

NATIONAL FOREST PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM¹
THE MODIFIED TAUNGYA SYSTEM
AND
PRIVATE DEVELOPERS
2004 ANNUAL REPORT

1.0 INTRODUCTION

His Excellency, President J.A Kuffour, launched the National Forest Plantation Development Programme (NFPDP) in September 2001, however implementation of field activities commenced in January 2002. The programme has progressed satisfactorily over the past three years of its implementation and this report seeks to review its performance during project year three (January – December 2004).

The Programme is aimed at encouraging the development of a sustainable forest resource base that will satisfy future demand for industrial timber and enhance environmental quality. Additionally, the programme is expected to generate jobs and significantly increase food production in the country thereby contributing to wealth creation and a reduction in rural poverty.

The Forest Services Division (FSD) of the Forestry Commission (FC) is implementing the Modified Taungya System (MTS) as a strategy for plantation development with the active involvement of rural communities.

An annual planting target of 20,000 ha has been set for this strategy of plantation development nationwide. In the year 2002 (Programme Year 1) an estimated 17,460.9 ha (approximately 87% of the target) was planted, while in 2003 (Programme Year 2), close to 17,691 ha (about 88% of the target) was planted in all ten regions of Ghana. In 2004 (Programme Year3) the annual target was adjusted to 16,250 ha in response to the difficulty of the FSD field staff to cope with the large annual target in addition to maintaining the 35,091 ha planted during 2002 and 2003.

By the close of the year, ninety-five (95) Private Developers had gained access to reforest about 15,621 ha of degraded forest reserve lands in various regions. To date three hundred and two (302) Private Developers are actively engaged in plantation development and are reported to have planted an estimated 10,067 ha in degraded forest reserves over the past three years (2001 – 2003).

The variety of species planted include exotic species (Teak, Cedrela, Cassia, Eucalyptus and indigenous species such as Wawa, Opronon, Ofra, Emire, Mahogany, Ceiba, Nyankom, Edinam, Utile, and Otie. Cassia has mainly been planted for the establishment of green firebreaks and woodlots while Eucalyptus species have also been planted in the Upper West Region primarily for fuelwood production.

The report covers progress made towards achieving the project target for year 2004 under the Modified Taungya System (MTS) and also by private plantation developers who have been allocated parts of degraded areas within forest reserves in various regions for reforestation. Some constraints hindering the smooth implementation of the program are also mentioned.

2.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME

The objectives of the plantation development program under the MTS as well as by Private Developers are in line with the overall objectives of the National Forest Plantation Development Programme, which seeks to:

- Restore forest cover of degraded forest reserves.

- Address the wood deficit situation in the country, especially timber, which has been estimated at 4.5-million m³/year and fuel wood consumption also estimated at 14 million m³/year.
- Create employment opportunities at the rural community level, and generate income for plantation owners, timber processors and the national economy.
- Contribute to food production in the country.

2.1 Expected Outputs

The programme is expected to deliver the following key outputs:

- 20,000 ha of degraded forest reserve lands planted annually.
- 80,000 jobs provided annually mainly to rural communities.
- 30,000 tonnes of foodstuff produced annually.

3. Estimated Budget and Financing

3.1 Current Financing Arrangements

Hitherto, the funding for the 2002–2004 planting targets for the MTS has been channelled through the FC largely with funds provided by the Forest Plantation Development Fund Board (FPDFB). The Forest Plantation Development Fund (FPDF) has been generated internally from levies imposed on air-dried lumber export, which is currently dwindling and therefore not sustainable.

As at December 2004 the FPDFB has released a total of about ₪27.16 billion out of a total budget of ₪88.34 million (see Table 1) required to meet the annual planting target of 20,000 ha.

Table 1: FC Reforestation Budget Estimates and Releases (2002– 2004)

Year	Budget Estimates(₪)	Releases(₪)	Remarks (% of budget est.)
2002	23,253,802,440	9,108,380,000.00	39
2003	26,334,520,300	5,051,000,000.00	19
2004	38,755,960,164	13,000,000,000.00	33
Total	88,344,282,904	27,159,380,000.00	30

3.2 Plantation Development Income and Expenditure for 2004

A summary of the income and expenditure for 2004 is provided in Table 2 below.

