

Boosting Green Employment and Enterprise Opportunities in Ghana (GrEEen) – UNCDF component



Partnership for Sustainable Development

June 2022



In partnership with the European Union

“The idea behind GrEEen is simple: the lack of job opportunities pushes young people to look for a better future far from home. Climate change makes things worse by taking away the main source of livelihood in many communities”



Key Information

SECTOR: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

LEAD PARTNER: MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (MLGRD)

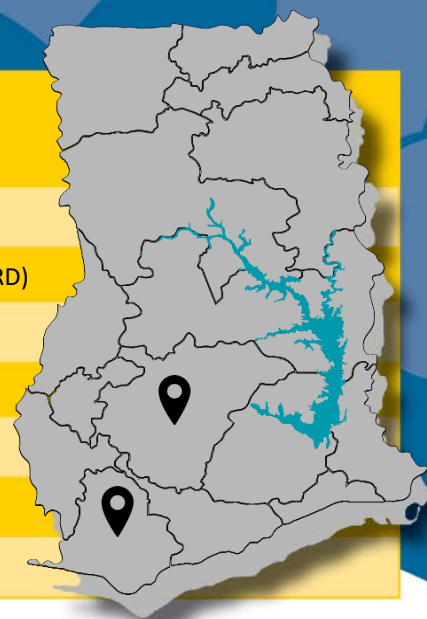
OTHER PARTNERS: UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (UNCDF)

SNV NETHERLANDS DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

DURATION: 2019-2023

TOTAL BUDGET EUR: 10,100,000 (budget for UNCDF)

EU CONTRIBUTION EUR: 10,000,000.00 (budget for UNCDF)



Background

In sub-Saharan Africa and in particular in Ghana, adverse drivers of migration include natural and human-made crises, rural poverty, food insecurity, inequality, unemployment, lack of social protection as well as natural resources depletion due to environmental degradation and climate change, which are some underlying causes of out migration.

The project aims at creating greater economic and employment opportunities for youth, women and returning migrants by promoting and supporting sustainable, green businesses in selected regions (Ashanti and Western). GrEEen is implemented under the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa.



GrEEen

Going GrEEen for a sustainable future



Project Details



The project seeks to contribute to addressing the root causes of irregular migration by supporting sustainable and climate resilient local economies, green jobs and development in regions of departure, transit and return. Specific objectives for UNCDF component are as follow:

Specific objective 1: To support the transition of local economies to green and climate resilient development.

Specific objective 3: To create and strengthen local ecosystems that support youth (self-) employment and the development of MSMEs.

UNCDF will achieve these objectives through three main interconnected work streams:

Workstream 1: Stimulating local economies and creating short-term job opportunities through green and climate-resilient investments.

Workstream 2: Employability of youth, women and returnees are improved through orientation support and assistance, to transition to skills development for the benefit of green and climate resilient local economies (cash for work (CfW) beneficiaries).

Workstream 3: Increasing access and usage of financial services leveraging remittances adapted to the needs of youth, women, returning migrants as well as local communities and MSMEs.

Through a combination of grants, technical assistance and convening power, UNCDF works in close partnership with the Ministry of Local Government, Decentralization and Rural Development together with Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) and the financial sector ecosystem to (i) channel climate finance to local governments through the performance-based climate resilience grants (ii) provide skills training to cash for work beneficiaries and (iii) provide access to finance to targeted communities to help them succeed in the areas of origin.

Expected Results



UNCDF's main action focuses on working with public and private actors to:

- Support the transition of 10 MMDAs to green and resilient local economies through the integration of these issues in local plans and investments
- Provide access and usage of financial services to at least 70,000 people (youth: 60% to 80%, women: 40% to 60% and returnees)

As of 2021 UNCDF through its public and private partners has been able to achieve:

- 90,156 beneficiaries with improved access to green and climate resilient infrastructure (construction, water distribution and hazard resistant infrastructure, among others);
- 381 CfW beneficiaries participating in employability life skills and technical training (260 females, 121 males, 203 youth, 178 adults);
- EUR 147,250.03 value of climate resilient investments delivered by local SMEs;
- Achieved more than 33,000 beneficiaries (57% women and 60% youth below 35) accessing a full range of financial services (literacy, savings, loans, remittances and crowdfunding) leveraging digital innovation;
- Expanded access to financial services through a network of 7,229 new points in the targeted areas offering such services;
- Provided almost 500k EUR to local entrepreneurs and MSMEs via the local financial providers by leveraging technology.



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