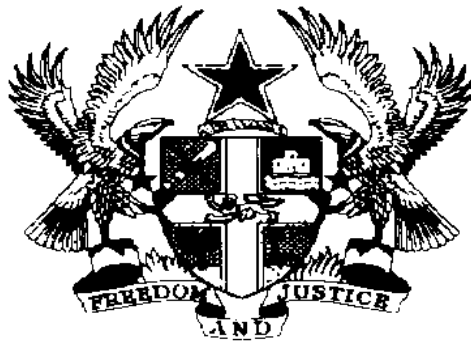


# Action Plan for Implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas of the Convention on Biological Diversity

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REPUBLIC OF GHANA

(REPUBLIC OF GHANA)

Submitted to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity [DATE]

# Protected area information:

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## PoWPA Focal Point:

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2. The Executive Director, Wildlife Division of Forestry Commission, Forestry commission.  
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**Lead implementing agency:** Ministry of Environment Science and Technology (MEST), National Biodiversity Committee and the Wildlife Division of the Forestry Commission with a statutory responsibility towards PA management.

## Multi-stakeholder committee:

The implementation of development programs of Protected Area in Ghana is a collaborative effort of the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, the National Biodiversity Committee (NBC), NGOs, the Private sector, community members and traditional authorities.

# Description of protected area system

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## Coverage

Ghana's diverse ecosystems are represented by protected areas systems, which include a southern High Forest Zone (HFZ) with wet and moist evergreen and semi-deciduous forests, and a drier northern savanna zone. National parks, forest reserves and other protected areas cover 14.67 percent of Ghana's territory, and forest reserves cover 11.6 percent of the nation. 80% of Ghana's intact tropical moist forest, covering an estimated 1.8 million hectares, lies within forest reserves. These reserves contain some of the richest biodiversity in Ghana, but some are assigned for timber production

## Description and background

The protected area network is a fair representation of the ecological zones of Ghana. These protected area categories include 7 National Parks, 6 Resource Reserves, 2 Wildlife Sanctuaries, 1 Strict Nature Reserve and 5 coastal wetlands. . If managed effectively, these forests could maintain their biodiversity values including viable populations of large forest-dwelling species, such as elephants, bongos, and primates; some of which are rare, threatened or endangered. According to data from the World Resources Institute, Ghana has 3,725 species of plants, 729 birds, 222 mammals, 131 reptiles, and 90 fish.

## Governance types

- The 7 national parks, 6 Resource Reserves, 2 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 1 Strict Nature Reserve are Government managed
- The 5 coastal Wetlands are co-managed (Government and Fringe communities)

## Key threats

- Agriculture and Pastoral Farming
- Invasive species
- Wild fires
- Extractive Industry ( Logging, mining, oil and gas)
- Human settlements
- Illegal off take of PA resources

## Barriers for effective implementation

- Weak institutional, legal and regulatory framework
- Poor attitude and perception towards natural resource management
- Adequate financial and logistics
- Inadequate capacity of staff
- Inadequate buffer and connectivity for PA
- Outstanding compensation to pay to land owners

## National Targets and Vision for Protected Areas

Ghana is aiming at achieving more than 18 percent of the land mass under protection. It targets about 22 % for protection through establishment of Community Resource Management Areas (CREMA), and Biological Corridors by government and other NGO interventions

# Progress in and plans for achieving the goals of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas

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**Progress:** 0 = no work, 1 = just started, 2 = partially complete, 3 = nearly complete, 4 = complete