Table 2 Summary of the income and expenditure for 2004

Item	Amount (₪)
Balance b/f from 2003	973,948,690.99
<i>Add:</i>	
Receipts for 2004	13,000,000,000.00
Total funds for 2004	13,973,948,690.99
<i>Less:</i>	

Expenditure (Disbursement) for 2004	13,775,219,468.83
Balance (as at 31/12/2004)	198,729,222.16

Table 3 below gives a summary of the project estimates and disbursement according to the main expenditure items as follows:-

Table 3: Summary of Project Estimates, Disbursement and Expenditure for 2004

Item	Estimated Project Cost (¢)	Disbursement (¢)	Expenditure (¢)	Balances (as at 31/12/04)
Field Operations	24,724,259,456	11,885,639,667 *	19,417,532,115.54 **	(7,531,892,462.54)
Administration	2,684,692,894	1,842,425,121	1,842,425,121	-
Capital Items	11,348,007,812	47,154,680	47,154,680	-
Total	38,755,960,162	13,775,219,468	21,307,111,916.54 **	(7531892462.54)

* The disbursement for field operations (i.e. ¢11,885,639,667.00) includes amount of ¢2,517,906,964 being arrears for 2003 operations but disbursed in year 2004.

** The recorded expenditure in Table 3 is provisional pending a reconciliation of regional work and expenditure statements.

A summary of the regional allocation of funds and Statement of Expenditure (SOEs) are provided as annexes I and II.

4.0 ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

4.1 Survey/Demarcation/Pillaring

4.1.2 Survey and Demarcation

Survey/demarcation of sites for the year 2004 coupes were carried out within forest reserves in the districts to cover an estimated distance of 1,193.60 km (equivalent to **17,348.91** ha and representing 106% of target). Labour for the activity was organized from the local communities but under the leadership of Forest Services Division (FSD) staff. Regional details of areas demarcated are provided in Table 3.

**Table 3 National Forest Plantation Development Project
Demarcation of sites by Regions**

Region	Target		Achievement		Remarks
	Ha	Km	Ha	km	
Ashanti	6500	447.20	6640	456.83	102% of target
Brong Ahafo	6500	447.20	6698.0	460.82	103% of target
CRNR	150	10.32	150	10.32	100% of target
Central	100	6.88	80	5.50	80% of target
Eastern	750	51.60	852.9	58.68	114% of target
Greater Accra	200	13.76	200	13.76	100% of target
Volta	200	13.76	260	17.88	130% of target
Western	600	41.28	860	59.16	143% of target

Northern	600	41.28	976	67.14	163% of target
Upper East	450	30.96	420.0	28.89	93% of target
Upper West	200	13.76	212	14.58	106% of target
Total	16,250	1,118.00	17,348.9	1,193.56	106% of target

4.1.3 Check survey

This activity has been completed in the Eastern Region for the year 2003 coupes in order to cross-check the reported levels of achievements by the districts within the region and the outcome revealed that the reported area established was significantly bloated. Steps are underway to fully investigate the cause of this serious discrepancy while efforts are being made to extend the exercise to the other regions as soon as funds are released for the activity. The activity is to be extended to all other sites to confirm the levels of achievement reported by the regions. The activity has been pending because of insufficient funds released to meet budget estimates.

4.1.4 Pillaring of demarcated sites

Various Regions have commenced the production of miniature pillars (12 cm x 12 cm x 40 cm) and mounting of the pillars is on going. Area (ha) pillared so far is about 715 ha in Ashanti Region. Generally the rate at which pillaring is being carried out in the regions is very slow and as such the activity may have to be awarded on contract in order to keep pace with the expansion of the plantations since some areas established as far back as 2002 have still not been pillared.

4.2 Site preparation

This has been the responsibility of Taungya Farmers except for the three Northern Regions and Greater Accra, where the project provided support for ploughing and lopping. An estimated total area of 16,736 ha (**103%** of the total demarcated area) was cleared as detailed in Table 4.

