



SHARP

Natural rubber

Central and Western Regions of Ghana



Rubber plantation, Ghana

Model:	Production company as Implementing Entity.
Key stakeholders:	Production company. Rainforest Alliance – SHARP Regional Focal Point. Producer association representatives. Traditional leaders. Ministry of Food and Agriculture. Financial institutions (ADB, NIB).
No. of participating SHs:	600+
Priority risks:	Deforestation driven by smallholder plans for expansion. Risk to sites or resources of cultural or spiritual importance. Risk to IUCN Red List animal species (e.g Duikers, Pangolin). Use of fire for land preparation.
Priority farmer needs:	Ability to assess risk to HCVs when planning expansion.
Change realised:	Greater company understanding of their smallholder supply base and the risks and opportunities they face. Company provided with transparent point of reference to talk about its supply base and deforestation risk.
Lessons and challenges:	RSS provided effective and retrospective assessment of the evolution of the company's land documentation procedures. Smallholder engagement and organization takes time, effort and investment to surmount. A public private partnership may be the solution. As monopoly buyer in the region, the company can invest with confidence in building capacity of their smallholder suppliers.