

**A SURVEY ON THE AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR
PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS**

THE YOUTH AT THE ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT

**BUILDING LOCAL ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS TO SUPPORT THE RURAL POOR
FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE**



- Paul Nana Kwabena Aborampah Mensah
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Research Report

CDD-Ghana Research Paper No. 29
ISBN: 978-9988-614-71-3

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“Support LED policy to reduce rural poverty, and youth migration to the cities”

Authors

Paul Nana Kwabena Aborampah Mensah
&
Newton Norviewu

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) and the Asutifi North District Assembly (ANDA) acknowledge institutions, individuals and associations that contributed to the success of this assignment (the conduct and compilation of project baseline survey report). Particularly, the partners appreciate the financial and technical support received from the European Union (EU) delegation to Ghana for this report, and also for the entire project. Indeed, the project has been made possible due to the generous support from the EU.

The partners also appreciate the support and cooperation received from the paramount chiefs of the three zonal councils where the project is being implemented: Oseadeye Nana Osei Kofi Abiri, Paramount Chief of the Kenyasi No.1 traditional council, Odencho Nana Kwabena Nsiah Ababio, Paramount Chief of Kenyasi No.2 traditional council, and Barima Twireko Ampem III, Paramount Chief of Ntotroso traditional Council.

The partners express their profound appreciation to the District Chief Executive, Honorable Anthony Mensah, the District Coordinating Director, Mr. Samuel Badu-Baiden and the District Development Planning Officer, Mr. James A. Ata Era, all of the Asutifi North District Assembly for their dedicated services and selfless leadership in managing the project. The same appreciation goes to the management and staff of the Global Alliance for Development Foundation (GADeF). GADeF, together with Mr. James Ata Era, led the selection and recruitment of the 16 Field Research Assistant (FRAs) who conducted the field research to gather the baseline data. GADeF again facilitated the training and deployment of the FRAs.

CDD-Ghana and ANDA appreciate the efforts and dedicated services of the 16 FRAs who helped the project team to collect and collate the data for this report. The partners acknowledge the difficulties you went through during your field work, sometimes walking for some miles because the selected EA was not motorable. Much appreciation also goes to all stakeholders who participated in the meeting to validate the draft survey report, especially leaders and members of youth groups and Persons with Disabilities (PWD) associations from Kenyasi No.1, Kenyasi No.2 and Ntotroso zonal councils, as well as executive members and managers of the Newmont Ahafo Social Foundation. Your views, comments and contributions have all helped to refine the final report.

Finally, the partners acknowledge and appreciate the contributions by the project team leader - Nana Kwabena Aborampah Mensah, the project coordinator -Dr. Kojo Asante, and the research duo of Mr. Daniel Armah Attoh and Mr. Newton Norviewu all of CDD-Ghana for their leadership, directions and coordination of the project activities, including writing of this final baseline report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chapter 20 of the 1992 Republican Constitution of Ghana creates and mandates Local Government Authorities to ensure the total development of their localities. The Constitution grants Local Government Authorities with the necessary powers to perform their functions. The Local Governance Act was promulgated to operationalize the Constitutional provisions of the functions of Local Authorities. Specifically, the Act mandates all local authorities to exercise political and administrative authority in the district; promote local economic development; and provide guidance, give direction and supervise other administrative authorities in the district as may be prescribed by law. Local Government Authorities are therefore seen as the fulcrum for development within their jurisdictions - provide the needed infrastructure that could aid investments, reduce poverty and facilitate employment, especially for the youth.

Ghana has developed Local Economic Development (LED) policy to guide the development of the districts. Ghana's LED policy, among other things, seeks to fully harness the economic potentials of the districts for job creation and faster poverty reduction. The policy also enjoins the district assemblies to mobilize all development actors, both those within the districts and around the country and beyond, and coordinate their activities to support implementation of LED programs in the districts.

To this end, the European Union delegation to Ghana is supporting a 42 months LED project at the Asutifi North district of the Ahafo region of Ghana. The project is being implemented by CDD-Ghana in partnership with the Asutifi North District Assembly (ANDA). The project aims to harness local resources, knowledge, ideas, skills, and other comparative advantages to stimulate local economic growth and development, to create job opportunities and self-employment, reduce poverty, stem internal migration, and promote sustainable and inclusive development. The project targets to build capacity of 45 youth, women and PWDs to acquire some vocational skills and support them to establish their own businesses. The target beneficiaries would be selected from the communities adversely affected by the mining operations in the district.

To kick start the project, a baseline survey was conducted in communities located in the three zonal councils (Kenyasi No.1, Kenyasi No.2, and Ntotroso) that have been adversely affected by the commercial mining operations in the district. The survey was conducted to ascertain the skills set that the beneficiaries would prefer to learn, and; assess market potentials for the chosen skills. A total number of 650 people, aged between 18 and 45 were randomly selected and interviewed. A total of 39 communities within the three zonal councils were visited for the interviews.

Key findings from the baseline survey:

Findings from the survey paint a gloomy picture of the living standards of the people, and the challenges that make it difficult for the people themselves to improve their living standards without any meaningful support.

- ▶ Most of the communities visited were rural with most of the people living in traditional houses or huts
- ▶ The roads to the communities were in deplorable state, and most of the communities lack basic public services – no police stations, no private or public clinics, no market stalls and no banks
- ▶ Majority of the people either have no former education or completed just Junior High School (JHS); yet, most of them have not learned any trade or skills
- ▶ Most of the people who describe themselves as breadwinners live on income below three hundred Ghana cedis (GHC 300.00) a month.

- ▶ Majority of the youth have considered migrating to other regions to seek employment to improve upon their living conditions
- ▶ Majority of the people do not know, or have not heard of the National Board for Small Scale Industry (NBSSI) and the Business Advisory Centres (BAC) at the district, let alone accessing their support.

Based on the above findings, CDD-Ghana recommends improving the capacity of the people, especially the youth, to acquire some vocation to support themselves and their families. This could be done by:

1. Improving infrastructure development of the district, this has the potential to attract investors
2. Developing action plans to guide the implementation of district LED programs, and embarking on intensive financial mobilization drive to support LED activities
3. Making substantial budgetary allocation for LED programs
4. Instituting measures and programmes to identify and court partnership with the private sector actors (including banks and other financial institutions), CSOs and donors to support LED activities in the district.

BACKGROUND TO THE PROJECT

INTRODUCTION

High poverty rates and youth unemployment present significant threats to peace and stability and threaten economic emancipation of the rural poor in Ghana. The Ghanaian economy has experienced positive growth in recent years but the growth has been largely “jobless growth,” with much of the growth coming from new oil and gas extraction, a sector that generates little local employment and almost none in the rural areas. Governments have responded to these challenges with various targeted interventions in the form of social protection policies and creation of employment opportunities. In 2015 the government of Ghana re-designed its social protection strategy that seeks to create decent jobs, reduce unemployment and to fight extreme poverty in the country. In line with the objectives of the SDGs, Ghana’s National Social Protection Policy identifies “a range of actions carried out by the state and other parties in response to vulnerability and poverty, which seek to guarantee relief for those sections of the population who for any reason are not able to provide for themselves”¹. This policy framework, together with other existing social protection and economic policies, such as the policy on Local Economic Development (LED) and the Local Content and Local Participation Regulations lay the foundation for stakeholders to contribute to the national agenda to end poverty and extreme hunger. However, the efforts have been very limited in scale and coverage and produced equally limited impact, especially among the rural populations. In their assessment of living conditions between the rich and the poor in Ghana, Cooke et al (2006)² noticed increasing inequality and a widening economic gap between the rich and the poor, and between the urban dwellers and their rural counterparts.

The United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) seek to end poverty and hunger and promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth by the year 2030 (SDG Goals 1, 2, and 8). However, the June 2018 report of the UN Special Rapporteur for Extreme Poverty³ paints a bleak picture of Ghana. In his report, Special Rapporteur Philip Aston notes that, inequality in Ghana is higher now than it has ever been – the gains of several years’ impressive economic growth have gone overwhelmingly to wealthier segments of the population to the exclusion of the poor. The report finds that a quarter of the population of Ghana lives in poverty and almost one in twelve lives in extreme poverty. Youth joblessness remains disturbingly high. Growing numbers of high school and university graduates go without jobs many years after graduating from school. Ghana’s education system has been characterised for churning out graduates who are not equipped with employable or livelihood skills. It is estimated that over 71,000 university graduates join the jobless economy every year, compounding the already dire employment situation that faces basic and high school graduates and dropouts. Notwithstanding the general crises of joblessness in Ghana and associated poverty and hunger, it is estimated that unemployment, poverty and extreme vulnerability are more pronounced in mining communities where commercial mining activities have disrupted and destroyed traditional land-based farms and sources of livelihood. The few local jobs that come with the mining operations require skills and competencies that place them beyond the reach of most local citizens. Therefore, creating alternative livelihood pathways and opportunities is a critical need in these communities.

The choice of the project district: why Asutifi North District?

Under Ghana’s existing decentralization law and policy frameworks, local government authorities are

¹Republic of Ghana, 2015. Ghana Social Protection Policy.

²Edgar Cooke, Sarah Hague and Andy McKay (2016). The Ghana Poverty and Inequality Report: Using the 6th Ghana Living Standard Survey.

³Philip Aston (June 2018). A report of the UN Special Rapporteur for Extreme Poverty in Ghana

mandated to provide services and mobilize local resources to support local development. In the area of Local Economic Development (LED), Government has established the National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI) and the Business Advisory Centres (BAC) to build local entrepreneurial skills and assist local people to establish their own businesses. The proposed project aimed at complementing and leveraging government efforts and interventions designed to reduce the burden of poverty in rural communities and households.

The Asutifi North District is one of the 260 local government units or districts in Ghana. It was constituted as a district by Legislative Instrument in 2012. The district is one of the smallest districts among the 7 administrative districts in the Ahafo region of Ghana. The total population of the district is 62,453 (2017 projection by the Ghana Statistical Service), with 21,204 (33.95%) classified as youth, between the ages of 15 and 34 years. The age distribution depicts a high active population and labour pool. However, the vast majority of the youth, many of whom are unable to complete high school, have no employable skills⁴. Again, the district has a large population of Persons Living with Disabilities (PWDs), numbering over 1,200. Majority of the population are women (31,969; 51%) compared to men (30,848; 49%) in the district. The district has a very high dependency ratio of 77.8%, (ibid). As at January 2018, the district office of the Social Welfare Department had registered 968 PWDs who had applied for support from government through the PWD share of the District Assembly Common Fund⁵. Also, 66.1% of the population is agrarian, mostly peasant farmers who depend on rudimentary methods of farming. Income levels in the district are very low and significantly below the national average.

Mining has displaced traditional economic activities in the district after farm lands were expropriated to make way for the mines. Very few locals have found jobs in the mines. A majority of the district's mining-displaced population, especially women, youth and PWDs, are jobless.

Again, large acreages of land, previously supporting farming and other agricultural activities of individuals and households in the community, have been licensed to and taken over by a large-scale miner. Besides depriving the locals of their farm lands, the mining activities have caused environmental and economic damage to local rivers and water bodies, forestry resources, and other remaining agricultural lands. The advent of mining in the district has also increased the cost of securing farm lands. Fifteen years ago, the cost of renting 4 acres of farm land was quoted between Five and Ten Ghana cedis, but as at 2012, a three-acre farm land was rented for One Hundred and Eighty Ghana cedis per farming season, making access to land for farming extremely difficult for the poor. Mumuni et al (2012) attribute the scarcity of land in the Asutifi North District to the increasing demand for farming lands, the presence of the mines, and loss of arable land to mining⁶. According to Mumuni et al (ibid), shortages of arable lands have been worsened by the acquisition of over 2,992 hectares of land by the Newmont Gold Ghana Limited, "implying that the over 77.4% of the population engaged in agriculture has lost out their source of livelihood". The general effect has been a widespread destruction of the people's traditional vocations and sources of livelihood that has exacerbated local poverty and joblessness which is causing the indigenous youth to migrate. The Mining Community Development Scheme, under the Minerals Development Fund Act, was established to "facilitate the socio-economic development of communities in which mining activities are undertaken and that are affected by mining operations"⁷, yet the establishment of the fund has not had any positive impact on the jobless youth and women in the mining communities. Greater percentage of the proceeds from the fund are used for only social services to the neglect of direct job creation for the youth. Data from the Asutifi North District Assembly indicate that over 60% of the Ghanaian staff of the mining company are not natives of the

⁴Ghana Statistical Service (2010). Housing and Population Census.

⁵Report by the Asutifi North District Directorate of Social Welfare and Community Development

⁶Mumuni E, Seidu Al-Hassan, and Oladele O.I. (2012). Effects of Mining on Smallholder Agriculture in the Asutifi District of the Brong Ahafo Region, Ghana.

⁷Republic of Ghana (2016). Minerals Development Fund Act, Act 912.

district; they are settlers who have migrated or been recruited from other parts of the country to take up employment with the mine.

In an attempt to tackle growing unemployment in the district, the local government authority conceived a program to build skills for local communities affected by the mining activities. The skills and capacity building program of the local authority had been planned to equip members of the affected communities to learn new trades and entrepreneurial skills as a way of creating alternative livelihood paths for locals who had lost their farm lands and the generally inadequate one-time financial compensation they received from the mining company. This proposed project was well integrated into the vision and plans of the local government authority, as it was designed to build on the plan and structures initiated by ANDA. The project was well integrated into the vision and plans of the local government authority, as it was designed to build on the plans and structures initiated by ANDA. The project was initially planned to operationalize ANDA's plan to train the local people in grass cutter, snails and mushroom farming. However, the project team also decided to include other entrepreneurial skills training such as Kente weaving, traditional dress (batakari) production, and bead making, subject to the findings of the baseline market survey that would be conducted to understand the choices of vocational skills the project target group preferred.