**Table 4: National Forest Plantation Development Project
Extent of site preparation by Regions**

Region	Work done (ha)	Remarks
Ashanti	6640	Work done entirely by taungya farmers; 100% of demarcated area
Brong Ahafo	6698	Work done partly by taungya farmers and by hired labour; 100% of demarcated area
CRNR	150	Work done entirely by taungya farmers; 100% of demarcated area
Central	80	Work done entirely by taungya farmers; 100% of demarcated area
Eastern	626.6	Work done entirely by taungya farmers; appx. 73% of demarcated area
Greater Accra	200	Ploughing done by FC; 100% of demarcated area
Volta	200	Work done entirely by hired labour; local farmers declined to participate. 76% of demarcated area
Western	744	Work done entirely by taungya farmers; appx. 86% of demarcated

		area
Northern	794.6	The project provided limited support for ploughing; appx. 81% of demarcated area
Upper East	420	The project provided limited support for ploughing; 100%of demarcated area
Upper West	181	Work done entirely by taungya farmers; about 85% of demarcated area
Total	16736.2	Approximately 96% of the total demarcated area

4.3 Seed Collection/Procurement

Seed collection gangs, comprising FSD personnel and hired labour from the local communities were formed at the various Regions/Districts as well as the Resource Management Support Centre (RMSC) for seed collection. An estimated **12,690** kg of seeds of various species were obtained from established seed stands and other identified indigenous seed trees in forest reserves. All the seeds were distributed to various nursery operators/contractors in the districts to raise seedlings for the project. The three northern regions also benefited from the supply of an additional 3 kg of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* seeds procured from Burkina Faso. Details of Regional collections are provided in Table 5.

**Table 5: National Forest Plantation Development Programme
Quantities of Seeds collected by Regions**

Region	Target (kg)	Achievement (kg)	Remarks (% of target)
Ashanti	14,079	608	43
Brong Ahafo	14,079	9,202	65
CRNR	375	-	-
Central	34	20	58
Eastern	154	254	165
Greater Accra	132	113	85
Volta	75	6.5	43
Western	600	900	150
Northern	1,500	1,089	72
Upper East	297	310	104
Upper West	356	187	52
Total	31,681	12,690	40

4.4 Seedling Production/Procurement

As many as 431 communities, a few institutions and private nursery operators throughout the country were awarded contracts and supplied a total of 17,896,332 seedlings/stumps of both exotic and indigenous tree species.

Existing FSD model nurseries also produced a total of 1,780,000 seedlings during the year to augment those contracted. About 894,355 seedlings left over from the previous year (2003) were also utilized. Extra 477,000 seedlings were available at the various FSD nurseries across the country at the end of the year, and the programme will utilize these during year 2005. Details of deliveries to various regions during the year are provided in Table 6.

**Table 6: National Forest Plantation Development Project
Regional Breakdown of Seedlings Delivered**

Region	Quantities Delivered	Remarks
Ashanti	7,079,514	Delivered in good condition
Brong Ahafo	7,118,066	
CRNR	166,650	
Central	88,880	
Eastern	696,153	
Greater Accra	196,647	
Volta	228,876	
Western	826,584	
Northern	882,801	
Upper East	465,509	
Upper West	146,652	
Total	17,896,332	

4.5 Peg Cutting and Pegging

This activity was contracted out to local communities who produced and supplied a total of 18,283,186 pegs. Pegging commenced in May and was completed in July. A total of 16,725 Ha was pegged nationwide. Achievements by the various regions are indicated in Table 7.

Table 7: Area Pegged by Regions

Region	Target (ha)	Achievement (ha)	Remarks
Ashanti	6500	6640	102% of target
Brong-Ahafo	6500	6698	103% of target
CRNR	150	150	100% of target
Central	100	80	80% of target
Eastern	750	627	83% of target
Greater Accra	200	177	88% of target
Volta	200	188	94% of target
Western	600	744	124% of target
Northern	600	795	132% of target
Upper East	450	420	93% of target
Upper West	200	206	103 % of target
Total	16,250	16,725	102% of National target

