

GGDDS

GGDDS Ghanaian-German Center for Development Studies
and Health Research, Division for Development Studies

at the University of Ghana, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER)
in cooperation with the University of Bonn, Center for Development Research (ZEF)

GGDDS Brochure | 2011



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Ghanaian-German Division for Development Studies (GGDDS)

*AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GHANA, INSTITUTE OF STATISTICAL, SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC RESEARCH (ISSER) IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF BONN,
CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH (ZEF)*



Credits

GGDDS BROCHURE

PUBLISHER

Ghanaian-German Center for Development Studies and Health Research, Division for Development Studies (GGDDS) at the Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research (ISSER) at the University of Ghana in cooperation with the Center for Development Research (ZEF) of the University of Bonn

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Foreword by the Directors

Dear Reader,

The last decade has seen an accelerating pace of globalization that has been accompanied by opportunities and problems for developed as well as developing countries. Largely uncontrolled transnational financial flows travel ever faster and new economic players have entered the scramble for resources, business opportunities and political influence, especially in Africa. This has sparked unprecedented investments in infrastructure but also in businesses and resources, and opened up new forms of economic and political partnership and development trajectories. At the same time, the sometimes ruthless competition for resources such as land, water and raw materials, the financial and food crises of 2008 and the current currency crisis have increased economic instability, retarded economic growth and led to additional hardship, especially for the poor.

Given this perspective, the founding of the Ghanaian-German Division of Development Studies (GGDDS) of the Centre of Excellence for Development Studies and Health Research in 2008 was well timed. The GGDDS aims at training dedicated and innovative future leaders who commit themselves to the development of their country and can contribute to the strong economic and political partnership that Ghana and Germany have developed over time.

The partner institutes of the GGDDS, the Institute for Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER) of the University of Ghana and the Center for Development Research (ZEF) at the University of Bonn in Germany, help by training PhD candidates and developing the capacities of their scientists to generate the much needed expertise to adequately address the current and future development challenges.

This becomes especially clear when one looks at the research conducted within the GGDDS. Students do research on a wide range of relevant topics such as land management, land markets and patterns of investment, agricultural development, poverty, inequality, poverty health traps, foreign direct investment or the governance of Ghana's oil resources. This research not only directly contributes new insights and knowledge that feed into the development process, but also equips the students with expertise enabling them to take up responsible positions in universities, government, NGOs, and international organizations after obtaining their PhD.

German language classes, the exposure of students to German development organizations in Ghana and in Germany, and an extended research visit to Germany enable students to gain first-hand knowledge of German culture and the potential for collaboration with German institutions. Moreover, the accreditation of students from other African countries and participation in scientific conferences and Network Meetings of the five DAAD Centres of Excellence in Africa enhance academic networks in Africa and beyond.

Many people have contributed to the success of the GGDDS. We want to express our gratitude to the first Ghanaian director of the GGDDS, Prof. Dr. Aryeetey, now Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana (UG); the coordinators of the program,

Dr. Felix Asante, Rev. Dr. Adobea Owusu, Dr. George Owusu, Dr. Wolfram Laube, and their assistants Ms. Rinnah Kusi and Mr. Felix Op de Hipt; to the lecturers and supervisors who guide the students during their course work and research; to the leadership of the Universities of Ghana and the University of Bonn, who have made this program possible; to our collaborating partners at the Division for Health Research (ACBRIDGE), at other Ghanaian Universities (UDS, KNUST, UCC), and at German institutions in Ghana and Germany, such as the German Embassy, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), and the Goethe Institute, for their support and advice. Last but not least, we would like to thank the German Federal Foreign Office (AA) for its generous support and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) for its mindful and professional guidance in the implementation of the program.

Bonn and Accra, September 2011



*Prof Dr. Solvay Gerke,
ZEF Director*



*Prof. Dr. Clement Ahiadeke,
ISSER Director*

The Ghanaian-German Division for Development Studies (GGDDS)



ISSER building which houses the GGDDS

“The DAAD-ZEF Centre of Excellence at the University of Ghana could not have come at a better time. There is an increasing demand for high-level manpower at several sectors of the Ghanaian society, especially in universities, government agencies, the private sector and the NGO sector”.

Dr. G. Owusu, project coordinator at ISSER 2008-2011

Founded in 2008, the GGDDS is built on five pillars:

- 1. PhD program in development studies**
- 2. Staff development**
- 3. Enhanced research infrastructure at the University of Ghana**
- 4. Development of joint research projects**
- 5. Academic exchange and networking**

1. The PhD program is directed at middle and upper level policy makers and development practitioners as well as university graduates with an excellent academic record. Every year, five sponsored students are admitted to the program after a competitive screening process. Self-funding students can also join the program, if qualified. The program starts with a PhD course focusing on development theories and research methodologies and provides training in managerial and professional skills.

