

# **SRI Impact in the LIFE Project**

## **Crayton Town, Grand Bassa County, Liberia**



The focal organization for System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in Liberia, the Community of Hope Agriculture Project (CHAP), is implementing Climate Smart Agriculture under the Livelihood Innovation Food Security Entrepreneurship (LIFE-Project) with funding from Irish Aid through Concern Worldwide Liberia.

The project, which began in Grand Bassa during 2023 and extended to Rivercess in February 2024, is currently working with 25 smallholder farmers per community, which comprises a total of 214 smallholder farmers who are being introduced to SRI for rice cultivation.

Since the introduction of the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) in Grand Bassa County, farmer groups like the one in Crayton Estate are now able to grow rice twice in a year with less external inputs. The resulting SRI adoption has proven sustainable for farming thus far and is achieving high yields. With this positive impact, farmers have transitioned from forest degradation / slash and burn to sustainable and Climate Smart Agriculture.

The SRI farmers in Crayton town, Grand Bassa County, can now harvest a second circle in one year period. Congratulations are due to the farmers and TEAM CHAP for their efforts! Special thanks to Irish Aid and Concern Worldwide for their support to Liberian farmers!



The head of the farming group Shadrach Zangar remarked, “They never knew that the SRI method can boost rice production and now remain committed to scaling up SRI in their area as one of the main livelihood and income generation activities.” CHAP has created a market for the SRI farmers’ out-grower scheme across the country in support of the “I love Liberian rice” domestic rice production campaign in keeping with the Ministry of Agriculture’s National Agriculture Development Plan (NADP), which includes cultivation of 50,000 ha of lowland rice across the country from 2023 to 2030.

SRI methods have been steadily gaining popularity in Liberia and are now integrated in most of the local and national rice production projects/investments. These include, among others, the Community Based Forest Management Project with funding from UNDP and Swedish Government in Grand Cape Mount and Lofa, the Scaling Up Climate-Resilient Rice Production in West Africa (RICOWAS) Project, and the Rural Economic Transformation Project (RETRAP).

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