Background

SNV Netherlands Development Organisation and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) are implementing the GrEEn project in partnership with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development. GrEEn stands for “Boosting Green Employment and Enterprise Opportunities in Ghana (GrEEn)”. The GrEEn project is a 4-year project with EUR 20 million funding from the European Union Emergency Trust Fund (EUTF) for Africa and co-funding of EUR 600,000 from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Ghana, SNV and UNCDF. GrEEn is implemented in two regions in Ghana: the Ashanti and Western regions.

GrEEn aims at creating green jobs and promoting the growth of the green and circular economy in Ghana. The project will achieve this by improving skills and increasing access to finance for youth, Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs), women and returning migrants. The project supports one of the objectives of the European Green Deal: strengthening the EU’s relations with African countries through green partnerships in the promotion of sustainable development.

What do we mean by green jobs and business?

A green job, business or economy contributes to protecting and restoring the natural environment, and reduces the harm caused to it. A green job is also productive, fair and secure.

A climate resilient community or local economy is able to better resist and adapt to the effects of climate change such as flooding and drought.

Some examples include:
- Compost/biogas production
- Solar irrigation
- Waste recycling
- Plastic recycling
- Organic horticulture production
- Clean cookstove production and distribution
- Solar panel installation
- Green building construction

WHAT DOES GrEEn DO?

GrEEn has 4 result areas: UNCDF focuses on Results 1 and 3, while SNV focuses on Results 2 and 4.

1. Supporting growth of local economies and creating short-term job opportunities through cash for work schemes for green and climate resilient infrastructure.
2. Improving the ability of women, youth and returning migrants to take advantage of green job and entrepreneurship opportunities in their local economies;
3. Increasing access to and use of financial services to support cash-for-work beneficiaries and MSMEs to meet the needs of youth, women and returning migrants while also benefiting their local communities;
4. Supporting and speeding the growth of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) in the green and circular economy so they can offer decent, fair and sustainable jobs to youth, women and returning migrants.
RESULT 1: Green and resilient local economies

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Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) have transitioned to green and climate resilient local economies

RESULT 2: Skills development

1,500
Youth, women and returning migrants have developed self-employment opportunities (at least).

RESULT 3: Access to finance

3,500
Youth, women and returning migrants have accessed to finance (at least).

RESULT 4: Incubation and acceleration of SMEs

70,000
Youth, women, and returning migrants added to the Financial Inclusion ecosystem (at least).

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This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of SNV Ghana and UNCDF and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.