After the course, the students visit Germany in order to interact with development researchers

at the Center for Development Research (ZEF), review literature and work on their research proposals. When their research proposals are approved by their Ghanaian supervisors, the PhD candidates spend up to a year conducting field research. The third year is intended for data analysis and writing up the dissertation.

Future collaboration with German institutions is prepared through German classes and visits to German institutions in Ghana and Germany. Students are encouraged to do internships in German institutions in Ghana

during their field research, or to even conduct collaborative research with German development programs in Ghana.

2. Staff development activities for senior staff include specialized training courses and lectures, research visits, the organization of scientific workshops and conference participation, both in Ghana and Germany. Capacity-building activities, as well as shared development of curricula and teaching in the PhD program have led to an intensive exchange of knowledge and experiences between the institutes, and thus directly contribute to the development of staff capacity and high academic standards.

3. The scientific infrastructure of ISSER has been greatly improved in order to create the right conditions for advanced education. Students' offices have been renovated and equipped, the purchase of essential and current literature has been supported, IT facilities at ISSER have been

enhanced and the purchase and maintenance of important statistical and econometric software is helping to develop ISSER's software training facilities.

4. The development of joint research proposals is an essential part of the strategy to safeguard the future viability of the Center for Development Studies. The idea is to attract research funds provided for development research under programs of international (development) organizations and (German) development organizations in Ghana. Both ZEF and ISSER have an impressive record of acquiring third-party funding for their research activities, from German and international funding agencies such as the BMBF, the BMZ, the DFG, UNDP, IUCN, WHO, IDRC, IFPRI and IMWI. Currently, researchers at both Institutes are drafting a proposal addressing (peri-)urban water, sanitation and health.

5. Academic networks between Ghana and Germany have been established through frequent research visits by ISSER scientists to Germany and through short-term lecture stays by German scientists in Ghana. The aim of developing joint research projects will give these networks additional impetus and will spark intensive disciplinary and methodological exchanges. African academic networks are being strengthened through visits by scientists from Ghanaian partner institutes, as well as from other African Centers of Excellence. Similarly, capacity-building training

courses and individual training modules within the PhD course will be open to members of partner institutions. Most importantly, however, Ghanaian and African partner institutes are invited to name candidates who will be enrolled in the PhD program if they match the enrolment requirements. Alumni of the PhD course in Development Studies will remain affiliated to the Center for Development Studies; they will be invited to the annual workshops and may become part of research projects that the center wants to attract in cooperation with ZEF. ■

"My stay at ZEF in Bonn was relatively short but has been very fruitful. It gave me the opportunity to interact with a number of senior researchers and doctoral students. I can say that the lessons and insights I obtained during my stay at ZEF will only lead to strengthening the PhD program at ISSER".

Dr. G. Owusu, project coordinator at ISSER 2008-2011



Enhanced computer lab



Installing a new cataloging system at the library

Teaching and Supervision

The PhD course is one of the main components of the GGDDS program. It is one of the few PhD programs in the University of Ghana that offers courses that provide advanced education and methodological and professional training. The course contains 5 modules that focus on:

- economic and social change theories,
- governance and institutions
- natural resource use and management
- qualitative and quantitative research methods and analysis
- professional skills

Teaching is carried out by a large number of lecturers from ISSER, other departments of the University of Ghana and ZEF. Co-teaching by lecturers from the University of Ghana and ZEF is encouraged and provides an interdisciplinary perspective for students as well as mutual capacity building for lecturers. ■

GGDDS lecturers, institutional affiliation and area of specialization, 2009-2011

<i>INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION</i>	<i>NUMBER</i>	<i>AREA OF SPECIALIZATION</i>
Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER)	14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population & migration • Health • Research Methodology • Political Economy • Development Economics • Project Planning • Governance and Democracy • Report Writing
Center for Development Research (ZEF)	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Economics • Econometrics • Quantitative & Qualitative Research Methods • Governance • Institutional Theory • Natural Resource Management
Other Departments (University of Ghana)	4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sampling Techniques • Governance • Environmental Valuation Techniques
Other Institutions (CIM and GDI)	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform of Land Institutions in Ghana • Climate Change and Development • Quantitative Research Methods

