

D E C C M A



Workshop Report

# Report of the Ghana district level stakeholders workshop, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015



DECCMA Ghana team



**CARIAA**  
*Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia*



**IDRC | CRDI**

International Development Research Centre  
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### **About DECCMA Working Papers**

This series is based on the work of the Deltas, Vulnerability and Climate Change: Migration and Adaptation (DECCMA) project, funded by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) through the **Collaborative Adaptation Research Initiative in Africa and Asia (CARIAA)**. CARIAA aims to build the resilience of vulnerable populations and their livelihoods in three climate change hot spots in Africa and Asia. The program supports collaborative research to inform adaptation policy and practice.

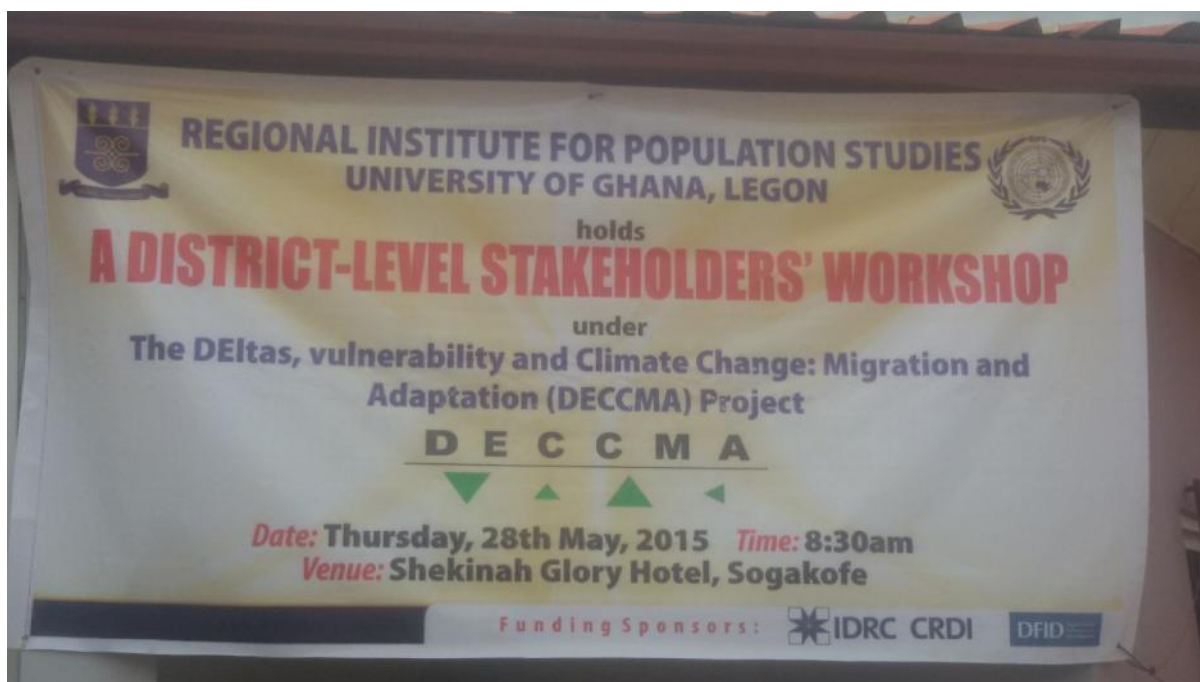
Titles in this series are intended to share initial findings and lessons from research studies commissioned by the program. Papers are intended to foster exchange and dialogue within science and policy circles concerned with climate change adaptation in vulnerability hotspots. As an interim output of the DECCMA project, they have not undergone an external review process. Opinions stated are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of IDRC, DFID, or partners. Feedback is welcomed as a means to strengthen these works: some may later be revised for peer-reviewed publication.

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## **1. Introduction**

A one-day workshop was organised by the Regional Institute for Population Studies (RIPS), University of Ghana at the Shekinah Glory Hotel in Sogakope, on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May, 2015 under the Deltas, vulnerability and Climate Change: Migration and Adaptation (DECCMA) Project.

The workshop brought together traditional rulers, Municipal and District Chief Executives, local officials representatives of community groups and others from the eight administrative assemblies within the Volta Delta. The districts included Ada West, Ada East, North Tongu, Central Tongu, South Tongu, Keta, Akatsi South and Ketu South (See Appendix A for List of Participants).

