

TELECONFERENCE – 20TH MARCH 2012

Progress Report from Ghana

Since after the PSC workshop in Uganda 2011, the following activities have taken place:

1. **Continuation of Socio-Economic Study of SCI-SLM Sites**
2. **Monitoring and feedback visits to SCI-SLM sites**

Plan of activities:

1. Write up of Socio-Economic Studies of SCI-SLM Sites
2. Continuation of community exchange programme which started in September 2011
3. There is a plan to send some selected community members to Burkina Faso to see other methods of soil restoration and amendments (e.g. zai and natural regeneration methods) in degraded areas.
4. We are consulting relevant scientists and practitioners as to what improvements can be brought to bear on the various community initiatives.
5. We are also pursuing possible locations for up-scaling.
6. TAG and Morocco teams' visit in June 2012 - We are very prepared to welcome our Morocco and TAG colleagues in June. Let us know if visiting members will need invitation letters for visas. Please send names of all those visiting and their passport numbers for the invitation letters.
7. Preparations towards *4th Steering Committee meeting in October 2012*: Proposal is tentatively for first week (1st to 7th October 2012). 2012 is an election year in Ghana. Voting will be in December so it is not advisable to schedule our programme later than **the first two weeks of October**. Even with that there is need to plan far ahead with bookings for domestic flights and hotels. It is usual for the politicians to be moving all over the country. Tamale is about one hour's flight from Accra but about 10 hours by road. Tamale and Bolgatanga, the two venues being proposed for our meeting, are in a relatively deprived part of Ghana and hotels of international standard and facilities are

few and must be reserved and confirmed with deposits far ahead of time. Plans are to visit our SCI-SLM sites but also do some sightseeing. Ghana 2012 will be exciting!

8. Initiatives have been made for SCI-SLM Ghana to work closely with ProInnova in one of the SCI-SLM Sites, Moatani.