Students during the PhD course



One of the outstanding characteristics of the GGDDS consists of supporting African PhD students in their home country and providing for adequate training and a conducive research environment thus helping the students to attain an excellent academic standard. Effective supervision is crucial for successful dissertation projects. To ensure high-quality supervision, the GGDDS cooperates with supervisors from ISSER, the University of Ghana and other Ghanaian Universities. Supervisors are given incentives for

timely supervision and students have to regularly report on the progress of their work and the feedback from the supervisors. ■



Students during the PhD course

GGDDS PhD students' supervisors and their institutional affiliation

<i>SUPERVISORS</i>	<i>INSTITUTIONAL AFFILIATION</i>
Prof. Ernest Aryeetey	University of Ghana (UG), Vice Chancellor
Rev. Dr. S. Asuming-Brempong	UG, Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
Prof. Wayo Seini	UG, Dept. Of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
Prof. P. W. K. Yankson	UG, Dept. of Geography and Resource Development
Prof. S. Agyei-Mensah	UG, Dept. of Geography and Resource Development
Prof. Clement Ahiadeke	UG, ISSER
Prof. Sebastian Amanor	UG, Institute of African Studies
Dr. Isaac Osei-Akoto	UG, ISSER
Dr. Felix A. Asante	UG, ISSER
Rev. Dr. A. Y. Owusu	UG, ISSER
Prof. S. N. Boapeah	KNUST, Dept. of Planning
Dr. P. Atengdem	UG, Dept. of Agricultural Extension
Dr. Robert D. Osei	UG, ISSER
Dr. Samuel N. Codjoe	UG, Regional Institute of Population Studies
Dr. Joseph Teye	UG, Dept. of Geography and Resource Development
Dr. George Owusu	UG, ISSER
Prof. N. N. N.N-Nuamah	Kumasi Polytechnic, Rector
Dr. Charles G. Ackah	UG, ISSER
Dr. A. D. A. Laryea	UG, Dept. of Economics
Prof. Daniel Sarpong	UG, Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
Prof. Dzodzi Tsikata	UG, ISSER
Dr. Ellen B-D. Aryeetey	UG, ISSER
Dr. Peter Quartey	UG, ISSER
Dr. John Kuwornu	UG, Dept. of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
Prof. J. Abor	UG, University of Ghana Business School
Prof. William Steel	UG, ISSER

"The coursework has been hugely beneficial to deepen my knowledge and understanding of development issues, theories and research. The research staff from both ISSER and ZEF has been outstanding in the different courses they have handled and in their different specialties".
Mr. Phillip Mantey, GGDDS Batch 2010

The PhD students of the GGDDS

Batch 2009



Ms. Irene Ampaabeng

Ms. Irene Ampaabeng has been working as a Principal Research Assistant at ISSER since 2005.

She participated in the joint graduate program in Spatial Planning for Regions in Growing Economies (SPRING) between the University of Dortmund, Germany and the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and graduated in 2004 with an MSc in Development Planning and Management. She also holds a BA degree in Geography from the University of Cape Coast (UCC). Her research interests include land tenure, urban development and poverty issues.

PhD TOPIC: URBANISATION AND LAND MARKETS IN GHANA: THE CASE OF GREATER ACCRA METROPOLITAN AREA

This study investigates the emerging trends in Ghana's urban land market and assesses the impact of urbanization on land market distortions in the case of the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area (GAMA). The study is expected to come up with recommendations and policy options for Ghana's urban land market.



Mr. Michael Ayamga

Mr. Michael Ayamga is a lecturer in agricultural economics at the University for Development Studies (UDS), Ghana. He

holds an MPhil degree in agricultural economics from the University of Ghana. His interests are food security, microfinance and participatory approaches. Mr. Ayamga has written a number of papers on microfinance and urban water supply in Ghana.

PhD TOPIC: LAND TENURE SECURITY, FARM INVESTMENT AND TECHNICAL EFFICIENCY IN GHANA

In economics, consensus prevails that there is a link between secure land rights and land use efficiency, poverty and economic growth. Literature suggests that the agricultural investments necessary to attain production levels consistent with population growth and national development agendas are only made if land rights are secure. It is this link between secure land tenure and the efficiency of agricultural production that has motivated governments to engage in land reforms. The decision to intervene in land transfer mechanisms depends on knowledge of the functioning of existing land markets. Given the multiplicity of land transfer mechanisms across Ghana, there is a need to explore the nature of land markets that have evolved over the years and to study how allocations in these markets impact on land use efficiency. The study intends to contribute to knowledge by highlighting the land use arrangement under which efficient producers hold land and by estimating the relative proportion of agricultural land which is held by efficient producers in Ghana.

