

**REPORT OF FORESTRY COMMISSION AND HATOF FOUNDATION
SIDE EVENT AND EXHIBITION
AT COP 24, KATOWICE, POLAND
DECEMBER 2-14, 2018**



**PREPARED BY
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1. Background and Introduction

The 24th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, COP24 was held in Katowice, Poland from 2 – 14 December, 2018. The key objective of the conference is to adopt guidelines for the implementation of the Paris Climate Change Agreement. This is crucial to unleash the true potential of the Paris Agreement, and ensure climate action is increased to achieve the central goal of the agreement - holding the global average temperature to as close as possible to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Specifically, the full implementation of the Paris Agreement means that practical actions will be unlocked with respect to all elements of the climate regime that countries are building:

- adaptation to climate change impacts
- ambitious emission reductions,
- with strong means of implementation to support developing countries, in the form of financial support, technology cooperation, and capacity building.

In addition to the implementation guidelines for the Paris Agreement, COP24 also saw the high-level political phase of the Fiji-led Talanoa Dialogue, which assessed progress towards the temperature goals enshrined in the Paris Agreement. That notwithstanding, climate actions of non-Party actors were also showcased during exhibitions and a series of Global Climate Action events.

Owing to the principle that organisation of side events and exhibitions at the Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of Parties are the prerogatives of Non-Governmental Organisations, Forestry Commission of Ghana contracted HATOF Foundation (an admitted observer to the UNFCCC) to lead the entity to organise a side event and exhibition at the COP24 in Katowice, Poland to demonstrate to the world, Ghana's commitment to contribute towards emissions reduction through the REDD+ Programme. This report presents an update on HATOF's engagement with the Commission from August 22, 2018 to December 2-14, 2018.

1.2. Preparation towards the organisation of Exhibition and Side Event

Forestry Commission in August 22, 2018, notified HATOF Foundation about the quest for partnership to organise Side Event and Exhibition at the COP24 in Katowice, Poland to showcase progress made in its REDD+ Project. In view of the fact that the Climate Change Department of the Forestry Commission (FC) serves as the REDD+ secretariat of the

National REDD+ Technical Working Group and is mandated to lead the implementation of REDD+ in Ghana and also responsible for leading the Commission's engagement on REDD+ at the annual climate change negotiations and conferences of the parties (COPs) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Commission designated the Head of the Climate Change Department to coordinate all activities under this contract with HATOF Foundation. Before the commencement of the events in Katowice, Poland, HATOF Foundation supported the preparation of the FC's engagement at COP24, including the planning and execution of strategic and logistical considerations for the conference by specifically carrying out the following activities;

- **Application of side event and exhibition:** HATOF facilitated the application of side event and exhibition by developing the concept note for both applications in the format required by the UNFCCC Secretariat, uploading same on the application portal for consideration by the secretariat and meeting deadlines for application, constant and frequent following up calls and mails with relevant stakeholders including the secretariat and selection panel for consideration.
- **Logistical planning and organization of event:** After the approval of both events, HATOF engaged the COP24 task team from the Climate Change Department to develop and maintain a logistical roadmap and timelines including budgeting for catering services, identification of speakers, presentations, and delivery format to optimize time. HATOF ensured the smooth organization of all logistical aspects of the FC's engagement at the COP24, including engagement with the UNFCCC secretariat and Polish logistical team for the allocation of room for event and exhibition booth. HATOF continued to ensure strict adherence to planning timeline and milestones for speakers and presentation, and uploaded side Event and exhibitions materials to the UNFCCC Portal for archives and to be further assessed by interested parties.
- **Coordination of Events:** To ensure that the event attract the necessary participation, HATOF Foundation ensured to publicize the event among several networks and mailing list within the UNFCCC, including; FIP list server, REDD list server, PACJA group, Women and Gender groups, CAN-Agriculture group, Coalition on Sustainable Lands, the media, and partners and individual delegates at the COP whilst maintaining an updated schedule of events.

