

Annual Report 2017

ProNet North

Working in partnership for sustainable development



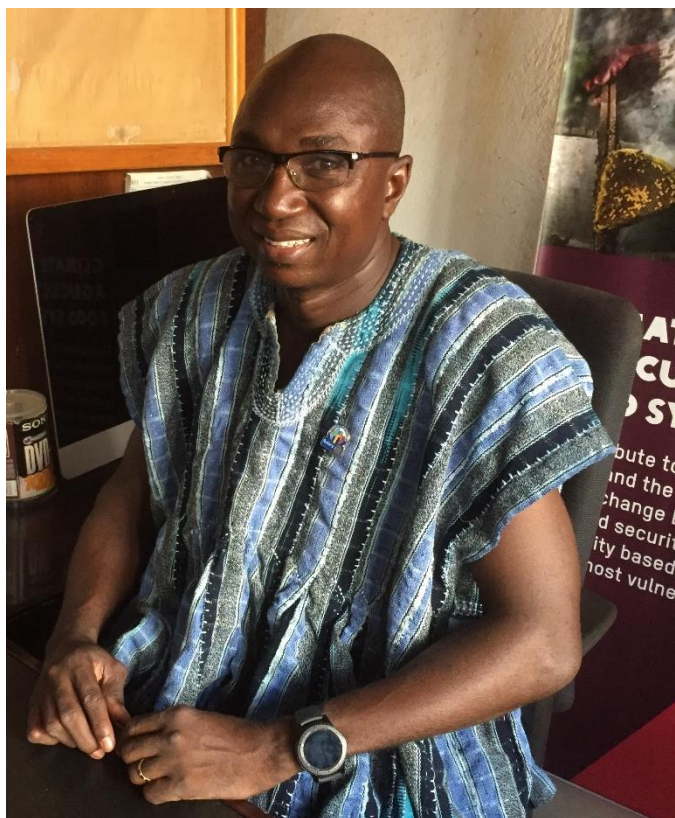
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List of Abbreviations

BECE:	Basic Education Certificate Examination
CLTS:	Community-led Total Sanitation
CRAFS:	Climate Resilient Agriculture and Food Systems
CWSA:	Community Water and Sanitation Agency
CYWDs:	Children and Youth with Disabilities
DA:	District Assembly
DEOC:	District Education Oversight Committee
DFID:	Department for International Development
DPC:	Disaster Prone Communities
EHSD	Environmental Health and Sanitation Division
GAC:	Global Affairs Canada
GCBE:	Ghana Complementary Basic Education
GES:	Ghana Education Service
GHC:	Ghana Cedis
GHS:	Ghana Health Service
GROW:	Greater Rural Opportunities for Women
HH:	Household
HHL:	Household Latrine
HV:	Hygiene Volunteer
ICS	International Citizen Service
IDA:	International Development Agency
JHS:	Junior High School
JICA:	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LCM:	Local Committee Member
MEDA:	Mennonites Economic Development Associates
MTDP:	Medium Term Development Plan
NGO:	Non-Governmental Organization
ODF:	Open Defecation Free
PPEs:	Personal Protective Equipment
RCC:	Regional Coordinating Council
SANMARK:	Sanitation Marketing
SARI:	Savannah Agricultural Research Institute
SHS:	Senior High School
SLTS:	School-led Total Sanitation
SMC:	School Management Committee
STMIE:	Science, Technology, Mathematics and Innovation Education
TENI:	Tackling Education Needs Inclusively
USAID:	United States Agency for International Development
VSLA:	Village Savings and Loans Associations
VSO:	Volunteer Services Overseas
WAG:	WaterAid Ghana
WASH:	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Message from Director



The period of 2017 was very fruitful for ProNet North. The organization has implemented varied projects related to education, agriculture, women's empowerment, climate resilience, water and sanitation, in response to grounded developmental needs in partner communities. We are convinced that our collective efforts have resulted in positive outcomes throughout our operational area.

In the area of education, we engaged in promoting access to education for vulnerable *out of school* children, girls, children with disabilities and migrant children, through advocacy and community empowerment. Our staff and volunteers have developed participatory teaching and learning materials for formal schools. We have also continued with implementation of the Ghana Complementary Basic Education Programme that includes mother tongue literacy and numeracy.

Under our GROW and CRAFS projects, we continued to empower rural farmers by encouraging increased production beyond subsistence consumption requirements; to provide a basis for income generation within expanding value chains. We have supported alternative livelihoods including dry season farming, soap making and apiculture.

Our work in WASH made significant strides in relation to inclusive poverty targeting through the implementation of the *WASH in DPC* (Unicef/Canada supported) using a social fund model that worked with indigent households to ensure total household latrine coverage in communities that have attained ODF status. We also made great progress in

ameliorating the WASH Poverty situation in Northern Ghana through our work with WAG, Give Me Tap and Eau Bottle.

We have also improved our accountability and fundraising drive this year through publicizing our activities via newsletters, social media and our website to provide more information to our partners, potential donors and individuals. We will make continuous efforts to strengthen the communication between partners so as to increase the presence and contribution of the organization in the country and beyond.

That said, we have taken note of our challenges during the period and commit to address issues around systematic knowledge management, documentation, skills development to make us a leader into the future.

Martin Dery

About ProNet North

ProNet North is a Ghanaian Non-Governmental Organisation (No. CG125392014) with a vision towards a society where social justice is at the core of sustainable development.

Over the years, ProNet has successfully implemented a range of projects from Water and Sanitation, Education, Health, Governance to Women Empowerment, Sustainable Livelihoods and Advocacy. It has also worked in disaster response and disaster risks reduction. ProNet is expected to continue to grow by adopting various strategies that would propel us to have a sustained impact on the lives of rural and urban communities across regions in northern of Ghana as well as the Brong-Ahafo region.

We aspire to become a centre for learning and research in sustainable development.

