



Climate Talks: Building Climate–Security Resilience in Ghana

Background

Ghana is increasingly experiencing the security implications of climate change, particularly in its most climate-vulnerable regions. Rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, prolonged droughts, flooding and land degradation are affecting local farming communities in the Northern Region. Scarcity and acute increase in food prices coupled with existing interethnic tensions increase the risks for conflicts in these areas. These make border regions of Northern Ghana vulnerable and likely target for extremist exploitation. Furthermore, climate change acts as a threat multiplier, posing new challenges to security forces and their operations.

Despite these emerging risks, structured dialogue between security institutions, community leaders, and policymakers on climate-related security threats remains limited. There is a need to strengthen awareness, improve collaboration and inform policy responses that address climate-security risks proactively.

Germany’s climate foreign policy has established core Climate Embassies which regularly provide platforms for dialogue with national and international experts, including via a “climate talks” format. The embassy in Accra has actively organized Climate Talks since 2024 exploring diverse and environmentally critical topics with communities and government institution are the center.

The overarching objectives of Climate Talks are to facilitate exchange of international experts and networking on climate policy issues, raise public awareness of climate protection and the consequences of climate change, and promote the exchange of best practices and innovative approaches to climate change, adaptation and mitigation.

“**Climate Talks 2026**” aims to deepen awareness and understanding of climate–security risks in Ghana’s most climate-vulnerable regions, thereby strengthening conflict prevention, community resilience, and cooperation between local communities and security institutions.

Scope of Intervention

The project will strengthen climate–security resilience in Ghana by increasing awareness, enhancing dialogue between security actors and communities, and informing government policy responses to resource-based conflicts.

The primary target beneficiaries are security institutions (Ghana Armed Forces, Agencies under the Ministry of Interior such as Immigration Service, Fire Service etc.), NADMO, Traditional and Community leaders, Local government representatives, Civil society organizations and policymakers at national level. Under the Climate talks 2026 series, five (5) regional dialogue forums will be organized between April and November 2026 in four climate-vulnerable regions of Ghana.

The organized dialogues within the regions are designed to improve understanding of climate-security risks among security personnel and Strengthened communication channels between security actors and community leaders.

The primary outcome is a national policy debriefing forum and a policy brief with recommendations to integrate climate-security considerations into planning and response frameworks which will be disseminated to the relevant ministries.