



ASAASIAM VISION INTERNATIONAL NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION (NGO)

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Project Title:

Asaasiam Palm Oil and Palm Kernel Oil Production 2021

About us:

Asaasiam Vision International is a national non-governmental organization in Ghana. We are committed to addressing issues affecting Disabled Persons, Impoverished Youth and Vulnerable Women. We endeavor to enhance the life of all vulnerable women, impoverished youth and persons living with disabilities through education, vocational and technical training, as well as income generating activity skills training. Over the years we have supported over 2500 impoverished and disabled persons education and over 300 vulnerable women to engage in income generating activities.

Goal: To alleviate illiteracy among impoverished and disable children and youth, and poverty among vulnerable women who live in deprived communities.

Vision: To make the world a better place for all through illiteracy and poverty alleviation.

Mission: To alleviate illiteracy among impoverished and disabled youth, and poverty among vulnerable women through the implementation of innovative, efficient, cost-effective, local content and technology-based, and environmentally-friendly projects and programs.

Prepared by: Dr. Joseph Asare

Abstract

*Ghana has made a significant effort in alleviating poverty among women. However, extreme poverty among vulnerable women living in deprived communities in the Kwahu West and the Kwaebibirem Districts in Ghana continue to affect more women and children. Poverty among vulnerable women living in deprived communities in Ghana is getting out of control. Extreme poverty in Ghana is estimated at about 44.9% at the national level. However, Ghana's poverty is increasingly rural, with 48.2% of the people in rural areas being poor. This problem has also resulted in high illiteracy among youth and has also caused almost 82% of children in deprived communities of Ghana to become anemic, one-third are stunted, and one-fifth are underweight. Research has showed that about 61 % of the target population particularly women are bedeviled with poverty Also, the main occupation of these women is palm tree farming, palm oil and palm kernel oil production. Unfortunately, these women still use out of date production technique due lack of training and lack of access to modern palm oil production machines and capital. The proposed project will engaging 200 vulnerable women in modern palm oil and palm kernel oil production. This is a single project designed to achieve two major goals: alleviate poverty among vulnerable women and illiteracy among children and youth. A total of **USA\$65000** is needed to setup a modern palm oil and palm kernel oil production mini factory. Currently the target population live on less than **USA \$1.3** a day with their entire family. This project when fully comepleted will enable each beneficiary earn **USA \$70 to \$250** a month. To people like Madam Doris, this will be a huge income and a massive life turnaround, as she will be enable to: Provide two square meals for their families; Enroll her five children in the village school; Afford basic health care; Improve her farm and have Minimal saving.*

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About the Project

The tears of vulnerable women in Oda Nkwanta (a deprived community in the Kwebibrim District in Ghana as they struggling to get one-square meal for their families and cater for their wards education is the brain behind this project. Our interactions with those women and years of experience in deprived community work revealed that Palm oil and Palm Kernel oil production is one of the most effective approach that could be used to alleviate poverty among those vulnerable women in Oda Nkwanta.

Benefit of the Project / Impacts on Beneficiaries

This pilot project has the potential to solve a number of poverty problems in this part of Eastern Ghana:

- i. Provide stable livable income for over 200 vulnerable women and their families: allowing them to provide two square meals for their families; enroll 2-5 children of each beneficiary in the village school; afford basic health care; improve their farm and have a minimal saving.
- ii. Provide indirect livable incomes to over 300 additional families in the agric sector (palm tree farmers).
- iii. Provide notorious meal to malnourish school children (cooking)
- iv. Allow over 300 children the opportunity to attend school by providing stability in their lives.
- v. Fight Child labor among vulnerable women in palm tree farming communities
- vi. Reinvest in other deprived communities utilizing the information gained from this pilot with the utilization of a small amount of the project profits.
- vii. Provide the participants training on modern palm tree farming, palm oil extraction and income management

The project will engage 200 vulnerable women who are already palm tree farmers in palm oil and palm kernel oil production. A total of **\$65000** is needed to successfully commence the project. This money will be used to construct a factory structure on a 3 acre land, as start-up capital and purchase of all machines and equipment needed for the oil extraction.