## **2. Aims and objectives**

An initial stakeholder engagement at the national level brought on board three districts – Ada East, Ada West and Keta. However with further delineation of the study area, the districts identified have increased to eight which necessitated the engagement of the others. Therefore, the main objective of the workshop was to introduce stakeholders to the DECCMA Project and also identify specific challenges within the delta relating to climate change, migration and adaptation from their perspective. It was expected that this workshop would contribute to creating awareness on the project and also give the project team the opportunity to engage with the districts for a better identification and understanding of issues relating to climate change impacts within the region. This workshop was also used as an opportunity to validate the stakeholders relevant to the project at the district levels. These objectives were spelt out to participants by Dr. Cynthia Addoquaye Tagoe, the Project Coordinator and Work Package 1 Lead.

The structure of the workshop included the screening of two documentaries on the Impact of Climate Change in Ghana and Bangladesh after which an in-depth presentation on the DECCMA Project and the Consortium was made by the Deputy Principal Investigator, Dr Appeaning Addo (See Appendix B for Programme). This was then followed by group discussions guided by a set of questions attached in Appendix C to identify the specific issues of Climate Change, Environment, Migration, Adaptation and other issues pertaining to the region. Participants in this first session were put into groups by their districts to deliberate on the relevant issues as experienced by them as well as the stakeholders in their districts. In a second brainstorming session, participants were grouped again but this time across their districts to discuss possible synergies and collaboration for the sustainability of the project by also identifying similar projects like DECCMA in their districts. The guide for this session is attached (Appendix D). The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Winfred Nelson, a consultant and a member of WP1 and Dr. Adelina Mensah, also a consultant and the lead for WP6. Some pictures of the participants at the workshop are attached in Appendix E.

### **3. Key findings for each work task clearly identified**

Some of the key findings identified included the following:

Climate change issues

- Flooding and erosion
- Out-migration
- Invasion of water hyacinth/water weeds
- Drought
- Storm surge
- Deforestation

Forms of Adaptation

- Out-migration
- Broken homes due to out-migration of men and youth
- Child trafficking
- Alternative livelihoods
- Education
- Creation of safe havens
- Early warning systems

In two of the districts, it was revealed that the issue was not that of out-migration rather it acted as a hotspot for receiving migrants. This has financial implications for it tends to place heavy reliance on infrastructure services.

### **4. Number of invitees and attendees - including affiliation and gender disaggregation of both invitees and attendee**

A total of twelve participants per district – comprising of officials from the assemblies, the communities, the traditional authorities, youth groups, community-based organisations (CBOs) and the media - were invited from the eight (8) districts. A total of 69 participants consisting of chiefs and queen mothers, municipal and district chief executives, community members and the media (See Appendix A). Female participants formed about 35 percent of these.

## **5. Key element of agenda item and detailed summary of issues / questions / requests raised by stakeholders, including any issues of particular relevance to women (if any raised).**

Generally the agenda focussed on climate-related issues in the lower Volta as well as coping mechanisms usually adopted by the communities. Suggested remedies to some of the more difficult issues such as those involving huge costs such as the Keta Sea Defence Wall, were also discussed. The gathering was also used to update the stakeholders' list. These were done in two brainstorming sessions.

For the first session, the group discussions were guided by the following questions:

1. What are the environment/climate-related issues in the lower Volta?
2. What are the adaptation (reactive /planning) mechanisms of communities?
3. What are suggested remedies to the issues

There were two main tasks for each group. The first required each group (district/municipal) to discuss and present, according to a proposed format, issues of climate change and environment, migration and adaptation relevance, and economic issues among others pertaining to specific locations in their various districts. They also discussed the remedies (anticipatory or reactive, proposed or on-going) within their districts. The second main task was for the participants to identify stakeholders from the previous task and their roles.

The crosscutting issues identified included flooding which was reported in all the 8 districts. Two of the districts reported on invasion of water hyacinth, erosion, storm surge and deforestation and six out of the eight districts reported out-migration as a main form of adaptation which has led to increase in broken homes and child trafficking. Other forms of adaptation reported include alternative livelihoods, safe havens, early warning systems and education.