The project

The project aligns with various economic and political governance initiatives that are being implemented by the Government of Ghana and bilateral and multilateral development partners. Some of these initiatives had laid the foundation for effective citizens' engagements with their local government authorities and their active participation in the activities of the local assemblies. For example, the European Union Delegation in Ghana supported the CDD-Ghana to establish structures to facilitate platforms for citizens to interface with their local government authorities to discuss their development challenges and work jointly to develop and implement local solutions. Furthermore, ANDA had already registered and profiled groups and individuals in the mining communities of the district with the aim of providing them with entrepreneurial skills.

The project is focused on offering entrepreneurial skills to the rural poor in the Asutifi North District to empower them to pursue alternative livelihoods through productive and sustainable enterprise. The project was planned to build on CDD-Ghana's local development experiences as well as existing institutional structures that sought to bring communities and local assemblies together to work within the assembly's development agenda to provide employable skills for the people.

The concept of local economic development (LED)

i. What is LED?

The International Labour Organization (ILO) sees Local Economic Development (LED) as an all encompassing concept that goes beyond just development⁸. LED promotes participation and local dialogue, connects people and their resources for better employment and ensures a higher quality of life for both men and women. According to Rodriguez-Pose and Tijmstra (2005), LED refers to the processes by which local governments, businesses, and civil society groups get together to raise income sustainably and improve their lives in a well-defined area. Rodriguez-Pose and Tijmstra argue that states are paying more attention to LED initiatives because other strategies designed for national development are not making the needed impacts – slow economic growth and poverty, unfavorable international economic environment, and the inability of the state to effectively intervene at the local level. These problems have provided for a strong impulse

⁸<http://www.ilo.org/global/topics/employment-promotion/local-economic-development/lang--en/index.htm>

towards locally based initiatives. Rodriguez-Pose and Tijmstra do not see regional planning and national industrialization policies as part of LED. They refer to LED as development strategies that are territorial-based, locally owned and managed, and aimed primarily at increasing employment and economic growth⁹.

Box 1. Some definitions of Local Economic Development compiled by Rodriguez-Pose and Tijmstra

1. Local Economic Development is a process where the local actors shape and share the future of their territory. It could be defined as a participatory process that encourages and facilitates partnership between the local stakeholders, enabling the joint design and implementation of strategies, mainly based on the competitive use of the local resources, with the final aim of creating decent jobs and sustainable economic activities. (Canzanelli 2001:9).
2. Local Economic Development is the process by which public, business and nongovernmental sector partners work collectively to create better conditions for economic growth and employment generation. The aim is to improve the quality of life for all. (World Bank Urban Development Unit 2003:4).
3. Local Economic Development refers to the process in which local governments or community-based (neighbourhood) organizations engage to stimulate or maintain business activity and /or employment. The principle goal of local economic development is to stimulate local employment opportunities in sectors that improve the community, using existing human, natural, and institutional resources. (Blakely 1994: xvi).
4. Local Economic Development is essentially a process in which local governments and/or community based groups manage their existing resources and enter into partnership arrangements with the private sector, or with each other, to create new jobs and stimulate economic activity in an economic area. (Zaaier and Sara 1993:129).

Credit: Andrez Rodriguez-Pose and Sylvia Tijmstra (2005), A Report to World Bank.

LED is viewed by states as the new development paradigm to stimulate local development. The South Africa's Ministry of Cooperate Governance Tradional Affairs (CoGTA) conceptualizes LED as an approach towards economic development which allows and encourages local people to work together to achieve sustainable economic growth and development, thereby bringing economic benefits and improved quality of life for all residents in local and municipal areas¹⁰. CoGTA envisions LED as a development tool that is capable of maximizing the economic potential of all municipal localities throughout South Africa and, to enhance the resilience of the macro-economic growth through increased local economic growth, employment creation and development initiatives within the context of sustainable development. According to CoGTA, the "local" in economic development points to the fact that the political jurisdiction at a local level is often the most appropriate place for economic intervention as it carries alongside it the accountability and legitimacy of a democratically elected body. Indeed the issue of locality as a dominant determining factor of the LED concept is well appreciated by schorlars in local development. Helmssing¹¹

⁹Rodriguez-Pose, A. and Tijmstra S. (2005). Local Economic Development as an alternative approach to economic development in Sub-Saharan Africa. A Report to the World Bank.

¹⁰http://www.cogta.gov.za/?page_id=162

¹¹Helmssing Robert, A. H. J (2005). Governance of local economic development in Sub-Sahara Africa: who are the dancers and do they act "in concert". Institute of Social Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam. Working Paper, No 48.

posists that even though space may have become less important in the age of globalization, place is not. Infact, it has become even more important. The essence of LED, according to Helmssing, is the focus and development of local economic base of an area. The Crux of LED is that every territory has a comparative advantage which can be enhanced to boost the development of the localities, if the necessary actions are taken to tackle the bottlenecks inhibiting the success of the localities¹². Even though LED policies may face implmenetation challenges, especially in developing countries, many development analysts have indentified LED as a single most impotant catalyst with the potential to propel effective development of localities. A well planned LED program can aid development of municipalities and districts by adding up to national development projects in the district. LED works to prioritize local capacities and needs, and combines avaiable local resources for effective utilization and to the benefit of the local people. In effect, LED reduces the challenges of imposing national policies on local people which often, do not reflect local needs. It avoids over centralization of development and applies bottom-up approach to development. LED ensures consensus building and builds upon the principle of inclusive and participatory governance.

ii. Ghana's LED policy

The Local Governance Act 2016, Act 936, outlines the true character of local governments as aspired by Ghanians. The Act vets in the local authorities the responsibility for total development of their districts. Specifically, the Act mandates all local authorities to:

- i. Exercise political and administrative authority in the district
- ii. Promote local economic development
- iii. Provide guidance, give direction and supervise other administrative authorities in the district as may be prescribed by law

Section 12, sub-section 3(a, b, c and e) of the Local Governance Act, 2016 (Act 936) aptly defines the development functions of the local authorities and gives directions towards the expected tasks district assemblies should perform in order to achieve the “overall development of their localities”¹³. As provided in the Section 12, sub section 3 (a,b,c and e), local authorities are expected to:

1. Be responsible for the overal development of the district
2. Formulate and execute plans, programs and strategies for the effective mobilization of the resources necessary for the overall development of the district
3. Promote and support productive activity and social development in the district and remove any obstacles to initiative and development
4. Initiate programs for the development of basic infrastructure and provide municipal works and services in the district

In short, Local Authorities have been mandated to mobilize local resources, plan and effectively carry out development projects that seek to alleviate poverty and improve lives of their communities. Over the years, Local Authorities have relied on various development strategies such as Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs), Build Operate and Transfer (BOT)¹⁴, Privatization and total outsourcing of development functions to private operators. These have failed to achieve the needed development, and often, neglected the cardinal principle and objectives of local governance – citizen participation and inclusive governance. Local Economic Development was therefore seen as a single most important development strategy which is capable to solve development challenges of the districts, and also has the potential to propel macro economic development of the country. LED, as conceptualized by the Ghana government, is understood to mean an alternative

¹²Mensah K.J., Bawole J. N. and Ahenkan A. (2013). Local Economic Development Initiatives in Ghana: The Challenges and the Way Forward. *Journal of Public Administration and Governance*. Vol. 3, No. 2.

¹³Republic of Ghana (2016). Local Governance Act, 2016 (Act 936)

¹⁴It is a system where an entity, usually a government, grants a concession to a private company to finance, build and operate a project. The company operates the project for a period of time (perhaps 20 or 30 years) with the goal of recouping its investments, then transfers the control of the project to the government.

development strategy to fully harness the economic potentials of the districts for job creation and faster poverty reduction¹⁵. The government defines LED as the process by which local governments, local businesses and other actors outside the locality join forces and resources to enter into new partnership arrangements with each other, or other stakeholders to create jobs and stimulate economic activities in municipalities, towns and villages¹⁶.

“The broad objective of the policy is to facilitate economic growth, employment and income generation in order to promote household welfare and alleviate poverty”. There are eleven separate but interrelated objectives that inform Ghana’s LED policy and which seek to facilitate development in the districts. The eleven objectives are:

- i. Improve institutional arrangements and legislative framework for LED
- ii. Strengthen local economic competitiveness and LED governance
- iii. Promote LED initiatives with emphasis on innovation and human development
- iv. Provide urban and rural infrastructure to enhance quality service at the local level
- v. Identify and harness existing and potential natural, human and financial resources
- vi. Enhance Capacity of Local Economic Actors and LED institutions
- vii. Build capacity of RCCs and MMDAs to monitor environmental impacts of LED activities
- viii. Enable local governments to support local economies to realize their potential and make local communities active participants in the economy in the country
- ix. Empower local governments to facilitate functioning partnerships between the public and private sectors in order to unlock the local economy and drive new growth
- x. Provide a financing framework to coordinate funding flows in support of the strategy; and
- xi. Promote broad based local participation in the economy

Attempts by district assemblies to pursue LED policy through their Medium Term Development Plans and their Annual Action Plans do not go beyond paper work in most cases. The few districts that have gone beyond planning to actual implementation of LED programs have done so haphazardly without proper planning ahead of the programs. LED programs in the districts are often populist, and implemented to satisfy political campaign promises. There is limited planning and assessment to ascertain project feasibility, viability and potential impact that the project will have on beneficiaries.

It is instructive to note that, most of the LED programs in the districts have revolved around workshops, talk shows and short (very limited) skills training that fail to adequately prepare beneficiaries, so as to be able to apply the skills learned to any meaningful trade on their own. In addition the trainees are not supported (resources - work stations and workshops, raw materials and tools or seed capital) to be able to start their businesses after the limited skills training programs offered them. These and many other challenges have worked against effective realization of the actual intentions, aims and objectives as anticipated in the Ghana’s LED policy. In addition to the afore mentioned challenges, there are also identified general challenges that affect effective implementation of LED programs.

Challenges against effective implementation of LED programs

In their research project “*Local Economic Development Initiatives in Ghana: The Challenges and the Way Forward*” (ibid), Mensah et al studied LED operations and activities at the Atebubu-Amanten district of the Bono Region of Ghana. The study established that the implementation of agriculture based LED programs was not guided by a policy or action plan. Again, several LED activities have been implemented in the district but they have not cumulatively led to any meaningful positive impact on the lives of the communes – under-development and poverty is still high among the communes.

¹⁵ Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (March 2014). Operational Manual on Local Economic Development for District Assemblies in Ghana.

¹⁶ Government of Ghana, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (2010). National Decentralization Policy Framework. *Accelerating Decentralization and Local Governance for National Development*

Aside the aforementioned problems, the LED programs also encountered several challenges including: inadequate budget allocation to LED activities; lack of technical officers to assist LED programs; low capacity and limited knowledge and application of technology; non availability of resources – farm inputs and materials; inadequate capacity of local actors – CBOs, district assembly staff, the private sector operators within the district; and lack of infrastructure to support transport of products from farm to market; and finally, they also lacked access to market for the products they were able to produce.

The challenges may hold true for most districts. Many district assemblies are not able to localize and tailor the national LED policy to the district specific circumstances and available resource potentials. It is rare to find LED policies, guidelines and action plans that guide the development and implementation of LED programs in the districts. Again, the district assemblies do not have robust research capacity to be able to effectively identify peculiar resources (both natural and human resources), viability of particular programs to be supported by LED, market for the products, and even the needs of final beneficiaries of proposed LED programs.

A fundamental requirement for a successful LED program is that, the district assembly is able to mobilize and involve all stakeholders in the planning and implementation of LED activities. However, this has not been the case. Stakeholders have been implementing their own programs without any proper coordination. Helmssing (2005) identified lack of, or improper coordination of LED programs as a major challenge militating against effective operationalization of LED policies in Sub-Saharan Africa. As he succinctly puts it:

“If we present the (LED) governance problem as a dance, then not all dancers may be present on the dance floor and the ones who are there may not be doing the same dance and even if they do, they may not be dancing “in tune”. Not to mention the fact that some may be calling the tune for others to dance on“ (Helmssing 2005, p.1).

According to Helmssing, negative traits of district actors can undermine the coordination of LED programs. He mentioned attitudinal, incentives and capacity problems on the part of key actors to take part in in the governance of the district. Helmssing also argued that certain political-economic issues shape relationships at the districts and these must be coordinated well to facilitate effective implementation of LED programs.

Citizen participation in local governance

Several policies, action plans and reforms have been made to ensure that Local Authorities involve local people in their activities. For example, the Article 240(e) of the 1992 Constitution enjoins district assemblies to involve the citizens in all their activities. Theme five (5) of the National Decentralization Policy Framework is dedicated to civil society and citizen participation, and the Local Governance Act, 2016 (Act 936) Sections 40-48 is dedicated to citizen participation in the governance of their local assemblies. In spite of these and many other provisions, district assemblies in Ghana have not opened up to public - public participation is low, and the principle of inclusive governance is hardly observed. It must be noted that most private sector actors, including Ghana’s development partners, who support LED programs are motivated by how their support helps alleviate poverty and ensure the decent life of the people rather than merely supporting district assemblies to achieve their development agenda.

The European Union (EU) delegation to Ghana, with a vision to reduce local poverty and help stem rural-urban migration among the youth, has partnered with Ghanaian Civil Society Organizations and selected district assemblies to support LED programs in the districts. The EU is supporting the Ghana Center for Democratic Development to facilitate skills development programs for youth, women and persons with disabilities (PWDs) at the Asutifi North District in the Ahafo region. The project seeks to train 45 women, youth and PWDs selected from three zonal councils (Ntotroso, Kenyasi No. 1 and Kenyasi No. 2) in their

choice of vocation and support them to operate their own businesses after the skills training programs.

In order to help ascertain the skills set that the beneficiaries will prefer to learn, and which will also have available market for the final products they will be producing, CDD-Ghana and its project partners, the Asutifi North District Assembly (ANDA) and the Global Alliance for Development Foundation (GADeF) conducted a baseline survey in the three zonal councils.

The subsequent section elaborates on the processes and the methodology used to conduct the survey, analysis of the survey and presentation of the findings from the survey.