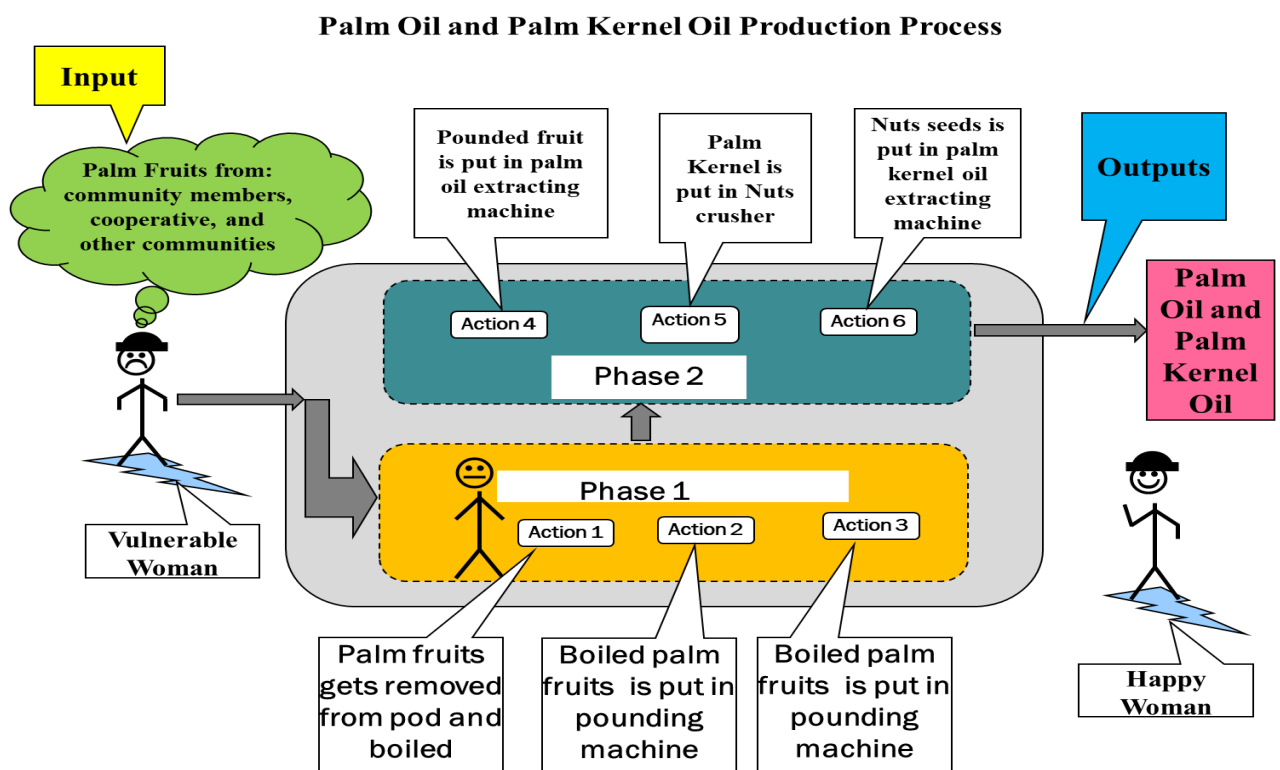
The Project Description

This project will engage Tw hundred (200) vulnerable women in palm oil and palm kernel oil production.

- The beneficialry women will be put into groups of ten (10), thus twenty 20 members per group.
- Each group will be led by five members, who will coordination all activities between Asaasiam Vision and the group.

