

POVERTY MAPPING OF THE OBUASI MUNICIPALITY AND OBUASI EAST DISTRICT



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Executive Summary

This is a report on poverty mapping for the Obuasi Municipal Area and Obuasi East District. There are four major parts of this report. These two cases were chosen because of the existence of gold mining. Gold mining on the global scale has proven to be beneficial to the global economy and still has the potential to positively influence the economies and livelihoods of many in countries where gold mining takes place, most importantly in gold-rich countries. Ghana has also attracted good investment in the gold mining sector over the last three to four decades. Gold mining directly contributed 38.3% to the country's corporate tax earnings resulting in a 27.6% increase in government revenue and a 6% shoot in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the year 2011. The mining industry in Ghana accounts for 1.2% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), with minerals making up 31% of total exports, of which gold contributed about 96% of these total mineral exports as at 2017. The industry contributed 23.3% and 12.6% to GDP in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Gold remains the leading mineral in revenue generation in the country. Recent evidence shows that revenues that Ghana obtained from gold were US\$6,230 million in 2019.

In spite of the positive effects of gold mining, a number of negative effects in gold-rich countries have been recorded at the global and sub-Saharan Africa levels. A major negative effect of gold mining in African countries is environmental pollution and health related complications in host countries. Dust and fine particles resulting from blasting and drilling cause respiratory illnesses. It also degrades crops and farmlands, resulting in the loss of food production. Degradation of forest cover by mining has also hit Africa hard. Streams and rivers often become polluted near mining sites, consequently making water unsafe for drinking and affecting fish stocks previously relied upon for food. Also, in gold producing countries especially in sub-Saharan Africa where artisanal and small-scale mining is practiced, it has become the source of the largest releases of mercury, estimated at 1,400 tonnes per year into rivers and water bodies.



In the case of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District, we have inadequate understanding of the degree of poverty with clear explanation of the causal factors for socio-economic and income deprivation in such gold resource rich areas. The impact of poverty alleviation interventions by the various stakeholders over the years is not adequately explored and documented for lessons to national policy makers and especially local governments in mining communities. It is also unclear whether the nature of the impacts of mining on poverty will require the need to review legal and policy reforms in the mining sector to juxtapose policy implementation and real social and economic transformation of mine-take communities. Again, there is no clear basis for proposing tangible and far-reaching recommendations for the revival of the economies of mine-take communities with particular focus on the period before, during and after mining activities.

The most appropriate tool with which these questions can be responded to more effectively is poverty mapping of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. A poverty map is a spatial representation and analysis of welfare indicators and wellbeing. Poverty mapping provides a detailed description of the spatial distribution of poverty and inequality within a geographic region such as a country or city or municipality such as the Obuasi Municipality or Obuasi East District.

The main objective of the assignment is to employ poverty mapping to present a poverty profile of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. The specific objectives are to assess the nature of poverty in the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District with identification of the causal factors for economic and income deprivation in such gold- resource-rich-communities; review current socio-economic potentials of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District that could be harnessed to alleviate poverty in these areas; propose pointers for pro-poor policy design for the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District and make policy recommendations targeting the different categories of the poor.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Not many direct jobs created by the mines: In spite of the presence of the mining company (AngloGold Ashanti), the company has not created many direct jobs for the natives of the Obuasi Municipality and the Obuasi East District. The implication here is that the mining company needs to work with the local people to find ways to directly employ many of the youth.

High unemployment and limited job opportunities: Agriculture which used to offer reliable and stable jobs to many has lost its glory since agricultural lands have been taken by the mines leaving many with no jobs. There should be ways for the mining company to return reclaimed lands to the local people interested in farming to go back to their lands.

High female dependence on males: The lack of jobs has exposed females to poverty, making female dependency on males to be high in both districts. This is rather high in the Kunka Zonal Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council. What this implies is that females can be said to be more likely to be vulnerable and exposed to poverty than their male counterparts. Housing problems: Housing is not sufficient especially in the Central Zonal Council of the Obuasi Municipality as many are crowded in single rooms without decent toilet, kitchen and bathroom facilities. Females, single mothers and female household heads are most affected.

Education is biased towards males: Education was found to be biased towards males so the males can be said to be better off than the females. Young females are vulnerable and exposed to poverty and might get into a cycle of poverty in the future.

High inequities among households in school choice: Many households are unable to afford good performing private schools. What this points to is the need to fix the conditions in the non-performing public schools to raise their performance level.

Transportation cost deprives pupils from attending school on regular basis: Majority of parents find it difficult to pay daily transportation cost for their wards to go to school especially in the Kunka Zonal Council.

Insufficient household incomes: Household incomes are not sufficient to meet needs in both districts especially in the two Zonal Councils in the Obuasi Municipality.

High sexual abuse due to poverty: There are cases of sexual abuse in many parts of both districts especially in the Brahabebe-Akaporiso Area Council in the Obuasi East District and the Kunka Zonal Council in the Obuasi Municipality.

Health issues attributed to air pollution: There are cases of eye problems possibly caused by heavy dust pollution by the mining activities.

Health issues attributed to tremors and vibrations from the mines: The blasting of rocks is claimed to create tremors and vibrations that shake the foundations of houses. These tremors result in the cracking of walls and foundations of buildings.

Limited participation of local people in the governance process: Many of the residents do not have the space to participate and shape decisions that affect them. These can be described as deprived people as their voices are not heard.

Dissatisfaction with the performance of both District Assemblies: The Obuasi Municipal Assembly and the Obuasi East District Assembly are both judged to be underperforming by not creating the space for the people to be part of the governance process. The Assemblies are also not doing enough to get the AngloGold Ashanti to employ the local people or creating adequate enabling environment for private sector to create more jobs.

Positive interventions by AngloGold Ashanti improving lives: Although the respondents claimed that the AngloGold's impact is not adequately and positively felt, evidence from literature has listed some positive interventions by the company which can be described as contributing to improving the living conditions of the people. This is a potential that can be harnessed for further improving the lives of the people in the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

AngloGold Ashanti should create direct jobs for the natives of the Obuasi Municipal and Obuasi East District Assemblies. There is the need to engage more with the local people, support capacity building of the youth and employ them. More of such opportunities should go to the females.

Reclaimed farm lands should be released to farmers: Agriculture can regain its glory if the reclaimed lands are released to farmers. This should also employ many of the youth.

The Obuasi Municipal Assembly and Obuasi East District Assembly should support housing development: The Assemblies should work with the private sector to provide housing to help reduce the overcrowding. Education must target the females: Steps need to be taken by both Assemblies to strengthen existing programmes to support and promote girl-child education.

Reduce inequities among households in school choice: There is the need to fix the conditions in the non-performing public schools to raise their performance level.

Eliminate sexual abuse due to poverty: The Department of Social Welfare and Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit of the Ghana Police Service should investigate this further for the necessary actions to be taken. Further research in health issues: The health issues attributed to air pollution, tremors and vibrations from the mines will need further research.

Expand space for the participation of local people in the governance process: Both Assemblies should expand the space for many of the residents to participate and shape decisions that affect them.

Both Assemblies should be more responsive to local needs: The Obuasi Municipal Assembly and the Obuasi East District Assembly should improve upon their performance by satisfying the development needs of the people.

AngloGold Ashanti should expand existing social and economic interventions: The existing interventions by the company which can be described as contributing to improving the living conditions of the people need to be expanded to cover many.

LESSONS LEARNT

Resource curse is real: The existence or the presence of mining in a particular geographic area does not necessarily imply that the local people or natives of that geographic area will be better off. In fact, they can be worse off as found in the literature on resource curse in many parts of the World and in this study. It will take strong commitment on the part of the mining company, central and local governments to intervene on behalf of the local people for such mining activities to directly and positively benefit the local people rather than worsening their plights.

The poor must tell us about their own poverty: Academic discourse and policy discussions around poverty, inequality, vulnerability and deprivation should seek to hear the voices of the affected people through in-depth qualitative approaches. High statistical approaches without capturing the lived-stories and experiences of poverty by the poor themselves cannot be sufficient to provide useful insights to public policy.



In spite of the positive effects of gold mining, a number of negative effects in gold-rich countries have been recorded at the global and sub-Saharan Africa levels

Foreword

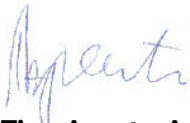
Gold mining in the town of Obuasi in Ghana and its adjoining communities dates back to the colonial era. Official records on the AngloGold Ashanti (the largest mining company in charge of gold mining in Obuasi) web page, indicate that the first official gold production in this town started way back in the year 1897. Till date, though there have been disruptions to operations owing to varied reasons at one point or the other, gold mining in the age-old town is on-going. This makes gold mining in the area one of the most consistent mineral exploration operations in the world. Contribution of gold mine operations in Obuasi to the socio-economic development of Ghana therefore cannot be overemphasized. However, like many mineral resourced rich communities around the globe, the direct impact of the mineral exploration operations in Obuasi to the town and its adjoining communities, leaves much to be desired. The paradox of plenty (also known as the natural resource curse) seem to have played out quite clearly in the physical and socio-economic development of the area which calls for urgent development intervention.

In the year 2014 (last quarter to be precise), the gold mine operations of AngloGold Ashanti were halted due to a slump in the fortunes of the company's operations in Obuasi. The mine was therefore put under care and maintenance which meant there was no further exploration activities. This situation led to dire socio-economic implications owing to massive job losses (staff were laid off), collapse of businesses which were dependent on the mine and the outward migration of residents of Obuasi and adjoining towns. This development raised concerns

Foreword


of how mining towns become so dependent on mine operations which in itself is not sustainable should the firms fold up at a point. Also, considering the fact that minerals are finite commodities, mine-take communities need to diversify their economies to ensure their development is not solely hinged on mine operations and the resources raised from mining royalties, taxes and donations from the mining firms. The situation following the shut down of exploration activities of AngloGold Ashanti in Obuasi in 2014, led to worsening poverty levels of communities in the Obuasi Municipality and nearby districts such as Obuasi East, Amansie Central, Adansi North and the rest. Though the mine operations of AngloGold Ashanti resumed in the year 2018, following a favourable feasibility study by the company in 2017, where a strong technical and economic case was built for mine explorations for at least the next 20 years, issues of poverty reduction remain paramount for the sustainable development of the area beyond the mines. The redevelopment project which commenced late 2018 is a welcoming news for development actors such as the central government, the affected local authorities, traditional authorities, etc. It is an opportunity to restart economic activities and increase productivity levels of various sectors of the economy of the area. However, these others need to quickly get to work to ensure that basic socio-economic and cultural development indicators of the area are built to withstand possible collapse in future should the operations of the mines come to an end. To do this, the actors need to understand certain development dynamics in the area such as the true poverty situation and its characteristics to shape their policy recommendations and development of initiatives to address same.

The poverty mapping study by the Good Governance Africa (GGA) West Africa Regional Office therefore is part of the process to highlight the peculiar developmental gaps in mine-take communities especially when it comes poverty levels. The research further is to elucidate poverty indicators pertaining to the unique case of mine-take communities and to draw attention to policy gaps needing immediate redress. Readers of this report will find findings and recommendations which directly speak to actual happenings on the ground as the method used in gathering data for the research involved the very people (citizens) affected by the operations of mineral exploration in the Obuasi and Obuasi East Districts. The use of graphics (maps to be specific) to situate the proximate location of various poverty situations in the areas under study, will help policy and development actors as well as researchers to make further follow-ups/revelations on specific communities identified in the study.



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01

Part

General Introduction



Good Governance Africa

Chapter 1

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

This is a report on poverty mapping for the Obuasi Municipal Area and Obuasi East District. There are four major parts of this report. Part One covers Chapters One, Two and Three. Chapter One presents the general introduction which includes the background to the assignment, objectives and the scope of work. Chapter Two covers the explanation of poverty mapping and presents some common approaches to poverty mapping. The methodology used for the conduct of the study is presented in Chapter Three. Part Two is on the Obuasi Municipality. The Chapters in this part are Four, Five, Six, Seven and Eight. Part Three is on the Obuasi East District where Chapters Nine, Ten, Eleven, Twelve and Thirteen are presented. For each of these cases, the data is presented and discussed to describe and show poverty situation. The General Conclusion is in Part Four which presents some pointers for pro-poor policy interventions for the two cases.

1.2 Background to the Assignment

Gold mining on the global scale has proven to be beneficial to the

global economy and still has the potential to positively influence the economies and livelihoods of many in countries where gold mining takes place, most importantly in gold-rich countries (Maxwell Stamp & World Gold Council, 2015). According to the World Gold Council (2013), the worldwide economic value generated by the gold mining sector, both directly and indirectly, exceeds the global total value of development aid every year since 2010.

Available evidence indicates that, job creation is one of the positive effects of gold mining in gold



According to the World Gold Council (2013), the worldwide economic value generated by the gold mining sector, both directly and indirectly, exceeds the global total value of development aid every year since 2010.

General Introduction

producing countries. Globally, gold mining directly employed over one million people in 2013, with gold mining procurement activities employing over three million more (Maxwell Stamp & World Gold Council, 2015). Additionally, a study conducted in Vietnam indicated that a gold mining company employed 128 people in 2013 in a mining community, which constituted 15% of their labour force. Nguyen et al (2018) found that, households with mine workers have more stable incomes than households without mine workers, and this is an indicator of poverty reduction.

Generally, gold mining firms have been a major source of wealth creation and economic expansion. In 2013, gold mining firms alone contributed over US\$171.6 billion to the world's economy, in the production process and consumption expenditure related services and products (Maxwell Stamp & World Gold Council, 2015). Local revenues from mining operations have also been a major source of financing local level development by many local governments in developing countries. Environmental and natural resource taxes, in particular, provide significant revenue for local governments. In countries such as Australia, the payments that gold mining companies make to



*A bird's eye view of AngloGold
Ashanti's Gold Mine
source: africaneyereport.com*

suppliers and contractors and compensation for workers are the most important channels by which value flows from gold mining corporations to the economy (Minerals Council of Australia, 2016). Additionally, the establishment of gold-processing plants have resulted in the growth of the service sector activities including hotels, fuel and gas stations, transportation and food suppliers further contributing to expanding employment opportunities and poverty alleviation (World Gold Council, 2013).



*A photograph of the 4-million dollar Obuasi Airport built by AngloGold Ashanti
source: abrempongadiogh.com*

In sub-Saharan Africa, gold mining is a significant sector of the economies of countries (Gajigo et al., 2012). Among some of the major positive effects of gold mining in African countries is its ability to attract huge investment in infrastructure. In remote areas where gold mining occurs, mining companies invest substantially in constructing power supplies, piped water, and roads. All these have had significant positive impact on local people in the mining communities. As noted by Nguyen et al (2018), infrastructure ranging

from roads to power plants, is part of the legacy that remain in mining communities following the closure of the mines which is a very important beneficial impact on developing and middle-income nations.

Ghana has also attracted good investment in the gold mining sector over the last three to four decades (Aryee, 2012). Gold mining directly contributed 38.3% to the country's corporate tax earnings resulting in a 27.6% increase in government revenue and a 6% shoot in Gross

Domestic Product (GDP) in the year 2011. The mining industry in Ghana accounts for 1.2% of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), with minerals making up 31% of total exports, of which gold contributes about 96% of these total mineral exports as at 2017. The industry contributed 23.3% and 12.6% to GDP in 2018 and 2019 respectively. Gold remains the leading mineral in revenue generation in the country. Recent evidence shows that revenues that Ghana obtained from gold were US\$6,230 million in 2019 (The Ghana Chamber of Mines, 2019). In spite of the positive effects of gold mining, a number of negative effects in gold-rich countries have been recorded at the global and sub-Saharan Africa levels.

The mining industry is considered one of the most dangerous and hazardous industries that have recorded high incidence of dreadful injuries in the workplace (Sahel et al., 2011). Miners are constantly exposed to many hazards that affect their health, safety, and wellbeing (Ahmad, et al., 2016). According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the mining sector accounts for more than 8% of deaths occurring at workplaces especially through illegal mining. Most African countries are highly ranked to have experienced the adverse effects of illegal mining.

A major negative effect of gold

mining in African countries is environmental pollution and health related complications in host countries (Coelho et al., 2012). Dust and fine particles resulting from blasting and drilling cause respiratory illnesses. It also degrades crops and farmlands, resulting in the loss of food production. Degradation of forest cover by mining has also hit Africa hard.

To buttress the aforementioned, streams and rivers often become polluted near mining sites, consequently making water unsafe for drinking and affecting fish stocks previously relied upon for food. Also, in gold producing countries especially in sub-Saharan Africa where artisanal and small-scale mining is practiced, it has become the source of the largest releases of mercury, estimated at 1,400 tonnes per year into rivers and water bodies (International Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (IGF), 2017; Aboka et al., 2018).

Frequent and protracted conflicts between local residents and miners have also been well documented. There is evidence that conflicts have arisen due to waste water discharge into rivers, mine related dust, restricted employment opportunities and poor mine management. Increased crime and violence in mining areas have been attributed to these problems (Nguyen et al., 2018).

The mining industry in Ghana has come with many challenges (GHEITI, 2018). Evidence shows that the communities where these mines are located are faced with extreme poverty. The Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (2008) in a study on mining and its impacts on human rights in Ghana also revealed that large scale surface mining activities have contributed to widespread poverty, social and environmental degradation in mining communities. This is supported by other studies including Akabzaa (2009), Hilson and Banchirigah (2009) and Aboka et al. (2018). Catastrophic events such as the collapse of “galamsey” pits and drowning of miners have been reported in mining communities. Health issues such as kidney, skin and lung diseases have also been reported in mining communities linking these to the use of mercury by illegal miners. Increased exposure to malaria, diarrhoea, fever and cold are also common in these areas. HIV and AIDS cases are also high due to increase in prostitution in mining areas (Adjei and Adetunde, 2012; Basu et al., 2015; Aboka et al., 2018). These findings should alert policy makers and all stakeholders interested in poverty reduction in mining communities such as the Obuasi Municipal Area and Obuasi East District to act, yet our understanding of the nature of poverty in mine take communities is not deep enough to inform pro-poor policy aimed at these communities.

It must be noted that there are many studies analysing the effects and impacts of mining on mine take communities in Ghana (see Amankwaa et al., 2017; GSS, 2015; GSS, 2018). The approach of many of these studies has mainly been heavily quantitative. Aspects of qualitative analysis of mining and poverty have not been exhaustively addressed. This largely explains our limited understanding of mining and poverty dynamics and how to effectively target pro-poor policy interventions for mining communities.

In the case of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi

East District, we have inadequate understanding of the degree of poverty with clear explanation of the causal factors for socio-economic and income deprivation in such gold resource rich communities. The impact of poverty alleviation interventions by the various stakeholders over the years as against the legacy issues in Obuasi area and adjoining districts is not adequately explored and documented for lessons to national policy makers and especially local governments in mining communities. It is also unclear whether the nature of the impacts of mining on poverty will require the need to review legal and policy reforms in the mining sector to juxtapose policy implementation and real social and economic transformation of mine take communities. Again, there is no clear basis for proposing tangible and far-reaching recommendations for the revival of the economies of mine take communities with particular focus on the period before, during and after mining activities.

The most appropriate tool with which these questions can be responded to more effectively is poverty mapping of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. A poverty map is a spatial representation and analysis of welfare indicators and wellbeing (Ghana Statistical Service, 2010). This will be a map which provides a detailed description of the spatial



Some Indigenes of the Obuasi Municipality going about their Daily routines
source: gbcghanaonline.com

distribution of poverty and inequality within a geographic region such as a country or city or municipality such as the Obuasi Municipality or Obuasi East District. Generally, it combines individual and household (micro) survey data and population (macro) census data with the objective of estimating welfare indicators for specific geographic area as small as village or hamlet (United Nations Economic and Social Commission for West Africa, 2021).

The need for this research is based

on the fact the extractive industry is an enduring one which will most likely serve the economy of the world for many years. As indicated earlier, there is huge evidence to show that the extractive industry is a major source of income and economic growth in many countries across the world, with an important role in supporting sustainable socio-economic development (World Gold Council, 2015). So how can this be achieved in the Obuasi area? The current study has produced useful insights into ways and approaches for all stakeholders in the mining industry in Obuasi area to act in a more productive and concerted manner towards improving the well-being of residents in Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. The need to think about job creation is even more apparent in the context of increasing youthful population of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District.

Ghana, like many of Sub-Saharan African countries, has an incredibly young population with over 58% being under the age of 25. Although the population growth rate is slowing, the United Nations predicts that Ghana's population will reach 73 million by 2100. This demographic trend, alongside the economy's capacity to generate employment opportunities for young people, will guide the course for Ghana. Young people, while better educated than

previous generations with literacy rates of over 80% still face enormous hurdles in finding and keeping work; a shortage of formal jobs has often forced young people to migrate out to big cities such as Accra and Kumasi where jobs are not assured.

In the case of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District, agriculture continues to be the main income earner for most of the population who are predominantly rural. Although agriculture has the potential to create sustainable economic opportunities for young people, mining has taken huge land away from agriculture. Engagement in the sector is further curtailed by issues of land tenure, lack of networks and support systems, and access to markets and finance.

Recent research in Ghana by the MasterCard Foundation to understand the daily livelihood activities of a group of young Ghanaians over a year-long period revealed that young people faced considerable difficulties in finding consistent activities to generate income. They struggle to find ways to remain economically active, amid acute fluctuations in the availability of paid work, either formal or informal, which affect their earning capacity and ability to build a sustainable life (MasterCard Foundation, 2017). A good understanding of poverty among young people in the Obuasi area with a long history

of gold mining can only be achieved through poverty mapping.

Gold mining in Obuasi dates back as far as 112 years with formal gold mining activities commencing in 1897 (www.mining-technology.com, 2021). World records indicate that the Obuasi mine is amongst the world's top 9 largest gold mines. With gold playing a major part of Ghana's exports far before independence, one would have expected a corresponding development of a mining community such as Obuasi. However, the level of poverty in these communities presents another example of the "resource curse" situation all over the world.

In order for the concept of poverty to be clear in terms of its operationalization in this research, it should be helpful for this to be explained. It is however worth noting that poverty is not easy to define (see Narayan et al., 2000; World Vision International, 2021). Generally, poverty is defined as the state in which an acceptable material possession and or amount of money considered to be adequate for human survival and socially acceptable may not be available to a person in a particular context. Although the concept of basic needs can be contested, a person is considered to be poor when the means to satisfy these basic needs are lacking to that person.

For this definition to work there is the need to identify what constitutes basic needs. These may be defined as narrowly as "those necessary for survival" or as broadly as "those reflecting the prevailing standard of living in the community." On the basis of this, the people at the margins such that they are nearer to death from starvation will be those lacking what is required for survival. Those whose nutritional levels, housing quality, and clothing may be adequate to support and preserve life, but do not measure up to what is available to the entire population will be in the second category.

What has even complicated the definition of poverty is the noneconomic elements that the word poverty has acquired and that are used extensively by the World Bank (see Narayan et al., 2000). In its extended form poverty has been explained to cover poor health, low levels of education or skills, an inability to work, disability and vulnerability. As these definitions show, poverty is not just about money yet common perception of poverty focus on income and consumption (World Vision International, 2021). Issues of access to healthcare, water, education and housing are also important. Whatever definition one uses, there is consensus that the effects of poverty are harmful to both individuals and society. In the current assignment, the Consultants understand and operationalize poverty to cover both the narrow

and broad definitions (World Vision International, 2021; Compassion, 2021). Consequently, the mapping of poverty has covered the following: access to basic needs (food, water, shelter, clothing); access to health, education and sanitation (both physical and economic access); employment; disability and vulnerability; and marginalization and exclusion.

This approach helps us to go beyond the amount of money a person or a family earns to define and map poverty in a more expanded form as noted by World Vision International (2021) that poverty is hunger, a lack of shelter, being sick and not being able to see a doctor. It is also not having access to school and not knowing how to read. It is about not having a job, the fear for the future, and living one day at a time. Poverty is losing a child to illness brought about by unclean water. Poverty is powerlessness, lack of representation and freedom.

1.3 Objectives of the Assignment

The main objective of the assignment as outlined in the MoU is to employ poverty mapping to present a comprehensive poverty profile of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District (see Appendix A). The specific objectives are to:

- *assess the nature of poverty in the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District with clear identification of the causal factors for economic and income deprivation in such a gold- resource-rich-community.*

This objective shows the form in which poverty presents in the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. It describes the kind of deprivation, the segments of the population affected in terms of age and sex distributions and geographic spread or concentrations in the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. The factors leading to the deprivation have been unpacked and described establishing clear causal relationships between the factors and poverty types and form. Factors such as education levels, skills and capacity to work, availability of employment avenues and age have been discussed.

- *review current socio-economic potentials of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District that could be harnessed to alleviate poverty in these areas.*



A picture of the construction of the Anwia-Nkwanta to
Obuasi road
Source: www.graphic.com.gh

With this objective, a list of the social and economic positive factors that can be used to improve upon the living conditions of the residents have been identified and discussed. These include internal advantages such as skilled youth labour force and the presence of natural resources other than gold.

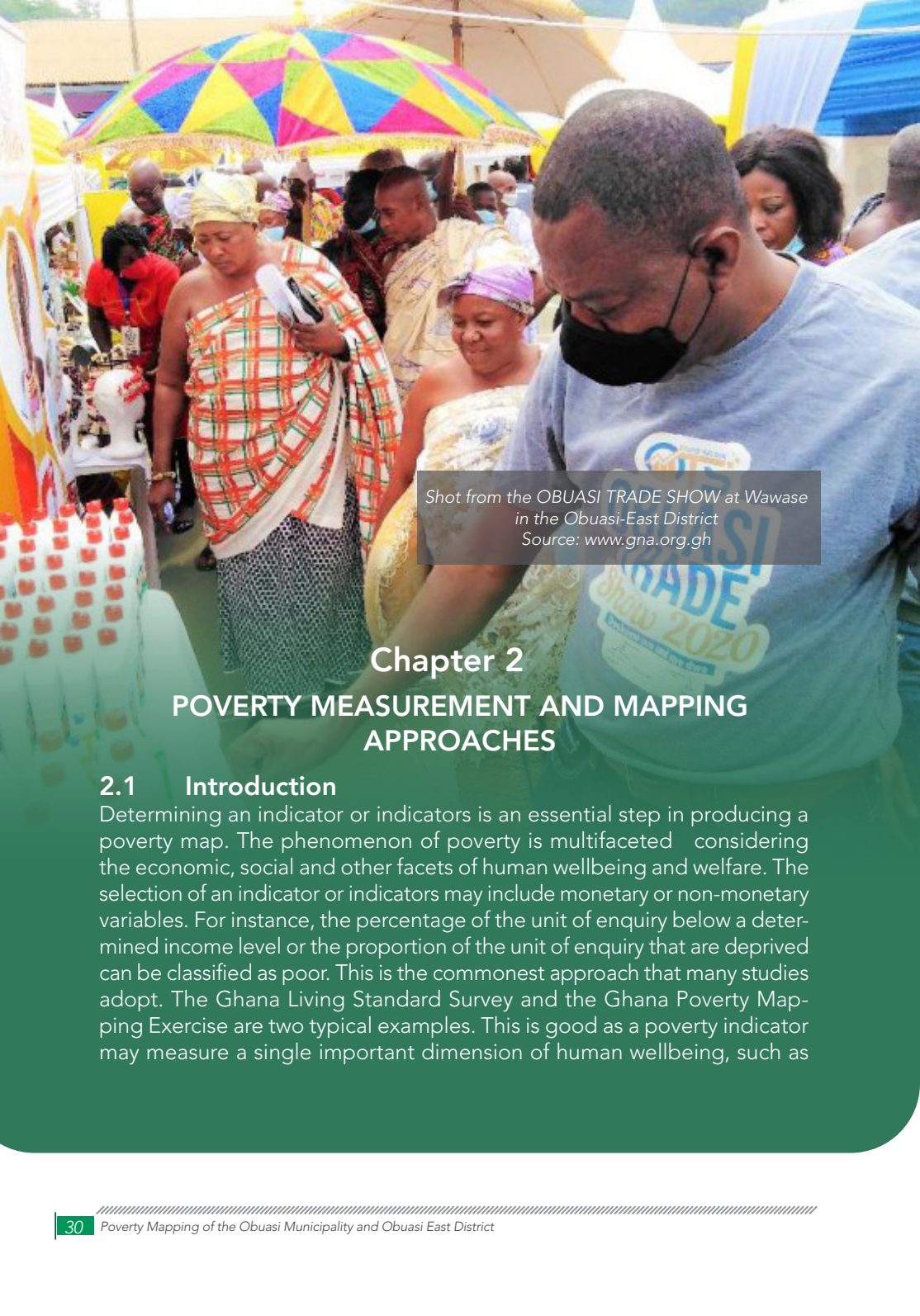
- *propose pointers for pro-poor policy design for the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District with particular focus on the period before, during and after mining activities, and make policy recommendations targeting the different categories of the poor.*

1.4 The Scope of Work

The research explores poverty in the last two decades, thus from the year 2000 onwards. It covers issues in both formal (legal) and informal mining and their effects on poverty. Other possible causal factors of poverty such as climate change and natural disasters such as floods are not covered.

1.5 Chapter Conclusion

The introduction has shown that mining in the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District might be creating jobs, wealth and leading to expansion of the local economy and investment in infrastructure such as potable water system, roads, power, education and health infrastructure. There might also be issues of injuries, environmental pollution and the loss of farmlands. Conflicts between the mining company and communities, prostitution, drugs, health and safety (respiratory problems, kidney and liver diseases) are most likely to occur. Consequently, these are sign posts in the exercise of mapping poverty in these two cases. To do that, Chapter Two will describe some of the common approaches to poverty measurement and mapping.



Shot from the OBUASI TRADE SHOW at Wawase
in the Obuasi-East District
Source: www.gna.org.gh

Chapter 2

POVERTY MEASUREMENT AND MAPPING APPROACHES

2.1 Introduction

Determining an indicator or indicators is an essential step in producing a poverty map. The phenomenon of poverty is multifaceted – considering the economic, social and other facets of human wellbeing and welfare. The selection of an indicator or indicators may include monetary or non-monetary variables. For instance, the percentage of the unit of enquiry below a determined income level or the proportion of the unit of enquiry that are deprived can be classified as poor. This is the commonest approach that many studies adopt. The Ghana Living Standard Survey and the Ghana Poverty Mapping Exercise are two typical examples. This is good as a poverty indicator may measure a single important dimension of human wellbeing, such as

household expenditure compared to a minimum necessary level or poverty line. Alternatively, the indicator may be multidimensional, for instance, a composite index that depicts deficits in basic human needs, such as education, health care, and sanitation. Each type of poverty indicator has its own strengths and weaknesses, and the choice of indicator will certainly influence who is classified as “poor.” Examples of some statistical approaches usually employed have been explained next.

2.2 Expenditure-based small area estimation using household-unit data

Researchers at the World Bank used this approach extensively in the late 1990s (Hentschel et al., 2017). This approach uses a national representative household survey, such as the Living Standard Measurement Survey, to acquire estimates of household expenditure (y) and calculate more specific poverty measures linked to a poverty line. A common set of explanatory variables x (e.g., educational background, household characteristics, and quality of housing) at the household-unit level in both the survey and the census is then used to estimate the statistical relationship between y and x in the survey. These household-unit data can then be aggregated to small statistical areas, such as districts, to obtain more robust estimates of

the percentage of households living below the poverty line. In the end, these poverty rates by administrative area are linked to a mapping program to produce a poverty map showing the spatial distribution of poverty. Davis (2002) lists the following strengths of this approach: It is relatively easy for national analysts familiar with econometric modelling to check the reliability of their estimates, because the data processing program provided by the World Bank is equipped with an error estimation module. It is the only method “where statistical properties have been and continue to be thoroughly investigated.” In addition, the method has institutional support from the World Bank and a team of researchers is available to further refine the method and provide technical assistance.

One limitation of this approach may be that it is less feasible for individual researchers who would like to work independently. Without institutional support from the World Bank and a collaborative research agreement, an independent researcher may not be able to obtain access to household-unit data. A second important limitation is that census data in many developing countries may not provide a sufficient number of explanatory variables to build a robust statistical model.

2.3 Expenditure-based small area estimation using community-level data

Again this approach has been popular with researchers at the World Bank and centres within the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) system (Bigman and Fofack, 2000). Researchers determine the statistical relationship between household expenditure and a set of explanatory variables within the survey data. Once they have determined a strong relationship between the two sets of variables, they apply this relationship to the same variables in the census, but this time for a community or an administrative region, not an individual household. According to Davis (2002) the strength of this approach is the more readily available data. Because of legitimate concerns about data confidentiality, government agencies are more willing to provide researchers with census data on community averages than on households. Davis also points out two limitations: In some cases, the averages calculated for the community or the region may not be a good proxy for the distribution of poverty. Second and most importantly, the error associated with such an estimation approach has not been thoroughly investigated yet. It is not clear how much statistical reliability is sacrificed for data access, and what the most appropriate use for this approach is.

2.4 Measures of distance and physical accessibility for poverty mapping

Another statistical approach is the welfare outcomes using travel time to facilities, services and markets (Yoshida and Deichmann, 2009). The basis of this is that small scale businesses and farmers mostly rely on proximity to market centres and associated transport cost. Accessibility, generally reflect the welfare and development of any given area. In this approach, GIS-based measures of travel time to markets and facilities help analyse the ease with which small areas and across countries or provinces where markets and services are located can easily be reached based on distance and travel time. This study however departs from the conventional approaches and focusing mainly on non-income-based measures. The non-income-based approach covers basic human needs, such as education, health care, and sanitation and it is becoming popular in poverty analysis globally (see Narayan et. al., 2000). For example, housing which is a non-income indicator has been used to measure and determine poverty. As noted by Habitat for Humanity (2021) and UN-Habitat (2010) that “unsafe homes” where rooms have poor or no ventilation and the walls are cracked, allowing dangerous insects to creep in during rainy nights show poverty. Additionally, women cook under the sun



Some small scale vendors at the Obuasi market
Source: kinkyfoofoo.wordpress.com

with most of these houses lacking basic amenities like toilets or bath houses. Sometimes there is no electricity and water and women have to walk long distances to get water. Bathrooms are usually wooden structures erected outside the house (to the armpit or shoulder level) and a piece of cloth used as screens during bathing.

2.5 Chapter Conclusion

Common statistical approaches such as the expenditure-based small area estimation using household data; community level data and measures of distance and physical accessibility all help in poverty mapping. However, these approaches do not emphasise non-income based dimensions although some aspects may feature in the equations. The approaches also do not project the voice of the subjects of poverty which is even more important in the analysis of poverty. The current study has covered these gaps.

Chapter 3

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

In line with the MoU, the consultants have used a mixed method approach for data collection and analysis for this study. The study approach employs both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection. The study however leans more to the qualitative side.

3.2 Basis for the selection of Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District

Available evidence shows that in spite of the fact that gold mining has been going on in the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District for more than four decades, there is poverty in these areas (see Obuasi Municipal Assembly, 2014), yet the Poverty Mapping by the Ghana Statistical Service (2010) did not mention Obuasi as one of the districts with high incidence and depth of poverty. Understanding poverty in these two districts is constrained since Ghana's 2010 Population and Housing Census (2010 PHC) conducted by the Ghana Statistical Service and the Sixth Round of the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS6), conducted from October 2012 to October 2013, which produced detailed information on consumption expenditure giving good ideas about consumption-based welfare measures at the national and regional levels fail to produce fine data which carefully isolate and unpack poverty beyond consumption expenditure and consumption-based welfare measures on Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. In fact, the GLSS6 was a national representative sample survey in which 16,772 households were interviewed (GSS, 2010).

Ghana's 2010 Poverty Mapping was based on secondary data from the sixth round of the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS6, 2012-2013) and 2010 Population and Housing Census (2010 PHC). The current study uses a mixture of data from secondary sources and primary data from residents in Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District.

Based on the objectives and scope outlined in the MoU, the assignment was divided into four main components: (i) analysing the incidence of poverty in Obuasi (youth unemployment, limited income generating activities etc.) Some of the key questions which provided guides are: Where is the incidence of poverty high and where is it low and why? Where is poverty concentrated and why? (ii) estimating the number of poor persons by age and gender/sex; and (iii) describing the depth of poverty, poverty inequality by age, gender/sex and between the various communities.

3.3 Analysis of socio-economic conditions

There is detailed analysis of socio-economic and poverty in the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. Emphasis is placed on the current livelihoods of residents in the two districts, in the context of existing demographic, socio-cultural and economic conditions and how mining in the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District may have led to changes in these conditions. The analysis has covered the following areas: Demographic characteristics (human capital); Natural capital (dependence on natural resources); Access to physical capital (community infrastructure); Access to financial capital; Social and political capital/social dynamics; Livelihood

strategies and the local economy; Livelihood outcomes (quality of life); and Trends in livelihoods and socio-economic conditions (historical data).

3.4 Data sources

Both primary and secondary data were obtained to address the objectives of the study. The triangulation technique was employed to ensure that multiple sources would produce reliable data. These sources include the following:

- **Secondary sources**

The secondary sources explored include: Ghana's 2010 Poverty Mapping which was based on data from the sixth round of the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS6, 2012-2013) and 2010 Population and Housing Census (2010 PHC). Reports on



The study approach employs both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection.

previous studies and other surveys covering the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District; educational and health records (from schools and health facilities); and other documents or archival data produced by various institutions that are related to the assignment were consulted.

• Primary sources

Primary data was collected through interviews and dialogical interactions with stakeholders in the selected study communities or associated with the mining site. These include the following:

Government Officials: Officials (e.g. Municipal Chief Executives, Municipal Coordinating Directors, Planning Officers) of the Obuasi Municipal Assembly and Obuasi East District Assembly were consulted for community level data;

Households: The household is the key unit of analysis in the study. About 80% of the primary data required for the socio-economic analysis were generated from household heads;

Community Leaders: These include Traditional Leaders, Assembly Members, Members of Unit Committees, Religious Leaders, and other opinion leaders who by virtue of their role or status possess some knowledge about their communities;

Community-Based Organisations/Groups/Focus Groups: They include Youth Groups, Women Groups and other identifiable Groups existing in the communities;

Facility-Level Officials: They include managers and/or staff of health, educational and other community facilities about which data was required. Examples include health workers and school heads/teachers;

Others: When necessary, officials of other state agencies and civil-society organizations (such as environmental or mining-related NGOs operating in the study area) were consulted for additional information.

3.5 Data collection methods and instruments

Primary data collection was preceded by a review of relevant literature on the physical, socio-demographic, economic and other characteristics of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District. The review helped the consultants to identify and assemble secondary data on relevant livelihood-related issues and socio-economic indicators. Besides providing data, the literature review offered the consultants useful insights to review the questionnaires and other data collection instruments, and update sampling procedures, including the determination of appropriate sample sizes.

The primary data collection part of the assignment involved the use of a number of qualitative and quantitative methods to collect 'first-hand' data from individuals, groups and organisations that were carefully selected from the stakeholders described in the preceding sub-section. These methods, together with their corresponding data collection instruments designed to address the data needs described earlier include key informant interviews, Focus Groups Discussions (FGDs) household head interviews and direct observation (see Plates 1, 2, 3 and 4).



Plate 1: FGD with youth



Plate 2: Interview with Assembly Official



Plate 3: Interview with Assembly Official



Plate 4: Interview with Assembly Official

• Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)

Key informant interviews were conducted with a number of individuals. They include the District Assembly Officers; selected community leaders such as traditional rulers, assembly members, Unit Committee chairpersons and managers/staff of health, educational and other community facilities, and other opinion leaders. To facilitate this aspect of the data collection, customized, semi-structured interview guides were designed for the interviewers. The semi-structured interview guides contained open-ended questions designed to foster discussions and make room for the elicitation of pieces of information that may not have been originally considered but later found to be relevant for the study (see Appendix B).

• Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)

The focus group discussions were conducted with women, male youth, female youth and men. The method focused on the generation of qualitative data from participants on sources of livelihoods, employment, access to land and other natural resources, land tenure, the environment, existing community facilities, prevailing developmental problems, diseases related to mining, needs and community priorities. A discussion guide/checklist was the main data collection instrument that was used to operationalize this method (see Appendix C).

• Household Survey

This method involved the use of a structured questionnaire to collect data about randomly selected households in the study communities. It covered data on the demographics; housing characteristics and conditions; livelihood assets strategies of households. The questionnaire includes both closed and open-ended questions (see Appendix D). Although the data collected was on the entire household as one 'unit', the primary respondent was the head of household or other adult household member capable of responding to the questions. In all 600 household heads were sampled. For the Obuasi Municipality, 200 were sampled in the Central Zonal Council and 100 from the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. In the case of the Obuasi East District, 100 were sampled from each of the Area Councils: Brahabebome-Akaporiso, Wawasi-Kwabrafoso and Tutuka-Odumasi.

• Direct Observation

Where possible and appropriate, the data collection team directly observed and recorded information about livelihood-related activities, housing

characteristics and conditions, existing community facilities, the environment, other physical features and activities, and physical facilities. Field notebooks and cameras were used for this aspect of the data collection (Appendix E).

3.6 Selection of communities and households

Following the split of former Obuasi Municipal Assembly into Obuasi Municipal Assembly and Obuasi East District Assembly, there are two Zonal Councils in Obuasi Municipal Assembly and three Area Councils in the Obuasi East District Assembly. All the five (5) Councils were studied. Five (5) communities were randomly selected from each of the Councils for the study. For the Obuasi Municipal Area 40 household heads were selected from each of the 5 communities in the Central Zonal Council and 20 household heads were selected from each of the five communities in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. In the Obuasi East District, 20 household heads were selected from each of the five communities from Brahabebome-Akaporiso, Wawasi-Kwabrafoso and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Councils (see Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: No. of communities, KIs and FGDs

Case selection Method	No. of Communities selected	KIs	FGDs
Zonal Councils			
Obuasi Municipality			
Central Zonal Council	5	3 community/opinion leaders	-Men -Women -Female Youth -Male Youth
Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	5	3 community/opinion leaders	-Men -Women -Female Youth -Male Youth
Municipal Assembly Officials	-	-Municipal Chief Executive -Municipal Coordinating Director -Municipal Development Planning Officer -Municipal Town Planning Officer	N/A

Table 3.1: No. of communities, KIs and FGDs Cont'd

Case selection Method	No. of Communities selected	KIs	FGDs
Obuasi East District			
Brahabe-bome-Akaporiso Area Council	5	3 community/opinion leaders	-Men -Women -Female Youth -Male Youth
Wawasi-Kwabrafo-Area Council	5	3 community/opinion leaders	-Men -Women -Female Youth -Male Youth
Tutuka-Odumai Area Council	5	3 community/opinion leaders	Men -Women -Female Youth -Male Youth
District Assembly Officials	-	District Chief Executive -District Coordinating Director -District Development Planning Officer -District Physical Planning Officer	N/A

Source: Consultants' construction (September 2021)

The selection of respondents/participants for the KIs and FGDs was done purposively. The purposive sampling technique is ideal for selecting samples of relevant individuals, groups and institutions that, by virtue of their peculiar qualities or positions, possess vital information that may not be obtained from randomly selected subjects. Thus, the purposive sampling technique is not about representativeness of respondents with regard to some defined population, but rather their uniqueness regarding the possession of privileged information about the object of the research.

For the household survey, the Consultants obtained the number of households for each of the Zonal Councils from the Obuasi Municipal Assembly and the Area Councils from Obuasi East District Assembly during the preliminary visit for the reconnaissance survey and pretesting of the field instruments. When this was obtained, the sample size for each Zonal/Area Council was obtained using Slovin's Formula given as sample size (n) with the population size (N) and a margin of error (e), it is computed as $n = N / (1 + Ne^2)$. The margin of error was 5%. This allowed high reliability of the samples for each Zone. In order to achieve a fair spread, only one household was selected in a house, implying that the number of houses to be covered was the same as the sample size. Houses were selected using simple random sampling techniques informed by the morphological characteristics of each community. In all, the number of household heads interviewed in the Obuasi Municipal Area were 200 (Central Zonal Council) and 100 (Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council). For the Obuasi East District, 100 household heads were selected from Brahabeom-Akaporiso, Wawasi-Kwabrafoso and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Councils each.

3.7 Data analysis

The analysis employs methods that combine quantitative analytic techniques (descriptive and inferential statistic) with a synthesis of qualitative data (categorization, case illustrations, etc). We used statistical techniques such as simple averages, proportions, trend techniques to analyse the quantitative data by employing the use of SPSS and Excel software. For the qualitative data, Content analysis and Nvivo 10 were employed to analyze the data which is mainly presented in the form of quotes and narration of life experience by the respondents. In terms of reporting, the approach adopted by the Ghana Poverty Mapping Report (GSS, 2015) and the Ghana Living Standards Survey, 2017 (GSS, 2018) have been adopted with some modifications.

In addition, key developmental problems were derived from the results and findings of the analysis. These problems, which can be translated into developmental goals and objectives for the communities were the basis for proposing pointers for pro-poor policies for the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District Assembly.

The first draft of the report was presented to all the stakeholders in a validation workshop at Obuasi. The participants in the workshop were taken through the background of the study, the processes of data collection and analysis. The findings, conclusions, recommendations and lessons learnt were all presented in great detail to the participants. The participants made useful contributions to shape the analysis, findings, conclusions and lessons learnt.

3.8 Presentation of the Report

For ease of interpretation and understanding of the report, different tools have been used to present the same data. These include tables, bar charts, pie charts, graphs and geographic maps. Using this approach provides a 3-D view and appreciation of the data and the discussions.

3.9 Chapter Conclusion

This chapter has described the basis for the selection of Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District for the poverty mapping exercise. The various processes in terms of techniques and methods for the study have also been explained. The findings are presented in the remaining chapters of the report.

02

Part

Obuasi Municipality



Good Governance Africa

Chapter 4

The Obuasi Municipal Assembly is one of the forty-three (43) Administrative Districts in the Ashanti Region of Ghana. It used to be part of the former Adansi West District Assembly. This Municipal Assembly was created by Executive Instrument No. (E.I. 15) of 15th December, 2003 and Legislative Instrument (L.I. 1795) of 17th March, 2004. The Municipality is located between latitudes 5°35'N and 5°55'N, and longitudes 6°35'W and 6°50'W and covers a total land area of 162.4 square km. It is located in the Southern part of the Ashanti Region of Ghana, 64km away from Kumasi, the regional capital. There are 33 communities in the municipality with 19 Electoral Areas, and two (2) Zonal Councils. The Municipality is bounded to the south by Upper Denkyira East Municipal of the Central Region, East by Obuasi East District, West by Amansie Central District, and North by Adansi North District and has Obuasi as its capital town.





Statue of a gold miner in the town of Obuasi
Source: [facebook.com/ /obuasicity/photos/](https://facebook.com/obuasicity/photos/)

4.2 Population Size and Distribution

The size of population and composition have consequences for a number of social and economic indicators such as the well-being and standard of living of a people. It is therefore important not only to know the number of people in a geographic area, but more significantly the composition, size and structure of the population as this can help situate, discuss, better understand and map poverty in any geographic region (Sinding, 2008; Ahlburg, 1994; 1996). This section analyzes the population characteristics of the Obuasi Municipal Area.

The population of the households covered by gender and age cohorts is presented in Table 4.1. This is also presented and grouped under the two Zonal Councils (Central Area and Kunka-Anyinam Area) with a total population of 819. As indicated earlier, the household heads who were the units of enquiry constituted 200 and 100 for Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively. Thus, a total of 300 household heads were interviewed in the Obuasi Municipal Assembly. From Table 4.1, it can be observed that, the Central Zonal Council has the population between cohorts 0-4 and 5-9 to be 12% (66). However, 13% (37) of the population in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council is in this age group. The data revealed

that, females formed a total of 159 (55%) of the total population of the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council while males constituted 131 (45%) of the total population. For the Central Zonal Council, males constituted 247 (47%) of the total population while females constituted 282 (53%). In general, females form the majority of the population for the Obuasi Municipal Assembly. As subsequent findings and discussions will show, females appear to be affected more or suffer more than their male counterparts in many aspects of poverty.



This Municipal Assembly was created by Executive Instrument No. (E.I. 15) of 15th December, 2003 and Legislative Instrument (L.I. 1795) of 17th March, 2004

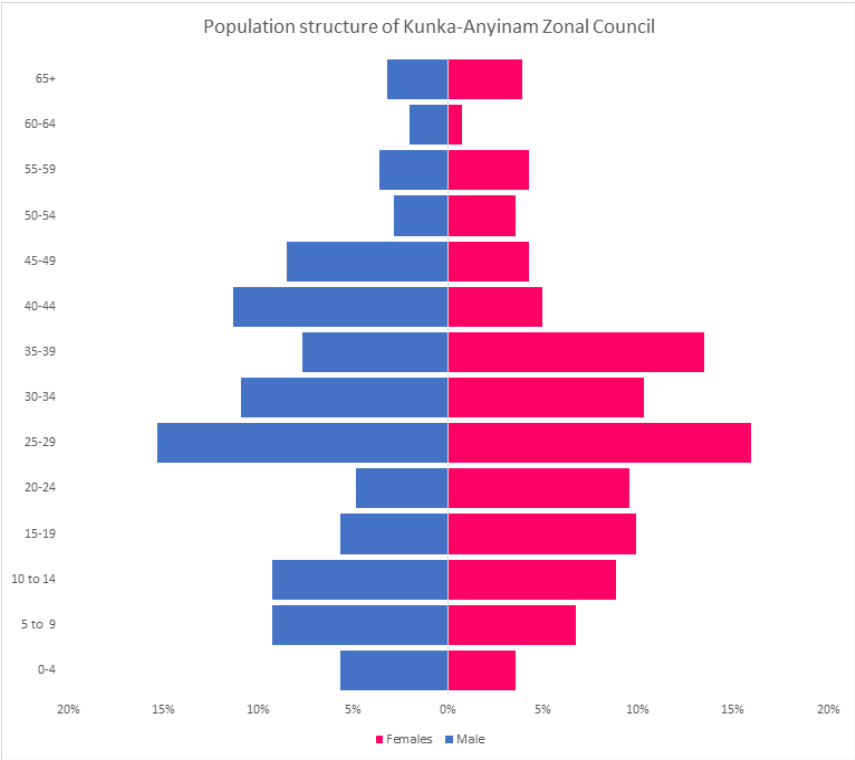
Table 4.1: Population size and distribution of the Obuasi Municipal Assembly

Age Cohorts	Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council				Central Zonal Council			
	Both Sexes	Male	%	Female	%	Both Sexes	Male	%
0-4	19	6	32	13	68	24	14	58
5-9	18	9	50	9	50	42	23	55
10-14	30	14	47	16	53	48	23	48
15-19	22	8	36	14	64	42	14	33
20-24	24	8	33	16	67	39	12	31
25-29	50	22	44	28	56	83	38	46
30-34	34	16	47	18	53	56	27	48
35-39	38	17	45	21	55	57	19	33
40-44	15	7	47	8	53	42	28	67
45-49	15	12	80	3	20	33	21	64
50-54	14	6	43	8	57	17	7	41
55-59	3	1	33	2	67	21	9	43
60-64	2	1	50	1	50	7	5	71
65+	6	4	67	2	33	18	7	39
Total	290	131	45	159	55	529	247	47
Municipal Total								
Both Sexes				Female	%		Male	%
819				441	54		378	46

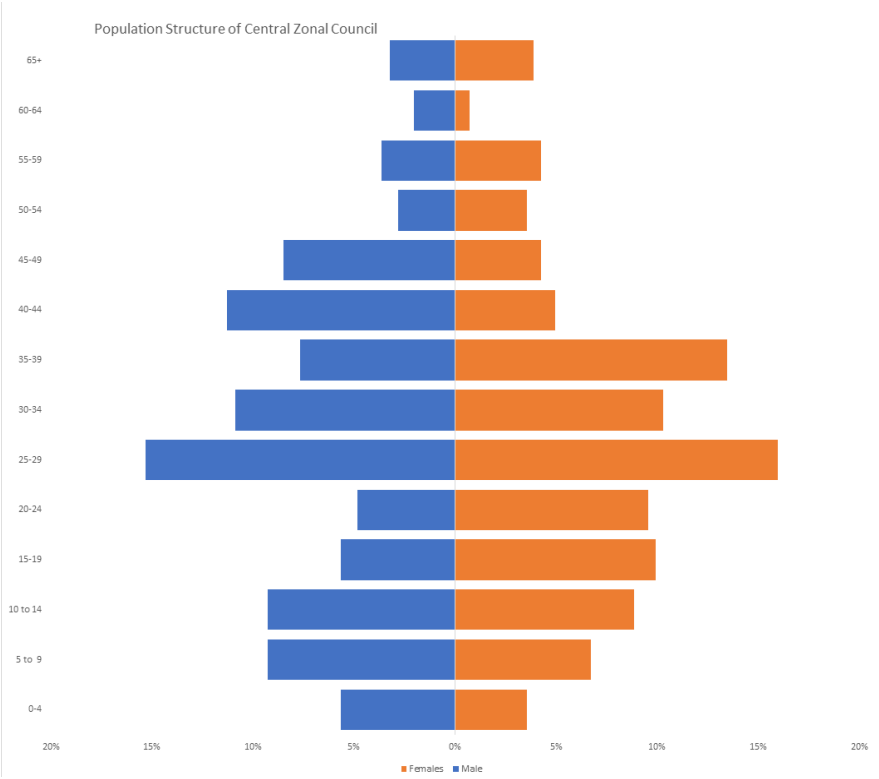
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

4.3 Age and Sex Structure of the Respondents

Figures 4.1 and 4.2 present the population structure of the two area councils in the Obuasi Municipal Assembly. Majority of the population is concentrated between the 15-64 age cohorts hence accounting for the narrow base and top of the population pyramid as can be seen also in sub-section 4.4. This indicates that Obuasi Municipality has a very high economically active population which is a huge potential for economic development and poverty reduction.



Figures 4.1 and 4.2 Age and Sex structure of Kunka-Anyinam and Central Zonal Council
Source: Field Survey, June 2021



Figures 4.1 and 4.2 Age and Sex structure of Kunka-Anyinam and Central Zonal Council
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

4.4 Broad Age Cohorts

This section presents an analysis of the broad age cohorts of the population for both Zonal Councils in the Obuasi Municipality. The cohorts are categorized into dependents (0-14), economically active (15-64) and aged (65+). Table 4.2 indicates that the proportion of dependents [(0-14) and (65+)] in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council and the Central Zonal Council are the same recording 25% and 25% respectively. In the 0-14 cohort, the females hold a larger share (57%) than their male counterparts (43%) in the Kunka-Anyinam Zone. On the other hand, males constitute a greater share (53%) compared to females (47%) in the Central Zone. There is no variation in the proportion of economically active population in both Zonal Councils generally and gender-wise. The economically active cohort constitutes the highest population in both Zonal Councils (75%). The aged population holds an insignificant share of the total population in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (2%) and Central Zone (3%) (see Figure 4.3). However, there are relatively more aged males in Kunka-Anyinam Zone (67%) than Central Zone (42%). The trend changes as females comprise a larger share of the aged population in Central Zone (58%) compared to Kunka-Anyinam Zone (33%).

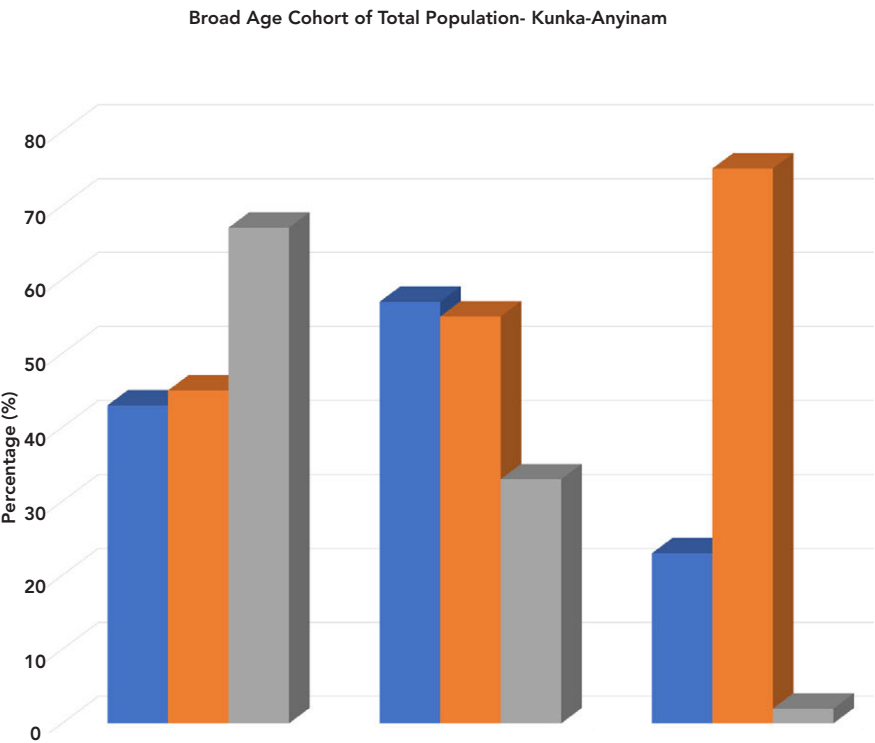


Group photograph of some youth of Obuasi after a youth empowerment training programme
Source: <https://newsghana.com.gh/>

Table 4.2: Broad Age Cohorts of the Population

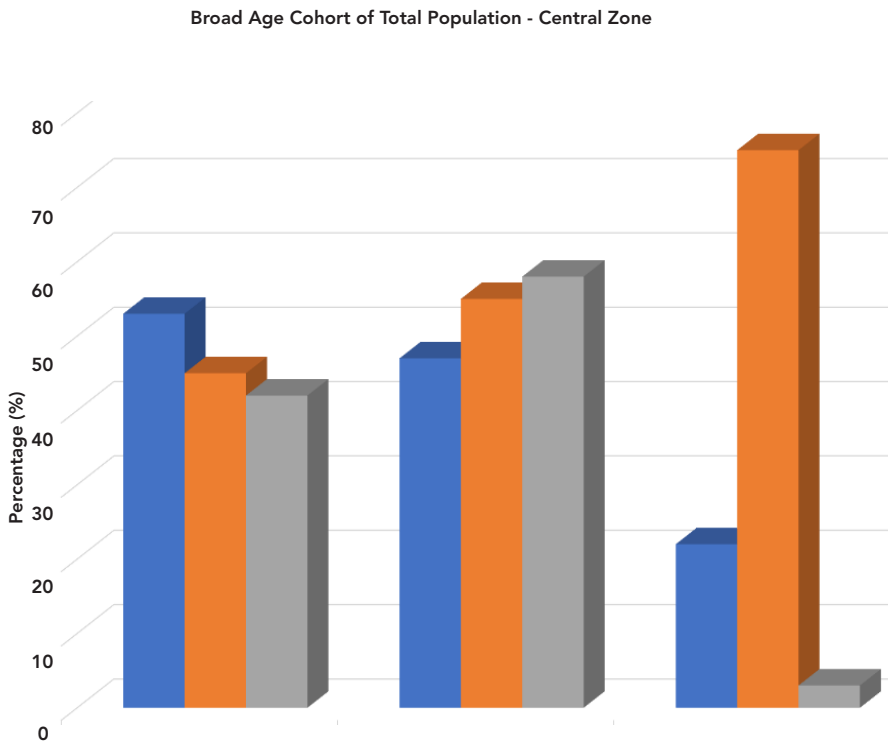
Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council							Central Zonal Council						
Age Cohort	Male	%	Female	%	Total	%	Male	%	Fe- male	%	Total	%	
0 – 14	29	43	38	57	67	23	60	53	54	47	114	22	
15 – 64	98	45	119	55	217	75	180	45	216	55	396	75	
65+	4	67	2	33	6	2	8	42	11	58	19	3	
Total	131		159		290	100	248		281		529	100	

Source: Field Survey, June 2021



	Male	Female	Total
<div>0 - 14</div>	43	57	23
<div>15 - 64</div>	45	55	75
<div>65+</div>	67	33	2

Figure 4.3: Broad Age Cohorts of the Respondents
Source: Field Survey, June 2021



	Male	Female	Total
<div>0 - 14</div>	53	47	22
<div>15 - 64</div>	45	55	75
<div>65+</div>	42	58	3

Figure 4.3: Broad Age Cohorts of the Respondents
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

4.5 Age Dependency Burden

According to the Ghana Statistics Service (2010), the age dependency burden is used as a measure of the economic burden that the productive population must carry. The dependency burden for the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council was 33.6 whiles that of the Central Zonal Council was 34.5. What this implies is that for every 100 persons in the working population (15-64), there are approximately 34 and 35 persons who would require their support in Kunka-Anyinam and Central Zonal Councils respectively. This implies that, dependency burden for the Central Zonal Council is higher (35) than that of Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (34). What this suggests is that in both Zonal Councils, the burden on the economically active population is not high. The working population should be able to save to accumulate resources. There will also be enough income to cover other essential needs. In terms of sex dependency burden, female dependency ratio for the Central Zonal Council was 30.6 whiles female dependency burden for Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council was 33.6. The implication is that female dependency burden in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council is higher than that of the Central Zonal Council. Females in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council can be said to be more likely to be vulnerable and exposed to poverty.