PROJECT BASELINE SURVEY

A Baseline Survey is a process or activity undertaken in order to establish the situation prior to project implementation. The issue of undertaking a baseline survey is about attribution: what change will occur as a result of the project intervention. When the baseline is established it enables the researcher to measure change from beginning to the time the project ends. Baseline surveys could also be undertaken to gauge information, especially from the expected beneficiaries of the project. Findings from the survey could help the design of project strategies. Baseline survey is usually linked to project logical framework, and helps to track project achievements. It is also a tool to ascertain whether the planned project resonates with, and have the buy-in and support of the people. With regard to this project, findings from the baseline survey would help the researcher to gather data that will guide the project design, especially the selection of the skills that the beneficiaries will prefer to learn.

INFORMATION GATHERING AND ESTABLISHING PROJECT STRUCTURES

Market research and information gathering

A baseline survey was conducted to gather information that assessed available local entrepreneurial businesses and opportunities that match the interest and needs of the target groups (women, youth and PWDs) in communities adversely affected by the mining operations. This baseline/market survey was also used to assess the available market for the proposed skills within the district and nearby municipal and metropolitan centers. Ahead of the baseline survey, the project team, led by CDD-Ghana, and working in collaboration with the ANDA and GADeF held introductory meetings with the stakeholders in the district, including Newmont Company Social Responsibility Department, women, youth and disability organizations, civil society organizations and traditional authorities and representatives of various groups formed through earlier initiatives by the ANDA to secure their buy-in and support. The team again reviewed LED related policies and programs in the district. These preparatory activities sought to gather information to fill the gap of existing documents and list of beneficiaries already profiled.

Working with decentralized business and skills development institutions

The project reached a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the ANDA, which also covered the Business Advisory Center (BAC) and the National Board for Small Scale Industry (NBSSI), two national agencies with decentralized operations in all the districts in Ghana that are tasked to promote skills and entrepreneurial development in local communities. The MoU sought to rope the BAC/NBSSI officially into the project. There was an initial assessment to ascertain the capacity of the BAC/NBSSI staff to address any identified capacity gaps in the local operations of the two agencies. This was to ensure sustainability and expansion of the project results by assisting the two agencies with the requisite capacity to provide ongoing support to the project beneficiaries beyond the project duration.

THE RESEARCH PROBLEM

It has already been established that the majority of the citizens at Asutifi North District are poor and have limited education qualifications. Most of the youth only completed primary education. In addition, they have no employable skills or trade. The elderly, who were mostly farmers have also lost their farm lands to the commercial mining operations in the district, and do not also possess the needed qualification to be considered by the mines for employment. In order to contribute to the solution for the above identified

challenges, this project proposed to build the capacity of selected youth, women and PWDs, and to support them with seed capital to establish and manage their own small entrepreneurial businesses.

The research questions were posed to establish the particular needs of the people, their preferred skills sets to learn, and available markets for the selected skills sets.

BASELINE AND MARKET SURVEY METHODOLOGY

The sampling methodology applied in conducting this baseline and market survey were in two (2) folds; the administrative and the field random sampling. Each aspect of the methodology applied ensured that the target population had equal opportunity of being selected in the sample by applying randomness at all stages of the sampling. At the administrative aspect, multi-staged stratified sampling methodology was used on the basis of Probability Proportional to Population size (PPPS). The multi-staged stratified sampling thus ensured that the geographical population of interest, Asutifi North District Assembly, was sub-divided into smaller and more targeted clusters, the Area Councils, rural and urban communities.

In ensuring that the baseline and market survey informs the projects activities and provides the foundation for evaluating the outcomes of the project, the baseline and market survey was conducted in the three Area Councils of the project district where the mining operations have had adverse effects on the people. The Area Councils were Kenyasi Number 1, Kenyasi Number 2 and Ntotroso.

SELECTION OF AREA COUNCILS

While there are five (5) Area councils under the Asutifi North District Assembly, Kenyasi Number 1, Kenyasi Number 2 and Ntotroso area councils were the most affected area councils in terms of commercial mining activities. In ensuring that the findings of the baseline/market survey provided relevant statistics for assessing available local entrepreneurial skills and opportunities that match the interest and needs of the target groups (women, youth and PWDs) and who are mostly affected by the impacts of the commercial mining operations; ascertain the preferred entrepreneurial skills of the target groups; and assess available markets for the preferred skills, the aforementioned area councils were selected.

Sample Size

The project district's representative sample size was determined for the survey and a total of 650 respondents were successfully interviewed across the three Area Councils from 25th to 29th July, 2019. Given the total population of the three area councils in the Asutifi North District Assembly, the sample size yielded results with margin of error of a ± 3.8 at 95% confidence level.

Formula for determining the Margin of Error given the sample size

$$ME = z\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})n$$

Where

ME = Margin of Error,

z = z-value,

\hat{p} = sample proportion

n = sample size

Random sampling of EAs

The Probability Proportional to Population Size (PPPS) technique as applied in this survey ensured that, at the first stage of the sampling process, larger clusters had bigger probability of being sampled. That is, an area council with relatively higher number of citizen population will have higher number of sampled Enumeration Areas (EAs) – EA as referred to in this report is equivalent to a locality/community.

In randomly drawing the EA samples, all EAs/localities in the three area councils had equal probability of being sampled. Given the sample size, the survey was conducted in 39 out of the 46 sampled communities.

Total interviews and interviews per locality

On an average, seventeen (17) respondents were interviewed in each of the 39 communities visited by the Field Research Assistants (FRAs). The choice of interviewing equal number of respondents in each sampled community compensates for the less smaller Area Councils were subjected to as a result of the application of Probability Proportional to Population size (PPPS) principle.

Random sampling of households and interviewees

This aspect of the sampling process falls under the field sampling and similar to the randomness applied at the administrative sampling level, selection of household by the FRAs ensured randomness. Due to the focus of the project, eligible respondent was defined as residents of the three area councils in the Asutifi North District Assembly of the Ahafo Region who fall within 18 to 45 years.

Recruitment, training of fras and quality assurance

In all, sixteen (16) Field Research Assistants (FRAs) were recruited by project partners, GADeF and the Asutifi North District Assembly. The 16 FRAs participated in a one-day training workshop to understand the objectives of the project; the baseline/ market survey; the research methodology; and to familiarize themselves with the research questionnaire. They were also taking through the use of smart devices (tablets) to administer the questionnaire to randomly sampled respondents. In promoting gender equality, field research assistants were instructed to apply gender alternation hence there was gender parity in the interviewees in every locality in which data was collected.

FRAs took part in mock interviews to equip them with the skills to conduct interviews as required. Three teams were created and assigned to each of the three area councils. While the use of the smart devices served as a tool to ensure quality control of the field data collection process, CDD-Ghana officers provided additional field monitoring to ensure that the sampling protocols were duly observed.

Survey limitations

While the sample size for the survey was originally 769 which would have yielded results with margin of error of ± 3.5 at 95% confidence level, the margin of error was marginally increased by 0.8. Apparently, members of some communities selected for the interviews had been relocated to other communities because of the commercial mining activities. While this challenge increased the margin of error for the results of the survey, it however did not limit the ability of the researchers to generalise their findings about the population under study.

ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY DATA

SURVEY/MARKET RESEARCH FINDINGS

Demographics

Social characteristics of respondents

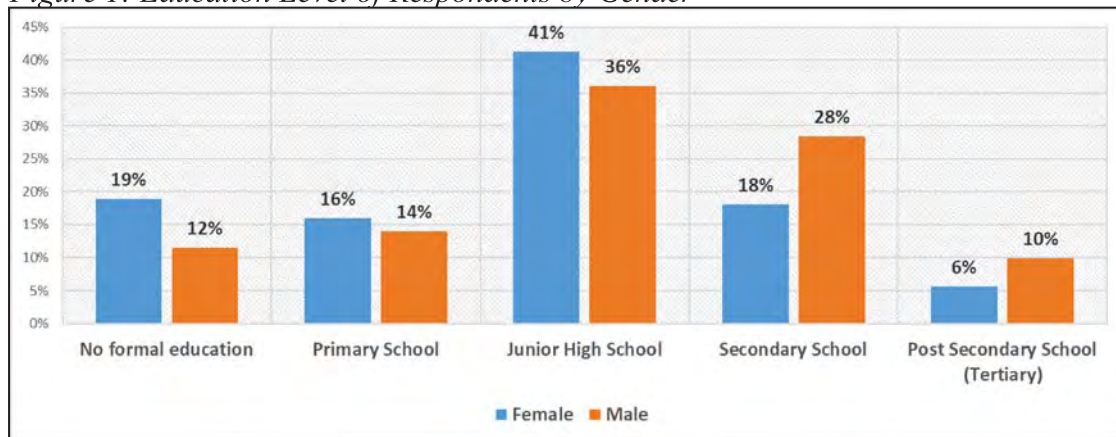
A total of 650 respondents were interviewed in the three area councils, namely Kenyasi Number 1, Kenyasi Number 2 and Ntotroso. In terms of respondents' distribution across the three area councils, 223 representing 34.3% of the respondents were resident in Kenyasi No.2; 219 representing 33.7% from Kenyasi Number 1 and 208 representing 32.0% were resident in Ntotroso Area council.

Also, all respondents as indicated in the methodology were the youth, (persons who were 18 to 45 years) at the time of the field data collection and were resident in the three zonal councils. Collectively, the mean age of the respondents was 29 years and 52% of them were females and 48% were males.

Education Level of Respondents

The baseline survey revealed that, cumulatively, a large majority (69%) of the youth in the three zonal councils have no formal education or just completed primary school or junior high school. Furthermore, only 23% of them have received secondary school education and only 8% of them have received post-secondary education. Refer to Figure 1 for detailed analysis.

Figure 1: Education Level of Respondents by Gender

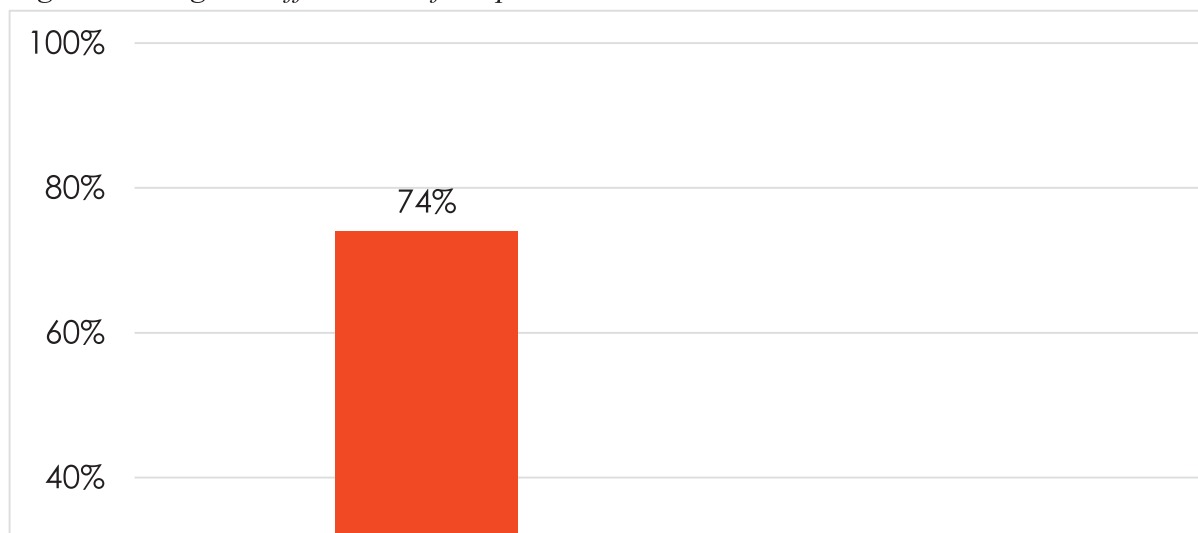


Reference to the Figure 1, it is evident that female youth in the District are less educated compared to their male counterparts. Conversely, a higher percentage of the male youth have progressed higher on the educational ladder compared to their female counterparts.

Religious Affiliation of respondents

A significant majority, approximately 3 in 4 respondents identified as Christians while 25% or 1 in 4 of them identified with the Islamic religion.

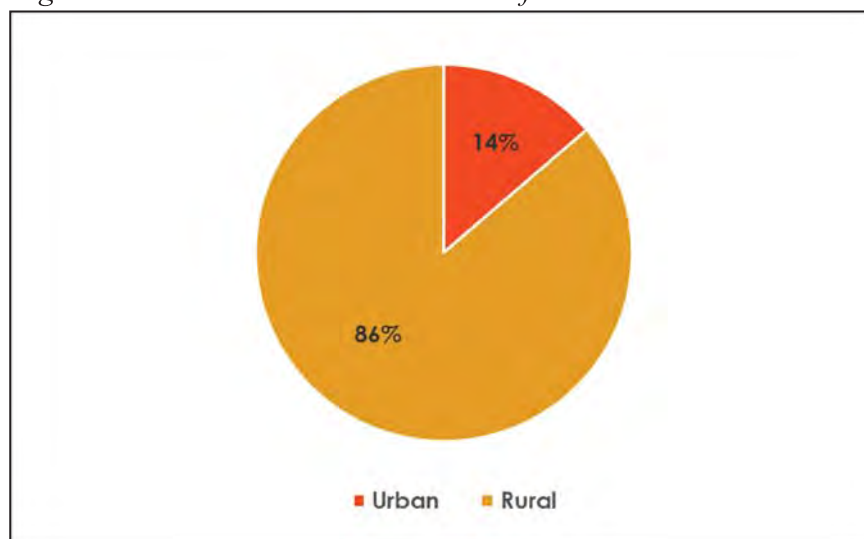
Figure 2: Religious Affiliations of Respondents



Social characteristics of the localities

A large percentage (86%) of the communities that were visited for the baseline/market survey were predominantly rural. Kenyasi Number 2 however has a relatively higher percentage of urban communities.

