

This is the second and third volumes of issue one of a regular newsletter on Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture (UPA) within the frame of Cities Farming for the Future (CFF) programme implementation in Anglophone West Africa. The CFF is part of the activities of the global network of Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAF). This newsletter is to create awareness on UPA and update our partners on the programme implementation in Accra, Freetown, and Ibadan, as pilot cities, and other partner cities.

Pilot Cities

Accra, Ghana

IWMI Supports 2006 Farmers Day Celebration

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) donated a deep freezer valued at seven million cedis to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA) as its contribution towards the celebration of Farmers Day, 1st December 2006. This was to be awarded to the national best urban farmer.



Dr. Pay Drechsel, the IWMI theme leader, Agriculture, Water and Cities, in a handshake with Hon. Esther Nyamekye, Deputy Minister of Agriculture at the presentation.

Mr. Nicholas Annan Charway Wins the National Best Urban and Peri-Urban Farmer Award 2006

Mr. Nicholas Annan Charway, a member of the Accra Working Group on Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture was awarded the National Best Urban Farmer Prize during the 2006 Farmers Day celebration at Nkawia, Ashanti Region, Ghana. In an interview, he expressed his joy that his efforts at contributing to urban food needs have been rewarded.

Were you expecting this award?

No. I was rather expecting an award in the future, since I received the Greater Accra regional award in 2005. It was a surprise because it came quite quickly.



Mr. Nicholas Annan Charway, 2006 best national urban and peri-urban farmer and a member of AWGUPA in front of the prize awarded him.

What have been your major successes in the livestock enterprise?

I have received about four awards including this national award so far. I started with one sheep and one goat, both females, in 1975 and by 1992 had 200 live animals. I exported rabbits and grasscutter to Freetown for International Trypanotolerance Centre Banjul, a link supported by the RUAF.

In 1997 I started with two cows, sold 17 animals and presently have seven in the farm. In 2002 I started with four females and a male rabbit and presently have 200 rabbits.

The enterprise has contributed tremendously to my economic life and has enabled me to purchase a KIA trade vehicle for running the farm. I have had the opportunity to meet with several policy makers and benefited from a lot of Training workshops.

What is your view about RUAF and the multi-stakeholder processes?

RUAF activities have been very beneficial to the enterprise. Through RUAF, I have been enlightened on many issues, which border on urban agriculture. I want RUAF to continue with efforts to involve more people in urban and peri-urban agriculture. Regarding the role of RUAF in institutionalizing this award by MoFA, I will say that RUAF has hastened the process. It has additionally contributed immensely to bring urban and peri-urban agriculture to the policy agenda.

In this Issue

- IWMI supports 2006 Farmers Day celebration
- Mr. Nicholas Annan Charway-Best Urban and Peri-urban Farmer
- Launch of AWGUPA
- Urban water use for agriculture
- RUAF activities in Freetown
- RUAF activities in Ibadan
- URBANET and the pilot project