

Forests4Future Togo

Giving Forests a Future

The Challenge

Project Description	Global project on forest landscape restoration and good governance in the forest sector in Togo (Forests4Future)
Commissioned by	Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung
Region	Prefectur Tchamba, Zentralregion, Togo
Implementation	Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
Political Partner	Ministère de l'Environnement et des Ressources Forestières (MERF)
Duration	01.2020 – 10.2025

Forests continue to be of vital importance for the rural population of Togo (approx. 60 % of the population). Nevertheless, the degradation of forest areas and wooded landscapes is steadily progressing: Togo has lost more than half of its forest area since 1990. As a result, less than 6 percent of the country's land is still forested. The main drivers of forest land degradation in Togo are:

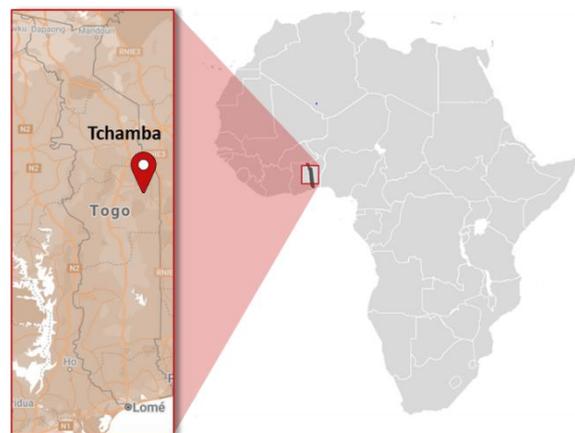
- Increasing demand for agricultural land
- Mostly illegal logging for firewood and charcoal production, especially for urban areas of Togo
- Unsustainable logging of timber

Strong population growth and urbanization lead to an increasing demand for energy, of which more than 90 % is covered by firewood and charcoal production.



More than half of the population lives in extreme poverty. The northern parts of the country and rural areas are particularly affected. This also applies to the prefecture of Tchamba.

The main actors in the prefecture are the regional environmental authority and its decentralized service in the prefecture, the municipal councils, village management committees around the community forests, as well as local and migrant producers who are in permanent competition for access to cultivable land and transhumants who regularly pass through the prefecture with their cattle herds. The situation is further exacerbated by the relatively new phenomenon of migrant urbanites attempting to establish large agribusinesses (plantations) of several hundred hectares.



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Left picture: Tree nursery, Tchamba Prefecture, Togo

Right picture: Firewood transport, Tchamba Prefecture, Togo

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Left Picture: Production of shea butter, Tchamba Prefecture, Togo

Right picture: Extraction of honey, Tchamba Prefecture, Togo

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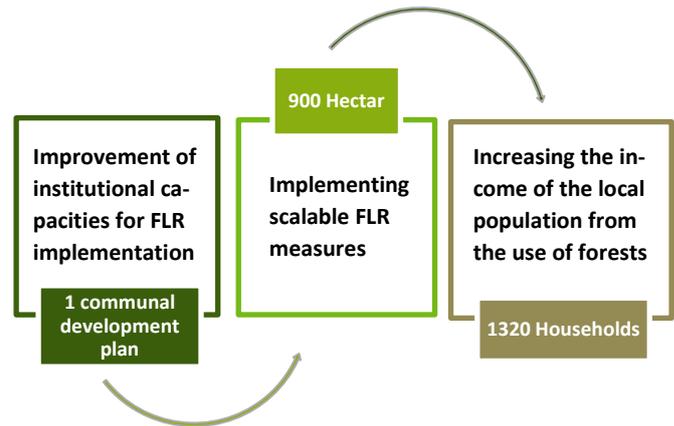
Objectives and Approach

The Togo Country Package is part of the GIZ Global Project "Forest Landscape Restoration and Good Governance in the Forest Sector" (Forests4Future) of the BMZ. The country package contributes directly to the fulfillment of the voluntary commitment made by Togo within the framework of the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100). The project combines landscape and forest approaches, thus highlighting the special role of forests in rural development in the context of food security.

The F4F country package aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of governmental and non-governmental actors for the implementation of the national FLR strategy, as well as to promote the potential of rural households for increased value addition of agroforestry products.

The target group of the project is preferably the young population and women of Affem-Boussou commune in Tchamba prefecture, central region, as well as the population of Tchamba prefecture involved in the management of the four community forests of the prefecture (Alibi, Goubi, Bago and Koussountou).

The specific objectives of the project in Togo include the following topics:



On behalf of and in close coordination with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Forests4Future project in Togo is pursuing two main fields of action:

1. Implementation of forest landscape restoration (FLR) with proven and scalable FLR measures
2. Increasing the economic benefits of tree use and the documentation of land use rights by promoting forest-related value chains.

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Registered Offices in Bonn and Eschborn

Globalvorhaben Forests4Future
Friedrich-Ebert- Allee 32+36
53115 Bonn
E info@giz.de
E forests4future@giz.de
I www.giz.de

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Author Hanitra Markolf, Anna Rehmann, Tobias Wolff

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In cooperation with Ministère de l'Environnement et des Ressources Forestières (MERF)