Figure 3: Rural/Urban Characteristic of the Area Councils



Overall, 45% of the respondents in the three zonal councils live in traditional houses or huts, while 41% live in a non-traditional or formal houses. The roads leading to the communities where the survey was conducted were in deplorable conditions as 66% interviewers (Field Research Assistants) described the condition of the last 5 kms of road before reaching the community as “very poor” or “poor”.

The interviewers also hinted that most of the communities visited had no police station (85%), private or public clinic (70%). Also 64% of the communities lacked market stalls (for selling groceries and/or clothing), 87% of them had no banks located in the communities.

In terms of other social amenities, 70% of the communities have piped water system and 55% of the communities are connected to the electricity grid that most houses can access. There are also school (public or private) in 66% of the communities.

GENERAL FINDINGS

Economic and living conditions

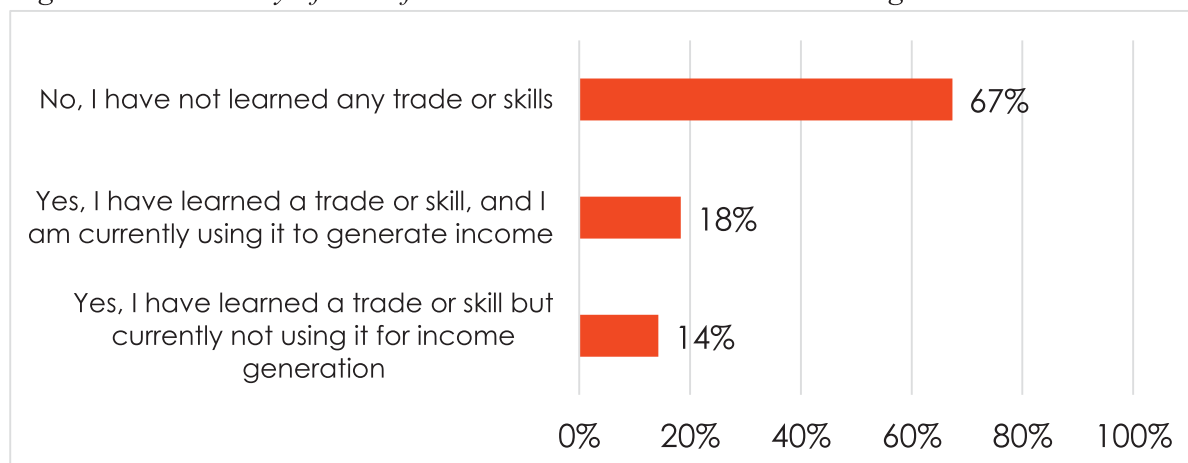
In general, only about 1 out of 10 respondents indicated that their living condition is fairly good or very good". The survey revealed that 6 in 10 (62%) respondents described the economic condition in the Asutifi North District as "very bad or fairly bad". At the individual area council level, 8 in 10 respondents in Kenyasi Number 1 described their living conditions as "very bad or fairly bad"; while 62% of the respondents in Kenyasi Number 2 and 53% in Ntotroso area councils indicated their own living conditions as "very bad or fairly bad".

To better understand the context within which respondents described their economic and living conditions, 31% of the respondents stated that they had gone without enough food to eat "several times/many times or always" in the past 12 months; 45% said they had gone without enough clean water for home use "several times/many times or always" within the same period; 47% indicated that they had gone without medicines or medical treatment "several times/many times or always"; and 61% said they had gone without a cash income "several times/many times or always".

There are varying dynamics at the individual area council level. The situation in Kenyasi Number 1 and Kenyasi Number 2 seem to be a bit better off compared to Ntotroso. In Kenyasi Number 1 and Kenyasi Number 2 only 22% of the respondents indicated that they had gone without enough food to eat "several times/many times or always" in the past 12 months as compared to 48% of respondents in Ntotroso. Access to clean water for home use in Ntotroso was worse compared with Kenyasi Number 1 and Kenyasi Number 2. Similarly, a larger percentage of respondents in Ntotroso indicated they have gone without medicines or medical treatment, cash income and enough fuel to cook their food "several times/many times or always" within the same period when compared to Kenyasi Number 1 and Kenyasi Number 2.

Arguably, some of the above economic conditions of the people in the three zonal councils are underpinned by the employment stays of the youth in the area. Reference to Figure 4, majority (67%) of the youth, have not learned any trade or skill that can provide them with a livelihood. Interestingly, 14% of them indicated that they have learned some trade or skills but are currently not using it for income generation. Thus, only 18% of them learned a trade or skill and are using it for income generation.

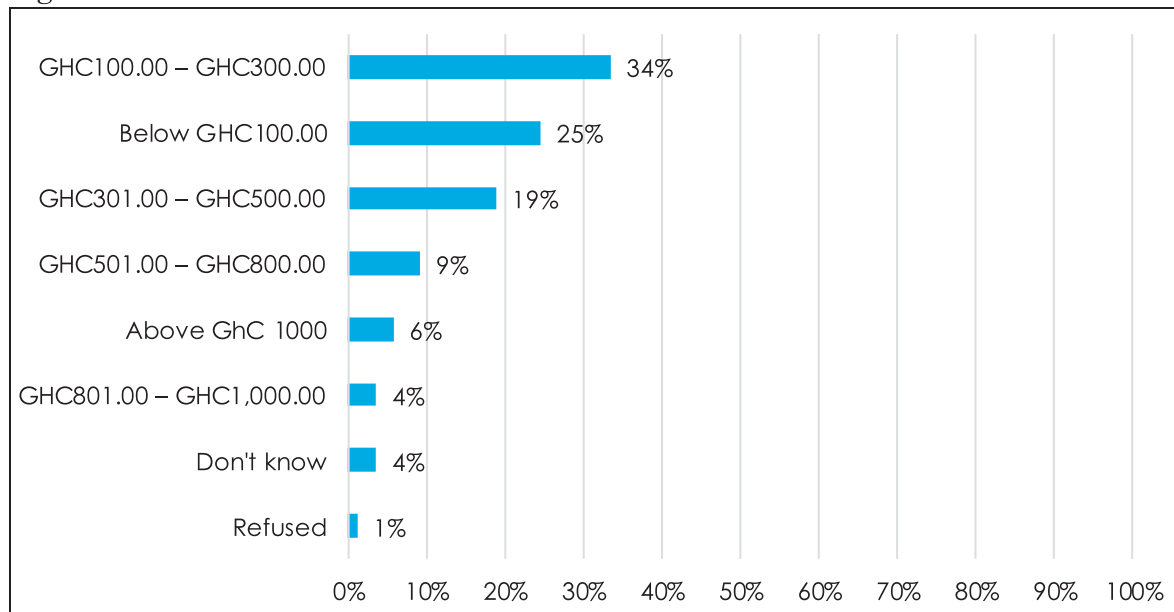
Figure 4: Availability of skills for alternative livelihood and income generation



Income level of the youth

The survey revealed that, about 60% of households in the three area councils live on less than GHC 300 monthly income; a little over 40% of this population live on less than GHC 100 monthly income. Nineteen percent (19%) said they live on monthly incomes between GHC 301 and GHC 500. In addition, 9% of households in the area live on incomes between GHC 501 to GHC 800 per month. Only 6% of households live on income above GHS 1,000 per month.

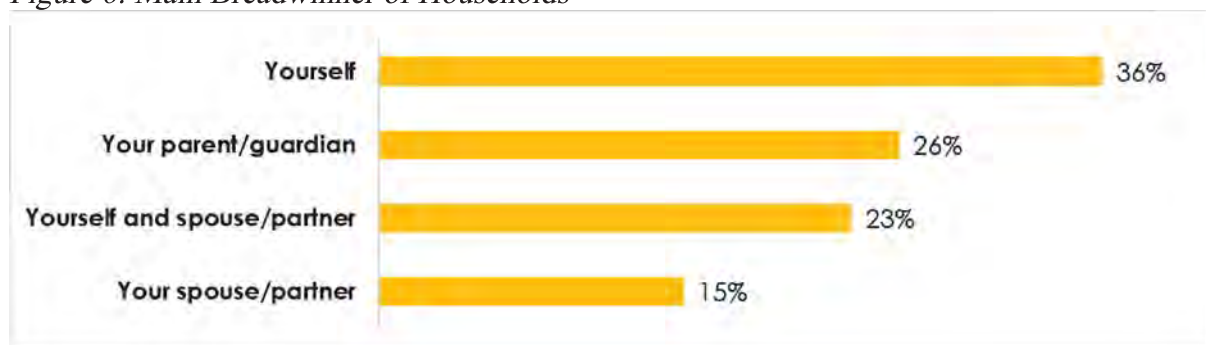
Figure 5: Household income distribution



The baseline/market survey further revealed that, about 36% of the youth who were interviewed are the main breadwinners of their households. While 23% of them indicated they are co-breadwinners (together with their partner/spouse). Twenty-five (25%) percent of the youth depend on their guardians who are the main breadwinners for their households while 15% said they depended on their spouse/partners. Hence it is evident that, a large majority of the youth, despite their low level of monthly income are breadwinners for their households.

It is also worth noting that, 54% of the youth who were interviewed were either married or were co-habiting with 88% of them either living together in the same house and 12% of them live in separate houses from their spouses. On the other hand, 41% percent of them were found to be single/never married while 5% of them indicated they were divorced at the time of the field data collection. A slight majority of the “never married” respondents (56%) were largely dependent on their parents/ guardians (as their breadwinner) while about 40% of them were identified as the main breadwinners of their households.

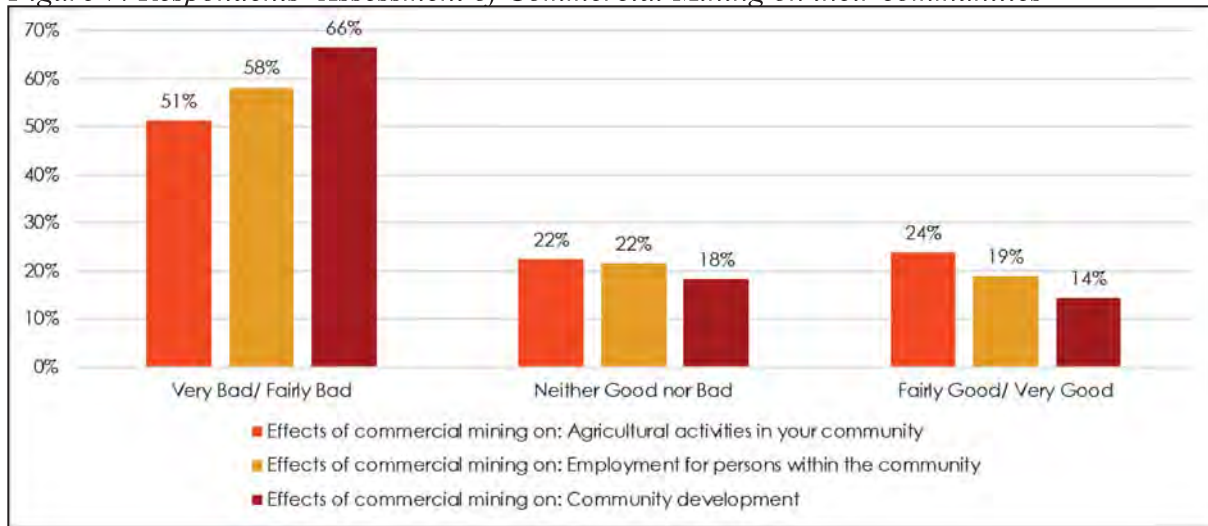
Figure 6: Main Breadwinner of Households



Prevalence of Commercial Mining activities and relative effects

In total, more than 50% of respondents stated that mining activities affect agricultural activities in their community; employment for persons within the community and community development very badly or fairly badly. Interestingly, the commercial activity in terms of direct employment opportunity for the locals has been minimal. Specifically, only 21% of the respondents said they have family members or relative who have been employed by the mining companies operating within Asutifi North District.

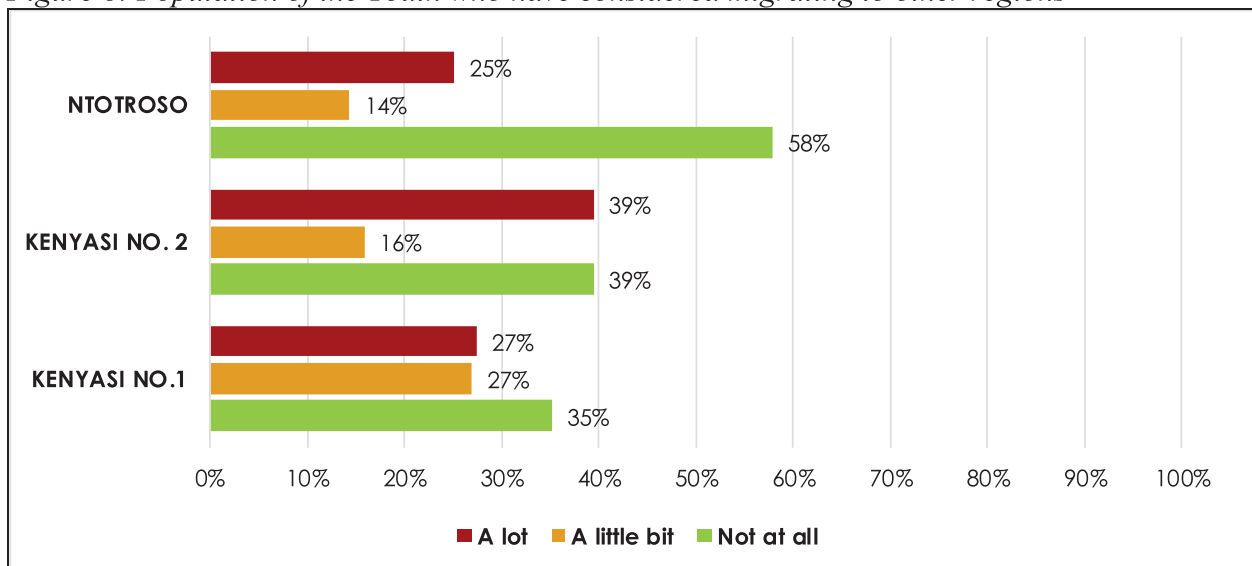
Figure 7: Respondents' Assessment of Commercial Mining on their communities



Migration

When respondents in the three zonal councils were asked about how much they have considered moving to other regions within the country, majority (55%) of them said they have considered it “a lot, somewhat or a little”. While the consideration to migrate was relatively low among residents in Ntotroso (42%), approximately 6 in ten of the youth in both Kenyasi Number 1 (63%) and Kenyasi Number 2 (60%) have considered moving out of the region either “a lot, somewhat or a little”.