Batch 2010

**Mr. Ezekiel A. Clotney**

Mr. Ezekiel Attuquaye Clotney has worked as a Principal Research Assistant (PRA) with ISSER since 2004. He graduated from the University of Ghana in 1998 with a BA degree (Hons) in Political Science and Swahili and completed his MSc in Public Policy at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in 2003. His master thesis focused on utility regulation in Ghana. As a PRA at ISSER, he has been involved in several studies conducted by the Institute. His main research areas and publications cover institutions and reforms, decentralization, utility regulation and state-business relations. Prior to his engagement at ISSER, he worked with World Vision Ghana for four years and the Association of African Universities (AAU) from 1998 to 2000.

**PhD TOPIC: LAND ADMINISTRATION IN
THE GA STATE: ANALYSIS OF STATE-SOCIETY
RELATIONS IN GHANA**

Land administration poses a major challenge to Ghana's political, socio-economic and cultural development. Virtually all governments of post-independent Ghana have initiated policies and regulations to address land problems in the country, varying in form and outcome. In 1999, the Ghanaian government initiated comprehensive land administration reform known as the Land Administration Program (LAP) to address all land-related problems. After more than a decade of implementation, there are many doubts about whether the LAP can achieve its goals. This study seeks to investigate which factors have influenced land administration reforms and state-society relations in the Ga State in Ghana.

**Mr. Clement Adamba**

Mr. Clement Adamba holds a Bachelor of Education in Social Studies from the University of Education, Winneba and an MPhil degree in Development Studies from the University of Ghana. His research interests include the analysis of health policies, burden of health shocks, and household vulnerability and poverty. He has written a number of papers on health insurance, Buruli Ulcer disease, household vulnerability and asset holding in Ghana.

**PhD TOPIC: HOUSEHOLDS' EXPOSURE TO
THE MEDICAL POVERTY TRAP AND THE
IMPACT OF HEALTH INSURANCE IN GHANA**

The relationship between (ill) health and poverty runs in both directions: Poor households live in unhealthy conditions and work in more dangerous jobs, making them more vulnerable to diseases and injuries, and have less access to reliable and good-quality health services. At the same time, ill health affects labor supply and income levels, reduces household savings and plunges households into poverty. Thus poverty and ill health may re-enforce each other. This has been described as the medical poverty trap. Ghana implemented a national health insurance scheme in 2004 as a social health protection mechanism. The a priori expectation is that this has considerably reduced poor peoples' exposure to the medical poverty trap. The aim of this study is to examine households' levels of exposure to the medical poverty trap and to measure the impact of health insurance on this phenomenon. This will enlarge knowledge regarding the impact of health shocks on poverty and the extent of the impact of various pro-poor policies on households' health and poverty outcomes.

"This programme came as a great opportunity to realize my dream after I had completed my MPhil degree. Even though I could have applied and possibly succeeded elsewhere, I considered the academic institutions involved in the PhD programme of ZEF/ISSER and thought it was the best opportunity any student could get anywhere in the world".
**Clement Adamba,
GGDDS Batch 2010**

Batch 2010

**Mr. George
Adayi-Nwoza Adiah**

Mr. George Adayi-Nwoza Adiah holds a BSc degree in Mathematics from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) and an MPhil degree in Economics from the University of Ghana. Prior to enrolling on the GGDDS, George was a Principal Research Assistant at ISSER.

***PhD TOPIC: INEQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITIES
AND CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL OUTCOME
IN GHANA***

Unequal opportunities caused by factors such as gender, ethnicity, place of origin and family background, which are beyond the control of the individual, greatly determine what people are able to achieve in life. This study attempts to investigate the inequality of opportunities in Ghana and its effect on children's educational outcomes. Using three waves of the Ghana Living Standard Survey data (GLSS III, IV & V), the study constructs a Human Opportunity Index, constructs cohorts and also uses the decomposition approach to measure inequality of opportunity for pseudo panel data analysis. The study will serve as a guide to policy-makers to give them insights into the inequality of opportunities in Ghana and to come up with relevant policy recommendations for raising the educational opportunities of the children of disadvantaged parts of the population.

"I saw the GGDDS as a unique opportunity to develop myself. Studying in Ghana, I felt will keep me in close contact with the phenomena that I will be researching into and also avoid challenges with staying away from the family for longer periods".

Bernard Akangbang, GGDDS Batch 2010



Mr. Bernard Akanbang

Mr. Bernard Akanbang is a lecturer at the University for Development Studies, Tamale, Ghana. He holds a BSc and MPhil degree in Planning from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana.