- Asaasiam Vision will grant each group equal access to the factory and the machines (palm oil and palm kernel processing machines).
- All members will be train on: modern palm oil processing techniques, palm oil processing machines operations, marketing and financial management techniques.
- Asaasiam Vision will build ultra-modern palm oil and palm kernel oil process factory is one of the deprived communities call Oda Nkwanta.
- Asaasiam will also form palm tree farmers association who will be the immediate suppliers of palm fruits to the factory.
- A seed capital will be granted to the women for the purchases of palm fruits from the palm tree farmers association created
- Asaasiam will commence production, with the women playing a lead role is the production process.
- Asaasiam will connect each group to major local and international markets.
- The groups will operate bank account where income will be kept and profit made would be shared at the end of each month. Also, 20% of each month's profit would be kept in a separate account for maintenance and sustainability purposes.
- The bank account will be jointly managed by Asaasiam and the group leaders.
- Establish impoverished and disabled children education support fund

The Project Activity Flow



Work Done So Far

- i. A 3 acre land has been bought (fully paid for) at Oda Nkwanta for the constructing of the project.
- ii. Also, \$3500 has already been raised by our board of directors towards the project.
- iii. Clearing of site has also been done.

Financials

A total of **\$65000** United State Dollars in needed to fully construct one palm oil and palm kernel oil production factory.

Cost Break down:

	Cost Item	Cost USA\$	Cost USA\$
1.	Machines:		
a	Palm nuts boiler	5500	
b	Palm nuts pounder and oil extractor	6500	
c	Palm kernel and fiber separator	5500	
d	Palm kernel cracker and shells separator	6800	
e	Palm kernel oil extractor	<u>5200</u>	29500
2	Factory structure:		
f	Sand	1500	
g	Blocks	2500	
h	Stones	2500	
i	Cement	1200	
j	Metal Poles	3500	
k	Roofing Sheets	1500	
l	Nails	300	
m	Wood for roofing	1800	
n	Fencing	1600	
o	Locks	1600	
p	Electricals: (Wires, witches, bulbs, sockets and Meter)	<u>3000</u>	21000
3	Labor:		
q	Mason	1500	
r	Carpenter	1700	
s	Electrician	700	
t	Painter	1500	
u	Machines Installation / training on machines operation	1800	
v	Equipment (pots, bowls, gallons etc.)	1300	
w	Input/ raw material (palm nuts)	<u>6000</u>	14500
Total Cost			<u>65000</u>

Projected Income

1. Between **5 - 10** groups, consisting of **20** members each would work at the factory at different times.
2. Each group will operate (production) at the factory **3 to 8** times in a month, generating **\$1500 - \$2000** sales per production.
3. Expected monthly production sales :
 - i. Using an average of 5 times productions @ average sales of \$1250 per production per week = **(5x\$1250) = \$6250** per week
 - ii. Sales per month = **\$62500 x 4 = \$25000**
 - iii. Less estimated operation expenses and raw material cost per month = \$10000
 - iv. Monthly Net Profit (\$ 25000 – \$10000) = **\$15000 in the first quarter.**
 - v. Earnings per month per beneficiary **15000/200 = \$ 75**

Key Revenue Generation Facts

- i. Productions volume is expected to increase by 15% continuously in the first five years.
- ii. This will bring net profit per year to:

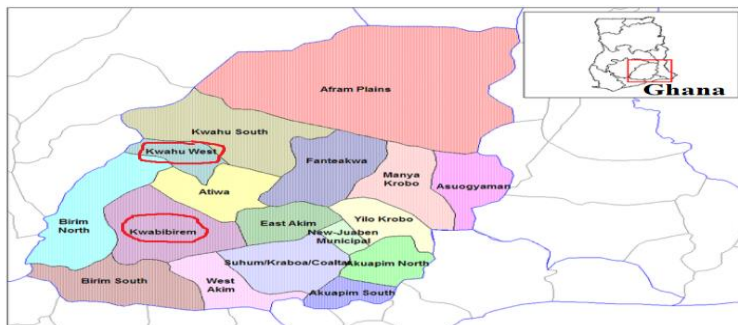
Projected Increase in Net Profit Per year is show in the table below

Year	Average Net Profit per month
1	17250
2	19837.5
3	22813.13
4	2623501
5	30170.36

This increment is expected to be achieved through:

- i. Increase in production output per day
- ii. Efficiency and effectiveness
- iii. Increase in market size
- iv. Specialization
- v. Competitive advantages.