Figure 8: Population of the Youth who have considered migrating to other regions



When further asked about the region they prefer relocating to, Greater Accra and Ashanti regions came up as the most preferred destination for 58% of respondents who intend to migrate from their region.

When respondents were asked about their most important reason for migrating, close to 90% stated economic motivations. They further indicated that their intention is to seek better paying jobs in other regions of the country.

It was also revealed that, respondents who experienced poverty in terms of those who have gone without cash incomes frequently in the past 12 months have considered migrating from the region more than those who have not within the same period. While the situation is troubling considering the percentage of the youth in the area who intend to migrate, further analysis indicates that, there is a weak but positive correlation between respondents who receive relatively higher incomes and those who have considered living in the region. That is, while there could be deviations from the norm, there is higher tendency of reducing the intention of the youth from migrating from the project areas if they are engaged in economic activities that offers improved levels of income.

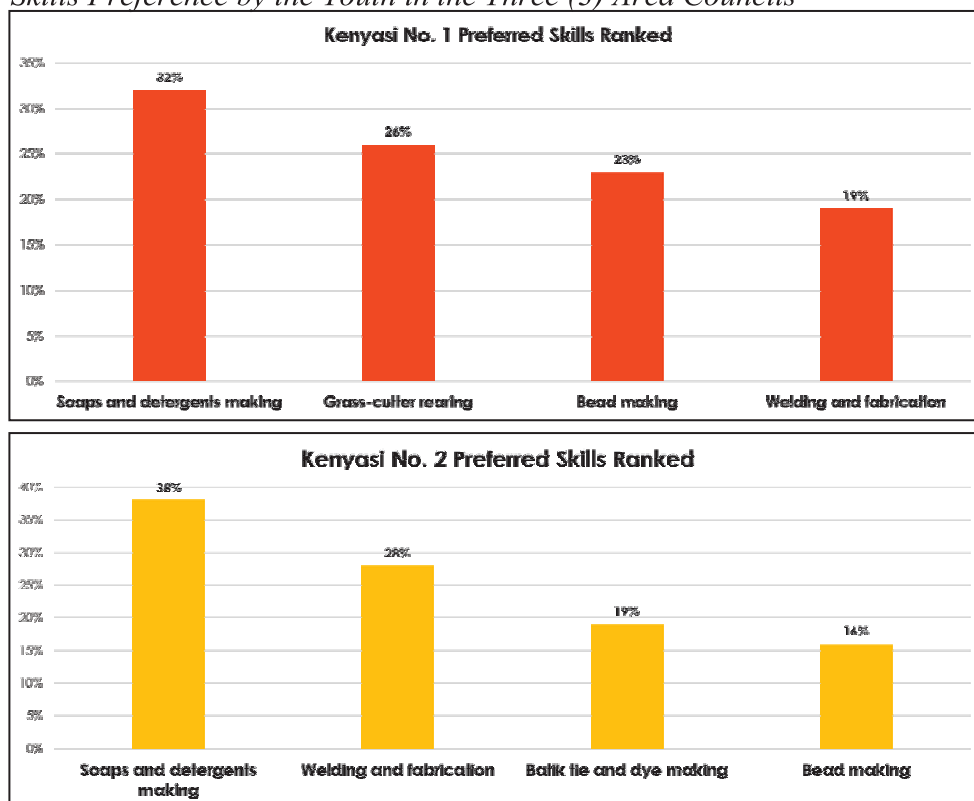
Preferred Entrepreneurial Skills

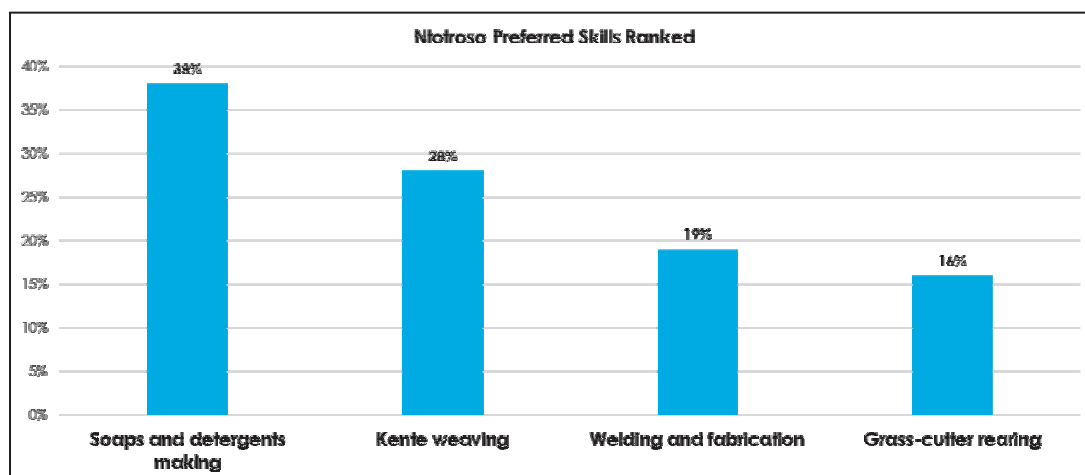
One of the objectives of the project is to equip the youth in the three zonal councils with entrepreneurial skills. A number of skills were initially proposed by the key stakeholders in the three zonal councils including the traditional rulers. The baseline therefore sought to find out from the youth the most preferred skills they would prefer to be trained in.

Below are findings from the baseline and market survey.

The survey generally confirms the entrepreneurial skills suggested by the stakeholders. Refer to charts below for the preferred skills as indicated by the youth in each of the three zonal councils, Kenyasi Number 1, Kenyasi Number 2 and Ntotroso.

Skills Preference by the Youth in the Three (3) Area Councils





Respondents Knowledge of the existence of the National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI)

The National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI) is a non-profit public sector organization under the Ministry of trade and Industry and have decentralized offices in at least all the then 10 regions of the country. They also have offices in several other districts in the country including the Asutifi North District. Due to the vital role Small, Micro and Macro Enterprises (SMEs) play in a country's economic development, the NBSSI was created by an Act of Parliament (Act 434) of 1981 and charged with the mandate to promote the growth and development of SMEs.

Findings from the baseline however suggests that, a large majority of the youth (81%) from the three zonal councils (*Kenyasi Number 1, Kenyasi Number 2, and Ntotroso*) did not know about the existence of National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI).

Validation of the draft baseline report with stakeholders, and re-alignment of preferred skills

After the project team had analyzed the field data, they subjected the draft report to validation with the stakeholders at the district. The objective was to validate the baseline survey conducted to assess the skill needs and ascertain the preferred sets of skills the youth within the District would be interested to learn, should they be given the required support. From the draft report, and as shown above, each of the three zonal councils selected, in order of preference, four preferred skills during the interviews. However, the project had proposed to settle on two sets of skills to be offered at each of the zonal councils. In view of this, there was the need to meet all stakeholders to validate the report and to settle on the final two sets of skills that each zone would prefer to learn.

After the presentation of the research findings, Nananom from the 3 zonal councils met with their respective youth groups to re-align and select the preferred skills and the results are presented in the following table in order of preference:

KENYASI NO.1 PREFERRED SKILLS	
1.	Soap and detergent making
2.	Welding and fabrication
3.	Grass cutter rearing
4.	Bead making
KENYASI NO.2 PREFERRED SKILLS	
1.	Welding and fabrication
2.	Soap and detergent making
3.	Batik and tie-and-dye making
4.	Bead making
NTOTROSO PREFERRED SKILLS	
1.	Soap and detergent making
2.	Welding and fabrication
3.	3D Epoxy (floor tiles)
4.	Kente weaving

From the above, the three zones, after their re-alignment settled on soap and detergent making as well as learning skills in welding and fabrication as their two most preferred skills/vocations to learn.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

Recommendations:

General recommendations

1. Government must ensure that district assemblies develop policy and action plans to guide district LED programming and implementation
2. Government must develop framework to ensure collaborative partnership among district actors and aid the proper coordination of all LED activities being implemented by actors
3. District assemblies should establish LED implementation committees, that will bring together all district actors to plan, and mobilize resources to support district LED programs
4. District assemblies must identify potential investors to support LED activities in the district – the assemblies should be proactive in developing, localizing and shopping for partners to support implementation of LED policy
5. Government must strengthen the research capacity of the district assemblies to be able to conduct effective research to back LED programs. A strong research capacity at the district can help them compile up-to-date information and data on available investment potentials and opportunities at the district. The data could be uploaded on the district website and be advertised through other means, to attract potential investors, both within the district, and even those outside Ghana.
6. District assemblies should have budget line items adequate enough, and specifically dedicated to LED projects. This will also mean that the district assemblies embark on revenue mobilization drive, not only relying on the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) and the Internally Generated Funds (IGF), but also developing strong case (proposals) convincing enough to attract support from private investors and donors.

Recommendations to the Asutifi North District Assembly, based on the baseline/market survey

The baseline survey identified many challenges but four of them were very pronounced and require immediate and urgent action from the ANDA. They include: poor infrastructure development; high youth unemployment; low level of education qualification and lack of employable skills among the youth. We therefore make the following recommendations:

1. *Ensure improved infrastructure at the district, especially farm-to-market roads.*

The existence of basic infrastructure is a key prerequisite for cottage industrialization. Thus investors are more likely to invest in areas that are easily accessible to facilitate the movement of raw materials and finished products without much difficulty. However, the baseline study found that the roads leading to the communities in the three zonal councils within ANDA were in deplorable conditions. Nearly two-thirds (66%) of the FRAs described the condition of the last 5 kms of road before reaching the community as “very poor” or “poor”. Also, 87% of them have no banks located in the communities, and 64% of them lacked market stalls (for selling groceries and/or clothing). These basic infrastructure are necessary to boost investment in a district. Therefore, the district must take steps to ensure the availability of these basic infrastructure to attract investment and support local entrepreneurial initiatives.

2. Provide adequate security for life and property

Investors prefer a safe environment where adequate security is provided to guarantee security of investment. The survey findings revealed the state of basic security and health infrastructure in the district. Majority of the communities (85%) have no police stations and 70% have no private or public clinics.

3. Institute proactive measures to improve skills of the youth in the district

Majority of the youth in the district (69%) either have not received any formal education or just completed primary school or Junior High School (JHS). Again, 67% do not have employable skills. It is therefore no coincidence that 55% of them want to migrate to other regions in search of quality life. It is important to intensify actions on LED policy so as to provide some vocation for the youth to improve their living conditions and stem youth migration from the district.

4. Ensure adequate budget allocation for LED programs

To help reduce the large youth unemployment rate, and to also improve the low income levels in the district, the district assembly must prioritize LED programs and make more budgetary allocations for LED activities. In addition, the assembly must reach out to potential investors and donors to support LED programs in the district.

Conclusion

The high levels of unemployment among the youth is becoming a huge burden in the Ghanaian society. In addition, mining has displaced traditional economic activities of many people in the Asutifi North District, after farm lands were expropriated to make way for the mines. A majority of the district's mining-displaced population, especially women, youth and PWDs, are jobless. Unfortunately, very few of them have found jobs in the mines.

While there is no single approach to addressing youth unemployment, a well rehearsed, all inclusive and properly planned LED programs and strategies, targeting the youth, can be very effective in tackling poverty and raising living standards of the youth, at a period where development policies by the central government may face many local and international constraints. The LED policy, as designed by the government, offers an alternative development strategy to fully harness the economic potentials of the districts for job creation and faster poverty reduction. ANDA and other local authorities must prioritize LED programs in their district and make more budgetary allocations to provide adequate funding for LED programs. Effective design and implementation of LED programs is key to providing tradable skills and the right environment for the youth to engage in decent work and ensure sustainable livelihood – very key to reducing the zeal to migrate.

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APPENDICES

“BUILDING LOCAL ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS TO SUPPORT THE RURAL POOR FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC SELF-RELIANCE”

BASELINE AND MARKET SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Introduction

My name is (ENUMERATOR'S NAME). I am working on behalf of the Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) in collaboration with the Asutifi North District Assembly on a survey aimed at *assessing the availability of local entrepreneurial skills and opportunities in communities adversely affected by mining operations within the Asutifi North District of the Ahafo Region.*

Whatever information you provide will be treated with utmost confidentiality. Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. At any time, you may choose not to answer any of the questions. You may also feel free to answer any question with as much detail as you think is appropriate. The interview will take approximately 60 minutes. Do you have any questions? Are you willing to participate in this research?

Let's begin by recording a few facts about yourself.

1. How old are you? [Interviewer: If respondent is aged less than 18 or more than 45 years, stop interview and use CAPI to randomly draw another respondent in the same household]

2. Which language do you speak at home [Interviewer: Prompt if necessary: That is, the language of your group of origin.]

	1	Dagbani	5
Akan	2	Dagaare	6
Ewe/Anlo	3	Other [Specify]	7
Ga/Dangbe	4	Don't know [DNR]	99

3. What is your highest level of education? [Code from answer. Do not read options]

No formal schooling	0
Informal schooling only (including Koranic schooling)	1
Some primary school	2
Primary school completed	3
Some Junior High School	4
Junior High School completed	5
Some Senior High (or secondary) School	6
Senior High School (or secondary) completed	7
Post-secondary education (e.g. a diploma or polytechnic education)	8
Some university	9
University completed	10
Post-graduate	11
Don't know [Do not read]	99

4. I will read out a list of persons to you, please tell me if you are personally aware any of them have lost their lands, including farm lands as a result of commercial mining activities? [Interviewer: Read out options. Tick all that apply.]