***PhD TOPIC: AN EXPLORATION OF PROCESS
USE AND PROGRAM EVALUATIONS IN THE
UPPER WEST REGION OF GHANA***

Program evaluation has increasingly been recognized as an important component of development programs. It monitors their effectiveness and is allotted 10-15% of poverty reduction program funds. However, it remains largely unclear in how far program evaluations in developing countries help to enhance the performance of programs and are helpful to organizations and their staff. This study analyzes evaluation processes used in poverty reduction programs and the ways in which evaluations contribute to program strengthening as well as to individual and organizational learning.



Mr. George Domfe

Mr. George Domfe has been working at ISSER as a Principal Research Assistant since 2008. He holds a BA and MPhil in Eco-

nomics from the University of Ghana. He has research interests in the areas of poverty reduction, macroeconomic management of natural resources and the contribution of the emerging capital markets in Africa to development. He has published articles on the Ghanaian economy in the Ghanaian media.

PhD TOPIC: LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY, UNDEREMPLOYMENT AND WORKING POVERTY: THE CASE OF FARM AND HOUSEHOLD NON-FARM WORKERS IN GHANA

Ghana is richly endowed with natural resources, but the country's economy has long been characterized by macroeconomic instability. In recent years the economy has been growing appreciably. Despite the fact that the official poverty figures have considerably dropped it remains unclear which parts of the population are benefiting. Looking at existing household panel data, the study attempts to understand the nexus between employment type, labor productivity and household income growth in order to map out some areas for pro-poor interventions.

"I was thinking about how to overcome the financial obstruction to accomplish my doctorate, when ISSER started the collaborative PhD program with ZEF.

As an economist with a focus on development and poverty issues, the program is actually tailored to help me become an astute development economist."

George Domfe, GGDDS Batch 2010



Mr. Philip Mantey

Mr. Philip Mantey holds a BA in Geography and Resource Development, an MPhil in Development Studies and an MSc in

Geographical Information Science from the University of Ghana. He has worked as a teaching and research assistant, a network modeler and as a GIS and Remote Sensing Capacity Building Specialist.

PhD TOPIC: CONSERVATION, FOREST RESOURCE USE AND DEPENDENCE AMONG RURAL HOUSEHOLDS IN SOUTHERN GHANA

Conservationists promote the argument that forest conservation supports poverty reduction because of the importance of forest resources for the livelihoods and well-being of the poor. At the same time, it is argued that conservation may increase poverty as it curtails access to forest resources that are important sources of livelihood for the poor. But the level of forest use and the degree of reliance on forest environmental products differ across poor households, depending on their resource endowment, demographic and economic characteristics, and exogenous factors such as markets, prices, technologies and local institutions. This study examines the level of forest dependence of various household types and the factors that determine this variation. Furthermore, households' awareness and attitudes concerning deforestation and sustainable forest management, as well as the implications of current forest conservation policies on the poor are studied in order to develop policies that promote forest conservation and poverty reduction.

Batch 2011



Mrs. Freda Asem

Mrs. Freda Asem holds a BSc. (Hons) in Agricultural Economics from the University of Ghana, Legon. She also holds an MSc in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada. She joined ISSER as a Principal Research Assistant in 2006. Her research interests include development economics, agribusiness and agricultural marketing, and poverty reduction.

PhD TOPIC: VALUE CHAIN AND THE PERFORMANCE OF SMALLHOLDER HORTICULTURAL FARMERS IN GHANA

In Ghana, the issue of increasing horticultural exports is an important factor in agricultural and rural development, in generating pro-poor growth and in increasing non-traditional exports. Although horticultural exports have grown substantially over the last ten years, the positioning of Ghanaian horticultural products in the global market is still weak. In order to increase the competitiveness of Ghanaian horticultural products farmers need to produce more efficiently. This can be achieved, among other things, by improving the value chains involved in the process. The main objective of the study is to examine the effect of value chain improvements on the efficiency of horticultural farmers in Ghana. This study will identify the role of value chain improvement in the enhancement of export horticulture and the contribution of horticulture to poverty reduction and macroeconomic stability.



Mr. Sylvester Ayambila

Mr. Sylvester Ayambila is a lecturer at the University for Development Studies (UDS), Ghana. He holds a BSc degree in Agricultural Technology from UDS, and an MPhil degree in Agricultural Administration from the University of Ghana. He has written a number of papers on rice import liberalization, and rice production systems. He has developed an interest in agribusiness, specifically farm business management, agricultural trade, institutional development for agribusiness enterprises and micro-finance. In 2009, he was awarded a grant by the National Agribusiness Development Program (NADEP) which allowed him to participate in a capacity-building program in agribusiness development at the University of Guelph, Canada. Afterwards he supported NADEP in developing training modules for agribusiness development in Ghana.

