

a week at a glance

Content

1. Editor's Note
2. Highlights
3. Spotlight
4. Quick Reads
5. Photo of the Week
6. Upcoming events

editors note!

Welcome to today's edition of "A WEEK AT A GLANCE".

For this and every week, we will be bringing to you exciting updates on our weekly events and activities.

Want to know more about amazing work we do here at URBANET, follow this space each week to be enlightened, educated and entertained.

Thank you for joining us on this journey

Highlights!

1. GEC STEPDOWN TRAININGS

As part of strengthening the knowledge systems of Gender Equality Champions (GECs), we organised a series of training sessions for GECs in the Tamale Metro and East Gonja districts. This is part of the Gender Transformative Approaches (GTA) under the GROW2 project, implemented by URBANET in partnership with MEDA.



The review aimed at enhancing the capacity of GECs to promote community support for women's socioeconomic empowerment and advance gender equality.

2. SLG LEADERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

In the Central Gonja district, we help a brief engagement with leaders/executives of all Savings and Loan Groups. This interaction was meant to strengthen the methodologies and repayments of loans by the groups within the district. As part of our support to these groups, we scout for and link them with financial institutions to provide financial and savings support to these groups.



3. GREEN FIELD DAY WITH FARMERS

Farming is not just an activity that puts food on our table and boost economies, it entails a lot. From the preparation of fields to harvest, farmers utilised a lot of knowledge and practices. As part of our support to smallholder farmers, we provide learning opportunities for them on good agronomic practices (GAPs), alternate farm tools and the use of certified seeds.



Green field days are set aside to demonstrate to farmers the impact of the knowledge learnt on GAPs and how they reflect in their farms.

Green field days usually take place on URBANET selected demo fields which are taken care of by farmers with support from field officers.

4. FIELD VISIT WITH VVF TEAM

This week, we hosted the West African Coordinator and board member of the Vibrant Village Foundation (VVF) at our premises. As part of the visit, we invited them on short field trip to engage with some beneficiaries who are at the receiving end of the support from VVF. VVF is focused on transforming and building resilient communities through their partners.



“While I am proud of what VVF is doing, I am even more proud of the work URBANET is doing the contributions your communities are making”
Eric Brehn, the board member of VVF Shared

5. TIME WITH WOMEN FARMERS IN TOROPE

As part of strengthening the practice of agroecology by farmers, we have provided several farm technologies and tools to some communities. As part of the tools that were provided was a groundnut pod stripper, which for the people in Torope is a game changer this harvest season.

With just fuel worth Ghc50 and a few hands from the family, Fuseina Dokurugu and many other women are able to harvest and thresh an acre of groundnut farm within a day.



Fuseina Dokurugu (left) with other women farmers (who are also members of the agroecology committee)



Through the provision of new technologies and tools, we are reducing the stress in farming while promoting environmental conservation. We are reducing the damage to the environment, by promoting low tillage and other easy and good agronomic practices.

6. ARTISANS AND FARMER CONNECT

New tools or technologies can be challenging for time users, and this could lead to either the distraction the tool or discourage its usage. At URBANET, we take all these into consideration when providing alternative technologies to farmers. We invited some artisans and farm technology production institutions to share knowledge on the tools that were provided for farmers under our Agroecology implementing communities.



Through this program, farmers were given the opportunity to interact and network with these experts to learn more about the technologies, in terms of its usage and maintenance, and how to get the most out of them without exerting them.

Spotlight

This weeks spotlight is shinning bright on Fuseina Dokurugu, but not brighter than her usual warm and welcoming smile. The sight of her beautiful and unforgettable laughter is not just what captivates people but more.



Fuseina is not just a native of the Torope community, thanks to her vibrant nature, she has earned a spot as an organizer in the community's agroecology committee. As an agroecology and climate-smart agriculture enthusiast, she was one of the first to use the roller planter, she also made use of the conservative agricultural practices that was taught as part of the project, and had one the amazing farms in the community. Just before the harvest, she was able to master the use of the groundnut pod stripper provided by URBANET, and within a day, she was able to harvest and strip an acre worth of groundnut. ***"This season, the tools have not only save my time, it has saved me a lot of money",*** she shared.

Through the Appropriate Tools and Technologies for Agroecological Microenterprise project, we are transforming farming in these communities one technology at a time.

Quick Reads

Did you know?

Up to 70% of Africa's food is being produced by women smallholder farmers. Often using traditional knowledge and sustainable farming, women smallholder farmers are increasingly becoming leads in agribusinesses and value chain activities. They are not just putting food on the global plate, they are becoming more in tuned with transforming farm produce in ways that are nutritionally and economically beneficial to communities, countries and the world at large.



Through URBANET's interventions, we are increasingly providing support, opportunities and resources for women smallholder farmers within the Northern regions of Ghana. This is part of our aim to economically empower women and build their urgencies towards sustainable livelihoods.

Photo of the Week



*When you scream agroecology, We scream
Fuseina Dokurugu*



Upcoming Events

Hosting Star Ghana Foundation and WACSI team on #ShiftThePower project.

Joint visit with MEDA Ghana to URBANET operational communities on GROW2 project

Community budget review with agroecology committees at community-levels

amongst others....



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