

16 Appendix 5 Overview of the extension work undertaken within the project

16.1 *The Messages Delivered by Extension Workers on Improved Stoves*

A range of messages on improved stoves had been disseminated to the target clients. The main messages the extension agents indicated they delivered include the increase efficiency of the improved stoves resulting in less fuel-wood use.

Table 1: Specific messages on Improved Stoves indicated by field extension workers to have been disseminated

Messages	Frequency	Ranking
1. Improved stoves use less fuel-wood and reduces wastage of firewood	8	1 st
2. Improved stoves are better for health because it produces less smoke	5	3 rd
3. Helps to keep kitchen tidy	1	6 th
4. Higher energy efficiency due to heat retention and therefore faster cooking. Less costly	7	2 nd
5. How to construct mud stoves	4	4 th
6. Use of improved stove minimises cutting of trees / reduction of time use in collection of firewood	3	5 th

In addition, the reduction in health hazards from exposure to smoke was also emphasised. This was then followed by how to construct improved mud stoves in the rural communities.

16.1.1 Extension on Improved stoves Delivery Intensity

The intensity of the extension activities in the communities was measured by the frequency with which the extension workers contacted the clients. Although, frequency of extension contact on improved stoves ranged from 1 to 4 times per month, the modal frequency is 2 times a month in the pilot communities. Thus on the average, clients were contacted with messages on improved stoves twice a month.

16.1.2 Extension methods / Media used in delivery of messages on Improved Stoves

The extension methods or media expected to be used included, encouraging their clients to tune into the radio programme on domestic energy, broadcast the Ghana-Danish community Development Programme through Radio Savannah or playing back audio tape-recorded versions. Others include the domestic energy programme flipchart, use of role play / drama, demonstrations and talks and lectures. However, the extent to which these were used varied. The extension workers, hardly used radio programmes, or alerted the clients to listen to the radio programmes. Exception is in the Bimbilla district where audio-tape recorded versions of the radio programmes was played back 2 times, during the extension intervention.

However, some of the extension workers used the flipcharts in dealing with the need to use improve stoves. Where they have been used, this was done between 1-2 times per month, with once a month being the average. Interestingly, none of the extension workers used role play in disseminating information on the improved stoves. Demonstrations and talks / lectures were the dominant extension methods used to disseminate information on the improved stoves. The range for both respectively, was 1-4 times per month for demonstrations and talks / lectures. The modal frequency is 2 times per month in each case.

16.2 *The Messages Delivered by Extension Workers on Firewood Collection*

The main firewood collection extension messages delivered to the target groups, include the benefit of pruning branches of trees, rather cutting down the whole trees, as well as, the need to harvest dry wood only.

Table 2: Messages on Firewood collection indicated by field extension workers to have been disseminated

Messages	Frequency	Ranking
Plant new trees to replace the cut ones / need to plant trees	4	3 rd
Prune branches / Do not cut down trees / avoid indiscriminate felling	7	1 st
Avoid cutting fruit trees / Economic trees / Young trees	3	4 th
Harvest dry wood only	6	2 nd
Trees are scarce and now so difficult to get fire wood	1	6 th
Trees are beneficial	1	6 th
Make fire wood heaps in front of the house / store fuelwood in the dry season	2	5 th
Avoid bush burning	1	6 th

Others are planting of tree saplings to replace harvested ones, woodlot planting to provide source of fuel wood in future.

16.2.1 Intensity of Extension Contact on Firewood collection

The frequency of contact with the pilot communities for dissemination of messages on firewood collection ranges from 1 to 4 times per month, with a modal frequency of contact of 2 times per month. Thus, extension activity on fire wood collection has been as intense as that of the improved stoves.

16.2.2 Extension methods / Media used in delivery of messages on Firewood collection

Radio and audio- tape recording were generally not used by the extension workers for extension activity on firewood collection. There were instances where the audio-tape recording was played back to stimulate discussions. This was about twice in the communities in the Bimbilla District. The domestic energy flipcharts are used on the average of once a month. Drama / role was hardly used at all. Also, demonstrations tended to be used sparingly for extension activities on fuelwood collection. One of the extension workers used it twice a month, whilst another has used it once since the start of the project. Once again, the most dominant method of dissemination of messages on fire wood collection was talks and lectures. These were use about four times per month in the pilot community.

16.3 *The Messages Delivered by Extension Workers on Woodlot / Tree planting*

The main message disseminated on woodlot / tree planting is concerned with the environmental benefits such as, improvements in soil fertility and serving as wind breaks. Resulting from this, the need for community members to plant trees either as community woodlots or on individual plots was emphasised.

Table 3: Messages on Woodlot / Tree planting indicated by field extension workers to have been disseminated

Messages	Frequency	Ranking
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Tree planting protects the environment (Improve soil fertility / wind breaks) *	13	1 st
Fire wood can be harvested from planted trees	1	5 th
Income can be generated from planted trees	2	4 th
Community members should plant trees / need to plant trees / Community ownership of wood lots*	9	2 nd
Trees are scarce to so difficult to get fuel wood	1	5 th
Land for tree plants / Planting materials for tree planting	3	3 rd
Planted trees can be sources of housing materials	2	4 th

* multiple responses

Issues on accessing land for tree planting and planting materials for tree planting were also discussed. Following this the actual “mechanics” of nursery and tree planting was demonstrated.

16.3.1 Intensity of Extension activities on wood lot / tree planting

Extension intensity on tree planting is as high as in the other two behaviours targeted. The average frequency of delivery of extension activities on tree planting is about twice per month since the on-set of the focused extension intervention in early 2001.

16.3.2 Extension methods / Media used in delivery of messages on wood lot / tree planting

The use of radio / tape and role plays was hardly dominant method for dissemination of extension messages. However, in one of the pilot sites this was used at least once a month. On the other hand, the domestic energy flipchart was used quite extensively. Over the period, the frequency of use the flipchart ranged from 1-4 times per month with the modal class of two. Its use focussed on messages on the need to plant trees and benefits of trees in the communities.

Demonstrations were rarely used. In most cases about 1-4 demonstrations have been conducted on tree planting, since the inception of the intervention, mostly about two demonstrations have been conducted mainly on nursery practices and field planting. As in the case of the other two focal behaviours, talks and lectures are the most widely used extension methods.

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