The Project Location



The area circled red is the location of the project. Following is the link on google map: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kwaebibirem_District#/media/File:Eastern_Ghana_districts.png

Sustainability Plan

1. Lease the equipment at the factory to the groups for a period to be specified based on each groups strength
2. Form Palm tree farmers' cooperative society to ensure regular supply of palm fruits
3. Retain 20% of the net profit for maintenance and the establishment of another factory in a different community:
 - a. Asaasiam Vision International will be directly involved in the production and sale of all oil produce at the factory.
 - b. Oil produce will be sold on approved markets and to only approve customers who will make direct payment to Asaasiam.
 - c. Each group will keep separate records of all revenue and expenditure.
 - d. There will be monthly accounts reconciliation and profit declared.
 - e. Asaasiam will ensure each group member get paid immediately profit is declared.
4. Establish one additional factory from the projects proceeds to benefit the cooperative members.
5. Constitute a ten (10) member management team.
6. Regular monitoring of operations, production, sales, profit sharing and bank accounts operations.
7. Create networks and partnerships with local and international companies, markets and leaders.
8. Undertake palm tree farming to ensure sustainable and regular supply of palm nuts in the future.
9. Use a 5% of the retain earnings to undertake tree planting project to help protect our environment
10. Use the environmentally friendly methods for production.
11. Regular training to help upgrading of members skills
12. Hold regular stakeholders meeting

Problem Description

Ghana has made a significant effort in alleviating poverty among women. However, extreme poverty among vulnerable women living in deprived communities in the Kwahu West and the Kwaebibirem Districts of Ghana continues to affect most women. This poverty has also had a significant negative impacts on the education of children and youth within the two Districts. Poverty among vulnerable women living in deprived communities of Ghana is getting out of control. About 73 % of women in deprived communities of Ghana are literate and extreme poverty in Ghana is estimated at about 44.9% at the national level. Ghana's poverty is increasingly rural, with 48.2% of the people in rural areas being poor. This problem has also resulted in high illiteracy among youth in deprived communities and has also caused almost 82% of children in deprived communities of Ghana to become anemic, one-third are stunted, and one-fifth are underweight according to the Human Rights Council, Thirty-eighth session, 18 June–6 July 2018 report.

The Target Population

The kwahu west and the kwaebibirem districts of Ghana is characterized by poverty particularly women in the rural areas where palm tree framing is their main occupation. Research has showed that about 61 percent of the population particularly women are bedeviled with poverty Also, women in palm oil and palm kernel oil production still use out of date production technique due lack of training and access to modern palm oil production machines and capital.



Stray and hungry children spending their time in the jungle

Poverty Impact on Children and Women



Madam Ama Doris is a single parent among the women who will benefit hugely for the project. She lives in a dilapidated mud structure with her five children.

Currently the target population lives on less than \$1 a day with their entire family. Their survival is mainly dependant on left-over from benevolent people.

This project will enable each member earn \$70 to \$250 every month. To people like Madam Doris, this is a huge income and a massive life turnaround. This income will enable the

beneficiaries do the following:

- Provide two square meals for their families
- Enroll their children in school
- Afford basic health care.
- Improve their farms and a
- Minimal savings

Why Palm Oil Production

a. Economic support of Palm oil production:

The oil palm is the second most important tree crop in the Ghanaian economy after cocoa and the leading cash crops in the rural economy in the forest belt of Ghana. Palm oil industry in Ghana has been shaped by the presence of two different markets: home consumption and industrial use in domestic manufacturing. As a result, Ghana's industry has two sub-sectors which are largely separate. The main occupation of the target communities is palm tree farming. However, lack of technical and financial support has badly affect the income of the farmers, leading to extreme poverty and high illiteracy.