Our Vision

A Society of Equal Opportunities for Sustainable Development and Protection of Human Rights

Our Mission

Promoting Inclusive Sustainable Poverty Reduction, Human Dignity, Ecological Balance and Gender Equality through Effective Partnerships, Networking and Continuous Learning.

Strategic Aims

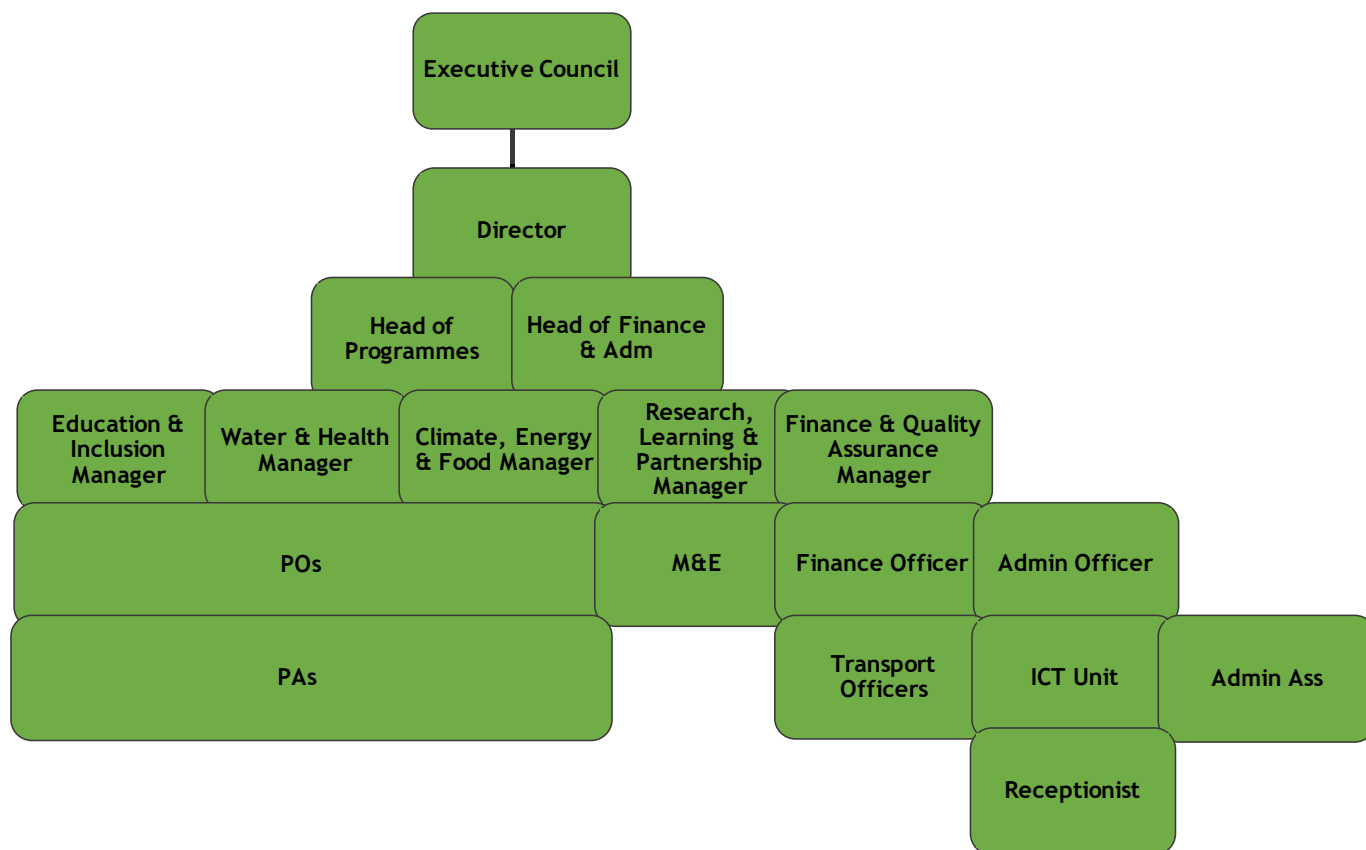
- To strengthen financial and administrative procedures and assuring programme quality through effective M&E and robust internal-control systems.
- To contribute to accessible and productive use of water and promotion of healthy living, especially, for mothers and children.
- To contribute to improved quality of life of women and small holder farmers through climate resilient approaches, post-harvest management, empowerment and value chain development.
- To promote access and quality basic education for children, especially, girls and children with disabilities.
- To contribute to sustainable development, through participatory research, partnerships and continuous learning.

Core Values

- Ideas over hierarchy
- Transparency and accountability
- Integrity and human dignity
- Coalitions and partnerships
- Discipline, honesty, passion and commitment
- Teamwork
- Excellence and innovation
- Respect for diversity

Organogram

There are 5 distinct, but, interrelated departments in the organization for effective project implementation and organizational development. In ProNet North, we value *ideas over hierarchy* and this allows everyone to share their innovative ideas with other levels. Our *Open Space* approach enables the organization to achieve effective project implementation in our operational areas.



Education and Inclusion

Department Goal:

To promote the educational development of girls, children with disability, migrant children and other vulnerable populations in Northern Ghana through basic education, social and political empowerment.