In a second breakout session, participants were assigned to five groups by systematic random sampling to deal with synergies. The second set of discussions focused on three key issues: how to work together to ensure the sustainability of the delta; the presence of similar projects in the districts and the presence of private sector partnerships in the district/municipality (See appendix D).

## **6. Requests raised by stakeholders, including any issues of particular relevance to women (if any raised).**

With reference to women the main issues raised were that of the migration of the men and youth to other places leaving the women and children behind. As a result there are increases in broken homes, child trafficking and increases in social vices. The women become the bread winners of the home.

Participants called for the involvement of key agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency and National Disaster Management Organisation in future programmes.

## **7. Meeting Conclusions and Next Steps**

Overall the workshop identified the specific crosscutting issues relating to climate change and migration within the Volta Delta communities. The main issues identified include erosion, flooding, drought, loss of property and lives, food insecurity storm surge prevalence of bilharzia which relate to climate change and environment. With regards to migration, out migration of the youth farmers and fishers folk is a main challenge in hotspots and immigration which results in broken homes, child trafficking, and pressure on social amenities among others. It was also clear that various efforts are being made locally and nationally to adapt to the situation including creation of alternative livelihoods, education, creation of safe havens, early warning systems, sea defence among others.

As next steps, there will be follow-up of stakeholders to their various districts for more interaction as the project rolls out. It is expected that this will be done in collaboration with Work Package 3 and 6 especially in relation to the engagement of communities for the field work.

At WP1 level, efforts will be made to maintain the contacts at the district level and ensure a cordial working relationship with stakeholders at that.

A more substantive task is the organisation of the Experts' meeting to discuss some of the issues that came up in relation to climate change effects in the lower Volta by the end of August/Early September.

## Appendix A: Participants' List

### **SOUTH TONGU**

No	Name of Participant	Sex	Position	District/Institution
1	Kusitor J. Atsu	M	Operations	NADMO
2	Mama Adzesu III	F	Chairperson on customary land	Fievie Customary land Secretariat
3	Bright Agbenyo	M	Head of operations	NADMO
4	Helen Dzide	F	Gender Desk Officer	South Tongu
5	Edward Holley Woyome	M	Assistant Social Dev't Planning officer	S. Tongu
6	Khadija Yakubu	F	Assistant Social Dev't Planning officer	S. Tongu
7	Araba Abakah	F	Asst. Director	S. Tongu
8	Samuel Ewpruo	M	DCE	STDA
9	Sefakor Fummy	F	Asst. Planning Officer	STDA
10	Grace Mensah	F	Asst. Planning Officer	STDA
11	Ben Amekudzi	M		STDA

### **ADA EAST**

12	Nakaar Desiree	F	W/L Ranger	Wildlife Div. of FC
13	Nene Kerker Zomabi III	M	Traditional Ruler	Ada East
14	Felicia A. Akorli	F	Coordinator	NADMO
15	Emily Amerdjoe	F	Gender Desk Officer	AEDA
16	John N. Ahortu	M	DCE	AEDA
17	Nutifafa M. Sefenu	M	Social Worker	AEDA
18	G. Y Gadzekpo (Togbe)	M	DCD	AEDA
19	Salifu Abdul-Mujeeb	M	Budget/Planning	AEDA

### **AKATSI SOUTH**

20	Mama Avebo II	F	Queenmother	Akatsi
21	Torgbui Aho IV	M	Traditional Ruler	Akatsi Mornenu
22	Samuel K. Wuadi	M	DCE	Akatsi South
23	James K. Dorkah	M	NADMO	Akatsi South
24	Jerry Agbo	M	Cord.	NYA
25	Wisdom Attigah	M	D.P.O	Akatsi South
26	Naomi Adenusi	F	AHRM	Akatsi South
27	Emmanuel Dorkordi	M	Social Dev't	Akatsi South

### **NORTH TONGU**

28	Tetty Sylvanus	M	Dist. Planning. Officer	NTDA
29	Yom Agbitor	F	DCD rep	NTDA
30	Beauty Tetteh	F	Secretary	NADMO
31	Babuh Eric	M	C.D.O	NTDA
32	Lott Linda K.	F	C.D.O/Gender Off.	NTDA

### **KETA**

33	Togbi Edihoo II	M	Traditional ruler	Keta Mun.
34	Nicholas Nai Adjei	M	MCD	Keta Mun
35	Abdul-Kareem Fuseini	M	Manager	Keta
36	Celestina Attipoe	F	MCDO	Keta
37	Alex Attakpah	M	NADMO	Keta