	No	Yes
A. A member of your family or relative	0	1
B. Yourself	0	1
C. A friend	0	1

D. A neighbour	0	1
E. A farmer who rented the land	0	1
F. A non-indigene farmer	0	1
G. Other [specify]		

5. In general, how would you rate the effects of commercial mining on the following activities in your community: [Interviewer: Read out options and probe for strength.]						
	Very Bad	Fairly Bad	Neither good nor bad	Fairly Good	Very good	Don't know [DNR]
A. Agricultural activities in your community?	0	1	2	3	4	9
B. Employment for persons within the community?	0	1	2	3	4	9
C. Community development	0	1	2	3	4	9

6. Has any of your family members or relative been employed by any of the mining companies operating within Asutifi North District? [Interviewer: Read out options]			
No	Yes	Refused [Do not read]	Don't know [Do not read]
0	1	8	9

7. Have you learned a trade or do you have skills that can provide you with a livelihood? [Interviewer: Read out options]	
No, I have not learned any trade or skills	0
Yes, I have learned a trade or skill but currently not using it for income generation	1
Yes, I have learned a trade or skill, and I am currently using it to generate income	2
Refused [DNR]	8

8. [If respondent's answer to Q7 is "1= Yes, I have learned a trade or skills but currently not using it for income generation" ask] Which of these is the main reason why you are not using the trade or skills learned? [Interviewer: Read out options]	
I am gainfully employed in another venture/company	0
The trade or skills I have learned are not viable in this community/ district	1
Lack of adequate capital to implement the skills or trade acquired	2
Other [Specify]	3

Now let's discuss your general economic and your living conditions.

9. In general, how would you describe: [Read out options]						
	Very Bad	Fairly Bad	Neither good nor bad	Fairly Good	Very good	Don't know [DNR]
A. The present economic condition in this district?	0	1	2	3	4	9
B. Your own present living conditions?	0	1	2	3	4	9

10. Over the past year, how often, if ever, have you or anyone in your family: [Read out options]						
	Never	Just once or twice	Several times	Many times	Always	Don't Know [DNR]
A. Gone without enough food to eat?	0	1	2	3	4	9
B. Gone without enough clean water for home use?	0	1	2	3	4	9
C. Gone without medicines or medical treatment?	0	1	2	3	4	9
D. Gone without enough fuel to cook your food?	0	1	2	3	4	9

E. Gone without a cash income?	0	1	2	3	4	9
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11. In this community, which top three entrepreneurial activities/ skills would you say are most important besides farming? [Interviewer: Read out options. Respondents can only choose a maximum of three skills from the list

	First activity	Second activity	Third activity
A. Bead making	1	2	3
B. Grass-cutter rearing	1	2	3
C. Kente weaving	1	2	3
D. Mushroom farming	1	2	3
E. Snail farming	1	2	3
F. Traditional dress (Batakari) production	1	2	3
G. Welding and fabrication	1	2	3
H. Batik tie and dye making	1	2	3
I. Soap and detergent making	1	2	3
J. No further preference	66		
K. Other preference 1 [Specify]	77		
L. Other preference 2 [Specify]		77	
M. Other preference 3 [Specify]			77
N. Refused [DNR]	999		
O. Don't know [DNR]	9		

12. If you have the opportunity to choose any entrepreneurial skill, which one will be your first, second, and third preference? [Interviewer: Read out options. Respondents can only choose a maximum of three skills from the list

	First Preference	Second Preference	Third Preference
A. Bead making	1	2	3
B. Grass-cutter rearing	1	2	3
C. Kente weaving	1	2	3
D. Mushroom farming	1	2	3
E. Snail farming	1	2	3
F. Traditional dress (Batakari) production	1	2	3
G. Welding and fabrication	1	2	3
H. Batik tie and dye making	1	2	3
I. Soap and detergent making	1	2	3
J. No further preference	66		
K. Other preference 1 [insert skill]	77		
L. Other preference 2 [Insert skill]		77	
M. Other preference 3 [insert skill]			77
N. Refused [DNR]	999		
O. Don't know [DNR]	9		

13. For each of the skills, please tell me whether in your opinion it is economically very viable, viable, not viable or not at all viable in this district or region: [Interviewer: Read out options]

	Not at all viable	Not viable	Viable	Very viable	Don't know [DNR]
A. Bead making	0	1	2	3	9
B. Grass-cutter rearing	0	1	2	3	9
C. Kente weaving	0	1	2	3	9
D. Mushroom farming	0	1	2	3	9
E. Snail farming	0	1	2	3	9
F. Traditional dress (Batakari) production	0	1	2	3	9

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G. Welding and fabrication	0	1	2	3	9
H. Batik tie and dye making	0	1	2	3	9
I. Soap and detergent making	0	1	2	3	9
J. Other preference 1 <i>[insert skill]</i>	0	1	2	3	9
K. Other preference 2 <i>[insert skill]</i>	0	1	2	3	9
L. Other preference 3 <i>[insert skill]</i>	0	1	2	3	9

14. For each of the skills listed below, I will like you to tell me whether you think it has ready market, some market or no market at all in this district or region: [Interviewer: Read out options]

	No market at all	Some market	Ready Market	Don't know [DNR]
A. Bead making	0	1	2	9
B. Grass-cutter rearing	0	1	2	9
C. Kente weaving	0	1	2	9
D. Mushroom farming	0	1	2	9
E. Snail farming	0	1	2	9
F. Traditional dress (Batakari) production	0	1	2	9
G. Welding and fabrication	0	1	2	9
H. Batik tie and dye making	0	1	2	9
I. Soap and detergent making	0	1	2	9
J. Other preference 1 <i>[Specify]</i>	0	1	2	9
K. Other preference 2 <i>[Specify]</i>	0	1	2	9
L. Other preference 3 <i>[Specify]</i>	0	1	2	9

Let's conclude the interview by recording additional facts about yourself.

15. What is the total number of persons, including yourself and children below 18 years in your household? [Interviewer: State number]	
16. How many are less than 18 years? [Interviewer: State number]	
17. How many of them are older than 60 years? [Interviewer: State number]	

18. Do you have a spouse or partner and, if yes, do you live in the same house? [Interviewer: Read out options]	
Not married; have no spouse/partner	0
Divorced/separated	1
Yes, I have a spouse but we don't live in the same house	2
Yes, I have a spouse and we live in the same house	3
Yes, I am co-habiting with my partner	4
Refused <i>[DNR]</i>	9

19. [If answer to Question 18 is <i>Not</i> "0= not married; have no spouse/partner; 1= Divorce/separated", ask:] Does your spouse or partner have a job that pays a cash income?	
No	0
Yes	1
Refuse <i>[DNR]</i>	9

20. Who is/are the main breadwinner(s) of this household? [Interviewer: Read out options]	
Yourself	1
Your spouse/partner	2

Yourself and your spouse/partner	3
Your parent/guardian	4
Refused [DNR]	8
Don't know [DNR]	9

21. On average, how much is the household income in a month? [Interviewer: Please code appropriately.]	
Below GHC100.00	1
GHC101.00 – GHC300.00	2
GHC301.00 – GHC500.00	3
GHC501.00 – GHC800.00	4
GHC801.00 – GHC1,000.00	5
GHC1,001.00 and above	6
Refused [DNR]	88

22. How much, if at all, have you considered moving to another region in the country to live? [Interviewer: read out options]	
Not at all	0
A little bit	1
Somewhat	2
A lot	3
Don't know [DNR]	9

23. [If answer to Question 22 is “1 = a little bit”, “2 = somewhat” or “3 = a lot”, ask:] If you were to relocate to another region in the country, where would you be most likely to go? [Interviewer: read out options]	
Not Applicable [if response to Q... was 0=Not at all]	0
Western region	1
Western north	2
Central region	3
Greater Accra region	4
Volta region	5
Oti region	6
Eastern region	7
Ashanti region	8
Bono region	9
Bono East region	10
Ahafo region	11
Northern region	12
Savannah region	13
North East	14
Upper east	15
Upper west	16
Outside the country (specify)	17
Don't know [DNR]	88
Refused	99

24. [If answer to Question 22 is “a little bit”, “somewhat” or “a lot”, ask:] There are several reasons why people would want to move from where they stay to go and live in another region in the country. In your case, what is the most important reason why you would consider moving from this community to another region in the country? [Interviewer: read out options]	
Economic	
Find work/ better job/ better work opportunities	1
Poverty/ destitution	2

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Poor infrastructure/ services	3
Social Factors	
Better schools for children	4
Better medical services for family	5
To pursue education	6
To accompany family members who are moving for work	7
Crime, or personal/ family insecurity	8
Some other reason <i>(Specify)</i>	96
Not Applicable <i>[If response to Question 22 was “0 = Not at all” or “9=Don’t know”]</i>	97
Refused <i>[DNR]</i>	98
Don’t know <i>[DNR]</i>	99

25. What is your religion, if any? <i>[Interviewer: Read out options]</i>	
Christian religion	0
Islamic religion	1
Traditional or ethnic religion	2
Agnostic (Do not know if there is a God)	3
Atheist (Do not believe in a God)	4
Refused <i>[Do not read]</i>	8
Don’t know <i>[Do not read]</i>	9

26. Do you know of the existence of the following government Institutions/Offices in this district? <i>[Interviewer: Read out options]</i>	No	Yes	Refused <i>[DNR]</i>
A. National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI)	0	1	9
B. Business Advisory Centres (BAC)	0	1	9

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

INTERVIEWER, PLEASE ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS. DO NOT ASK RESPONDENTS.

27. Respondent's gender	
Female	0
Male	1

28. In what type of shelter does the respondent live?	
Non-traditional / formal house	1
Traditional house / hut	2
Temporary structure / shack	3
Flat in a block of flats	4
Single room in a larger dwelling structure or backyard	5
Hostel in an industrial compound or farming compound	6
Other	7

29. Region name	Ahafo
30. District name	Asutifi North District
31. Community name	<<select from menu>>
32. Area council name	<<pre-coded>>

33. How would you describe the Primary Sampling Unit (PSU)/Enumeration Area (EA)	
Urban	1
Rural	2

34. Are the following services present in the primary sampling unit/enumeration area?			
	No	Yes	Can't determine
A. Electricity grid that most houses can access	0	1	9
B. Piped water system that most houses can access	0	1	9
C. Sewage system that most houses can access	0	1	9

35. Are the following facilities present in the primary sampling unit/enumeration area or in easy walking distance?			
	No	Yes	Can't determine
A. School (private or public, or both)	0	1	9
B. Police Station	0	1	9
C. Health Clinic (private or public, or both)	0	1	9
D. Market Stalls (selling groceries and/or clothing)	0	1	9
E. Bank	0	1	9
F. Is there any kind of paid transport, such as a bus, taxi, moped, or other form, available on a daily basis?	0	1	9

36. Thinking of the journey here:						
	Impassable	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good
What was the condition of the road in the last 5 km before reaching the start point of the PSU/EA? Was the road in excellent or good condition and easy to traverse, or was it in poor or very poor condition, that is, difficult to traverse due to potholes, waterlogged or other issues, or was it impassable at any point (e.g., due to a collapsed bridge, fallen tree, flooding, etc.	0	1	2	3	4	5

DATEINTR	Day	Month	Year
Date of interview [Interviewer: Enter day, month, and year]			

iv. Field reports from the Field Research Assistants (including pictures)

**FIELD REPORT FROM FIELD RESEARCH ASSISTANTS DEPLOYED TO
KENYASI NO.1 ENUMERATION AREA**

1. INTRODUCTION

Ghana Centre for Democratic Governance (CDD-Ghana) in collaboration with Asutifi North District Assembly conducted a survey aimed at assessing the availability of local entrepreneurial skills and opportunities in communities adversely affected by mining operations within the Asutifi North District of the Ahafo Region.

2. SUCCESS FROM THE FIELD VISITS

- The Kenyasi No. 1 group was able to visit all the 13 allocated communities and interviewed 221 households
- Community members were very delighted with the exercise and praised the efforts of CDD-Ghana and the District Assembly for coming down to the grassroots level to seek their preferences on the skills they would like to be trained in.

3. CHALLENGES

- In some communities, members were a little reluctant to participate complaining that more often than not, such exercises are carried out but after fully participating, they never hear from the organisations conducting the exercise.
- Most of the roads leading to communities were not motorable which led to walking for long distances before reaching communities.
- Community members mostly tried to tag field officers as coming from a political party.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ARYEKROM WITH KENYASI NO.1 RESETTLEMENT

Upon consultation with Mr. Norviewu Newton of CDD-Ghana, Aryekrom was replaced with Kenyasi No.1 resettlement since the Aryekrom could not be located. So, all data for Aryekrom on the system are for Kenyasi No.1 resettlement.

FIELD REPORT FROM FIELD RESEARCH ASSISTANTS DEPLOYED TO KENYASI NO. 2 ENUMERATION AREA

SUMMARY OF MAJOR FINDINGS

The survey revealed that farming is the major activity in the communities in the Kenyasi No: 2 district. That is, 70% of the total population are engaged in farming activities, 10% have been employed in the mines and 20% are into economic activities like trading, corn milling and others.

From the findings, mining has really affected the environment in the area through land degradation, water pollution and noise pollution which makes the soil lose its fertility rendering their cocoa trees dried up and not able to bear as much cocoa pods as it used to. This brings about poverty and loss of resources. The main source of water in the communities includes, dug out dam, well and some standing pipes but the mining activities have contaminated the dams and wells there by putting much pressure on the remaining pipes. Some communities do not have portable water and electricity which makes it difficult for students to study and to move at night within the community.

The research also revealed that, the improper disposal of liquid waste from mining has resulted in high incident of malaria, and inhalation of dust which has also resulted in acute respiratory.