Objective 1:

To improve retention and transition rates of girls and vulnerable children from basic to senior high by 50% by 2021

Objective 2:

To facilitate quality teaching, learning, and safe environment in basic schools in 3 Regions by 2021

Objective 3:

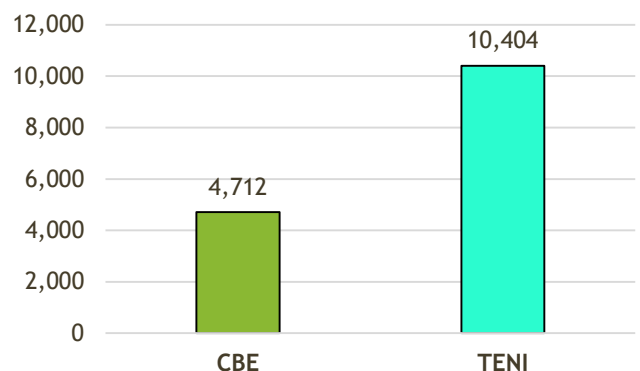
To develop and implement an operational M&E system/framework for improved programme quality by the end of 2021

Objective 4:

Assist children with disabilities to access quality health, education, and livelihood opportunities, through social inclusion and empowerment by 2021



Number of Beneficiaries in 2017



Complementary Basic Education (CBE)

Funded by: DFID and USAID

Partner: Crown Agents

Ghana Complementary Basic Education (CBE) Program is a Government of Ghana programme with funding from DFID/USAID and Crown Agents as Management Unit. The programme is aimed at providing over 200,000 out of school children between the ages of 8-14 years access to quality education which is in line with Sustainable Development Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all (Quality Education). The program employs flexible learning approaches in its 9-month cycle mother tongue classes on basic literacy and numeracy before learners are transitioned to the formal school system.

In the current cycle (cycle 5), ProNet is implementing the project in 5 Districts; 4 in the Upper West Region (Jirapa, Nadowli, Sissala East and Sissala West) and one in Brong Ahafo Region (Nkoranza North). The table below describes the number of communities, classes, learners, facilitators and LCMs/SMCs involved in CBE cycle 5. The figures in the brackets show the number of females.

CATEGORY	NUMBER
Community	140
Class	152
Enrolled Learner	3,800 (2,115)
Recruited and Trained Facilitator	152 (71)
Formed and Strengthened LCM/SMC	760 (457)

Key Achievements

- Graduated 8,122 enrolled learners (2016-17)
- Transitioned 8,091 graduated learners (2016-17)
- Formed 53 LCMs and strengthened 91 SMCs
- Trained 152 community-based facilitators
- Over 50% female enrolment over the past 2 years
- Furniture presented to District Education Office for transitioned learners



Open Graduation Session at DA Takyiripie in Nadowli –Kaleo District



CBE Learner Assessment at Fanchoboi in Sissala East District

Most Significant Change Story

The CBE programme has strengthened local committees and communities' involvement in community development. Committee members are showing high commitment towards education in their communities. Also, local committee members and parents in the West Gonja District who received training on livelihood empowerment gained skills on livelihood opportunities. Now, they can support their families more than before and serve as role models in their communities. Positive influences are seen among facilitators as well. They have showed strong interest in becoming professional teachers as a result of CBE engagement.

Besides the vital changes above, ProNet has recorded a high level of female participation in the program (i.e. 60% LCMs/SMCs and 52% female learner graduation for cycle 4). Also, media engagement increased publicity and public interest in the CBE program.

Way Forward

- Support for transitioned learners with TLMs as they integrate into the formal system.
- Mentoring GES on the implementation of the Project in the pilot districts.

Tackling Education Needs Inclusively (TENI)

Funded by: Comic Relief

Partner: VSO

Tackling Education Needs Inclusively (TENI) seeks to achieve systemic change by improving transition, completion and quality basic education outcomes for disadvantaged children, particularly, girls and children with disabilities in Northern Ghana.

TENI believes that change can only be achieved when it comes from within an individual, community, family, organization or district and the problem is addressed holistically. TENI engages multiple stakeholders and builds on best practice to tackle underlying causes that prevent children from completing and performing in school, including socio-cultural beliefs, poverty barriers, the school environment and quality of teaching.

TENI II project ended in May 2017 with a no cost extension due, till September 2017, before its official closure. Within the period from May to September, partners were expected to do mob-up exercise, exit durbars and develop strategies to sustain the gains made, and report successes, lessons and best practices to the donor.

As part of end of project closure, some partners including ProNet North were tasked to do specific inclusion activities such as eye screening for children and mechanisms to strengthen support for children with disabilities in Jirapa District.



School health teachers training for eye screening in Jirapa District

Project Deliverables

- Organized dialogue session with District Education Oversight Committee (DEOC) to agree on educational

policies to implement and ways to monitor implementation.

- Lobbied for financial commitment from DA as part of the composite planning to support girls' empowerment initiatives (school debates, gender club camps, STIs).
- Organized community level SPAMs involving parents, school authorities and girls.
- Used SPAM sessions to ensure school management committees take on board girls' issues.
- Dialogued and lobbied for improved infrastructure for schools such as Mwofu and Ngmankuri.
- Eye screening for over 2,000 children in basic and Junior High Schools.
- Quarterly Meetings with parent support groups to further strengthen their support and commitments for CWDs.

Key Achievements

- Established Esong group, supporting enrolment and transition for CWDs in school and motivation for parents.
- 26 girls' clubs in 20 TENI communities with 1,466 girls actively implementing school based and girls' friendly activities.
- Introduction to PTA record keeping and at least 2 PTA meetings within a term.
- 16 community bye-laws and a district coalition for chiefs working to improve girls' enrolment.
- Increased DEOC joint monitoring to at least twice a term.
- Over 2,000 children screened, gained knowledge about the vision status and 74 referred for specialist treatment.

Challenges

- Inadequate stakeholder collaborations within the community settings.
- Transfers of trained club patrons and other TENI participating teachers affecting classroom teaching and learning outcomes.
- Political interference with teacher rationalization process.
- Girls drop out still rising.

International Citizen Service (ICS)

Funded by: DFID

Partner: VSO

International Citizen Service (ICS) is a programme which aims at giving opportunity to young people aged 18-25 years to volunteer in development projects in Africa, Asia or Latin America. The project presents these young people an opportunity to contribute to developing and changing the world around them. Volunteers are sent off to communities where VSO projects are being implemented. They stay there for 12 weeks and work with communities, schools and other stakeholders towards the achievement of set objectives.