4.6 Migration And Duration Of Residence

Table 4.3 and 4.4 present the data on the migrant population of the Obuasi Municipality and the duration of residence of the population. Table 4.3 indicates that 84.4% and 90.0% of the population in the Central Zonal Council and the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively are natives of Obuasi with 99.0% of those in Central Zonal Council and 99.7% of those in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council residing in these areas throughout the year (see Table 4.3; 4.4 and Figure 4.4). According to the data in Table 4.3, 16% of the residents in the Central Zonal Council are migrants who have settled in the municipality. Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council has 10% of the residents being migrants. Thus, more than two-thirds of the respondents are natives of Obuasi with a few migrants who have settled in the Municipality for various reasons such as economic opportunities in the mining economy.

Table 4.3: Migration status of the population

Migration	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Number	%	Number	%
Native	444	84	261	90
In-migrant	85	16	29	10
Total	529	100	290	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

The high proportion of natives implies that they have attachments to their communities and their means of livelihood are their land. With mining taking their lands away from them, they are exposed to poverty as many of them said in the FGDs which can be summed up as how one of them put it that: "This is where we come from. We cannot go and claim other people's lands. Our livelihoods come from our land but now all our land is gone. Just have a look at the huge wall surrounding our land. We cannot even go to the farms behind the wall. We are left with nothing, only suffering" (Female participant in FGD, August 2021)

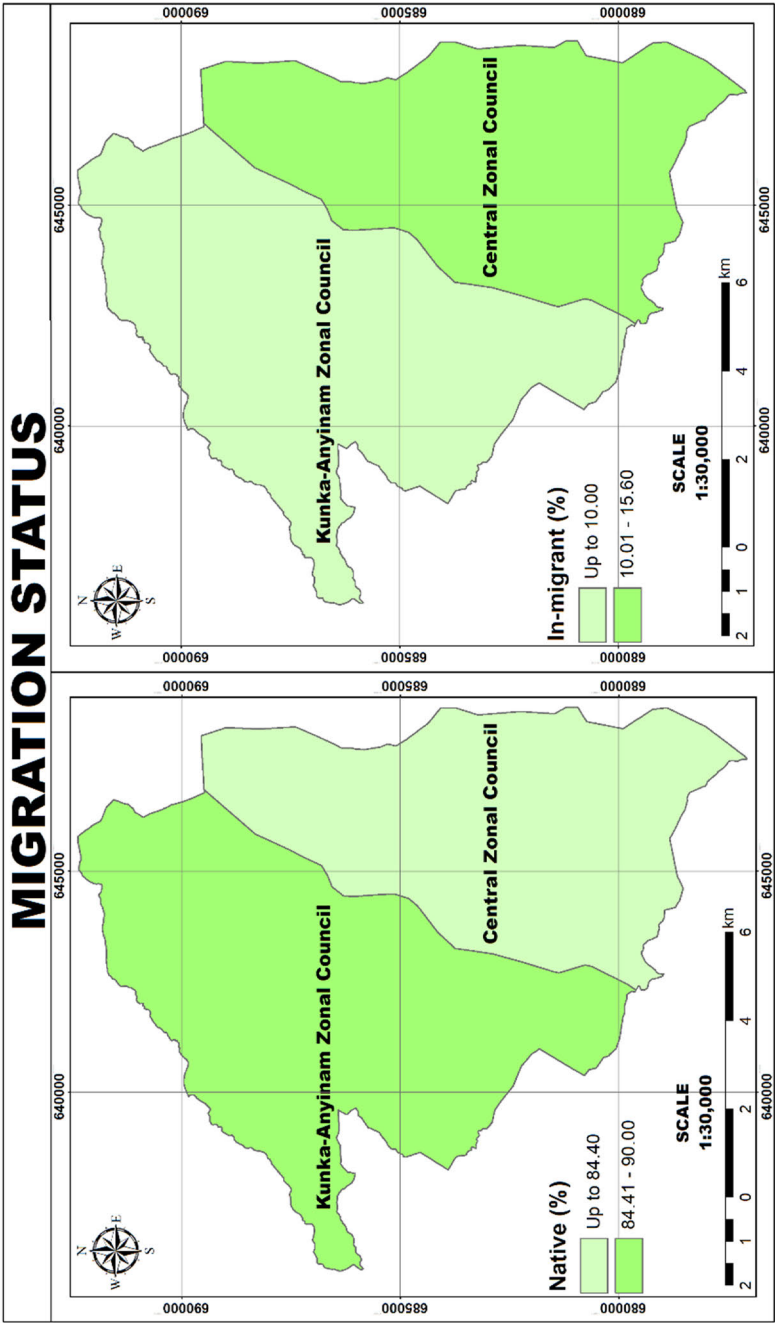


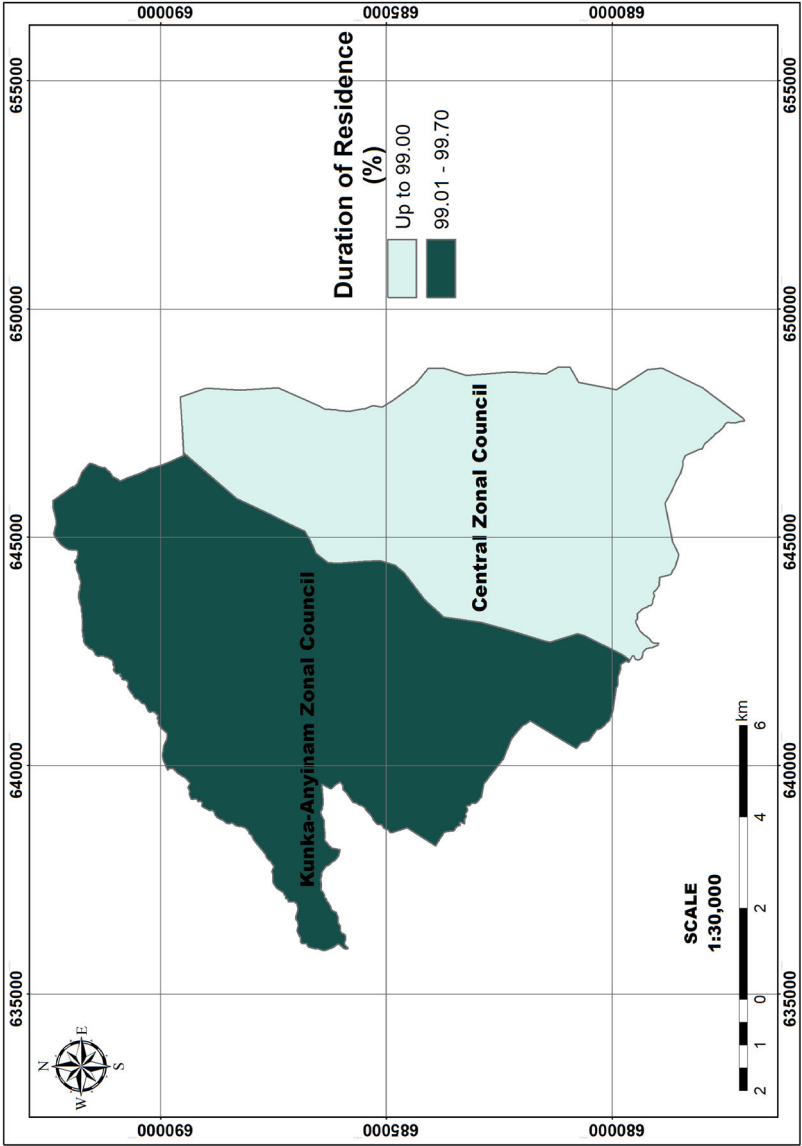
Figure 4.4: Migration status of household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Table 4.4 Duration of residents of the Population

Duration of residence	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Number	%	Number	%
Seasonal	5	1	3	1
All year	524	99	287	99
Total	529	100	290	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

The majority of them residing in the communities all year round also support their concern that losing their land to the mines has exposed them to the hardships of daily living. Other effects are the pollution from the mines, vibrations and tremors from the blasting as we shall see in later part of the report.



4.7 Persons Living with Disability

The issue of Persons Living with Disability (PWDs) is increasingly becoming a concern for development in many parts of the world. This is particularly important in developing countries where there are no sufficient provisions by government to support their living conditions. Consequently, family members bear the burden of providing for their medical and household expenses. This can exacerbate poverty conditions of PWDs and thier famililes (Pinilla-Roncancio, 2015; Palmer, 2011; Department for International Development (DFID), 2000). Within the Obuasi Municipality (Kunka-Anyinam and Central Zonal Councils), two forms of disability were identified. The Central Zonal Council recorded one person with disability (vision impairment) whiles the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council also recorded one person living with walking disability. Thus 0.3% and 0.2% of the population in the Kunka-Anyinam and Central Zonal Councils respectively were persons living with disability. However, disability dependency burden revealed that, for every 100 persons of the working population (15-64), there would be 0.5, (approximately one PWD) that would need to be supported. This is very low and hence the burden on the working population in terms of expenses on PWDs would be low. In terms of disability therefore, it can be said that the population in the Obuasi Municipality is not that much exposed to poverty associated with disabilities.

4.8 Marital Status of Household Members

This section of the chapter analyzes the marital status of the population of Obuasi Municipality focusing on those aged 15 years and older. The Population aged 15 years and above for the Obuasi Municipality was 640 representing 78.0% of the population. Those aged from 15 years and above for the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council was 224 representing 76.8% whereas Central Zonal Council's constituted 416 representing 78.5%. Out of the 224 of the members of the population 15 years and above for the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, 112 representing 50% are married (Table 4.5). The population 15 years and older who are married in the Central Zonal Council constituted 163 representing 39.2%. The population 15 years and older who are single in the Central Zonal Council constituted 201 representing 48.3% with 43.3% for Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

One of the factors that can help ease the burden of poverty is spousal support. Those who are married are more likely to receive some form of economic, social and emotional support from their spouses. On the basis of this, the

population in the Central Zonal Council can be said to be lacking those supports and more vulnerable to poverty than those in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. This finding was supported by many of the participants in both FGDs for females and males with views of this nature:

“Those of us who are not married are so vulnerable and exposed to all kinds of dangers. If we are married, at least, our spouses will be supporting us. It is the reason the men easily prey on us and there is nothing we can do as we are not able to make ends meet” (Female participant in FGD, September 2021).

A male also added that “If you are married, your wife will do some petty trading and bring home something not matter how small it is to top up and both of you will share the burden reduing it on only one person” (Male participant in FGD, September 2021).



*Cross-section of people living with disability at the commissioning of the
Anglogold Ashanti's training and rehabilitation centre in Obuasi
Source: myjoyonline.com*

Table 4.5: Marital status of the population 15 years and older by Zonal Councils

Age Cohorts	Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council						Central Zonal Council					
	Married	Divorced	Wid-owed	Single	Consensual		Married	Divorced	Wid-owed	Single	Consensual	
15-19	-	-	-	22	-		-	-	-	41	1	
20-24	1	-	-	23	-		1	-	-	37	1	
25-29	18	-	-	32	-		14	-	-	68	1	
30-34	22	-	-	11	1		22	1	-	33	-	
35-39	28	2	1	7	-		38	1	-	15	3	
40-44	14	-	1	-	-		30	2	3	5	2	
45-49	12	-	1	2	-		23	5	3	-	2	
50-54	13	1	-	-	-		11	1	3	-	2	
55-59	3	-	-	-	-		14	1	4	1	1	
60-64	-	1	2	-	-		6	-	1	-	-	
65+	1	2	3	-	-		4	2	12	1	-	
Total	112	6	8	97	1		163	13	26	201	13	

Source: Field survey, June 2021

4.9 Ethnic affiliation of the Population in Obuasi Municipal Assembly

Table 4.6 illustrates the various ethnic groups in both the Kunka-Anyinam and Central Zonal Councils of the Obuasi Municipality. In the Central area, the Akans dominate with a percentage of 82%, the other ethnic groups, such as the Hausas, and Dagombas, are the second dominant groups with a percentage of 11%. The least dominant group is the Gas which constitutes 2%. The Ewes constitute 5% of the population in the Central Zone.

Also, in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, the Akans are the dominant ethnic group (76%), followed by the Ga (7%) and the Ewe (2%) (see Figure 4.6).

Table 4.6: Ethnic affiliation of the population in Obuasi Central

Ethnicity	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Number	%	Number	%
Akan	433	82	220	76
Ewe	26	5	6	2
Ga	12	2	20	7
Others (Hausa, Dagomba)	58	11	44	15
Total	529	100	290	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

The diverse ethnic groups suggest peaceful co-existence among the people in both Zonal Councils. This diversity has yielded strong social capital that was found to be invoked by many to cope with livelihood difficulties and poverty. One of the key informants noted that:

“There are strong social ties among the people here. The diverse cultures have created the platform for us to support each other in many ways. The peaceful co-existence allows us to easily mobilize collectively to address common community problems” (Key informant, September 2021).

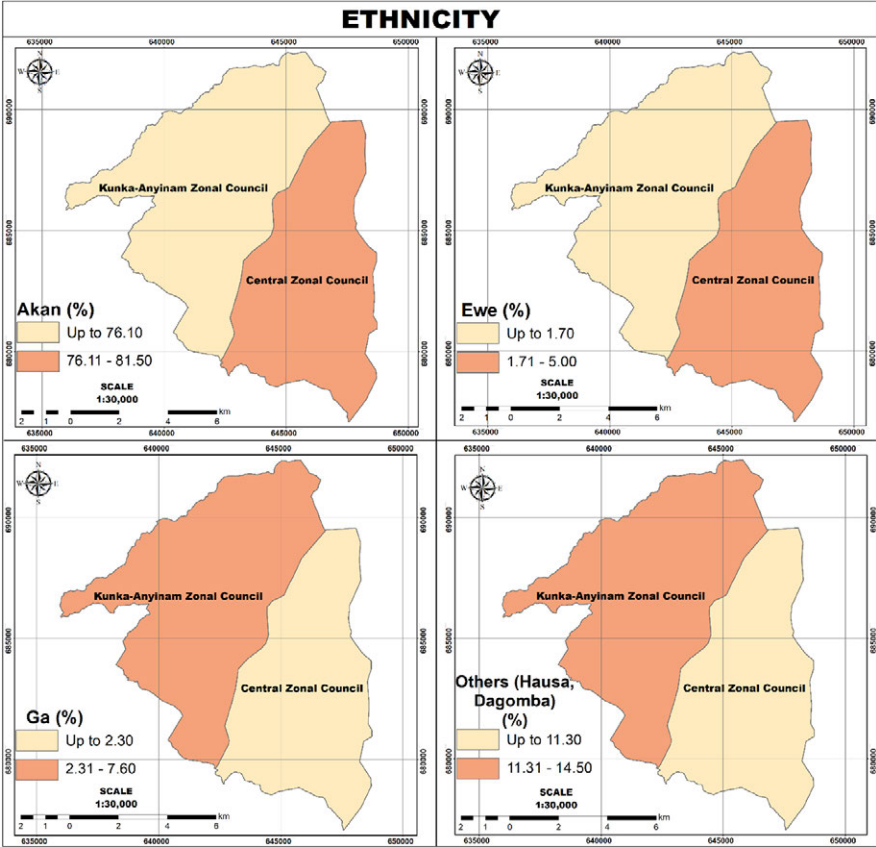


Figure 4.6: Ethnic affiliation of household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

4.10 Religious Affiliations of the Respondents

Table 4.7 illustrates the religious affiliations of the two zones in the Obuasi Municipality. As indicated in the table, the Christian religion is the most dominant religion in both the Kunka-Anyinam and Central Zones with percentages 96% and 95% respectively. Moslems form 3% in Kunka-Anyinam Zone and 4% in Central Zone. The African Traditional religion represents the least religion for both areas (see also Figure 4.7).

Table 4.7: Religious affiliation of the population

Religion	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Number	%	Number	%
Christianity	503	95	278	96
Islam	21	4	11	3.7
Traditionalist	5	1	1	.3
Total	529	100	290	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

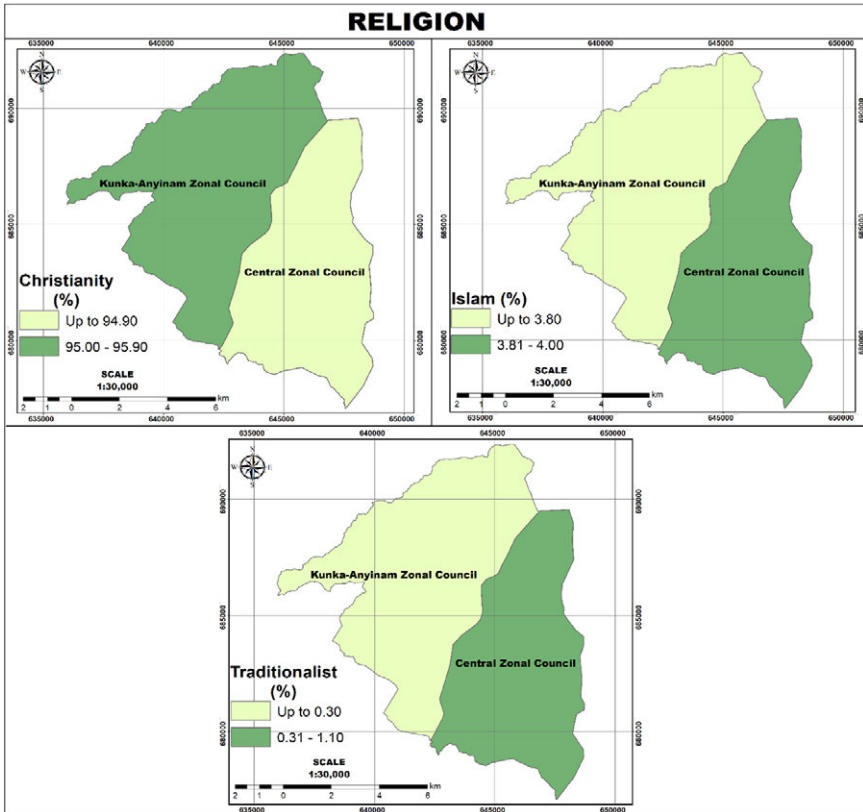


Figure 4.7: Religious affiliation of household members

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

It was revealed that strong religious attachments in both Zonal Councils help residents to cope with emotional and other frustrations that come with poverty and deprivation. The consensus from the the FGDs with with females and the youth can be summed up in how some of them put it that: "My faith helps to put a check on me all the time to behave well. Sometimes life becomes so difficult and I become so vulnerable but my faith helps me not to give myself up to men" (Female participant in FGD, September 2021). A youth explained his in the FGD as follows: "Sometimes we are tempted to steal or rob to survive because we have no jobs and the mining company is not employing us. It is our religious belief that holds us back all the time" (Youth participant in FGD, September 2021).

4.11 Chapter Conclusion

The demographic characteristics show that there is great potential for poverty reduction. The age and economic dependency burdens as well as disability dependency burdens are low. This should make it possible for the working members of the households in both the Cenral Zonal and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils to be able to save a good proportion of their incomes. There is also large economically active population that can take up job openings to better their living conditions. The burden on non-married people however is high as they do not have anybody to share the burden with. Diverse ethnic composition and strong religious attachments were found to help residents to cope with poverty.

Having presented the demographic characteristics of the respodents and how poverty manifests here, the next section will present and discuss the data on housing characteristics. This will provide insights into how poverty manifests in housing which is one of the basic necessities of life and one of the indicators of poverty.

Chapter 5

MANIFESTATIONS OF SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY

5.1 Introduction

This section of the report focuses on the social characteristics and dimensions of poverty in the Obuasi Municipality. It presents data on the housing type and condition, the educational statistics of the households and the health statistics.

5.2 Type of dwelling and tenancy arrangement

The types of dwelling of residents include self-contained and compound houses. The tenancy arrangements consist of the occupancy status of the household heads for both Zonal Councils in the Obuasi Municipality.

5.2.1 Type of housing units

As shown in Table 5.1, the data on housing types indicates that majority (47.5%) and 72% of the housing types are self-contained in the Central Zonal Council and the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively. This is followed by traditional compound houses which constitute 20% in the Central and large single-family house (17%) in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

Table 5.1: Housing Types in Obuasi Municipality

Housing Typology	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Traditional compound house	40	20	9	9
Multi-storey compound house	7	3.5	-	-
Small self-contained	95	47.5	72	72
Large single-family house	37	18.5	17	17
Terrace	1	.5	1	1.0
Apartment	20	10	1	1.0
Total	200	100	100	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

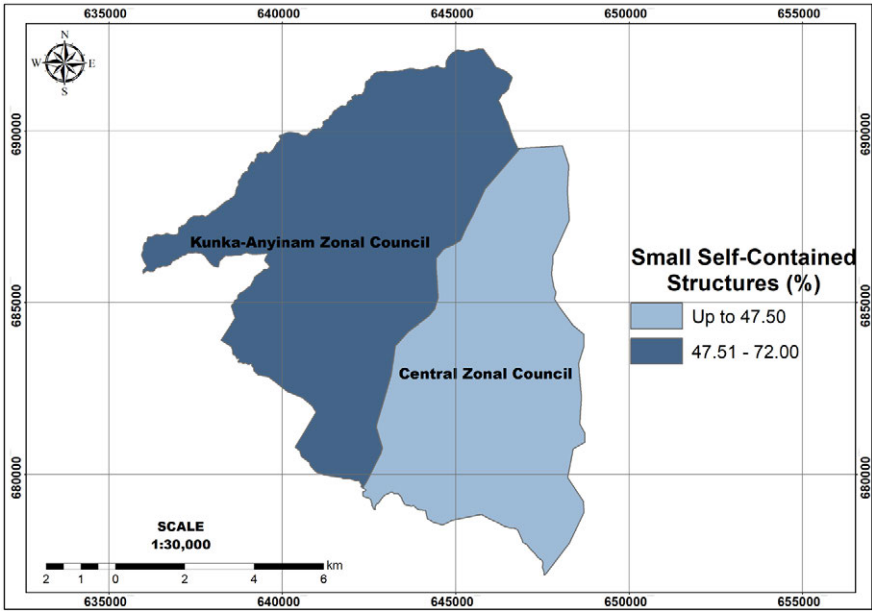


Figure 5.1: Major housing types in the Obuasi Municipality

A major finding about housing is that the small self-contained accommodations are single room accommodation. For the majority, the landlords have squeezed either bathroom, toilet or kitchen facility into the room reducing room space available. Ventilation in such rooms is extremely poor yet this is where up to 4 persons share in order to pay the rent. Since majority of the residents dwell in these small self-contained accommodations, it can be concluded that housing is not adequate especially in the Central Zonal Council. This is supported by the claims made by many in the FGDs. For example, one of them noted that: “This room is where I share with my three friends. This small box here is our bathroom but we do not have a toilet and kitchen facilities so we use public kitchen and toilet. Many of the houses you see here are like that. It is difficult to breathe making us fall sick all the time” (Male participant in FGD, September 2021).

5.2.2 Tenancy Arrangements

Table 5.2 presents data on the tenancy arrangements of the household heads interviewed. The data revealed that, household heads who owned houses in the Central Zonal Council were less than that of the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. Thus, 37.0% of the household heads in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council were owners of the dwelling units while 29% of the household heads in the Central Zonal Council were owners. Majority (48.5%) of the household heads interviewed in the Central Zonal Council and 32% of them in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council were tenants. Findings from discussions with city officials suggest that majority of households rent their dwelling units in the Central Zonal Council mainly because this is more urbanized than the Kunka-Anyinam Zone. The implication is that rent can be more of an important expenditure item for households in the Central Zonal Council than for those in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (see Figure 5.2).

Table 5.2: Tenancy arrangements in Obuasi Municipal Assembly

Occupier Status	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Owner	58	29.0	37	37.0
Free Occupier	45	22.5	32	32.0
Tenant/Renter	97	48.5	31	31.0
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0

Source: Field survey, June 2021

The rent issues emerged strongly from the FGDs for both males and females in the two Zonal Councils. Their concern was about their inability to pay the rent due to non-availability of employment opportunities as noted by one of them that:

"Our farms are all gone yet we cannot find jobs in the mines. How can we pay the rent? Landlords keep threatening us with ejection all the time and I feel so unhappy" (Male participant in FGD, September 2021).



*A Cross-section of housing facilities at Obuasi
Source: foursquare.com*

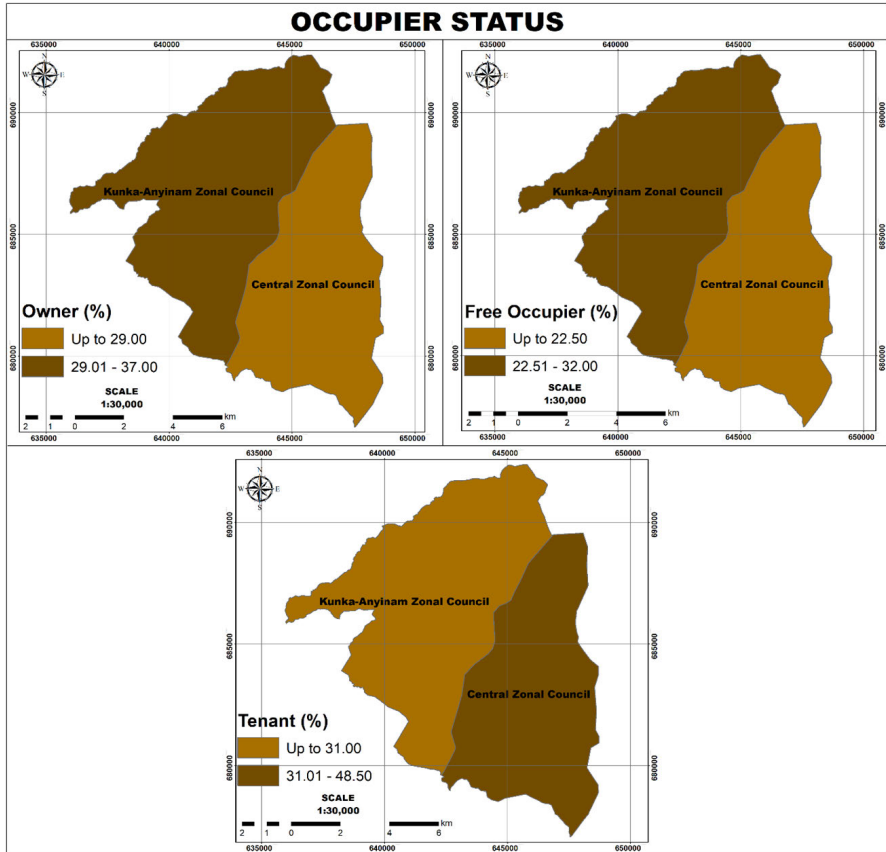


Figure 5.2: Occupier status of household heads
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

5.3 Construction Materials

This section, reports on the materials used for the construction of the walls and roofing of the dwelling units in the Central Zonal Council and the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

5.3.1 Construction materials for the walls of dwelling units in Obuasi Municipality

As shown in Table 5.3 and Figure 5.3, sandcrete is the main construction material used for the walls of dwelling units in both the Central Zonal Council (84.5%) and the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (88.0%). This is followed by bricks (8.5%) and (8.0%) respectively in the Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. This finding is consistent with the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS, 2014) report showing that sandcrete blocks and mud bricks are the main building materials for walls in most parts of Ghana. The Table 5.3 also shows that only 1.5% and 1.0% live in a house made of wattle and daub in the Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils respectively. Since sandcrete is considered a better housing material, it can be said that the living standards of the residents in both areas is better in housing quality. This implies that majority of the houses are durable which can help reduce house-related risks (Fiadzo, 2001). The Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council is relatively better than the Central Zone because only 1.0% of the residents live in wattle and daub houses (Figure 5.5). These houses are of poor quality for human habitation because the kind of materials used for the walls can easily deteriorate (Ofosu-Mensah, 2011).

In terms of conditions of walls, about 29% of the households have their walls cracked in the Central Zonal Council whereas only about 16% of houses with cracked walls were recorded in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (Figure 5.4). The foundations of majority of the houses (96.3%) are also in good condition as their foundations are not exposed in both Zonal Councils (Figure 5.6). The households that have their houses rendered and painted constitute 74.3% in the Central Zonal Council. Majority (89%) of the houses in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council are not rendered.

Table 5.3: Main construction materials for the construction of outer wall of dwelling units in Obuasi Municipality

Building Materials	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Sand Crete	169	84.5	88	88.0
Land Crete	11	5.5	3	3.0
Bricks	17	8.5	8	8.0
Wattle and Daub	3	1.5	1	1.0
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0
Condition of Walls				
Cracked	58	29.0	16	16.0
Not cracked	142	71.0	84	84.0
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0
Wall Rendering				
Rendered	32	16	0	0
Not rendered	19	9.5	89	89.0
Rendered and painted	149	74.5	11	11.0
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0
Housing Foundation Exposed				
Exposed	7	3.7	4	4.0
Not exposed	193	96.3	96	96.0
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0

Source: Field survey, June 2021

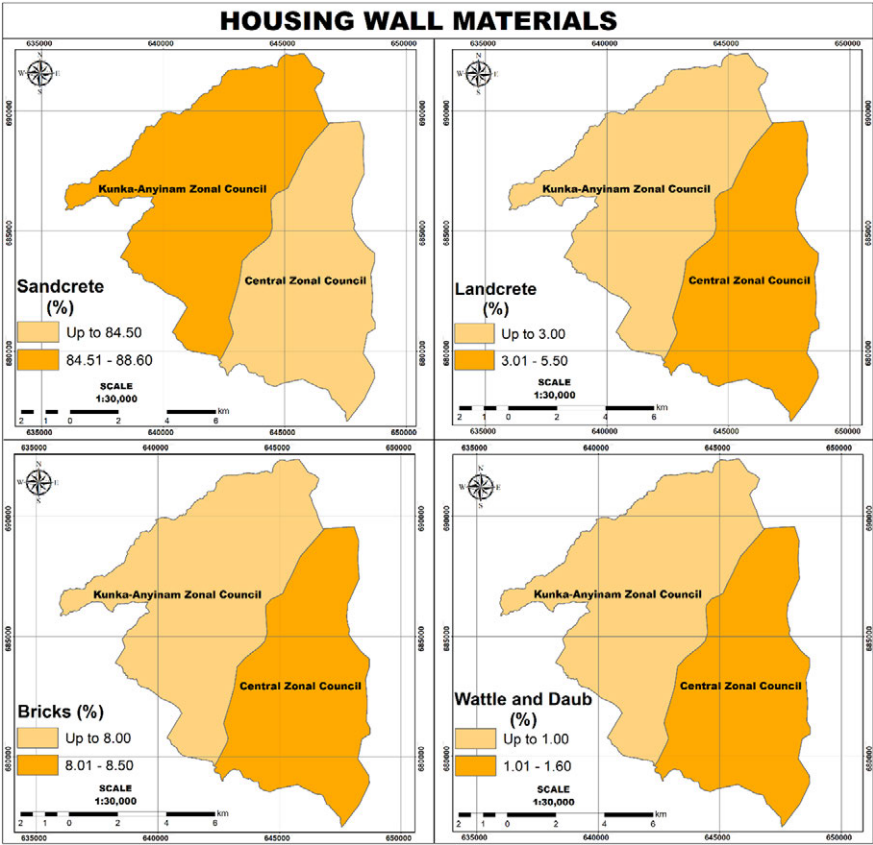


Figure 5.3: Housing wall materials
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

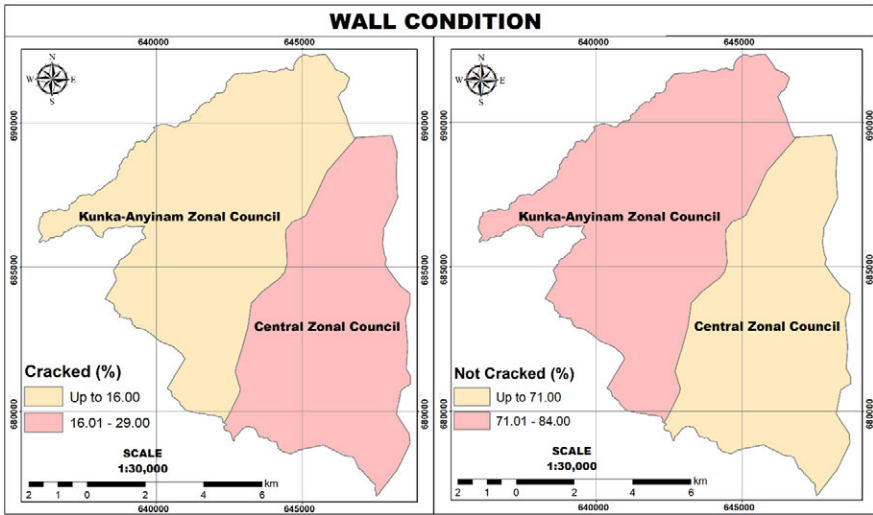


Figure 5.4: Wall condition of houses in the community
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

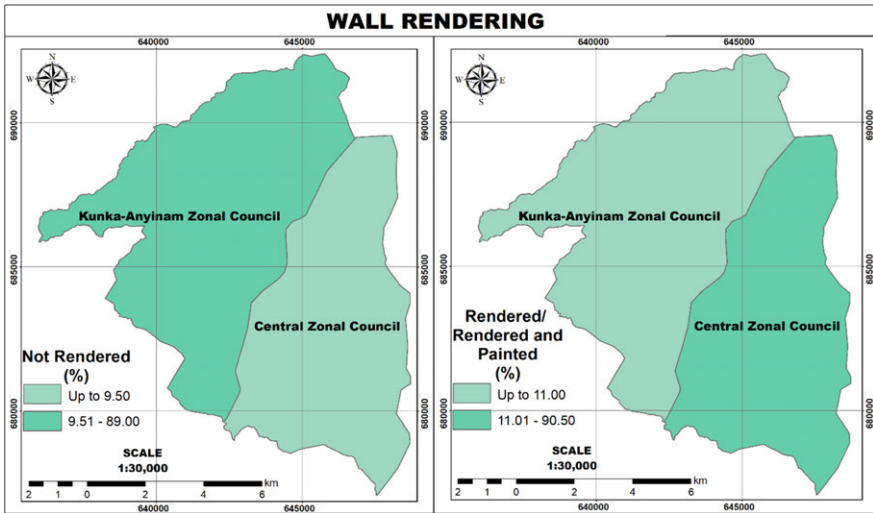


Figure 5.5: Wall rendering
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

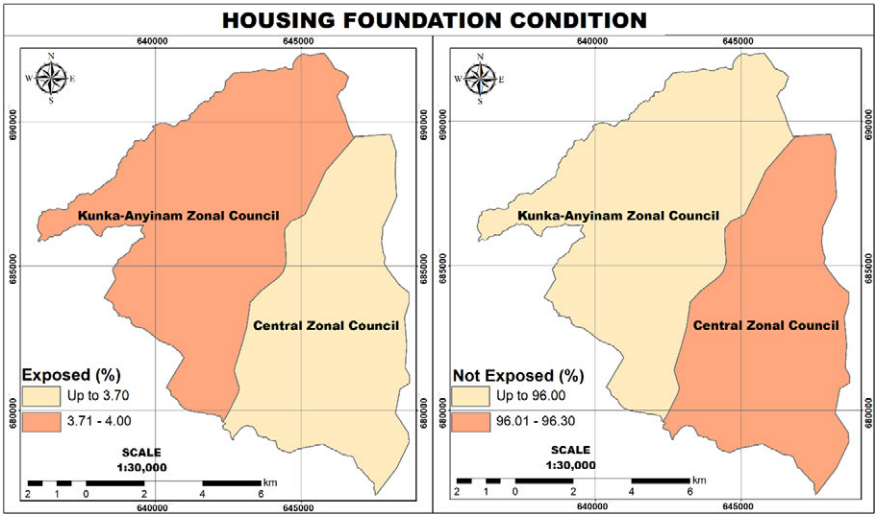


Figure 5.6: Foundation conditions of houses
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

5.3.2 Construction materials for the roofing of dwelling units in Obuasi Municipality

Both Zonal Councils use quality roofing materials for their houses as 66.0% of the households used iron sheets in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council and 36.0% in the Central Zonal Council have used this. Also, 59.0% and 34.0% of the households used aluminum sheets in the Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively (see Table 5.4; Figures 5.7; 5.8). Only 2.0% indicated that they use thatch in the Central Zonal Council. None of the sampled household heads used thatch in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. This good quality is further evidenced by the fact that the data on roof leakages show that majority of the households that have their houses in the Central Zonal Council (98.0%) and 87.0% (Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council) indicated that their roofs were not leaking. This is an indication of better housing and better living conditions.

Findings from discussions with household heads whose houses can be described as poor quality due to cracked walls, exposed foundation and leaking roof, revealed that this is due to low household income levels. As noted by Kyei (2013), low household income is a major factor explaining households' ability to maintain their houses. This notwithstanding, it could be deduced that majority of the households have high living standards.

Table 5.4: Main construction materials for roofing

Roofing Materials	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Iron Sheet	72	36.0	66	66.0
Aluminum Sheet	118	59.0	34	34.0
Tiles	6	3.0	0	0
Thatch	4	2.0	0	0
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0
Roofing Condition				
Leaking	4	2.0	13	13.0
Not leaking	196	98.0	87	87.0
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0

Source: Field survey, June 2021

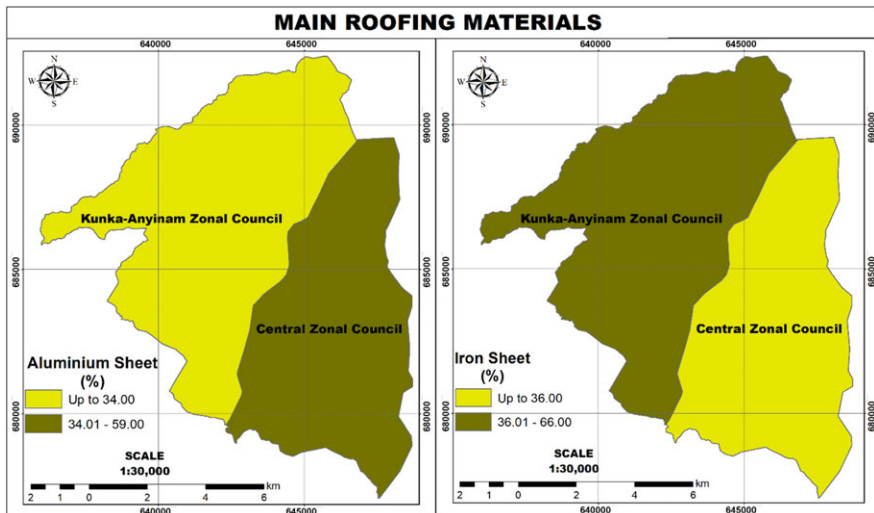


Figure 5.7: Major roofing materials used in the municipality

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

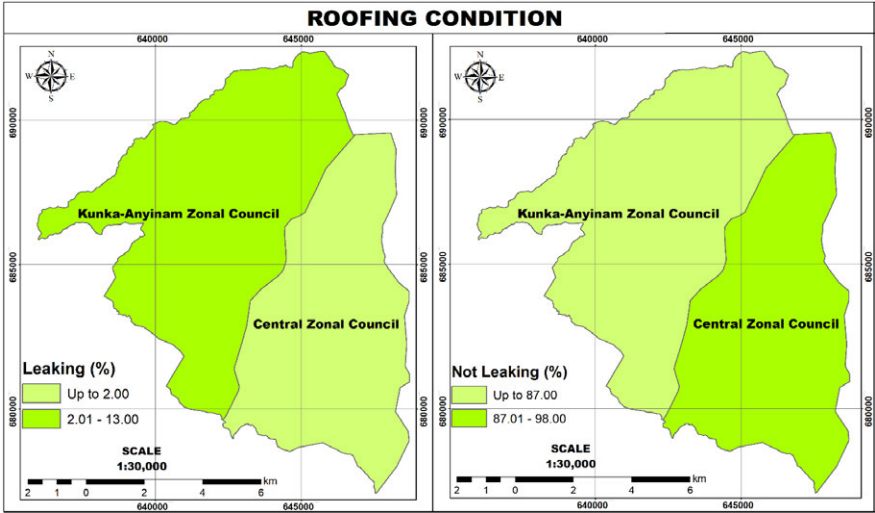


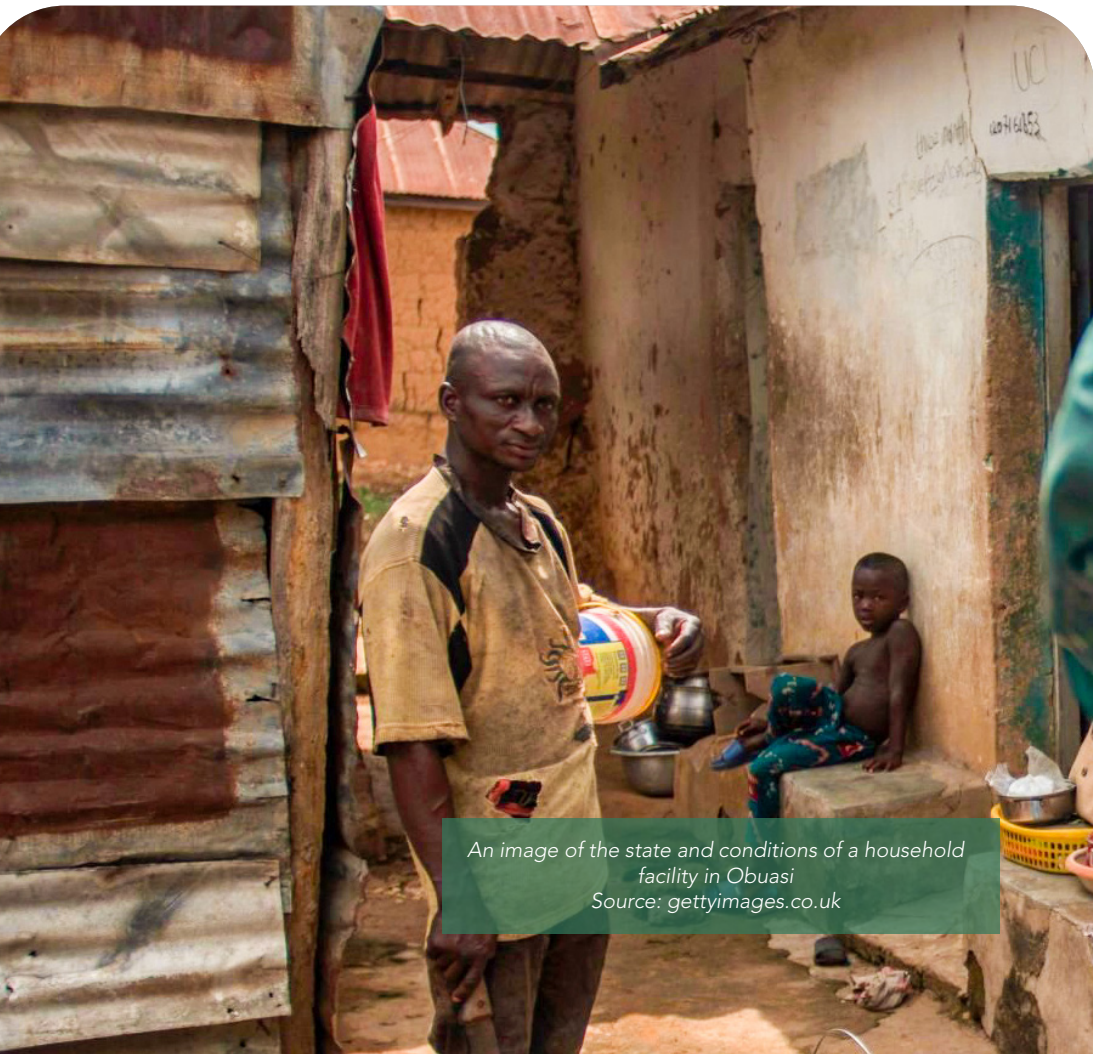
Figure 5.8: Roofing condition of houses in the municipality
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

5.4 Location of facilities used by households and their conditions

5.4.1 Location of facilities

In order to effectively analyze poverty and living circumstances in the surveyed households, housing facilities and services are very important (Yakubu, 2014). Whether housing facilities are in-house, private, public or located some distance away is also a good measure of poverty (Yakubu, 2014). For the purposes of this study, the housing facilities considered were kitchen, toilet, bathroom and storeroom. About 47% and 68% of the households in Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively have their kitchens located in their houses (private). For toilet facilities only 15% and 9% of the surveyed households respectively for Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council depend on the public toilets (Table 5.5). Those who have their toilet facilities in their houses were 54% (Central Zonal Council) and 72% (Kunka-Anyinam). The bathrooms in the Central Zonal Council are privately owned by the household with 57% of them located inside (internal) their houses and 43% of them outside their houses. Storerooms were available inside of 35% of the houses and 65% outside their houses.

The availability of these facilities influences sanitary conditions, health and living standards of people (Osei, 2007), but the study found that these facilities are accessible to many as the average distance to these facilities where they are not located in the houses is 100m for the privately-owned facilities and 100m – 200m for public facilities in both zones. In summary, the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council has more in-house facilities at their disposal than the Central Zonal Council because, most of the facilities are located inside their houses which is what can promote comfortable living conditions.



An image of the state and conditions of a household facility in Obuasi
Source: [gettyimages.co.uk](https://www.gettyimages.co.uk)

Table 5.5: Location of Facilities

Location	Central Zonal Council						Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council					
	Facility						Facility					
	Kitchen		Toilet		Bathroom		Storeroom		Kitchen		Toilet	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Private (Internal)	94	47	108	54	115	57	19	35	68	68	72	72
Private (External)	106	53	62	31	85	43	35	65	32	32	19	19
Public	-	-	30	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	9
Total	200	100	200	100	200	100	54	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

5.4.2 Conditions of Facilities

The results show that majority of residents in the Central Zonal Council (66%) and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (62%) have good kitchen facilities in their houses (Table 5.6). Only a minority of them in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (3%) reported that their kitchens were in poor condition while none of them in the Central Zonal Council indicated that their kitchens were in poor condition. Since the condition of kitchen is good in both zonal councils, it can be said that they have better living conditions and this is evident that houses with good kitchens exhibit good hygienic conditions which enhance their health (GSS, 2018). Similarly, for toilet facilities, majority of the toilet facilities are in good condition as 69% and 65% of the respondents in Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam respectively indicated that their toilet facilities were good. Only a minority (0.5%) of the households in the Central Zonal Council noted that they have poor toilet facilities which are located external and privately-owned and managed. None of the respondents in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council reported poor bathroom facilities. Majority (63%) of the bathrooms in the Central Zonal Council are good with only 4% of them being in poor condition. The concern raised by household heads that have toilet and bathroom facilities in the house is that all these have been squeezed into a small area leaving no floor space for circulation or movement within the rooms. For the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, 57% of the households responded that their storerooms are good and 43% saying the condition of their storerooms are average in the Central Zonal Council.

The results showed that the residents of both the Central Zonal Council and the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council have some level of good housing with their facilities being in a somewhat good condition. However, residents of Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council are better off than Central Zonal Council because about 7% responded to poor facilities in their houses whereas 5% responded to poor from the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

Table 5.6: Condition of Facilities

Condition	Central Zonal Council						Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council					
	Facility						Facility					
	Kitchen		Toilet		Bath-room		Kitchen		Toilet		Bathroom	
	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
Excellent	6	3	6	3	6	3	2	2	2	2	2	1
Very Good	16	8	15	8	16	8	1	1	1	1	1	-
Good	132	66	134	69	125	63	62	62	65	65	67	69
Average	46	23	39	20	46	23	32	32	30	30	30	1
Poor	-	-	6	3	7	4	3	3	2	2	-	-
Total	200	100	200	100	200	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Suhum Municipal Assembly (2018)

5.5 Education and literacy

This section analyzes the educational attainment, school attendance and the literacy level of the respondents.

5.5.1 Highest Level of Education of Household Heads and members in Obuasi Municipal

The data on the highest level of education attained by the household heads by gender in the two Zonal Councils in the Obuasi Municipality is presented in Table 5.7. For Junior High School (JHS), majority (62%) of the females have attained this level than the males in the Central Zonal Council. However, in terms of tertiary education, technical and vocational and Senior High School (SHS) more males than females have attained this level. The situation is not any different from what pertains in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council where more of the males have attained highest levels of education than their female counterparts. Generally, it can be concluded that for education, it was found to be biased towards males so the males can be said to be better off than the females. This finding is consistent with many studies revealing that more males get educated than females in many parts of the developing world. What this implies is that opportunities that require some levels of education are more likely to go to the males. This can expose the women or the females to high levels of deprivation and poverty.



This finding is consistent with many studies revealing that more males get educated than females in many parts of the developing world

Table 5.7: Highest level of education of household heads

Level of Education	Central Zonal Council					Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council				
	Male	%	Female	%	Total	Male	%	Female	%	Total
KG/Nursery	-	-	1	100	1	-	-	-	-	-
Primary	-	-	3	100	3	1	25	3	75	4
JHS	14	38	23	62	37	14	70	6	30	20
SHS	39	75	13	25	52	20	71	8	29	28
Tech/Voc.	28	74	10	26	38	10	77	3	23	13
Tertiary	42	72	16	28	58	24	75	8	25	32
Never	2	18	9	82	11	1	33	2	67	3
Total	125	62	75	38	200	70	70	30	30	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

For the other members of the households who are four (4) years and older however, the data presents some good indication of a balanced distribution of access to education between males and females. It appears that unlike the adults or the household heads, females in this category are doing well. For example, more females have attained highest level of education in JHS, SHS, Technical and Vocational Training Institutions, and Tertiary Institutions in the Central Zonal Council (see Table 5.8). The situation however is not the same in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council as the data suggests that more males than females have the highest education levels. What this finding points to is that steps need to be taken to improve female access to education in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council to avoid them falling into the trap of vulnerability and deprivation in the future.

Table 5.8: Highest level of education of population 4 years and older

Level of Education	Central Zonal Council				Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council			
	Male	%	Female	%	Male	%	Female	%
KG/Nursery	4	2	1	1	3	3	11	9
Primary	1	1	10	5	16	16	22	17
JHS	19	11	47	23	33	33	29	23
SHS	53	29	61	13	16	16	11	9
Tech/Voc.	44	24	34	17	27	27	24	18
Tertiary	56	31	39	19	5	5	19	15
Never	3	2	13	6	24	24	11	9
Total	180 (47%)	100	205 (53%)	100	100 (46%)	100	116 (54%)	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

5.5.2 School attendance and level of education of the population

For the data on the school attendance of the population in Obuasi Municipality, we used “Never” to mean the population who are 4 years and above who have not been to school, “Not yet” refers to the population between 0-4 years who are not yet in school. The data revealed that, a total of 367 (69.2%) of the population in the Obuasi Central Zonal Council have attended school in the past whereas 186 (63.9%) in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council have attended school in the past showing that majority of the population have attended school in the past in both Zonal Councils. Further, a good proportion is in currently in school in both cases. According to the data, 142 (26.8%) of the population in the Central Zonal Council are currently in school and the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council had 81 (27.8%) of the population currently in school at all levels.

5.5.3 Literacy status of the population 5 years and older

The literacy rate in the Obuasi municipality is presented in the Figure 5.9. This refers to those who can only read, only write or both for the population 5 years and older. A greater proportion of the population is literate in the English language and other local languages. The figures obtained are 257 (88.3%) for Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council and 248 (85.2%) for the Central Zonal Council who are literates in the English and other local languages. Those who are aged 5 years and older who are literates in English language only were 495 (93.4%) while those who are literates in other local languages only were 478 (90.2%) in the Central Zonal Council (see Figure 5.10). In terms of literacy in the English language, both Zonal Councils can be said to be doing well. Their ability to understand local government policies and activities will help them to play the expected roles to foster development.

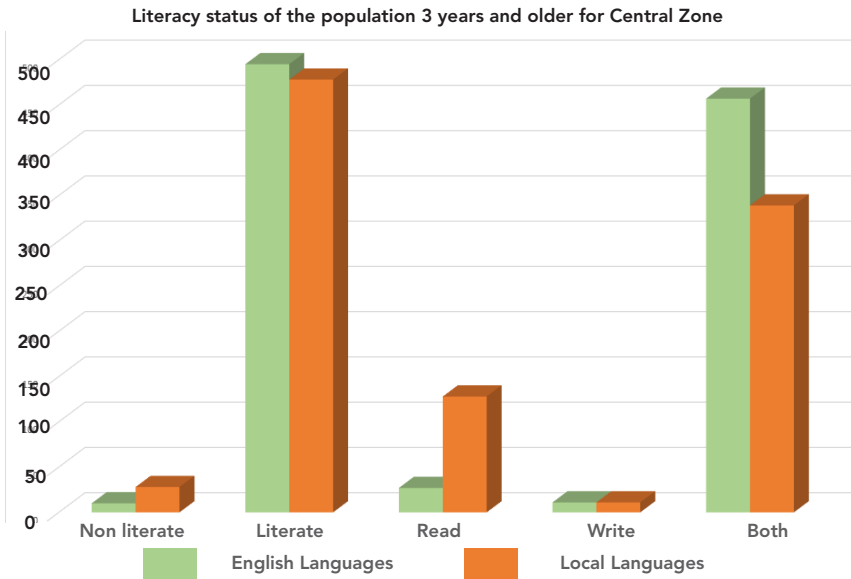
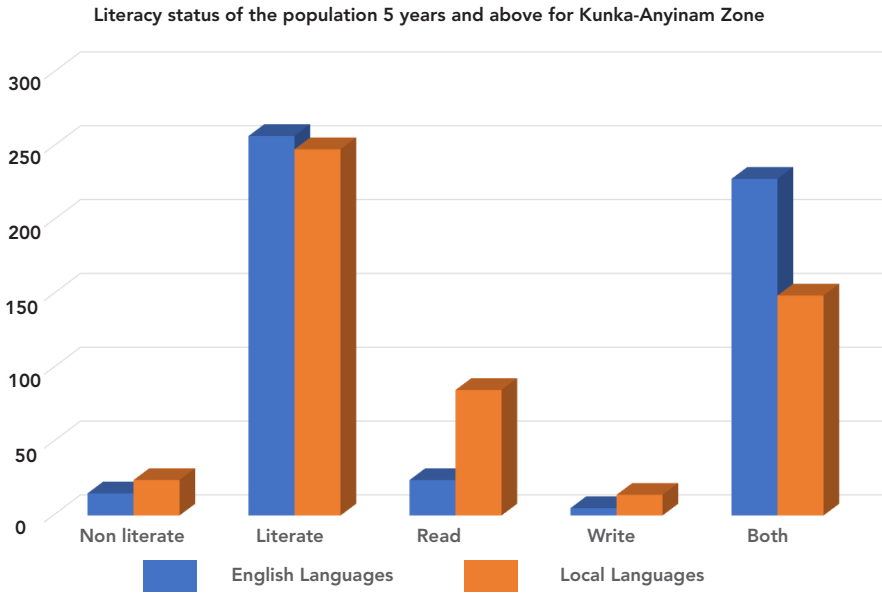


Figure 5.9: Literacy status of the population 5 years and above for both Councils

Source: Field survey, June 2021

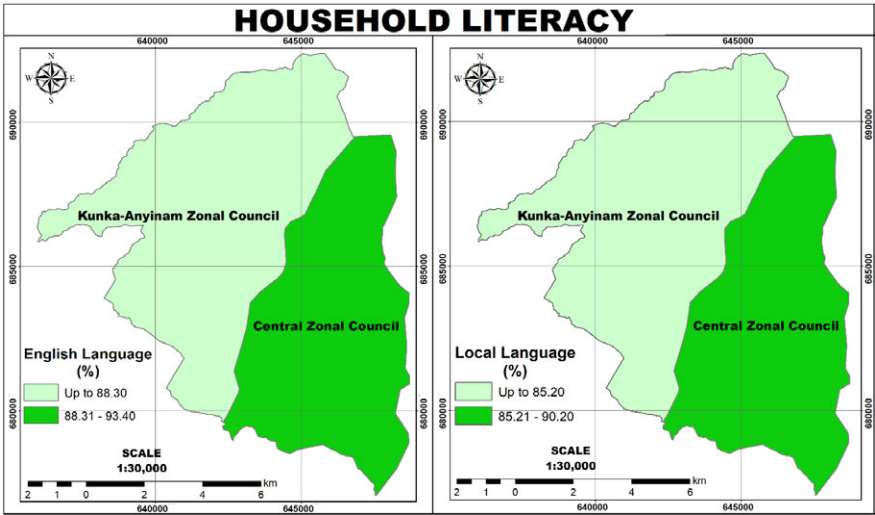


Figure 5.10: Literacy level of household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

5.6 Current school Attendance

This section presents data on current school attendance by sex, level of education, type of educational facility patronized, reasons for patronage and location of facility. Amongst the household members in the Central Zonal Council, 142 are students. In the Kunka-Anyinam Zone, 81 of the members out of the total household members are students. In both Zonal Councils, females constitute a larger share of household members currently in school represented by 53% and 60% respectively (Table 5.9 and Figure 5.11). The male population forms 47% and 40% of the total population in school for Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively.

