
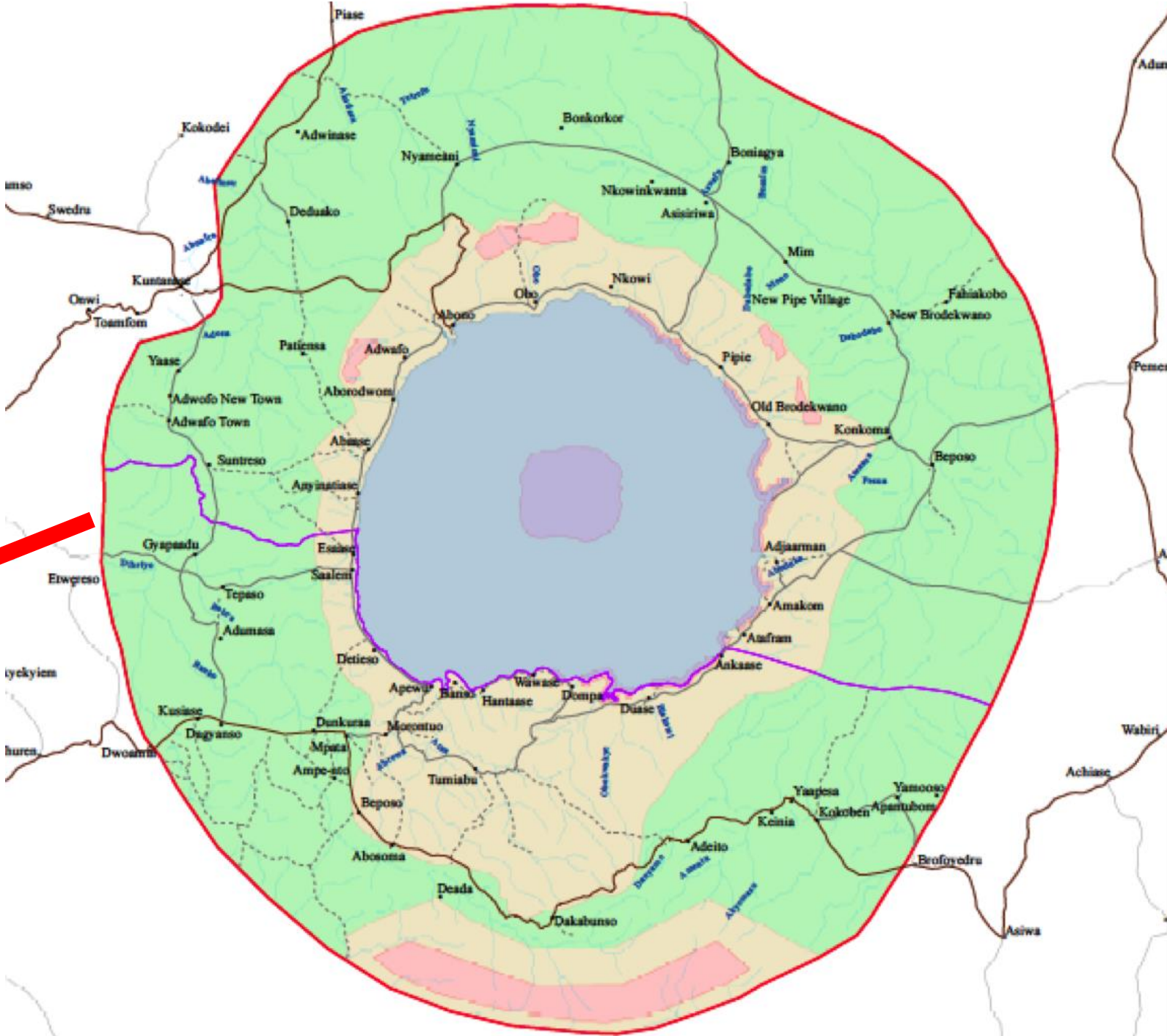


THE BIOSPHERE LEARNING LABORATORY LAKE BOSOMTWE, GHANA

 Tropentag, September 11 - 13, 2024, Vienna (Austria)

PROJECT REGION



Lake Bosomtwe UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

- Lake Bosomtwe UNESCO Biosphere Reserve is located in the **Ashanti Region in Ghana** and covers almost 29,000 ha.
 - Local and regional population is hardly aware of the region’s status as a biosphere reserve (BR).
- **Acceptance as a model region for sustainable development is rather poor.**

CHALLENGES

- **Overuse** of fish resources & increased extraction of forest stock leading to an overexploitation and degradation of the vulnerable ecosystem.
- Climate change further increases the **vulnerability of the ecosystem** and the local population in the BR.
- **Visitor management** is not yet existent, resulting in an uncontrolled use of the area by tourists.



@Amanda Souza



@Amanda Souza

RATIONALE

- **Scientific cooperation** to tackle the issues mentioned is urgently needed
 - Without a **harmonized research and development plan**, the contribution of science will be ad hoc and pointwise
- The reserve will not be able to benefit from the biosphere reserve status.

APPROACH

In depth analysis of needs and demands for research and transfer in the BR, to foster a sustainable development.

Elaboration of a **research outline with 7 priority research and transfer areas**

| Alternative livelihoods | Agriculture | Forestry | Fisheries and biodiversity | Communi-cation | Sustainable Tourism | Public Health | Crosscutting issues |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|
|-------------------------|-------------|----------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|

→ **Tackling of research needs in field work by Ghanaian universities, together with students from Eberswalde**

Research topics e.g.

- Participation of women in tourism
- Construction of floating sewage treatment plants
- Linking cultural heritage and environmental protection
- Combining cocoa cultivation with agroforestry
- ...

→ Sound basis for further research and cooperation between the institutions



@Uli Gräbener

INNOVATION, INTENDED IMPACT, SUSTAINABILITY

- **Establishment** of a strong **professional network** of researchers.
- Promotion of **practice-oriented teaching** and **research methods** at the participating institutions
- Development of a research outline, to streamline research activities in the BR and the participating institutions
- Provision of first results and **approaches for follow-up research projects and transfer activities.**
- First follow-up project on “**NTFP domestication and cocoa systems diversification at Lake Bosomtwe BR**” for the development of agroforestry systems

LESSONS LEARNT

- Stronger **involvement of indirect partners** through Ghanaian partner universities.
- Creation of even **more ownership** among Ghanaian partners.
- **Stronger direct involvement of BR management.**
- **Foreseeing more exchange** between students from Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development and Ghanaian universities.

CONTACT

Prof. Dr. Tobias Cremer | HNE Eberswalde, Germany | Tobias.Cremer@hnee.de
Prof. Emmanuel Opuni-Frimpong | CSIR-FORIG, Ghana | eofrimpong@csir-forig.org.gh
Rev. Kwame Nkrumah Hope | AAMUSTED, Ghana | nkrumahhope@yahoo.com

Franziska Rottig | HNE Eberswalde, Germany | Franziska.Rottig@hnee.de
Dr. Yaw Boakye Agyeman | UENR, Ghana | yaw.agyeman@uenr.edu.gh
Prof. Emmanuel Danquah | KNUST, Ghana | edanquah.irnr@knust.edu.gh

gefördert vom