PhD TOPIC: PARTICIPATION AND PERFORMANCE OF NON-FARM MICROENTERPRISES IN GHANA

Micro and small enterprises (MSEs) are very important sources of income for the poor and have overall importance for economic development and poverty alleviation in developing countries. Despite their importance, MSEs face a lot of obstacles, show little growth, and even frequently fail. Problems include poor and/or costly access to capital, problems acquiring new and more productive technologies, low levels of technical and/or managerial skills, and high levels of competition among enterprises. This study identifies the determinants of the participation in and the performance of non-farm microenterprises in Ghana.



Mr. George-Grandy Hallow

Mr. George-Grandy Hallow holds a Bachelor of Education in Social Studies from the University of Cape Coast and an MPhil in

Development Studies from the University of Ghana. He was a geography lecturer at the SOS-Hermann Gmeiner International College in Ghana and his research interests include education, urbanization and urban poverty, as well as structural and functional changes in the inner city. He has published articles on the urban poor, road accidents and the role of audio-visual aids in teaching.



Mrs. Daniella Sedegah

Mrs. Daniella Sedegah holds a BA degree in Integrated Development Studies from the University of Development Studies

(UDS) and an MPhil degree in Social Work from the University of Ghana. She was a Senior Research Assistant in the Department of Social, Political and Historical Studies before leaving for the Presbyterian University College, Ghana where she is currently lecturing. Her research interests include: decentralization, child labor and sanitation.

PhD TOPIC: ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIVITY, SOCIAL AND HUMAN CAPITAL FOR REDUCTION OF URBAN POVERTY IN ACCRA

Poverty in Ghana is often perceived as a rural phenomenon and most researchers have viewed the situation as such. However, rapid urbanization is gradually moving the focal point of poverty from rural areas to urban centers. The occurrence of poverty in Accra has increased from 3.97% in 1987/88 to 12% in 2005/2006. Using the sustainable livelihood approach as a heuristic tool, this study identifies emerging trends in the poverty situation in Accra and determines the extent to which entrepreneurial activity, as well as social and human capital can promote innovative livelihood strategies for the urban poor.

PhD TOPIC: FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH WATER AND SANITATION FACILITIES IN DEMAND RESPONSIVE APPROACH PROJECTS IN RURAL GHANA

Since the 1990s, rural water supply and sanitation projects are usually run under a “demand responsive approach” (DRA). This approach prescribes that the access to water and sanitation facilities should not be globally supplied by governments, but should depend on the demand of the beneficiaries, documented by their willingness to pay for part of the construction cost as well as for operation and maintenance. While research shows that rural people’s access to clean water has improved under the DRA, access to sanitation facilities remains low and the impact of the DRA on the enhancement of sanitation facilities is not adequately addressed. The aim of the study is therefore to determine the impact of the DRA on the improvement of sanitation facilities. Thus, the research will assess the level of sanitation awareness among rural people, identify the options communities have for human waste disposal, determine the interest in DRA-based human waste disposal facilities, and help to identify barriers that may impede sanitation improvements through the DRA among rural people.

Batch 2011



***Mrs. Antoinette
Tsiboe-Darko***

Mrs. Antoinette Tsiboe-Darko holds a BSc in Geography and Resource Development from the University of Ghana and an MPhil in Social Change from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). Following this she worked as a consultant for the Government of Ghana and for foreign companies in the mining sector of Ghana. Continuous work with farming and fishing communities in Ghana has propelled her keen interest in development issues.

***PhD TOPIC: INSTITUTIONS IN MANAGING
GHANA'S OIL AND GAS WEALTH: EFFECT ON
AFFECTED DISTRICTS IN THE WESTERN REGION***

Natural resource discovery in a country can spark economic growth. The wealth from the resource, if well managed, can promote sustained economic development. However, the exploitation and exploration of natural resources is also accompanied by various challenges. This study investigates the effects of oil and gas discovery on the livelihoods of people in coastal communities in the Western region in Ghana. It makes suggestions of how best to enable a beneficial co-development of Ghana's oil and gas industry and the livelihoods of poor coastal fishing and farming communities, with a focus on women.



Mr. Dela Tsikata

Mr. Dela Tsikata holds a BSc degree in Engineering and Applied Science from the California Institute of Technology, USA, and an MPhil degree in Economics from the University of Ghana. He worked as a Principal Research Assistant at ISSER and participated in several of its research projects. Prior to working at ISSER, he was employed as a Research Assistant in the Econometric Modeling Group at the Bank of Ghana. His research interests are diverse but his primary focus is on international and development economics.