In the Upper West Region, ICS operates in Jirapa district where VSO is implementing a project, Tackling Education Needs Inclusively (TENI), in partnership with ProNet North and GES Jirapa. ICS compliments the TENI project and supports its partners and stakeholders, accelerating the implementation of the planned activities for the project period. Volunteers are placed in 4 project communities (Nimbare Kompore, Mwofu, Tizza, and Sigri) in Jirapa District for 12-week period to plan and carry out activities that help increase attendance, enrolment, transition, retention and performance of target children, especially, girls, handicapped children and contribute to the achievement of the TENI objectives. The activities include:

- Advocating for schools, especially schools in ICS communities to be included in the school feeding programme.
- Establishment and support of school friendly clubs.
- Organizing evening classes for pupils.
- Fund raising to build and improve school infrastructures.
- Home visits.
- Vacation classes for pupils to reduce idle time and increase academic performance.
- Classrooms and blackboards rehabilitation.
- Repairing torn uniforms for pupils who could not afford new uniforms.



ICS Volunteers with ProNet Director and Staff for a brief



A Mwofu Volunteer repairing broken furniture

Key Achievements

- 71 desks and chairs fixed in 2 communities.
- 72 uniforms repaired by 8 volunteers in Tizza and Nimbare-Kompore.
- GH¢ 200 raised by 4 volunteers in Tizza through the sales of “Sobolo” drink and funds raised at their CAD to support kitchen construction.
- A total of 284 visual cards (TLMs) developed in 4 communities.
- Over 100 text books were discovered not in use and arranged in the store room for improved access.
- Home visits improving the attendance of 538 pupils who were absent due to farming activities.
- 149 pupils likely to travel to southern Ghana were engaged in vacation classes.
- 25 blackboards painted and rehabilitated.

Challenges

- Language barrier and integration difficulties.
- Transport cost affecting movement within Jirapa to mobilize resource.
- Cultural differences affecting teams bonding.



Mwofu volunteers developing teaching resources (TLMs)

Esong – Supporting Children with Disabilities and their Families

Funded by: Lilian Fond Foundation with Support from TENI

Partner: SWEB Foundation

The right of handicapped people is currently becoming one of the social issues that cannot be overlooked. Previously, persons with disabilities were considered as abnormal individuals who needed special assistance. People, therefore, saw them as simply incapable of fully participating in social activities. However, such stereotype view is old fashioned.

The growing global Disability Rights Movements established by the strong voices of Disable Persons Organizations worldwide, seeks to oppose such ignorance and stigmatization of persons with disabilities by promoting the social model of disability which looks at a rethinking of earlier models by arguing that the constraints faced by persons with disabilities reflect attitudinal, policy, communication and infrastructural barriers imposed by society. A significant milestone in the Disability Rights Movement has been the adoption of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) by the UN General Assembly in 2006, which in turn has significant implications for the implementation of the SDGs.

Even though the necessity to improve the right of persons with disabilities is more widely recognized by public, discrimination and stigmatization has continued in most developing nations including Ghana. In Ghana, issues of disability are the least discussed in the national agenda. Budgetary allocations for persons with disabilities are diverted into other uses that do not benefit the association.



The Director of GES in Jirapa having a speech about the right of persons with disabilities for students

To tackle the emerging issue, Community-Led Support Group, “Esong,” made up of volunteers, children with various forms of disability and their families was founded in Jirapa District. Both parents and children attend monthly meetings to share experiences, encourage each other and seek support from well-wishers in their yearly programmes.

ProNet North with support from the SWEB Foundation and TENI Project provides the group with logistics, medical/livelihood/educational assistance, dietary support and meals at their monthly meetings. Over the years, ProNet North has collected a data base on children with various forms of disability in Jirapa District through these initiatives. ProNet North also works with the GES Inclusion Officer to assess children in school for vision and hearing impairments for proper placement, treatment and management.



Esong group members and ProNet staff after monthly meeting

Climate, Energy and Food

Department Goal:

To contribute to improved quality of life of women and small holder farmers through climate resilient approaches, postharvest management, empowerment and value chain development

Objective 1:

To ensure food security all year round through sustainable farming systems and practices in Northern Ghana (50,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries) by 2021

Objective 2:

To increase women and vulnerable groups' sustainable access to productive resources in Northern Ghana (50,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries) by 2021

Objective 3:

To improve rural farmers income levels in Northern Ghana (50,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries) by 2021



ProNet Staff presenting PPEs to GROW Clients



GROW Clients making Soybeans Khebab



Honey harvesting at Balirgbee in DBI District

Greater Rural Opportunities for Women (GROW)

Funded by: GAC

Partner: MEDA

GROW project seeks to provide business solutions to rural women whilst improving the nutritional status of their households. To achieve this the project provides extension services to women, capacity building trainings especially on alternative livelihood activities, establishing linkages for rural women to relevant inputs suppliers, financial services, markets as well as the MEDA technology fund among others.

The project has been in operation since 2013 and is expected to end in 2018. It operates in three districts i.e. Nadowli Kaleo, Wa East and Daffiama-Busei-Issa (DBI) District. Client population has increased tremendously from 1,200 in 2013 to 6,208 in 2017.

Project Deliverables

- Mobilize 6,000 clients
- Identify and train 15 sales agents
- Facilitate all groups to open accounts with a financial institution of their choice
- Identify and support 23 seed producers to produce and supply clean, viable seed

Key Achievements

- 6,208 clients mobilized and 5,048 went into soybean production for this season.
- 253 VSLAs groups formed and 149 linked to financial institutions.
- Increased number of sales agents (13 to 31) opening marketing opportunities for soybeans.
- 25 women trained and supported to produce certified seed for next farming season.
- 40 women involved in EMPOWER for alternative livelihood trainings.