In reference to the level of education, the proportion of people who are attending primary school whether public or private is higher (35%) compared to the other levels of education in Central Zonal Council. The number at the JHS level is also higher (32%) than those in SHS (15%). KG/Nursery recorded 16% followed by those in the Technical/Vocational schools. Those at tertiary levels represented were 1% at both levels. Similarly, a good proportion of household members (37%) are currently in school at primary level in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. About 22% and 20% are at SHS and JHS levels respectively.

In terms of the type of educational facility, majority of the students (57%) attend public schools than those attending private schools (43%) in the Central Zonal Council. At the KG level, majority (54%) of the students are in private schools as compared to public schools (46%). The pattern however varies for those at the primary and JHS levels as majority of the students patronize public schools more than private schools indicated by 63% and 52% respectively. Similarly, those attending SHS, Technical/Vocational and Tertiary patronize publicly owned institutions. In the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, majority of the students (63%) attend public schools while 33% attend private schools (33%) (see Figures 5.12 and 5.13). However, at the KG level, those patronizing private schools are also higher (55%) compared to those in public schools (45%). For primary, JHS and SHS, more patronize the public schools. The data obtained for the various levels is primary (58%), JHS (57%), and SHS (93%) (see Table 5.10).



The number at the JHS level is also higher (32%) than those in SHS (15%). KG/Nursery recorded 16% followed by those in the Technical/Vocational schools.

Table 5.9 Sex of household members currently in School

Sex	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Male	67	47	32	40
Female	75	53	49	60
Total	142	100	81	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

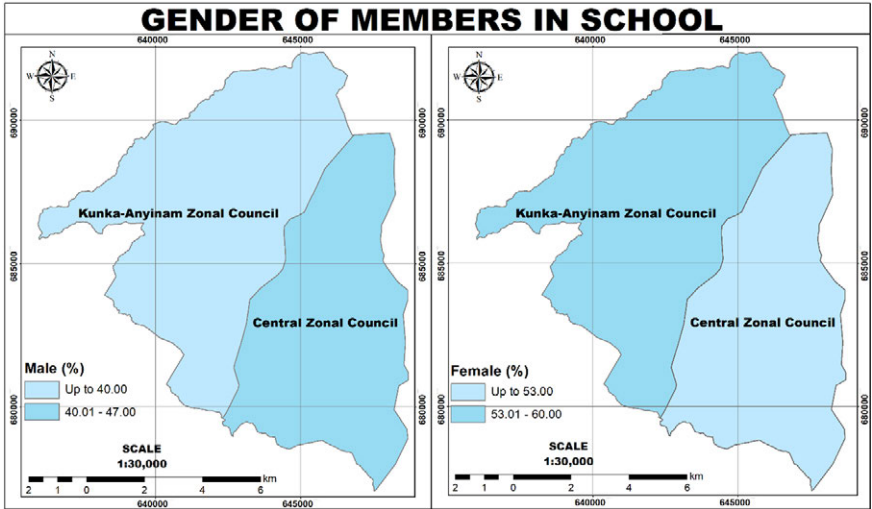


Figure 5.11: Sex of household members currently in school
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021



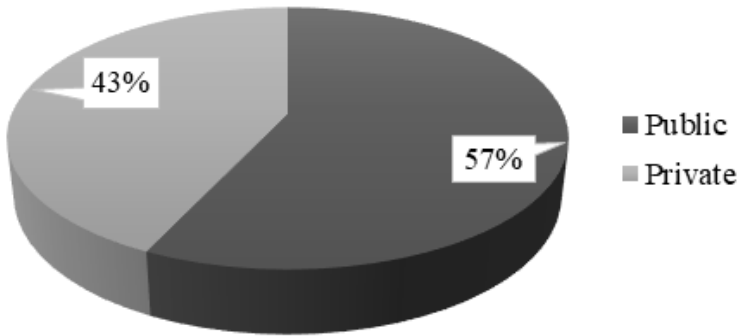
Group photograph of students from AGA school in Obuasi
Source: agaschool.edu.gh

Table 5.10: Level of education of household members currently in School

Level of Education	Central Zonal Council					Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council							
	Pub-lic	%	Private	%	Num-ber	%	Pri- vate	%	Num- ber	%			
KG/Nursery	11	46	12	54	23	16		4	45	5	55	9	11
Primary	30	63	18	37	48	35		17	58	13	42	30	37
JHS	23	52	22	48	45	32		9	57	7	43	16	20
SHS	19	92	2	8	21	15		17	93	1	7	18	22
Tec/Voc.	2	100	0	-	2	1		3	100	0	-	3	4
Tertiary	2	94	1	6	3	1		4	71	1	29	5	6
Total					142	100						81	100

Source: Field work June 2021

Type of Educational Facility Patronized Central Zone



Type of Educational Facility Patronized Kunka-Anyinam Zone

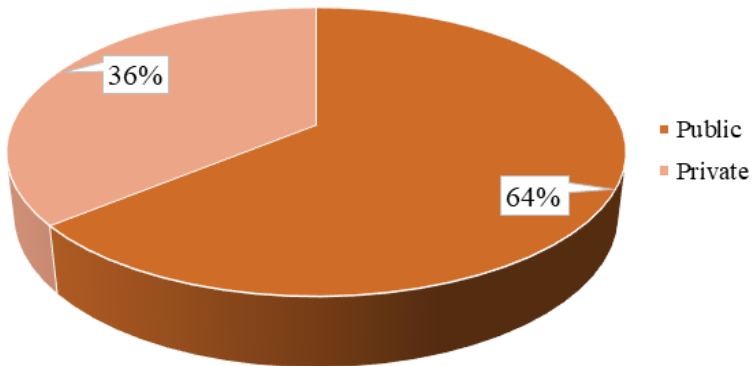


Figure 5.12: Type of Educational facility patronized
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

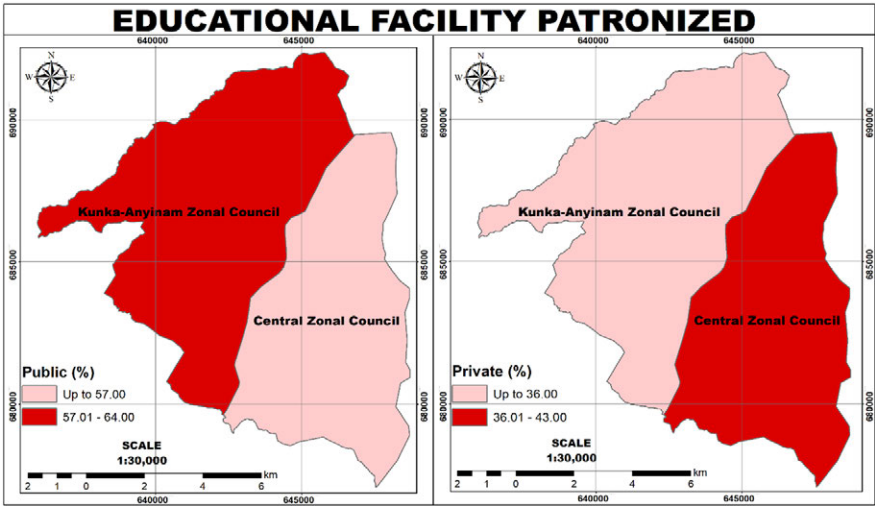


Figure 5.13: Educational facility patronized by household members
Source: Author's Construct, 2021

The type of educational facility patronized by household heads for their wards was investigated by reasons categorized into affordability, proximity to house and performance of students. The data revealed that public schools are patronized more due to affordability in both the Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils recording 89% and 83% respectively (Tables 5.11; 5.12). Only 11% and 17% of the respondents in the Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively patronize private schools. However, the high performance of private schools explained why majority (75%) of the respondents preferred private schools to the public schools (25%) in the Central Zonal Council (Figure 5.14). Similarly, more than half (64%) of the respondents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council patronize private schools for the same reason. It appears that, in the Central Zonal Council, private schools are closer to the dwellings of households than the public schools accounting for the majority of students (56%) patronizing the private schools.

Table 5.11: Reasons for the type of educational facility patronized – Central Zonal Council

Reasons	Type of educational facility				Total	%
	Public	%	Private	%		
Affordability	58	89	7	11	65	100
Proximity to House	8	44	10	56	18	
Performance of Students	15	25	44	75	59	
Total	81(57%)		61(43%)		142	

Source: Field work June 2021

Table 5.12: Reasons for type of educational facility patronized – Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council

Reasons	Type of educational facility				Total	%
	Public	%	Private	%		
Affordability	39	83	8	17	47	100
Proximity to House	3	50	3	50	6	
Performance of Students	10	36	18	64	28	
Total	52 (64%)		29 (36%)		81	

Source: Field work June 2021

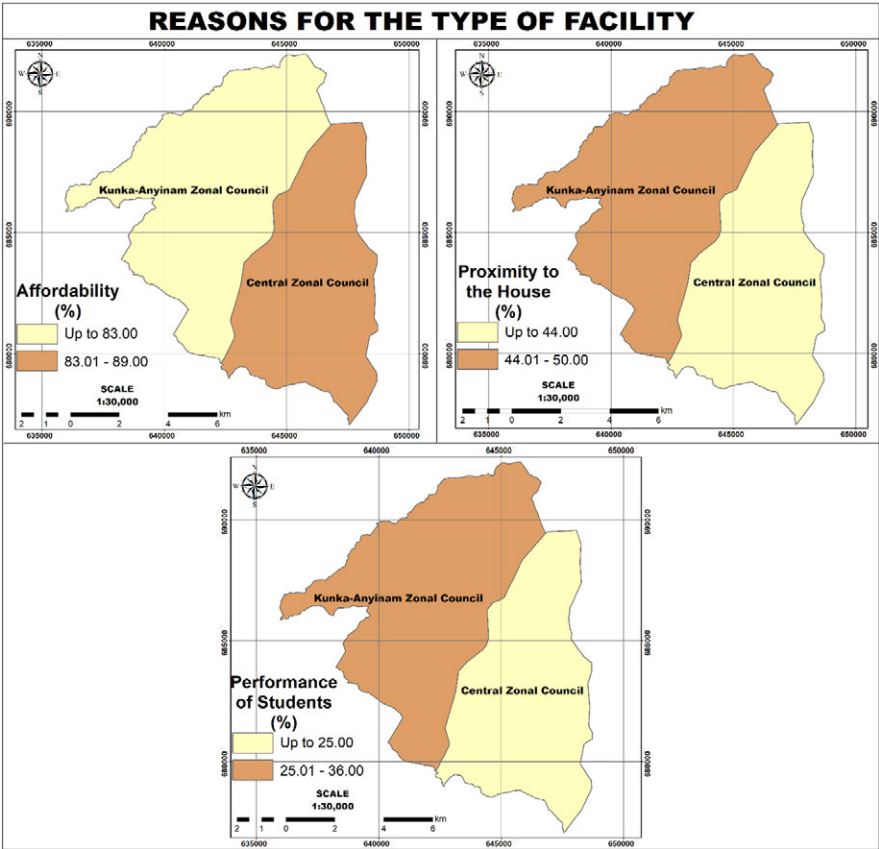


Figure 5.14: Reasons for choosing the type of educational facility-
Source: Author's Construct, 2021

The inability of households to afford the good performing private schools implies that there are inequities among households in the area of school choice. What this points to is the need to fix the conditions in the non-performing public schools to raise their performance level. Creating jobs for the people can also help them to give their wards better education than they currently have.

5.6.1 Location of educational facility by type, means to school and cost

This section focuses on the types of educational facilities and their location. The data indicates that, in both Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zones, majority of the educational facilities are located outside the community of beneficiaries recording 62% and 63% respectively. With regards to the schools located within the communities of beneficiaries, public schools are more than private schools constituting 53% and 47% respectively for the Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils (Tables 5.13 and 5.14). Comparatively, the proportion of public schools in Kunka-Anyinam is higher (72%) than private schools (28%). There is however similar trend in the proportion of private and public schools located outside the communities of the two Zonal Councils. The share of public schools outside the Central Zonal Council is quite higher (59%) than private schools (41%) (see Table 5.13). The situation is similar in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council where the share of public schools located outside is more than private schools than those inside the communities (72%) (Table 5.14). The proportion of private schools inside the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council is lower than public schools as well.

Table 5.13: Type of educational facility and location – Central Zonal Council

Type of Facility	Location				Total	
	Inside Community		Outside Community			
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Public	29	53	52	59	81	57
Private	25	47	36	41	61	43
Total	54 (38%)	100	88 (62%)	100	142	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

Table 5.14: Type of educational facility and location – Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council

Type of Facility	Location				Total	
	Inside Community		Outside Community			
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Public	22	72	30	59	52	64
Private	8	28	21	41	29	36
Total	30 (37%)	100	51 (63%)	100	81	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

The means to school and the cost of transportation for household members currently in school is presented in Figures 5.16 and 5.17. The cost of transportation applies to those who attend school by vehicle. The means to schools is through vehicles, bicycle and walking. More than two-thirds (71%) of the students in the Central Zonal Council go to school by car, 26% do so on foot whereas 3% use the bicycle. In the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, there is an almost equal proportion of students who walk to school and those who go by vehicles as indicated by 49% and 48% respectively. Just like the Central Zonal Council, 3% of the students in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council attend school via bicycle. In both cases, majority of the students go to school by car because many of the schools are located outside the communities within which the household members reside. The cost of transportation to school is higher for residents in the Central Zonal Council than those in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council as average cost per week is GH¢15.00 and GH¢12.00 respectively. This is taking a chunk of the meager household income away leaving them with insufficient means to live on as noted by one of them in the FGD that: “I give my two children GH¢5 for transportation alone everyday so I spend about GH¢35 a week. This is too much for me as I do not have a reliable job to support this. Sometimes when I do not get it for them to go to school they stay home worried” (Single parent participant in FGD, August 2021).

Claims of this nature were common in all the FGDs. They were also corroborated by key informants in some of the educational institutions. One of the key informants added that: “Yes, sometimes when the pupils do not

come to school and you ask them they will tell you that their parents could not get the transportation for them to come. It is very worrying but there is nothing anybody can do about it" (Key informant in a school, September 2021).

On the basis of these claims, we can conclude that deprivation and inequities are high among households in the two Zonal Councils who find themselves in such situations.

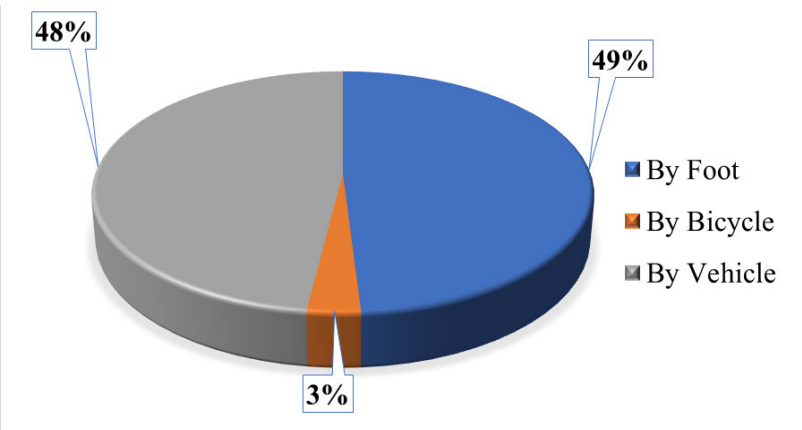
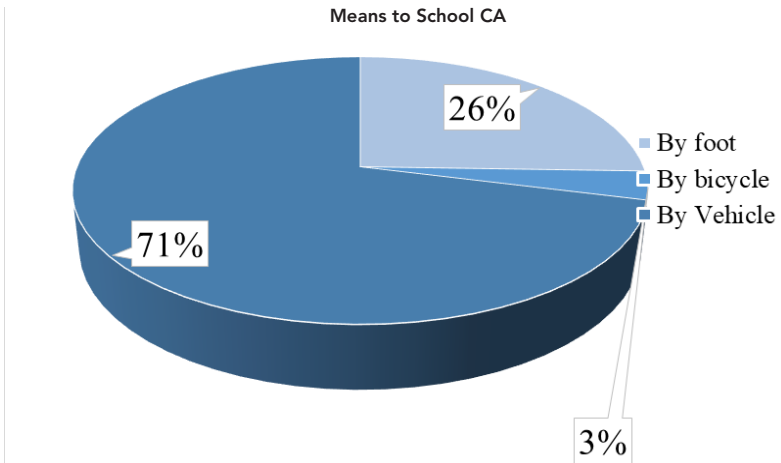


Figure 5.15: Means to School
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

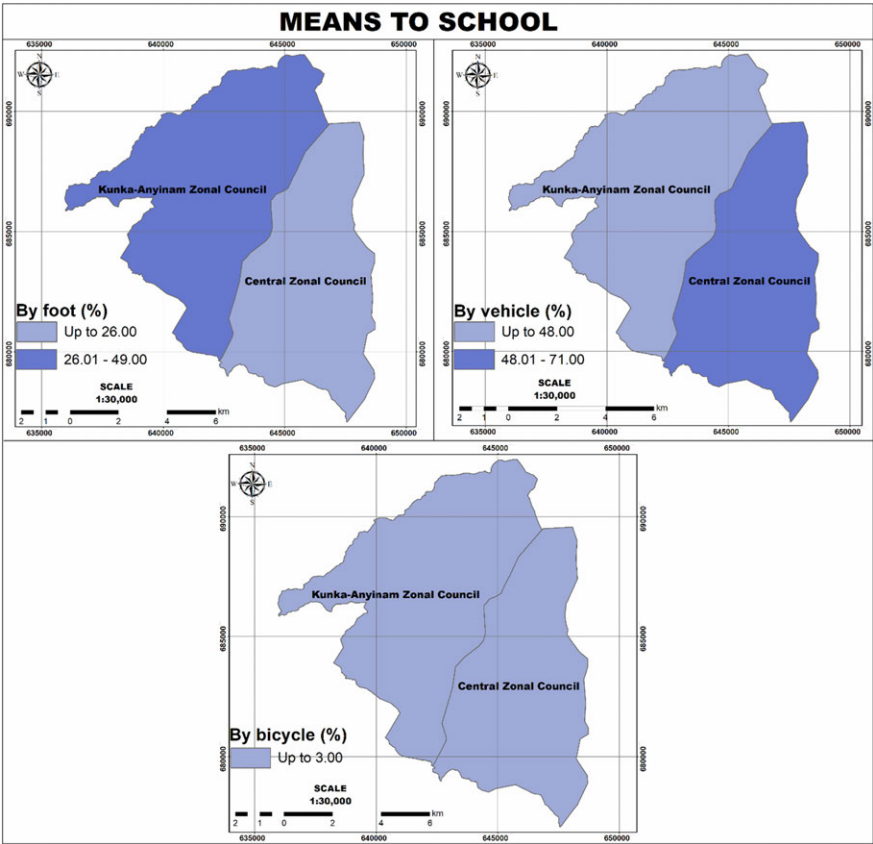


Figure 5.16: Means to school by household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

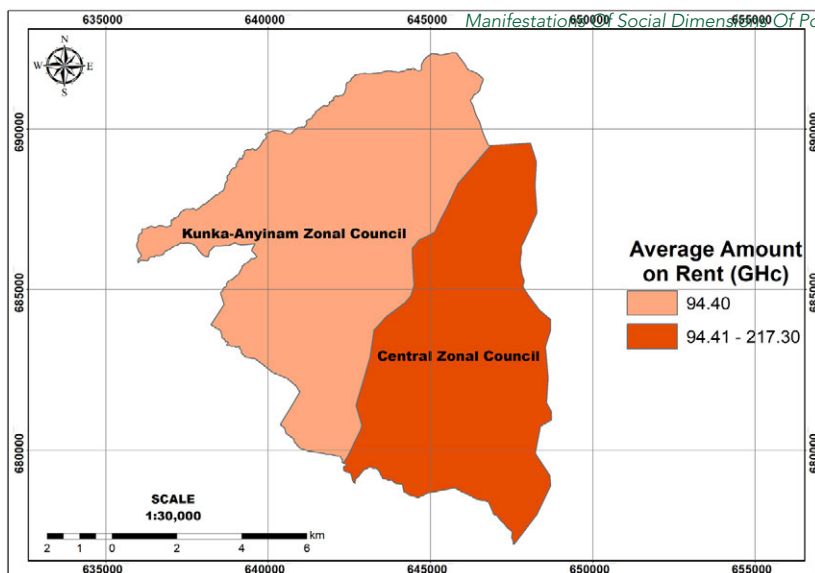


Figure 5.17: Average amount spent on transport per week
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

5.6.2 Beneficiaries of School Feeding Program and Free SHS Education Program

The School Feeding Program focuses on respondents whose wards are at the KG/Nursery and Primary levels in public schools. Those who responded 'No' are household heads whose wards are in private primary and KG/Nursery schools as well as different levels of education. In the Central Zonal Council, 30% of the respondents have their children in public schools benefiting from the school feeding program. In Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, students who benefit constitute 21%. More students benefit from Free SHS in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council than in Central Zonal Council indicated by 21% and 13% respectively. The average number of children in the households considered who benefit from the School Feeding and Free SHS Programs in both Zonal Councils is one (1). When the average annual cost of education before the school feeding programme was compared with the cost after the implementation of the programme, the data indicated a reduction of 36% (¢633) in the cost of education for those who benefit from the School Feeding Program in the Central Zonal Council which is relatively lower compared to Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council – 37% (¢1004) reduction in cost. The results are presented in Tables 5.15 and 5.16.

Table 5.15: Those who benefit from School Feeding Programme and Free SHS Education Programme – Central Zonal Council

School Feeding Programme						Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		
Response	Frequency	%	Avg. no. of Children	Avg. Cost of Education before SFP (₹)/yr	Avg. Cost of Education after SFP (₹)/yr	Response	%	Avg. no. of Children
Yes	42	30	1	1,779	1,146	19	13	1
No	100	70		Difference= ₹633 36% reduction		123	87	
Total	142	100				142	100	

Source: Field work June 2021

Table 5.16: Those who benefit from School Feeding Programme and Free SHS Education Programme – Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council

School Feeding Programme						Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		
Response	Frequency	%	Avg. no. of Children	Avg. Cost of Education before SFP (¢)/yr	Avg. Cost of Education after SFP (¢)/yr	Response	%	Avg. no. of Children
Yes	21	26	1	2,737	1,733	17	21	1
No	60	74		Difference= ¢1004 37% reduction		64	79	
Total	81	100				81	100	

Source: Field work June 2021

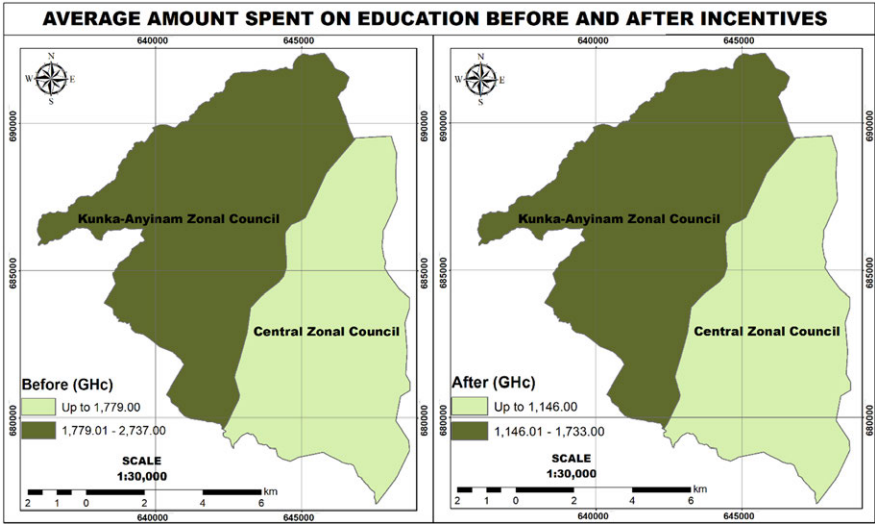


Figure 5.18: Average amount spent on education before and after the introduction of free education and school feeding programme
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Although the school feeding programme has not taken the cost of education away completely from the shoulders of parents, they indicated that they have some level of relief. They however noted that the lack of reliable jobs makes it difficult for them to provide the complementary support their wards need.

5.7 Health

This section of the report discusses the health care status of the population in the Obuasi Municipality. The areas covered include the type of health facilities patronised, the distance covered to access health care, accessibility (both physical and financial) and the challenges faced in accessing health care in the municipality.

5.7.1 Health Facilities Patronized

Table 5.17 shows the types of health facilities residents in the Obuasi Municipality patronize. The data revealed that, majority of the population in both Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils patronize the hospital

recording 77.5% and 85% respectively. This is followed by clinic recording 20% and 8% respectively for Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (see also Figures 5.19 and 5.20). Up to 5.0% of the population in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council uses the CHPS compound. Some 2.5% and 2.0% of the residents in the Central Zonal Council and the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively use herbal medicine for their primary health care. Reasons for this choice were mostly due to delays at the hospitals as a result of long queues.

Table 5.17: Types of health facilities patronized by residents in the Obuasi Municipality

Type of health facility	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Hospital	155	77.5	85	85
Clinic	40	20	8	8
Herbalist	5	2.5	2	2
CHPS Compound	0	0.0	5	5
Total	200	100.0	100	100

Source: Field survey, June 2021



The data revealed that, majority of the population in both Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils patronize the hospital

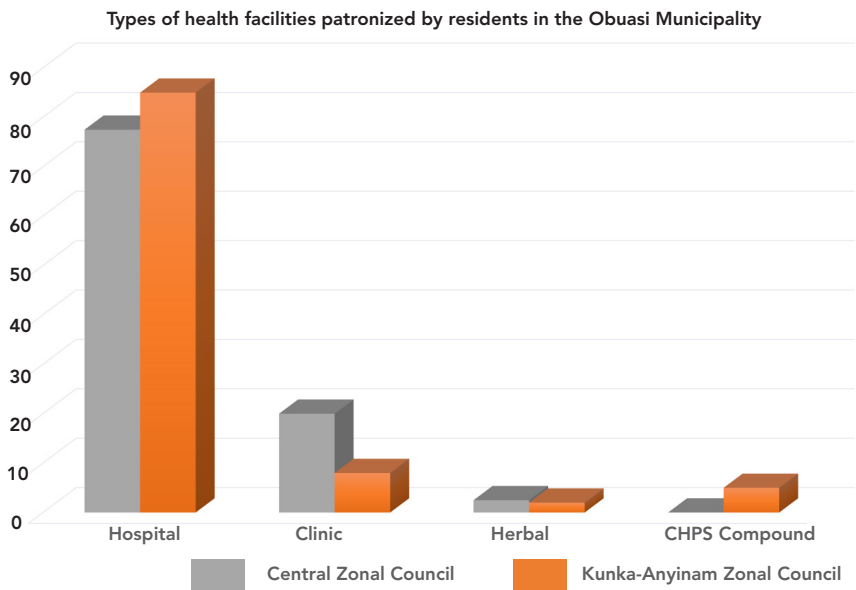
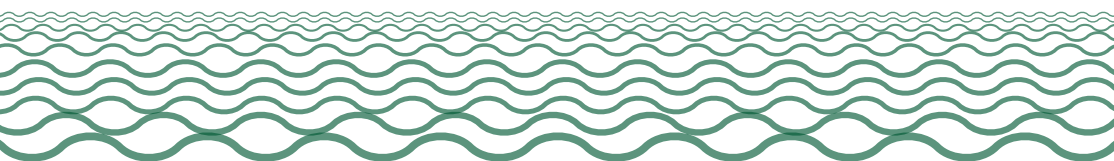


Figure 5.19: Health facilities patronized by residents in Obuasi Municipality
Source: Field survey, June 2021



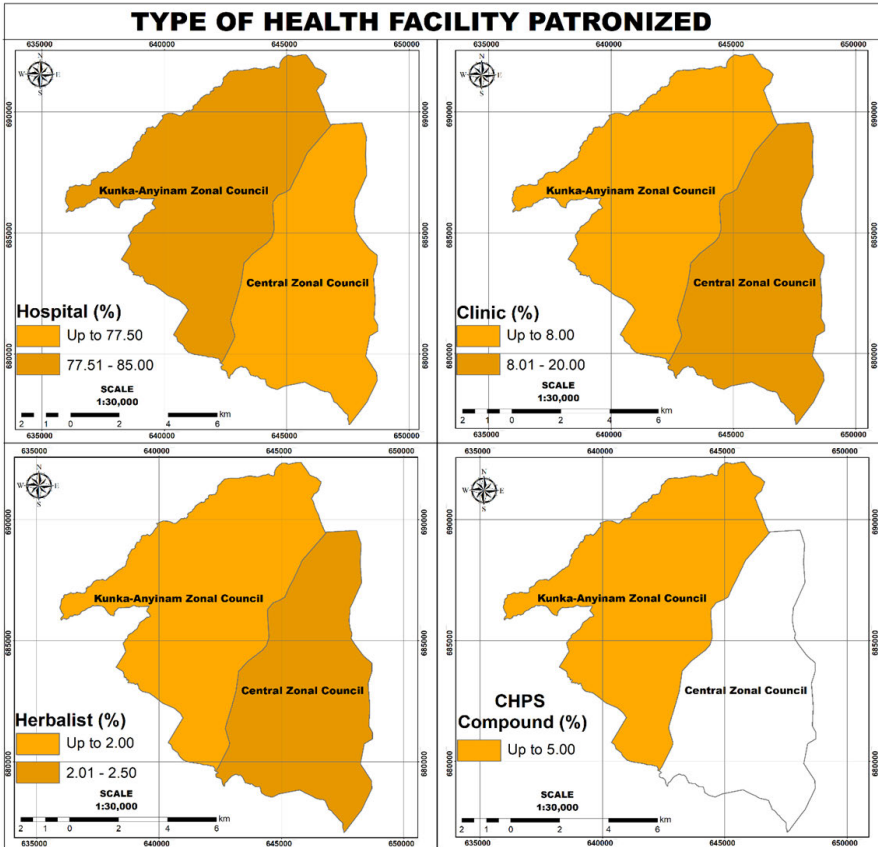


Figure 5.20: Type of health facility patronized
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021



5.7.2 Location of Health Facilities Patronized

Table 5.18 presents data on the location of health facilities patronized by residents in the Obuasi Municipality. For the two Zonal Councils, majority of the facilities patronized are located outside the communities. Majority of the respondents 53% and 90.0% of the respondents in the Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively indicated that the facilities patronized are located outside the communities. Although both Zonal Councils have their health facilities located outside the communities, residents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council travel outside the communities to access their health care needs more than those in the Central Zonal Council (see Figures 5.21; 5.22 and Table 5.18). This is because the main healthcare facility available and patronized by the residents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council is the municipal hospital which is located in the Central Zonal Council. This implies that, the residents in the Central Zonal Council have relatively high access to health care facilities than those in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council as they travel less since they have more facilities located within. Consequently, residents in the Central Zonal Council are relatively better off as they will spend less of their household incomes on transportation to access health facility. Their counterparts in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council will spend more on transportation to access health reducing their household disposable income making them more vulnerable to poverty.

Table 5.18: Location of health facilities patronized.

Location	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Within Community	94	47	10	10
Outside Community	106	53	90	90
Total	200	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

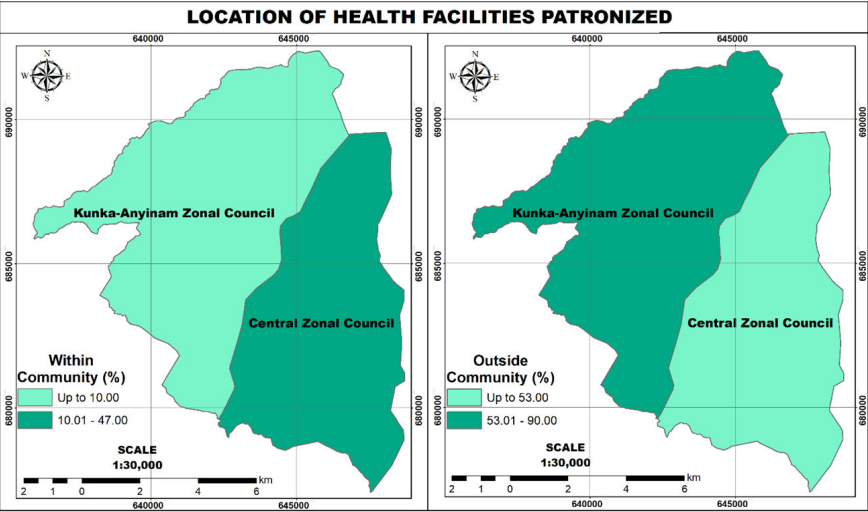


Figure 5.22: Location of Health Facility Patronized
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

One of the respondents noted that “I spend about GHC7 on transportation to the Municipal hospital for each visit and sometimes I do so about three times in a month. If I add what we spend on transport for the other 4 household members, you will notice that it takes a huge proportion of the household income away from us” (Interviewee, August 2021).

5.7.3 Nature and conditions of roads leading to health facilities

Since the nature and condition of the roads influence the waiting time which is essential in determining accessibility to facilities, this section has addressed this issue. According to the data on the nature and conditions of roads leading to the health facilities patronized by the residents in the Obuasi Municipality and presented in Tables 5.19 and 5.20, majority of the roads in the both the Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council are tarred roads that can be described to be in good condition. This implies that physical accessibility to health care facilities is good.

Table 5.19: Nature of roads leading to health facilities

Nature of roads	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Tarred	163	81.5	74	74
Untarred	29	14.5	26	26
Footpath	8	4	0	0
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

Table 5.20: Conditions of roads leading to health facilities

Conditions of Roads	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Very good	126	63	31	31
Good	62	31	56	56
Poor	6	3.0	6	6
Neutral	6	3.0	7	7
Total	200	100.0	100	100.0

Source: Field Survey, June 2021



Majority of the roads in the both the Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council are tarred roads that can be described to be in good condition

In terms of roads therefore, it can be said that residents in both Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils are not deprived to a large extent.

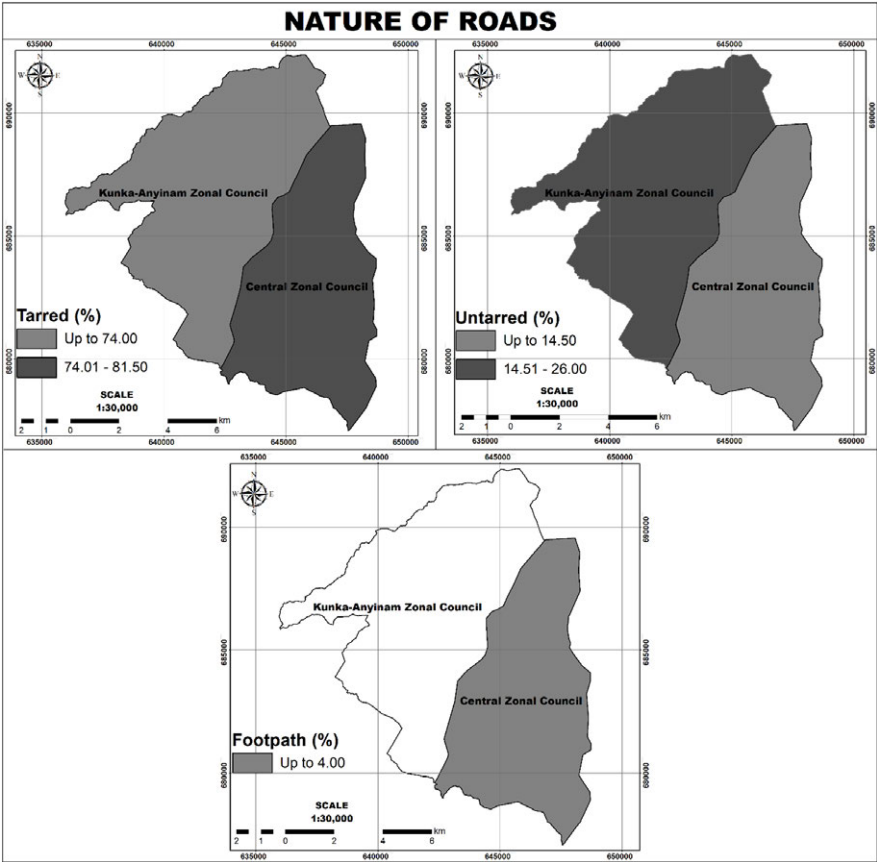


Figure 5.23: Nature of Roads to the Health Facilities
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

5.7.4 Time Travelled To Access Health Facilities and The Mode of Transport

Household heads were asked to indicate how long it took them to travel by car to access health facilities. The data in Table 5.21 shows majority of the residents in both Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council have fairly good access to health facilities as they travel less than 30 minutes to reach such facilities. For example, majority (42%) of the residents in the Central Zonal Council travel less than 10 minutes to access health facility. About 48% of those in Central Zonal Council travel up to 20 minutes. Majority (72%) of the residents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council travel between 10 minutes and 20 minutes to access health facility (see Table 5.21). The location of the Municipal Hospital in the Central Zonal Council explains why residents in the Central Zonal Council can use shorter time period than those in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

Table 5.21: Travel time to access health facilities in Obuasi Municipal Assembly

Conditions of Reads	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Under 10 mins	84	42	17	17
10 mins – 20 mins	95	47.5	72	72
21 mins – 30 mins	11	5.5	11	11
31 mins and above	10	5	-	-
Total	200	100.0	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

The mode of transport used for accessing the health facilities are mainly vehicles or by foot. From Figure 5.2, majority of the residents in the two Zonal Councils use vehicles to access health facilities. However, due to the location of the health facility (Hospital) in the Central Zonal Council, 99.0% of the residents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council access the hospital by vehicle as compared to the 67.5% of the residents in the Central Zonal Council who access the health facility by vehicle. Thus, in general, accessibility to the hospital is higher in the Central Zonal Council than in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

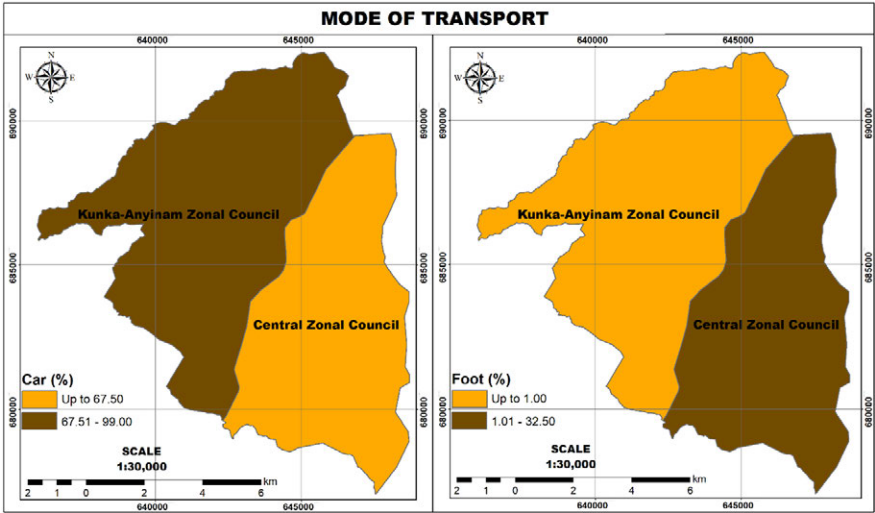


Figure 5.24: Mode of transport to health facilities
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

5.7.5 Nhis Status and Economic Accessibility

Figure 5.25 shows the proportion of the population with access to NHIS. About 94.0% of the residents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council have registered for the NHIS whiles 92.5% in the Central Zonal Council have also registered. The data also shows that 94.8% of the registered members in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council and 89.6% of them in the Central Zonal Council have received their cards and are active. Since both cases have recorded more than 90% registration, it can be concluded that they have good economic access to health care.

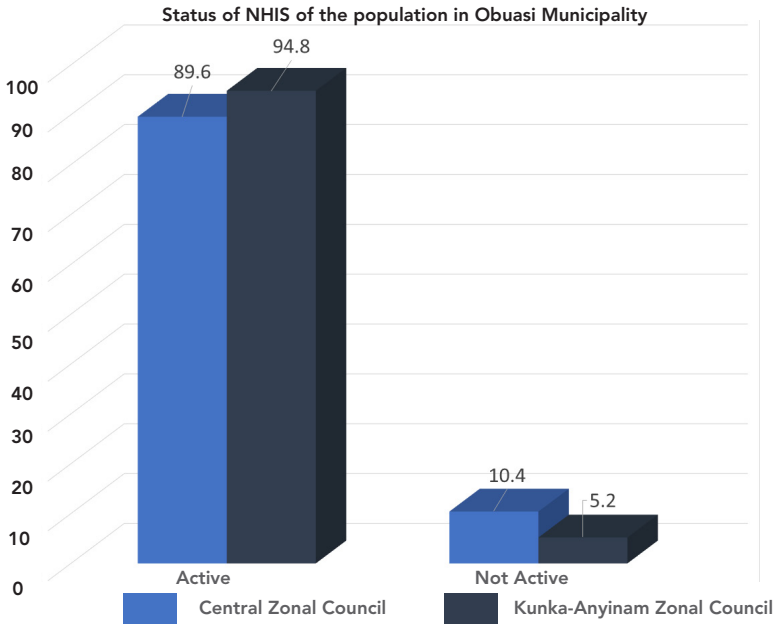
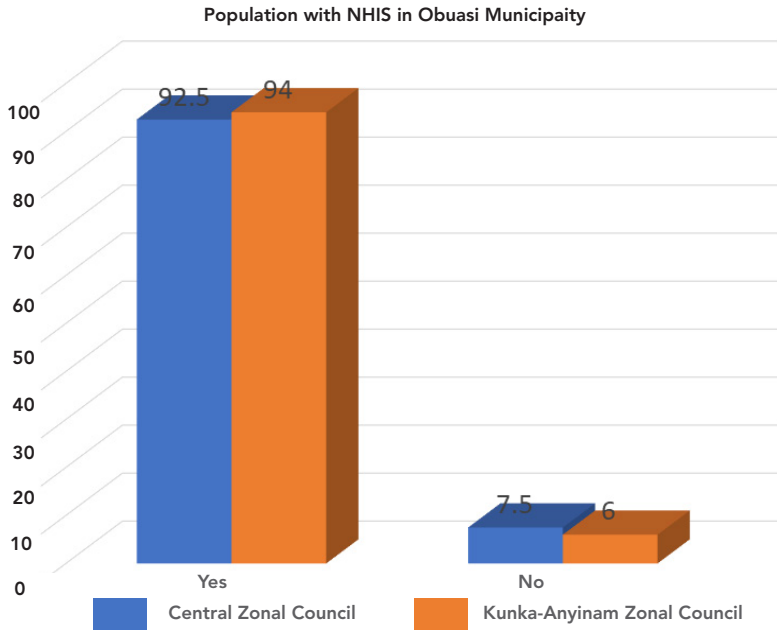


Figure 5.25: NHIS registration and its status in the Municipality

Source: Field survey, June 2021

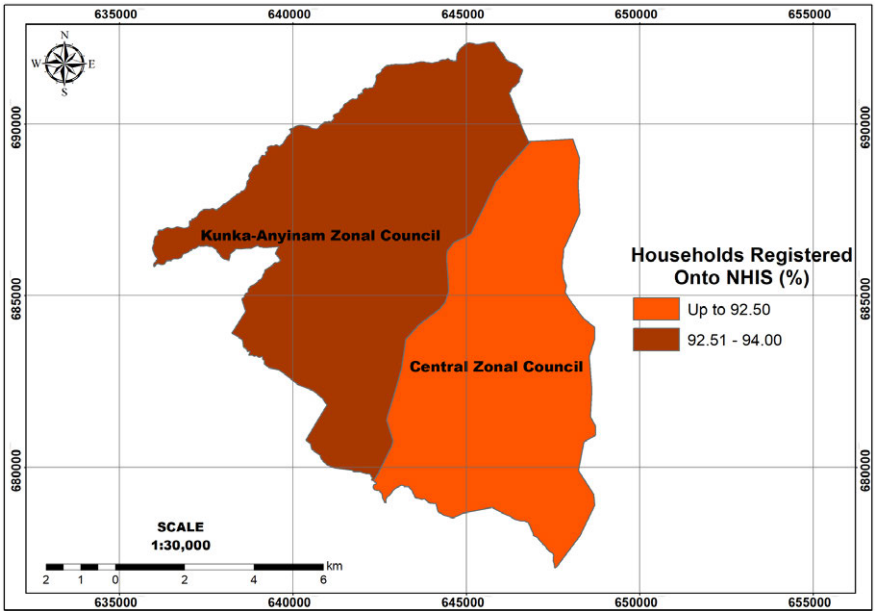


Figure 5.26: Household members registered onto National Health Insurance Scheme
Source: Field survey, June 2021

5.8 Chapter Conclusion

The data on housing characteristics as a measure of poverty show better living conditions. However, a good proportion of the household heads have suffered cracked walls which household heads attribute to the tremors resulting from the blasting of rocks by the mining company. Generally, females are more deprived in terms of education attainment and access. The household expenditure on education can be said to be high taking substantial proportion of the household incomes.

The data has shown that in spite of the fact that road conditions are somehow good and majority of household members have registered for the NHIS, a good number of them still do not have full access to health facilities in the two Zonal Councils. Many of the health facilities are located some distance away requiring long distance travels with high transportation costs which can reduce the household disposable income for decent living. The next chapter will discuss the manifestations of economic dimensions of poverty.

Chapter 6

MANIFESTATIONS OF ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY IN OBUASI MUNICIPAL AREA

6.1 Introduction

As indicated earlier in this report, data on the economic characteristics of a population can provide useful insights into the understanding and analysis of poverty levels. Indicators such as income and expenditure can be used to determine the standard of living of the residents and subsequently poverty. The section focuses on the employment status and sectors of employment of the household heads, the sources of their income and their expenditure levels.

6.2 Employment status of the Population 5 years and Older

Since evidence suggests that there are children under 10 years who are engaged in economic activities in mining communities, the analysis of employment covers those aged 5 years and above. The Table 6.1 and Figure 6.1 present the employment status for the population 5 years and above for both Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils. For the Central Zonal Council, those employed constituted 56% and those unemployed population constituted 15%. The student population was 26% and 2.5 % of them were pensioners. Those employed in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council were 54.8%. The rest were made up of the unemployed (14.8%), students (28.6%) and pensioners (1.8%).

Table 6.1: Employment status of the population 5 years and older by zonal council

Employment status	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Employed	293	56.0	155	54.8
Unemployed	79	15.1	42	14.8
Pensioner	13	2.5	5	1.8
Students	138	26.4	81	28.6
Total	523	100.0	283	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

Although the data suggests that majority of the respondents were employed, findings from the FGDs revealed that the sectors of employment and the kind of economic activities they were engaged in did not provide them with reliable incomes to sustain them.

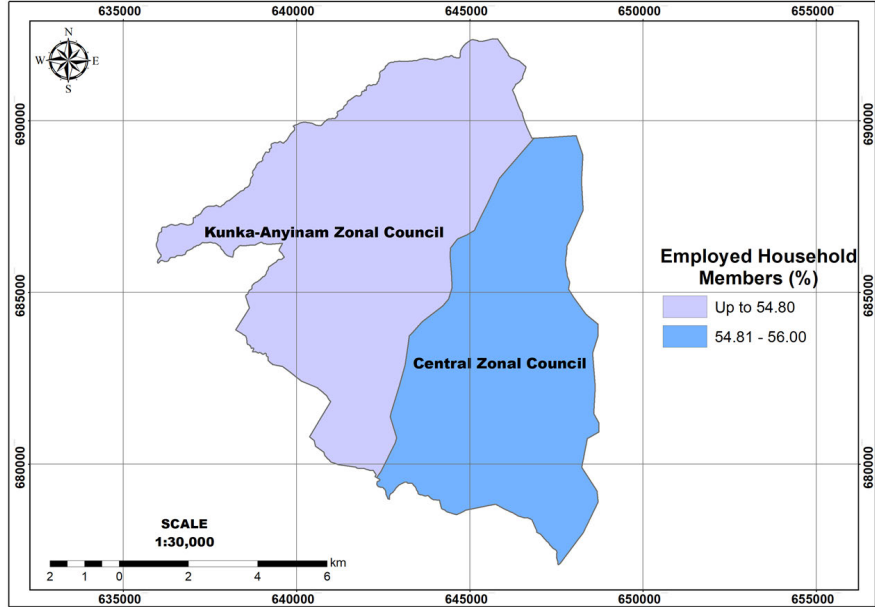


Figure 6.1: Employed Household Members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

6.3 Sectors of Employment

The sectors that employ majority of the population in the Central Zonal Council are Service (44.3%) and Commerce (29.1%). Agriculture is the least employer recording just about 10% of residents here. Similarly, Service and Commerce are the major employers in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council recording 30.3% each (see Table 6.2 and Figures 6.2; 6.3). Unlike in the Central Zonal Council, the Agricultural sector in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council employs about 27% of residents. Our interviews with household heads revealed that the mining activities have displaced their farming activities which explain why the agricultural sector is employing less. Their concerns can be summed up as one of them in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council put it in a Focus Group Discussion with farmers that:

About 70% of our people were engaged in Agriculture producing food and cash crops. It was the major economic sector that we were all happy with. The upsurge in the mining activities has taken large chunk of our farming lands away from us. At the moment we have no choice than to engage in table-top businesses to support our family (Respondent A in FGD, Anyinam, June 2021).

Another person added that “The table top trading does not bring us enough to support our families. As you can see, everybody is doing the same business and sometimes I will sit here the whole day without making any sales” (Female participant in FGD, September 2021). These claims were corroborated with key informants in the Obuasi Municipal Assembly and opinion leaders in the communities.

Table 6.2: Sectors of employment of the population

Employment status	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
Service	130	44.3	47	30.3
Agriculture	29	9.9	41	26.5
Commerce	85	29.1	47	30.3
Industry	49	16.8	20	12.9
Total	293	100.0	155	100.0

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

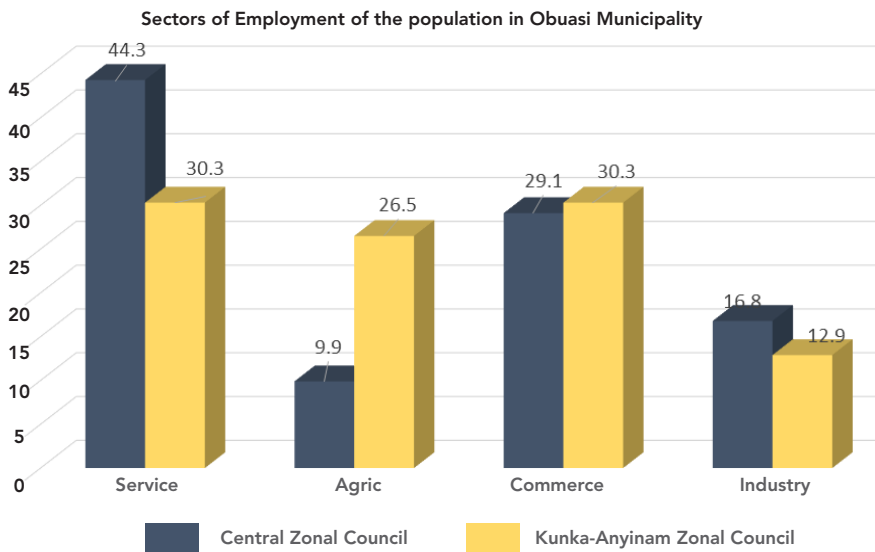


Figure 6.2: Sectors of employment of the population
Source: Field survey, June 2021



The sectors that employ majority of the population in the Central Zonal Council are Service (44.3%) and Commerce (29.1%).

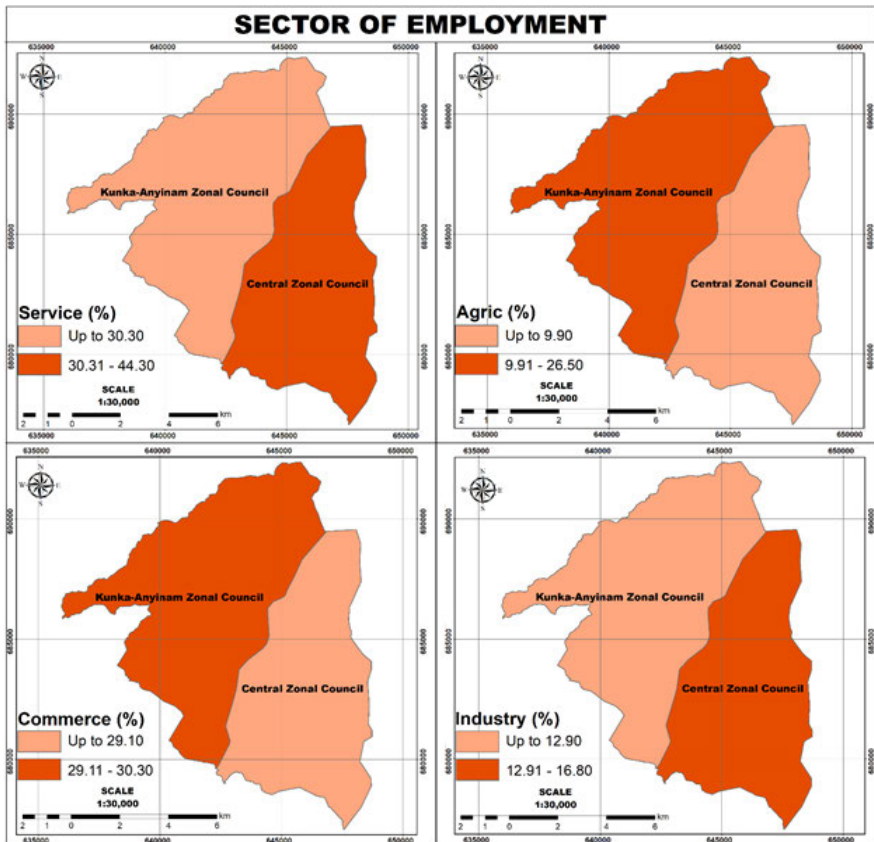


Figure 6.3: Sector of Employment
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

6.4 Economic Activity Status Of The Population 15 Years And Older

The economic activity status of the residents aged 15 years and above is presented in Table 6.3. In the Central Zonal Council, the economically active population is made of 79.8% of the employed and 20.2% of the unemployed. The economically inactive population is made of full-time students (60%). Those who are economically inactive but were employed represents 9.1%. In the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, the economically active population was 81.7% employed and 18.3% unemployed. The economically inactive population who were full-time students was 78.4%.

Table 6.3: Economic activity status of the population 15 years and older

	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
Conditions of Reads	Number	%	Number	%
Employed	288	79.8	152	81.7
Unemployed	73	20.2	34	18.3
Total	361	100	186	100
Economically not Active				
Full time students	33	60	29	78.4
But employed	5	9.1	2	5.4
Not employed	4	7.3	3	8.1
Retired	13	23.6	3	8.1
Total	55	100	37	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

Given the fact that the sectors that employ the economically active population did not give them sufficient income to meet their needs, adding this to the substantial proportion of the employed suggests that majority of the residents in the Obuasi Municipality are vulnerable to poverty.

6.5 Sources of Income

The data shows that wages and salaries constitute the major sources of income to residents who were interviewed in the Central Zonal Council, wages/salary was 64.6% followed by profits from businesses (29.2%). Wages/salaries constitute the second highest (43.8%) while profits from businesses constituted the highest (50%) in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

Table 6.4: Sources of Income of household heads

Sources of income	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Wage/Salary	199	64.6	70	43.8
Remittances	13	4.2	8	5.0
Profit	90	29.2	80	50.0
SSNIT Benefit	6	2	2	1.2
Total	308	100.0	160	100.0

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

Although wages/salaries constituted the major sources of income to residents in the Central Zonal Council and second highest in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, it was revealed that this was not enough to meet household needs in both Zonal Councils. This was evident from the analysis of household income and expenditure.

6.6 Sector Earnings

The average monthly income by household heads in the various employment sectors is presented in Table 6.5 and Figure 6.4. For the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, the highest income is earned by those in the industrial and service sectors. Those in industry earn about GHC 1,400 whiles those in the Service sector earn about GHC 1,300. The Agricultural sector comes next followed by Commerce.

The situation is not different in the Central Zonal Council with industry and service leading followed by Commerce and Agricultural sectors in that order. The least income earning sector is rent activities.

Table 6.5: Sector earnings

Sector Earning	Average amount earned	
	Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	Central Zonal Council
	GHc	GHc
Agriculture	566.1	593.7
Industry	1,393.3	1936
Service	1,309.2	1,660.3
Rent	105	280
Remittances	292	413.4
Commerce	431.9	727.2
Others	826.5	691.2

Source: Field survey, June 2021

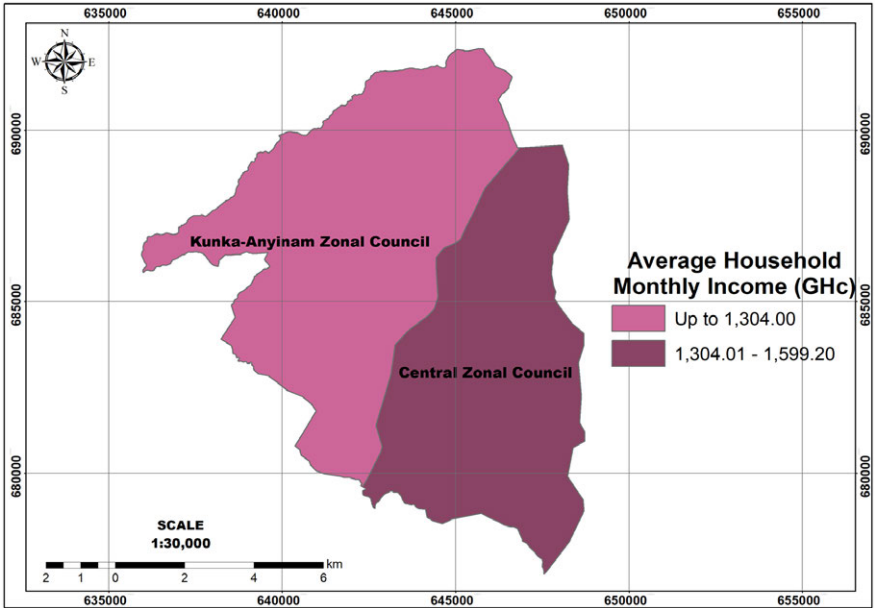


Figure 6.4: Average Household Income per Month
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

6.7 Household Expenditure

The various household expenditure items covered include energy, education, food, housing, clothing, remittance and health care. In the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, the items with high expenditures are food, energy, health care, transportation, religious activities and telecommunication. Also, households spend more on housing, water, sanitation, and funerals. The least expensive household expenditures are remittances, development levy, entertainment, insurance and gifts.

In the Central Zonal Council, high expenditures are on energy, food, health care, water and transportation. It can also be observed that households also spend more on housing, sanitation, religious functions, telecommunication, funeral and clothing. The least expensive household expenditures are remittances, development levy, entertainment, gifts and insurance.