4.6 Planting Out

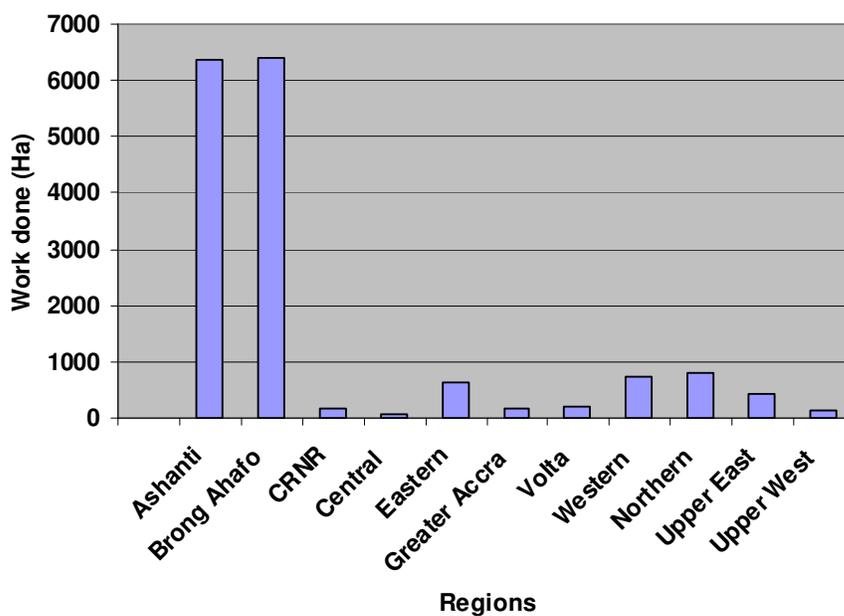
Planting commenced at most of the sites from the middle of May with the onset of the major rains. Unfortunately there was an unexpected break in rainfall by the middle of June. This impeded work at almost all the districts, thus further planting was suspended during the latter part of part of June and only resumed in late August. Planting ended in November with a total area of **16,090.4 Ha** achieved.

Achievement by the various Regions is presented in Table 8 and Figure 1.

Table 8: Area (ha) planted by Regions under the Modified Taungya System

Region	Expected (Ha)	Work Done (Ha)	Remarks
Ashanti	6500	6372.2	98% of target
Brong Ahafo	6500	6406.9	98% of target
CRNR	150	150	100% of target
Central	100	80	80% of target
Eastern	750	626.6	83% of target
Greater Accra	200	177	88% of target
Volta	200	188	94% of target
Western	600	744	124% of target
Northern	600	794.6	132% of target
Upper East	450	419.1	93% of target
Upper West	200	132	66% of target
Total	16,250	16,090.4	99% of National Target

Figure 1. AREA PLANTED BY REGIONS - 2004



4.7 Assessments

4.7.1 Survival Survey (Current Year Coupes)

This activity was carried out from September by the districts for the various sites in order to determine the level of survival of the seedlings planted in May/June 2004. The outcome informed the level of beating-up.

4.7.2 Technical Audit

Sixty-three (63) sites covering an estimated area of 5,282.6 Ha established by Private Plantation Developers within forest reserves was evaluated to determine their respective extents and level of success. A similar activity planned to cover year 2003 coupes of the modified taungya plantations could not be undertaken due to lack of funds. It is envisaged that during the year 2005 both the 2003 and 2004 coupes of the modified taungya plantations would be audited.

4.8 Beating-up

Beating-up covering an area of 5,344.40 Ha of the current coupe, 878.30 Ha within the 2003 coupe and 111.26 Ha within the 2002 coupe was undertaken throughout the country.

4.9 Tending

This is the responsibility of the Taungya Farmers but reports indicate that many farmers are unable to maintain their sites regularly thereby leaving the young seedlings to compete with weeds. The project is likely to incur high expenses to maintain areas reportedly abandoned/neglected by farmers.

4.10 Roads/Ride Construction

4.10.1 Ride Construction

The layout of many of the rides were demarcated during the initial survey and demarcation, but are yet to be conditioned to make them suitable for use by pick-ups, trucks and other machinery within the plantations. A total of 71.15 km of rides (10-metre wide) was reported constructed manually from five regions (see appendix ?? for details).

4.10.2 Road Construction

The activity will be organised under a comprehensive infrastructure program and awarded on contract. The intention is to submit proposals to the Sector Minister to consult with the Ministry of Roads and Transport to handle the construction works as part of the national programme on roads.

4.11 Maintenance of Rides

Routine maintenance of rides covering 80.9 km was contracted out to local communities during the year.

4.12 Fire Patrols

Fire volunteer groups from local communities were organised to patrol the previous years' coupes between January and March 2004. The activity was particularly intensive in the northern savannah and transitional zones, the northern parts of Eastern as well as Greater Accra and

Volta Regions. The exercise yielded good results with only 15 reported cases of wildfire incidence nationwide during the year.