GROW client harvesting Soya beans

Story of Mdm. Antuomwini

Antuomwini Kofi is a 28-year-old disabled (amputee) divorcee from Kulkpong-Yipaahi in the Wa East District. Aside her 2 daughters, there are 3 other people (her mother and two siblings) that depend on her. Before joining the GROW project in 2016, her main source of income was from mending



Antuomwini Kofi

clothes on market days from which she fetched a maximum of GHC10 to GHC15 per week. Though she made a dry season garden in the past, it was on a small scale and the harvest was poor.

With her new knowledge in dry season farming from the GROW Project, Antuomwini went to the riverside with renewed enthusiasm for a better life. She worked so hard at a quarter acre dry season garden and marvelled at the amount of money she made from the garden.

“No need to mend clothes at the market. I can make up GHC110 a week from my garden. I am investing all my energy in the garden. With my new earnings, I have increased my VSLA savings from GHC1.00 to 20.00 per week, so I can raise enough money to finance my soya farm for the farming season. I am also able to provide for my family. As a single parent, I was under a lot of stress providing for my family. Now I have changed my children school uniforms and stocked enough stationaries for their education throughout the year. I have learned to plan ahead.” (by Mdm. Antuomwini)

In the cropping season 2016, madam Antuomwini harvested three bags from her half-acre soya farm and reserved one bag for family consumption.

“I am also stocking food to feed my family during the next farming season. This year I am sure I will have sufficient food to feed the family even during the hunger period. Thanks to GROW.” (by Mdm. Antuomwini)

Madam Antuomwini is now an ambitious business woman. After harvesting the vegetables, she intends to plant early maize in her garden so that she can redeem on the high prices of fresh corn in the early days of the raining season.

Climate Resilient Agriculture and Food Systems (CRAFS)

Funded by: Oxfam

CRAFS is a climate change adaptation program that seeks to improve upon food security and livelihoods through climate smart farming and livelihood interventions. It is an extension of the ELCAP project that ended in March 2015. It involves several activities to improve upon livelihoods of 1,125 small holder farmers of which 70% are women in 5 beneficiary communities in the Daffiama-Busie-Issa District.



Ointment and pomade making training in Daffiama

Key Achievements

- 319 trained farmers (227 females, 92 males) on basic animal husbandry practices.
- 167 goats, 137 sheep and 460 poultry were vaccinated as part of the animal husbandry training.
- 30 females were trained in pomade and ointment making as alternative livelihood solutions.
- 8 VSLA groups have been linked to financial institutions and 3 have already opened accounts with GN bank.
- Debate competitions at the JHS level involving 4 schools on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
- Institutionalization of Climate smart clubs into the GES curriculum.
- 9 gallons of honey harvested and sold for GHS 1,350.
- Stakeholder meeting on PCVA/VRA reports and Community Action Plans adoption into the MTDP.



Financial institutions interacting with VSLA group

Story of Mdm. Kongsuba

Alice Kongsuba is a woman (aged 35) living in Balirgbee with her husband and kids. Alice and her husband are mainly farmers. She benefited from the livelihood trainings on soap making organized by CRAFS. She has, since then, been involved in making soap for sale in and around her community. The business enables her to earn extra income to support her family.

“Since I started producing soap for sale, I earn at least GHC 100 per month, which now I am spending to expand my business. For me, the fact that I don’t buy soap for my family use any longer is enough benefit.” (by Mdm. Kongsuba)

Before project intervention, Alice engaged in the trade of selling soap, but she used to buy it from Techiman which was not profitable, as the expenses outweigh the revenues that she made. It was, therefore, an exciting opportunity to be trained on how to produce the soap herself.

“It has been of immense help to me, I now produce the soap on my own and sell in bulk to other women even outside my community to sell. I have stopped ordering the soap from Techiman as I did before this opportunity came my way.” (by Mdm. Kongsuba)

Alice is one of the 20 beneficiaries trained and supported on soap making under the CRAFS project as an alternative livelihood solution for income generation. She is now an entrepreneur in her own small way.



Alice Kongsuba

Challenges

- Bad road network to some of the communities making accessibility difficult or impossible at certain times of the season.
- Poor mobile network coverage hence information must be conveyed to the people personally which sometimes delay implementation process.
- Low cooperation from one of our beneficiary communities.

Water and Health

Department Goal:

To contribute to accessible and productive use of water and promotion of healthy living by 2021

Objective 1:

To Increase access and rights to potable water to 15,000 poor and marginalized rural and urban people in Northern Ghana by 2021

Objective 2:

To support 40 communities in Northern Ghana to develop, manage and utilize water sources for improved livelihoods by 2021

Objective 3:

To Promote and support the adoption of safe disposal of solid and liquid waste practices for 150,000 poor and marginalized people in Northern Ghana by 2021



Community members checking the type of latrine moulds



Rehabilitated borehole for Tampaala primary school



Sanitation VSLA training for DA in DBI District

Supporting Localized Governance and Rehabilitation for Sustainable Water Services

Funded by: Conrad Hilton Norman Foundation

Partner: WaterAid Ghana

The project aims to support localized governance and rehabilitation for sustainable WASH services in Ghana through a rights based approach and to build capacities of Local Government Authority, communities and institutions to strengthen their knowledge and capacity in WASH services delivery.

All processes and products of the project management life cycle are inclusive to meet the needs of the different users with emphasis on rights of person with disabilities, women and geographically excluded groups. Traditional and natural leaders were trained to support the project and facilitate behaviour change. DAs and other duty bearers were constantly updated and held to account in execution of their aspects of this tripartite agreement.

The project came to an end in September 2017, with a lot of improvements and positive impacts in its operational area in Wa East District.