Goals of the Programme of Work on Protected Areas	Progress 0-4
• Progress in <b>establishing and strengthening national and regional systems</b> of protected areas (1.1)	3
• Progress in integrating protected areas into <b>broader land- and seascapes and sectors</b> so as to maintain ecological structure and function (1.2)	1
• Progress in establishing and strengthening <b>regional networks, transboundary protected areas</b> (TBPAs) and collaboration between neighbouring protected areas across <b>national boundaries</b> (1.3)	1
• Progress in substantially improving <b>site-based</b> protected area planning and management (1.4)	3
• Progress in preventing and mitigating the negative impacts of <b>key threats</b> to protected areas (1.5)	2
• Progress in promoting <b>equity and benefit-sharing</b> (2.1)	1
• Progress in assessing and implementing diverse protected area <b>governance types</b> (2.1)	1
• Progress in enhancing and securing <b>involvement of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders</b> (2.2)	2
• Progress in providing an <b>enabling policy, institutional and socio-economic</b> environment for protected areas (3.1)	4
• Progress in assessing the <b>contribution of protected areas</b> to local and national economies (3.1)	1
• Progress in <b>building capacity</b> for the planning, establishment and management of protected areas (3.2)	3
• Progress in developing, applying and transferring appropriate <b>technologies</b> for protected areas (3.3)	3
• Progress in ensuring <b>financial sustainability</b> of protected areas and national and regional systems of protected areas (3.4)	2
• Progress in strengthening <b>communication, education and public awareness</b> (3.5)	3
• Progress in developing and adopting <b>minimum standards and best practices</b> for national and regional protected area systems (4.1)	3
• Progress in evaluating and improving the <b>effectiveness of protected areas management</b> (4.2)	2
• Progress in <b>assessing and monitoring</b> protected area status and trends (4.3)	2
• Progress in ensuring that <b>scientific knowledge</b> contributes to the establishment and effectiveness of protected areas and protected area systems (4.4)	3
• Progress in <b>marine protected areas</b>	1
• Progress in incorporating <b>climate change</b> aspects into protected areas	1

## Priority activities for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas:

Activities	Timeline
List of activities	2012-2020

<b>1. Compile a Directory of all existing ex situ components of Biodiversity in Ghana</b>	2012 -2020
<b>2. Monitoring and Evaluation and management of ex situ component of Biodiversity</b>	2012-2020
<b>3. Needs Assessment and Capacity Building</b>	2012-2020
<b>4. Conservation of Biodiversity</b>	2012 -2020
<b>5. Development of Communication strategies</b>	2012-2020
<b>6. Governance of Administration</b>	2012-2020
<b>7. Strengthening of Legal Frameworks on Biodiversity</b>	2012 -2020
<b>8. Maintain and Enhance Biodiversity Conservation</b>	2012-2020
<b>9. Management of Invasive alien species</b>	2012-2020
<b>10. Incorporate Biodiversity into National Agricultural policy</b>	2012 -2020
<b>11. Develop and Implement Resource Mobilization strategies</b>	2012-2020
<b>12. Awareness creation and Knowledge Management</b>	2012-2020
<b>13. Asset and Benefit Sharing</b>	2012-2020

**Action Plans (detailed steps) for completing priority activities for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas:**

<b>List of activities</b>	<b>Budget requirement US \$</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>
<b>1. Compile a Directory of all existing ex situ components of Biodiversity in Ghana</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>

<b>2. Monitoring and Evaluation and management of ex situ component of Biodiversity</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>3. Needs Assessment and Capacity Building</b>	<b>1, 100,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>4. Conservation of Biodiversity</b>	<b>11, 000,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>5. Development of Communication strategies</b>	<b>200,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>6. Governance of Administration</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>7. Strengthening of Legal Frameworks on Biodiversity</b>	<b>400,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>8. Maintain and Enhance Biodiversity Conservation</b>	<b>50,000,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>9. Management of Invasive alien species</b>	<b>2,700,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>10. Incorporate Biodiversity into National Agricultural policy</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>11. Develop and Implement Resource Mobilization strategies</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>12. Awareness creation and Knowledge Management</b>	<b>6,000,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>
<b>13. Asset and Benefit Sharing</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>MEST/NBC</b>

# Key assessment results

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**Ecological gap assessment** (insert summary findings if available)

**Management effectiveness assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Sustainable finance assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Capacity needs assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Policy environment assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Protected area integration and mainstreaming assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Protected area valuation assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

**Climate change resilience and adaptation assessment** (Insert summary findings if available)

(Insert other assessment results if available)