Share of Palm Oil Related Products in Total Demand: Ghana and West Africa

Product	Share of product in Ghana demand (%)	Share of product in West Africa demand (%)
Laundry Soaps	34.5	32.1
Personal wash	4.6	4.3
Fat & Margarine	8.0	8.8
Refined Cooking Oil (Ind.)	12.3	17.1
Edible Palm Oil	40.6	37.7
Total		

Source: | PSI Annual Report (2009).

Ghana currently has a total of 350,000 hectares of oil palm, more than 88% of which is cultivated by private small-scale farmers. It is estimated that 243,852 tons of palm oil is being produced and that Ghana currently has an unmet demand of more than 35,000 tons of palm oil.

Globally Importance:

The Demand for palm oil in the international market is very high. Malaysia exported 16.7 million tons of palm oil in 2010, with a value of about **US\$15 billion**, equivalent to over 9% of the country's total exports. Indonesia exported 16.4 million tons, with a value of **US\$14.8 billion**, equivalent to over 12% of exports.

The European Union (EU) imported over 9 million tonnes (€5.4 billion) of palm oil and palm kernel meal in 2012. These imports led to an indirect contribution to GDP of €2.7 billion, an indirect contribution of €1.2 billion in tax revenue and indirect contribution to employment of 67,000 jobs (indicating that more than seven workers are employed in the downstream supply chain for every thousand tons imported).

In the United Kingdom alone, palm oil imports created 6,800 jobs and contributed £330 million to GDP and £140 million to tax revenues.

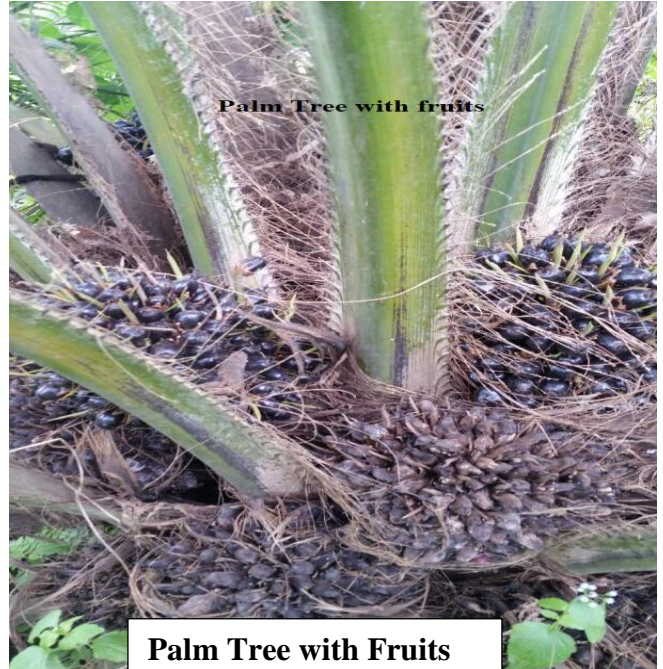
b. Environmental Impact and Protective measure:

Palm oil product is one of the most profitable land uses in the tropics and contributes significantly to national economies, driving rapid economic growth and contributing to the alleviation of rural poverty. Oil palm grows well in wetlands where most crops will not survive. It also helps in controlling erosions and deforestation as it can survive among tall trees.

Images



Palm Tree



Palm Tree with fruits

Palm Tree with Fruits



Farmer harvesting ripped Palm fruit



Women carrying harvested Palm fruits to the house



Palm fruit pod



Palm fruits



Palm fruits on fire



Pouring Palm oil from a gallon

The Project Team

1. The Founder: *Joseph Asare*

Standing right in front of the house I was born and bred is the source of my energy in the fight against poverty and illiteracy. I was born in a deprived village called Ahinase (beneath the pot). I lost my poor and illiterate parents at a very tender age. As a young boy, life in my deprived village was like a hell. I most at times sleep without food and I was constantly subjected to all forms of physical and emotional abuse. No one cared for my life and beatings and caning at both home and in public places become a normal aspect of my life. As young as I was, I had to labor in people's farms and homes in exchange for food. As I was struggling through life in my deprived village, I met Father Stephen Asare (a Catholic Priest) who came to my village to propagate the Catholic Church mission. Fr. Stephen adopted me, took me out from my village and enrolled me in a formal school for the first time.