Number of Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries from Sanitation

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
CLTS (Latrine users)	1,772	1,505	3,277
School IL	287	293	580
Total Sanitation Users	728	825	3,857

Beneficiaries from Water

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
RWHS	541	558	1,099
Borehole Rehabilitation	292	293	585
2 Upgraded Water Facilities	699	801	1,500
Total Water Users	1,532	1,652	3,184



One of the beneficiaries with constructed HHL

Project Deliverables

- Improve access and right to safe sanitation through the construction of 3 or 4-seater boy/girl friendly ILs with Hand Washing facilities in 3 schools.
- Construct 3 Rain Water Harvesting Facilities in 3 schools.
- Rehabilitate 6 water points in 6 communities to collect baseline data in 6 communities and 3 schools.
- Form and train 6 WSMTs in 6 communities for effective operation and maintenance of the facilities and towards sustainable use of them.
- Form and train 3 School Health Clubs in 3 schools.
- Carry out School Hygiene Promotion in 3 school.
- Carry out Post Implementation Monitoring in 10 previously CLTS triggered communities towards the attainment of ODF status.

Key Achievements

- 30 cubic Meters ferro cement Rain Water Harvesting tanks completed and in use in 3 schools; Loggu primary, Vieha primary, Goripie primary, to promote Hand Washing.
- 4 boreholes rehabilitated and in use for 3 schools Tampaala primary, Kpaglahi primary/JHS and Vieha community.
- 2 to 4 seater ILs with Hand Washing facility constructed for 3 schools at Loggu SHS, Tampaala Primary and Konta primary.
- Banungoma Community attain 90% Score for ODF basic status through CLTS.
- 2 Boreholes upgraded to serve Bulenga Primary & Bulenga Health centre with extension to Staff Quarters to promote Health service delivery.

WASH in Disaster Prone Communities (DPC)

Funded by: UNICEF/Canada

WASH in DPC is a social support scheme designed to pilot the implementation of the sanitation Social Fund. The project is geared toward supporting the poorest households in disaster prone communities in the 3 regions in northern Ghana. A total of 500 households from 63 communities in 16 districts were selected to benefit from the project. In selecting the beneficiaries, preference was given to ODF communities and LEAP beneficiaries.

Through the project, 500 flood resilient household latrines were constructed. The project catered for the fees of certified latrine artisans and cement for the construction of flood resilient substructures. The household provided unskilled labour, excavation and all material for the construction of superstructures.

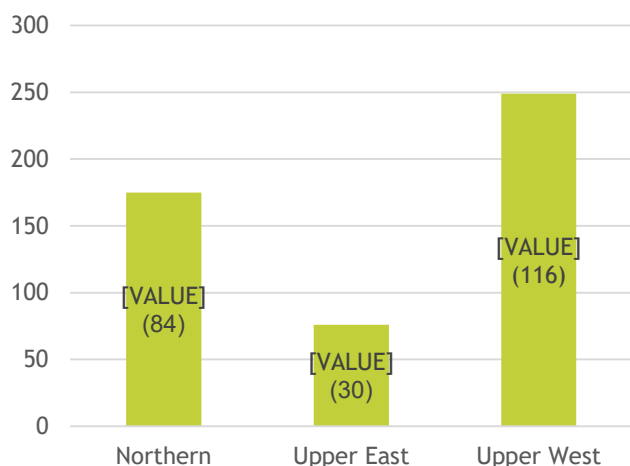
Key Achievements

- Completion of 500 substructures
- Completion of 500 superstructures

Number of Beneficiaries

Number of Beneficiaries in Operational Regions

(XXX) ... the number of female beneficiaries



Artisans being trained on construction of concrete rings

Despite the success of the programme, it was not devoid of challenges. The period for the project implementation coincided with the farming season at the project implementing area resulting in pressure for household time.

In addition, a lot more time was spent on sensitization of community members than anticipated arising from the unique approach adopted and the fact that this was a pilot project.

Besides, limited number of certified artisans was one of the challenges. Innovative strategies at training more artisans were, therefore, adopted to beef up the numbers.

Finally, a key lesson is to promote the use durable materials such as blocks, bricks, mud and wood for the completion of superstructures. Other materials like polythene and leaves only provide privacy for short periods due to the extreme weather conditions in the project area.



Community members cooperating for DPC HHL

Sanitation Marketing (SanMark)

Funded by: UNICEF/Canada

SanMark is designed to leverage on the CLTS program which has created demand for sanitation facilities. Following the CLTS concept, many households constructed latrines with locally available materials. These constructed latrines are, generally, not very durable and collapse in no time resulting in slippage. The SanMark Program currently on-going in Sissala West, Daffiama Bussie Issah District is designed to improve on the durability of latrines and fulfil the forth pillar of the Rural Sanitation Model.

Under SanMark, financial literacy is provided for households mainly in the area of VSLA. District Assembly (DA) staff have been trained by ProNet North to facilitate the establishment of VSLA sanitation fund as a tool to accumulate funds for the construction of durable latrines. Also, technical and entrepreneurship training has been organized for latrine artisans to provide the supply side of sanitation demands. Alongside, suppliers and financial institutions are being encouraged to do business in the sanitation sector. Meanwhile, business expos are organized to showcase the various types of latrines and materials.

Project Deliverables

- 80% improved latrine coverage for each of the 3 districts
- 50 VSLA groups with sanitation fund established
- 90 DA staff (field facilitators) trained on the concept of VSLA
- 90 latrine Artisans trained on entrepreneurship

Key Achievements

- 90 DA staff (Field facilitators) trained on the concept of VSLA.
- 90 latrine Artisans trained on entrepreneurship.



Way Forward

The Results Based Financing Project, places emphasis on achieving tangible results such as latrine construction. We the Business Developing Partner (BDP) will focus more on effective collaboration particularly with the District Assemblies. We will also work very closely with latrine artisans through business Clinics and Business expos.

Financial Institutions and Business Entrepreneurs will be given the opportunity to explore and support businesses in the sanitation sector.