4.13 Food Production

From all indications the on-going national plantation development programme under the modified taungya system has been making very substantial contributions to food production in the country. Current statistics on food production for year 2004 indicated a bumper harvest, particularly of plantain and maize. An estimated 56,250 metric tonnes of maize and 120,000 metric tonnes of plantain was produced during the year from the total of 16,736.2 Ha of land prepared during the year.

4.14 Job Opportunities

Jobs offered under the programme can be categorized into two – full time and casual temporary by-day jobs. The full time jobs were in the form of farming opportunities granted to peasant farmers from forest fringe communities and engagement of plantation supervisors on contract.

Table 9 – NFPDP Records on daily-paid jobs undertaken by local communities - 2004

Activity	No. of Jobs
	2004
Survey/Demarcation	7161
Pillaring	85
Site preparation	502,086
Seed collection	150
Seedling production	298,272
Peg cutting	66906
Pegging	66900
Planting	96542
Survival survey	-
Beating-up	-
Tending	-
Ride construction	200
Ride maintenance	80
Fire patrols	-
Fire prevention campaigns	-
Firebreak construction	-
Total	1,038,382

Part-time by-day jobs are usually offered for activities such as seedling production, site preparation, peg cutting, pegging, and planting. The programme recorded a total of 32,033 full-time jobs (32,000 farmers, 33 plantation supervisors). Table 9 provides the breakdown of daily-paid jobs totalling 1,038,382. The figure recorded for site preparation includes farmers (direct labour) and their dependants (indirect labour) as well as other hired labour.

5. Monitoring of Field Operations

The Horizontal Teams monitoring the disbursement and application of funds for plantation establishment continued to be active during the year. The teams visited all the regions within the high forest zone, including the Volta Region, to inspect and assess seedling production situations

at various locations in the regions and also supervised payments to communities. During their rounds the teams also interacted with communities to appraise their involvement and gains from the on-going plantation programme.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

6.1 Field Visits by Sector Minister

The Honourable Minister for Lands and Forestry, Prof. Dominic Fobih, undertook a number of fact-finding tours of plantation sites in the Western, Brong-Ahafo and Central regions during the period under review. The Minister was in the Western Region from the 3rd – 5th of May 2004 to access the impact of the on-going national forest plantation development program. Areas visited included Sefwi Wiawso and Juabeso-Bia districts where he inspected nursery and plantation sites within degraded forest reserves. He also launched the Community Forest Management Project (CFMP) at Sefwi Wiawso.

The Minister was in the Brong-Ahafo Region from the 9th – 11th May 2005. He visited the Tain II Forest Reserve where he inspected private plantations as well as Modified Taungya sites. He was accompanied on his tour by the Chief Director, the Executive Director of FSD, and other senior personnel of the FC.

While in the Central Region the Minister visited the Cape Coast, Winneba and Assin Foso forest districts where he interacted with staff of the Forest Services Division and taungya farmers during his inspection of modified taungya sites. Among the sites visited were the Bedum HIPC Plantation in the Bako Forest Reserve, Tegyamoso Modified Taungya Plantation in the Opon Mansi Forest Reserve and the Senya Breku Modified Taungya Plantation.

During the visits the Ministers interacted with the Taungya Farmers and assured them of Government's commitment to implement processes outlined in the Benefit Sharing Agreement that will guarantee their share in the plantations they are assisting to establish.

At the end of the visits the Minister was highly impressed with the performance of the local communities as well as staff of the Forestry Commission in the two regions for their efforts and active roles at ensuring the success of the Special Presidential Initiative on reforestation. In response the communities expressed their appreciation for their involvement in the programme in view of the expected benefits and promised to support the program.

The Hon. Ministers distributed logistics (Wellington boots and cutlasses) as part of an incentive package to boost the morale of the farmers.

7. CONSTRAINTS/EMMERGING ISSUES AND THE WAY FORWARD

The programme is confronted by a number of constraints that need to be addressed in order to ensure the successful delivery of the project outputs. Most of the issues are being addressed though a few of them need urgent attention to ensure the smooth implementation of the project activities.