The total average monthly expenditure is GHC 1,208.5 and the total household expenditure annually is estimated as GHC 14,502 in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. Food takes a chunk of household total annual expenditure which is 17%. This is followed by education which is 13%. The annual total expenditure on food in Ghana according to the GLSS accounts for 42.9%, this suggests that residents in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council spend less on food although this takes the highest proportion of the household monthly expenditure. Households spend 6% of their income on clothing monthly. The implications here are that households may not be eating full range of balanced diet which explains why they are not spending that much on food given the fact that food is expensive in the Kunka-Anyinam Zone which is a mining community. Again, the GLSS records that housing expenditure accounts for 15.8% of household expenditure but Kunka-Anyinam residents spend about 7% on housing monthly which is below the Ghana Living Standards figure. This may be attributed to the fact that majority of household heads were owners or free occupants. For those who are renting and yet paying low rent, the implication is that they are not renting high quality housing which can impact their health negatively.

The average monthly expenditure for the Central Zonal Council is GHC 1,419.4 and the total household expenditure annually is estimated as GHC 17,032.8. Similarly, in the Central Zonal Council, food and housing components are 14% and 14% respectively. They also spend 7% of their income on clothing. These are also below the Ghana Living Standards figures suggesting that residents in the Central Zonal Councils are doing well.

Table 6.6: Average Expenditure pattern of Household heads in a Month

Expenditure	Average amount earned	
	Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	Central Zonal Council
	GHc	GHc
Energy	60.3	50.6
Education	156.9	175.3
Food	284.1	201.5
Housing	89	202
Clothing	70	94.5
Remittance	81.7	62
Health	70.7	59.9
Development Levy	10	52.5
Water	27.6	36.5
Transportation	74.8	58.6
Sanitation	15.6	16.9
Religious Functions	38.7	38.2
Entertainment	40	40.8
Gifts	34	66.1
Insurance	30.9	83.3
Funeral	30.7	37.4
Telecommunication	41	43.3
Others	52.5	100
Total	1,208.5	1,419.4

Source: Field survey, June 2021

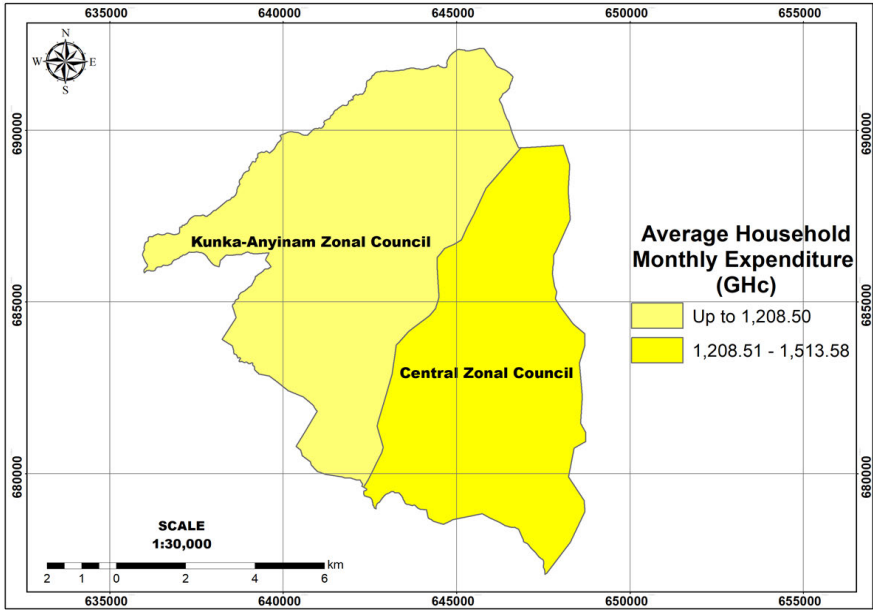
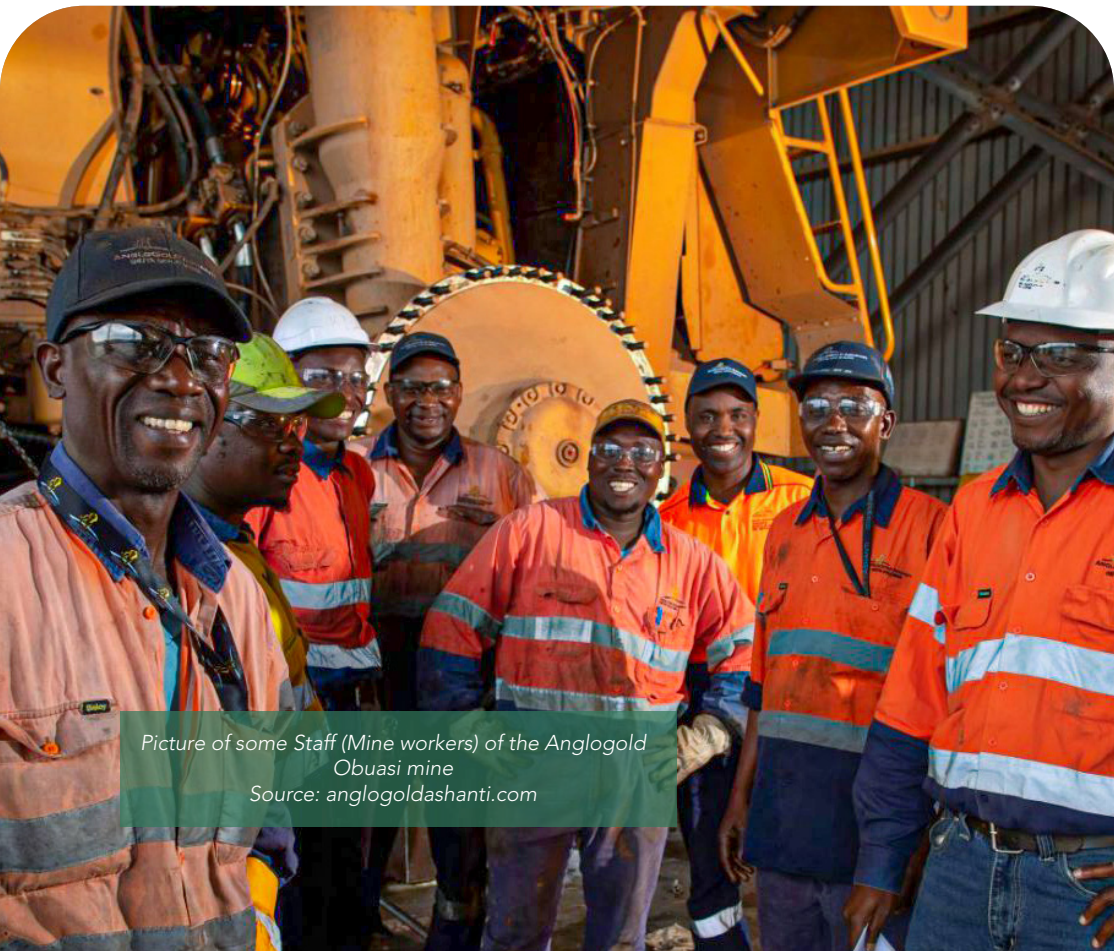


Figure 6.5: Average Household Expenditure per Month
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

The data on expenditure suggests that it is only those in the Service sector (44.3% in Central Zonal Council, 30% in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council) and Industry (16.8% in Central Zonal Council and 12.9% in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council) whose monthly earnings appear to be sufficient to meet their household needs. Even for those who appear to be able to meet their needs, there is not much left for savings to accumulate capital as noted by one of them that: "I have nothing left to save at the end of the month. It is always from hand to mouth so we are in a cycle of poverty all the time" (Male participant in FGD, September 2021). For the majority (about 60%) in both Zonal Councils, they do not earn enough and so are vulnerable to poverty.

6.8 Contribution of Mining To Employment

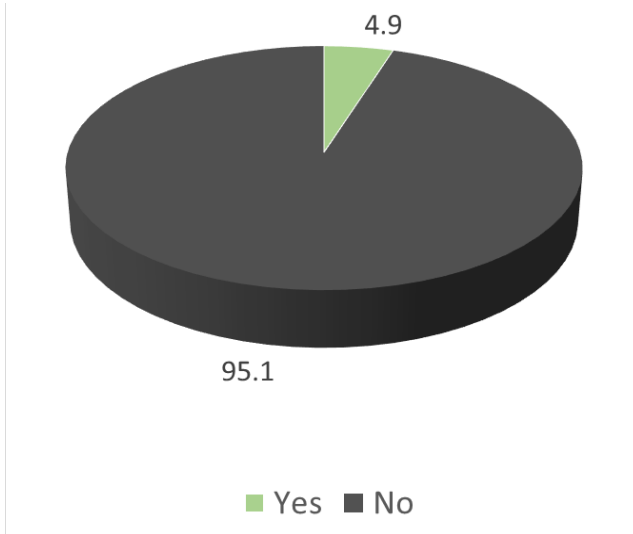
When the household heads were asked to indicate whether the mining sector has made any contributions to their employment, majority (95%) of them in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council and 95% in Central Zonal Council responded in the negative (Figure 6.6). In their view, mining has rather taken away their sources of livelihoods which is farming. They explained that although mining has deprived them of their farmlands, they have not been given employment by the company. The few (5% in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council and 6% in the Central Zonal Council) who responded in the affirmative based their claims on the fact that mining has attracted many people into the communities providing market for the small table-top businesses, what they call indirect jobs.



Picture of some Staff (Mine workers) of the Anglogold Obuasi mine

Source: anglogoldashanti.com

Has the mining sector contributed positively to your sector of employment (Kunka-Anyinam)



Has the mining sector contributed positively to your sector of employment (Central)

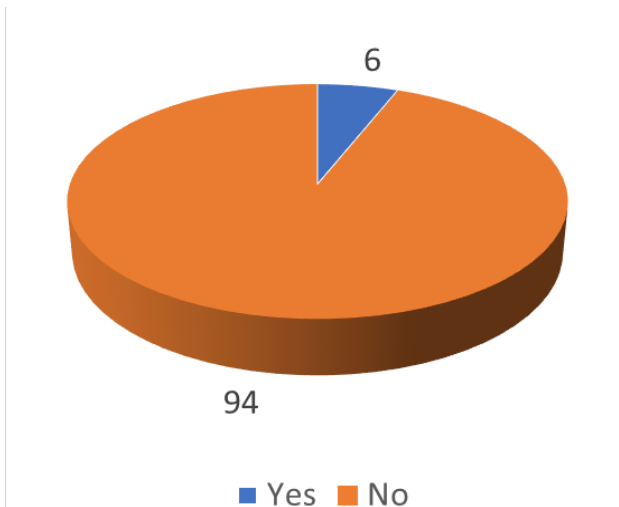


Figure 6.6: Contributions of the mining to your sector of employment

Source: Field survey, 2021

6.9 Chapter Conclusion

Majority of the residents can be said to be vulnerable to deprivation and poverty as many of them are not guaranteed stable sources of income. Those employed do not earn enough to cover their needs and have something to save. The agricultural sector which used to provide them with stable income has been taken away by the mines reducing land available for cultivation.



Illegal Miner at work
Source: businessdayghana.com



Chapter 7

MANIFESTATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY

7.1 Introduction

This chapter of the report discusses how the environmental conditions point to poverty in the Obuasi Municipal area. The data covers water resources such as the major sources of water for various purposes, and the quality of the water. To do this effectively the effects of mining on the environment are discussed first. The response from the household heads (200 for Central Zonal Council and 100 for Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council) is the data used for the discussion.

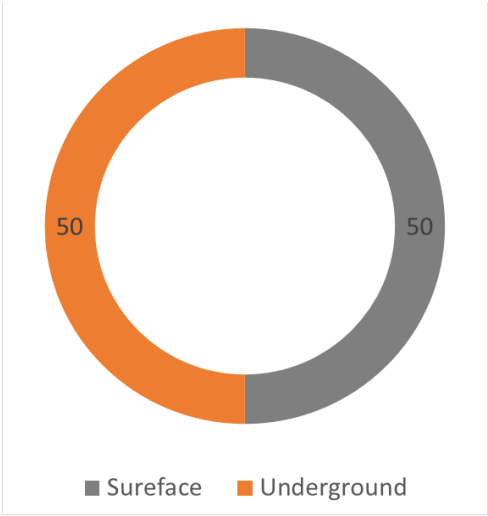
7.2 Mining

7.2.1 Types of Mining Activities and Methods Used

According to the respondents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, the major form of mining undertaken within the Kunka-Anyinam Zone is surface mining and underground mining but on small-scale or artisanal level. From the survey, 50% of the household heads who indicated that some members of their households engaged in mining did small-scale surface mining popularly known in the Obuasi area and Ghana as “galamsey”. In terms of the method of production, 75% indicated that they used capital intensive methods while the remaining 25% used labour intensive methods.

The data from the Central Zonal Council shows a different phenomenon. About 80% of the household heads indicated that their household members who did galamsey did it underground with majority (64%) of them using capital intensive methods (Figure 7.1; 7.2; 7.3; 7.4).

Type of mining activities undertaken by Residents (Kunka-Anyinam)



Type of Mining Activities undertaken (Central)

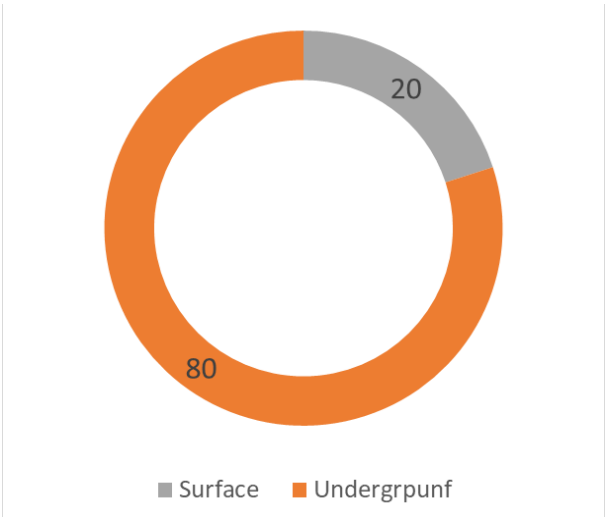


Figure 7.1: Type of mining activities undertaken by the residents
Source: Field survey, June 2021

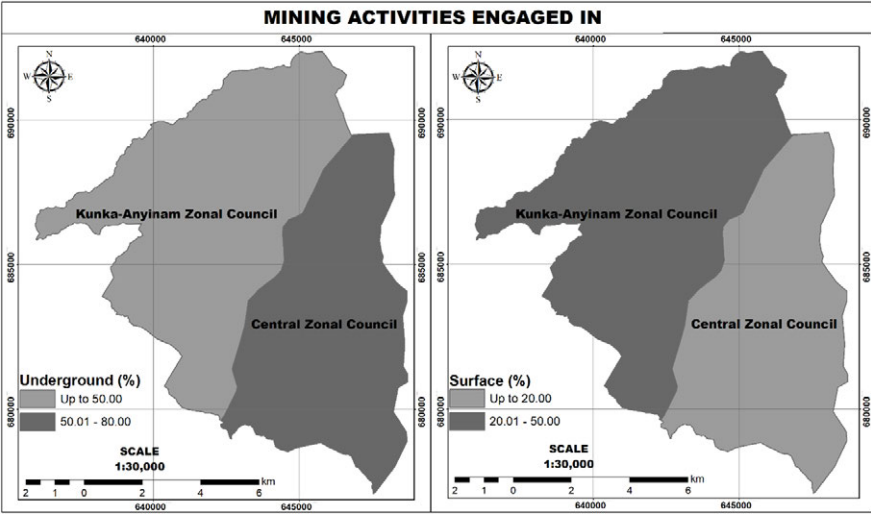
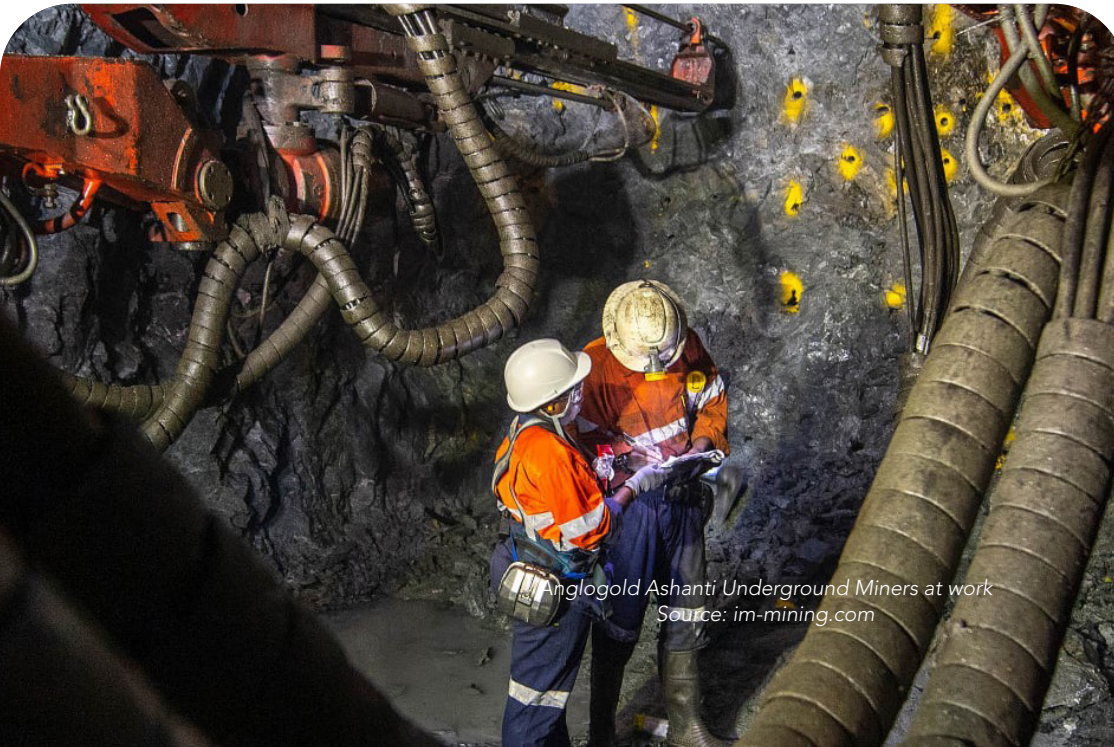


Figure 7.2: Mining Activity Engaged in the Municipality
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021



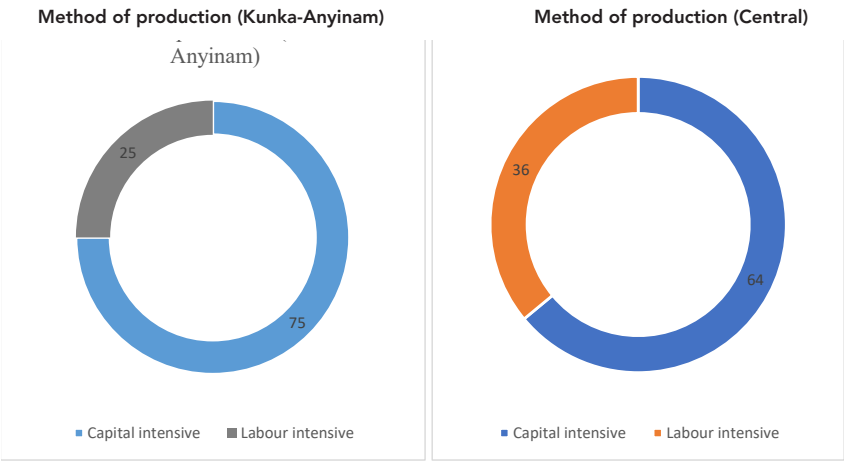


Figure 7.3: Method of production in mining
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

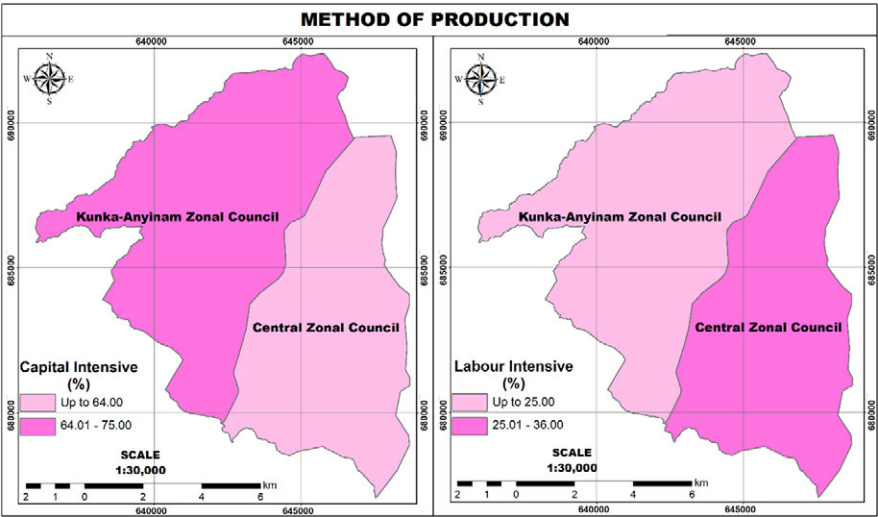


Figure 7.4: Method of Production at the Mining Sector
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

7.2.2 Impact of mining on the social and economic lives of residents

The impact of mining activities in the two Zonal Councils has been assessed in this section (see Tables 7.1 and 7.2). It was found that mining has contributed to improving the social and economic lives of the residents in terms of the provision of some social amenities, creation of jobs and the improvement of their standard of living. In the Central Zonal Council, 54.1% and 21.5% of the respondents strongly agree and agree respectively that, mining has led to the provision of social amenities within their communities. Also, 37.8% and 29.7% of the respondents strongly agree and agree respectively that mining has created job opportunities within the communities. For example, 29.7% and 43.2% of the respondents strongly agree and agree respectively that mining has contributed to improving their standard of living. Thus, a total 72.9% of the respondents indicated that, mining has led to the improvement in their standard of living in the Central Zonal Council. Nonetheless, 48.6% of the respondents agree and strongly agree that mining has destroyed lands in the area whiles 35.1% strongly disagree. About 25.0% and 50% of the residents strongly agree and agree respectively in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council that mining has led to improvement in the standard of living. However, the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council has also experienced the degradation of water bodies. For example, 30.0% and 53.5% of residents strongly agree and agree respectively that mining has destroyed water bodies in their communities.

In general, although mining activities have impacted positively on the socio-economic lives of the residents in the two Zonal Councils, it was also found that mining activities have impacted negatively on water bodies and land in these areas.

Table 7.1: Impact assessment of mining activities in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council

Responses	Impact indicators			
	Availability of mining has led to the provision social amenities (%)	Availability of mining has led to the creation jobs in the community (%)	The presence of mining has destroyed the water bodies and lands (%)	The presence of mining has led to improvement in standard of living (%)
Strongly Agree	4.9	5.0	30.0	25.0
Agree	48.8	35.0	52.5	50.0
Neutral	46.3	32.5	12.5	20.0
Strongly Disagree	-	17.5	5.5	-
Disagree	-	10.0	-	5.0

Source: Field survey, June 2021

Table 7.2: Impact assessment of mining activities in the Central Zonal Council

Responses	Assessment indicators			
	Availability of mining has led to the provision social amenities (%)	Availability of mining has led to the creation jobs in the community (%)	The presence of mining has destroyed the water bodies and lands (%)	The presence of mining has led to improvement in standard of living (%)
Strongly Agree	54.1	37.8	16.2	29.7
Agree	21.6	29.7	32.4	43.2
Neutral	24.3	21.6	16.2	18.9
Strongly Disagree	-	2.7	35.1	2.7
Disagree	-	8.1	-	5.4

Source: Field survey, June 2021

7.3 Water

7.3.1 Major Source of water for general use and type of ownership

The major sources of water for households in the Obuasi Municipality are pipe borne, boreholes and wells. The data indicates that majority (57%) of the households in the Central Zonal Council have access to pipe borne water (Table 7.3 and Figure 7.5). Comparatively, majority (74%) of the households in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council use pipe borne water. About 28% of the households in Central Zonal Council get their major source of water from boreholes. The share of households using wells in Kunka-Anyinam (26%) is more than those in the Central Zonal Council (15%). It can generally be concluded that the major source of water in the municipality is pipe borne water. This confirms the national pattern of pipe borne as the main source of water for general uses (48.5%), followed by water from wells (36.4%)(GSS, 2018). These sources of water are either owned by the households or the Municipal Assembly. In the Central Zonal Council, more than half (60%) of the sources of water are owned by private individuals, out of which 75% are pipe borne and 25% are wells. Similarly, in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, a relatively larger proportion (84%) of households own the sources of water out of which 76% are pipe borne and 23% are wells (Figures 7.5 and 7.6).



The major sources of water for households in the Obuasi Municipality are pipe borne, boreholes and wells.

Table 7.3: Major source of water for household and type of ownership

Major source of Water	Central Zonal Council					Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council				
	Public	%	Private	%	Total	%	Public	%	Private	%
Pipe borne	25	31	89	75	114	57	12	75	62	74
Borehole	56	69	-	-	56	28	-	-	-	-
Well	-		30	25	30	15	4	25	22	26
Total	81 (40%)	100	119 (60%)	100	200	100	16 (16%)	100	84 (84%)	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

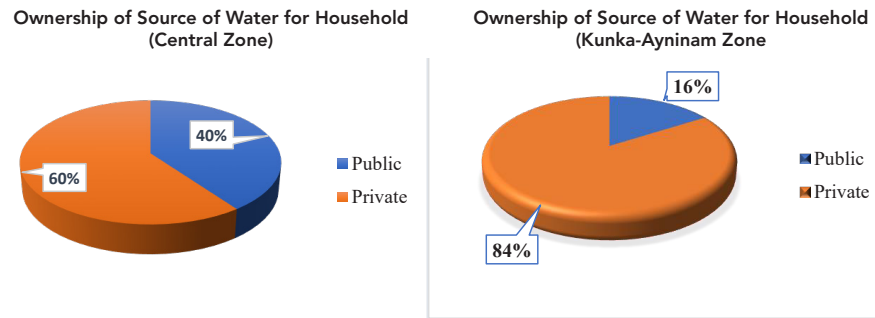


Figure 7.5: Ownership of Major Source of Water for general use
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

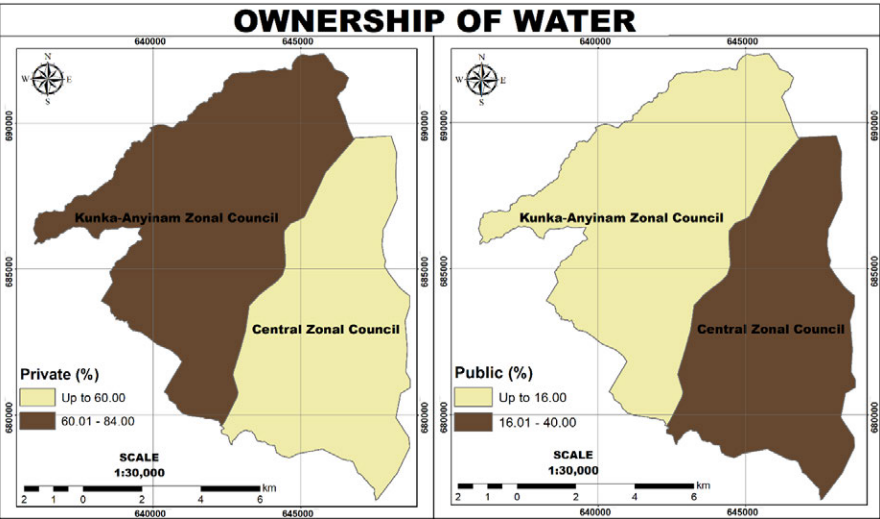


Figure 7.6: Ownership of Water Source
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

7.3.2 Location of major source of water for general use and distance covered

The location of water is very important as it can affect accessibility. Figure 7.7 and 7.9 illustrate the location and distance covered respectively to access water. The data shows that the households living in the Obuasi Municipality have relatively high physical access to water (Figure 7.7; 7.8; 7.9). About 62% of the water sources in Central Zonal Council are located within the houses whereas 79% are located in the houses in Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. As a result, majority of the households travel less than 100 meters to access water in both the Central and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Councils. In the Central area, households who access water within and outside the community cover distances ranging between 100m and 300m (32%), 301m and 500m (7%) and more than 500m (1%) which is relatively higher than Kunka-Anyinam where distances covered were 100m and 300m (23%), 301m and 500m (2%) and 500m or more (3%)

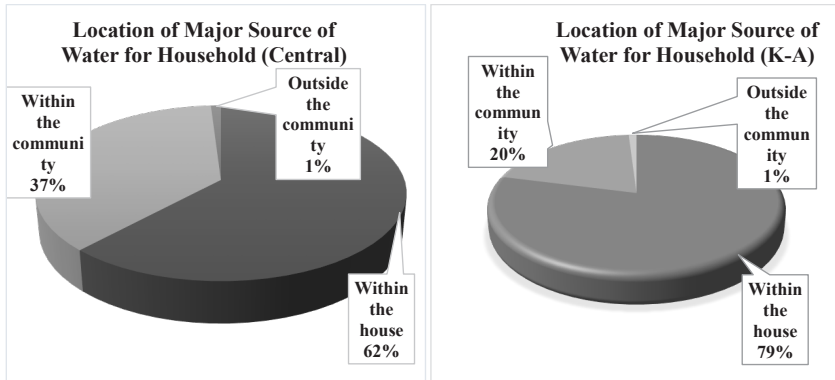


Figure 7.7: Location of Major source of water for Household
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

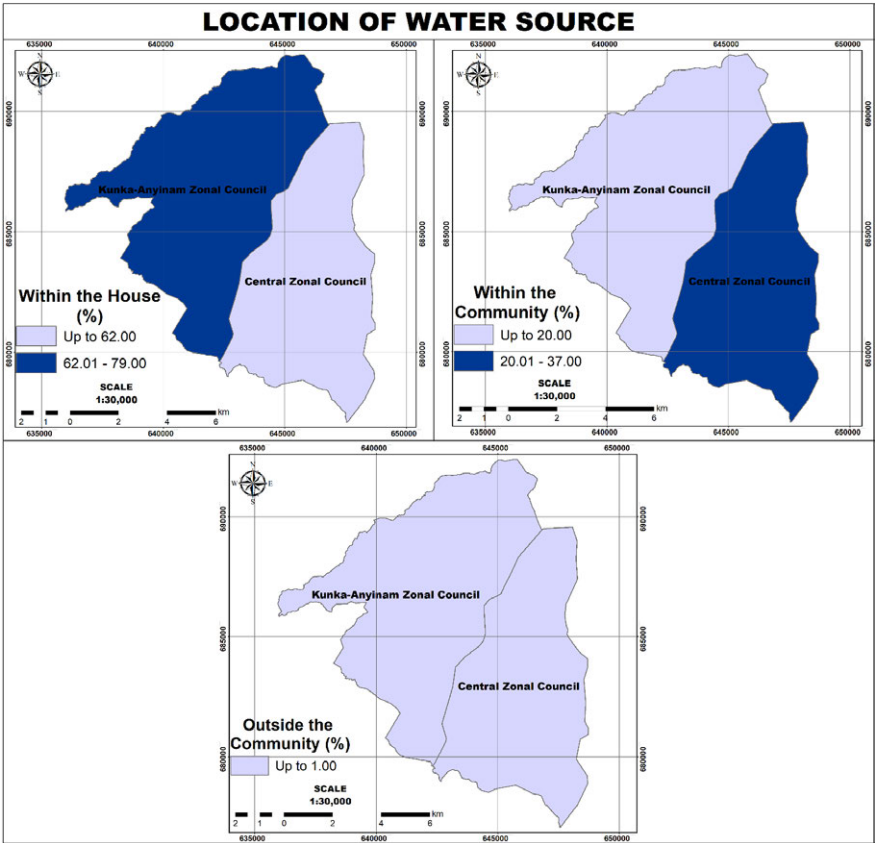


Figure 7.8: Location of Water Source
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

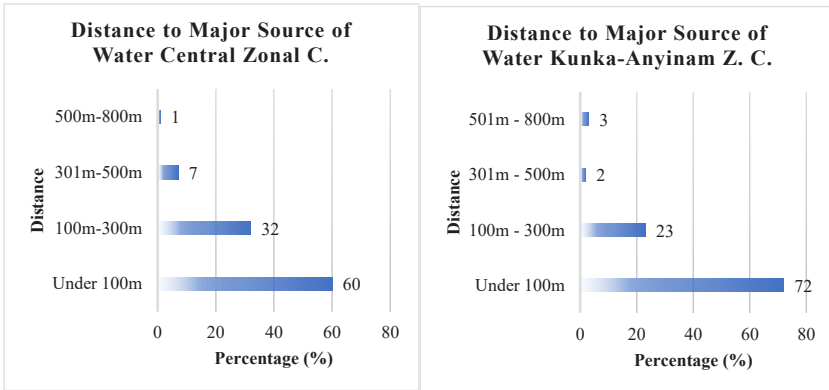


Figure 7.9: Distance to major source of water from house
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

7.3.3 Condition of Water and Frequency Of Flow

The condition of the sources of water for households in the Obuasi Municipality can be described as generally good. According to Figure 7.10, more than 90% of the respondents in the Central Zonal Council indicated that the water sources were in good condition. Household heads in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council also held the same view about their sources of water as indicated by 95% of them. About 8% of the water sources in Central Zonal Council are in fair condition whereas 3% of the household heads in Kunka-Anyinam perceive their water sources to be just fine. Few (2%) of the household heads in Central Zonal Council responded that their water sources are in bad condition (Figure 7.11).

With regards to the frequency of flow water, the data in Table 7.4 indicates that most of the sources of water are reliable as 89% of respondents in both Zonal Councils access water daily. This is followed by 8%, 2%, 0.5% and 0.5% who could only have water three times a week, five times a week, twice a week and once a week respectively in the Central Zonal Council. Similarly, 5%, 5% and 1% could do so in three times in a week, five times a week and twice a week respectively in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

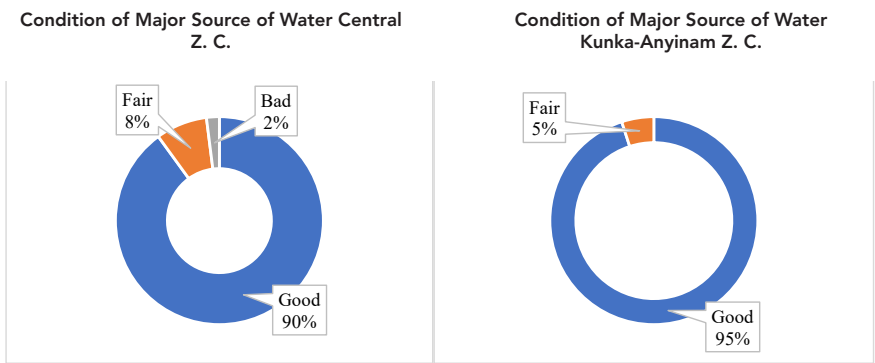


Figure 7.10: Distance to Major Source of Water from House
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

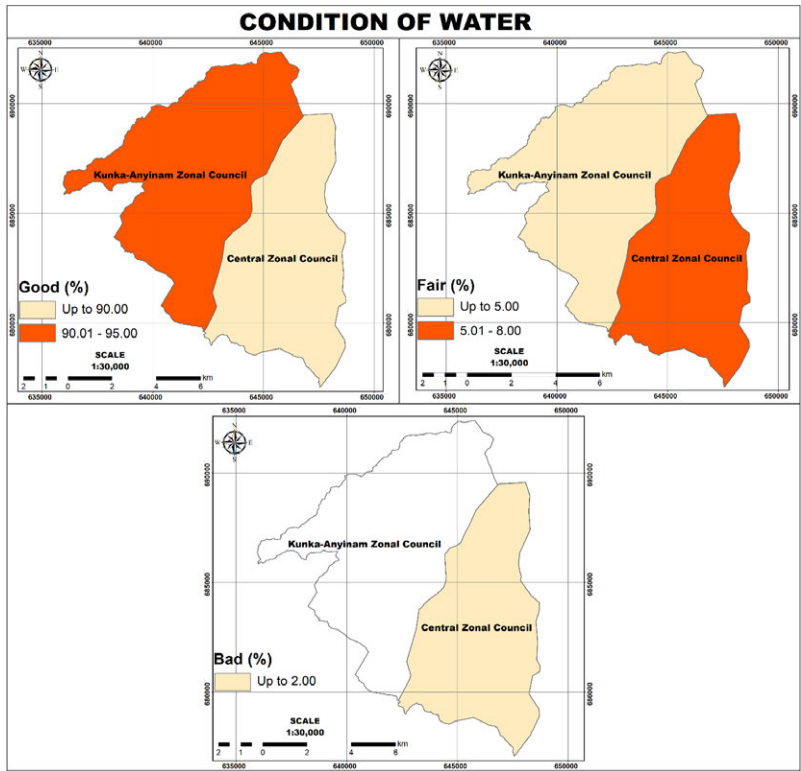


Figure 7.11: Condition of Water used
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Table 7.4: Frequency of flow of major source of water for households

Frequency of Flow	Central Zonal Council			Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Response	%		Response	%
Daily	178	89		89	89
Once a week	1	0.5		-	-
Twice a week	1	0.5		1	1
Three times a week	16	8		5	5
Five times a week	4	2		5	5
Total	200	100		100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

7.3.4 Cost of Water Source, Quantity Used Per Day and Alternative Sources

The data revealed that access to water in the municipality generally comes at a cost especially when the predominant source of water for households is pipe borne. In the Central Zonal Council, 59% of the households pay for water use. Similarly, majority of households in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (73%) pay for water. A good proportion of the households in the Central Zonal Council (41%) and 27% of them in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council use water at no cost to the household. This is as a result of the other sources of water such as boreholes and wells. For those who use boreholes, they pay for electricity for the running of the water pumps. The average cost of water per day in both Zonal Councils is GH¢1.00 and households use about seven (7) and five (5) buckets of water daily in Central and Kunka-Anyinam areas respectively at the cost of GHC 0.2 per bucket (Table 7.5 and Figures 7.12; 7.13).

Generally, all the residents combine different sources as and when available. These results are consistent with the general practice of Ghanaians relying on natural sources as alternative water supply as these sources contribute to about 5.2% of water in the country (GSS, 2018).

Table 7.5: Payment for major source of water, cost and quantity used per day

Payment for Water	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		Central Zonal Council			Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Avg. Cost/day	Avg. No. of buckets/day	Avg. Cost/day	Avg. No. of buckets/day	Avg. Cost/day	Avg. No. of buckets/day
Yes	117	59	73	73	1	7	1	5		
No	83	41	27	27	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	200	100	100	100	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

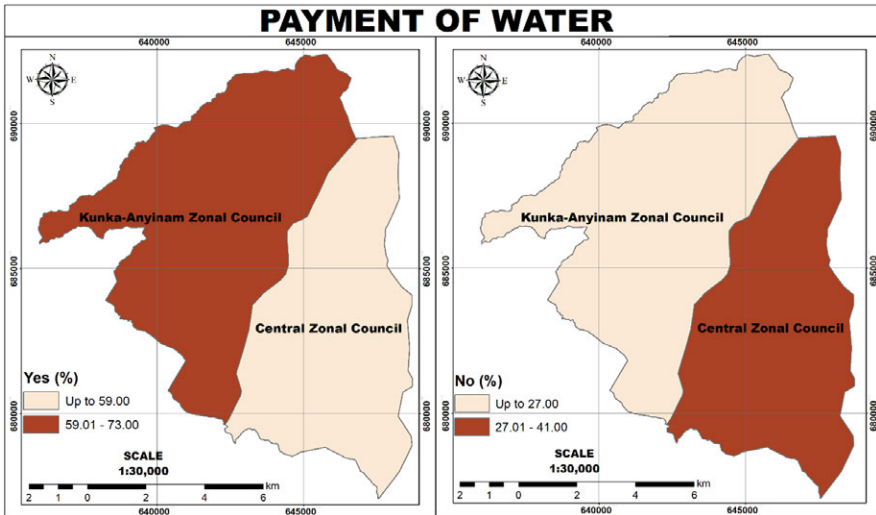


Figure 7.12: Payment of Water
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Residents in the two Zonal Councils can be said to have acceptable access to potable water and therefore are not vulnerable to water-related and water-borne diseases common with communities without access to clean water. The difficulty and the stress on women and children who mostly spend long hours looking for water can also be said to be in the minimum.

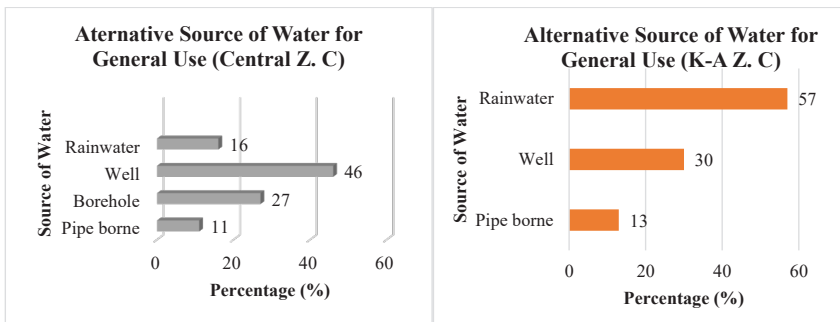


Figure 7.13: Alternative sources of water for households
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

7.4 Environment

The environment is critical for sustainable development and determining poverty. To a large extent, the social and economic development of the people depends on the environment. This section discusses the state of the environment in the Obuasi Municipality and the impact of mining on the environment.

7.4.1 State of the Environment.

Table 7.6 and Figure 7.14 present data on residents’ perception of the state of their environment. The data revealed that, for both Kunka-Anyinam and Central Zonal Councils, residents considered their environment not to be in good condition generally. For instance, for Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, it is only 5% of them who rated the environmental quality as excellent. About 46% of them rated it as very good and 27% rated it as good, these are those who live in the District capital where mining activities do not occur. Similarly, in the Central Zonal Council, only 5% rated the environment to be excellent. The rest rated it as 33% and 32% for very good and good respectively (see Table 7.6). About 30% of those in the Central Zonal Council rated the environment as poor and about 22% also rated it as poor in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council.

Table 7.6: Residents perception about the state of their environment

Parameters	Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		Central Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Excellent	5	5	9	4.5
Very good	46	46	65	32.5
Good	27	27	64	32
Poor	19	19	55	27.5
Very poor	3	3	7	3.5
Total	100	100	200	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

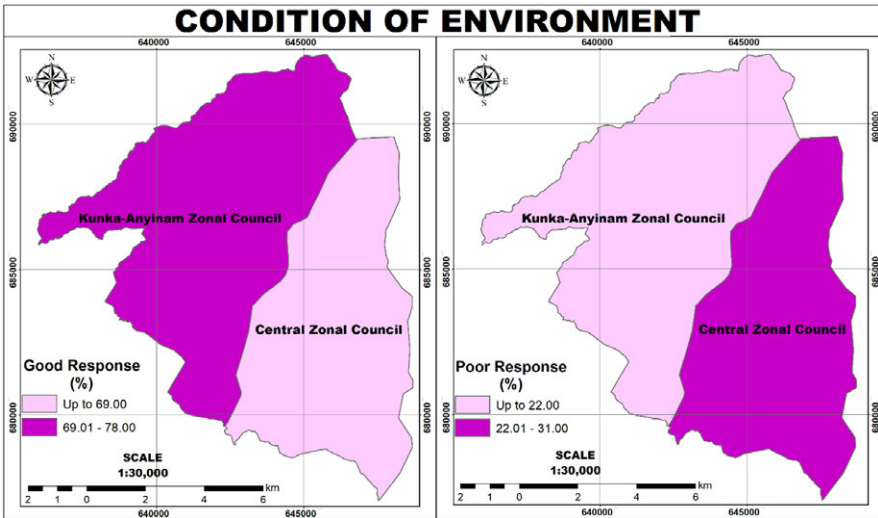


Figure 7.14: Condition of the Environment in the Municipality
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

7.4.2 Reasons For Poor State Of Environment

According to majority (80.6%) of the respondents in the Central Zonal Council, the major cause of environmental problems was poor sanitary conditions (see Table 7.7). For them, the City Managers are unable to effectively manage both solid and liquid waste resulting in the poor environmental conditions especially in the Central Business District of the Municipality. A good proportion of them (19%) also had the view that mining has also contributed to the degradation of the built and natural environment in the Central Zonal Council. For the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, majority of them (59.1%) attributed the poor environmental condition to mining. This is no surprise since the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council can be said to be where small-scale artisanal miners operate.

Table 7.7: Reasons for poor state of the environment

Reasons	Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		Central Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Mining	6	19.4	23	59.1
Sanitation	25	80.6	9	40.9
Total	31	100	22	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

The general consensus however in the FGDs was that mining has contributed to the destruction of both the built and natural environment in both Zonal Councils. In all the FGDs, their concern can be summed up by what one of the women said to show the extent to which mining, particularly artisanal mining has undermined the environment as follows:

If you walk around our communities, you will find gullies everywhere. There are also many uncovered mining pits scattered in and around the communities that sometimes become dangerous when it rains and they are filled with water. Livestock and sometimes humans get drowned or trapped. I have lived in this community for over 60 years and the environment today cannot be compared with what was there in those days (90-year-old participants at FGD, June 2021).

The consensus from the FGDs is further supported by in-depth discussions with key informants and community opinion leaders who made a strong case about how mining has affected their environment.

7.4.3 Effects Of Mining Activities On The Environment

The data indicated that, the major effect of mining on the environment is water pollution. About 83% and 77% of the residents in the Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively indicated that the major effect of mining on the environment is water pollution. This is followed by air pollution which recorded 17% and 14% for Central Zonal Council and Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council respectively. This implies that, if stringent measures are not taken, sustainability will be compromised in the Obuasi Municipality and lead to low standards of living as access to freshwater for domestic purposes will be difficult to obtain.

Table 7.8: Effects of mining activities on the environment

Effects of mining on the environment	Central Zonal Council		Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Air pollution	34	17	14	14
Water pollution	166	83	77	77
Noise pollution			9	9
Total	200	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

The in-depth interviews using the snow-ball technique with initial information from the key informants revealed that many houses have been damaged due to the blasting activities by the AngloGold Ashanti, the mining company in the Obuasi area. Some of the experiences as narrated by the affected residents are the following:

“Come and have a look at my walls in my bedroom. Have you seen these cracks? Each time I patch them they recur anytime the blasting is done. Many houses in this area have similar experiences. The vibrations of the foundation of the buildings have even caused some buildings to collapse” (Resident, June 2021).

Another resident presented her experience as follows:

“We have stones and pebbles drop on our roofs each time the blasting is done. It is scary and I wish you will be here to experience it for yourself. We have complained and complained and complained to AngloGold Ashanti but nothing has been done about it. In fact, they will not even give you the audience” (Resident, June 2021).

Views from the Validation workshop were that the AGA has moved away from surface mining into underground mining and that the blastings which cause tremors and vibrations are minimal. It also emerged that AGA has paid compensation to affected households for the damages caused to them. Many of the respondents however had the view that not all the affected households received the compensation.

7.5 Chapter Conclusion

Findings from this section show that environmental situation in these two Zonal Councils cannot be said to be of good quality. The noise pollution and the blasting can have health effects on residents. This can further increase their household expenditure on health, reducing their household income, affecting their ability to work and earn a livelihood and enjoy full range of healthy life. For water, the data shows that a good proportion of the residents have access to potable water. They are less vulnerable to water-related diseases.



The in-depth interviews using the snow-ball technique with initial information from the key informants revealed that many houses have been damaged due to the blasting activities by the AngloGold Ashanti, the mining company in the Obuasi area.

Chapter 8

GOVERNANCE AND INCLUSION AS INDICATORS OF POVERTY

8.1 Introduction

This section of the report is focused on governance, vulnerability, and voice of residents and their role in decision making. It analyses the group considered vulnerable, how they are treated, and measures taken in solving those issues. The governance aspect also analyses the role of community members, especially women, in decision making, and how the residents see the role of the local government in making it possible for them to be part of the decision-making process and promoting local economic development.

8.2 Vulnerable Groups In The Obuasi Municipality

The data on groups of people who are considered vulnerable in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council is presented in Table 8.1. According to majority (33%) of the household heads interviewed, children are vulnerable followed by the aged (32%), women (21%) and persons with disabilities (see Figure 8.1). For the Central Zonal Council, the groups which are considered to be highly vulnerable are persons with disabilities (41%). The next most vulnerable group is the aged constituting (38%). Women are considered the least vulnerable in this Zonal Council. This finding is consistent with Brown (2015)'s work which identified women, children, the aged and persons living with disabilities (PWD) as vulnerable groups in society. The survey sought to find out how they are treated in the society. In spite of the fact that they can be said to be vulnerable, 96% of the respondents stated that the Aged are fairly treated in the society.

Table 8.1: Vulnerable groups

Parameters Which group are considered vulnerable	Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		Central Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Aged	32	32	76	38
Children	33	33	36	18
Women	22	22	6	3
Persons with disability	13	13	82	41
Total	100	100	200	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021



One of the Vulnerable in Society receiving donation from a Charity organisation in Obuasi

Source: modernghana.com

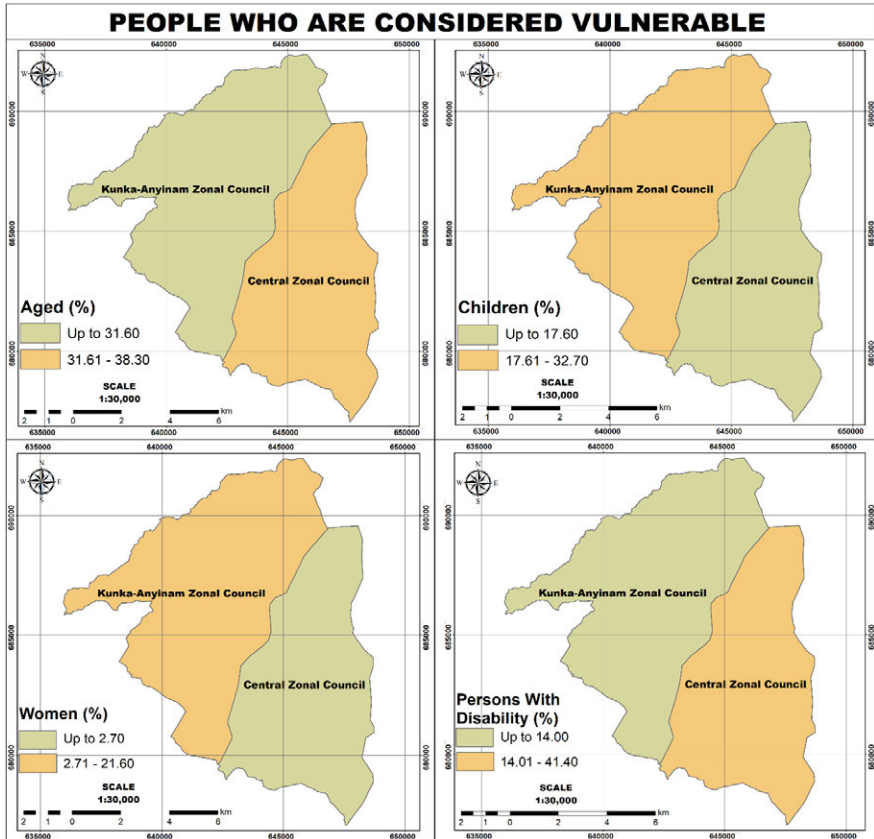


Figure 8.1: Group which are considered to be poor by household heads

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

A key informant in the Municipal Assembly corroborated the claims that vulnerable groups are not discriminated against, abused or deprived of opportunities. She noted that, "We have not received any report of abuse or discrimination suffered by the aged, women or children so I will say that there is nothing like that in this Municipality" (Key informant, September 2021).

8.3 Incidences Of Women Abuse

Women emerged the third most vulnerable group in the society in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. The study sought to assess the various forms of abuses that women go through in the society. The survey revealed that there are no incidences of women abuse as about 59% of respondents claimed there are no abuses that women suffer. A good proportion (41%) of them however stated that there are incidences of women abuses in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. Similarly, though 62% claimed that there are no incidences of women abuse in the Central Zonal Council, a good proportion (38%) claimed that there are incidences of abuse on women in the society. From the survey, it was identified that, physical abuse, sexual abuse, domestic abuse are forms of abuses that women suffer. In-depth discussion with key informants using the snowball technique revealed that housing poverty and deprivation accounted for sexual abuse on women. The experience of some of the abused women shared in the FGDs is as follows:

“It is difficult to find decent accommodation here so many women especially young girls who cannot find places to sleep are sexually abused” (Victim of abuse, June 2021).

The accommodation issue is very important as many youths migrate from other parts of Ghana to the Obuasi area to look for jobs in the mines. The options available will be either sharing already congested rooms or sleeping in front of shops in the communities. This exposes women especially to all kinds of abuse. Many also narrated experiences of abuse by their partners out of frustration of economic hardships.

Table 8.2: Incidences of women abuse Women

Are there incidence of women abuse	Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		Central Zonal Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	41	41	75	37.7
No	59	59	125	62.3
Total	100	100	200	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

8.3.1 Women empowerment programmes

In the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, majority (85.6%) of them indicated that there are no empowerment programmes in the community. Similarly, majority (74%) of them in the Central Zonal Council indicated that there are no empowerment programmes in the community. However, literature has identified the Obuasi-based Mine Workers Wives Association, the women affiliate of Ghana Mine Workers Union as a women empowerment foundation in Obuasi. These foundations focus on entrepreneurial programmes aimed at developing the skills of women to empower them set up their own businesses (News Ghana, 2014). Also, the Subayo Foundation for women and children in Africa, a non-governmental organization based in the United States of America with branches in Ghana and Zambia also assist women with low income earning in the Obuasi municipality. They do this by offering them small-scale micro lending facility aimed at empowering them through business, education and training (GhanaWeb, 2009).

8.3.2 Women inclusiveness

Figure 8.2 shows the involvement of women in decision making. Majority (83%) of the respondents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council noted that women are actively involved in decision making. Corroborating these claims, some of the women in the FGDs narrated that: "Women are given the opportunity to express their views", "Their views are welcomed when matters arise", "Women deliver brilliant ideas" therefore they are allowed to express their views and actively take part in the decision-making process. In spite of the fact that women have the platform to be part of the process, there were claims also that men spearhead major decisions.

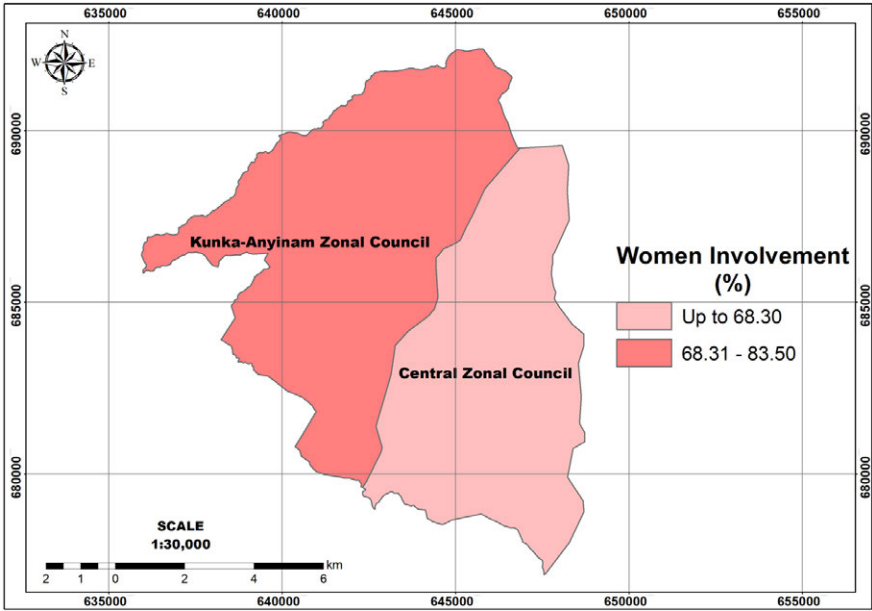


Figure 8.2: Level of women involvement in decision making
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

8.4 Persons Living With Disabilities

According to 96% of the household heads in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, there were no persons living with disabilities among them. The 4% who indicated that there were persons with disabilities living among them mentioned cases of vision and walking impairment persons. In the Central Area, 99% of the household heads indicated there were no persons living with disabilities among them (Table 8.3). The few cases of disability were men and there was no evidence of discrimination against these persons. When they were asked to indicate whether they knew of any programmes for disabled persons, they indicated that there were on-going programs to support the disabled in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. For those in the Central Zonal Council, there were on-going programmes for the disabled in the community.

Table 8.3: Table 8.3: Awareness of the role of Municipal Assembly in development

Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		
Response	Frequency	%
Yes	88	88
No	12	12
Total	100	100.0
Central Zonal Council		
Response	Frequency	%
Yes	144	72
No	56	27.9
Total	200	100.0

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

8.5 Awareness Of The Role Of The Assembly In Development

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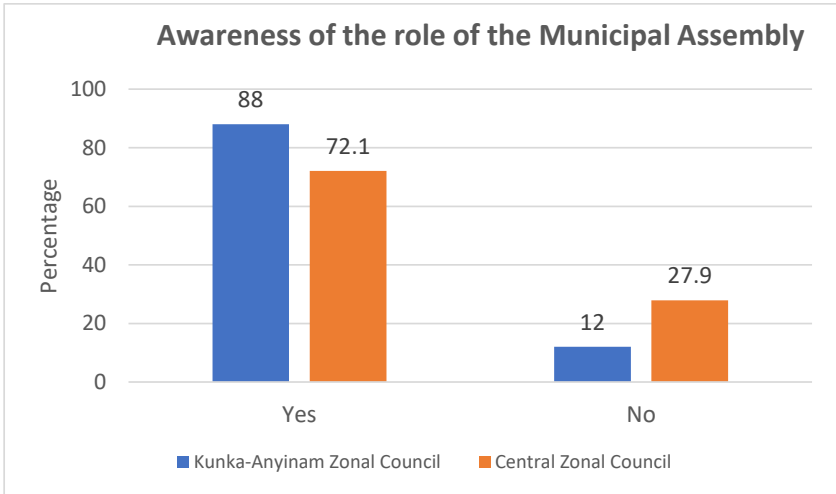


Figure 8.3: Awareness of the Role of Municipal Assembly in Development
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

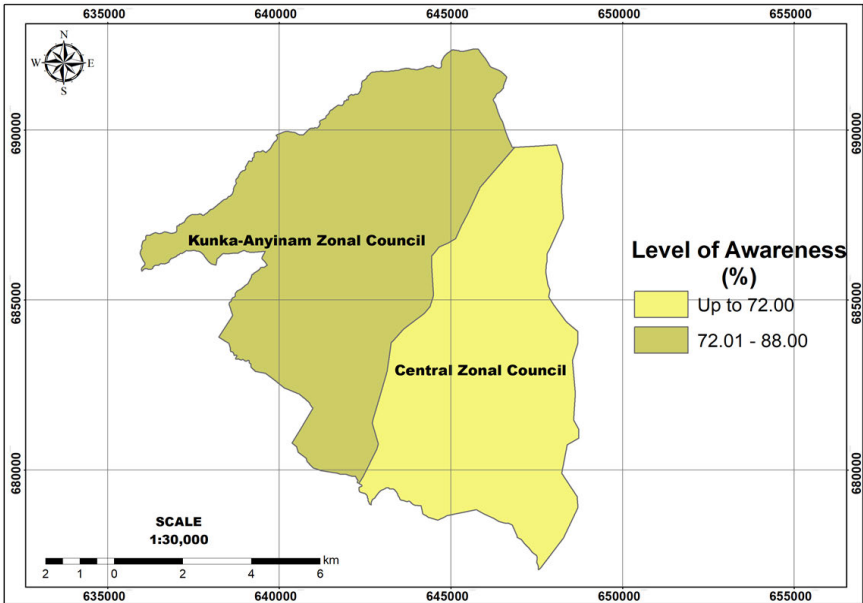


Figure 8.4: Awareness of household heads to the role of the Municipality
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

The concern which emerged in the FGDs with men, women and the youth was that Obuasi Municipal Assembly was not doing enough to create jobs in the Municipality. Others also intimated that the Assembly is not doing enough to get the AngloGold Ashanti to employ natives of the Municipality. One of them put it as follows: “We expect the Obuasi Municipal Assembly to speak on our behalf get us some jobs in the mines. They do nothing and look on as the mines employ people from outside the Municipality such as Accra” (Male participant in FGD, July 2021).

