

Achieving Agricultural Transformation in Liberia

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Liberia is emerging from more than a decade of civil strife. All agricultural activities were severely disrupted by the staggered wars and the government-led agricultural research, extension and marketing systems destroyed. The majority of the rural population in Liberia, displaced for long periods throughout the war years, has recently returned and turned towards agriculture as a means of sustenance and income generation.

Now is a critical time to assess progress as the agricultural sector is being rebuilt, productive capacity restored and markets reformed. This seminar focuses on promoting agriculturally-based poverty reducing strategies while ensuring food security in a post-conflict environment.

About Dr. Gockowski...

Dr. Gockowski is an Agricultural Economist with the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and is currently stationed in Accra, Ghana. He has worked extensively throughout West Africa. He is involved with research efforts focused on tree crop production and marketing through the Sustainable Tree Crop Program, a public/private partnership administered through IITA.

Dr. Gockowski received his PhD in agricultural economics from the University of Florida in 1994. He graduated with a MS in 1986 from the University of Tennessee's Department of Agricultural Economics and received his BS from the University of Maryland in 1974.