7.1 Inadequate funds and delay in releases

The programme suffered a big set back in year 2004 when funds could not be released in sufficient quantities and on time to meet the cost of operations. Under normal circumstances once the annual project budget has been presented and approved by the FC it is expected that periodic requests would be transferred promptly to into the Plantation Operations Accounts. This

expectation has often not been met and has been contributing in most cases to the delay in disbursement of funds to the Regions/Districts. Once this initial process is delayed all subsequent processes are seriously affected. During the year under review ₦13 billion out of the budgeted ₦38.756 billion, representing about 33 percent of the budgeted estimates, was released (see Table 1).

Inadequate funds and their untimely release also create uncertainties and diminish efforts at delivery of field operations to meet targets.

7.1. Lack of clarity on annual targets for the Modified Taungya System (MTS)

Continued attempts to do the 20,000 ha annually under the MTS seems to be putting extra burden, not only on the staff of FSD but also the Taungya Farmers whose attention now seems to be divided over previous year's allotments. If this trend should continue for long it is likely to affect efficiency in performance and impact negatively on the level of success each year.

Recommended Action:

It may be prudent to progressively reduce the current annual target of 20,000 Ha to an acceptable level to enable FSD field staff and Taungya Farmers devote greater attention to maintaining previous years' coupes.

7.2 Inadequate staffing levels to cope with expanded Plantation Development Program

It is becoming evidently clear that the expanded plantation development program has resulted in increased workload on the current available field staff and is affecting efficiency in delivery of the program's outputs, especially since this category of staff in addition, have to grapple with the management of the natural forest and the increasing incidence of forest offences.

Action:

A new Plantation Department has been established within the FSD to develop and manage forest plantations both on and off-reserve nationwide. Currently a Director and an Operations Manager have been appointed and at post. Recruitment of Zonal and Area Plantation Managers, Plantation Supervisors and Plantation Assistants is expected to be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2005.

7.3 Number of available official vehicles/trucks inadequate to cope with workload

Some Districts, particularly those that have been assigned very high targets have difficulties moving labour and materials for fieldwork. This has therefore necessitated the hiring of vehicles, usually at very high cost to the project, to move materials (seedlings, pegs, hired labour etc.). Daily rates for vehicle hiring currently range between ₦450,000 and ₦600,000.00.

Recommended Action:

Tractors, trucks and pick-ups would have to be acquired to improve mobility and transportation of planting materials.

7.4 Lack of maintenance of previous years' coupes by farmers.

Many Taungya farmers seemed to have divided attention over other field activities while some withdrew after site preparation. In other instances farmers demonstrated lukewarm attitude towards work stemming from uncertainties about the anticipated benefit sharing arrangements.

Some planted sites have apparently been abandoned by some Taungya Farmers after harvesting maize. This is contributing to high mortality and retarded growth among the young seedlings and this will increase expenditure on tending to the project if hired labour is to be organised to maintain such sites.

Recommended Action:

Further District/community level meetings with the various Taungya Groups should be organised to disseminate the contents of the proposed Benefit Sharing Agreement and to assure the farmers of Government's commitment to the proposals in the document. There is however the urgent need to undertake extensive stakeholder workshops and submit the document to Parliament.

7.5 Activities of cattle herdsman affecting the plantation project

Fire outbreaks were experienced over quite extensive areas of the young established plantations in Ashanti (Boumfum and Bandai FRs under Kumawu District), northern parts of Eastern (Dede FR) and Greater Accra (Dechidaw FR) resulting from fire set by Fulani herdsmen. Huge financial losses would result from such incidents, if not curtailed.

Recommended Action:

The conduct of the Fulani herdsmen will negatively impact the plantation program in the Regions mentioned if not dealt with at the appropriate level. It is suggested that the Ministry of Lands & Forestry could take up the matter with the National Security Council to find a lasting solution to the problem.

7.6 Documentation and Data Handling

(1) It has been the intention to produce digitised maps of all plantation sites as part of the documentation of the on-going plantation program. Discussions have been held with the Mapping Unit of RMSC to support the production of the digitised maps. There is currently a lack of capacity on the part of Range Supervisors to be able to use the Global Positioning System (GPS) for field surveys. Efforts to secure funding for the training of the field staff have not yielded results yet.

