OWNERSHIP OF PLANTED TREES

Communities have the right to be informed of the granting of timber rights in their areas.
Communities have the right to be involved in the field inspection of any off-reserve area where timber right is to be granted.
Communities have the right to request the exclusion of their farms from the area where timber right is to be granted.

NOTIFICATION AND INVOLVEMENT OF THE OWNERS OF AN AREA GIVEN AS TIMBER CONCESSION

- Communities have the right to be informed of the granting of timber rights in their areas.
- Communities have the right to be involved in the field inspection of any off-reserve area where timber right is to be granted.
- Communities have the right to request the exclusion of their farms from the area where timber right is to be granted.

FULFILMENT OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AGREEMENT

- Before the start of logging operation, the Timber Right Holder (Timber Company) has to negotiate and sign a Social Responsibility Agreement (SRA) with the respective communities.
- The SRA is purely meant for community development and not for any individual’s benefit. The SRA must be 5% of stumpage fee of the timber to be harvested.

TIMBER TO UNDERTAKE COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Communities may apply to the Forestry Commission to be permitted to log timber from areas that is not under concession to undertake community projects. Such timber must strictly be used for the purposes for which it was granted.

ILLEGAL LOGGING PRACTICES

Community members do not have the right to sell or allocate naturally regenerated trees for logging or engage chainsaw operators to cut timber for commercial purposes.

OWNERSHIP OF PLANTED TREES

Any timber tree planted and registered with the Forestry Commission in off-reserve areas belong to the planter who is entitled to 100% of the benefits.
These animals are protected by law in Ghana. It is an offence to capture, kill or possess any of them at any time of the year.

For further information contact:
- Forestry Commission of Ghana, Tel: 0302 401 210
- The Project Management Unit, Environmental Sustainability and Policy (ESP) for Cocoa Production in Ghana, Tel: 0302 227 012 | 024 451 9719