CHALLENGES IN THE SURVEY

- ❖ Field research Assistants assigned to Kenyasi No. 2 were assigned to interview respondents in 16 communities. Out of the expected number of 304 respondents the team was able to interview 207 (representing 68%) because communities such as Ananekrom, kofi Ibrahimkrom and Kwame Aduanakrom were no longer existent because they have htye been relocated for mining activities to be carried out. We were later informed that they people of these communities had been relocated due to the commercial mining activities in the communities.
- ❖ A significant number of the residents in Kwaku Addaikrom community had migrated to other communities.
- ❖ Some of the communities such as Yarogramakrom had only 5-7 houses, as such, it was to meet the target for the number of respondents in the community (that is following the sampling protocol).
- ❖ The poor nature of the roads linking to the communities made it difficult for the group to reach the assigned communities.

RECOMMENDATION

- ❖ We would urge CDD-Ghana to increase budget for transportation cost in their next survey to enhance mobility in the communities.
- ❖ The mining company should employ the youth to reduce unemployment.

FIELD REPORT FROM FIELD RESEARCH ASSISTANTS DEPLOYED TO NTOTROSO ENUMERATION AREA

1.0 Introduction

Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) in collaboration with Asutifi North District Assembly engaged selected youths, both community and staffs of the Assembly to undertake a data collection exercise within clusters of communities in the district, namely, Kenyasi No.1, Kenyasi No.2 and Ntotroso from July 25-29, 2019.

2.0 Successes

- Community members were pleased with the exercise and commended CDD-Ghana and the District Assembly for their prompt efforts in ensuring participation ahead a great course.
- The group visited 13 assigned communities and interviewed 223 households
- We had the opportunity to visit remote communities that some members have not visited before to interact with the people.

3.0 Challenges

- Roads leading to some assigned communities were highly not motorable therefore compelling enumerators cover distances on foot.
- Some community members were unwilling to participate complaining that more often than not, these exercises are carried after which they never hear from the organisations conducting the exercise.

NB: 2 assigned communities, namely Avoa and Kwame Aduana were not existing within the district therefore were not visited

MINUTES: MEETING TO VALIDATE BASELINE SURVEY REPORT

1.0 OPENING

The meeting commenced at 11:03 am with an opening prayer said by Mr. Jeffery Kwabena Appiah. He called on God almighty for his presence and guidance to steer the meeting to a successful end.

The meeting was chaired by the District Coordinating Director (DCD) and in attendance were Nananom, Head of Departments/Units (HODs), Youth Associations, Federation of Physically Challenged, Field Research Assistants for the survey and NGO's/CBO's in the District.

2.0 PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Following self-introduction of participants, Mr. P.N.K. Aborampah Mensah of Ghana Center for Democratic Development (CDD-Ghana) in his opening remark indicated that the meeting was to validate the baseline survey conducted to assess the skill needs and ascertain the preferred sets of skills the youth within the District would be interested to learn, should they be given the required support.

He mentioned that, this forms part of the initial processes to finalize selection of the skills set and focus of the project '*Building Local Entrepreneurial Skills to Support the Rural Poor for Sustainable Economic Self-Reliance*' which intends to train 45 youth selected from the three zonal councils on entrepreneurial skills and also support them with seed capital after their training.

3.0 CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

The chairman, in his brief welcome address, urged participants to listen attentively to enable them deliberate on the issues dispassionately, share experiences and recommend the best set of skills they would prefer to be trained should the opportunity comes. He expressed profound gratitude to CDD-Ghana and the European Union for the continuous support in terms of developmental projects undertaken in the District.

In conclusion, he appealed to the youth present to put their political affiliation aside and exercise decorum in their choice of words when given the opportunity to air their views to promote sanity and a peaceful meeting.

4.0 PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS FROM THE BASELINE AND MARKET SURVEY

Mr. Newton Norviewu (CDD-Ghana) gave a presentation of the findings of the Baseline and Markets survey conducted. The objectives of the research were to assess available local entrepreneurial skills and opportunities that match the interest and needs of the target groups (women, youth and PWDs), ascertain the preferred entrepreneurial skills of the target groups and assess available markets for the preferred skills. The research targeted respondents within the age groups from 18 to 45 years for residents in the three zonal councils, namely; Kenyasi No.1, Kenyasi No.2 and Ntotroso. The following were some key research findings from the presentation;

On educational level of respondents, it was observed as follows; those with no formal education were 15%, those who had up to primary education were 15%, those who continued up to Junior High School were 39%, Secondary School 23% and Post-Secondary or Tertiary 8%. On preferred skills, the survey respondents from Kenyasi No.1 selected soap and detergent making 32%, grass cutter rearing 26%, bead making 23%, welding and fabrication 19%. Kenyasi No.2 respondents chose soap and detergent 38% welding and Fabrication 28% Batik tie and dye 19%, Bead making 16%. And respondents from the Ntotroso Zonal Council also selected as follows; soap and detergent 32%, kente weaving 28%, welding and fabrication 19% and grass-cutter rearing 16%.

5.0 RE-ALIGNMENT AND SELECTION OF PREFERRED SKILLS

After the presentation of the research findings, Nanamom from the 3 zonal councils met with their respective youth groups to re-align and select the preferred skills and the results are presented in the table below in order of preference;

KENYASI NO.1 PREFERRED SKILLS	
1.	Soap and detergent making
2.	Welding and fabrication
3.	Grass-cutter rearing
4.	Bead making
KENYASI NO.2 PREFERRED SKILLS	
1.	Welding and fabrication
2.	Soap and detergent making
3.	Batik, tie-and-dye making
4.	Bead making
NTOTROSO PREFERRED SKILLS	
1.	Soap and detergent making
2.	Welding and fabrication
3.	3D Epoxy (Floor tiles)
4.	Kente weaving

6.0 CLOSING

Following the exhaustion of agenda and the absence of other matters, the chairman again commended members especially Nanamom for making it to the meeting and their massive contribution during discussions. He also thanked the representatives from CDD-Ghana for their efforts and commitment to the development of the youth and the District at large. He sent his greetings and thank you message to the EU and hinted that, the District Chief Executive and the leadership of the district intend to pay a courtesy call on the EU in Accra to express their appreciation for choosing to support the district over the years, and most especially with this innovative skills training support programme.

The meeting ended at 1:09 pm, after which a closing prayer was said by Mr. Jeffery Kwabena Appiah.

vi. Tables of survey data

Q2. Which language do you speak at home			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Akan/Twi	427	65.7	65.7
Other (Specify)	56	8.6	8.6
Kusasi	34	5.2	5.2
Dagbani	32	4.9	4.9
Dagaare	30	4.6	4.6
English	26	4.0	4.0
Ewe/Anlo	23	3.5	3.5
Gurma	22	3.4	3.4
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q2. Which language do you speak at home [Other (specify)]			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	594	91.4	91.4
Awunaa	2	.3	.3
Bariba	3	.5	.5
Bimomba	2	.3	.3
Buzanga	5	.8	.8
Chokose	3	.5	.5
Dagaati	4	.6	.6
Frafra	4	.6	.6
French	1	.2	.2
Fulani	1	.2	.2
Ga/Dangbe	2	.3	.3
Gurusi	10	1.5	1.5
Hausa	2	.3	.3
Krobo	1	.2	.2
Mampruli	3	.5	.5
Mossi	8	1.2	1.2
Sisala	1	.2	.2
Wangara	3	.5	.5
Wurusi	1	.2	.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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Q3. What is your highest level of education?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No formal education	100	15.4	15.4
Primary School	98	15.1	15.1
Junior High School	252	38.8	38.8
Secondary School	150	23.1	23.1
Post Secondary School (Tertiary)	50	7.7	7.7
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Loss of land due to Commercial mining activities by:			
	Responses		Percent of Cases
	N	Percent	
Q4A. Loss of land due to Commercial mining activities by: A member of your family or relative	198	26.4%	70.5%
Q4D. Loss of land due to Commercial mining activities by: A neighbour	175	23.3%	62.3%
Q4C. Loss of land due to Commercial mining activities by: A friend	164	21.8%	58.4%
Q4E. Loss of land due to Commercial mining activities by: A farmer who rented the land	95	12.6%	33.8%
Q4F. Loss of land due to Commercial mining activities by: A non-indigene farmer	62	8.3%	22.1%
Q4B. Loss of land due to Commercial mining activities by: Yourself	57	7.6%	20.3%
Total	751	100.0%	267.3%

Q5A. Effects of commercial mining on: Agricultural activities in your community?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Very Bad	150	23.1	23.1
Fairly Bad	183	28.2	28.2
Neither Good nor Bad	145	22.3	22.3
Fairly Good	92	14.2	14.2
Very Good	63	9.7	9.7
Don't Know [DNR]	17	2.6	2.6
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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Q5B. Effects of commercial mining on: Employment for persons within the community?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Very Bad	205	31.5	31.5
Fairly Bad	173	26.6	26.6
Neither Good nor Bad	140	21.5	21.5
Fairly Good	88	13.5	13.5
Very Good	35	5.4	5.4
Don't Know [DNR]	9	1.4	1.4
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q5C. Effects of commercial mining on: Community development			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Very Bad	294	45.2	45.2
Fairly Bad	138	21.2	21.2
Neither Good nor Bad	119	18.3	18.3
Fairly Good	67	10.3	10.3
Very Good	26	4.0	4.0
Don't Know [DNR]	6	.9	.9
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q6. Has any of your family members or relative been employed by any of the mining companies operating within Asutifi North District?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	513	78.9	78.9
Yes	137	21.1	21.1
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q7. Have you learned a trade or have skills to provide you with a livelihood?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Yes, I have learned a trade or skill but currently not using it for income generation	93	14.3	14
Yes, I have learned a trade or skill, and I am currently using it to generate income	119	18.3	18
No, I have not learned any trade or skills	438	67.4	67
Total	650	100.0	100.0

A SURVEY ON AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS
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Q8. Which of these is the main reason why you are not using the trade or skills learned?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
I am gainfully employed in another venture/company	12	1.8	12.5
The trade or skills I have learned are not viable in this community/ district	14	2.2	14.6
Lack of adequate capital to implement the skills or trade acquired	64	9.8	66.7
No longer interested in applying the acquired skill	1	.2	1.0
Other [Specify]	5	.8	5.2
Total	96	14.8	100.0
Missing	554	85.2	
Total	650	100.0	

Q8. Which of these is the main reason why you are not using the trade or skills learned? [Other (specify)]			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	648	99.7	99.7
learnt in school so yet to apply	1	.2	.2
wants further his education	1	.2	.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q9A. The present economic condition in this district?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Very Bad	216	33.2	33.2
Fairly Bad	188	28.9	28.9
Neither Good nor Bad	166	25.5	25.5
Fairly Good	67	10.3	10.3
Very Good	9	1.4	1.4
Don't Know [DNR]	4	.6	.6
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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Q9B. Your own present living conditions?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Very Bad	257	39.5	39.5
Fairly Bad	171	26.3	26.3
Neither Good nor Bad	126	19.4	19.4
Fairly Good	81	12.5	12.5
Very Good	14	2.2	2.2
Don't Know [DNR]	1	.2	.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q10A. Gone without enough food to eat?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Never	326	50.2	50.2
Just once or twice	122	18.8	18.8
Several times	96	14.8	14.8
Many times	86	13.2	13.2
Always	19	2.9	2.9
Don't know [DNR]	1	.2	.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q10B. Gone without enough clean water for home use?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Never	272	41.8	41.8
Just once or twice	86	13.2	13.2
Several times	140	21.5	21.5
Many times	82	12.6	12.6
Always	67	10.3	10.3
Don't know [DNR]	3	.5	.5
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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Q10C. Gone without medicines or medical treatment?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Never	255	39.2	39.2
Just once or twice	88	13.5	13.5
Several times	129	19.8	19.8
Many times	121	18.6	18.6
Always	55	8.5	8.5
Don't know [DNR]	2	.3	.3
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q10D. Gone without enough fuel to cook your food?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Never	430	66.2	66.2
Just once or twice	128	19.7	19.7
Several times	59	9.1	9.1
Many times	22	3.4	3.4
Always	10	1.5	1.5
Don't know [DNR]	1	.2	.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q10E. Gone without a cash income?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Never	147	22.6	22.6
Just once or twice	101	15.5	15.5
Several times	167	25.7	25.7
Many times	154	23.7	23.7
Always	78	12.0	12.0
Refused [DNR]	1	.2	.2
Don't know [DNR]	2	.3	.3
Total	650	100.0	100.0

A SURVEY ON AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS
THE YOUTH AT THE ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT

Q11a1. What is the First most important entrepreneurial activities/ skills besides farming in this community?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Soaps and detergents making	117	18.0	20.0
Welding and fabrication	102	15.7	17.4
Bead making	62	9.5	10.6
Kente weaving	61	9.4	10.4
Grass-cutter rearing	58	8.9	9.9
Other preference 1	49	7.5	8.4
Animals Rearing (Goats and Sheeps)	33	5.1	5.6
Batik tie and dye making	32	4.9	5.5
Mushroom farming	20	3.1	3.4
Traditional dress (Batakari) production	15	2.3	2.6
Tailoring/ Dressmaking	13	2.0	2.2
Snail farming	10	1.5	1.7
Hair dressing	7	1.1	1.2
Poultry farming	6	.9	1.0
Total	585	90.0	100.0
Missing	17	2.6	
Refused (DNR)	8	1.2	
Don't know (DNR)	40	6.2	
Total	65	10.0	
Total	650	100.0	

A SURVEY ON AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS
THE YOUTH AT THE ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT

Q11a2. What is the Second most important entrepreneurial activities/ skills besides farming in this community?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Soaps and detergents making	87	13.4	14.8
Kente weaving	73	11.2	12.5
Welding and fabrication	57	8.8	9.7
Grass-cutter rearing	52	8.0	8.9
Batik tie and dye making	52	8.0	8.9
Bead making	47	7.2	8.0
Mushroom farming	34	5.2	5.8
Traditional dress (Batakari) production	31	4.8	5.3
Snail farming	30	4.6	5.1
Other preference 2	19	2.9	3.2
Hair dressing	10	1.5	1.7
Tailoring/ Dressmaking	7	1.1	1.2
Animals Rearing (Goats and Sheeps)	6	.9	1.0
Poultry farming	6	.9	1.0
No further preference	75	11.5	12.8
Total	586	90.2	100.0
Missing	64	9.8	
Total	650	100.0	

