

Impact of Cashew Plantation on Land Tenure in Jaman South Municipality

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SUMMARY

The quick expansion of cashew plantations in has had an impact on many facets of life. Ghana has advanced from being a minor producer of raw cashew nuts to a rival among the top producers worldwide. The nation's Jaman South municipality makes a substantial contribution to Ghana's expanding cashew industry. This has necessitated studies into the increased cashew plantation and its impact on the people and environment. The objectives of this study assessed the impact of cashew plantation by performing a land Use Land Cover (LULC) change. The changes in land use due to cashew plantation are evident from the LULC changes of the area for 1989, 2007 and 2022. The LULC maps helped to critically and quantitatively assess the surge in land use for cashew farming in the area. Prior to the emergence of cashew, the majority of landowners were involved in subsistence farming, according to an investigation of the land tenure system. This transition to cashew was motivated by its economic relevance. Interviews are conducted (using a Cluster and snowballing technique) with participants from strategically selected geographic areas within the district. Notable findings from the respondents revealed that rise in cashew had varying degrees of impact on a variety of societal sectors, including the economy, ecology, land tenure, as well as the resolution of land conflicts. The sustainability of climate, good land practices, good livelihood and peace of the people partly depends on how best key resources like the cashew sector is managed since this study concludes that the impact of increased cashew plantation on the society is significant.

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