38	Joel Degue	M	Youth Group	Keta
39	Nunekpedu Jacob	M	Planning Officer	Keta
40	Faustina Borklee	F	Gender Desk Officer	Keta
41	Hon. Sylvester Tonyavah	M	MCE	Keta

#### **ADA WEST**

42	Alhassan Ziblim A.	M	DCD	Ada West
43	Gilbert Akaba	M	DBA	Ada West
44	Exorgbe A. K Divine	M	C.D.O	Ada West
45	Philomina Anim	F	Gender desk	Ada West
46	Nene Saki Keteni IV	M	Ada traditional council Rep	Ada West
47	Abborie Emmanuel	M	AEDA	Ada West
48	Emmanuel Willingdoo	M	Prog. Officer FSDA-GH	Ada West

#### **KETU SOUTH**

49	Elizabeth Awo Yaan	F	Denu Youth Ass. Sec	Ketu South Mun.
50	Trinity G.K Yevo	F	Municipal Officer	Ketu South
51	Nyavor Frederick	M	Syband (NGO) team leader	Ketu South
52	Bright Ofori Kwaku	M	Administrator	NADMO
53	Thomas K. Allah	M	Zonal Cord.	NADMO
54	Banini Dzorgbenyni	F	Planning Officer	Ketu south
55	Ivy Ashiley	F	ADPO	Ketu South

#### **CENTRAL TONGU**

56	Charles Ocloo	M	Administrator	NADMO
57	Atokple Lucky	F	CDO	Department SWCD
58	Joseph M. Gbeku	M	Youth Repr.	Adidome
59	Togbe K. Tutu V	M	Trad. Leader	New-Bakpa
60	Michael Tetteh	M	ABA	Central Tongu Dist. Ass
61	Edith Akli	F	SDO	Central Tongu Dist.
62	Courage Godzo	M	D.P.O	Central Tongu
63	Mary Theodora Agbenyenu	F	DCE	Central Tongu

#### **MEDIA**

No	Name of Participant	Sex	Position
64	Sam Kush	M	Shine 96.9 FM, Akatsi
65	Senanu Wemaker	M	GNA
66	Noah Dameh	M	Radio Ada
67	Raymond Peniyena	M	Jubilee Radio
68	George Awudza	M	Head of Programs
69	Christopher Pappoe	M	Prog. Head, Dela Radio Adidome

## Appendix B: Programme Outline

Time	Activity		Lead(s)
08.30 – 9.:30 am	<b>Arrival &amp; Registration</b> Refreshments will be provided		Registration desk
9.30-9:45 am	<b>Welcome and Introduction to the Workshop</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome</li> <li>Context and Goals of the Workshop</li> <li>Expected Outputs</li> <li>Workshop programme</li> </ul>	Dr. Cynthia Addoquaye Tagoe
9:45-10:00 am	<b>Introduction of participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interaction of participants</li> </ul>	Facilitators* <i>*Mr. Winfred Nelson and Dr. Adelina Mensah</i>
10:00 -10:20 am	<b>Deltas and Climate Change (Video)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DECCMA Ghana Video</li> <li>Discussions</li> </ul>	Facilitators*
10:20 -11:20 pm	<b>Brainstorming activity I</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are climate related issues in the lower Volta?</li> <li>What are coping mechanisms of communities?</li> <li>Who are important stakeholders?</li> <li>What are suggested remedies to the issues?</li> </ul>	Facilitators*
11:20 -12:00 pm	<b>Presentation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation on the DECCMA Project and its activities.</li> <li>Discussion</li> </ul>	Dr. Kwasi Appeaning Addo
12:00-1:00 pm	<b>Brainstorming Activity II</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What are relevant community issues that can be addressed by DECCMA?</li> </ul>	Facilitators*
1:00-2:00 pm	<b>Lunch Break</b>		
2:00-3:00 pm	<b>Cont'd</b>		Facilitators*
3:00 pm	<b>Evaluation/Closing</b>		Facilitators*

## Appendix C: Brainstorming Session I Guide

Municipality/District:.....