***PhD TOPIC: FDI IN GHANA'S ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT***

International development organizations champion FDI because of the technological development it supposedly brings. FDI is viewed to be better for long-term growth and development than other forms of capital flows because FDI brings with it foreign technology and management skills, which – when adapted to the local environment – can have significant positive impacts. However, there are some doubts whether the supposed benefits mentioned above are actually realized in many counties. Possible negative FDI impacts include: the lowering of domestic savings and investment due to the stifling of competition; the long-term reduction of foreign exchange transfer to the host country; and the inefficient transfer of technology, management skills and entrepreneurship to the local economy. Given the divergence of FDI experiences, one cannot merely make the general assertion that FDI is beneficial or detrimental to a host country (or region) without targeted research. The objective of this research is to investigate the determinants of FDI in West Africa at the macro level and also to critically examine FDI's development impacts at the macro and micro levels in Ghana.

Experiences of the Students

Benefits of studying at the Ghanaian-German Centre for Development Studies

The Ghanaian-German Centre of Excellence in Development Studies created a platform for us to undertake PhD research in Ghana while having access to excellent facilities and resources. We had pre-field work orientation programs that enabled us to acquire relevant knowledge and skills for field work and for the development of our dissertations. A visit to the University of Bonn gave us access to excellent research facilities and resources and also offered us the opportunity to interact with experts in our various fields of research. The funding provided by DAAD removed most of the resource constraints that often hinder effective PhD research work and allowed us to concentrate on the program.

We have had opportunities to interact with students from other DAAD Centers of Excellence across Africa too. The resulting networks that are being forged among students will in no doubt help our careers after finishing the program.



The structure of the program has been very efficient. Students have been required to follow strict timelines and make quarterly presentations of their progress. Above all, our supervisors have shown exceptionally high levels of commitment to our research and that has kept us on schedule. Batch 2009, September 2011 ■



First batch of GGDDS students during the PhD course and an excursion in Germany

Research visit to Germany in 2010

*Second batch of
GGDDS students
visiting the BMZ
in Bonn*



We recognize that the challenges Africa faces in terms of its development are multidimensional. Therefore, the opportunity for us to be part of that new approach to training African academics in Africa with support from developed nations gives us an exciting opportunity. The arrangement to visit Germany offered us great experiences in many spheres of activities worth recalling. Obviously, there are vast differences between studying in Africa and studying in a developed country such as Germany. The level of accessibility to scientific resources such as journals (both in print and digital), relevant and current books, and internet sources makes life easier for scientists. As first time visitors to a German academic institution such as ZEF, we were particularly fascinated by the speed of access to relevant electronic journals and the efficiency of the inter-library loan system which made literature available that was not available at ZEF or in the central library at Bonn University.

It was also an insightful experience to visit German institutions such as the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) which revealed the complexities of international development cooperation. It became clear that capacity building and also adequate negotiation skills are needed if developing countries such as Ghana want to derive a maximum benefit from international development cooperation. The presentation by a high-ranking official at the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) and the visit to the Catholic NGO Caritas were also informative. This showed us that poverty, even among young people, is also becoming a phenomenon in developed countries, something that developing countries need to bear in mind. A visit to the German Historical Museum as well as a host of social activities and the atmosphere during the football world championship enabled us to get a better picture of German history, culture and lifestyles. We also found out – to our luck – that many Germans speak English and love to assist you if necessary. But we also realized that our hosts were more eager to engage you in a conversation if you spoke a bit of German. Fortunately, we did not disappoint our German tutor. When it was time to leave at the end of our stay, we thought that it had been too short, but the experience was one of great learning. Writing this from Ghana until we get an opportunity to come to Germany again we can only say: people in Bonn, “es war schön, Sie kennenzulernen”.

Batch 2010, September 2011

*Second batch of
GGDDS students
attending the Global
Media Forum on
'Climate Change
and the Media' of
the Deutsche Welle
(DW) in Bonn*



Experiences from the PhD course 2011



the programme is the rare opportunity offered to students to learn from both Ghanaian and German lecturers. This experience is distinctive and creates a means by which students drink from several different fountains of academic knowledge. We are grateful to all our lecturers for infusing our lessons with enthusiasm and deep intellect.