2. The Side Event

HATOF led and coordinated the side event and exhibition in collaboration with the COP24 task team of the Climate Change Department, provided support and ensured quality control during the side event and exhibition. The side event was organised on Friday December 14, 2018 at 13:15-14:25 in Bug Side Event Room 6 under the Theme: ***“Ghana’s Premier Emission Reduction Agenda: Cocoa Forest REDD+ Programme-Forests and Commodities; Propelling Sustainable REDD+ Financing for Climate Resilient People and Landscapes”***. The event aimed to bring together experts and influencers leading the implementation of the Paris Agreement around the world for a series of high-level discussions on the interlinkages between climate change and REDD+. On Friday 14, December, 2018 the HATOF-Forestry Commission side event provided a platform for interactive dialogues to share experiences and ideas on how best to leverage policies, programmes, multi-stakeholder action and partnerships to advance the climate action in ways to maximize benefits and leave no one behind.

2.1. Objectives

The event sought to reveal some national measures being undertaken to combat climate change and the mutual partnerships with private sector to leverage productivity efforts. Specifically the event was to;

- Showcase the programmes outlined in the Ghana REDD+ Strategy
- Showcase the jurisdictional approach to implementing REDD+ in Ghana
- Showcase HIA concept in implementing the GCFRP
- Exhibit the pilot projects under the GCFRP (Partnership for Productivity, Protection and Resilience in Cocoa Landscape (3PRCL)).
- Outdoor the Ghana Shea Landscape REDD+ Programme

2.2. Participants

The side event brought together 53 participants from developed and developing country delegations and observers including three international media persons. Participants also included; the Deputy Minister for Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Deputy Executive Director, Forestry Commission, Technical Director, Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, the UNFCCC Focal Point for Ghana, UNDP Senior Regional Technical Advisor for Africa, the Acting Director and Head of Legal Department of the Environmental Protection Agency.

3. Opening of Side Event



The event opened with scene setting from the moderator, Mr Samuel Dotse, CEO of HATOF Foundation and lead organiser of the side event. He gave a brief overview of the cocoa landscape in Ghana and the agenda, and then invited the Deputy, Minister for Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Hon Patricia Appiagyei to give the opening remark. Hon. Patricia

applauded the FC of the achievement under the REDD+ project. She also congratulated the FC on the two flagship projects which



in her opinion when implemented will enhance the livelihoods of beneficiaries. She re-emphasized government of Ghana's commitment to the implementation of the Paris Agreement through state agencies like the Forestry Commission. The opening remark was followed by presentations from The Acting Head of the Climate Change Department of forestry Commission, ToutonSA, and a

panel discussion which was followed by questions and answers session from audience.

3.1. Presentations at Side Event

3.1.1. Ghana's Emission Reductions Programmes



The Acting Director, Climate Change Department of the Forestry Commission, Ms. Roselyn Fosuah Adjei categorised her presentation into, Readiness, Implementation, and Private Sector Engagement. Highlighting on Ghana's REDD+ Trajectory, she indicated that it commenced from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

(FCPF) REDD+ readiness activities with the submission and acceptance of a REDD+ Readiness Program Idea Note (R-PIN)., She indicated that Ghana over the period has put in place favourable enabling environment structures towards REDD+ implementation of which the development of the Ghana REDD+ Strategy 2016 – 2035 is a significant milestone of the readiness stage. She pointed that the strategy has five priority areas outlined to address the key drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. The priorities are;

- Emission Reductions Programme (ERP) for the Cocoa Forest Mosaic Landscape (The Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Programme)
- The ERP for the Shea Landscapes of Ghana (The Shea Savannah Woodland Programme)
- ERP for the Transitional Landscape
- ERP for the Coastal Mangroves; and
- ERP for the Togo Plateau

She announced that two out of the five priorities have been fully developed for funding support from FCPF Carbon Fund and Green Climate Fund. Ms..Adjei further presented the Forest Reference Level which she indicated the country's preparedness to revise in a stepwise approach as it obtains better data; followed by the presentation of the REDD+ MRV institutional Framework; National Forest Monitoring System which is jointly supported by the FCPF, UNREDD, SNV and Climate Law and Policy; and the Safeguards Institutional Arrangements. The presentation further had sessions on implementation plans for the two