According to many of the participants in the Validation workshop, community members are rather apathetic to all the efforts the Municipal Assembly makes to improve the living conditions in the Municipality. They noted that the community members fail to attend Town Hall meetings and other similar meetings that the Municipal Assembly organizes to interact with them to develop concerted efforts towards making life better for all.

Others also added that part of the reasons why the community members perceive the Municipal Assembly as non-performing is that some of the Assembly members make promises they cannot fulfill which are outside their mandates during District Assembly elections. They are therefore judged on those promises.

8.5.1 Participation of residents in community development

In the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council, majority of the people (85%) do not participate in community development (Table 8.4 and Figures 8.5; 8.6). This supports the finding from the Validation Workshop that there was apathy among community members. The few respondents who indicated that they participate in community development (11%) did so predominantly once a while (81.8%) while others participate in community development once a month (18.2%). This finding suggests that the Obuasi Municipal Assembly does not adequately give room for local people to actively shape the decision-making process in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council or take appropriate steps to address the apathy among the people.

Those in the Central Zonal Council who said they do not get the opportunity to participate is also high (89%). The respondents who participated in community development (11%) did so predominantly twice every month (47%) when communal labor is organized for clean-up exercises.

It can be concluded that, in terms of influence in local decision making, residents in both Zonal Councils are deprived in terms of participation in community development.

Table 8.4: Participation in Community Development and Frequency of Participation

Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council		
Participation status	Responses	%
Yes	15	15
No	85	85
Total	100	100.0
Frequency of Participation		
Frequency of Participation	Response	%
Once a month	2	18.2
Others	9	81.8
Total	11	100.0
Central Zonal Council		
Participation status	Responses	%
Yes	22	11
No	178	89
Total	200	100.0
Frequency of Participation		
Frequency of Participation	Response	%
Once a month	7	37
Every two weeks	9	47
Others	3	16
Total	19	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

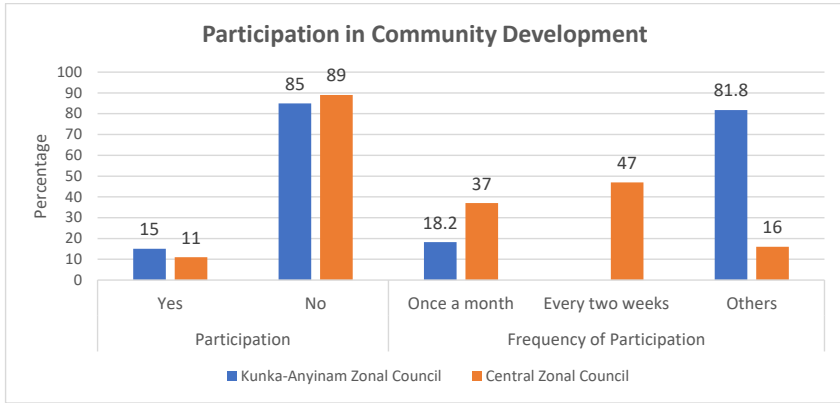


Figure 8.5: Participation in community decision making
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

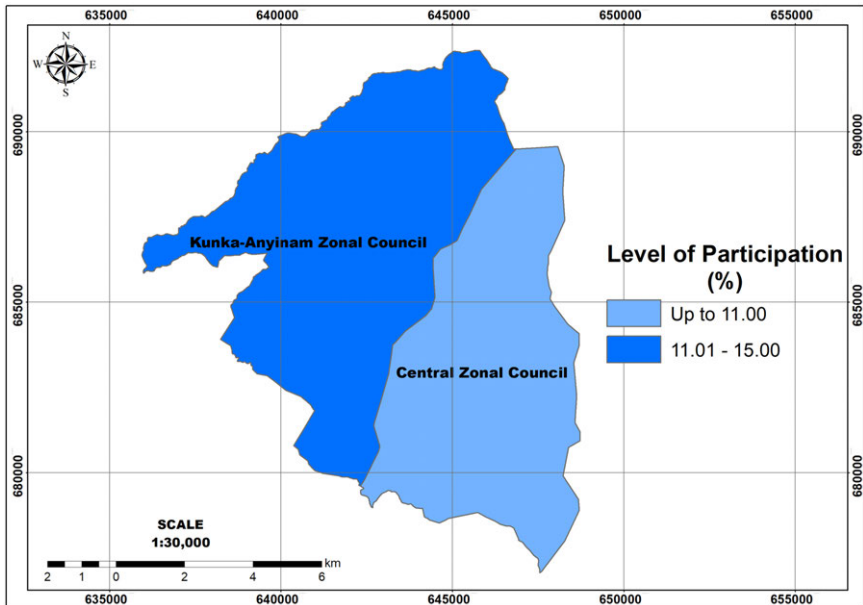


Figure 8.6: Level of participation of household heads in community development
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

8.6 Initiatives by AngloGold Ashanti

The study found that the presence of the mining company (AngloGold Ashanti) in the Obuasi Municipality has some positive effects on the lives of the residents in the municipality. However, a greater percentage of both Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council (74%) and Central Zonal Council (78.5%) indicated that they have not experienced any initiative carried out by the mining company.

Findings from discussions with opinion leaders and corroborated by key informants were that AngloGold Ashanti has undertaken some initiatives to promote development. These include the provision of notice board for advertisement of job vacancies in the mines, provision of boreholes and street lights, construction of a community center, supporting of farmers with seedlings as part of its "Obuasi Agro Agenda" programme, the Malaria Control Programme which ensures that every house is sprayed once a year, youth apprenticeship program which seeks to train some of the youth in the Municipality for employment and provision of teaching and learning materials to schools.

In addition to what the respondents listed, available literature shows evidence of some community development interventions implemented by AngloGold Ashanti. Malaria is listed as the major public health issues

to AngloGold Ashanti's activities in Ghana as noted by the company's 2004 Report. It is reported that Galamsay (small-scale mining), often uncontrolled surface mining was particularly dangerous in the Obuasi area since operators of galamsey leave uncovered pits to serve as breeding grounds for mosquitos. According to data from the Obuasi Mine Hospital, 6,800 malaria cases were recorded per month on average in 2005, out of which 2,500 of them were mining workers. An estimated 7,500 man-shifts were lost per month due to an average of three days off per patient. This, combined with the slow labour rate during recovery, resulted in a significant drop in output. The cost of malaria treatment medication was USD 660,000 per year. Absenteeism from school and job was rampant in the community due to malaria.

As a result, a malaria control program, AngloGold Ashanti Malaria Control Ltd, or AGAMal, having a small administrative team with budgetary control, planning, logistics, laboratory facilities, and strategy support from mining managers was established in 2009 partnered by Global Fund. Salaries, office space, and operations were all paid for by the mine.

In addition to the direct prevention and improved treatment of malaria, there is also the attendance and improved performance of children in school. The integrated malaria control program included: Vector control

– indoor residual spraying (IRS); Distribution of insecticide treated nets (ITNs); Larviciding of breeding areas; Environmental management; Surveillance, monitoring, and evaluation; Insecticide resistance management; Education, information, and communication; and Early, effective diagnosis and treatment.

The AGAMal malaria control initiative was a huge success. The goal of reducing malaria cases at the hospital by half in two years was met in just 13 months.

Aside the malaria project undertaken by the company, the mining company has undertaken women empowerment, youth empowerment and community development programmes.

Women Empowerment

AngloGold Ashanti has implemented women empowerment programmes which seek to ensure fairness in the treatment of women in the organization. In the recruitment of employees, the organization includes areas where women have generally greater expertise in order to encourage them to apply. The organization also uses media that is accessible to women such as community radio. The vacancies are appropriately worded through advertisement to encourage more women to apply. Subjective and sexist criteria such as marital status, dress, and physical attributes that do not have direct bearing on the job are not acceptable (AngloGold Ashanti,

2006; 2015; 2021).

In order to create the enabling environment for women employees, the organization uses gender indicators to manage and track the performance and progress of women. Training expenditure on women in organizational levels where they are under-represented are increased, and women are actively trained for jobs that have traditionally been men's preserve, e.g. technical fields. Basic literacy training is made available for women, and the organization ensures that training times, facilities, and opportunities are appropriate and friendly to women's participation.

The organization recognizes and rewards skills that employees gain through work, life, and informal training. This is done because many women may not have had the same access to formal training as men. The organization makes sure that performance evaluation does not penalize women for trying to balance their family and professional responsibilities, as they recognize women's greater role in family responsibilities and do not use these as an excuse to restrict their career opportunities. Women are ensured of enough leave and benefit provisions such as paid maternity leave to balance family and professional responsibilities.

Youth Empowerment

According to the literature, AngloGold Ashanti Ghana (AGAG) Obuasi Mine, has underlined the need for the youth at Obuasi to avail themselves to the various employable skills training programme being rolled out by the company. Youth empowerment remains one of the key components of the company's Social Management Plan, which

seeks to diversify and grow the local economy of Obuasi (Ghana News Agency (2020). The Youth Apprenticeship Programme enables graduating youth to undergo a one-year training programme at the AGA's Engineer-

ing Training Centre pursuing courses in auto-mechanics, auto-electrician, forklift operation, grader operation, loader operation and excavator operation. The training programmes offer the youth the opportunity to acquire the relevant skills required to venture into self-employment. The skills gained during the trainings are aimed at supporting long-term independence, sustainability and resilience of the local economies of Obuasi and its

surrounding communities beyond the life of the mine (AngloGold Ashanti, 2006; 2015; 2021).

Community Development

AngloGold Ashanti has provided developments to the surrounding communities which include providing employment in various forms to the citizens. On the record, the company

has directly employed 7,656 employees. They have responded to societal needs by providing schools, good drinking water, electricity, clinics, roads and many others.



A major initiative by the AngloGold Ashanti is the Obuasi Malaria Control Programme. AngloGold Ashanti has spent \$3million in three years fighting against malaria in the Obuasi Municipality.

A major initiative by the AngloGold Ashanti is the Obuasi Malaria Control Programme. AngloGold Ashanti has spent \$3million in three years fighting against malaria in the Obuasi Municipality. The programme began in April 2006 has achieved big success as the incidence of malaria has reduced progressively (Annan, 2013).

The Edwin Cade Hospital which has a capacity of 105 beds in five wards



A worker of Anglogold Ashanti Malaria Ltd prepares the insecticide against mosquitos to spray the walls of houses
Source: [gettyimages.co.uk](https://www.gettyimages.co.uk)

was built in 1930 by the company to provide quality health care to workers, and people in and around the mine catchment area. The company has also supported in setting up the Bryant Mission Hospital which was established in 2002 but its extension project began in 2007 at Boete as it is the only eye center serving over million people in the Obuasi Municipality and its surrounding districts. Also, the Obuasi government hospital was built and furnished by the company (AngloGold Ashanti, 2006; 2015; 2021).

With respect to education, from the period of 1994, the company has spent over ₦2.4 billion financing the construction of eight schools in eight rural communities including Odumase, Anyinam, Brahabehome, Binsere and Dadieso. The company in 2003 provided roofing sheets and cement products worth ₦5.5million to assist the renovation of Kubi Primary School. The company donated slightly used computers valued at ₦20million to Odumase Primary/JSS school to support computer literacy (Sumah, 2015).

In Obuasi, AGA also makes a substantial contribution to the celebration of teachers' and farmers' days. Teachers' Day is said to be a source of significant incentive for teachers in the municipality, resulting in increased production. As a result, it is claimed that since the beginning of

the teachers' day celebration, junior high school students' performance has improved dramatically, propelling Obuasi to the top of the national rankings for student performance (Okrah, 2013)

As at 2006, the company provided 102 water systems to a total number of 92 communities in four districts all at a cost of US\$900,000. The company has assisted in the repair of some broken down water systems to restore water supply in extreme situations. Communities such as Ahansoyewodea, Anyinam, Anweam and Kirikiri are supplied with drinking water from the company's potable water treatment plants. AGA supplies and maintains the only potable water treatment plant for Obuasi municipality which is located in Odaso (Sumah, 2015)

Another initiative by the AGA in the Obuasi community is the Alternate Livelihood Project (ALP). The ALP aims at discouraging artisanal mining and as part of these projects; AGA implemented a piggery and garment project. The piggery project is aimed at meeting the protein needs of the community, and is expected to develop into an industry where there will be a processing plant to process the meat into sausages and bacon amongst other things for commercial purposes. This project operates in six communities, Mampamhwe, Jimisokakraba, Ahasonyewodea, Binsere, Adaase and Sanso. The piggery project serves as a source

of income for the beneficiaries and also improves upon the food security of the people.

The garment project located in Gauso aims to outsource production and supply of AGA workers overalls to a local business entrepreneur. The garment factory started in 2008 and is partly owned by a private individual and the Obuasi Tailors Association (OTA) (Siawor-Robertson & Awaworyi, 2015).

AGA also embarks on the Community Trust Fund (CTF). The CTF was set up to meet a statutory requirement within the Merger Stability Agreement, which is to contribute 1% of its after-tax profits to community development. The CTF also meets up with the AGA's management standard for social investment and local economic development (Annan, 2013). Launched in September 13, 2011, the CTF is overseen by a seven-member board of trustees and a 32-member steering committee. The first funding decision of the CTF board was the purchase of eight mini buses for selected senior high schools and 110 desktop computers for selected junior high schools at a total cost of GHC727,948 (approximately USD300,000).

In the field of entertainment, the AGA owns a modern stadium which is used for local, national and international events. This private stadium is being used by the company's premier division club, Ashgold FC. This facility serves as the main source of entertainment for Obuasi municipality and its environs (Sumah, 2015).

8.7 Satisfaction with the performance of the Municipal Assembly

Majority of the respondents in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council indicated that they were not satisfied with the performance of the Obuasi Municipal Assembly (71%). Again, majority (69%) of them in the Central Zonal Council said they were not satisfied with the performance of the Municipal Assembly. Their reasons are that they do not have the space to contribute to decisions that affect them as their Assembly representatives do not adequately fight for their cause (see Figure 8.7).

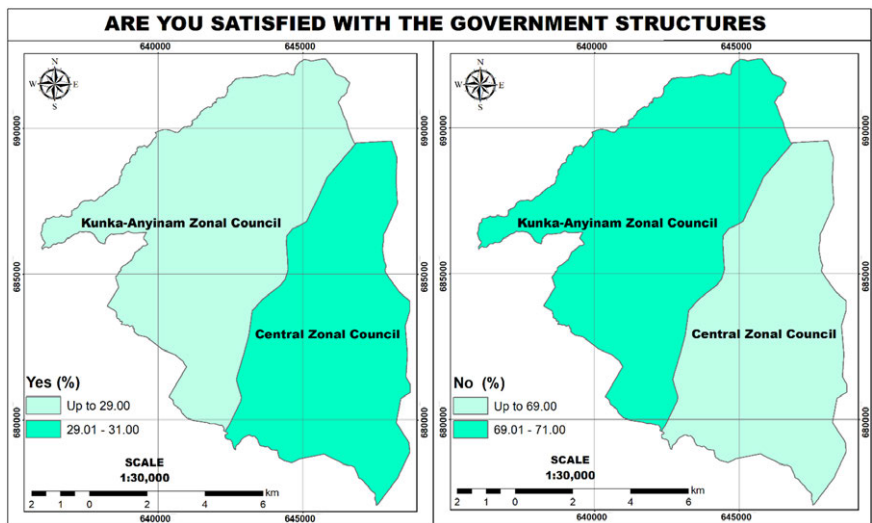



Figure 8.7: Satisfactory level of household heads to the performance of the local government structure

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

8.8 Chapter Conclusion

In terms of vulnerability, this chapter has shown that the aged, children and women cannot be considered to be vulnerable in the Obuasi Municipality. This notwithstanding, there was some evidence of abuse of women due to economic hardships. For governance, many of the residents do not have the space to participate and shape decisions that affect them. These can be described as deprived people as their voices are not heard. The Obuasi Municipal Assembly is also judged to be underperforming by not creating the space for the people to be part of the governance process. The Assembly is also not doing enough to get the AngloGold Ashanti to employ the local people. Although the respondents claimed that the AngloGold's impact is not adequately and positively felt, evidence from literature has listed some positive interventions by the company which can be described as contributing to improving the living conditions of the people.



03

Part

Obuasi East District

GGA

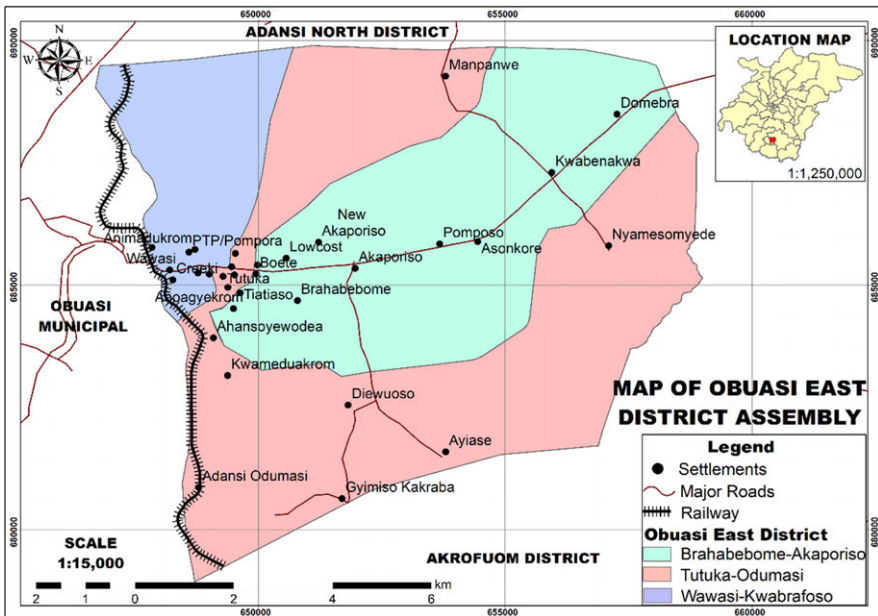
Good Governance Africa

Chapter 9

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF POPULATION

9.1 The Obuasi East District

Part three of the report is on the Obuasi East District. The Obuasi East District Assembly forms part of the newly created districts in Ghana. It was established by Legislative Instrument (L.I.) 2332 of November 2017 and was inaugurated on 15th March 2018. The district was carved out of the Obuasi Municipal Assembly as one of the 38 newly created and upgraded district assemblies in 2018 and has Tutuka as its capital. The district is located in the southern part of Ashanti Region, bounded to the North by Adansi North District, South by Adansi Akrofrom District, East by Adansi Asokwa District and West by Obuasi Municipal.



Obuasi East District in Ashanti Regional Context

This section presents the demographic characteristics of the Obuasi East District.

9.2 Population Size And Distribution

In the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, the females dominate in the age group between 0-24. The males also dominate from age 35 and above. Similar phenomenon occurs in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council where the females in age 0-14 dominate. The males also dominate in ages 15-39, 40-44 and 60-64. The Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council presents similar data. Generally, the females dominate as they constitute about 53% of the population in all the three Area Councils (Table 9.1 and Figure 9.1). What this points to is that females are most affected by the poverty in the Obuasi East District. The large proportion of males in the age 30-64 has been attributed to the mining activities in the Obuasi East District, especially artisanal or small-scale or “galamsey” operations. Limited opportunities in this sector implies that these males will struggle to feed, cloth and house their families as we find in the next section.



*A Cross-section of women at the entrepreneurial programme organised by an Obuasi-based NGO
Source: modernghana.com*

Table 9.1: Population size and distribution in the Obuasi East District

Age Cohorts	Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area				Tutuka-Odumasi Area				Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area			
	Both Sexes	Male	%	Female	%	Both Sexes	Male	%	Female	%	Both Sexes	Male
0-4	18	4	22	14	78	12	4	33	8	57	19	9
5-9	30	14	47	16	53	21	9	43	12	57	31	12
10-14	42	24	57	18	33	28	13	46	15	54	20	7
15-19	31	10	32	21	68	16	10	62	6	38	30	15
20-24	15	5	33	10	67	9	6	67	3	33	33	15
25-29	36	14	39	22	61	48	28	58	20	42	52	19
30-34	43	20	47	23	53	24	15	63	9	37	37	17
35-39	36	19	53	17	47	22	9	41	13	59	22	13
40-44	27	17	63	10	37	11	6	55	5	45	16	6
45-49	14	9	64	5	36	23	10	43	13	57	22	11
50-54	7	4	57	3	43	14	9	64	5	36	15	8
55-59	5	2	40	3	60	7	3	43	4	57	17	9
60-64	1	1	100	0	-	5	5	100	0	-	4	3
65+	6	3	50	3	50	11	2	18	9	82	9	3
Total	311	146	47	165	53	251	129	51	122	49	327	147
District Total Population												
Both Sexes				Female	%				Male	%		
				474	53				415	47		
889												

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

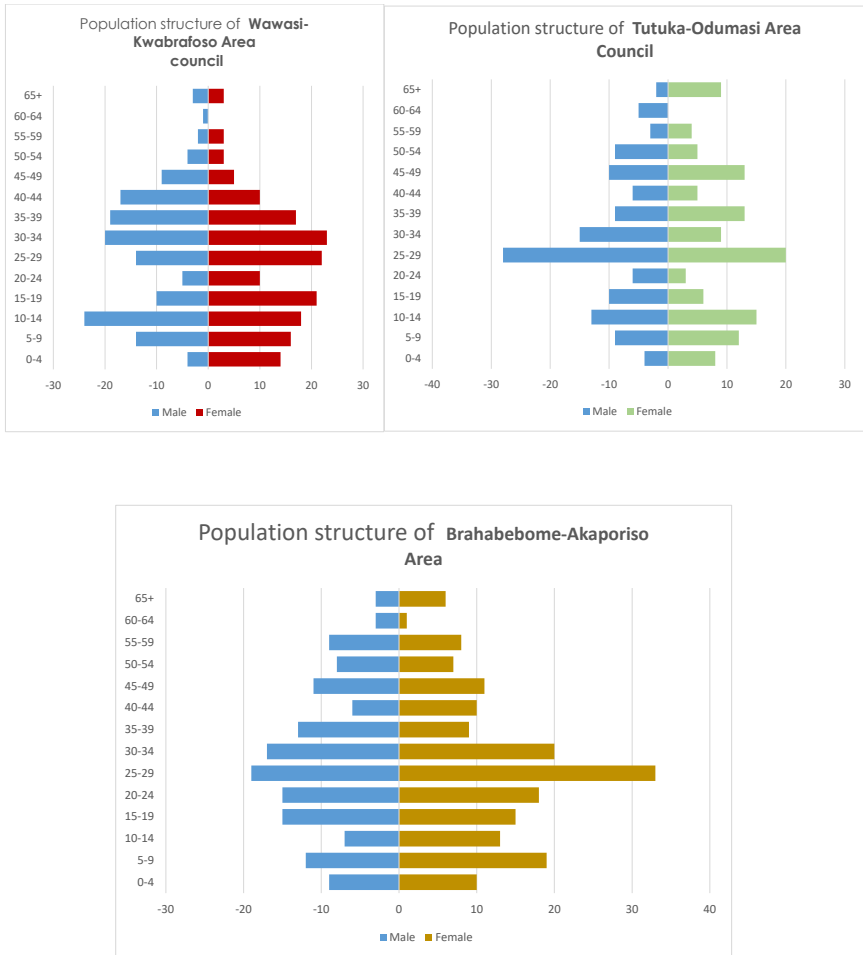


Figure 9.1: Age and Sex structure of Wawasi, Tutuka and Brahabebome Area Councils
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

9.3 Broad Age Cohorts

This section presents an analysis of the broad age cohorts of the population for all the Area Councils. The cohorts are categorized into dependents (0-14), economically active (15-64) and the aged (65+). Table 9.2 indicates that the proportion of dependents in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area is higher than the Tutuka-Odumasi Area and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area recording 31%, 28% and 24% respectively. In the 0-14 cohort, the females hold a larger share (53%) than their male counterparts (42%) in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area. Similarly, females constitute a greater share (57%) compared to males (43%) in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area. Similar to the other Area councils, females constitute a greater share (60%) compared to males (40%) in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area council. There is no variation in the proportion of economically active population in both Area Councils generally and gender-wise. The economically active cohort constitutes the highest population in all the three Area Councils: 69% (Wawasi-Kwabrafoso), 72% (Tutuka-Odumasi), and 76% (Brahabebome-Akaporiso) (Table 9.2 and Figure 9.2). The aged population constituted the minority share of the population in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area (2%), Tutuka-Odumasi Area 4%) and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area (3%). However, there are relatively more aged females in Tutuka-Odumasi Area (82%) and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area (67%).

Table 9.2: road Age Cohorts of the Population

Age Cohort	Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area					Tutuka-Odumasi Area					Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area				
	Male	%	Fe-male	%	Total	Male	%	Fe-male	%	Total	Male	%	Fe-male	%	Total
0 – 14	42	47	48	53	90	26	43	35	57	61	28	40	42	60	70
15 – 64	101	47	114	53	215	101	56	78	44	179	116	47	132	53	248
65+	3	50	3	50	6	2	18	9	82	11	3	33	6	67	9
Total	146		165		311	129		122		251	147		180		327

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

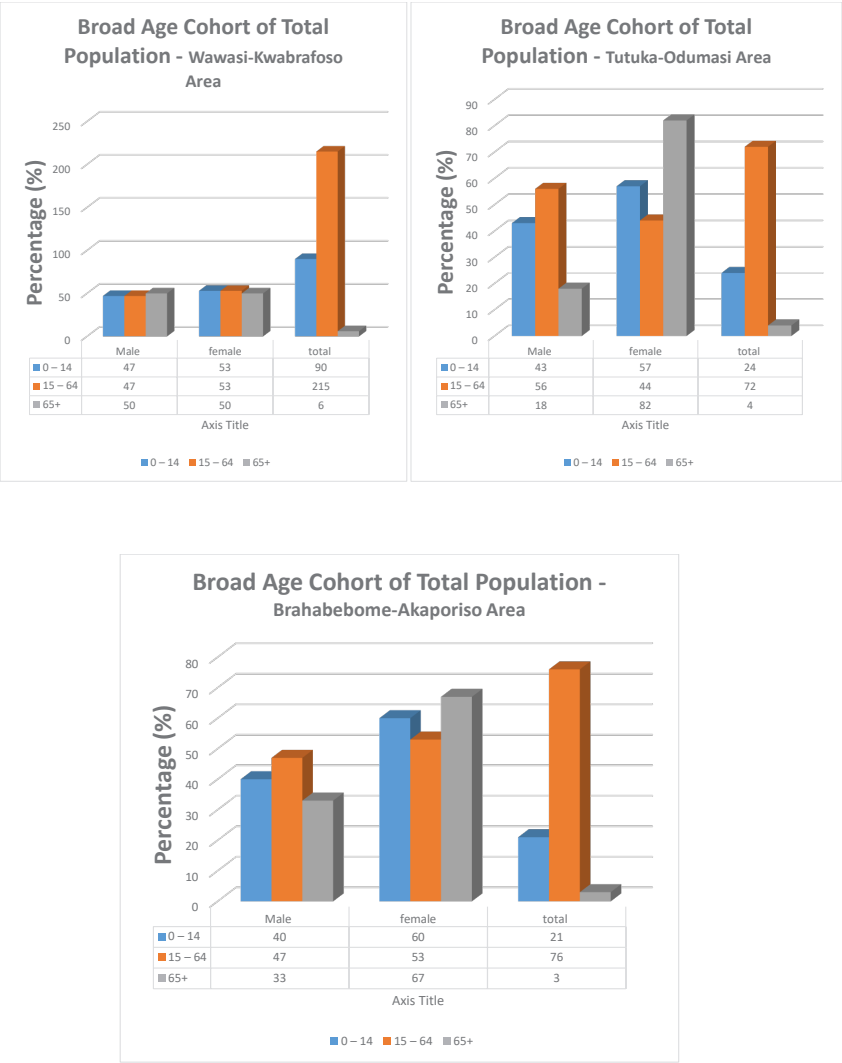


Figure 9.2: Broad Age Cohort of total population of Wawasi, Tutuka and Brahabehome Area Council
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

9.4 Dependency Burden

According to the Ghana Statistical Service (2010), the age dependency burden is used as a measure of the economic burden that the productive population must carry. The dependency burden for the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area was 45% while that of the Tutuka-Odumasi Area was 40% and that of Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area was 32%. Thus, for 100 persons of the working population (15-64), there are approximately 45, 40 and 32 persons who would require their support in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso, Tutuka-Odumasi and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Councils respectively. This implies that, dependency burden for the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area is higher (45%) than that of Tutuka-Odumasi Area (40%) and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area (32%). It can therefore be concluded that each working person (if employed) in a stable job, will need to support a maximum of one dependant. Given this somehow low burden one will expect that savings can be possible with low poverty levels. Findings from the discussions with the FGDs however revealed the opposite with many claiming to have difficulty supporting their dependants (the aged, children and unemployed). Their claims can be summed up as follows:

“Because I do not have a reliable job, I find it difficult to take care of myself or my children and parents whom I am responsible for. Paying their medical bills is very difficult so we resort to herbs as the NHIS does not give them all the medications” (Participant in the FGD, September 2021).

In terms of sex dependency burden, female dependency ratio for the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area was 45% while Female dependency ratio for Tutuka-Odumasi Area was 56% and 36% for Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area. This shows that, female dependency burden in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council is higher than that of the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Councils. The high dependence of females on males in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council implies that females are vulnerable in this area than the other two Area Councils.

9.5 Marital Status Of Household Members.

This section of the report presents the data on the marital status of the population of Obuasi East District from 15 years and older. The population aged 15 years and above for the Obuasi East District was 668 representing 78.0% of the population covered as the sample. The population 15 years and above for the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council was 71% (221) of the

population of study whiles Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council's componenet was 76% (190). Those 15 years and above for the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council was 79% (257). In the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, 50% (112) are married. Those who are married in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council were 52% (98). Those who are married in the the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council constituted 37% (95). Those who are single in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council constituted 79% (175). For the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council, 69% (131) of them were single. About 72% (186) of them in Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area council were single (Table 9.3).

The high proportions of single persons in the Obuasi East District can be attributed to the mining activities which attract mostly single persons. This however shows that sharing the burden of poverty becomes an individual affair rather than couples affair. The more people in the household who share the burden the lighter the burden will be for all. It can be concluded then that the poverty burden is higher in the Wawas-Kwabrafoso Area Council followed by Brahabebome-Akaporiso and Tutuka-Odumasi in that order.

Table 9.3: Marital status of the population 15 years and older by Area Councils

Age Cohort	Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area					Tutuka-Odumasi Area					Brahalebome-Akaporiso Area				
	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Single	Consensual	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Single	Consensual	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Single	Consensual
15-19	0	0	0	31	0	0	0	0	16	0	1	0	0	28	0
20-24	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	0	9	0	3	0	0	28	1
25-29	11	0	1	21	3	0	0	0	37	0	11	0	0	37	3
30-34	22	0	0	14	7	0	0	0	7	1	17	1	0	17	2
35-39	33	0	0	2	1	11	1	2	1	0	12	1	3	4	2
40-44	21	1	1	2	2	16	1	0	0	1	14	1	0	1	0
45-49	13	1	0	0	0	18	2	3	0	0	13	2	5	1	1
50-54	6	0	1	0	0	12	1	0	1	0	11	2	2	0	0
55-59	3	1	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	0	9	2	4	2	0
60-64	1	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1
65+	1	3	2	0	0	3	1	6	1	0	1	1	6	0	1
Total	112	6	5	175	13	98	7	11	131	2	95	10	20	186	12

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

9.6 Ethnic affiliation of the population in Obuasi East District

Table 9.4 and Figure 9.3 illustrate the various ethnic groups in the three area councils in the Obuasi East District. In the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council, the Akans dominate constituting 76%. Other ethnic groups, such as the Hausas and Dagombas, are the second dominant groups with a percentage of 14%. The Ewes constitute 8% of the population in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council. The least dominant group is the Ga (2%). In the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, the Akans are the dominant ethnic group (72%) followed by the other ethnic groups constituting 19%. Both the Ewes and the Gas constitute 5% of the population. In the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council, the Akans are the dominant ethnic group (67%), followed by the other ethnic groups constituting 20%. The Ewes constitute 8% of the population with the Gas being the least dominant ethnic group with 5%. All the area councils are made up of diverse ethnic groupings and since they are mining and economically vibrant areas, it attracts people from all works of life promoting peace, harmony and inter-ethnic marriages. The stronger the network the more social capital to be accumulated to cope with poverty and respond more effectively.

Table 9.4: Ethnic affiliation of the population in Obuasi East

Ethnicity	Wawa- si-Kwabra- foso Area	%	Tutuka-Odu- masi Area	%	Brahabe- bome-Aka- poriso Area	%
Akan	225	72	190	76	220	67
Ewe	14	5	22	8	26	8
Ga	14	5	4	2	15	5
Others (Hausa, Dagomba)	58	19	35	14	66	20
Total	311	100	251	100	327	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

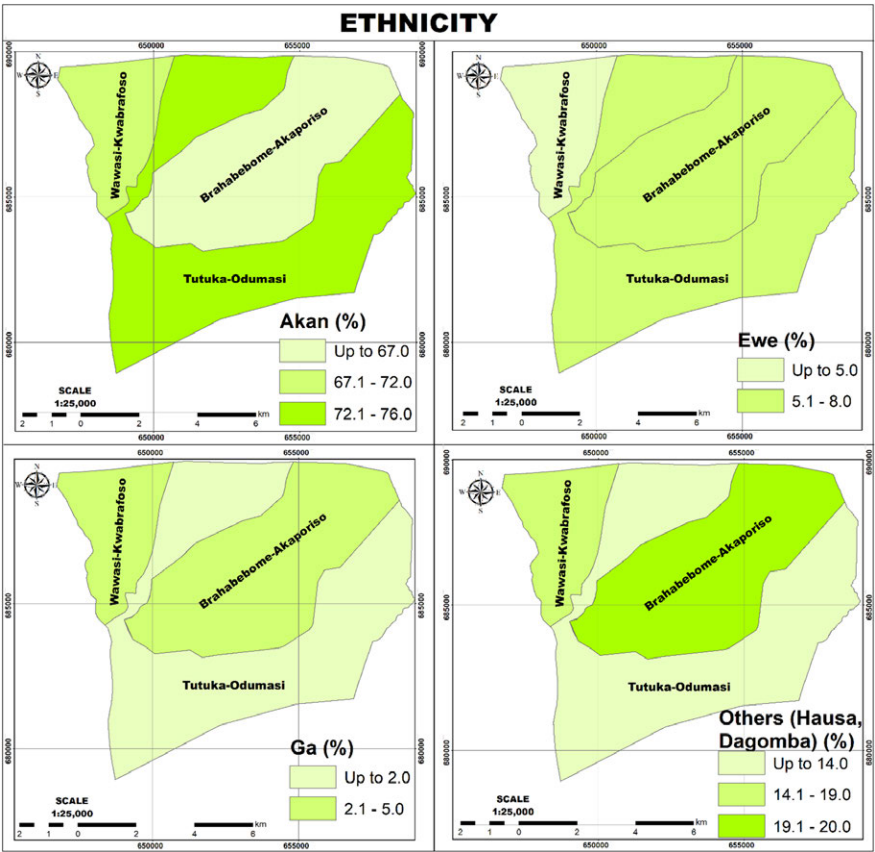


Figure 9.3: Ethnic affiliation of household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

9.7 Religious affiliations of the population

The data on the religious affiliations of the three area councils has been presented in Table 9.5 and Figure 9.4. As indicated in Table 9.5, the Christian religion is the most dominant religion in all the area councils. The Christians are 90%, 88% and 87% respectively for Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council. Moslems form 9% in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, 12% in Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council and 12% in Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council.

Table 9.5: Religious affiliation of the population

Religion	Wawa- si-Kwabra- foso Area	%	Tutuka-Odu- masi Area	%	Brahabe- bome-Aka- poriso Area	%
Christianity	280	90	222	88	284	87
Islam	30	9	29	12	39	12
Tradition- alist	1	1	-	-	4	1
Total	311	100	251	100	327	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

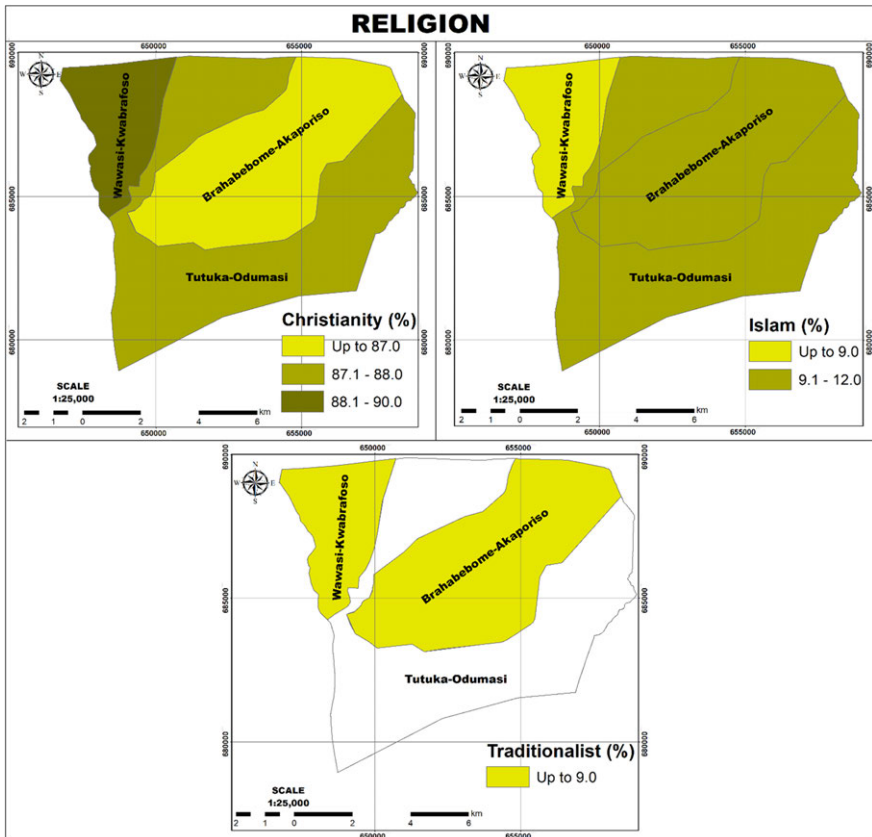


Figure 9.4: Religious affiliation of household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

The findings that religion provides emotional, moral and psychological support for people to cope with poverty in the Obuasi Municipality was also found in the Obuasi East District. Participants in the FGDs intimated that their faith put moral restraint on them to overcome some of the evils of society such as theft, prostitution and crime that people engage in to survive. The strong religious attachment and the diverse ethnicity provide social capital that help in coping with hardships of life due to poverty as noted by one of the females that:

“My church members always come handy when I need support. I easily borrow money without interest” (Female participant in FGD, September 2021). Another person added that “I lend money to people in my neighbourhood due to church and ethnic affiliations. I also borrow from them. Beyond this, friends and neighbours are ready to offer support anytime and this is how we survive” (Male participant in FGD, September 2021).

9.8 Migration and duration of residence

Tables 9.6, 9.7 and Figures 9.5 and 9.6 present data on the migrant population of the Obuasi East District and the duration of residence. Table 9.6 shows that, 82%, 86% and 75% of the population in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council and the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council respectively are natives of Obuasi East District. About 99%, 92% and 92% for Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, Tutuka-Odumasi Area and the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council respectively reside in the district throughout the year (Table 9.7). From table 9.6, 18% of the residents in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council are migrants who have settled in the district. Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council has 14% of the residents being migrants while Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council has 25% of the residents being immigrants. The main reasons that attract migrants into the district and for the majority residing in the district are the perception of the availability of jobs opportunities due to the existence of the mines. Although majority of them could not find the expected jobs, the presence of the mine has played a key role in making the Obuasi East District a recipient of migrants.

Table 9.6: Migration status of the population

Migration	Wawa- si-Kwabra- foso Area Population	%	Tutuka-Odu- masi Area Population	%	Brahabe- bome-Aka- poriso Area population	%
Native	255	82	216	86	245	75
In-migrant	56	18	35	14	82	25
Total	311	100	251	100	327	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

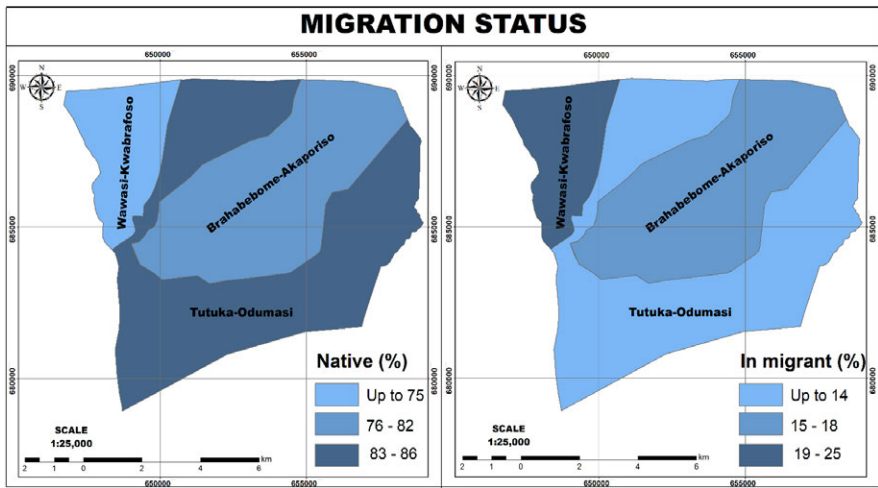


Figure 9.5: Migration status of household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Table 9.7: Duration of residents of the Population

Duration of residence	Wawa-si-Kwabrafoso Area Population	%	Tutuka-Odumasi Area Population	%	Brahabe-bome-Akaporiso Area population	%
Seasonal	2	1	21	8	27	8
All year	309	99	230	92	300	92
Total	311	100	251	100	327	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

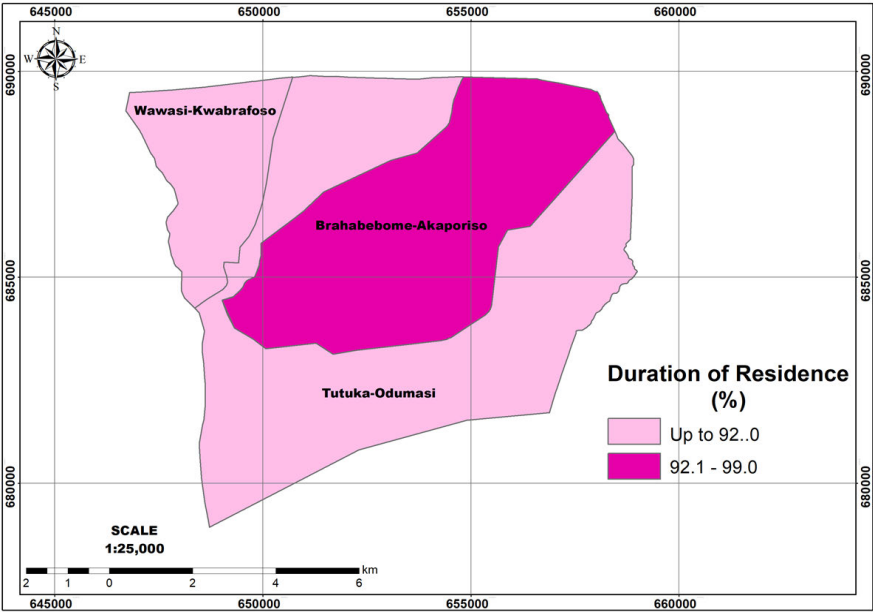


Figure 9.6: Household members who resides in the Municipality all year
Source: Author’s Construct, June 2021

The high proportion of the interviewees are natives of Obuasi East District and the majority who reside in the district all year round was a major issue of concern which emerged in the FGDs. They intimated that the limited job opportunities in the district made it difficult for them to make ends meet. In their views, residing in the district all-year-round without stable jobs implies that they cannot pay their rents and other utility bills. Based on the evidence that there are no adequate jobs for the many who stay in the district, it can be said that residents in the Obuasi East District are deprived and vulnerable to poverty.

9.9 Persons Living with Disability

In the Obuasi East District, three forms of disability were identified as shown in Table 9.8. Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council recorded one person with walking disability and two others having vision impairment. For Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council, there was one having walking difficulty and another person with hearing impairment. Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area has the highest number

of persons with disability. Two had walking difficulty, two having vision impairment and one with hearing problem. Thus, 0.7% 0.9% and 1.5% respectively of the population in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council, Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area council were persons living with disability. However, Disability Dependency burden analysis revealed that, for every 100 persons of the working population (15-64), there would be 1 person with disability to be supported. This is very low and hence the burden on the working population would be low.

Table 9.8: Persons living with disability among the population

Forms of Disability	Wawa-si-Kwabrafoso Area Council	%	Tutu-ka-Odu-masi Area Council	%	Brahabe-bome-Aka-poriso Area Council	%
Cripple	1	33	1	50	2	40
Blind	2	67	0	-	2	40
Dumb	-	-	1	50	1	20
Total	3	100	2	100	5	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

9.10 Chapter conclusion

The demographic data revealed that there are more females than males in all the three Area Councils. This group of residents suffer most in terms of the limited employment opportunities available in the district. The data also shows that age dependency, sex dependency and disability dependency burdens are generally low which should make it possible for working household members to save but for the lack of jobs. The strong religious attachments with wide ethnic diversity provides social capital which are invoked to cope with poverty and deprivation.

Chapter 10

MANIFESTATIONS OF SOCIAL DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY

10.1 Introduction

This section of the report focuses on the social dimensions of poverty in the Obuasi East District covering housing, education and the health.

10.2 Type of Housing units

Table 10.1 presents data on housing types available in the Obuasi East District. The results indicate that majority of dwellings in Brahabebome (32%), Tutuka (42%) and Wawasi (57%) are small self-contained houses (See also Figure 10.1). This is followed by traditional compound houses (28%) in Brahabebome. In the Tutuka Area Council, traditional compound houses comprised (31%) and single-family houses were 22%. In Wawasi, the second most common housing type is apartment (16%), followed by large single-family house (15%). Multi-storey compound houses are the most unpopular type of housing in the district represented by 3% in all three Area Councils.

Table 10.1: Housing Types in Obuasi Municipality

Housing Typology	Area Councils		
	Brahabebome	Tutuka	Wawasi
	Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)
Traditional compound house	28	31	9
Multi-storey compound house	3	3	3
Small self-contained	32	42	57
Large single-family house	20	22	15
Apartment	17	2	16
Total	100	100	100

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

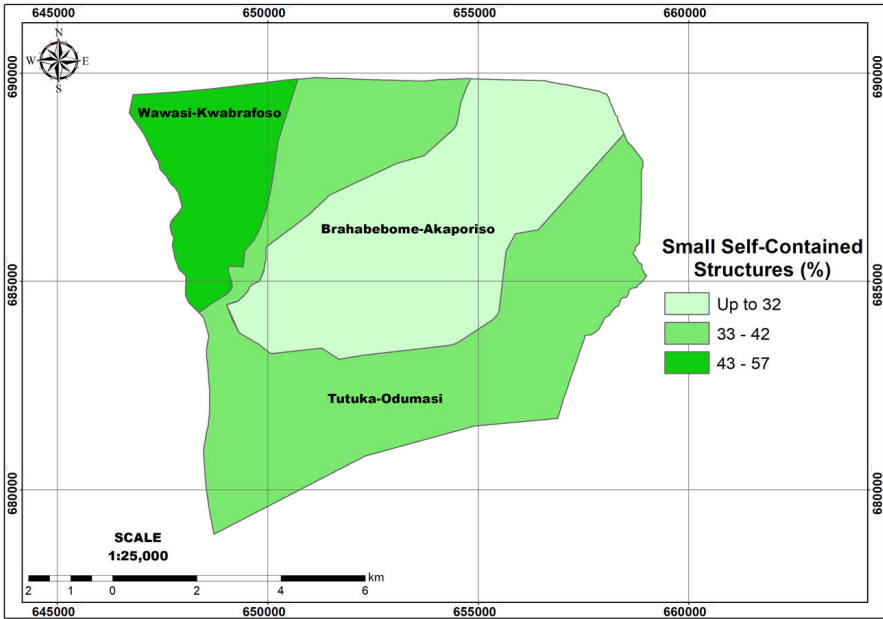


Figure 10.1: Major housing typology patronized in the community
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

10.3 Tenancy Arrangements and Cost of Housing - Rent

Table 10.2 and Figure 10.2 present data on the tenancy arrangement of the household heads interviewed in the Obuasi East District. The results show that, household heads who owned houses in Tutuka were comparatively more than those in Brahabebome and Wawasi. The figures obtained were 36%, 30% and 24% respectively. In the Wawasi Area Council, the proportion of household heads who occupied housing units for free was higher than those in Brahabebome and Tutuka, these were 56%, 23% and 28% respectively. In terms of household heads who rent their housing units, Brahabebome recorded the highest proportion of 47%, followed by 36% in Tutuka and 24% in Wawasi. Generally, majority of the household heads in Brahabebome are tenants (47%) whereas majority are free occupants in Wawasi (56%). There is no difference in the proportion of household heads who are owners and tenants in Tutuka (see Table 10.2).

In terms of the cost of rent in the District, as seen in Figure 10.3, the average monthly rent in Brahabebome is significantly higher (₹129) compared to Tutuka (₹81) and Wawasi (₹91). Housing is cheapest in Wawasi than in the other Area Councils.

Table 10.2: Tenancy arrangements in Obuasi East District

Occupier Status	Area Councils		
	Brahabebome	Tutuka	Wawasi
	Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)
Owner	30	36	20
Free Occupier	23	28	56
Tenant/Renter	47	36	24
Total	100	100	100
Apartment	17	2	16
Total	100	100	100

Source: Author’s Construct, June 2021



A photograph from Brahabebome in the Obuasi East District
Source: foursquare.com

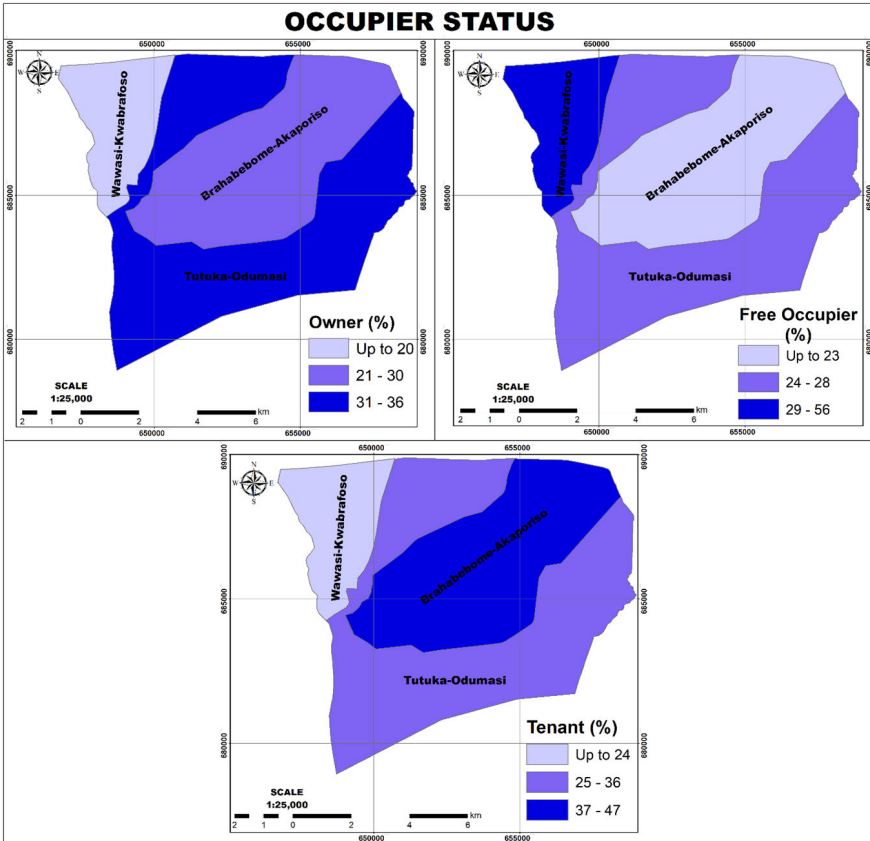


Figure 10.2: Occupier status of household heads

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

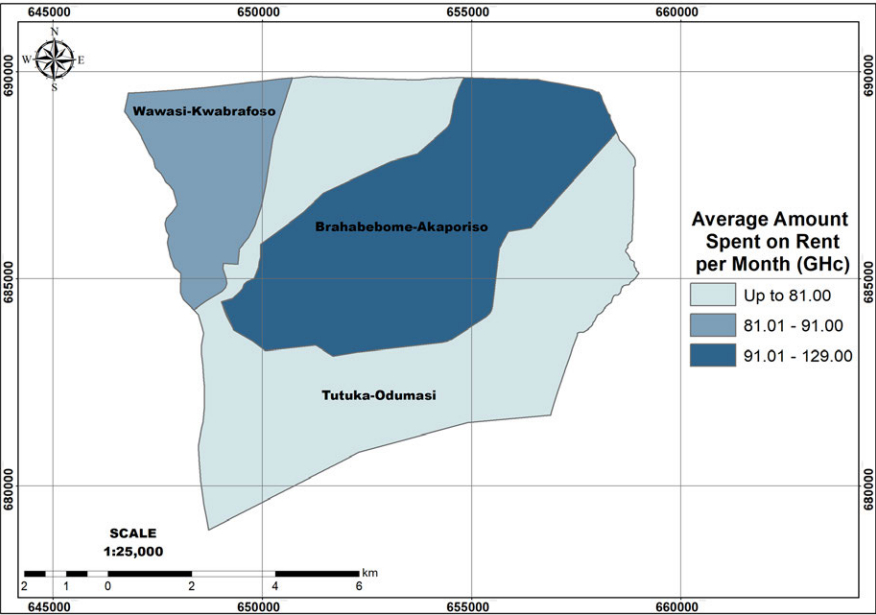


Figure 10.3: Average amount spent on rent per month
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

In the view of members in all the FGD, rents are high in the Obuasi East District especially for the majority who cannot find reliable jobs. It was revealed that in order to cope with this, the sharing of rooms has become a common practice although this leads to congestion in the rooms as noted by one of them that:

“Because we do not have jobs, five of us share a room to pay the rent of GHC150 a month. Even with this, some of us find it difficult to pay. Our rooms is also congested but there is nothing we an do” (Male participant in FGD, September 2021).

This common practice was corroborated with all the key informants in the Obuasi East District Assembly and opinion leaders in the communities. The effects of room sharing and high rents include exposing females to sexual abuse which was common in the Obuasi East District. This is predominant in Brahabehome-Akaporiso Area Council followed by Wawas-Kwabrafoso Area and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council.

10.4 Construction Materials

This section reports on the materials used for the construction of the walls and roofing of the dwelling units in the Brahabebome, Wawasi and Tutuka Area Councils.

10.4.1 Construction Materials And Condition Of The Walls Of Dwelling Units

As shown in the Table 10.3, sandcrete is the main construction material used for the walls of dwelling units in Brahabebome, Tutuka and Wawasi area councils recording (76%), (70%) and (92%) respectively. This is consistent with GSS (2012) that sandcrete blocks are the main building materials for walls in many parts of Ghana. Only 13% in Tutuka Area Council lives in houses made of wattle and duab (see Figure 10.4 also).

In terms of wall quality, it can be said the living standards of the residents in all three area councils are good in housing quality as sandcrete is a quality building material that ensures the durability of houses thereby reducing house related risk (Fiadzo,2001). The Wawasi area is however better off than the Brahabebome and Tutuka areas (Figure 10.4). In the Tutuka area, 13% of the residents live in house made of wattle and duab which is considered as poor-quality material for housing as such houses can easily get deteriorated (Mensah, 2011).

In terms of the conditions of the walls, 51% of the houses in Tutuka Area Council have their walls cracked. All the residents interviewed noted that this is as a result of the fact that 13% have their houses made of wattle and daub which are poor-quality materials. In Brahabebome and Wawasi areas, 71% and 55% respectively of walls of the houses are not cracked. In addition, the conditions of the foundations of the houses are good in all three areas. About 93%, 84% and 83% of the sampled households in Brahabebome, Tutuka and Wawasi respectively have their foundations not exposed. The households that have their houses rendered and painted constitute 43% in the Brahabebome Area Council, 45% in the Tutuka area and 19% in Wawasi Area Council. The Brahabebome Area Council has a better living standard than Tutuka and Wawasi since Tutuka (51%) and Wawasi (45%) areas have more cracked walls.

