



Republic of Ghana

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY FOR GHANA

PRESENTER
ERIC A. OKOREE

INTRODUCTION

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF GHANA

Ghana is Bordered by Burkina Faso to the north, Côte d'Ivoire to the west, and Togo to the east.



5° 33' N, 0° 13 '

OUTLINE

- OBJECTIVES OF THE STRATEGY
- MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREA SYSTEMS.
- WILDLIFE RESERVES
- OFF RESERVES
- EX-SITU CONSERVATION SYSTEMS
- INCENTIVE MEASURES AND SANCTIONS
- STAKEHOLDERS

OBJECTIVES OF THE STRATEGY

- No species must be threatened with extinction;
- Areas critical for the conservation of biodiversity must be properly conserved, with the active participation of all stakeholders.
- The use of components of biodiversity must be in a sustainable manner, with due consideration being taken of the sharing of benefits arising from the use of these resources, and
- The public sensitized as to their rights and responsibilities.

MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEMS.

THESE ARE MADE UP OF:

- **Forest Reserves:** There are 280 of these and they cover about 11% of the total land area of Ghana)
- **Globally significant biodiversity Areas:** 29 existing forest reserves have been designated and they cover about 117,322 ha.
- **Important Bird Areas:** There are 36 of such areas and they cover 11,494 km².
- **Biological Corridors:** There are three of such corridors in Ghana

ACTIONS REQUIRED

Seventeen(17) actions have been listed. Among them are:

- Expand protection area system by including inland and coastal wetlands, fringe and reverine forests, sensitive areas such as slopes, sacred groves.
- Promote forest tree breeding.
- Regulate entry into forest reserves and ensure compliance of regulation, standards. Guidelines etc.
- Pay full compensation to landowning stools and skins from whom forest land was taken.
- Involve local communities in the management of protected area systems.
- Identify areas of biological diversity hot spots and promote their status.

Wildlife Reserves

There are 16 legally constituted wildlife reserves covering 5.3% of the total land surface. These are categorized into:

- Strict Nature Reserve (1)
- National Parks (6)
- Wildlife Sanctuaries (2)
- Resources Reserves (6)
- Biosphere (1)

*A Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA) has been pilot tested under the Protected Areas Development Programme.

ACTIONS REQUIRED

- Settle all pending compensation claims and review modalities for claim calculations
- Enhance capacities to prevent and control fires.
- Promote economic and social incentives.
- Identify areas of biological diversity hot spots and promote their status.
- Protect wild animals by creating corridors for movement and migration.

OFF RESERVES

These include;

- Wetlands
- Farmlands
- Water bodies
- Urban forests

ACTIONS REQUIRED

Fifteen actions (15) have been listed, these include:

- Adopt and practise cultural agronomic practices such as mixed cropping, and agroforestry, rotations etc.
- Create urban forests or tree belts around farms, settlements, dams as refugia for various life forms.
- Develop policies to encourage the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of biological and genetic resources on stools/skin and private lands.

EX-SITU CONSERVATION SYSTEMS

- Ghana has two (2) zoos and three (3) botanic gardens.
- All the botany and zoology departments as well as the agricultural facilities of the country's public universities also have botanic gardens.

ACTIONS REQUIRED

- Encourage the use of ex-situ facilities to educate and create awareness among the public about threats to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of its components.
- Develop codes of conduct, standards and guidelines for the handling, storage, management and conservation of ex-situ resources especially GMOs.
- Promote and ensure an effective network of ex-situ conservation facilities.

INCENTIVE MEASURES AND SANCTIONS

ECONOMIC INCENTIVE MEASURES

These include:

- Tax incentives
- Grants
- Subsidies

Social Incentives

These include

- national awards,
- Naming of specific areas after some individuals and bodies.
- Traditional laws and sanctions which promote biodiversity conservation be accorded legal backing so as to be effective.

Sanctions

- Appropriate legislations, both at the national and District levels, will be developed to provide sanctions against individuals corporate bodies and communities deemed not to be promoting the sustainable use and management of the country's biological resources.

STAKEHOLDERS

- Centre for Scientific Research into Plant Medicine.
- Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana;
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research;
- Department of Parks and Gardens;
- Environmental Protection Agency.;
- Forestry Division of the Forestry Commission;
- Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission;
- Lands Commission;
- Universities of Ghana;
- Relevant MDAs
- Registrar General's Department;
- Traditional Authorities;
- Ghana Federation of Traditional and Alternative Medicine (GAFTRAM)

• **THANK YOU**