



# Ghana's climate smart rice cultivation project

UNDP's Support

Gloria Namande; Programme Manager- Energy and Climate Change

# Introduction



- The Government of Ghana officially authorized the transfer of mitigation outcomes under its new climate-smart rice project to Switzerland.
- The rice project is implemented under a bilateral agreement between Switzerland and Ghana
- This was announced at side event at COP27 when the Government officially presented a formal authorization letter
- UNDP facilitated the bilateral agreement between Ghana and Switzerland.
- The bilateral agreement falls under Article 6.2, and this allows public and private institutions to collaborate to invest in climate change mitigation interventions in Ghana and exchange carbon credits with Switzerland for payment while maintaining the development benefits in the country.

- Through Carbon Payments for Development, UNDP is coordinating the implementation of projects that generate ITMOs
- The rice project has followed the guidelines of Ghana (defined in the A6 Framework) and the guidelines of Switzerland (Swiss Ordinance)
- UNDP developed the MADD, engaged the external, third-party validator, coordinated the examination by host and buyer country
- UNDP is leading the implementation, of the project and oversees the monitoring and will engage the verifier later this year.
- Since January, UNDP is onboarding farmers, training them to apply AWD and monitor the application of AWD
- UNDP has also developed a webapp to support the monitoring of AWD application and automatic reporting of the results to a monitoring platform which can be accessed by verifiers, buyers, etc.

# Lessons learnt

The project type is challenging because it requires heavy lifting for onboarding and training of farmers

Working with many smallholder farmers with small hectares, who all have to be individually onboarded

The authorization step requires very close coordination between buyer and seller and the project has to meet the standards and requirements of both sides. This has to be ensured during the validation and examination by host and buyer country and makes the process slow.

# Lessons learned



It's not a quick and easy access to finance

Key expectations are that an internationally recognized methodology is applied, an internationally accredited entity validates, the project has to demonstrate additionality, including financial additionality, avoid over-crediting, must be outside the unconditional NDC.

The timelines for implementation are short, only until 2030 (current NDC cycle) and no roll over to post 2030 will be possible – this means that the crediting period to generate mitigation outcome is getting shorter and with current prices the window of opportunities is closing, if we target only additional projects...

***THANK YOU***