Table 10.3: Main construction materials for the construction of outer wall, Condition of Wall and Foundation

Building Materials	Area Councils		
	Brahabebome	Tutuka	Wawasi
	Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)
Sandcrete	76	70	92
Landcrete	16	2	5
Bricks	8	15	3
Wattle and Daub	-	13	-
Total	100	100	100
Condition of Walls			
Cracked	29	51	45
Not cracked	71	59	55
Total	100	100	100
Wall Rendering			
Rendered	31	34	73
Not rendered	26	21	8
Rendered and painted	43	45	19
Total	100	100	100
Condition of Housing Foundation			
Exposed	7	17	16
Not exposed	93	83	84
Total	100	100	100

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

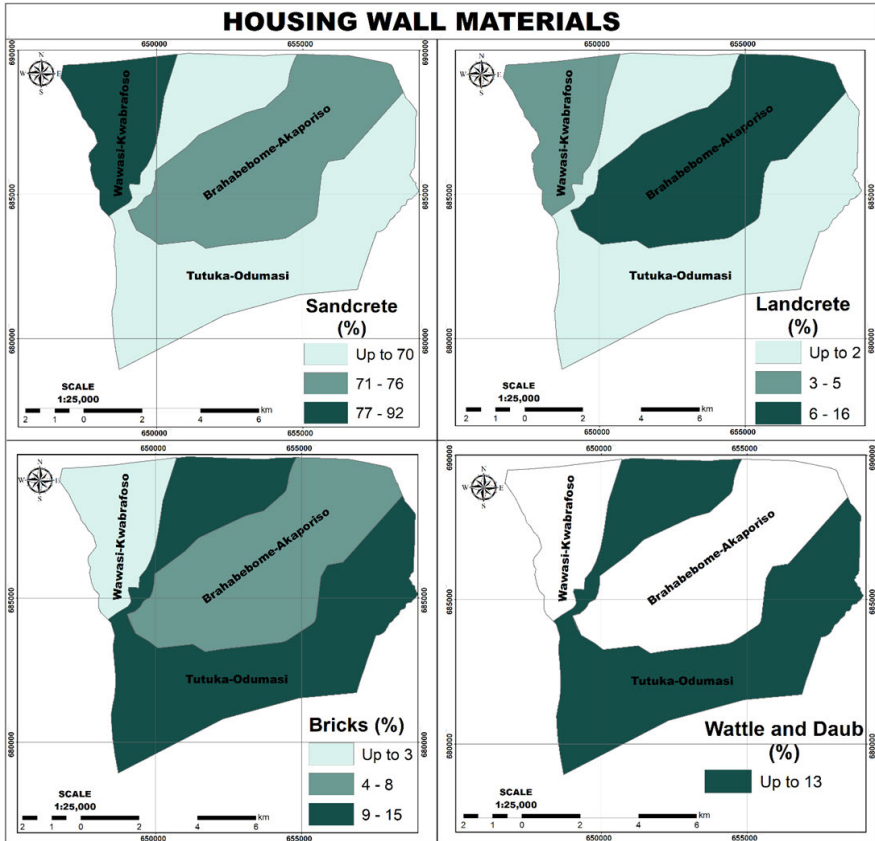


Figure 10.4: Housing wall materials
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

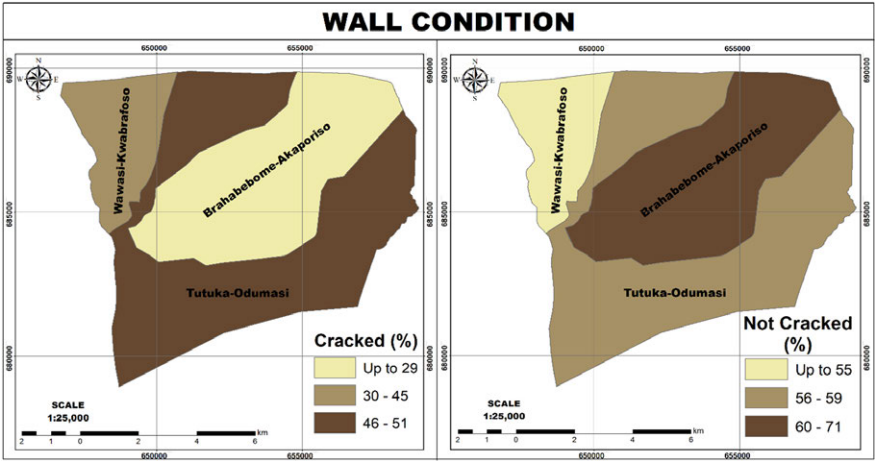


Figure 10.5: Wall condition of houses in the community
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

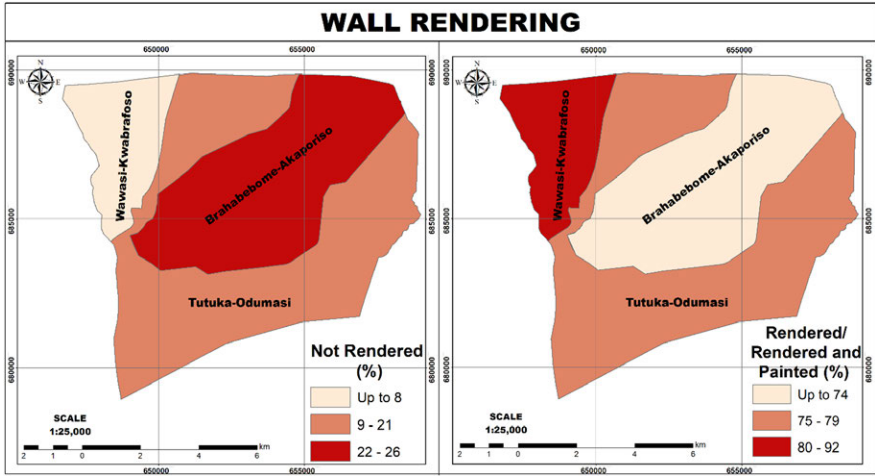


Figure 10.6: Wall rendering
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

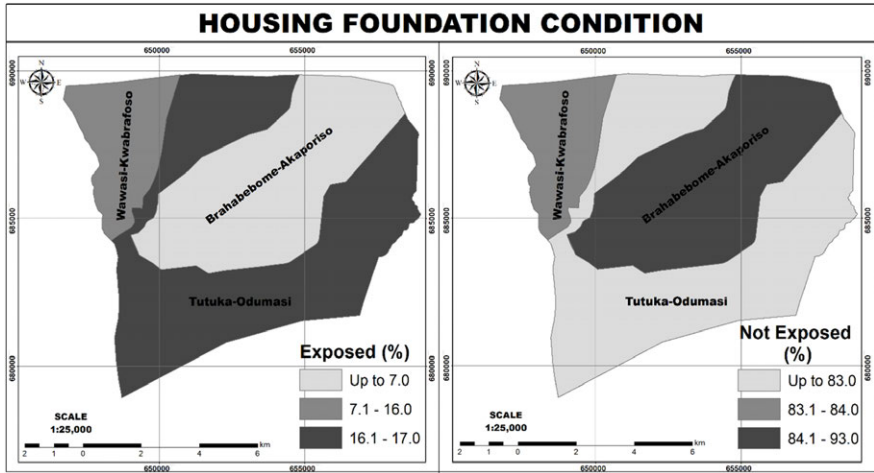


Figure 10.7: Foundation conditions of houses
Source: Author's Construct, 2021

10.4.2 The Roofing Materials Of Dwelling Units In Obuasi East

According to the data, it can be said that Brahabebome and Wawasi areas use quality roofing materials for their houses as 63% and 66% respectively ticked iron sheets. Also, 32%, 45% and 33% responded to aluminum sheets in Brahabebome, Tutuka and Wawasi areas respectively. About 11% ticked thatch as roofing material in the Tutuka.

The quality of the roofing materials accounted for the low number of houses with leaking roofs in the communities of all three Area Councils. The roofs of majority of the households in Brahabebome (79%), Tutuka (80%) and Wawasi (80%) are not leaking.

Table 10.4: Main construction materials and condition of roofing

Roofing Materials	Area Councils		
	Brahabebome	Tutuka	Wawasi
	Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)	Frequency (%)
Iron Sheet	63	44	66
Aluminum Sheet	32	45	33
Tiles	2	-	1
Thatch	-	11	-
Total	100	100	100
Condition of Roof			
Leaking	21	20	20
Not leaking	79	80	80
Total	100	100	100

Source: Author’s Construct, June 2021

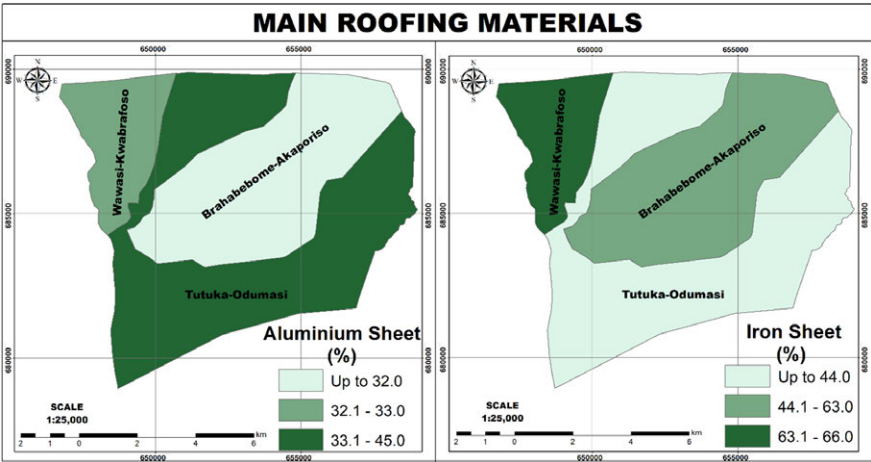


Figure 10.8: Major roofing materials used in the district
Source: Author’s Construct, June 2021

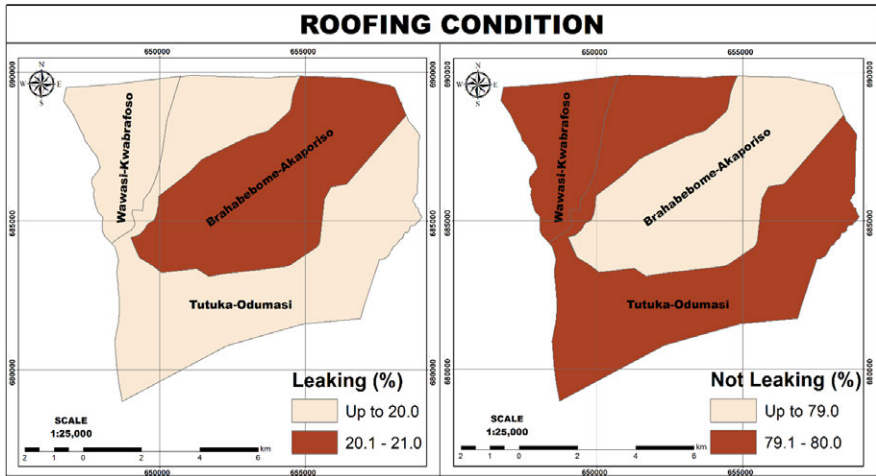


Figure 10.9: Roofing conditions of houses in the district
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Generally, in terms of building materials, Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council tops in quality followed by Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council. For wall quality, Brahabebome tops followed by Tutuka and Wawasi. Brahabebome again tops in quality of foundation of houses followed by Wawasi and Tutuka. The analysis reveals that the few households with poor-quality housing is as a result of low household income levels supporting the claims of Kyei (2013) and also as a result of the fact that some of the houses are rented where the maintenance of the house is the sole responsibility of the landlord. From the findings it could be deduced that majority of the households have high levels of living standard as it is observed in the building and roofing materials used by the households in all three area councils.

10.5 Housing Maintenance

According to the response for housing maintenance in the Obuasi East District Assembly, about 51% of the household heads indicated that they regularly maintain their houses when the need arises in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council whiles 49% of them do not maintain their houses at all (Table 10.5). For Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council, 37% of the household heads

also indicated that they maintain their house when the need arises whiles majority of the household heads do not maintain their houses at all. With Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, majority of the household heads (69%) maintain their houses when the need arises whiles 31% do not maintain their houses at all (see Figure 10.10 also). In general, majority of the household heads for Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council maintain their houses more than those in Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council.

Table 10.5: Maintenance of Housing

Response	Area Councils		
	Brahabebome	Tutuka	Wawasi
Yes	51	37	69
No	49	63	31
Total	100	100	100

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

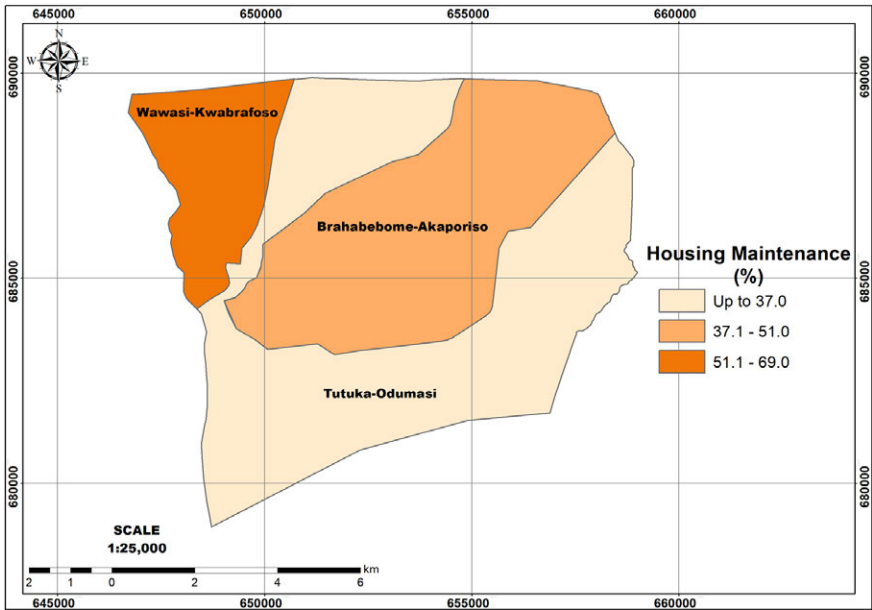


Figure 10.10: Level of housing maintenance in the district
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Data on the average cost of maintenance per month incurred by landlords and some tenants when the need arises in the Obuasi East District shows that out of the 100 household heads interviewed in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council, 51% (51) spend an average of GHC185.00 (Table 10.6 and Figure 10.11). Out of the 100 household heads interviewed in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council, (37%) spend an average of GHC111 on maintenance. Again, 69% of the household heads interviewed in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council indicated that they spend an average of GHC112 on maintenance montly. This implies that the household heads in the Brahabeome-Akaporiso Area Council spend more on maintenance than those in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council.

Table 10.6: Average Cost of Maintenance per Month

Area Councils	Number of Tenants	Average Cost of Rent/Month Tenant (¢)
Brahabeome	51	185
Tutuka	37	111
Wawasi	69	112
Total	157	408

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

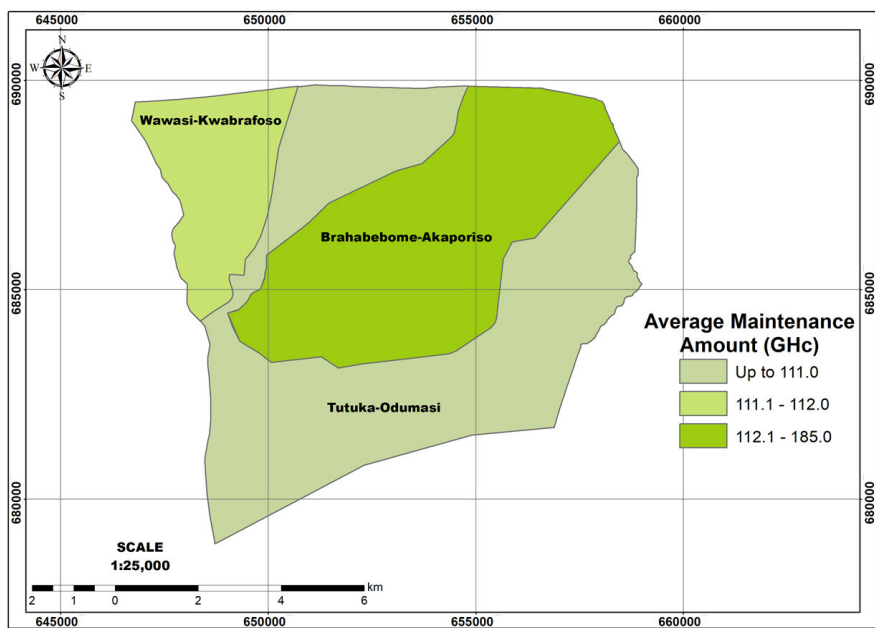


Figure 10.11: Average amount spent on maintenance
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

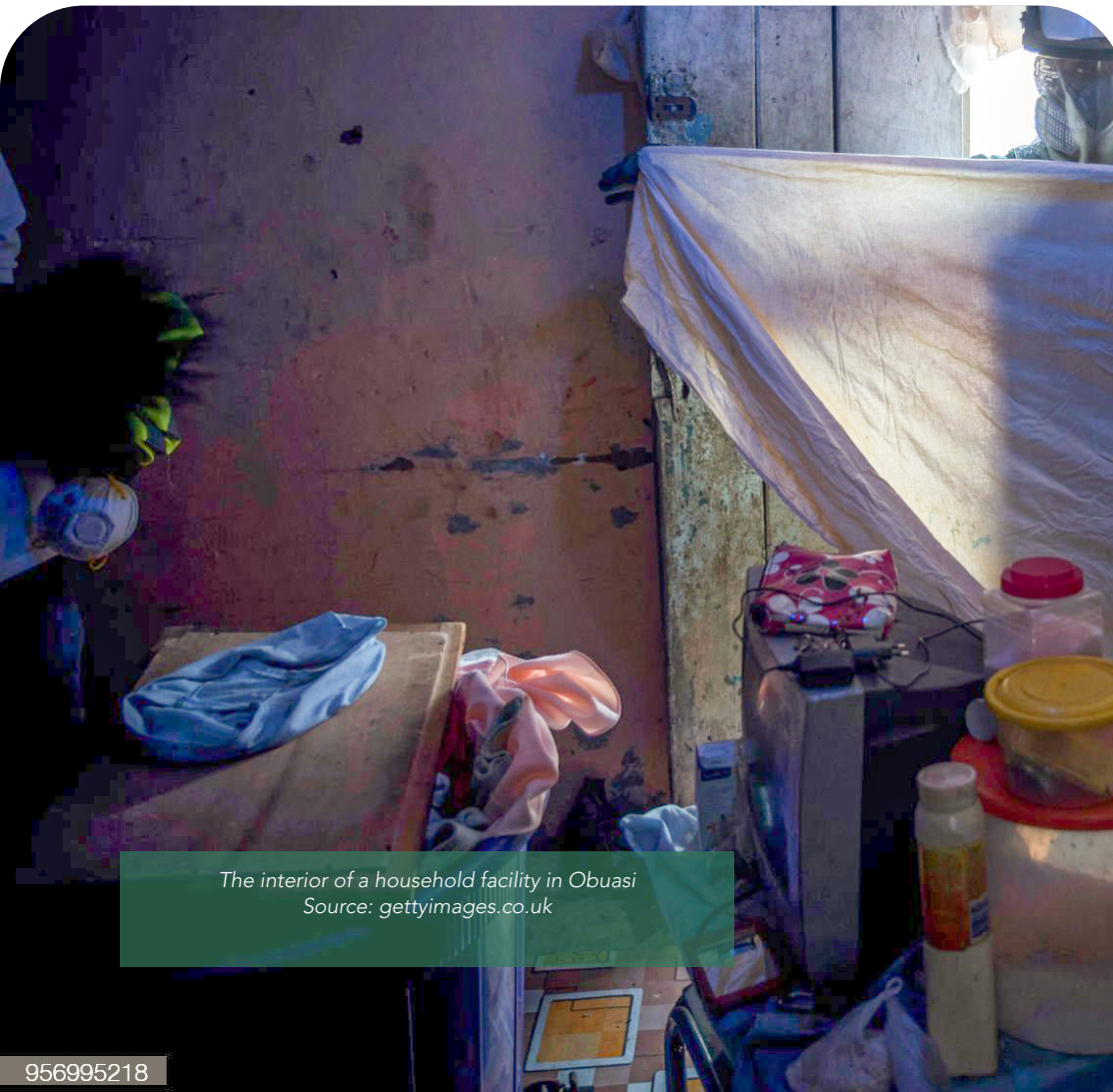
10.6 Facilities available to households, location and condition

The ideal situation is that all houses should contain basic facilities such as kitchen, bathrooms and toilets. This section discusses the facilities available to households, the location of the facilities and the conditions of the facilities for the three Area Councils.

10.6.1 Location of facilities

In terms of kitchen facilities, households in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council topped with majority of them (79%) having their private facility located internally in their houses. They can be said to be better off than those in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso (62%) and Tutuka-Odumasi (24%) with similar facility (Table 10.7). Again, the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council is leading with majority (75%) having their private toilet facility located in their houses. Brahabebome-Akaporiso and Tutuka-Odumasi follow with 54% and 24% respectively. For internal private bathrooms, those in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso

are again leading and better off with 83% of them having this. Brahabe-bome-Akaporeso and Tutuka are next recording 63% and 24% respectively. A good proportion of the households in Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council have private kitchen facility (76%) and bathroom facility (76%) located outside the house. Generally, all the facilities were in good condition across all three Area Councils except the case of toilet facility in Tutuka-Odumasi area where this has been described as being in poor condition.



The interior of a household facility in Obuasi
Source: [gettyimages.co.uk](https://www.gettyimages.co.uk)

Table 10.7: Location and condition of facilities

Location	Area Councils											
	Brahabebome (%)						Tutuka (%)					
	Kitchen	Toilet	Bath-room	Store-room	Kitchen	Toilet	Bath-room	Store-room	Kitchen	Toilet	Bath-room	Store-room
Private (Internal)	62	54	63	9	24	24	24	33	79	75	83	18
Private (External)	38	19	37	-	76	30	76	67	21	17	17	-
Public	-	27	-	-	-	46	-	-	-	8	-	-
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Condition of Facilities												
Excellent	8	6	8	-	1	2	1	-	4	5	4	-
Very Good	8	8	7	1	1	2	-	3	10	8	8	1
Good	58	52	57	5	36	25	26	28	64	60	68	15
Average	21	22	27	3	57	32	69	69	19	23	17	2
Poor	5	12	1	-	2	39	4	-	3	4	3	-
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

10.7 Education And Literacy

10.7.1 Highest level of education of household heads and members in Obuasi Municipal

Apart from primary level where equal proportions of male and female household heads have attained education in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Junior High School (JHS) level where more female household heads have attained this more than the male household heads, the data shows that majority of the males have attained Senior High School (SHS), Technical/ Vocational and Tertiary levels than females (Table 10.8). The females are more deprived in terms of SHS, Technical/ Vocational and Tertiary education. The data for Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council even suggests that there is high deprivation of female household heads in terms of educational attainment (Table 10.8). The males are in the majority in primary level (67%), JHS (71%), SHS (100%) Technical/Vocational (100%) and Tertiary (63%). More females than males have never had any formal education.

The data for Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council is similar to that of the Tutuka-Oduamsi's case. Overall, it can be said that females are less privileged in the three Area Councils with those in the Wawasi-Kwabarfoso area being a little better off than the other two.



The data shows that majority of the males have attained Senior High School (SHS), Technical/Vocational and Tertiary levels than females

Table 10.8: Highest level of education of household heads

Level of Education	Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council				Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council				Brahabeome-Akaporiso Area C.						
	Male	%	Female	%	Total	Male	%	Female	%	Total	Male	%	Female	%	Total
KG/ Nursery	1	100	0	0	1	0	0	1	100	1	1	100	0	0	1
Primary	1	50	1	50	2	6	67	3	33	9	2	40	3	60	5
JHS	6	43	8	57	14	20	71	8	29	28	7	44	9	56	16
SHS	12	63	7	37	19	17	100	0	0	17	18	75	6	25	24
Tech/ Voc	5	83	1	17	6=	5	100	0	0	5	6	75	2	25	8
Tertiary	46	82	10	18	56	12	63	7	27	19	21	70	9	30	30
Never	1	50	1	50	2	8	38	12	62	21	4	25	12	75	16
Total	72		28		100	68		32		100	59		41		100

Source: Field survey, June 2021

10.7.2 Literacy status of the population 5 years and older

The literacy status in the Obuasi East District covers the English language and the local language. Literacy in the section refers to people who can only read, write or both for the population 5 years and older. A greater proportion of the population are literate in the English language and local language. The local language used in the study is Twi which is the predominant local language for daily business activities in the Obuasi East District. A total of 308 (94%) of the population in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council are literates in the English language while 304 (93 %) are literates in the local languages. The population who are literate in the English language constituted 293 representing 94% while those who are literate in local language constituted 291 (89%) in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council. Those who are literate in the English language constituted 242 (96%) and those who are literates in the local language constituted 293 (95%) in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council Area. In general, there are more literates in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council for both the English language and the local language than the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council (Figure 10.12; 10.13). The residents in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council are more privileged than those in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso and Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Councils.



The local language used in the study is Twi which is the predominant local language for daily business activities in the Obuasi East District.



Figure 10.12: Literacy status of the population 5 years and above for all three Councils
Source: Field survey, June 2021

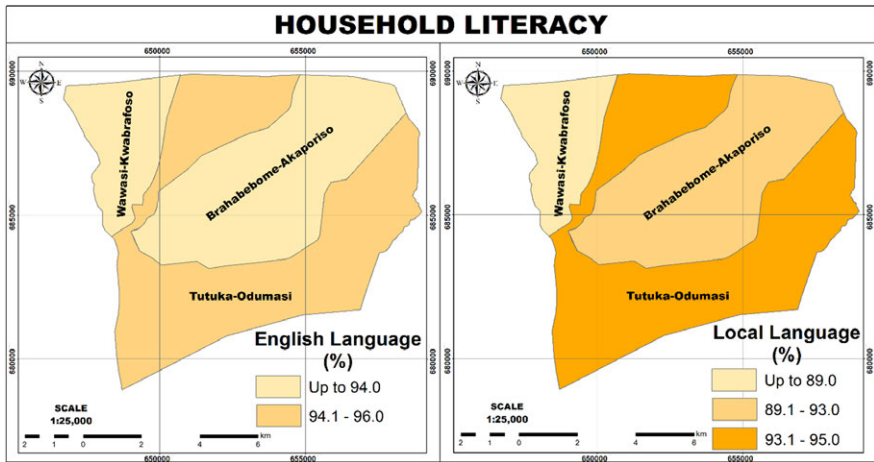


Figure 10.13: Literacy level of household members

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

10.8 Current School Attendance

This section of the report presents data on current school attendance by sex, level of education and type of facility, reasons for the choice of the facility and the location of facilities. Out of a population of 327 in Brahabebome, 251 in Tutuka and 311 in Wawasi, household members currently in school comprise 45% (103), 50% (75) and 54% (114) respectively for Brahabebome, Tutuka and Wawasi. The male population currently in school outweighs their female counterparts across all the Area Councils, they were 55%, 51% and 55% of males in Brahabebome, Tutuka and Wawasi respectively as against 45%, 49% and 45% of females respectively (Figures 10.14; 10.15; 10.16; 10.17; 10.18). Figure 10.16 shows that for the level of education and type of facility patronized, a greater share of the population currently in school in Brahabebome (66%) and Tutuka Area Councils (87%) attend public schools unlike Wawasi where private schools are mostly patronized (53%). The primary level recorded the highest proportion of household members currently in school whether public or private across all Area Councils.

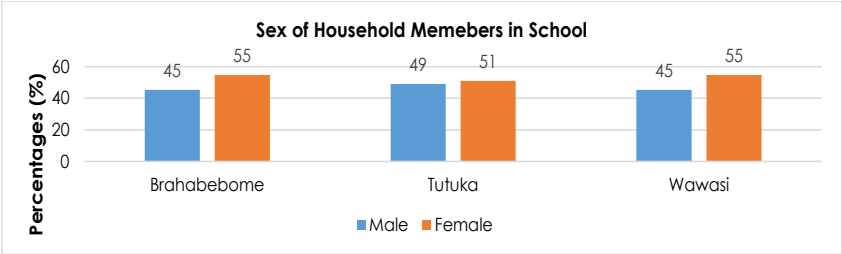


Figure 10.14: Sex of Household Members currently in School
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

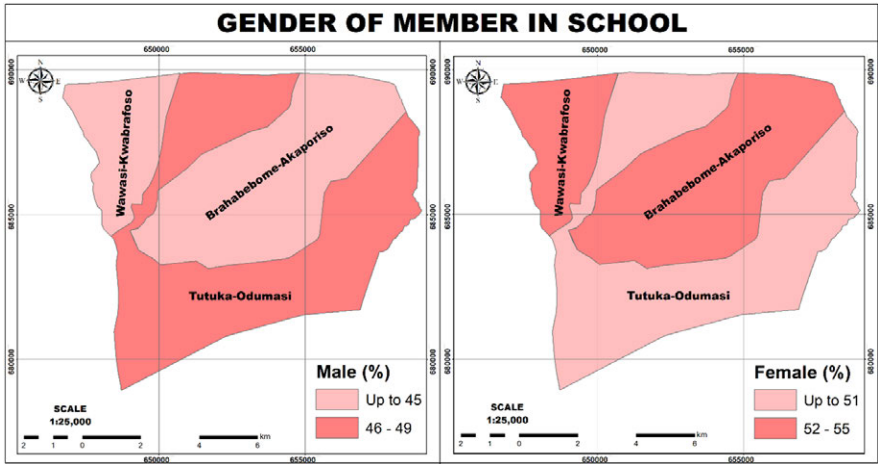


Figure 10.15: Sex of household members currently in school
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Table 10.9: Level of education of household members currently in school by type

Level	Public			Private		
	Brahabe-bome	Tutuka	Wawasi	Brahabe-bome	Tutuka	Wawa-si
KG/ Nursery	9	7	2	7	3	8
Primary	14	34	21	13	4	27
JHS	14	12	14	10	2	22
SHS	18	9	13	3	-	3
Tech/ Voc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tertiary	13	3	4	2	1	-
Total	68	65	54	35	10	60
Type of educational facility patronized						
Type	Brahabe-bome	%	Tutuka	%	Wawasi	%
Public	68	66	65	87	54	47
Private	35	34	10	13	60	53
Total	103	100	75	100	114	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

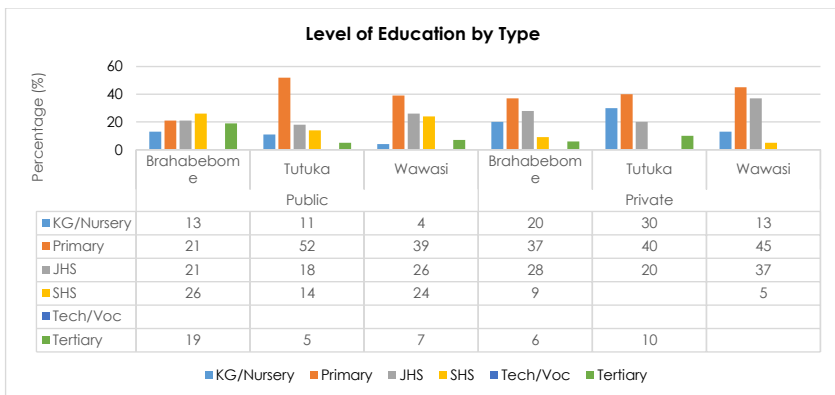


Figure 10.16: Level of education by type

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

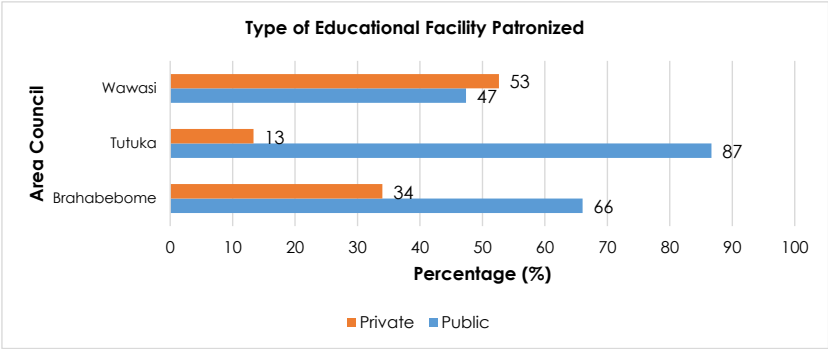


Figure 10.17: Type of educational facility patronized
SSource: Field Survey, 2021

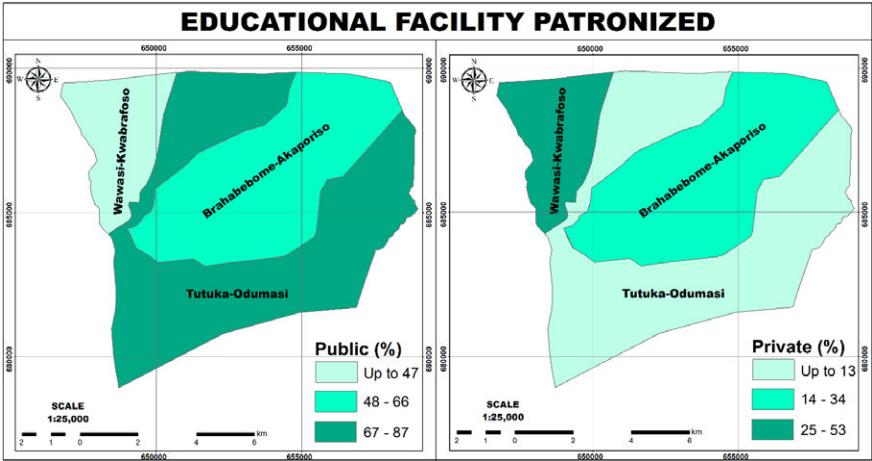


Figure 10.18: Educational facility patronized by household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

When they were asked to indicate the reasons for their choice of educational facilities, the results indicate that the major reasons why household heads send their wards to either public or public schools are affordability, proximity to the house and performance of students with affordability leading. In Brahabebome, household heads patronize public schools more than private schools due to affordability (60%) and proximity to house (25%). Similarly, affordability and proximity to their residence accounted for a larger percentage of reasons for patronizing public schools in Tutuka (40% and 48%) and Wawasi (44%). In Wawasi, more than half of the household heads prefer public institutions because of the performance of students in those schools. In Brahabebome, affordability accounted for a major reason why respondents chose a particular type of institution for their wards (represented by 46% of all reasons). In Tutuka, the major reason was the proximity of schools to the dwelling places of respondents (represented by 43% of all reasons) (Figures 10.19; 10.20)

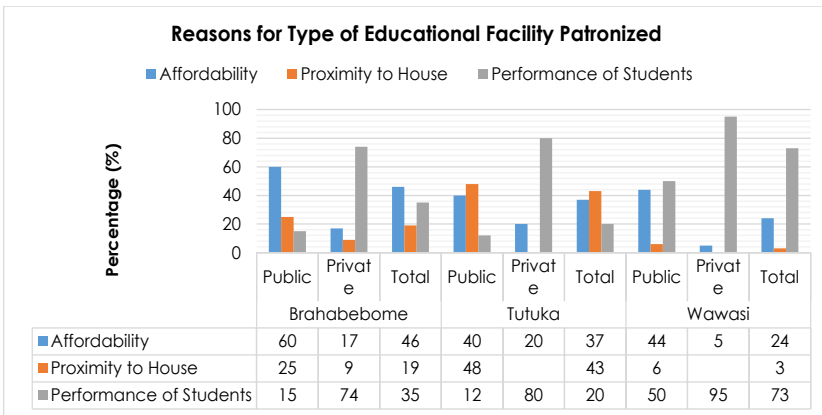


Figure 10.19: Reasons for Type of Educational Facility Patronized

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

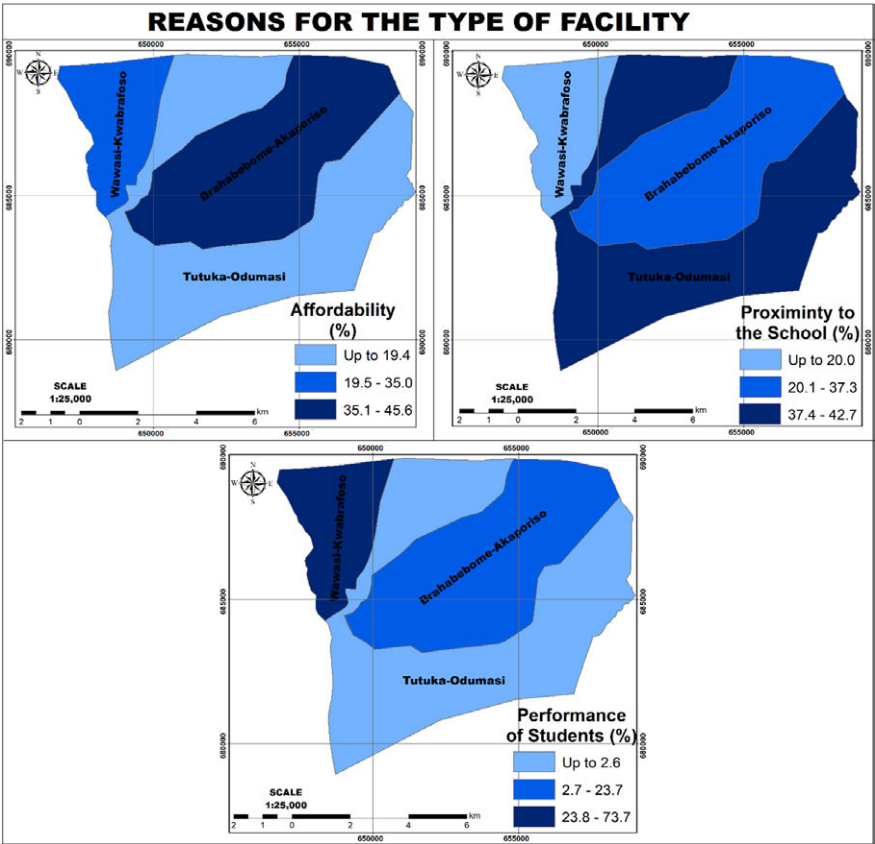


Figure 10.20: Reasons for choosing the type of educational facility
Source: Author's Construct, 2021

Generally, public schools are more popular in Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council and Tutuka Area Council than in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council. Given the fact that private schools are relatively expensive to public schools with comparatively better performance level, it can be said that the residents in Wawasi are better off than those in Brahabebome and Tutuka areas. This finding is supported by the views from the key informants and corroborated with claims in the FGDs with both adult males and females and participants in the Validation workshop. One of them noted that “The public schools are cheaper than the private schools that is why many of us send our wards there. We have heard that the private schools have better teachers, good and nice environment and high performance than the public schools but we cannot afford that” (Female participant in FDG, September 2021).

10.8.1 Location of educational facility by type, means to school and cost

This section focused on the location of the types of educational institutions, means to school and cost of transportation to school. Table 10.10 reveals that majority of the educational facilities are located outside the communities of respondents in Brahabebome (67%) and Wawasi (96%). In Brahabebome, majority of these schools are public (40%) where in Wawasi, the majority are private (53%). However, a large proportion (56%) of schools located in Tutuka is mostly inside the communities of respondents, and these are largely public schools (95%).

Household members currently in school use three main means to school: walking, by vehicle or bicycle. Figure 10.21 indicates that, a relatively greater proportion of household members in school attend school by vehicles in Wawasi (74%) than the other two Area Councils. Brahabebome comes next with (71%). In Tutuka, majority of students (61%) walked to school as compared to going by vehicle (36%) and bicycle (3%) because a proportionately higher percentage of schools were located inside the communities of respondents (56%). The average cost of transportation by vehicle per person per week was relatively higher in Brahabebome (₦19.00) than Tutuka (₦15.00) and Wawasi (₦15.00).

Table 10.10: Type of Educational Facility and Location

Types of Facility	Brahabebome				Tutuka				Wawasi			
	Inside Com.		Outside Com.		Inside Com.		Outside Com.		Inside Com.		Outside Com.	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
Public	28	82	40	58	40	95	25	76	2	40	52	47
Private	6	18	29	42	2	5	8	24	3	60	57	53
Total	34 (33%)	100	69 (67%)	100	42 (56%)	100	33 (44%)	100	5 (4%)	100	109 (96%)	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

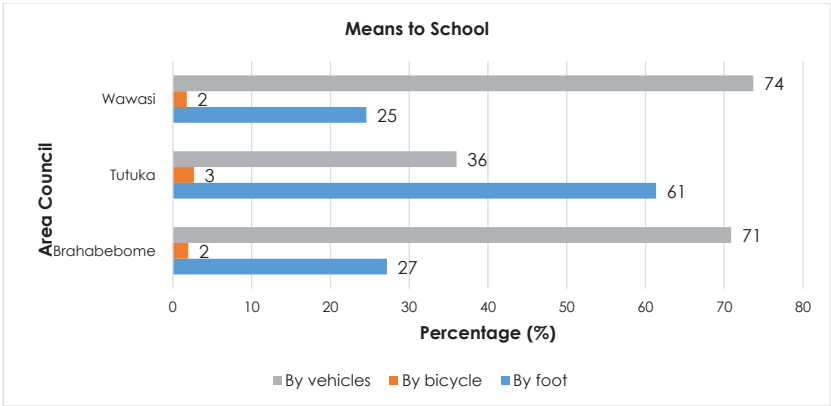


Figure 10.21: Means to School and Average Cost per Week
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

Table 10.11: Amount spent on transport per week

Means to School	Avg. cost/week (GH¢)		
	Brahabeabome	Tutuka	Wawasi
Vehicle	19.00	15.00	15.00

Source: Field Survey, June 2021



Aerial View of Obuasi lorry station
Source: obuasitoday.com

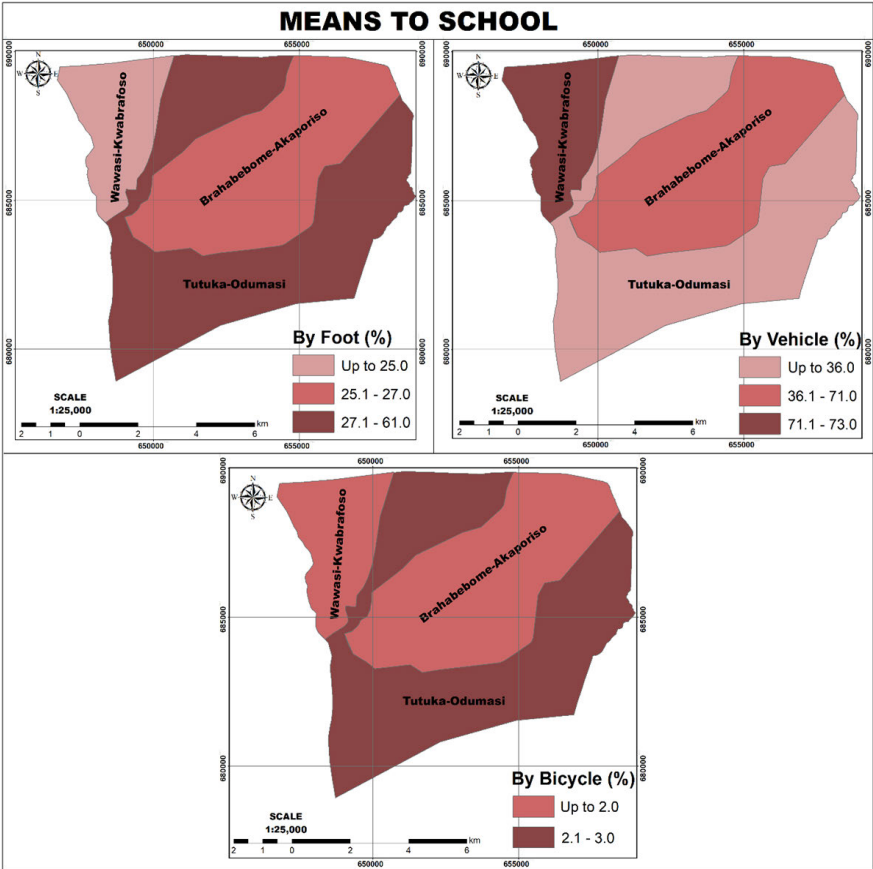


Figure 10.22: Means to school by household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

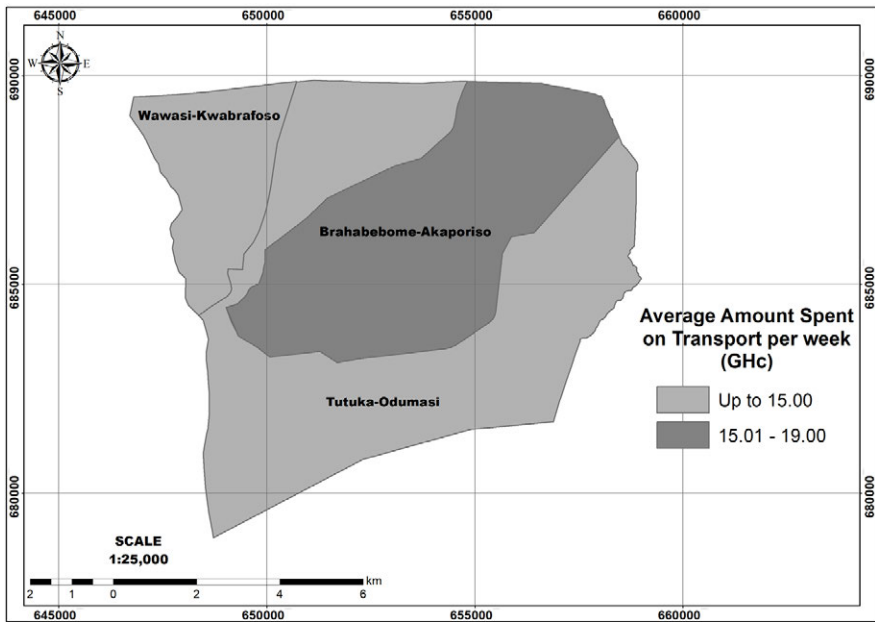


Figure 10.23: Average amount spent on transport per week
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

It appears that transportation to school takes a big proportion of household income in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Brahabehome-Akaporiso Area Council. This will either leave households with nothing and meager income for savings.

10.8.2 Beneficiaries of School Feeding Program and Free SHS Education Program

The beneficiaries of School Feeding Program are household members currently at the KG/Nursery and Primary levels in public schools. Household heads who responded 'No' to this are those who have their wards in private schools. Similarly, the Free SHS program focused on household members currently in public SHS schools. Household Heads who responded 'No' to this have their wards in private schools.

Table 10.12 shows that in Brahabebome, out of a total of 43 household members presently at the KG/Nursery and primary levels, majority (53%) benefitted from the school feeding program whereas 47% did not. Household members at the same level of education in Tutuka and Wawasi who have benefitted from the program are 49% and 40% respectively. What this data shows is that all the pupils in public schools benefit from the feeding programme. The impact of school feeding program on the cost of education was also assessed. The results revealed that reduction in the cost of education after the introduction of the school feeding program was relatively higher in Wawasi (37% reduction), followed by Tutuka (34% reduction) and Brahabebome (11% reduction).

Table 10.14 presented the data on the beneficiaries of free SHS program. The results indicated that out of a total of 21 household members who were currently in Senior High Schools in Brahabebome, 86% are in public schools and therefore enjoyed free education. In Tutuka, all the household members (9) in SHS benefitted from the program whereas 81% of members in Wawasi enjoyed free education out of a total of 13 students. Averagely, respondents who had their wards in public SHS schools had one of their children benefitting from free education.



Table 10.12: Beneficiaries of School Feeding Program

School Feeding Program									
Response	Brahabebome			Tutuka			Wawasi		
	Freq.	%	Avg. no. of Children	Freq.	%	Avg. no. of Children	Freq.	%	Avg. no. of Children
Yes	23	53	1	41	49	1	23	40	1
No	20	47		42	51		35	60	
Total	43	100		83	100		58	100	
Avg. Cost of Education before SFP (¢)	2383.00			1014.00			2464.00		
Avg. Cost of Education after SFP (¢)	2117.00			673.00			1552.00		
Difference	266.00 (11% reduction)			341.00 (34% reduction)			912.00 (37% reduction)		

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

Table 10.13: Beneficiaries of Free SHS Education Program

Free SHS									
Response	Brahabebome			Tutuka			Wawasi		
	Freq.	%	Avg. no. of Children	Freq.	%	Avg. no. of Children	Freq.	%	Avg. no. of Children
Yes	18	86	1	9	100	1	13	81	1
No	3	14		-	-		3	19	
Total	21	100		9	100		16	100	

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

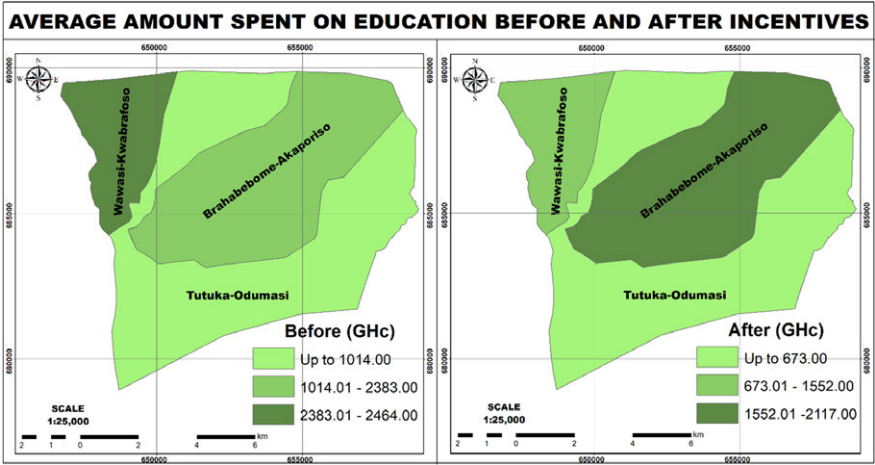


Figure 10.24: Average amount spent on education before and after the introduction of free education and school feeding program

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

The school feeding programme has contributed to a reduction of the cost of feeding a child in a year in all the three Area Councils. However, residents in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council only received 11% reduction as compared with 34% in Tutuka-Odumasi and 37% in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Councils. Generally, households in these areas still spend substantial amount of household income in providing supplementary feeding to their wards in school.

10.9 Health

This section of the chapter discusses health care status of the population in the Obuasi East District. Issues such as the type of health facilities patronised, the distance covered to access health care, accessibility (physical and financial) and the challenges faced in accessing health care in the district are discussed. The analysis is based on the spatial location of health facilities (see Figure 10.25). Five out of the six hospitals are all located in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council along the Wawasi-Domeabra main road. One is located in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and a Health Center is located in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council.

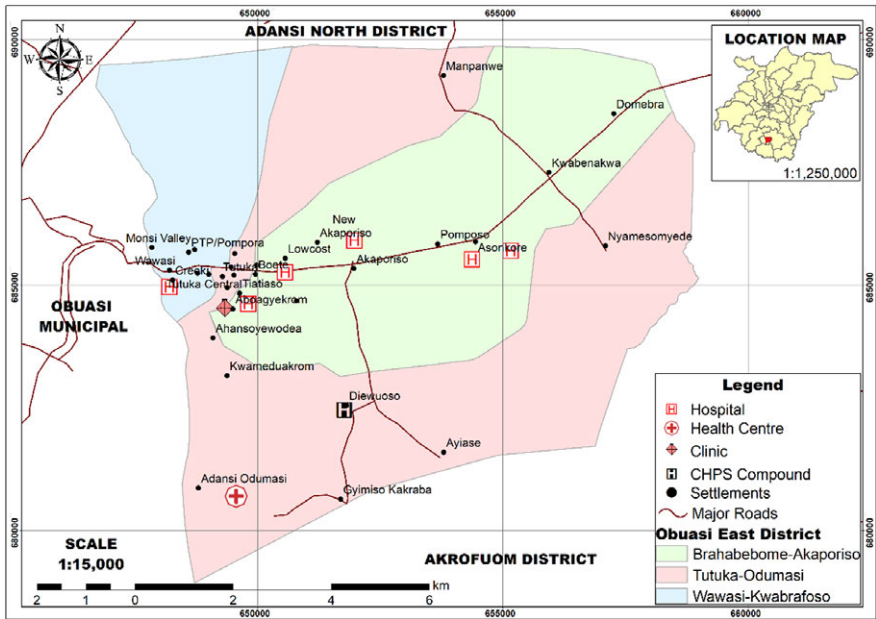


Figure 10.25: Spatial location of health facilities

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

10.9.1 Health Facilities Patronized

The data revealed that, majority of the population in all the three Area councils patronize hospitals. For instance, 92% and 89% and 38% of the residents in Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area council, Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council respectively patronize hospitals (Table 10.14 and Figure 10.26). This is followed by clinic in Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council, Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council. About 19% of the population in Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council use CHPS compound, and 10%, 5% and 4% of the residents in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council, Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area council and the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council respectively use Herbal medicine for their primary health care. Reasons for this choice were mostly due to long travel distance to hospitals.

Table 10.14: Types of health facilities patronized by residents in the Obuasi Municipality

Type of health facility	Wawasi-Kwabrafo-so Area Council		Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council		Brahabebome-Aka-poriso Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Hospital	89	89	38	38	92	92
Clinic	7	7	33	33	3	3
Herbalist	4	4	10	10	5	5
Health center/post	-	-	19	19	-	-
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

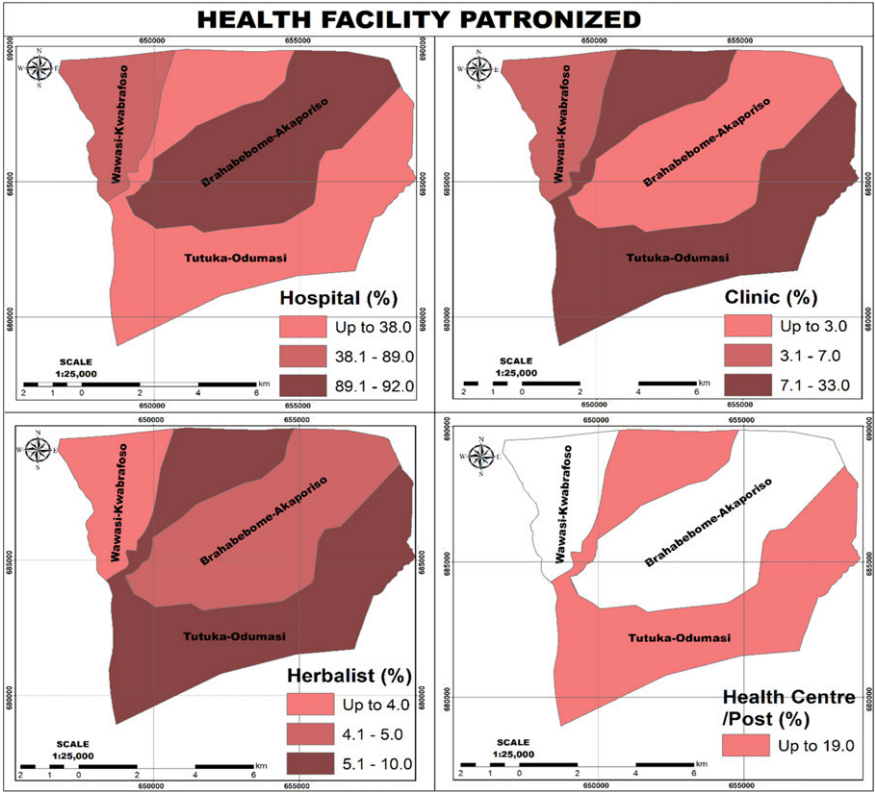


Figure 10.26: Type of health facility patronized
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

10.9.2 Location Of Health Facilities Patronized

For the three Area Councils, majority of the health facilities patronized are located outside the communities. About 70%, 64% and 25% of the respondents in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council, Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area council respectively, indicated that, the facilities patronized are located outside their communities. Generally, most communities in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area council do not have access to health facilities within the area and therefore travel outside the communities to access their health care needs. Comparatively, residents in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council have a high access to health care facilities than those in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council and Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area council.

Table 10.15: Location of health facilities patronized.

Location	Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council		Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council		Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Within Community	36	36	30	30	75	75
Outside Community	64	64	70	70	25	25
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

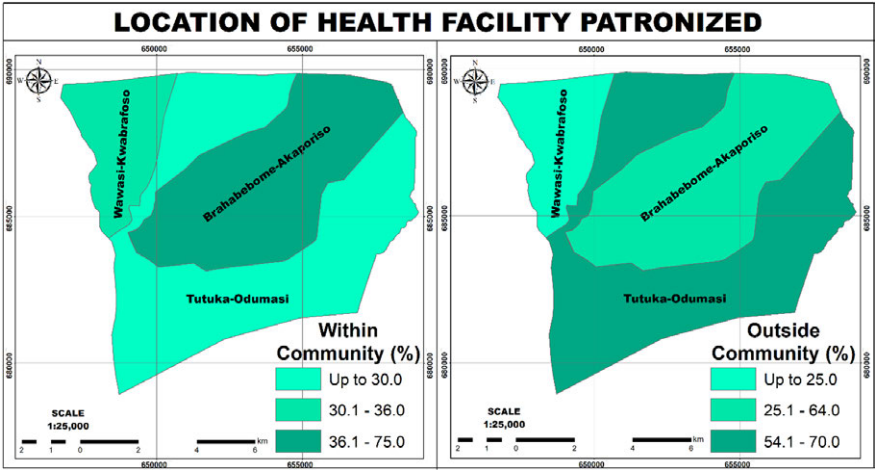


Figure 10.27: Location of Health Facility Patronized
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

10.9.3 Nature And Conditions Of Roads Leading To Health Facilities

The data on the nature and conditions of roads leading to the health facilities patronized by the residents in the Obuasi East District is presented in Table 10.16; 10.17 and Figure 10.28. Accessibility to social services is paramount in determining poverty levels within a geographic area. The study found that majority of the roads in all the area councils are tarred roads and this has influenced the conditions on the roads as indicated in Table 10.17. Generally, the roads within the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council are better than those in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council. The good nature of the roads in the Obuasi East District implies that, physical accessibility to health care facilities is high.

Table 10.16: Nature of roads leading to health facilities

Nature of roads	Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council		Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council		Brahabe-bome-Akaporiso Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Tarred	93	93	37	37	65	65
Untarred	6	6	46	46	24	24
Footpath	1	1	17	17	11	11
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

Table 10.17: Conditions of roads leading to health facilities

Conditions of Roads	Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council		Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council		Brahabe-bome-Akaporiso Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Very good	37	37	14	14	16	16
Good	57	57	27	27	60	60
Poor	4	4	23	23	11	11
Very poor			19	19	1	1
Neutral	2	2	17	17	12	12
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

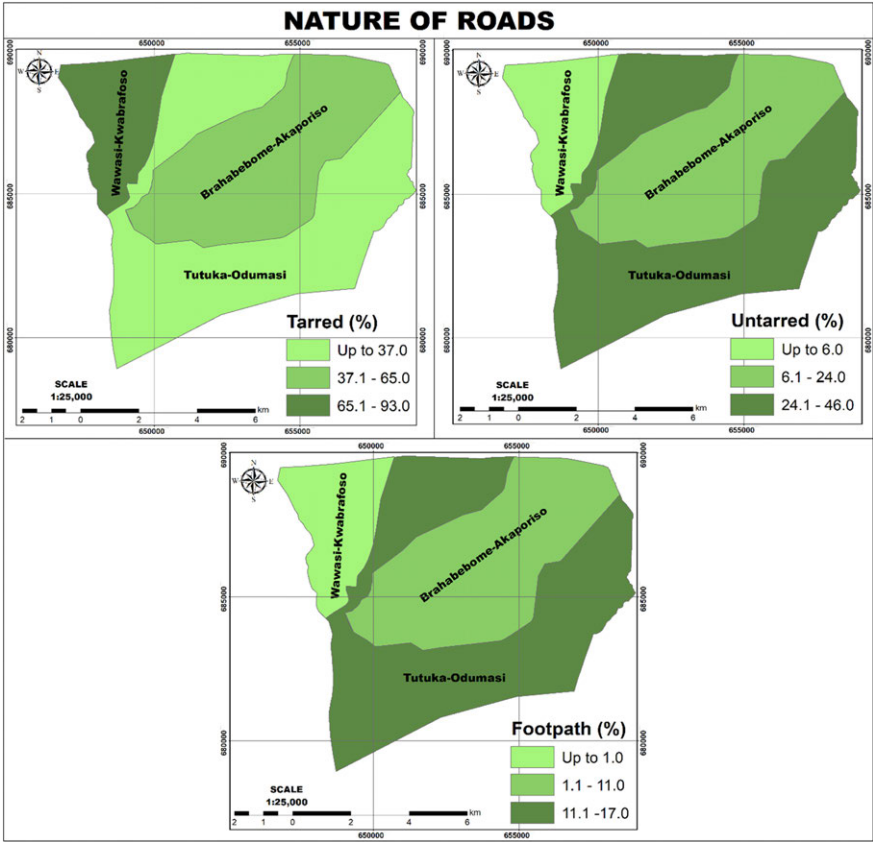


Figure 10.28: Nature of Roads to the health facilities
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

10.9.4 Time travelled to access health facilities and the mode of transport

It was found that majority of the residents in all the Area Council spends between 10-20 minutes to access the health facilities they patronize. For example, 59% of the population in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council access their health facilities between 10-20 minutes whiles 56% of the population use between 10-20 minutes to access their health facilities in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council and 40% of the population use between 10-20 minutes to access the health facility they patronize in Brahabehome-Akaporiso Area council.

