

GROUP PROFILE – DORVEME FOOD CROP FARMERS & MARKETING COOPERATIVE LIMITED

Dorveme is located along the Abor – Anyako strip of road in the Volta Region of Ghana. The community is very close to Atsiame Heluvi and Tsiame. The group is located in a very deprived community, with a small portion of land for the whole community for farming. Owing to the small size of the farm land, group ownership is very much encouraged, although individuals also own farm lands.

The Dorveme Food Crop Farmers and Marketing Cooperative was formed and duly registered in the year 2000. The total membership consists of approximately 50 farmers with members coming from neighbouring villages like Tsiame, AnyakoKpota, Heluvi, Asarame, and Hatorgodo. The basic crops cultivated by the members of this group are cassava, maize, cowpea, peanuts (groundnuts), okro, and chili pepper. The group has done a lot in the establishment of woodlots. This has helped address the challenges faced by women in their quest for fuel wood. At the individual level, some members are into the cultivation of improved mango as an alternative livelihood project. So far, the individual mango project is doing very well and is gaining recognition.

As a cooperative, the group aims at pulling resources to support each other. The group in their unity and oneness of purpose benefited from a number of trainings. These trainings include agroforestry management, group formation and development, record keeping, group dynamics, and leadership skills.

DSC began work in Dorveme in 2007 and as a result helped train the group members under the DSC/HPI livelihood support project. The group is a beneficiary of the Avenor Grasscutter and Beekeeping Project. Areas of training include grasscutter production and management, agroforestry management, composting, record keeping, leadership skills, HIV/AIDS, gender and domestic violence.

The livelihood package from the DSC/HPI package includes; 100 grasscutters, 20 cages, 200 poultry birds and 120 improved mango seedlings. The first beneficiaries are to work with the items and also “pass on” offspring, knowledge, and skills to other resource-challenged farmers.

“Thank you DSC and Heifer. For us, Dorveme will surely be a reference point for grasscutter in the District.”-Participant