priorities areas under consideration for funding; the Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Program-Program, and the Ghana Shea Landscape REDD+ Program. She explained the benefits of each projects enumerating that the Cocoa Forest REDD+ Program-Program which involves 800,000ha of Cocoa Farms will enhance national and sub-national institutional coordination for Cocoa and Forest Governance; while the Shea Landscape REDD+ Program will reduce the rate of loss of agroforestry systems through the introduction of appealing tree/crop combinations and the plantation of 1.7 million Shea trees. On the issue of Private Sector Engagement, Ms. Adjei elaborated on the pilot project under the Partnership for Productivity, Protection and Climate Resilience (3PRCL) with Touton SA, Ghana COCOBOD, Forestry Commission, SNV, Agro-Eco, and NCRC to address the drivers of deforestation including the promotion of a landscape approach to sustainable forest management and Cocoa Production with all partners working together with local communities and Traditional Authorities. She also stated that there is also a Mondelez-UNDP-FC-CocoBod Partnership which also supports the implementation of the GCFRP with a Global Declaration of \$5million by Mondelez. She also touched on the partnership for livelihoods and forest landscape management; the underpinnings for Effective PPPs; the key lessons learnt in private sector engagement and the way forward.

3.1.2. Private Sector Engagement in Ghana's REDD+ Pathway

The presentation on the private sector engagement in Ghana's REDD+ pathway was further detailed by the Corporate Relations Manager, ToutonSA, Ms. Isabelle Adam through an audio presentation. She explained her inability to arrive in Katowice to do the presentation in person was due to bad weather which delayed her flight from Brussels to Warsaw hence missing the connecting flight from Warsaw. The audio presentation highlighted the operations of Touton and their involvement in Ghana's REDD+ Process. She provided a private sector perspective on efforts underway to meet the REDD+ objectives and the Cocoa Forests Initiative commitments in Ghana by initially enumerating the challenges within the cocoa supply chain. As partnerships are key component of achieving the REDD+, FC team up with Touton for the implementation of the GCFRP to leverage the broad network of multi-stakeholder partnership to claim Deforestation Free Supply Chain. Their approach to the Partnership for Productivity, Protection and Climate Resilience she indicatedis through their Rural Service Centres (RSC) as hubs for delivery of services to farmers and the development of programme for the North Western Region Ghana, in the Bia-Juabeso Hotspot Intervention

Area that spans over 240 000 Ha including approximately 140 000 Ha of forest cover. She said ultimately Touton aims to reach 50 000 farmers by 2021 by working through a consortium of partners and actors that include of course the Forestry Commission and Cocoa Board. She touched on the key achievements including Cocoa Traceability & Deforestation Monitoring, and landscape governance as well as their long-term sustainability of their effort.

3.1.3. Panel Discussion



On the panel were Technical Director Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Musa Abu Juam, UNDP Senior Regional Technical Advisor for Africa, Elsie

Attafuah, and Deputy Chief Executive of the Forestry Commission of Ghana, John Allotey.

Questions respectively put to them include:

1. How does the Policy Framework of Ghana's Forestry Sector support REDD+ Implementation? Regarding Tree Tenure reforms and benefit sharing arrangements for REDD+, do you believe the current national context can impact behavioural change?
2. With the Great progress that Ghana has made on readiness what do you see as opportunities for transitioning into REDD+ Implementation? Going forward how can the UNDP and other development partners strategically support Ghana to Implement REDD+?
3. Can you kindly share some existing initiatives in the Forestry Commission that compliment REDD+ Implementation? What are some opportunities that the Cocoa and Forests Initiative brings on board Ghana's REDD+ process?

4. The Exhibition



Exhibition Booth

The exhibition on the other hand was organised from December 3-14, 2018 at Exhibition booth 89 on the theme: ***Showcasing pilot projects under the Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Programme including the Partnership for Productivity, Protection and Resilience in Cocoa Landscape (3PRCL) and other large-scale sub-national interventions***. The exhibition which fell under the Category of Nationally Determined Contributions specifically addressing mitigation, Paris Agreement, Climate actions was to showcase the significant success chalked by FC and private sector in supporting Ghana's sustainable development and the quest to make the globe liveable for the next generation. The Exhibition provided the FC team the opportunity to further interact with COP delegates on their projects. The exhibition attracted key personalities from government and private sector including the Minister for Transport, Ghana, Deputy Minister for Environmental, Science, Technology and Innovation, Director and Deputy Director of Environment, MESTI, and Board Chairman of DVLA, Head of Renewable Energy, Energy Commission and the Executive Director of Environmental Protection Agency. There were also representatives of Intergovernmental and Non-governmental organisations from the US, Norway, Turkey, Brazil and Belgium. They were full of praise for the work done by the Climate Change Department of the FC.