As indicated in sub-section 10.9.2 earlier, the location of the health facility (hospital) is outside all the communities which has influenced the time used by residents to access the facility. Table 10.18 revealed that due to proximity of the Central Zonal Council to the hospital, 35% of the population in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area council use less than 10 minutes to access the health facility as compared to residents in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council.

Table 10.18: Travel time to access health facilities in Obuasi East District

Time	Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Council		Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council		Brahabe-bome-Akaporiso Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Under 10mins	35	35	28	28	37	37
10mins -20mins	59	59	56	56	40	40
21mins - 30mins	6	6	16	16	20	20
31mins and above					3	3
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

The modes of transport used for accessing the health facilities are mainly vehicle or by foot. From Figure 10.29, majority of the residents in the three area councils use vehicles to access health facilities, 69% of the residents in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council; 63% of the residents in the Brahabe-bome-Akaporiso Area Council and 60% of the residents in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council access the health facility by vehicle.

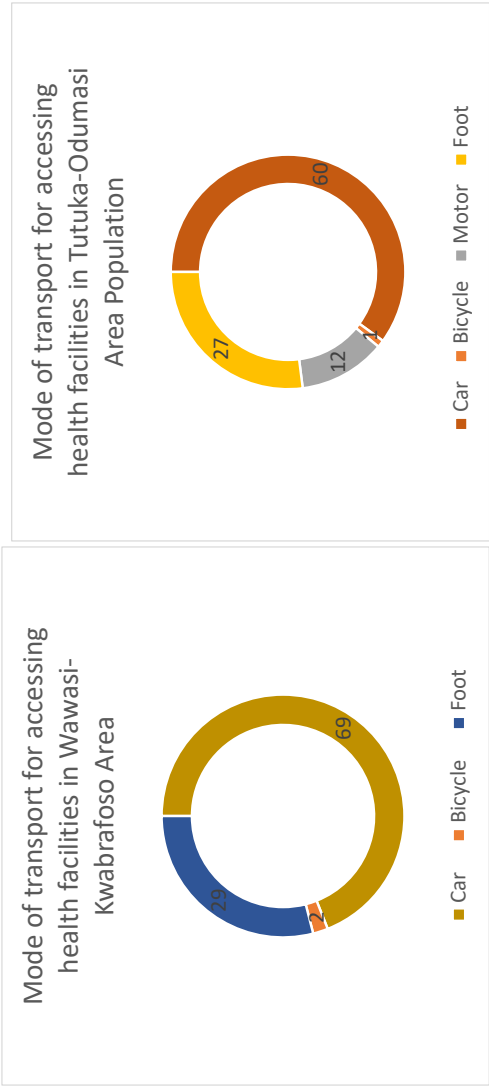


Figure 10.29: Mode of transport for accessing health facilities in Obuasi East District
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

10.9.5 NHIS status and Economic Accessibility

Very high proportions of residents in the three Area Councils have registered with the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS). The figures obtained were 95% (Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council), 77% (Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council) and 78% (Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council) (Figures 10.30; 10.31). The data also shows that, 89% of those in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area have active cards, 71% of the in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council have their cards active and 61% of the residents in Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council have active cards.



Figure 10.30: NHIS registration and its status in the District Assembly
Source: Field survey, June 2021

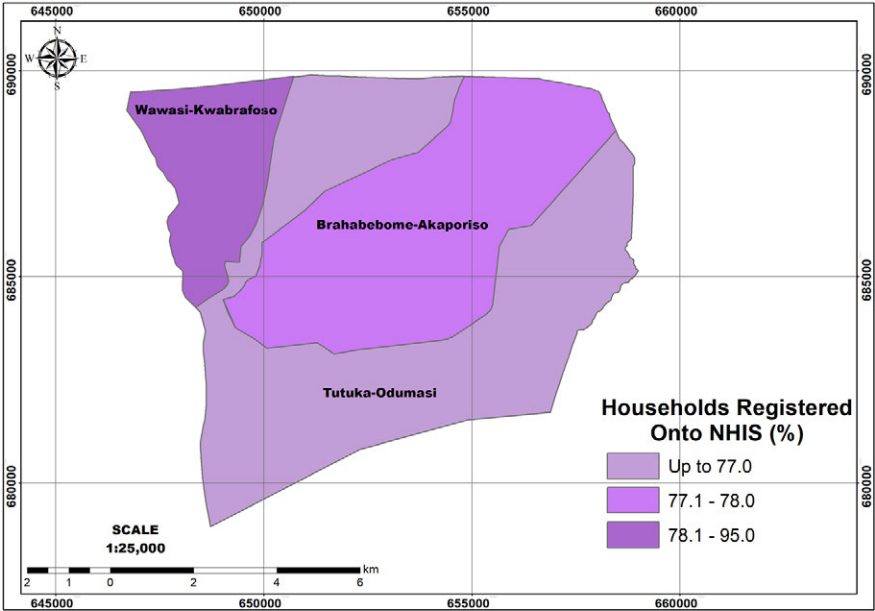


Figure 10.31: Household members registered onto National Health Insurance Scheme
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Comparatively, the residents in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council have high access to health facilities than those in the Brahabeabome-Akaporiso Area Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council. The high numbers of NHIS registration implies that majority of the residents do not have economic barriers to health care.

10.10 Chapter Conclusion

Housing conditions were generally good in all the three Area Councils. There were however issues of poor toilet facilities in Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council. The school feeding programme and the free SHS have contributed to reducing household expenditure on education but they still spend substantial amount of money on feeding their wards in school. Transportation costs to school also take a chunk of household income especially in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council and Brahabeabome-Akaporiso Area Council. Residents in all the three Area Councils have good access to health facilities. The concentration of higher order health facilities (hospitals) in Brahabeabome-Akaporiso Area Council implies that they have better physical access than the other two Area Councils.

Chapter 11

MANIFESTATIONS OF ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY IN OBUASI EAST

11.1 Introduction

Data on the economic characteristics discussed in this chapter cover the sectors of employment, the sources of income of the household heads, income levels of household heads and expenditure patterns.

11.2 Employment Status of household heads

The employment status data on household heads in the three Area Councils is presented in Table 11.1. Brahabebome Area Council has the highest proportion (94%) of the residents employed. The unemployed constitute 4% and 2% of the household heads are pensioners. Those employed in the Wawasi Area Council constitute 90%. Those unemployed represent 9% and 1% consist of pensioners. In the Tutuka Area Council those employed constitute 80% and 13% of them were unemployed with pensioners constituting 7% (Table 11.1 and Figure 11.1).

Table 11.1: Employment status of household heads

Employment status	Brahabeome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Employed	94	94	90	90	80	80
Unemployed	4	4	9	9	13	13
Pensioner	2	2	1	1	7	7
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

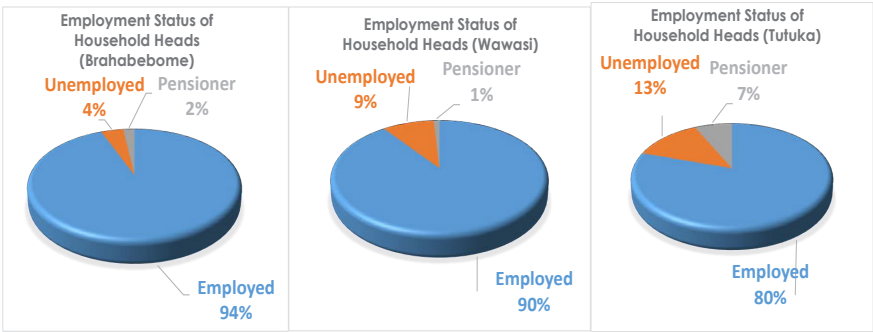


Figure 11.1: Employment Status of Household Heads
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

11.3 Employment Status of Population 5 years and Older

For the other members of the households who were 5 years and above, the data shows that those employed in the Brahabebome Area Council constitute 54%. All the three Area Councils recorded substantial proportions of their populations unemployed with Tutuka-Odumasi leading (21%) followed by Brahabebome-Akaporiso (14%) and Wawasi-Kwabrafoso (10%). According to the participants in the FGDs, unemployment exposes many to engage in the very risky and hazardous illegal mining activities resulting in the death of many young people.

Table 11.2: Employment status of population 5 years and Older by each Area Council

Employment status	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Employed	176	54	163	52	121	48
Unemployed	44	14	33	10	52	21
Pensioner	4	1	1	1	3	1
Students	103	31	114	37	75	30
Total	327	100	311	100	251	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

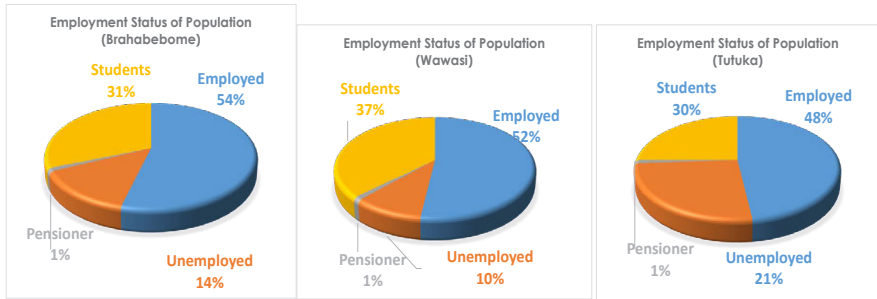


Figure 11.2: Employment Status of Population 5years and Older
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

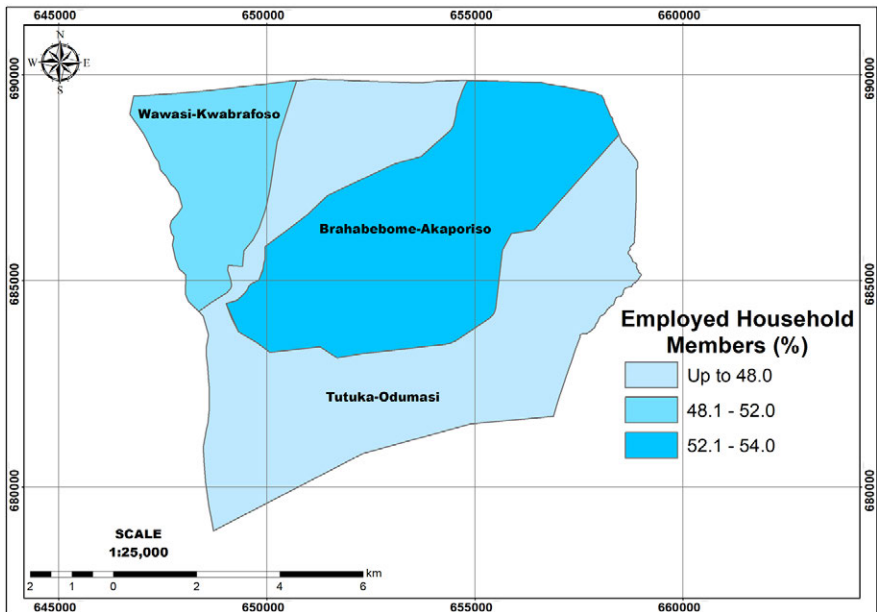


Figure 11.3: Employed household members
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

11.4 Sectors of employment of Household Heads

For the household heads, the Service Sector employs the majority (42%) in Brahabebome-Akaporiso followed by Commerce (22%), Agriculture (19%) and Industry (11.3%)(Table 11.3). Similarly, majority (60%) in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso were employed by the Service sector followed by Commerce (18%). It is only in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council that majority (40%) were in Agriculture (Table 11.3 and Figures 11.4; 11.5). The discussions revealed that majority in the Service sector are self-employed in areas such as transportation, barbering/hairdressing, tailoring/fashion design and hospitality. The commercial activities are mainly small activities in table-top shops.

Table 11.3: Sectors of employment of Household Heads

Sectors of Employment	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Service	42	42	60	60	28	28
Agric	19	19	6	6	40	40
Commerce	22	22	18	18	21	21
Industry	17	17	16	16	11	11
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

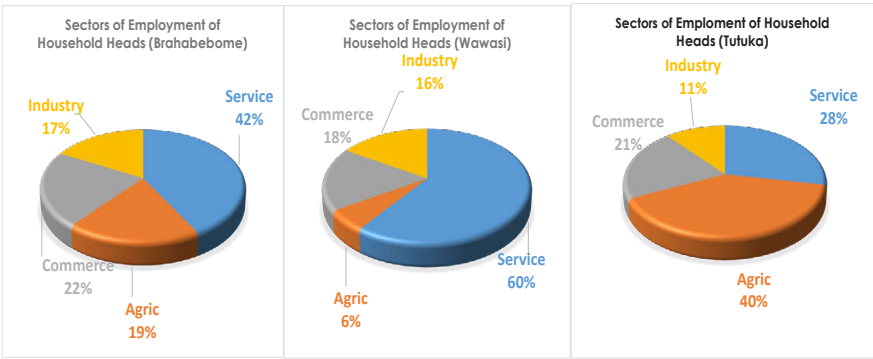


Figure 11.4: Sectors of Employment of Household Heads

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

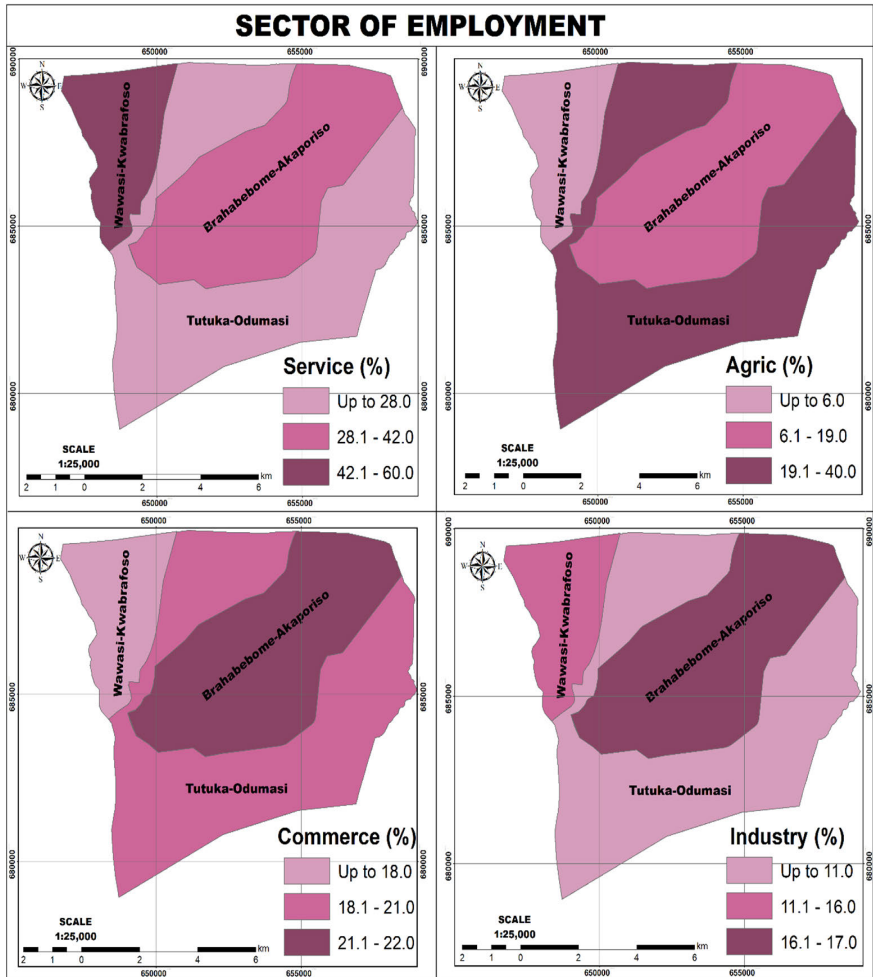


Figure 11.5: Sector of employment
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

11.4.1 Sectors of employment of population

The data for the Sectors of employment in respect of all the household members is not any different from what was obtained for the household heads. Here, the Service sector employs the majority in all the three Area Councils. Brahabebome recorded 26% and Wawasi recorded 31% (Table 11.4).

Table 11.4: Sectors of employment of household members

Sectors of Employment	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Service	80	26	97	31	42	17
Agric	45	15	21	7	63	25
Commerce	60	18	57	18	50	20
Industry	39	9	22	7	21	8
Students	103	32	114	37	75	30
Total	327	100	311	100	251	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

11.5 Sources of income

According to the data in Table 11.5 and Figure 11.6, wages represent the highest source of income (61%) in Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area council as a result of the fact that most of the household heads are engaged in the service sector. Profit from small businesses is the next most important source of income (15%). Similarly, wages/salaries and profits are the two major income sources recording 55% and 20% respectively. This is also as a result of the fact that majority of the household heads are engaged in the service and commerce sectors. In the Tutuka Area Council, wage/salary represents 50%, followed by remittances (22%). Though in the Tutuka Area Council, wage/salary emerges as the highest source of income, it is the least as compared with Brahabebome and Wawasi Area Councils.

Table 11.5: Sources of income of household heads

Sources of Income	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Wage/Salary	61	61	55	55	50	50
Remittances	14	14	18	18	22	22
Profit	15	15	20	20	18	18
SSNIT Benefit	10	10	7	7	10	10
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total	327	100	311	100	251	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

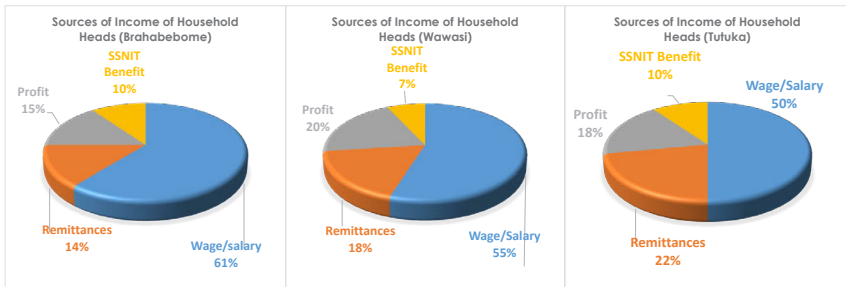


Figure 11.6: Sources of Income of Household Heads

Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

11.6 Sector Earnings

The incomes earned by household heads based on their sectors of earnings are presented in Table 11.6. In the Brahabebome Area Council, industry tops with an average monthly earning of GHc 3,378.7. The next is the service sector (GHc 1,901.4) (Table 11.6 and Figure 11.7). This pattern is seen in the Wawasi and Tutuka Area Councils as industry and service sector leading with average monthly earning of GHc2314.7 and Ghc 2,233.9 (for Industry and Service respectively in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso) and Ghc 1,174.5 and GHc1533.4 for (for Industry and Service respectively in Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council). Agriculture also serves as a productive sector with average monthly earnings of GHc 368.4, GHc3,16.7 and GHc4,12.9 for Brahabebome, Wawasi and Tutuka areas respectively. The Commerce sector is more productive in the Brahabebome and Wawasi Areas Councils than the Tutuka Area Council with average monthly earnings of GHc 1,275 for Brahabebome and GHc800 for Wawasi Area Council.

Household heads in all three area councils seem to earn something substantial from “other” sectors with average monthly earnings of GHc 1,232.40, GHc 1,310.20 and GHc 1,401.40 for Brahabebome, Wawasi and Tutuka Area Councils respectively.

Table 11.6: Sectors Earnings

Sector Earning	Average Amount Earned		
	Brahabe-bome Area Council	Wawasi Area Council	Tutuka Area Council
	GHc	GHc	GHc
Agriculture	368.4	316.7	412.9
Industry	3,378.7	2,314.7	1,174.5
Service	1,901.4	2,233.9	1,533.4
Commerce	1,275	800	337.5
Rent	345	294	138.8
Remittances	485.5	403.7	335.2
Others	566.2	698.1	752.2

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

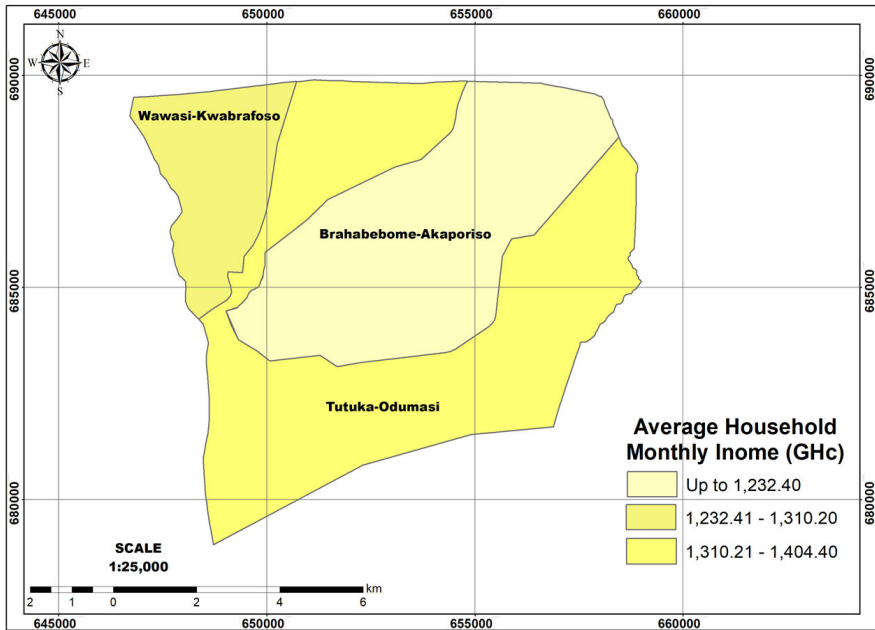


Figure 11.7: Average household income per month
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

All the interviewees in the FGDs and individual key informant interviews claimed that their income levels were low and that meeting daily living needs is always a problem. One of the single mothers who was a household head in the FGD noted that:

"I am a single mother with three children without a reliable job except this table top business. My husband abandoned us when the area he was farming was taken away by the mines and lost his job and could not care for us. I earn about Ghc 380 a month which is not enough to support the four of us" (Singel mother in FGD, September 2021).

Stories of this nature were common in all the interviews. These were corroborated with household heads' expenditure data.

11.7 Expenditure

The average expenditure for Brahabebome, Wawasi and Tutuka areas were GHc1,479.3, GHc2,060.5 and GHc1,157.9 respectively (Table 11.7).

Table 11.7: Average Expenditure pattern of household heads in a Month

Expenditure	Average Amount Spent		
	Brahabebome Area Council	Wawasi Area Council	Tutuka Area Council
	GHc	GHc	GHc
Energy	61.9	68.4	44.3
Education	203.1	202.1	107.9
Food	195.8	273.4	180.3
Housing	158.3	117.3	208.9
Clothing	108.7	116.8	106.9
Remittance	30	40	74.4
Health	63.8	67.4	60.3
Development Levy	34.2	60	58.6
Water	34	25.5	25.4
Transportation	81.7	70.3	54.7
Sanitation	15.1	223.9	12.2
Religious Functions	60.8	54.8	34.4
Entertainment	55	36.3	35
Gifts	153.3	55.2	60
Insurance	125	130	-
Funeral	52.5	49.2	27.3
Telecommunication	46.1	409.9	33.1
Others	-	60	34.2
Total	1,479.3	2,060.5	1,157.9

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

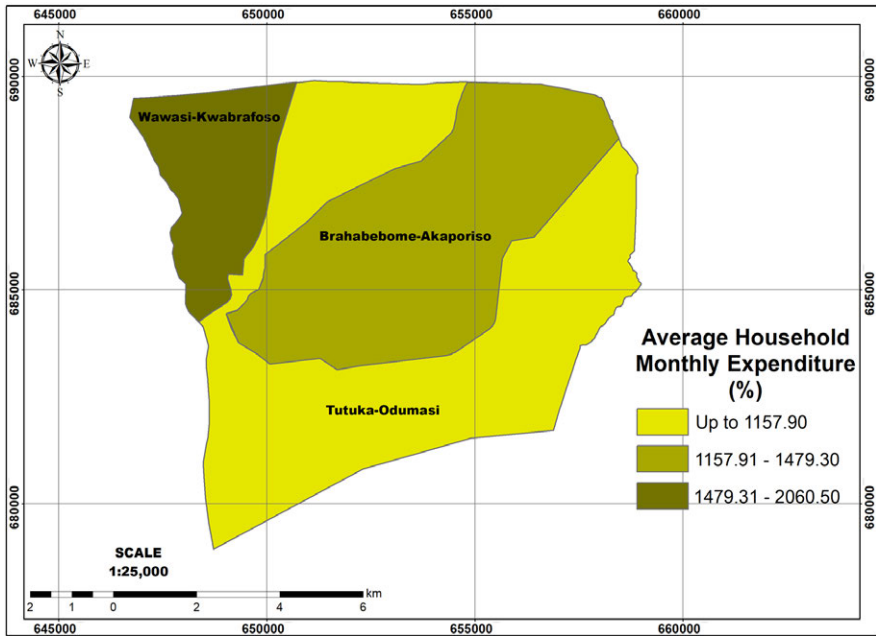


Figure 11.8: Average household expenditure per month
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

The major expenditure items in the three Area Councils were food, clothing, shelter and education each recording more than GHc 100 a month with some more than GHc 200 a month (Table 11.17). Altogether, these items take between 45% and 50% of household expenditure. There is some other situation in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council where sanitation, insurance and telecommunication also emerged to take a chunk of household expenditures. What the data on household expenditure reveals is that only about 30% of household heads employed in industry and service earn what is just sufficient to provide for their household basic needs with nothing to save. They can be described as poor, vulnerable to extreme poverty and highly deprived people who live from-hand-to-mouth.

11.7.1 Contribution of mining to sector of employment

This section presents data on the contribution of the mining sector to employment of household members. Very few residents indicated that, mining has given some of their household members direct employment (Table 11.8). Majority of residents in the three Area Councils indicated that mining has not created employment for them. For example, 81%, 89% and 85% of the residents in Brahabebome, Tutuka and Wawase respectively indicated that mining has had negative effects on employment. This threatens the sustainability of their livelihoods and increases their risk of vulnerability.

Table 11.8: Contribution of mining to sector of employment

Responses	Area Councils					
	Brahabebome		Tutuka		Wawase	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	19	19	11	11	15	15
No	81	81	89	89	85	85
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

11.7.2 Type Of Mining Activities Residents Are Engaged

Data on the type of mining activities undertaken by those household members is presented in Table 11.9 and Figure 11.9. The type of mining practiced is mostly small-scale surface mining. More household heads are engaged in mining in Tutuka than the other two Area Councils.

Table 11.9: Type of mining practised in Obuasi East municipality

Responses	Area Councils					
	Brahabebome		Tutuka		Wawase	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Under-ground	2	22	5	38	1	100
Surface	7	78	8	62		
Total	9	100	13	100	1	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

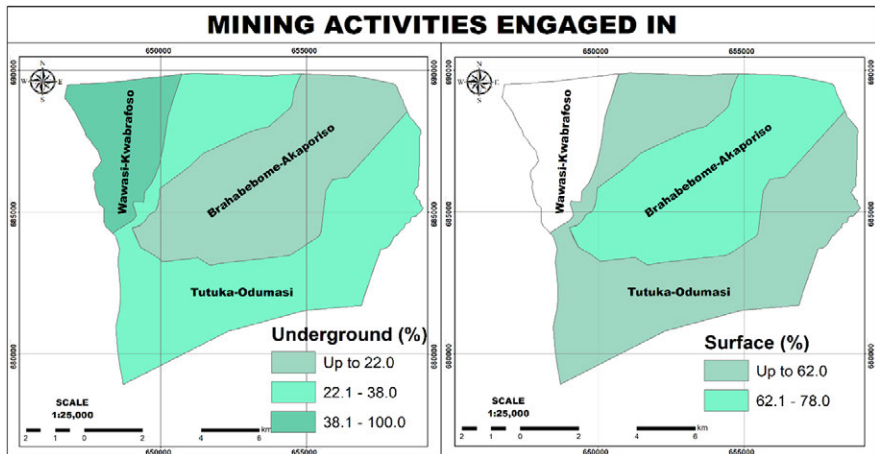


Figure 11.9: Mining activity engaged in the district
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

11.7.3 Method of production

Capital intensive method of production is dominant in the Tutuka Area council than Brahabeabome and Wawase (Table 11.10 and Figure 11.10). The data shows that 85% of those who engage in mining use capital intensive rather than labour intensive methods of production. For 56% of those in mining in the Brahabeabome Area Council, labour intensive is predominant. This implies that, destruction of land resources is highest in Tutuka than Brahabeabome and Wawase.

Table 11.10: Method of production practised in Obuasi East municipality

Responses	Area Councils					
	Brahabeabome		Tutuka		Wawase	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Labour intensive	5	56	2	15	-	-
Capital intensive	4	44	11	85	1	100
Total	9		13	100	1	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

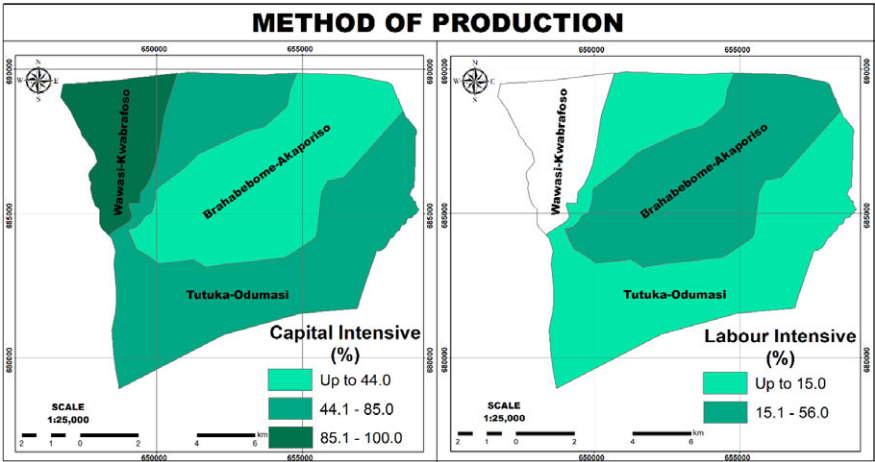


Figure 11.10: Method of production at the mining sector
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

The small-scale labour intensive surface mining activities were said to have contributed to the degradation of the environment by key informants. A key informant noted that: “The galamsey people destroy the trees, farms and water bodies due to the crude methods they use. They also use mercury a lot which pollutes water bodies and wildlife” (Key informant, August 2021). This claim was however contested by the youth in their FGDs. They argued that the small-scale mining was the only job available to them. Claims that mining contribute to environmental degradation were corroborated with further assessment of the impact of mining on the environment.

11.7.4 Impact Assessment

This section presents data on the impact of mining activities on the livelihoods of residents. As indicated earlier, the impact of mining on land resources in Tutuka is highest among the three Area Councils. From Table 11.11, 76% of the household heads in Tutuka indicated that mining has led to the destruction of land and water bodies. Brahabeabome and Wawase recorded 54% and 37% respectively. In terms of the provision of social amenities, more than half of the household heads in Tutuka strongly agree that mining has led to the provision of social amenities as against 46% and 44% of household heads in Brahabeabome and Wawase respectively. That is, although mining is contributing to the provision of social amenities in

the Obuasi East municipality, its impact on natural resources such as water bodies and land should not be overlooked. Because this has the potential to undermine the sustainability of the economic activities, it is further discussed in detail under sub-section 12.3.2.



Farm Land destroyed as a result of Mining Activity
Source: [gettyimages.co.uk](https://www.gettyimages.co.uk)

Table 11.11: Impact of mining activities on the communities

Parameters	Area Councils									
	Brahabeome			Tutuka			Wawase			
	Pre- sence of mining has led to provi- sion of social ameni- ties	Pre- sence of mining has led to job crea- tion	Pre- sence of mining has led to de- struc- tion of lands and water bodies	Pre- sence of mining has led to im- proved stand- ard of living	Pre- sence of mining has led to pro- vi- sion of social ameni- ties	Pre- sence of mining has led to job crea- tion	Pre- sence of mining has led to de- struc- tion of lands and water bodies	Pre- sence of mining has led to im- proved stand- ard of living	Pre- sence of mining has led to de- struc- tion of lands and water bodies	Pre- sence of mining has led to im- proved stand- ard of living
Strongly Agree	46	3	52	3	52	2	76	3	44	3
Agree	8	15	22	15	7	10	10	8	15	17
Neutral	4	23	2	13	30	80	1	82	11	17
Strongly Disagree	15	49	13	26	10	1	6	2	22	34
Disagree	27	10	11	43	1	7	7	5	22	29
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

11.8 Chapter Conclusion

Majority of the households do not have stable employment and many do not earn sufficient incomes to support their families. Mining has not provided direct jobs for many in the district. It is indirect jobs in the Service and Commerce sectors that have resulted from mining. Many of these however are small-scale table-top businesses that do not yield enough to meet household needs.

Chapter 12

MANIFESTATIONS OF ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSIONS OF POVERTY

12.1 Introduction

This chapter has focused on water resources and the environment and their relationship to poverty. Issues such as the major sources of water, the quality of the water, the state of the environment and the effects of mining on the environment are the contents. Data used for the discussion was from the 300 household heads in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council, Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council and Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council.

12.2 Water For General Uses

12.2.1 Major sources of water and types of ownership

The major sources of water in the Obuasi East District are pipe borne, boreholes and wells. Table 12.1 indicates that, in Brahabebome and Wawasi Area Councils, the dominant source of water was pipe borne (representing 73% and 80% respectively). However, in Brahabebome, pipe borne water recorded the largest proportion (88%) of publicly owned water sources for household use. Pipe borne water in Wawasi is also predominantly owned by the households (69%). The same pattern is observed in Tutuka as the major source of water is pipe borne (38%). Unlike Brahabebome and Wawasi, boreholes comprised a larger percentage (27%) of public ownership of water in the Tutuka Area. Wells were the second most patronized water source across all Area Councils in the district. As shown in Figure 12.1 and Figure 12.2, all the aforementioned water sources are largely owned by the individual households in Brahabebome (58%) and Wawasi (85%). It can therefore be concluded that majority of the households in the Obuasi East District have good access to pipe borne water as the major source of water.

Table 12.1: Major sources of water for household and type of ownership

Water Source	Brahabebome				Tutuka				Wawase						
	Pub	%	Priv	%	T	Pub	%	Priv	%	T	Pub	%	Priv	%	T
Pipe borne	37	88	36	62	73	25	41	13	33	38	11	73	69	82	80
Borehole	3	7	-	-	3	27	44	1	3	28	-	-	2	2	2
Well	2	5	22	38	24	9	15	25	64	34	4	27	14	17	18
Total	42	100	58	100	100	61	100	39	100	100	15	100	85	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

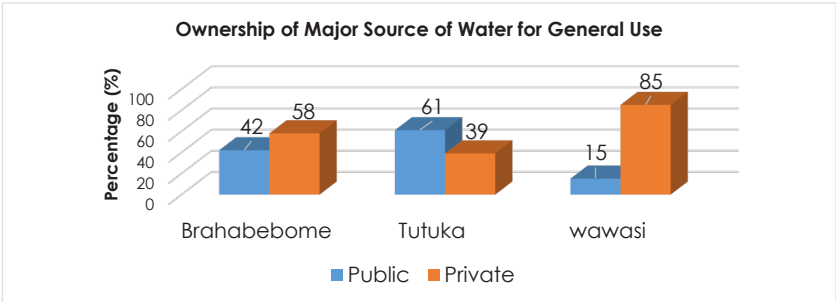


Figure 12.1: Ownership of Major Source of Water for General Use
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

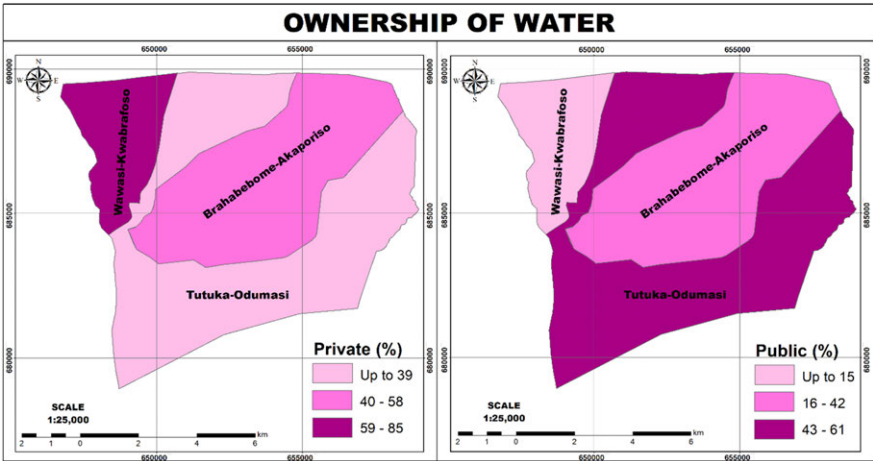


Figure 12.2: Ownership of water source
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

12.2.2 Location Of Major Sources Of Water And Distance Covered

The major sources of water are largely located within the houses of residents in Brahabebome and Wawasi Areas, 55% and 83% respectively. This can be attributed to the private ownership of water in these areas. Correspondently, the water sources in Tutuka are located outside the homes as most of the water sources are publicly owned. None of the water sources in all the Area Councils were located outside the community of residents. Consequently, majority of the households normally cover a distance less than 100 meters to access water in Brahabebome (64%), Tutuka (58%) and Wawasi (81%) (see Figures 12.3; 12.4; 12.5). It can generally be concluded that water is very accessible to the households in the District.

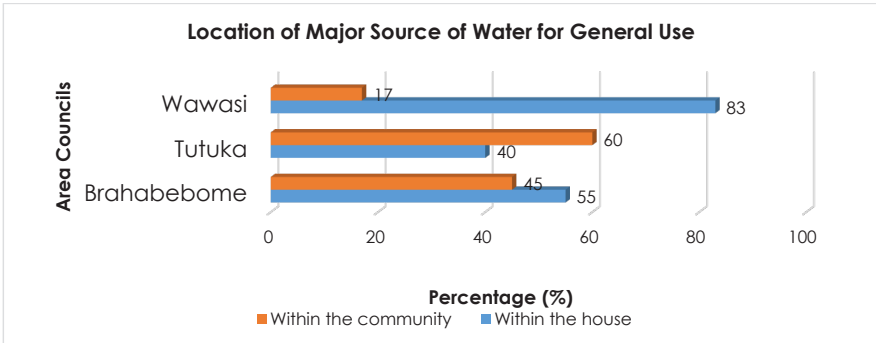


Figure 12.3: Location of Major Source of Water for General Use
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

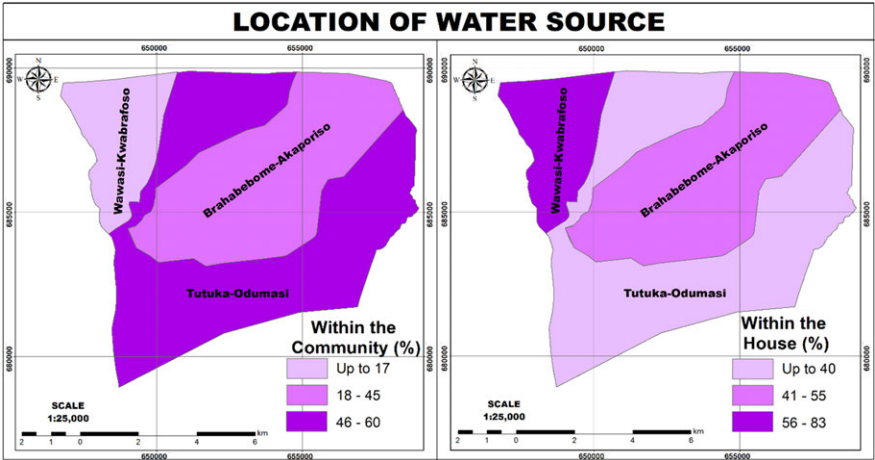


Figure 12.4: Location of water source
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

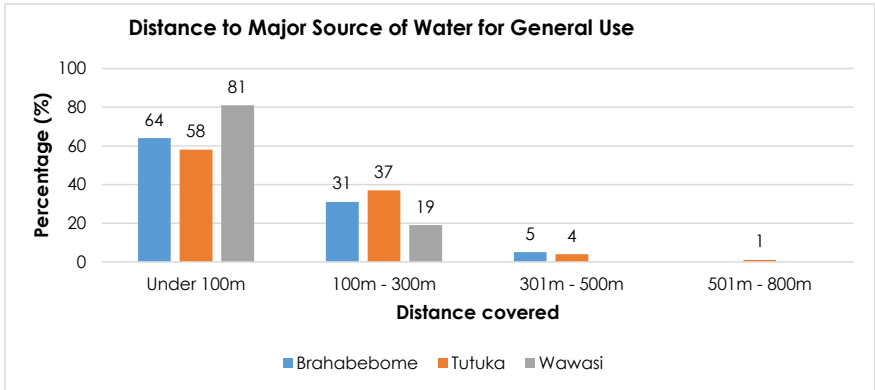


Figure 12.5: Distance to Major Source of Water from House
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

12.2.3 Condition of water and frequency of flow

Almost all the respondents (94%) in Wawasi indicated that the water sources are in good condition. Similarly, more than half of residents in Brahabebome and Tutuka noted that the water sources are good (68% and 70% respectively). In terms of the frequency of flow of the water sources, it can be concluded that the water sources are very reliable as majority of the households in Brahabebome (93%), Tutuka (83%) and Wawasi (92%) access water daily. About 15% of the households in Tutuka access water three times in a week. In Brahabebome and Wawasi, 3% and 5% of the households also access water four or five times in a week (Table 12.2 and Figure 12.6).

Table 12.2: Condition of Major source of water for Household

Condition	Percentage (%)		
	Brahabebome	Tutuka	Wawasi
Good	68	70	94
Fair	29	29	6
Bad	3	1	-
Total	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

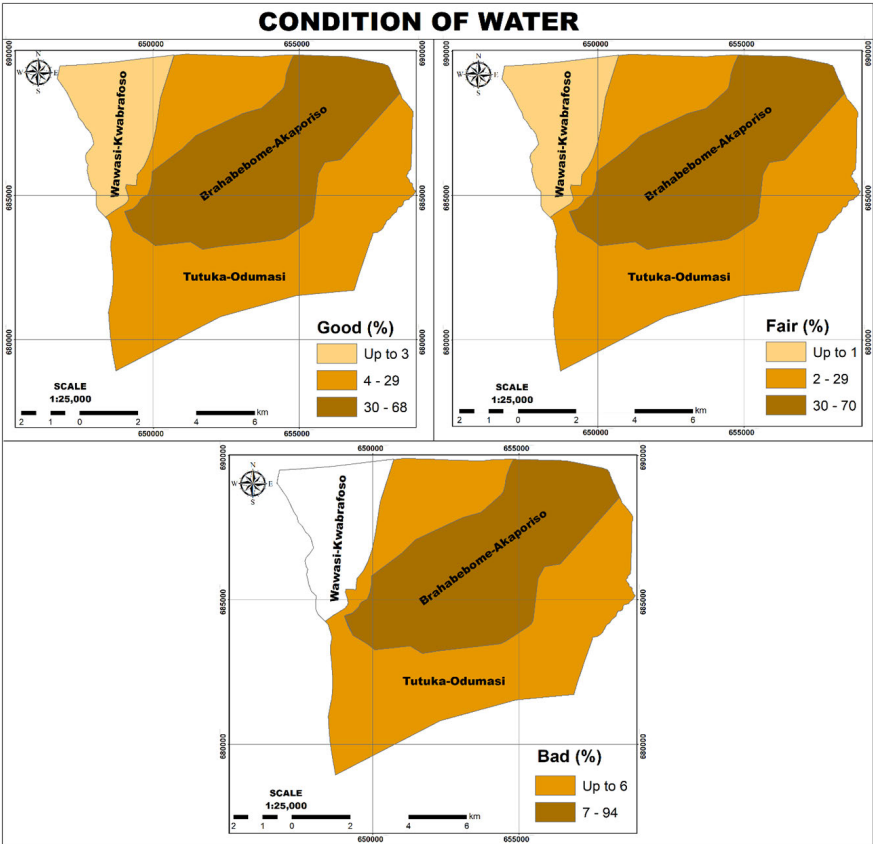


Figure 12.6: Location of water source
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Table 12.3: Frequency of flow of Major Source of Water for Household

Frequency of Flow	Percentage (%)		
	Brahabebome	Tutuka	Wawasi
Daily	93	83	92
Once a week	1	-	-
Twice a week	1	2	1
Three times a week	2	15	2
Four/Five times a week	3	-	5
Total	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

12.2.4 Cost Of Water Source For General Use, Quantity Used Per Day And Alternative Sources

The result of the data revealed that households access water at a cost. Table 7.4 showed that a greater share of the households in Brahabebome (72%) and Wawasi (77%) pay for water for general purposes. Less than half of the households in Tutuka pay for water because majority of the sources are owned by the public. It was also discovered that the households in Tutuka and Wawasi consume more quantities of water than in Brahabebome. This is about 6 buckets per day in Tutuka and Wawasi and 5 buckets per day in Brahabebome. As a result, the cost of water per day is relatively higher in Tutuka and Wawasi (about ₦1.20 per day) as compared to Brahabebome (₦1.00 per day).

Apart from the major sources of water discussed above, households in the District fall on other sources of water to complement the major sources. The sources include rainwater and wells as shown in Figure 12.4. In Brahabebome and Tutuka, high percentage (53% and 37% respectively) of the households rely on wells as their alternative source of water whereas 50% of the households in Wawasi rely on rainwater. Generally, households in the Obuasi East District rely more on natural sources of water to complement or substitute for the major sources of water. The result resonates with the national record of 5.2% of the use of natural sources as alternative sources of water supply for households (GSS, 2019), however relatively higher compared to the national record.

Table 12.4: Cost of Major Source of Water for Household and Quantity Used per day

Payment for Water	Percentage (%)			Average No. of buckets/day		
	Brahabe-bome	Tutuka	Wawasi	Brahabe-bome	Tutuka	Wawasi
Yes	72	43	77	5	6	6
No	28	57	23	Average Cost/day (¢)		
Total	100	100	100	1	1.20	1.20

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

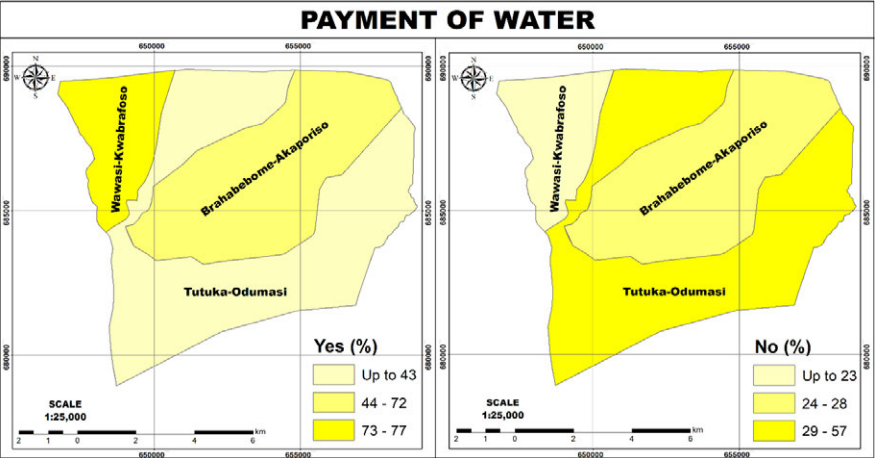


Figure 12.7: Payment of water
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

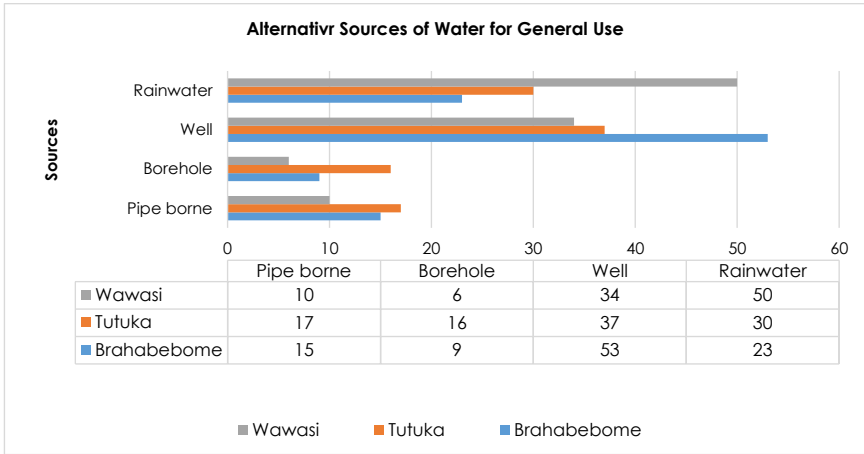


Figure 12.8: Alternative Source of Water for Households
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

With the generally good access to potable water, residents in the Obuasi East District can be described as not being vulnerable to water-related and water-born diseases. This should help reduce household health bills and possibly use such resources to cover other basic needs. This should also help promote good health among the people to engage in productive income earning activities.

12.3 Environment

This section discusses the state of the environment of the Obuasi East Municipality. The areas covered are the status of the natural environment and the impact of mining on the environment.

12.3.1 State of environment in Obuasi East District

The residents' perspeptions about the state of their environment is presented in Table 12.8. From the results, it can be observed that, residents in Wawase Area Council and Brahabebome Area Council generally regard their environment to be good than those in the Tutuka Area Council. Thus, 60% of the residents in the Wawase Area Council consider their environment to be generally good whiles 53% of the residents in the Brahabebome Area Council consider their environment to be good. About 39% of the residents

in the Tutuka Area Council also consider their environment to be good. Good proportions of residents in Tutuka-Odumasi (54%), Brahabebome-Akaporeso (44%) and Wawasi-Kwabrafoso (39%) had the view that the environment was in poor condition (Figurres 12.11; 12.12).

Table 12.8: Resident's perception of the state of their environment

	Wawase		Tutuka		Brahabebome	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Excellent	6	6.0	6	6.0	3	3.0
Very good	40	40.0	5	5.0	15	15.0
Good	14	14.0	28	28.0	35	35.0
Poor	39	39.0	54	54.0	44	44.0
Very poor	1	1.0	7	7.0	3	3.0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

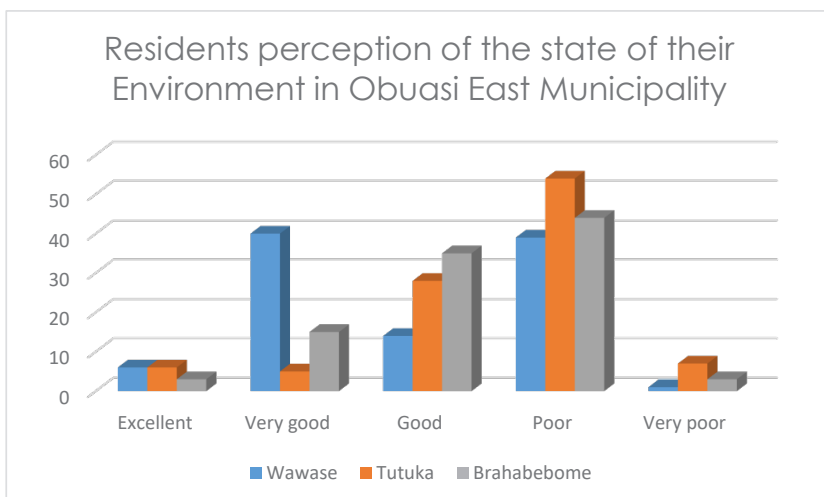


Figure 12.11: Resident's indication of the state of their environment

Source: Field survey, June 2021

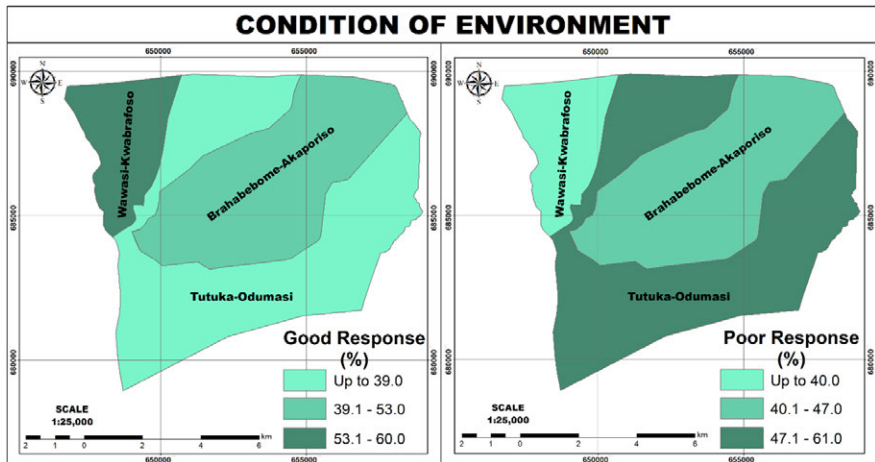


Figure 12.12: Condition of the environment in the district
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

12.3.2 Effects Of Mining On The Environment

According to the responses, 61%, 48% and 53% of the residents in Wawase, Tutuka and Brahabebe respectively attribute the poor state of their environment to the mining activities. For Wawase and Brahabebe Area Councils, more than half of the residents attribute the poor state of their environment to the mining (Table 12.9).

Table 12.9: Effects of mining activities on the Environment

Responses	Wawase		Tutuka		Brahabebe	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	61	61.0	48	48.0	53	53.0
No	39	39.0	52	52.0	47	47.0
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

12.3.3 Areas Of Effect Of Mining On The Environment

Data from the survey indicates that the three main areas of effect are, air pollution, water pollution and noise pollution. From Table 12.10, 43.8% of the residents in Tutuka Area Council mentioned air pollution. For residents in Wawase and Brahabebome, 39.3% and 39.6% respectively also listed air pollution. For water pollution 21.3%, 31.2% and 32.1% of the residents in Wawase, Tutuka and Brahabebome Area Councils respectively attributed it to mining. In addition to all these, FGD members noted that mining activities have resulted in the degradation of farming lands making agriculture less productive in the area. When asked about the effects of mining on their living conditions, majority of the residents also mentioned some diseases. For instance, some residents indicated that, “It has caused many health-related diseases such respiratory and heart diseases.” What one member said which was confirmed by all the FGDs was that:

“I have developed high blood pressure from the tremors and vibrations in my room resulting from the constant blasting by the mines” (FGD participant, September 2021).

Another person added that *“I have eye irritations from the dust. Many of my friends also complain of the same illness and we think it is due to dust pollution from the mines” (FGD participant, September 2021).*

Table 12.10: Areas of effects of mining activities on the environment

Areas of effect	Wawase		Tutuka		Brahabebome	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Air pollution	24	39.3	21	43.8	21	39.6
Water pollution	13	21.3	15	31.2	17	32.1
Noise pollution	24	39.3	12	25.0	15	28.3
Total	61	100	48	100	53	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

These views suggest that residents in the Obuasi East District may not be living comfortable lives and points to the deprivation of comfort and health.

12.4 Chapter Conclusion

Access to potable water is generally good in the Obuasi East District. It is safe to conclude that residents are less exposed or vulnerable to water-related diseases. However, community members attribute noise, air and water pollution and land degradation to the mining activities. Although further research may be needed to clearly establish the relationship between these health complains and mining, the views of respondents are sufficient to conclude that they suffer deprivation and poverty in this regard.

Chapter 13

GOVERNANCE AND INCLUSION AS POVERTY INDICATORS

13.1 Introduction

This section of the report is centered on the governance, vulnerability, and voice of residents and their role in decision making. It analyses the group considered vulnerable, how they are treated, and measures taken towards addressing those issues facing vulnerable people. The governance aspect also analyses the role of community members, especially women, in decision making, and how the residents see the role of the local government authority in poverty reduction.

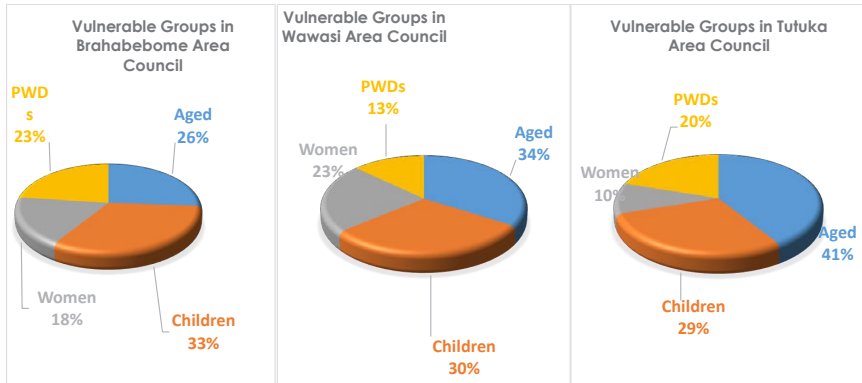
13.2 Vulnerable Groups In Obuasi East

The data reveals that the most vulnerable group in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council is children representing 33%. The second most vulnerable group is the Aged (26%). Persons with disability form the third most vulnerable group (18%). Women are considered the least vulnerable group (Table 13.1 and Figures 13.1; 13.2). In the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council, the Aged represent the most vulnerable group in the society (34%). The next vulnerable groups are children (30%), women (23%) and persons with disability (13%).

The vulnerable groups in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council consist of the Aged, children, Persons with disability and women constituting 41%, 29%, 20% and 10% respectively. These findings are in line with ideas of Brown (2015).