A SURVEY ON AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS
THE YOUTH AT THE ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT

Q11a2. What is the Second most important entrepreneurial activities/ skills besides farming in this community? [Other (specify)]			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	631	97.1	97.1
Carpentry	1	.2	.2
Catering	3	.5	.5
Cocoa farming	1	.2	.2
Construction	1	.2	.2
Driving	1	.2	.2
Electrician	2	.3	.3
Gari processing	1	.2	.2
Masonry	1	.2	.2
Okada business	1	.2	.2
Plumbing	1	.2	.2
Powder making	1	.2	.2
Shoe making	1	.2	.2
Trading	4	.6	.6
Total	650	100.0	100.0

A SURVEY ON AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS
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Q11a3. What is the Third most important entrepreneurial activities/ skills besides farming in this community?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Soaps and detergents making	100	15.4	19.4
Grass-cutter rearing	60	9.2	11.6
Batik tie and dye making	57	8.8	11.0
Bead making	48	7.4	9.3
Kente weaving	45	6.9	8.7
Welding and fabrication	43	6.6	8.3
Mushroom farming	36	5.5	7.0
Traditional dress (Batakari) production	35	5.4	6.8
Snail farming	32	4.9	6.2
No further preference	25	3.8	4.8
Other preference 3	25	3.8	4.8
Tailoring/ Dressmaking	5	.8	1.0
Animals Rearing (Goats and Sheeps)	3	.5	.6
Poultry farming	2	.3	.4
Total	516	79.4	100.0
Missing	134	20.6	
Total	650	100.0	

A SURVEY ON AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS
THE YOUTH AT THE ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT

Q12a1. If you have the opportunity to choose any entrepreneurship skill, which one will be your 1st preference.			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Soaps and detergents making	134	20.6	20.6
Welding and fabrication	109	16.8	16.8
Bead making	81	12.5	12.5
Kente weaving	73	11.2	11.2
Grass-cutter rearing	54	8.3	8.3
Batik tie and dye making	35	5.4	5.4
Tailoring/ Dressmaking	35	5.4	5.4
Traditional dress (Batakari) production	27	4.2	4.2
Electrical engineering	14	2.2	2.2
Mushroom farming	13	2.0	2.0
Other preference 1	13	2.0	2.0
Don't know (DNR)	13	2.0	2.0
Hairdressing	10	1.5	1.5
Truck Operation/ Driving	10	1.5	1.5
Masonry	7	1.1	1.1
Mechanics-Auto Mechanics	6	.9	.9
Snail farming	5	.8	.8
Catering/Baking	5	.8	.8
Carpentry	3	.5	.5
Animals Rearing (Goats and Sheeps)	2	.3	.3
Refused (DNR)	1	.2	.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

A SURVEY ON AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS
THE YOUTH AT THE ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT

Q12a2. If you have the opportunity to choose any entrepreneurship skill, which one will be your 2nd preference.			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Soaps and detergents making	118	18.2	18.5
Kente weaving	99	15.2	15.5
Batik tie and dye making	74	11.4	11.6
Welding and fabrication	67	10.3	10.5
Bead making	65	10.0	10.2
Grass-cutter rearing	53	8.2	8.3
Mushroom farming	33	5.1	5.2
Traditional dress (Batakari) production	29	4.5	4.6
Snail farming	18	2.8	2.8
Other preference 2	16	2.5	2.5
No further preference	14	2.2	2.2
Tailoring/ Dressmaking	10	1.5	1.6
Catering/Baking	9	1.4	1.4
Hairdressing	8	1.2	1.3
Masonry	6	.9	.9
Truck Operation/ Driving	6	.9	.9
Mechanics-Auto Mechanics	5	.8	.8
Carpentry	4	.6	.6
Electrical engineering	3	.5	.5
Total	637	98.0	100.0
Missing	13	2.0	
Total	650	100.0	

A SURVEY ON AVAILABILITY OF MARKET FOR PREFERRED ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILL SETS
THE YOUTH AT THE ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT

Q12a3. If you have the opportunity to choose any entrepreneurship skill, which one will be your 3rd preference.			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Soaps and detergents making	114	17.5	18.3
Batik tie and dye making	74	11.4	11.9
Kente weaving	73	11.2	11.7
Welding and fabrication	64	9.8	10.3
Bead making	62	9.5	10.0
Grass-cutter rearing	60	9.2	9.6
Traditional dress (Batakari) production	49	7.5	7.9
Mushroom farming	46	7.1	7.4
Snail farming	23	3.5	3.7
No further preference	23	3.5	3.7
Other preference 3	11	1.7	1.8
Truck Operation/ Driving	6	.9	1.0
Masonry	5	.8	.8
Tailoring/ Dressmaking	4	.6	.6
Electrical engineering	4	.6	.6
Hairdressing	3	.5	.5
Catering/Baking	2	.3	.3
Total	623	95.8	100.0
Missing	27	4.2	
Total	650	100.0	

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THE YOUTH AT THE ASUTIFI NORTH DISTRICT

Q18. Do you have a spouse or partner and, if yes, do live in the same house?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Not married; have no spouse/partner	268	41.2	41.2
Divorced/separated	29	4.5	4.5
Yes, I have a spouse but we don't live in the same house	42	6.5	6.5
Yes, I have a spouse and we live in the same house	272	41.8	41.8
Yes, I am co-habiting with my partner	36	5.5	5.5
Refused [DNR]	3	.5	.5
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q20. Who is/are the main breadwinner(s) of this household?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Yourself	232	35.7	35.7
Your spouse/partner	98	15.1	15.1
Yourself and spouse/partner	150	23.1	23.1
Your parent/guardian	167	25.7	25.7
Refused [DNR]	3	.5	.5
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q21. On average, how much is the household income in a month?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Below GHC100.00	160	24.6	24.6
GHC100.00 – GHC300.00	218	33.5	33.5
GHC301.00 – GHC500.00	123	18.9	18.9
GHC501.00 – GHC800.00	59	9.1	9.1
GHC801.00 – GHC1,000.00	23	3.5	3.5
GHC1001.00 – GHC2,000.00	27	4.2	4.2
GHC2001.00 – GHC3,000.00	3	.5	.5
Above GHC3,001.00	7	1.1	1.1
Refused [DNR]	7	1.1	1.1
Don't know [DNR]	23	3.5	3.5
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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Q22. How much, if at all, have you considered moving to another region in the country to live?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Not at all	288	44.3	44.3
A little bit	124	19.1	19.1
Somewhat	34	5.2	5.2
A lot	198	30.5	30.5
Don't know [DNR]	6	.9	.9
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q24. There are several reasons why people would want to move from where they stay to go and live in another region in the country. In your case, what is the most important reason why you would consider moving from this community to another region in the country			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Find work/ better job/ better work opportunities	242	37.2	68.0
Poverty/ destitution	40	6.2	11.2
Poor infrastructure/ services	6	.9	1.7
Better schools for children	7	1.1	2.0
Better medical services for family	3	.5	.8
To pursue education	19	2.9	5.3
To accompany family members who are moving for work	10	1.5	2.8
Some other reason (Specify)	28	4.3	7.9
Not Applicable	1	.2	.3
Total	356	54.8	100.0
Missing	294	45.2	
Total	650	100.0	

Q25. What is your religion, if any?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Christian religion	481	74.0	74
Islamic religion	160	24.6	25
Traditional or ethnic religion	5	.8	.8
Don't know	3	.5	.5
Atheist (Do not believe in a God)	1	.2	.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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A. National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI)			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	533	82.0	82.0
Yes	117	18.0	18.0
Total	650	100.0	100.0

B. Business Advisory Centres (BAC)			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	527	81.1	81.1
Yes	123	18.9	18.9
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q27. Respondent's gender			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Female	337	51.8	51.8
Male	313	48.2	48.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q28. In what type of shelter does the respondent live in?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Non-traditional / formal house	265	40.8	40.8
Traditional house / hut	292	44.9	44.9
Temporary structure / shack	30	4.6	4.6
Flat in a block of flats	15	2.3	2.3
Single room in a larger dwelling structure or backyard	43	6.6	6.6
Hostel in an industrial compound or farming compound	1	.2	.2
Other	4	.6	.6
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q28. In what type of shelter does the respondent live in? [Other (specify)]			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
	646	99.4	99.4
Atakpame	1	.2	.2
Compound house	1	.2	.2
Detached house	2	.3	.3
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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Q29. Region name			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
BRONG AHAFO	650	100.0	100.0

Q30. District name			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
ASUTIFI NORTH	650	100.0	100.0

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Q31. Community name			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
ADUKROM	17	2.6	2.6
AGYA ADUSEI AKURAA	21	3.2	3.2
AGYEIKROM	17	2.6	2.6
ARYEKROM	14	2.2	2.2
DONKORKROM	17	2.6	2.6
ESINANIM TOWN	15	2.3	2.3
JAMESKROM	17	2.6	2.6
KENYASI NO.1	21	3.2	3.2
KWAHU NO.2	25	3.8	3.8
OBENKROM	18	2.8	2.8
PRISONS CAMP	17	2.6	2.6
SETH AKURAA	17	2.6	2.6
YAKUBA VILLAGE	15	2.3	2.3
ADUM KENYASI	13	2.0	2.0
AGYAREKROM	9	1.4	1.4
AGYEMANGKROM	9	1.4	1.4
AKOSUA ADDAIKROM	11	1.7	1.7
ATWEDIE KENYASI NO.3	18	2.8	2.8
BYEPASS	19	2.9	2.9
DOKYIKROM	18	2.8	2.8
HORONASE	10	1.5	1.5
KENYASI NO.2	50	7.7	7.7
KWAME ADUANAKROM	4	.6	.6
OLA GIRLS SHS	16	2.5	2.5
OLA RESETTLEMENT	14	2.2	2.2
YARO GRUMAKROM	5	.8	.8
AMAMASO	16	2.5	2.5
AMAMASO CENTRE	18	2.8	2.8
AMUNKONAKROM	18	2.8	2.8
GYEDU	17	2.6	2.6
KWAKYEKROM	17	2.6	2.6
NICHIAMA	17	2.6	2.6

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NSONYAME YE NO.2	17	2.6	2.6
NTOTROSO	18	2.8	2.8
NWENESO	18	2.8	2.8
OSEI YAWKROM	16	2.5	2.5
TAILORKROM	17	2.6	2.6
WAMAHINSO	17	2.6	2.6
YAW OWUSUKROM	17	2.6	2.6
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q32. Area council name			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
KENYASI NO.1	219	33.7	33.7
KENYASI NO. 2	208	32.0	32.0
NTOTROSO	223	34.3	34.3
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q33. How would you describe the Primary Sampling Unit (PSU)/ Enumeration Area (EA)			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
Urban	89	14	13.7
Rural	561	86	86.3
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q34A. Electricity grid that most houses can access			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	291	44.8	44.8
Yes	359	55.2	55.2
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q34B. Piped water system that most houses can access			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	197	30.3	30.3
Yes	453	69.7	69.7
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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Q34C. Sewage system that most houses can access			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	443	68.2	68.2
Yes	207	31.8	31.8
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q35A. School (private or public, or both)			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	223	34.3	34.3
Yes	427	65.7	65.7
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q35B. Police Station			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	550	84.6	84.6
Yes	100	15.4	15.4
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q35C. Health Clinic (private or public, or both)			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	453	69.7	69.7
Yes	197	30.3	30.3
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q35D. Market Stalls (selling groceries and/or clothing)			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	416	64.0	64.0
Yes	234	36.0	36.0
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Q35E. Bank			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	569	87.5	87.5
Yes	81	12.5	12.5
Total	650	100.0	100.0

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Q35F. Is there any kind of paid transport, such as a bus, taxi, moped, or other form, available on a daily basis?			
	Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent
No	333	51.2	51.2
Yes	317	48.8	48.8
Total	650	100.0	100.0

Descriptive Statistics				
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean
Q1. How old are you?	650	18	45	29.10
Valid N (listwise)	650			

Q13. Opinion on viability of preferred skills	Not at all viable	Not viable	Viable/ Very viable	Don't know [DNR]
Q13D. Mushroom farming	2.0	18.0	78.3	1.7
Q13G. Welding and fabrication	3.4	16.9	76.3	3.4
Q13C. Kente weaving	4.3	16.2	75.8	3.7
Q13B. Grass-cutter rearing	3.4	18.3	74.8	3.5
Q13E. Snail farming	3.7	20.0	73.8	2.5
Q13A. Bead making	2.9	18.9	73.5	4.6
Q13F. Traditional dress (batakari) production	4.5	24.6	66.9	4.0

Opinion on marketability of preferred skills	No market at all	Some market	Ready Market	Don't know [DNR]	Refused [DNR]
Q14I. Soap and detergent making	.3	15.4	83.1	1.2	
Q14G. Welding and fabrication	10.0	37.2	49.1	3.5	.2
Q14B. Grass-cutter rearing	8.3	41.2	47.1	3.4	
Q14D. Mushroom farming	6.2	46.6	45.1	2.0	.2
Q14H. Batik tie and dye making	5.8	47.8	45.1	1.2	
Q14C. Kente weaving	8.0	45.8	43.7	2.5	
Q14A. Bead making	5.4	49.1	42.0	3.5	
Q14E. Snail farming	9.5	49.8	38.6	2.0	
Q14F. Traditional dress (batakari) production	14.0	46.6	34.8	4.6	

Descriptive Statistics					
	N	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Q15. What is the total number of persons, including yourself and children below 18 years in your household?	650	0	999	17.18	109.705
Q16. How many are less than 18 years?	650	0	999	11.01	87.051
Q17. How many of them are older than 60 years?	650	0	999	25.21	154.770
Valid N (listwise)	650				

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