Project Update: July 2015

Summary of findings on farming practices in Ghana.

The traditional farmland acquisition method in Ghana used to be inheritance and share cropping. Due to land scarcity and high demand for land, people even purchase land to farm, and share cropping has been modified to include monetary payments. The various types of share cropping arrangements found in rural Ghana, especially the semi-deciduous and high forest zones are as follows.

A. Share cropping with initial payment and land sharing arrangement.
B. Share cropping with no initial payment but land sharing arrangement.
C. Share cropping with annual hiring fee and crop sharing arrangement.
D. Share cropping with no annual hiring fee but crop sharing arrangement.
E. Share cropping with annual hiring fee but no crop sharing arrangement.
F. Tree-crop-planting arrangement.

These farm practices have both positive and negative implications on forest cover, crop yield, and soil fertility that need to be explored and necessary measures taken.