ISSUES	SPECIFIC ISSUES	LOCATIONS	REMEDIES 1) (ONGOING/PROPOSED) 2) (REACTIVE/PLANNED)
CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT			
MIGRATION RELEVANCE			
ADAPTATION RELEVANCE			
OTHERS (ECONOMY ETC.)			

### STAKEHOLDER MAPPING FORM

Municipality/District:.....

	TYPE/DETAILS	ROLE
POLITICIANS		
GOV'T MINISTRIES/ DA/ POLICY ANALYSTS/ BUREAUCRATS		
DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS		
NGOs		
RESEARCH GP/ PROJECT		
TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES		
PRIVATE SECTOR		
MEDIA		
OTHERS (Philanthropist)		

## Appendix D: Brainstorming Session II Guide

Group	How can we work together to ensure sustainability of the Lower Volta	Are there similar projects in your district/municipality? Name them	Are there any private sector partnerships in your district/municipality?
<b>Group 1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion of early warning systems</li> <li>• Community resilience through early warning (CREW)               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Implementation in other district                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access routes</li> <li>• Media, information vans etc. before, after and during disasters</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tree growing (mangroves)</li> <li>○ Awareness of climate change impact on health</li> <li>○ Sensitisation on climate change</li> <li>○ Clearing of aquatic weeds by VRA/EPA</li> <li>○ Dredging of Volta River</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fertilizer production from aquatic weeds (IBIS)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Group 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration with institutions, local and international development partners to               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ dredge the Lower Volta</li> <li>○ remove aquatic weeds</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Sea defense wall (appeal to central government)</li> <li>• Investment opportunities / economic activities should be created</li> <li>• Reforestation of the river banks</li> <li>• Inter-district sensitisation on migration and its consequences</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Removal of aquatic weeds by VRA</li> <li>○ Dredging of river (VRA &amp; PPP)</li> <li>○ Planting of trees along river by communities</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Removal of weeds (ZOIL)</li> <li>○ Tree planting (SNV, Netherlands)</li> <li>○ Worst form of Child labour* (IMO)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Group 3</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formation of an organisation (an umbrella body)</li> <li>• Sensitisation/Awareness creation of people along Lower Volta</li> <li>• Enforcement of local by-laws</li> <li>• Planting of coconut trees along coastal stretch by community and Forestry Commission</li> <li>• Provide alternative livelihood for people mining sand in Lower Volta</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coconut tree planting in Ada East, Keta and Ketu South</li> <li>• Coastal protection in Ada &amp; Keta</li> <li>• Removal of water hyacinth by EPA and VRA in Ada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yes               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tree planting (SNV, Netherlands)</li> <li>○ Improved smoker in Ada &amp; Keta (SNV)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Group 4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-district collaboration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community resilience through</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SNV</li> <li>• EPA</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sharing of ideas and best practices</li> <li>○ Doing away with political differences</li> <li>○ Sensitisation</li> <li>○ Advocacy for coastal zone protection policy by government</li> <li>● Formation of Implementation Committee comprising target district</li> </ul>	<p>early warning (CREW project) – Agordoe</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sea defense – Ada East</li> <li>● Salt mining – Ketu South, Keta</li> <li>● Weed harvesting - Ada</li> </ul>	
<b>Group 5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Creating of alternative livelihoods to reduce pressure on Lower Volta</li> <li>● Sharing of ideas among districts/municipalities</li> <li>● Bringing on board law enforcement agencies</li> <li>● Teaming up to sensitise the people</li> <li>● Dissemination of information among the people</li> <li>● Mandatory budget for EPA activities</li> <li>● Common radio programmes/Town Hall meetings</li> <li>● Sub-committees to manage the coastal zone within districts/municipalities</li> <li>●</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● South Tongu being helped by VRA</li> <li>● Sea defense/ Coastal protection project</li> <li>● Preservation of mangroves by Wildlife</li> </ul>	<p>Funding of CREW project (UNDP)  Suncity Hotel  Solving &amp; Creating problem meeting*  (Diamond Cement)</p>

## Appendix E: Pictures



DECCMA Team Members with Traditional Leaders and Chief Executives



A section of participants at the workshop



A presentation by Dr. Appeaning Addo on Deltas and Climate Change







Sections of the participants during the brainstorming sessions



The Project Coordinator, Dr. Cynthia Adoquaye Tagoe explaining a point during the group discussions





A group picture with the stakeholders