In 2012 I visited my deprived village after 13 years away from home. I could not hide my grief after seeing how vulnerable the people in my village were and how deplorable my village was. I founded Asaasiam Vision International in 2012 to help alleviate poverty and illiteracy that has affected most deprived villages in Ghana. Since its establishment, my organization has support over 2500 impoverished and disable youth as well as over 300 vulnerable women living deprived villages.

In 2015 the United State Government led by the Obama administration saw the impact of my work in Ghana. As a young nonprofit organization, I was personally invited to the United State for a sixteen (16) week leadership training of the International Research and Exchange's Community Solution Program. It was through the leadership training program in Portland Oregon that I met Mr. Donald Didier at Youth Progress Association. My encounter with Mr. Donald and his family has brought a huge transformation in my life and organization. On the brighter side of my life, I have completed PhD in Management and Administration. However, I cannot forget where I came from. I still feel deep within me how it feels to be poor and vulnerable and I also understand to condition of the poor and the vulnerable better. My past has taught me a life time lesson which I cannot forget and as a result I want to dedicate my whole life to serving the vulnerable and the impoverished in deprived villages.

2. Rev. Fr. Stephen Asare

As Executive Director, Fr Stephen is responsible for leading and strengthening the presence and impact of Asaasiam Vision through partner relations and resource mobilization. Prior to joining Asaasiam Vision Int. as Executive Director, Fr Stephen is currently Catholic parish Priest in charge of Our Lady of Fatima Roman Catholic Church at Akim Oda, Ghana.

He has also worked as:

- Consultant to Bishop Frank Nubusah – Catholic Bishop of Francistown Botswana
- Assistant Cathedral Administrator at Our Lady of Desert Catholic Parish - Francistown Botswana
- Parish Priest of Serowe Catholic Church Botswana HIV/AIDS coordinator Meter Spei Collage – Francistown Botswana
- In charge of Guidance and counseling at Mater Spei Collage – Francistown Botswana
- Teacher at Mater Spei Collage – Francistown Botswana

Fr Stephen holds a Postgraduate in Religious Education, Postgraduate Diploma in Education, and Degree in Sociology and Religion from St Augustine College of South Africa and Cape Coast University respectively.

3. Donald Didier

Don is an active Partner and a Special Director as well as the International Resource Coordinator for Asaasiam Vision International (AVI). He is from Portland, Oregon, USA. Don is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a 36 year working experience as a therapist for youth, families. and individuals with Drug and Alcohol issues, those involved in abuse and trauma, and youth who have committed sex offenses. He was also the Director of Youth Progress Association for 27 years in Portland, a residential treatment program for boys and girls involved in Juvenile Justice or who have special needs. He is also a member of the National Ethics Committee of the National Association of Social Workers in USA and a founding member of State of Oregon Sex Offender Treatment Board. Don also founded an Alternative School for disadvantaged youth early in his career. Above all, Don provides strategic advice and resources to support the work of AVI

4. Alodie Didier

Alodie is the board special adviser and a board member of Asaasiam Vision International. She is from Portland, Oregon, USA. Alodie is a retired professional teacher with over 30 years experience in teaching, school curriculum development and classroom setting that enhance teachers and students academic work. Alodie also provides strategic advice and mobilizes resources to help execute our projects and programs.

5. Theophilus Aboagye

Theophilus is a professional teachers and the director of cultural education at the Kwaebibrim District Office of the Ghana Education Service. He is also the board secretary.

Thank you