

# Impacts of Ghana's Growth and Poverty Alleviation Programme II on the Livelihoods and Coping Strategies of Smallholder Farming Households: Juaben Municipality Context

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## **ABSTRACT**

Ghana has a poverty reduction strategy (Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy I, 2003-2005), and a second PRS had just completed its implementation phase in 2009. The Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy II (GPRS II) is the focus of this study. In addition, the study provides critical perspectives on realizing the potential multiplier effects of sustainable agriculture in the promotion of sustainable rural development and selectively reviews major literature on the role of agriculture in sustainable rural development.

This study fills the void by providing a theoretically informed empirical investigation of the effects that the agricultural productivity sub-sector of the GPRS II has had on the capacity of smallholder farmers to establish long-term livelihoods. According to Sagoe (2006), adverse socio-economic conditions like negative terms of trade and inadequate agricultural infrastructure often interact with climate variability to undermine agricultural productivity and, by extension, farmers' livelihoods.

The study took an analytic-centric approach to the GPRS II policy analysis, focusing on farming communities in the Ejisu-Juaben municipality of the Ashanti region of Ghana at the micro level. Additionally, conceptual and methodological frameworks for livelihood analysis were used to evaluate the capabilities of local smallholder farmers to build livelihood resilience in the face of the GPRS II. It was uncovered that albeit a considerable lot of the mediations in the district's activity plan appeared to adjust to the most basic exact requirements of nearby ranchers for versatile vocation improvement, the GPRS II has not properly helped the more greater part of ranchers in the region, and subsequently been delayed in its neediness decrease processes. According to a livelihood resilience analysis, for instance, the majority of smallholder farmers in the municipality have not been able to adequately develop capital assets for more productivity, maintaining extremely poor and vulnerable livelihoods, despite the fact that some smallholder farmers were able to develop productive capital assets and to build viable and sustainable livelihoods through the activities of the GPRS II.

**Key Word:** Poverty Reduction Strategy, Livelihood Resilience, Critical Perspectives, Sustainable