Finance and Quality Assurance

Department Goal:

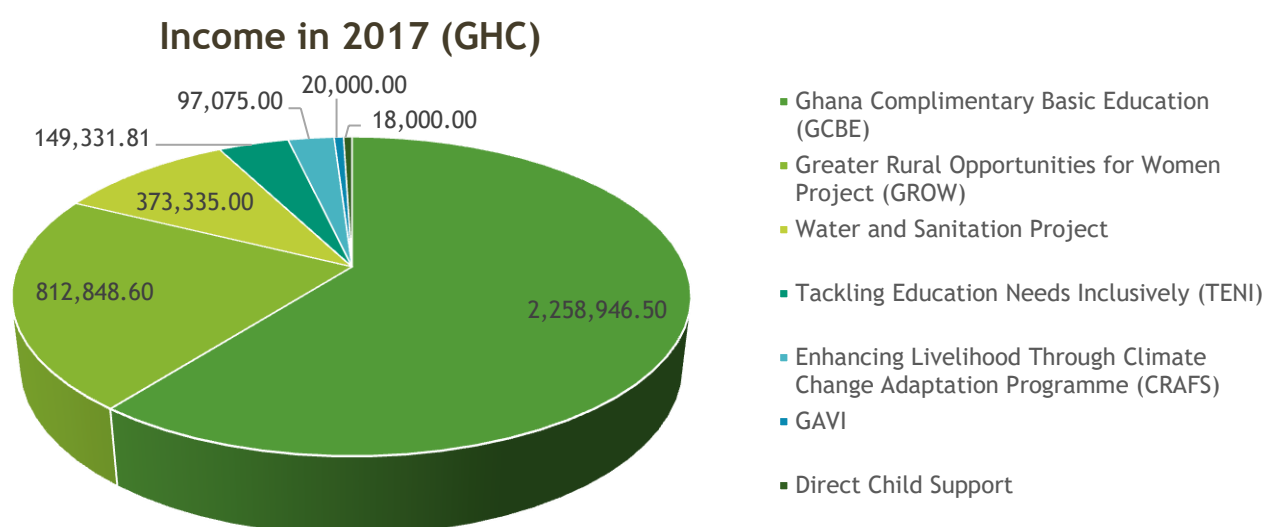
To strengthen financial and administrative procedures and assuring programme quality through effective M&E and robust internal control systems.

In order to support staff and smooth project implementation, ProNet North has established a quality assurance system designed to assist management in reviewing, analysing, evaluating and reporting on the organizational and donor financial procedures, accounting records and internal controls. The department also uses robust accounting systems and software that enables the organization to identify strengths and weaknesses in its project fiscal operations and ensure value for money in running projects. These departmental efforts have enhanced financial and administrative policies, human resource management and project validation process.

Finance Overview

In total, ProNet North received GHC 3.7 million from partners in 2017 for project implementation. The organization used the funds and generated positive outcomes in the project areas.

Besides donor funding, ProNet received some individual financial supports in the year 2017. These aids were used to drill boreholes, latrines among others for underprivileged rural communities in Northern Ghana.



Research, Learning and Partnership

Department Goal:

To conduct relevant research, promote learning and knowledge management and develop partnerships

The focus of this department is to increase the relevance of programmes and the competence of our staff. The focus is to strengthen our data collection systems, improve information sharing and re-activating our Resource Centre.

Also, the department aims at promoting more active communication with both current and future partners. This year a new ProNet North website was developed, a Facebook account and monthly newsletters were published. This is to ensure that activities by ProNet North can be more widely publicized and understood by external organizations and individuals.

Monitoring and Learning

To achieve the goals of sustainable growth, equity and poverty reduction, ProNet North uses very robust Participatory Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Systems which allow beneficiaries to appreciate the impact and possible outcomes of our intentions to get their total buy-in, active participation and ownership of every intervention. This is done through a well-designed multi-stage level monitoring and evaluation to include;

- Daily/weekly monitoring and supervision by the field officers.
- Monthly and quarterly monitoring by the M&E team and Partners depending on the type of activity
- Data collection and analysis through designed templates according to project demands
- Documentation of successes through monthly newsletters, website updates, as well as our social media platforms

ProNet has devoted significant resources to building the capacity of women groups and other community level stakeholders involved in the implementation of the programme to ensure active participation of beneficiaries, particularly throughout the project within and beyond the project cycle.

Beyond 2017, we envisage further development of digital

platforms, rebranding our website, development of social media presence, continuing work to support fundraising, and progress on solidifying our brand through effective partnerships and networking.

International Interns and Volunteers

ProNet North has collaborated with AIESEC and other Government and Non-Governmental Organizations through international volunteers from various countries. In 2017, ProNet received 12 interns from Benin, Liberia, Germany and Netherlands through a collaboration with AIESEC, a worldwide student-led organization. Also, the organization worked with one Japanese Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV).



Interns from AIESEC in Mole National Park

Over the years, this multicultural and diverse collaboration has generated fruitful outcomes for ProNet North, interns and volunteers. Different ideas and technical skills of interns and volunteers have resulted in flexible pathways of working in the organization through cross-cultural learning practices. On the other hand, interns and volunteers had in-depth experience in community development and pragmatic ways of working in the field of community development.

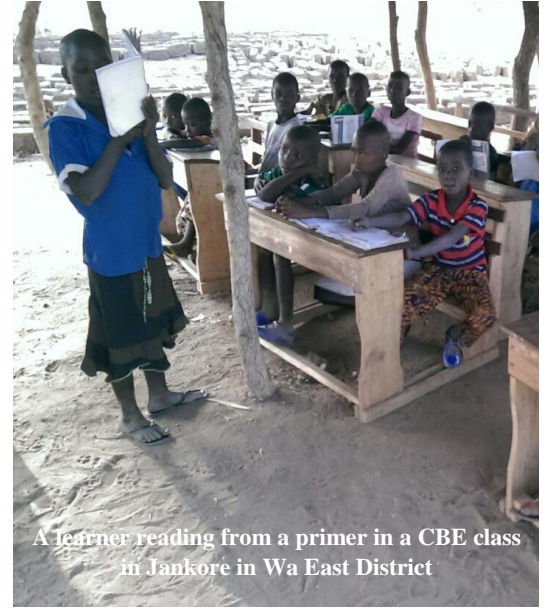
ProNet North is grateful to all partner organizations that

provided financial and other resources during this year. We pledge to keep our promises into the future.