Table 13.1: Vulnerable groups

Groups considered vulnerable	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Aged	26	26	34	34	41	41
Children	33	33	30	30	29	29
Women	18	18	23	23	10	10
Persons with disability	23	23	13	13	20	20
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021**Figure 13.1: Vulnerable groups in the district***Source: Field Survey, June 2021*

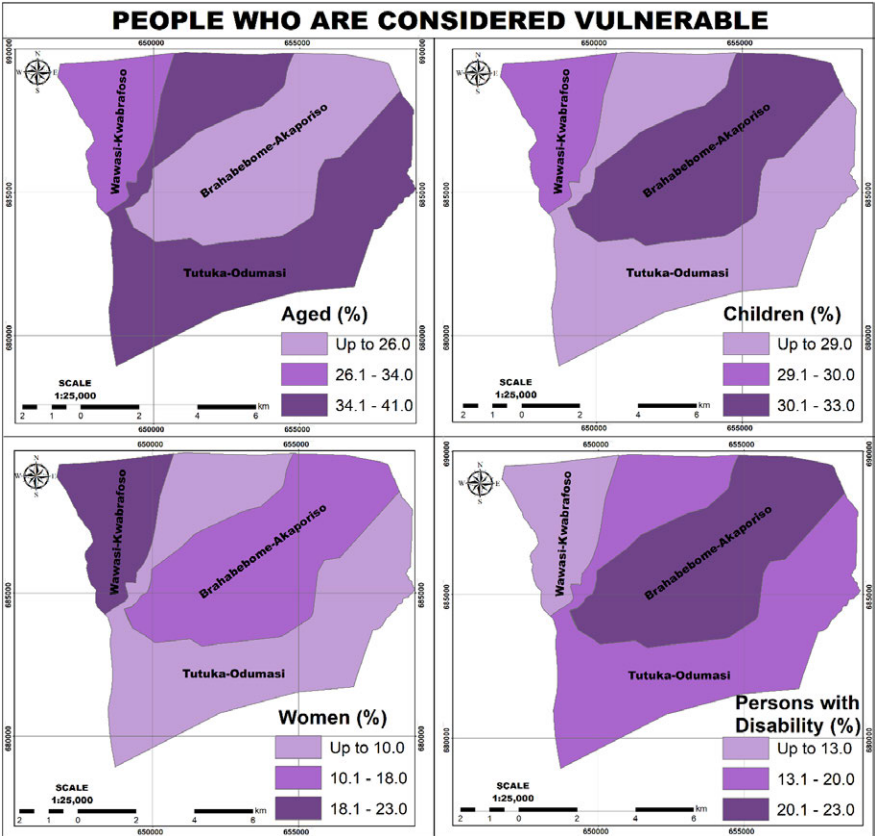


Figure 13.2: Group which are considered vulnerable by household heads
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

Findings from the interviews support the data that some women, aged, persons with disability and children are vulnerable. The common views can be summed up as how one of them put it that:

“The limited job opportunities affect women more than men since they become preys to some of the men who have some money. For the aged and children, unlike us who can move around to find something for our pockets, they cannot do so, and since we cannot also find enough to bring home, we cannot give them enough” (Male participant in FGD, September 2021).

We further assessed the dimensions and depth of vulnerability by analyzing how these groups are treated.

13.3 Aged

In spite of the fact that the aged are considered vulnerable in the society, in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council, 74% household heads indicated that they take good care of them by providing their needs to a large extent. A good proportion (26%) of them however stated that not all the aged persons and children are supported adequately. Comparatively, majority (94%) of household heads in the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council stated that they take good care of the aged. Similarly, majority (90%) in the Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council pointed out that the aged are well treated. The Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council is in the lead with claims that the aged suffer some form of deprivation.

Table 13.2: Treatment towards the Aged

How are the Aged treated	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Fair	74	74	96	96	90	90
Bad	26	26	4	4	10	10
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

13.3.1 Efforts To Support The Aged

The data in Table 8.3 shows the attempts made to protect the aged. It was found that, for all the three Area Councils, majority of the household heads indicated that the only public intervention in place to support and protect the aged is the Livelihood Against Poverty (LEAP) programme. They however considered that the LEAP does not give the aged sufficient support to cover all their needs. Others also mentioned that the NHIS was there but were quick to add that this does not cover all the health needs of the aged. The common views on the LEAP and NHIS presented by two of the participants in separate FGDs were that: "I have two aged persons in my family but the LEAP does not bring them that much on regular basis so the burden is still on me alone as the bread winner of my household" (Female participant in FGD, September 2021). For the NHIS, it was said that "When we send the aged to the hospital they [Doctors] will always write medicines

for us to go and buy as the hospital will say they do not have that medicine. This is common and you can ask the health personnel at the hospital” (Male participant in FGD, September 2021).

Table 13.3: Address discrimination against the aged

Have any attempts been made to solve the problem	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	8	8	21	21	11	11
No	92	92	79	79	89	89
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

13.4 Incidence of Women Abuse

It was found that women go through some form of abuse and discrimination in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council as revealed by 53% of household heads. It is in Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council and Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council that majority of household heads indicated that there were no abuses of women. Even in these two cases, a good number of them claimed that women went through sexual abuse, domestic abuse, verbal abuse, and rape (Table 13.4 and Figure 13.3).

Table 13.4: Women Abuse

Are there incidence of women abuse	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	53	53	24	24	40	40
No	47	47	76	76	60	60
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

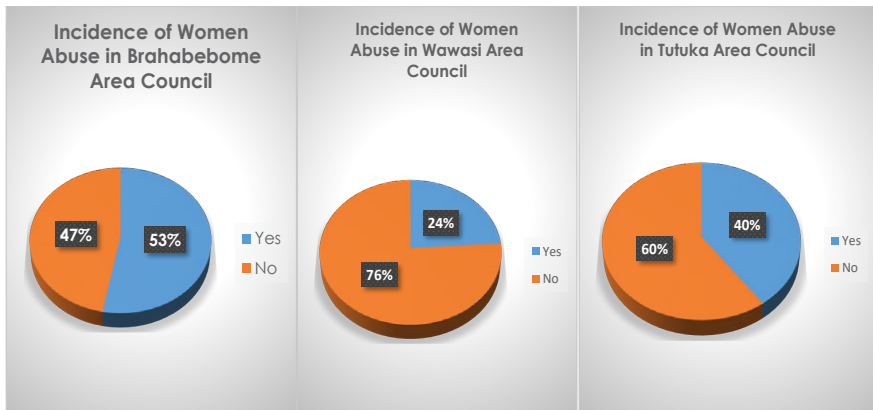


Figure 13.3: Incidence of women abuse
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

13.4.1 Incidence Of Discrimination Against Women

The study revealed that although majority of the household heads noted that women were not abused or discriminated against, there are some forms of discrimination women go through as indicated by 12% of them in the Brahabebome area, 5% (in Wawasi-Kwabrafoso) and 6% in Tutuka-Odumasi. The study unearthed the discrimination against women to include discrimination in making decisions and taking leadership positions (Table 13.5). Although the females in the FGDs had a common voice and supported this finding, what one of them said which was common in all the FGDs was that: “Everything is about men in our communities. Noboby will call the females when it comes to discussing issues about the community. Even when a woman wants to contest for the District Assembly [Assembly member] position, people will discourage you” (Female participant in FGD, September 2021).

These claims were all corroborated with key informants in the District Assembly and the communities. It can be concluded that to some extent, women are discriminated against in the Obuasi East District. This however does not mean that women are discriminated against in decision making as we find in sub-section 13.4.4.

Table 13.5: Discrimination against women

Do women go through any form of discrimination	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	12	12	5	5	6	6
No	88	88	95	95	94	94
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

13.4.3 Women Empowerment Programmes

In terms of the existence of women empowerment programmes, majority of the household heads in the Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council (81%), Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council (84%) and 93% (in Tutuka-Odumasi) noted that there were no empowerment programmes for women (Table 13.6)

Table 13.6: Women empowerment programmes

Are there any women empowerment programs that exist in the community	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	19	19	16	16	7	7
No	81	81	84	84	93	93
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

In spite of the claims that there were no public empowerment programmes for women, we found documentary material to show that the mining company, AngloGold Ashanti, has implemented a number of programmes geared towards women empowerment, youth empowerment and general community development. These have been described in earlier detail under sub-section 8.6.

13.4.4 Women inclusiveness

Although the Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council is in the lead (80%) with women inclusiveness in decision making, the other two Area Councils also recorded majority of the household heads indicating that women are included in the decision-making process (Table 13.7 and Figures 13.4; 13.5). An opinion leader noted that:

“As a leader of this community, I encourage the women to be active and vocal when it comes to decision making. I encourage them not sit at the back as they like to do in meetings. Unfortunately, our culture has made it so. Most women will sit at the back and be quiet. Those who raise their hands up are allowed to talk and share their views” (Opinion leader, September 2021).

Table 13.8: Women in decision making

Are women given the opportunity to play active role in decision-making	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	67	67	80	80	62	62
No	33	33	20	20	38	38
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

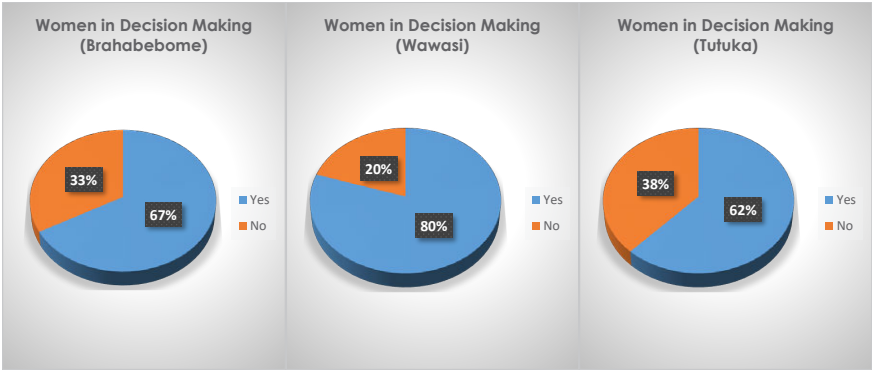


Figure 13.4: Women inclusivity in decision making
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

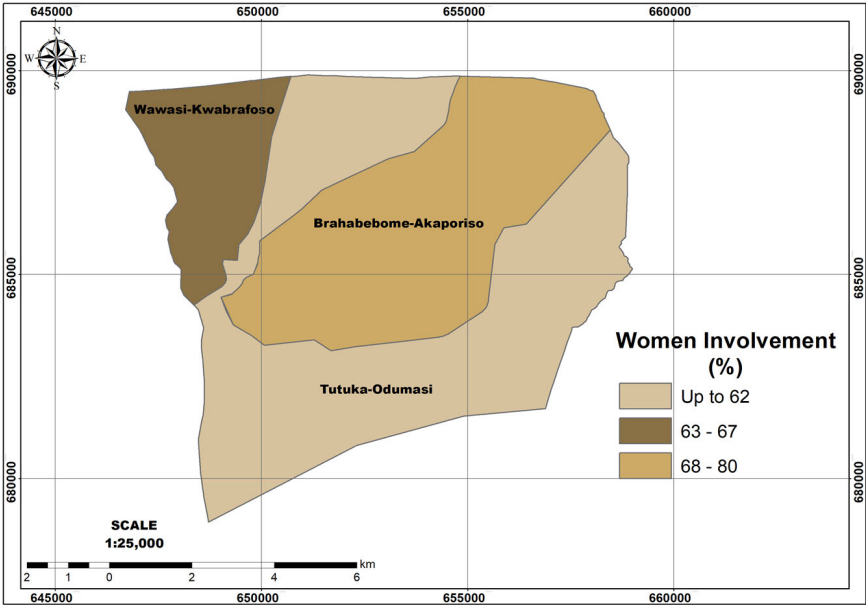


Figure 13.5: Level of women involvement in decision making
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

The few who claimed that women are not included in decision making had a common view which was expressed by one of them that:

“Most men consider women as being behind to support the men so the decision making is the sole responsibility of men” (Participant in FGD, September 2021). Majority of the women in the FGDs disagreed with this view and noted that it is socio-cultural constructions that have made the women so. They however confirmed the claims by the opinion leader that they sit back in meetings although they are not prevented from sharing their opinions when they want to.

13.5 Persons living with disabilities

From the survey, 7% of the household heads claimed there are disabled persons in their households in the Brahabehome area. Those who said so, in the Wawasi area were 3% and in the Tutuka area, 10% of the household heads revealed there were persons with disabilities in their households. According to the survey the disabilities included vision impairment, walking impairment and hearing difficulties (Table 13.9).

Table 13.19: Persons Living with Disabilities

Is there any disabled person in your household	Brahabehome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	7	7	3	3	10	10
No	93	93	97	97	90	90
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

Our interviews with key informants in the Obuasi East District Assembly confirmed the presence of persons with disabilities in the district who benefit from the component of the Common Fund Responsiveness Factor Grant.

13.5.1 Discriminations Against Persons Living With Disabilities

All the household heads noted that the disabled people are not restricted from accessing any facility in all the three Area Councils. However, we noticed from our observations of public facilities in the district that persons with disabilities are deprived or discriminated against as many of the facilities are not accessible to them. Most of the facilities in the Brahabeabome, Wawasi and Tutuka areas are not disability friendly, hence limiting the access to most of the facilities available for the disabled persons.

13.5.2 Inclusion Of Persons Living With Disability In Decision Making

In terms of the inclusion of persons with disability in public decision making, it was revealed that persons with disability do not have the space to be included. Majority of the household heads held this view which was corroborated with key informants (Table 13.10). A key informant explained the reason as follows:

“By the nature of their disabilities, there should have been laws to provide for their inclusion such as 5% or so of seats in the Assembly reserved for them. Unfortunately, this is not so and the process of getting elected all limit their chances” (Key informant, September 2021).

Table 13.13: Inclusion of PWDs in decision making

Are the views of the disabled taken into consideration	Brahabeabome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	4	4	-	-	1	1
No	96	96	100	100	99	99
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

13.5.3 Programmes For Persons Living With Disability

Table 13.13 reveals that 96% of household heads in the Brahabebome area indicated that there were no programmes for persons living with disability. Also, in the Wawasi area, 99% claimed there were no on-going programmes for the disabled persons. In the Tutuka areas, 97% of them made the same claims. Available literature however shows that the LEAP and DACF-RFG are all available to persons with disability in the district. It was also revealed that disabled persons got support from family members in terms of financial and emotional support.

Table 13.11: Ongoing Programmes for disabled persons

Are there any on-going programs to support the disabled	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	4	4	1	1	3	3
No	96	96	99	99	97	97
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

13.6 Voice

In this section, the areas that are assessed are citizens awareness of the role of the Obuasi East District Assembly in development and their participation in community development.

13.6.1 Citizens awareness of the Role of Municipal Assembly in development

The data in Table 13.12 illustrates citizens' awareness of the role of the District Assembly in development. It was revealed that in the Brahabebome Area Council, 80% of the respondents are aware of the role of the Assembly in the development of the district as indicated by 82% and 56% in the Wawasi and Tutuka areas respectively. The roles of the District Assembly in development as indicated by the respondents include construction of boreholes and classroom blocks, construction and tarring of roads, fixing of

street lights and construction of Community Health-based Planning Services (CHPS) compounds. The respondents who are not aware of the role of the municipal assembly in development represent 20% in Brahabebome area, 18% in Wawasi areas and 44% in Tutuka areas (see Figures 13.6 and 13.7 also). Although these groups of household heads indicated that they were not aware, they noted that it is the government (in Accra) that has responsibility to provide water, classroom blocks, clinics and security. The issue here is that they are unable to draw a line between the role of the District Assembly and central government.

Table 13.13: Awareness of the Role of Municipal Assembly in Development

Aware- ness of the role of the Assembly in Develop- ment	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	80	80	82	82	56	56
No	20	20	18	18	44	44
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

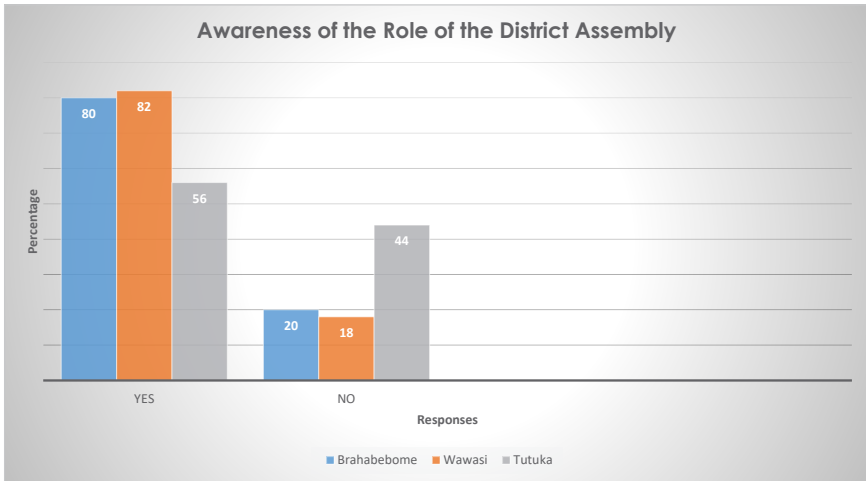


Figure 13.6: Awareness of the roke of the Assembly in development
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

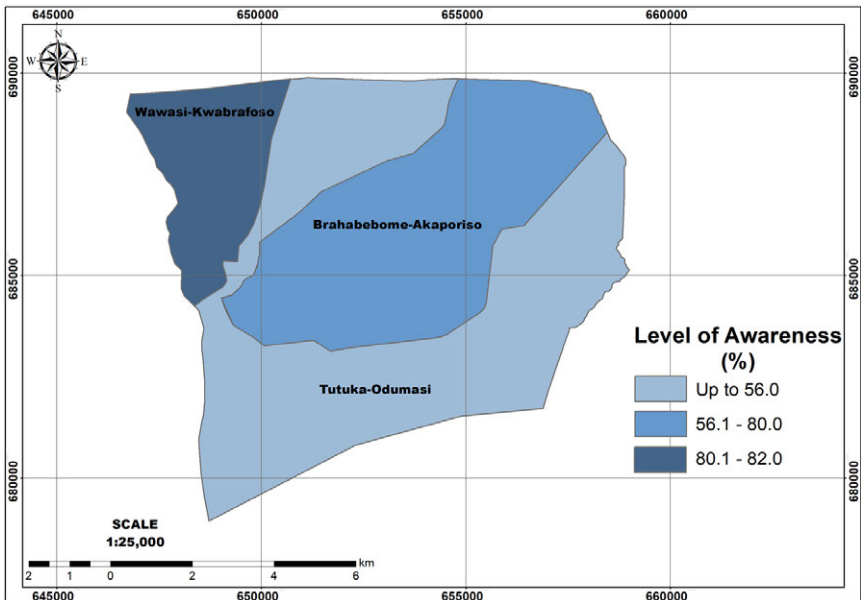


Figure 13.7: Awareness of household heads to the role of the assembly
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

13.6.2 Participation In Community Development

In Brahabebome area council majority of the people do not participate in community development as revealed by 78% of household heads. The respondents who did participate (22%) said they did so once a while. Whiles others did so once in a month (14%) or every two months (1%) (see Table 13.33 and Figures 13.8; 13.9). This implies that, the local government system does not give full representation of the interests of the people.

Same pattern shows in the Wawasi Area Council as majority of the people do not participate in community development (88%). Those who participate in community development (12%) either participated once a while (87%), once a month (12%) or every two months (1%).

For the Tutuka Area Council, 76% do not participate in community development and those who participate represent 24%, who did so once a while (78%), or once a month (17%) or every two months (5%). According to McKee (2012) development of a community depends on the relations between people and collective action, rather than individual efforts. In this vein, since 76% do not participate in community activities, development can be retarded.



Table 13.163: Participation of residents in community development and frequency of participation

Brahabebome-Akaporiso Area Council		
Participation status	Responses	Percentage
Yes	22	22
No	78	78
Total	100	100
Frequency of Participation		
Frequency of Participation	Response	Percentage (%)
Once a month	14	14
Every two months	1	1
Others	85	85
Total	100	100
Wawasi-Kwabrafoso Area Council		
Participation status	Responses	Percentage
Yes	12	12
No	88	88
Total	100	100
Frequency of Participation		
Frequency of Participation	Response	Percentage (%)
Once a month	12	12
Every two weeks	1	1
Others	87	87
Total	100	100
Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council		
Participation Status	Responses	Percentage
Yes	24	24
No	76	76
Total	100	100
Frequency of Participation		
Frequency of Participation	Response	Percentage (%)
Once a month	17	17
Every two weeks	5	5
Others	78	78
Total	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

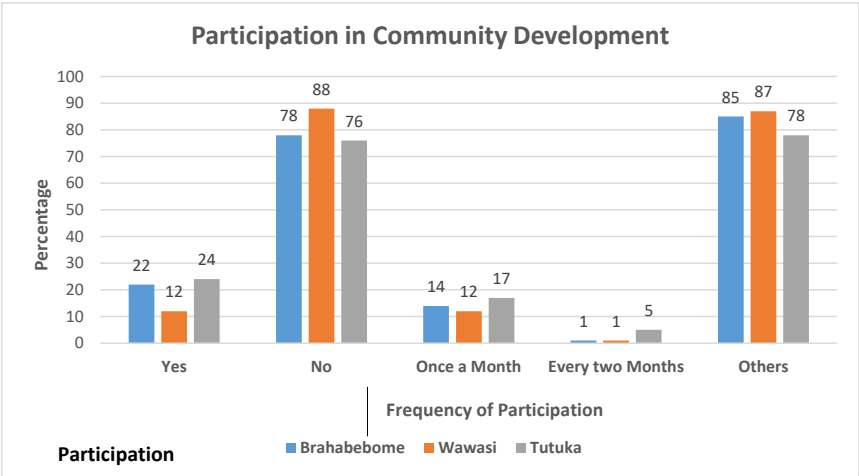


Figure 13.8: Participation in community decision making
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

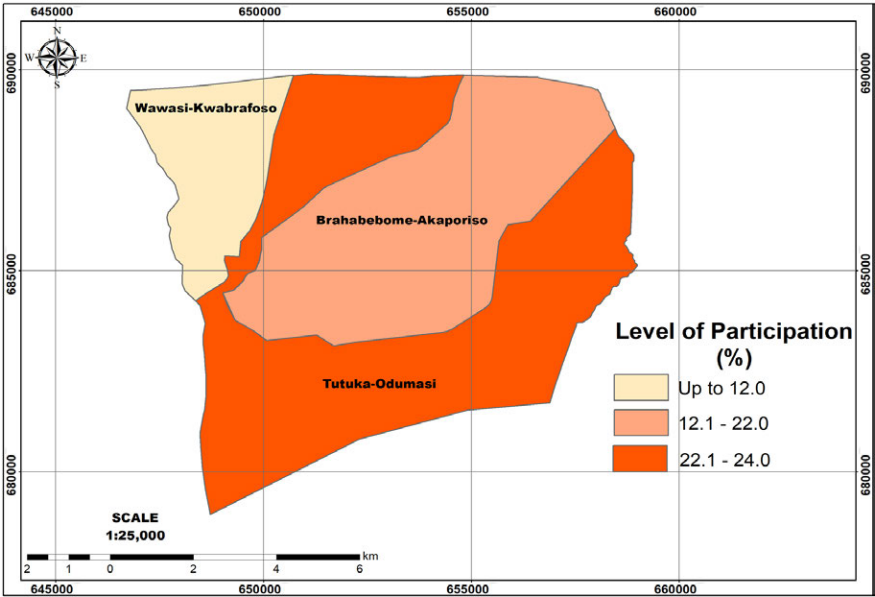


Figure 13.9: Level of participation of household heads in community development
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021

On the basis of the data, it can be concluded that residents in the Obuasi East District are not adequately included in the governance process. As their capacity is not built, development decision cannot be responsive enough to address their needs. Since participation induces a strong sense of local community empowerment in development projects, leading to capacity building and allows the community to be more effective and efficient in project management (Kiden 2019), with the high level of non-participation in decision-making, the people can be described as deprived as their voices are not heard.

13.7 Satisfaction with the performance of the Municipal Assembly

The study revealed that, majority of the household heads in all the three Area Councils are dissatisfied with the performance of the District Assembly as significant proportions (75%) in Brahabebome, 60% in Wawasi and 90% in Tutuka area attested to the fact that they were dissatisfied with the performance of the District Assembly (Table 13.5 and Figures 13.13; 13.14).

Table 13.5: Satisfaction with Performance of Local Government structures

Satisfaction	Brahabebome Area Council		Wawasi Area Council		Tutuka Area Council	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Yes	25	25	40	40	10	10
No	75	75	60	60	90	90
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100

Source: Field Survey, June 2021

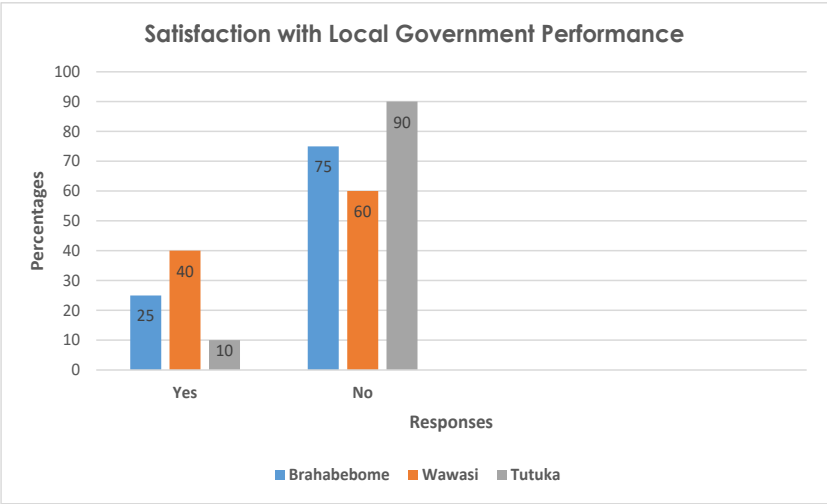


Figure 13.13: Satisfaction with performance of local government structures
Source: Field Survey, June 2021

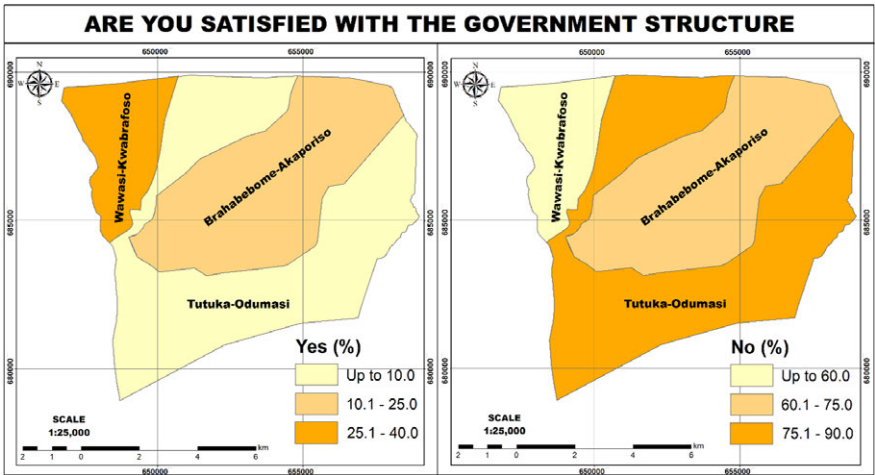


Figure 13.14: Satisfactory level of household heads to the performance of the Obuasi East District Assembly
Source: Author's Construct, June 2021


In the view of many of them, their elected Assembly members do not effectively represent their views in the Assembly as they pursue their personal and partisan interests. One of them noted that:

“The Assembly members are only interested in their personal gains but not community development. They also pursue their political party agenda rather than what we the ordinary people want them to do for us such as jobs or getting the mining company to employ our people” (FGD participant, September 2021).

These types of claims were common in all the FGDs and key informant interviews. We found that Assembly officials and elected Assembly members were aware of these perceptions by the local people. When these were discussed with key informants in the Obuasi East District Assembly, it emerged that the Assembly is working to improve the general living conditions with insufficient financial and human resources. As discussed earlier, campaign promises by candidates for Assembly elections are to blame for some of the expectations by community members.

13.8 Chapter Conclusion

In terms of vulnerable groups, it was found that women are discriminated against in the area of leadership positions. The support for the aged is not sufficient to make them comfortable. Apart from the malaria initiative, majority of the residents have not directly benefitted from employment opportunities in AngloGold’s mining activities although they have lost their lands to the mines. Citizens are also dissatisfied with the performance of the Obuasi East District Assembly. There are limited spaces for local people to participate and influence decision-making processes. The Assembly is not creating enough jobs and not providing enough public services.



04

Part

Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learnt



Good Governance Africa

Chapter 14

CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT

14.1 Conclusions

Not many direct jobs created by the mines: In spite of the presence of the mining company (AngloGold Ashanti), the company has not created many direct jobs for the natives of the Obuasi Municipality and the Obuasi East District. The implication here is that the mining company needs to work with the local people to find ways to directly employ many of the youth.

High unemployment and limited job opportunities: Agriculture which used to offer reliable and stable jobs to many has lost its glory since agricultural lands have been taken by the mines leaving many with no jobs. There should be ways for the mining company to return reclaimed lands to the local people interested in farming to go back to their lands.

High female dependence on males: The lack of jobs has exposed females to poverty making female dependency on males to be high in both districts. This is rather high in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council and Tutuka-Odumasi Area Council. What this implies is that females can be said to be more likely to be vulnerable and exposed to poverty more than their male counterparts.

Housing problems: Housing is not sufficient especially in the Central Zonal Council of the Obuasi Municipality as many are crowded in single rooms without decent toilet, kitchen and bathroom facilities. Females, single mothers and female household heads are most affected.

Education is biased towards males: Education was found to be biased towards males so the males can be said to be better off than the females. Young females are vulnerable and exposed to poverty and might get into a cycle of poverty in the future.

High inequities among households in school choice: Many households are unable to afford good performing private schools. What this points to is the need to fix the conditions in the low-performing public schools to raise their performance level.

Transportation cost deprives pupils from attending school on regular basis: Majority of parents find it difficult to pay daily transportation cost for their wards to go to school especially in the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council. Insufficient household incomes: Household incomes are not sufficient to meet their needs in both districts especially in the two Zonal Councils in the Obuasi Municipality.

High sexual abuse due to poverty: There are cases of sexual abuse in many parts of both districts especially in the Brahabebe-Akaporiso Area Council in the Obuasi East District and the Kunka-Anyinam Zonal Council in the Obuasi Municipality.

Health issues attributed to air pollution: There are cases of eye problems possibly caused by heavy dust pollution by the mining activities.

Health issues attributed to tremors and vibrations from the mines: The blasting of rocks is claimed to create tremors and vibrations that shake the foundation of houses. These tremors result in the cracking of walls and foundation of buildings.

Limited participation of local people in the governance process: Many of the residents do not have the space to participate and shape decisions that affect them. These can be described as deprived people as their voices are not heard.

Dissatisfaction with the performance of both District Assemblies: The Obuasi Municipal Assembly and the Obuasi East District Assembly are both judged to be underperforming by not creating the space for the people to be part of the governance process. The Assemblies are also not doing enough to get the AngloGold Ashanti to employ the local people or creating adequate enabling environment for private sector to create more jobs.

Positive interventions by AngloGold Ashanti improving lives: Although the respondents claimed that the AngloGold's impact is not adequately and positively felt, evidence from literature has listed some positive interventions by the company which can be described as contributing to improving the living conditions of the people. This is a potential that can be harnessed for further improving the lives of the people in the area.

14.2 Recommendations

AngloGold Ashanti should create direct jobs for the natives of the Obuasi Municipal and Obuasi East District Assemblies. There is the need to engage more with the local people, support capacity building of the youth and employ them. More of such opportunities should go for the females.

Reclaimed farm lands should be released to farmers: Agriculture can regain its glory if the reclaimed lands are released to farmers. This should also employ many of the youth.

The Obuasi Municipal Assembly and Obuasi East District Assembly should support housing development: The Assemblies should work with the private sector to provide housing to help reduce the overcrowding.

Education must target the females: Steps need to be taken by both Assemblies to strengthen existing programmes to support and promote girl-child education.

Reduce inequities among households in school choice: There is the need to fix the conditions in the low-performing public schools to raise their performance level.

High sexual abuse due to poverty: The Department of Social Welfare and Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit of the Ghana Police Service should investigate this further for the necessary actions to be taken.

Further research in health issues: The health issues attributed to air pollution, tremors and vibrations from the mines will need further research.

Expand space for the participation of local people in the governance process: Both Assemblies should expand the space for many of the residents to participate and shape decisions that affect them.

Both Assemblies should be more responsive to local needs: The Obuasi Municipal Assembly and the Obuasi East District Assembly should improve upon their performance by satisfying the development needs of the people.

AngloGold Ashanti should expand existing social and economic interventions: The existing interventions by the company which can be described as contributing to improving the living conditions of the people need to be expanded to cover many.

14.3 Lessons learnt

Resource curse is real:

The existence or the presence of a natural resource in a particular geographic area does not necessarily imply that the local people or natives of that geographic area will be better off. In fact, they can be worse off as found in the literature on resource curse in many parts of the World and in this study. It will take strong commitment on the part of the mining company, central and local governments to intervene on behalf of the local people for such mining activities to directly and positively benefit the local people rather than worsening their plights.

The poor must tell us about their own poverty:

Academic discourse and policy discussions around poverty, inequality, vulnerability and deprivation should seek to hear the voices of the affected people through in-depth qualitative approaches. High statistical approaches without capturing the lived-stories and experiences of poverty by the poor themselves cannot be sufficient to provide useful insights to public policy.



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Appendix A:

Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") is entered into as of 17/05/2021 by and between:

Good Governance Africa, West-Africa Regional Office ("GGA-WARO"), a research and advocacy non-profit organization registered with the Department of Social Welfare No.D.S.W 640 and

Dr. Ronald Adamtey (The Consultant), a senior Lecturer at KNUST, Kumasi Collectively known as the **"Parties"**

1. INTRODUCTION

This MoU outlines the key responsibilities of both Parties in relation to the commissioning of research on **'Qualitative and Quantitative Assessment of Poverty Levels (poverty mapping) of Mine Take Communities: lessons and pointers to pro-poor policy from gold mine in Obuasi'**

This research seeks to address the following:

- i. Assess the nature of poverty within the Obuasi Municipality with clear identification of the causal factors for such economic and income deprivation in such a gold resource rich community.
- ii. Review current socio-economic potentials of the Municipality that could be harnessed to alleviate poverty in the area
- iii. Propose pointers for pro-poor policy design for the Obuasi Municipality with particular focus on the period during and after mine activities.

2. OUTCOMES

The outcome of this research is to use Maps to produce an in-depth explanation showing the following:

1. The incidence of poverty in Obuasi (youth unemployment, limited income generating activities etc.). Notes showing causal factors.
2. Estimated number of poor persons by age and gender/sex.
3. Depth of poverty, Poverty inequality by age, gender/sex and between the various communities,
4. League Table of Poverty Incidence,

5. Socio-economic potentials and strategies to harness them, and
6. Pointers for pro-poor policy options in the environment of mining.

3. THE CONSULTANT'S COMMITMENT

In signing this MoU, the Consultant commits to the following:

1. The consultant would use a mixed method approach for data collection and analysis for this study. As much as practicable, the study approach should employ both quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection with a broader scope on Ghana, like the Ghana Poverty Mapping Report (GSS, 2015) and the Ghana Living Standards Survey, 2017 (GSS, 2018).
2. The use of Key Informant Interviews (KII), observations together with adequate referrals to the statistical reports stated above must be used to tell the compelling story of the poverty levels and dynamics in the Obuasi Municipality.
3. Focus on youth employment and income generation opportunities in Obuasi as Ghanaian communities are predominantly youthful. The income generation activities of inhabitants of Obuasi and adjoining communities that have been affected by the exploitation of gold in the area before, during and after the mine life should be discussed.
4. The consultant should assess the impact of mining activities on livelihoods (the positives and negatives) and whether there is any correlation between the mine exploration activities and the seeming downward trend economic progression of mining communities

4. GGA COMMITMENT

In signing this MoU, GGA-WARO commits to the following:

- a) To work with The Consultant in a collaborative and flexible manner to respond to and overcome any challenges raised by The Consultant in the course of the research,
- b) To ensure that the scope of the research is adhered to,
- c) To finance the research cost as agreed upon in the Research Budget.

5. DELIVERABLES

The following will be deliverables by the consultants:

1. An inception report containing the following:
 - i. Interpretation of the TOR
 - ii. Research design, approach and methodology
 - iii. Work plan and time schedule
 - iv. Research tools and research budget

2. A draft report to be presented to GGA for comments and review.
3. A final report structured as follows:
 - i. Title page, table of contents, acronyms
 - ii. Executive summary
 - iii. Purpose of the research
 - iv. Research objectives and scope
 - v. Research Methodology
 - vi. Context of subject
 - vii. Description of the subject
 - viii. Findings
 - ix. Analysis
 - x. Conclusions
 - xi. Recommendations
 - xii. Lessons learnt

6. RESEARCH DURATION

The research is expected to commence on June 2021 and to be completed by August 2021

Appendix B:

Guide for Key Informants

POVERTY MAPPING OF THE OBUASI MUNICIPALITY and OBUASI EAST DISTRICT

This study is being undertaken by Good Governance Ghana (GGA). It is in line with GGAs ultimate goal to produce evidence towards pro-poor policy reforms for poverty reduction in mining communities in Ghana. Your honest response will contribute to efforts towards poverty reduction in mining areas in Ghana

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR KEY INFORMANTS

- 1.** In what ways can we say that mining has contributed in a positive way in this community?
- 2.** What are the specific positive things to show us?
- 3.** In what ways we can say that mining has contributed in a negative way in this community?
- 4.** What are the specific negative things to show us?
- 5.** Who should we talk to about the positive economic effects of mining on the people in this community? (In terms of the people affected directly)
- 6.** Who should we talk to about the negative effects of mining on the people in this community? (People affected directly).
- 7.** What are the key problems that many people in this community talk about as far as mining is concerned?

Appendix C:

Discussion Guide/Checklist for Focus Group Discussions

POVERTY MAPPING OF THE OBUASI MUNICIPALITY AND OBUASI EAST DISTRICT

This study is being undertaken by Good Governance Ghana (GGA). It is in line with GGAs ultimate goal to produce evidence to pro-poor policy reforms for poverty reduction in mining communities in Ghana. Your honest response will contribute to efforts towards poverty reduction in mining areas in Ghana.

DISCUSSION GUIDE/CHECKLIST FOR FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS

A. Group Type

1. Women
2. Males
3. Female Youth
4. Male Youth

B. Discussion of Poverty

1. Can we say that there is poverty in this community in terms of social development? (Discuss access to health, education, housing, water etc).
2. Can we say that there is poverty in this community in terms of economic development? (Discuss employment, unemployment issues).
3. In what form can we describe poverty?
4. Discuss the major sources of livelihoods to the community members
5. Employment situation in the community. Discuss major sectors of employment, those employed, those unemployed and reasons for unemployment

C. Governance (Exclusion/Inclusion in decision making/Voice)

1. How are you involved in the decision making process in this community and the Obuasi Municipality? (Group specific. Discuss specific opportunities and existing institutional arrangements to involve them).
2. The government works in a variety of ways to reduce poverty. Which programs work best for your group and why?
3. If the government could do one more thing to reduce poverty in this community, what should it be?
4. What would help reduce poverty in your community?

Appendix D:

Questionnaire for Household Interviews

POVERTY MAPPING OF THE OBUASI MUNICIPALITY AND OBUASI EAST DISTRICT

This study is being undertaken by Good Governance Ghana (GGA). It is in line with GGAs ultimate goal to produce evidence to pro-poor policy reforms for poverty reduction in mining communities in Ghana. Your honest response will contribute to efforts towards poverty reduction in mining areas in Ghana

Appendix D: Questionnaire for Household Interviews

A) Demographic Characteristics

NAMES OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS (Please use numbers if convenient for the interviewer)	Gen-der	1.	1. Male
		2.	2. Female
	Age		
		Educa-tion	Currently in School
Employment status	Employed		
	Unemployed		
	Pensioner		
	Major		
Occu-pation	Minor		
	Marital Status		
Religion	1. Christianity		
	2. Islam		
	3. Traditional		
	4. Others		
Liter-acy	English		
	Local Language		
Dura-tion of Resi-dence	1. Seasonal		
	2. All year		
Mi-gra-tion	1. Native		
	2. In- migrants		
Disability			

- Occupation**
1. Service
2. Agric.
3. Commerce
4. Industry
5. Student
6. Tertiary
7. Never
- Ethnicity**
1. Akan
2. Ewe
3. JHS
4. Non-Ghanaian
5. Others
- Education**
1. K.G/Nursery
2. Primary
3. Both
4. SHS
5. Tech/Voc.
- Literacy**
1. Read
2. Write
- Disability**
1. Blind
2. Deaf
3. Dumb
4. Cripple
5. Others
- Marital Status**
1. Single
2. Consensual
3. Married
4. Divorced
5. Widowed

B) Housing**1. Complete the tables below by ticking (observe)**

Housing typology						Building materials		Roofing materials					
								Types				Condition	
Single storey traditional compound		Multi storey compound house		Small self-contained		Large single-family house		Terrace		Apartment		Sand Crete	
								Land Crete		Bricks		Wattle and Daub	
								Iron Sheet		Aluminum Sheet		Tiles	
								Asbestos		Thatch		Leaking	
								Not Leaking					

Housing condition							Height of building					
Wall					Foundation							
Cracked	Not Cracked	Rendered	Not Rendered	Rendered and Painted	Exposed	Not Exposed						
							Single Storey	Two Storey	Three Storey	Four Storey	Five Storey	Others (specify)

2. How old is the building? (Year/ age)
3. a) What is your occupier status? 1. Owner ☐ 2. Free Occupier ☐ 3. Tenant/Renter ☐
b) If renting, how much do you pay for rent month? GH¢.....
4. How many households are in this house?.....
5. What is the total number of rooms?.....
6. What is the total number of habitable rooms?.....
7. What is the number of occupied habitable rooms?.....
8. What is the number of persons in a room?.....
9. a) Do you maintain this house? 1. Yes ☐ 2. No ☐
b) If yes, how often?
1. Daily ☐ 2. Weekly ☐ 3. Monthly ☐
4. Yearly ☐ 5. Occasionally ☐ 6. When the need arises ☐
10. What maintenance activities do you undertake?
11. How much do you spend on maintenance? GH¢.....

Facilities	Private		Public	Distance (If public)	Condi- tions
	Internal	External			
Kitchen					
Toilet					
Bathroom					
Storeroom					

C) WATER

12. What is the major source of water for your household?

1. Pipe borne [] 2. Borehole [] 3. Well []

4. Others (specify).....

13. Is the source of water public or private? 1. Public [] 2. Private []

14. Where is it located?

1. Within the house [] 2. Within the community [] 3.

Outside the community []

15. What is the distance of water source from your house?

1. Under 100m [] 2. 101m-300m [] 3. 301m-500m []

4. 501m-800m [] 5. 801m and above

16. What is the condition of your source of the water?

Good [] Fair [] Bad []

17. Describe the condition?.....

18. What is the frequency of flow of water?

a. Daily [] 2. Once a week [] 3. Twice a week [] 4.

Three times a week []

b. Others (specify).....

19. a) Do you pay for the water you use? 1. Yes [] 2. No []

b) If yes how much is paid (GH¢)? (Either)

1. Per bucket..... 2. Per day..... 3. Per week..... 4.

Per month.....

c) If per bucket, how many buckets do you fetch in a day? buckets.

20. What is the alternative source of water apart from the major one you use?

1. Pipe borne [] 2. Bore hole [] 3. Well [] 4. Rainwater []

5. Others (specify)

INCOME

21. What is/are your source(s) of income?

Wage/Salary [] Remittances [] Others, specify.....

22. What is the household's total income per month (This should cover incomes of all members of the household but not that of the head only)

Source of Household Income

No.	ACTIVITIES	MONTHLY INCOME GH¢	
I.	Agriculture		
II.	Industry		
IV.	Service		
V.	Rent		
VI.	Remittances		
VII.	Others, specify		
	Total		

23. Kindly help me complete the table below for the household expenditure per month (This covers expenses of all members of household)

Household Expenditure per Month

ITEM	AMOUNT GH ¢	ITEM	AMOUNT GH ¢
Energy (cooking, lighting and other applications)		Education	
Food		Housing (rent and maintenance)	
Clothing		Remittance	
Health care (including NHIS)		Development levy	
Water		Transportation	
Sanitation		Religious functions	
Entertainment		Gifts	
Insurance (apart from NHIS)		Funeral	
Telecommunication		Others (specify)_____	

EMPLOYMENT

24. What is your sector of employment?

Agriculture [] Livestock [] Industrial []
 Services [] Commercial Activities [] Tourism []
 Mining [] Transport [] Communication []

25. How has mining affected your sector of employment (mining sector excluded) adversely and what measures have been put in place to address these adverse effects?

26. Has the mining sector contributed positively to your sector of employment? Yes [] No []

27. If yes, how has the mining sector contributed positively to your sector of employment?

From question 4, If mining, answer the following questions

28 What type of mining activity are you engaged in?

Surface [] Underground [] Others, specify.....

29. What is the method of production?

Capital Intensive [] Labour Intensive [] Others, specify.....

30. What type of mineral extraction are you engaged in?

Gold [] Diamond [] Bauxite [] Silver [] Others, specify.....

31. Which of the following activities are you engaged in?

Crushing and grinding [] Underground mining [] Sieving and washing []
 Blending [] Others, specify.....

32. What is your income per month?.....

33. Do you save? Yes [] No []

34. If yes, how often do you save?

Daily [] Weekly [] Monthly [] Others, specify.....

35. Where do you save? Bank [] Susu collectors [] Others, specify.....

36. Do you have access to credit facilities? Yes [] No []

37. Do you encounter any challenges in the access to credit facilities? Yes [] No []

38. If yes, how can these challenges be addressed?.....

39. Respondent should check appropriate option in the table below

40. Strongly agree 2. Agree 3. Neutral 4. Disagree 5. Strongly disagree

////////////////////////////////////

Questions	Strongly agree	Agree	Neu-tral	Strongly disagree	Disagree
Has the availa-bility of mining provide social amenities					
Has the availa-bility of mining created jobs in the community					
The mining has destroyed the water bodies and lands					
The mining has improved standard of living					

EDUCATION

41. Please refer to the table on household characteristics and extract the names of the household members that apply to this

Sex of household member in school	Type of education-al facility		Location (1) Inside commu-nity (2) Outside commu-nity	Level	Means to the school	Amount spent on trans-port per week	Reason for Patronage (refer to the codes below the table)
	Pub-lic (1)	Pri-vate (2)					

Codes for reasons for patronage:

Affordability [1]

Proximity to house [2]

Performance of Students [3]

Others (specify)

Codes for means to the school:

By foot [1]

By bicycle [2]

By vehicle [3]

By motor bike [4]

Others (specify)

Codes for level of education:

Creche [1]

KG [2]

Primary [3]

JHS [4]

SHS [5]

Tertiary [6]

Others (specify)

42. Does any of your children benefit from the school feeding programme?

a. Yes []1

b. No []2

i. If YES, how many?

a. 1 []1

b. 2 []2

c. 3 []3

d. 4 []4

e. 5+ []5

43. Does any of your children benefit from the free SHS education programme?

a. Yes []1

b. No []2

i. If YES, how many?

a. 1 []1

b. 2 []2

c. 3 []3

d. 4 []4

e. 5+ []5

44. What was the average amount of money spent on your children's education per year before the introduction of school feeding programme and free education?

45. What is the average amount of money spent on your children's education per year after the introduction of school feeding programme and free education?

46. What are some of the problems you face in your children's education?

47. Is your ward/child experiencing any difficulties with his/her schooling?

a. Yes []1

b. No []2

i. If yes, what are they?

48. In all, are you satisfied with the quality of education your child is receiving?

a. Yes []1

b. No []2

i. If yes, what is the level of satisfaction?

Very satisfied []1

Satisfied []2

Indifferent []3

Dissatisfied []4

Very dissatisfied []5

ii. If no to Q22i please state your reasons

49. What suggestions do you have to enhance education of your children?

HEALTH

50. Do you have a health facility in your community?

a. Yes []1 b. No []2

51. How many health facilities are in the community?

Public..... Private..... Hospital.....

Clinic..... Health Post..... CHIPS Com-
pound.....

Native Herbalist.....

51. What type of health facilities do you patronize?

Hospital []1 Clinic []2 Health centre/post []3 Herbalist []4

Others []5 (specify).....

52. What's the reason for your choice?

(a) Quality services []1 (b) Acceptance of NHIS []2 (c) Nearness to
you []3

(d) Others (specify).....

55. Where is the facility located? Within the community []1 Outside
the community []2

56. How far is it from your house? (a) Distance.....(km) (b)
Time.....(mins)

57. How do you access the facility? Car []1 bicycle []2 motor []3
foot []4 Others (Specify).....

58. Nature of roads/routes leading to health facilities.

1[] tarred road 2[] untarred road 3[] footpath

59. Condition of roads/routes leading to health facilities.

1[] Very Good 2[] Good 3[] Poor 4[] Very Poor 5[]
Neutral

60. How often do you visit health facilities?

1[] Weekly 2[] Monthly 3[] Quarterly 4[] Yearly 5[] When ill only []

61. How will you rate the quality of services provided?

1[] Very Good 2[] Good 3[] Poor 4[] Very Poor 5[]
Neutral

62. Have you or any household member registered for NHIS?

a. Yes []1 b. No []2

ii. If yes, fill the table below

Household member	Year of registration		Status		If inactive, why?
	2003-2010	2011-2018	Active	Inactive	

63. If registered, is the NHIS helpful to your household?

a. Yes [] b. No []

ii. If yes, how?

64. What are the problems encountered in accessing a health facility using the NHIS

65. If not NHIS, how much does it cost upon each visit?

a) GHc0 – GHc49 []1 b) GHc50 – GHc99 []2 c) GHc100 – GHc149 []3

d) GHc150 – GHc199 []4 e) GHc200+ []5

66. What are the top ailments suffered by the household?

Disease	Rank
Malaria	
Cholera	
Tuberculosis	
Diarrhoea	
Bilharzia	
Typhoid fever	
Measles	
Chicken pox	
Yellow fever	
Dysentery	
urinary tract infection	
Piles	

67. Have your children been immunized?

1 [] Yes 2 [] No

68. If no why?

69. What problem do you face when accessing the health facility/ care?

70. What solutions would you suggest to these problems?

WATER AND ENVIRONMENT

WATER

71. Source for drinking

Pipe borne water [] Bore hole [] Well [] Stream [] others (specify)...

72. Provider

Municipal Assembly [] Individual [] Mining company [] Traditional Authority [] other (specify).....

73. Purpose

Purpose	Source	Quantity per day	Do you buy the water		If yes, amount spent per day
			Yes	No	
Drinking					
Cooking					
Commercial Activity					

74. What problems do you face with water supply with regards to the mining activities in the areas

75. How will you rate the quality of your drinking water?

Excellent [] Very good [] Good [] Poor [] Very Poor []

76. Explain your answer

ENVIRONMENT

77. What is the state of the environment around you?

Excellent [] Very good [] Good [] Poor [] Very poor []

78. Explain your answer

79. Are there any effects of the mining activities within the area on the environment?

Yes [] No []

80. What are some of the effects of the mining activities on your environment?

Air pollution [] Water pollution [] Noise pollution [] others (specify).....

81. What has been the interventions of the mining companies on the environment?

82. In what ways have these effects affected your living conditions?

VULNERABILITY

83. Which groups of people are considered vulnerable in this community?

Aged [] Children [] Women [] Disabled []

AGED

84. How are they treated in the community?

a. Fair b. Bad

85. What struggles do the aged go through in the community?

86. What problems do the aged face in the community?

87. Have any attempts been made to solve the problem, if yes how?

WOMEN

88. Are there incidence of women abuse, if yes in what form?

89. Do women go through any form of discrimination, if yes in which form?

90. Do outmoded cultural practices still affect women, if yes which practices?

91. Are there any women empowerment programs that exist in the community?

92. Are women giving the opportunity to play active role in decision-making?

93. Are there incidence of single mothers?

Persons with Disabilities

94. Is there any disabled person in your household? Yes [] 1

No [] 2

If yes, please describe the disability in the table below

95. Persons with Disabilities

////////////////////////////////////

Number	Type of Disability (e.g. blind)	How it occurred (e.g. by birth)	Age of the victim	Sex	Current occupation	What support do you give to the victim?
1st person						
2nd person						
3rd person						
4th person						
5th person						

96. Are they restricted from accessing any facility? A) Yes
b) No

i. If yes, what type of facilities are they denied access?.....

97. If employed, which sector does he or she work in?

a) Industry b) Service c) Agriculture d) Others (specify).....

98. If a student, what level of education is he or she?

a) Primary b) JHS c) SHS d) Tertiary e) Others (Specify).....

99. Are there any interventions or support for the disabled?

A) Yes b) No

If yes, what type of intervention?.....

100. What struggles do the aged go through in the community?

102. Are the views of the disabled taken into consideration?

A) Yes B) No

If No, what is the reason?

103. Are there any on-going programmes to support the disabled?

A)Yes B)No

VICTIMS OF ABUSE

104. Have you or any member of the family been treated unfairly before?

Yes [] No [] 2

ii. If yes, was it any of the following?

Verbal assault [] 1 Physical assault [] Others, specify_____

iii. What were the causes of abuse?

- (a) _____
 (b) _____
 (c) _____

iv. Did you or the person involved suffer any injury? Yes [] 1 No [] 2

a. If yes, to what extent? Scars [] 1 Fractures [] 2 Swells [] 3

Other, specify _____

v. Have you reported or ever reported the case? Yes [] 1 No [] 2

a. If yes, to which institution?

Chiefs and Elders [] 1 Social Welfare [] 2 Police [] 3

Family members [] 4 Other, specify _____

b. If no, why?

105. Is there anyone living with HIV and AIDS in your household?

Yes [] 1 No [] 2

If yes, please describe in the table below

Number	How it occurred (e.g. blood transfusion)	Age of the victim	Current occupation	What support do you give to the victim?
1st person				
2nd person				
3rd person				
4th person				
5th person				

106. Have you done an HIV/AIDS test? Yes [] 1 No [] 2

a) If yes what are your reason (s)?

b) If no why?

107. If yes to Q 95, do you take anti-retroviral drugs? Yes [] 1 No [] 2

i. If No, why?

108. If yes to Q.96, is the person allowed to participate in any social gathering? Yes [] 1 No [] 2

////////////////////////////////////

DISASTER PRONE AREA

109. Are there any natural disasters that affect the house? Yes [] 1

No [] 2

i. If yes, what type of disaster?

a) Flood b) Bush fire c) Pollution d) Others (Specify).....

ii. How frequently does it happen?

.....
iii. What effect does it have on the community?

iv. What is being done to prevent these disasters?

110. Is there any aid given to people affected by the disaster? Yes [] 1

No [] 2

i. If yes, what form of assistance is being given?.....

ii. Which institution gives this assistance?.....

VOICE (INCLUSION AND NON- INCLUSION) AND POWER

111. Are you aware that Municipal Assembly is responsible for overall development of the Municipality?

a) Yes..... b) No.....

b) If Yes what developmental projects have occurred in the Municipality for the past Five years?

112. Are you informed before the district assembly undertakes any development project t (s)?

a. Yes b. No

i. If yes, how are you informed?

113. Are you involved in any community development?

a) Yes b) No

i. If yes, how often?

Once a month [] 1 Every two weeks[] 2 Once a week[] 3 Others

specify.....

114. Are women involved in taking decision in the household or community?

Yes[] 1 No[] 2

i. If yes how?

If No why

115. What are some of the problems facing the community?

Water problems [] 1 Electricity problems[] 2 Waste disposal problems[] 3 Others specify.....

a. What are some of causes of these problems?

b. Who are mostly affected?

116. Are there any initiatives by the mining companies in the provision of

utility services in the community?

Yes []1 No[]2

i. If yes, which utility is it and what initiative was taken?

Utility	Initiative
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117. What are some of the major disputes in the community?

Land disputes []1 Family disputes[]2 Others specify.....

118. How are these disputes solved?

Traditional Authorities []1 Law court[]2 Others(specify).....

119. Are you satisfied with the performance of the local government structures in your community? Yes []1 No[]2

i. Provide reasons for your answers

Appendix E:

Poverty Mapping of the Obuasi Municipality and Obuasi East District

Observation Check List

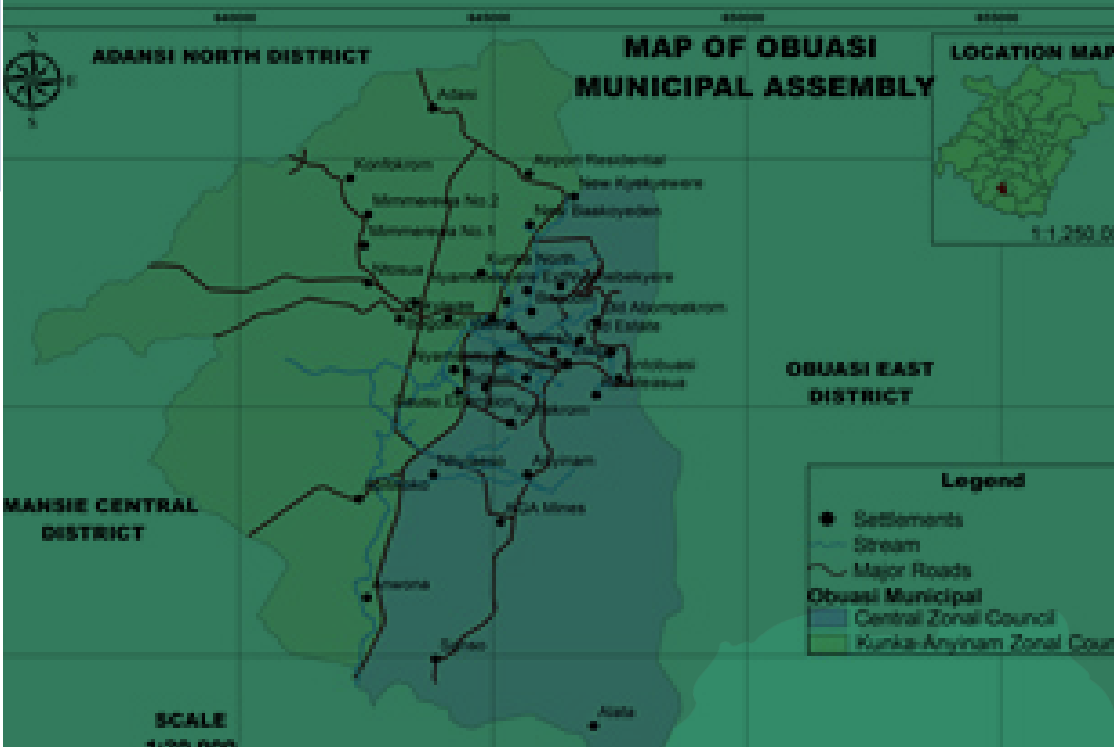
1. Environment

-Note physical characteristics of degradation, pollution etc

2. Local Economy

-Note how brisk the local economy is. Activities and population

3. Body language of community members



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