5. Conclusion

The event gave Forestry Commission a global outlook within the UNFCCC fraternity and also afforded the Commission the opportunity to engage potential partners for future collaborations. The collaborative support by the COP24 task team of the Climate Change Department is commendable. We hereby thank the Chief Executive for his vision to promote FC and its activities among the global actors.

6. Challenges

- The uncertainty of the participation of top officials of the Commission led to the decision to have the event at the second week.
- The time allocated for the side event by the Secretariat was not helpful as majority of interested delegates have to return to their home countries before the event was staged.
- There was no adequate publicity about the event at the country level to rally support from delegates to the COP.
- So it was observed that because majority of the Ghanaian delegations to the COP were unaware about the intended side event, they had left before the event took place.
- The Commission flouted the payment schedule in the contract hence jeopardizing the work of the consultants.

7. Recommendation

- Official of FC should be clear on their participation before deciding on the date for future events.
- We advise that future events should be schedule for the first week to attract interested delegates
- Publicity about future events should be intensified at the country level to ensure that delegates to the COPs adequately prepare and make themselves available to attend the events during the COP
- The Commission must come clear on financial regulations and get consultants to accept options before commencement of future contracts.

Annex A: Programme Outline

SIDE EVENT OF HATOF GHANA AND FORESTRY COMMISSION OF GHANA AT COP 24, KATOWICE-POLAND

TOPIC: GHANA'S PREMIER EMISSION REDUCTIONS AGENDA

“Forests and Commodities; Propelling Sustainable REDD+ Financing for Climate Resilient People and Landscapes”

AGENDA FOR THE SIDE EVENT

Description	On Stage	Time
Setting the Scene 5mins	CEO, HATOF Ghana: Mr. Samuel Dotse	13:15-13:20
Opening Statement 10 mins	Deputy Minister of Environment, Science, Technology & Innovation: Ms. Patricia Appiagyei	13:20-13:30
Presentations (20mins, 10 mins each)	Ghana's Emission Reductions Programmes <i>Ag. Director, Climate Change Department, Forestry Commission: Ms. Roselyn FosuahAdjei</i> Private Sector Engagement in Ghana's REDD+ Pathway <i>Corporate Relations Manager, TOUTON SA: Ms. Isabelle Adam</i>	13:30-13:50
Panel Discussion (32mins, roughly 8mins per person. 4mins each for each question)	Musa Abu Juam, Technical Director Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources Questions: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. How does the Policy Framework of Ghana's Forestry Sector support REDD+ Implementation?2. Regarding Tree Tenure reforms and benefit sharing arrangements for REDD+, do you believe the current national context can impact behavioral change?	13:50 – 14:22

	<p>John Allotey, Deputy Chief Executive of the Forestry Commission of Ghana</p> <p>Question:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Can you kindly share some existing initiatives in the Forestry Commission that compliment REDD+ Implementation? What are some opportunities that the Cocoa and Forests Initiative brings on board Ghana's REDD+ process? <p>Elsie Attafuah, UNDP Senior Regional Technical Advisor for Africa</p> <p>Question:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> With the Great progress that Ghana has made on readiness what do you see as opportunities for transitioning into REDD+ Implementation? Going Forward how can the UNDP and other development partners strategically support Ghana to Implement REDD+? <p>Isabelle Adam, Corporate Relations Manager TOUTON SA</p> <p>Question:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As a private sector partner on Ghana's REDD+ process, what does TOUTON SA envisage as enhancers to continued engagement? 	
<p>Questions and Answers</p> <p>18mins</p>	Panel members	14:22-14:40
<p>Key Messages and Wrap Up</p> <p>5mins</p>	Moderator	14:40-14:45

Annex B: Pictures of Side Event and Exhibition



Group Picture of Panellist, Presenters, Moderator, Deputy Minister and UNFCCC Focal Point



Cross Section of Participants





Question by Dr. Raymond Kasei, Member African Group on Negotiations on Agriculture



Exhibition Booth



Deputy Minister of Environment and Deputy Chief Executive of Forestry Commission at Exhibition Booth



Transport Minister with Director of Environment, and Board Chairman of DVLA at the Exhibition Booth with staff of FC CCU



Staff of Local Government, Energy Commission and Ministry of Finance at Exhibition Booth



CEO of HATOF with Farmers from Turkey at the Exhibition Booth



Deputy Director of Environment with FC CCU Staff and CEO of HATOF at the Exhibition Booth



Deputy Director of Environment with FC CCU Staff and CEO of HATOF at the Exhibition Booth