of the strategies adopted by Ghana to achieve this is the CREMA concept.

### Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA)

- The CREMA concept is an innovative natural resource management and landscape-level planning tool for community initiatives.
  - Geographically defined area
  - Sufficient resources
  - Social organization with the purpose of sustainable management
- Developed as an initiative for transferring conservation and management responsibility and authority to rural communities

### CREMA

#### **Process and structure**

1. Establish natural resource base, key stakeholders & congruence of interests

2. Integrate existing local leadership system and political boundaries into local and regional CREMA governance institutions.

3. Establish physical and social boundaries of proposed CREMA .

1. Develop community based institutional structures for CREMA

2. Develop guidelines and regulations for local management

3. Secure legal empowerment within the District via bye-laws 1. Full devolution of management authority by Wildlife Division

2. Development of CREMA management plan

3. Effective implementation of management plan to ensure achievement of set goals & objectives

4. Continous process of monitoring and evaluation

5. Enforcement of legislative frameworks

6. Practice of Sustainable Natural Resource strategies

7. Pursuit of sustainable livelihood strategies

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Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+)

- Reversing the trends of deforestation and forest degradation by providing incentives to local communities, governments and industries to change their practices
- Broaden up to adopt an integral methodology which goes beyond project-level interventions and promotes a nesting dynamic

### REDD+'s challenges

#### 1. Political and institutional

- Preparation of national regulation to ensure equity, efficiency and accountability
- Reframing forest policy and capacity building (governance)
- 2. Technical
  - \* Appropiate emission accounting and incentives' transfer
  - Effective monitoring system
- 3. Social and economic
- **4.** Resource and funding issues
  - Public finances not enough: need for private and international funds

### Prospects of CREMA in the context of REDD+

- \* CREMA provides a unique loophole to help solve barriers of resource tenure and management.
- The successful implementation of REDD+ has to overcome a lot of obstacles, that is why experiences like the CREMA in Ghana are so valuable for enabling its endurance.

### Conclusion

CREMA examples in Ghana is a promising community-based resource management model which can prepare the ground for a future REDD+ implementation.

## > The CREMA mechanism can enable the REDD+ implementation in Ghana.



### Thank you 😳



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