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SANKOFA: (symbol of importance of learning from the past in building for the future)  
source: <http://www.adinkra.org>



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CELEBRATING **25** YEARS OF  
UNU-INRA

**INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
IN AFRICA, 2011**

ACCRA, GHANA  
DECEMBER 5 – 7, 2011

*Creating a nexus between research and  
policy for sustainable management of  
Africa's natural resources*

UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY  
INSTITUTE FOR NATURAL RESOURCES IN  
AFRICA (UNU-INRA)

[WWW.INRA.UNU.EDU](http://WWW.INRA.UNU.EDU)

# *I*NTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES IN AFRICA



LOGGING OPERATIONS  
AT ODA RIVER FOREST  
RESERVE, ASHANTI  
REGION

## UNU-INRA'S MISSION

UNU-INRA was established in 1985. Later that year, the Assembly of Heads of States and Government of the then Organization of African Unity (OAU) at its 21<sup>st</sup> ordinary session in Addis Ababa approved a draft resolution establishing cooperation

between UNU-INRA and the OAU and the Economic Community of Africa (ECA).

The Statutes of UNU-INRA were approved at the 28<sup>th</sup> Session of UNU Council in 1986. The core mission of UNU INRA is to strengthen the capacity of Africa's universities and research institutions to conduct research and produce well-trained, well-equipped and motivated individuals. These individuals should be capable of developing, adapting and disseminating technologies that advance food security and promote conservation and the efficient use of the continent's natural resources for sustainable development.

In celebrating 25 years of existence, UNU INRA is organizing an international conference on sustainable development of natural resources in Africa.

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

1. Take stock of UNU-INRA's accomplishments over the past 25 years and chart a course for future research, training and capacity development in Africa;
2. Identify challenges and opportunities for research and collaboration with African universities, research institutions and the private sector for natural resource management in Africa;
3. Create a platform for dialogue and help mobilize African perspectives on the development of natural resources for the Rio +20 conference on sustainable development in 2012;
4. Forge links with the private sector in the context of judicious management natural resource.

## CONFERENCE THEMATIC AREAS

1. **Harnessing land and water resources for improved food security and ecosystem services in Africa.** Among the issues the conference will address are the possible impacts of global climate change on land and water resources and how to improve the capacity of rural communities to understand, mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts on food security.
2. **Enhancing collaborative governance and management of the extractive industries for equitable wealth distribution and environmental management in Africa.** The issues to



FARMERS FETCHING WATER  
FROM A STREAM AT, DUMESUA,  
BRONG AHAFO

be addressed include the appropriate frame work for improving stakeholder collaboration and governance of the extractive industries.

3. **Promoting green economy instruments for natural resources development, food security and poverty reduction in Africa.** The conference will identify the key issues, opportunities and challenges for green growth that could provide insights for discussions at Rio+20 conference next year.



SMALL SCALE MINING  
(GALAMSEY) ACTIVITIES  
IN KONONGO  
(WWW.FLICKR.COM)

## CALL FOR PAPERS

UNU-INRA is issuing a call for papers for the international conference to be organized in **Accra, Ghana, December 5 - 8, 2011**. Selected papers will address themes that are in line with conference thematic areas. The papers should highlight emerging issues in the respective themes

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND DEADLINES

The deadline for submitting abstracts (maximum of 400 words) of papers for consideration is **31 July 2011**. A scientific committee will assess all the submissions and will request full papers from the selected abstracts. The deadline for the submission of the full papers is **31 October 2011**. Registration and abstract submission forms can be downloaded from the institute's website: [www.inra.unu.edu](http://www.inra.unu.edu).