Picture Gallery



CBE class in session at Kuncheni-Nambeg in Jirapa District



A learner reading from a primer in a CBE class in Jankore in Wa East District



ICS volunteer repairing broken furniture in Mwofo



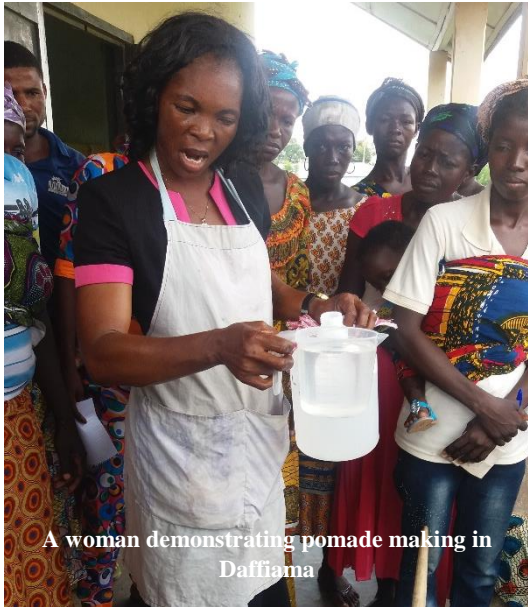
Vaccination in animal husbandry training in Dakyie



ICS Nimbare-Kompori team developing TLMs



CBE learners participating in Ghana's 60th Independence Day at Gwollu in Sissala West District



A woman demonstrating pomade making in Daffiama



Monitoring visit to WASH community in Wa East District



ProNet field officer interviewing community residents about the progress of DPC latrine construction



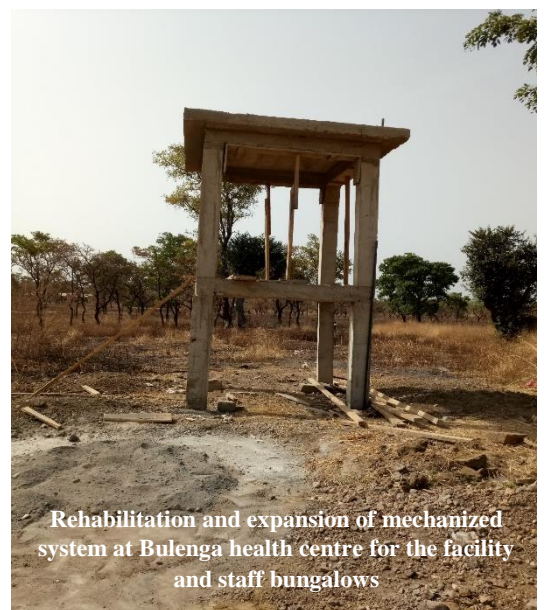
Alternative livelihood training at MEDA office



A CBE learner transitioned to formal school in Sngoryiri in Nadowli-Kaleo District



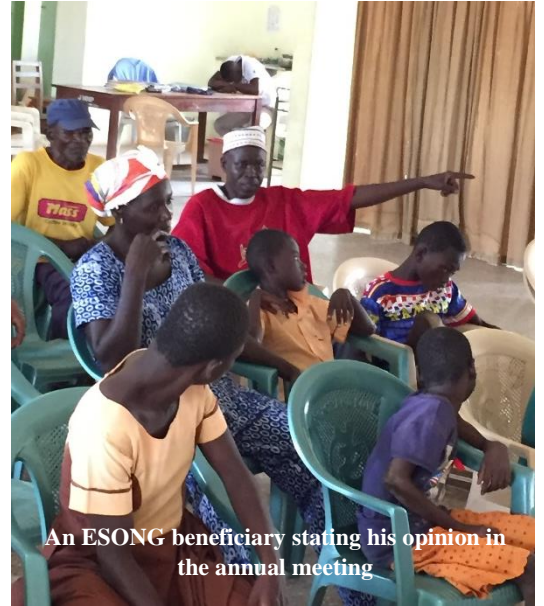
Artisans and ProNet Staff after the entrepreneurship training in DBI District



Rehabilitation and expansion of mechanized system at Bulenga health centre for the facility and staff bungalows



Monitoring of crop insurance field with MEDA team at Viisee



An ESONG beneficiary stating his opinion in the annual meeting



One student putting her future ambition during ICS community



A client who started soap production business through the training of GROW



Artisans attending an orientation on DPC latrine construction



Donation of clothes from German philanthropists to village children



Donation from ProNet to beneficiaries of Esong

Our Partners

Multilateral and International Organizations

Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Crown Agents
Concern Worldwide, USA
Global Affairs Canada (GAC)
Department for International Development (DFID)
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
John Snow Inc. (JSI), USA
Oxfam Ghana
Think Place, Australia
World Bank
Comic Relief
Mennonites Economic Development Associates (MEDA)
STAR-Ghana
Volunteer Service Overseas (VSO)
WaterAid Ghana
Liliane Fond Foundation

Government

All District Assemblies in the Upper West Region and Sene West and Pru Districts in Brong-Ahafo Region
Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA)
Ministry of Local Government
Ministry of Health
Ghana Education Service
Ghana Health Service

National NGOs

Centre for Community Participation and Development (CCPAD)
Kanea Foundation
SWEB Foundation

Coalitions

Coalition of NGOs in WASH
Coalition of NGOs in Health

Others

Coady Institute
Give Me Tap



Organizational Information

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Date Published: 22nd December, 2017

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Acknowledgement:

Our sincerest gratitude goes to our donors, implementing partners, communities, the District Assemblies, Government agencies, Staff and all who made it possible for us this year.