(2) The workload on the District/Regional staff is increasing with time thus creating some difficulties in organising the increasing volume of field data on plantation. Though almost all the regional and district offices are equipped with computers there is a serious deficiency in basic computing skills on the part of schedule officers (Regional Plantation Officers and others at the districts) and even for some of the data entry clerks. This, in some instances, seriously affected efficiency in handling data on plantations and reporting to meet deadlines

Actions:

(1) A request has already been submitted to the Forestry Commission to fund training in the use of the GPS, under the FSDP II capacity building program. Director of RMSC would have to pursue the request for funds to run the training for the field staff without further delay.

(2) The new financial management system (Adom) is expected to capture all financial transactions records on the on-going plantations program as well. Regional/District staff would soon be trained to apply the program in order to facilitate data capturing and reporting.

Meanwhile Excel Templates have been developed for the Technical and Financial Reporting Formats and this would facilitate data compilation at all levels. Schedule officers and District Managers have been given an initial orientation on this program. Their outputs are being monitored to determine areas of weakness in order to plan and provide support where necessary.

8.0 ACHIEVEMENTS OF PRIVATE PLANTATION DEVELOPERS

About 125 new developers applied for allocation of degraded areas in forest reserves throughout the country. About 16,000 ha was proposed for allocation to the new applicants. However, 105 of them successfully gained access to develop about 5,514 ha of degraded areas in various forest reserves to undertake the reforestation projects. Details of achievement by these developers will be reported in the next update (first half year report for 2006).

Table 5a Summary Information on Number of Private Developers Allocated with Areas within Forest Reserves for Reforestation – Year 2004

Region	No. of Companies Applying	Total area Allocated (Ha)
Ashanti	64	3474
Brong Ahafo	26	1360
Eastern	9	380
Western	1	50
Greater Accra	1	50
Northern	4	200
Total	105	5,514

Presently, only speculative levels of achievements by the private developers have been presented. There is an on-going intensive assessment under the supervision of the Resource Management Support Centre (RMSC) to verify the performances of the various companies. Preliminary results of the assessments indicate that many of the private developers appear inactive and even with the active developers their annual performances are below expectation. It has been realised that most of the private developers are looking up to financial support, especially from the Forest Plantation Development Fund (FPDF), to be able to make any meaningful progress.

Many of the private developers already allocated with areas for reforestation have been found to be inactive. Even with the active developers their annual performances are below expectation (Table 5b). It has been realised that most of the private developers are financially incapable of undertaking the reforestation projects and are therefore looking up to financial support, especially from the Forest Plantation Development Fund, to be able to make any meaningful progress.

Table 5b Summary Information on Annual Performance by Private Developers undertaking Plantation Development within Forest Reserves **Year 2000 - 2003**

REGION	AREA ALLOCATED (HA)				AREA PLANTED (HA)			
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2000	2001	2002	2003
Ashanti	3,854	5,033	15,048	4214	727	977	984	1,778
B/Ahafo	430	1240	1929	2498	50	555	820	2634
Eastern	-	-	270	220	-	-	270	88
Western	62	115	168	98.04	61.6	112.3	165.03	96.29
Total	4,346.0	6,388.0	17,415.0	7030.04	838.6	1,644.3	2,239.03	4,596.29

9. CONCLUSION

Results achieved so far are very close to fulfilling the key objectives of the program. The contribution made by the project towards increased food production in the country and job opportunities for rural communities are quite remarkable. A major threat to the success of the project, particularly fire, has been well managed so far at most sites except for areas where the conduct of Fulani herdsmen is upsetting efforts and gains made.

In view of the expanding program it is becoming increasingly obvious that Taungya Farmers have had difficulties managing their annual allotments effectively to the extent that maintenance has not been very satisfactory.

Notwithstanding the problems and difficulties encountered most of the local communities have shown remarkable interest and demonstrated their preparedness to embrace the programme. There will however, be the need to increase awareness and educate the local communities so that they would better understand and appreciate their role in the programme to ensure that the objectives are fully met.

The need for adequate logistical supply, particularly vehicles including tractors, has been emphasised and would have to be given the needed attention. This is likely to save cost incurred on vehicle hiring, let alone the inconveniences associated with dependence on private transport facilities for this kind of project.

It is also hoped that the recommended actions enumerated above will be seriously considered to ensure effective and efficient implementation of the programme.