Batch 2011, September 2011

The Ghanaian-German PhD programme in Development Studies stands out as something special. The coursework was rigorous and expansive in both its breadth and depth. It encompassed a wide range of social science topics from “new institutionalism” through “foreign aid” to “multidimensional poverty analysis”. We were exposed to different research areas and methodologies, which gave us a broader perspective and a better appreciation of interdisciplinary research. This has encouraged eclectic thinking, empowering each student to explore many possible research areas before focusing on his/her area of interest. There was a rich discourse between doctoral students and lecturers. The focus was on generating interesting and sometimes counter-intuitive ideas. Indeed, the interactive nature of the lectures helped develop students’ ability as critical thinkers. Personally, we feel the experience was satisfying though challenging sometimes. The camaraderie among us as PhD students has helped to generate constructive comments on our work and has engendered long-term friendships. Another unique aspect of



Third batch of GGDDS students during the PhD course and visiting the DAAD in Bonn

Events and Networking



*Prof. Dr. Aryeetey,
former director of
ISSER and current
Vice Chancellor of the
University of Ghana*

*Opening ceremony of
the GGDDS 2009*

*o.t.r. Dr. Blumbach,
representative of the
DAAD*



The GGDDS carries out a number of activities to enhance the public visibility of the centre and to develop academic networks between the co-operating partners and external collaborators. Together with the Division for Health Research (ACBRIDGE), the GGDDS was officially inaugurated on June 16, 2009. Around 100 participants, among them high-ranking representatives from the German Embassy in Accra, the DAAD, the University of Ghana, the Association of African Universities, and a number of Ghanaian Universities participated in the event. The opening ceremony, made possible through generous additional funding from the DAAD, included a cultural program and a lunch and was well received and covered by national media (radio, TV and print) in Ghana. After the official part, DAAD officials and the project partners took the opportunity to have an additional meeting to facilitate future communication and cooperation.

In September 2010, the GGDDS organized a Collaboration Workshop. The workshop aimed at enhancing the visibility of the GGDDS in Ghana's academic world, at engaging in academic exchange and institutional networking. High-ranking representatives of relevant programmes from most Ghanaian public universities, University of Cape Coast (UCC), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology (KNUST) and University for Development Studies (UDS) were therefore invited to attend. However, outreach was meant to be even wider and invitations were extended

to the DAAD Centers of Excellence in Tanzania and South Africa. The local representative of the DAAD also took part actively and chaired two sessions, and other interested persons from Ghanaian institutions and ministries joined the workshop. In order to spark discussions over potential areas of collaboration both divisions of the Ghanaian-German Centre for Development Studies and Health Research presented their activities and all potential partner institutions introduced their programs. The workshop also served academic purposes and sessions were held with presentations on poverty and land tenure, where – amongst others – GGDDS PhD students presented their work.

One major opportunity for academic networking and collaboration are the network meetings of the various DAAD African Centres of Excellence. The meetings in Bonn 2009, Kinshasa 2010 and Cape Town 2011 were attended by the directors and project coordinators from both ISSER and ZEF and led to a fruitful exchange with



*Participants
of the DAAD
Network Meeting in
Cape Town, 2011*

representatives of the other centres of excellence and the program coordinators of the DAAD. The fact that representatives from the centres in Tanzania and South Africa were invited to the 2010 Collaboration Workshop was one of the positive results of the network meetings. The meeting in Cape Town was also open to GGDDS students and three of them went to network and present their work to their colleagues from other centres. ■



Participants of the GGDDS Collaboration Workshop in Accra, 2010

Future Perspectives of the Center for Development Studies

Given the impressive profile of ISSER and the high degree of expertise at ZEF, the cooperation between the two institutes raises high expectations with regard to the quality of teaching and the excellence of scientific research. The expansion and enhancement of the research infrastructure, as well as the establishment of a PhD research group, have contributed to an inspiring academic atmosphere. Additional professional training also helps to prepare PhD candidates for their roles in the development of their countries. The GGDDS will enhance its

sustainability through applications for research funds and the admission of self-financing students. By developing strategic partnerships with Ghanaian and African partner universities the Center is not only attracting outstanding students, but is also hoping to expand its activities beyond Accra. The GGDDS is striving to become a hub for post-graduate education in development studies in Africa and the rise in applications from students from other African countries is encouraging and suggests further scope for expansion. ■

Staff of the GGDDS

The GGDDS is coordinated by Dr. Felix Asante and Rev. Dr. Adobea Owusu at ISSER and by Dr. Wolfram Laube at ZEF.

The coordinators are assisted by two administrative assistants Ms. Rinnah Kusi and Mr. Felix Op de Hipt in Accra and Bonn respectively. ■



Dr. Felix Asante



Rev. Dr. Adobea Owusu



Dr. Wolfram Laube



Rinnah Kusi



Felix Op de Hipt



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA



Zentrum für Entwicklungsforschung
Center for Development Research
University of Bonn

The Ghanaian-German Division for Development Studies (GGDDS) offers Ghanaian and other African social scientists a PhD program that is designed to enhance their professional capacities and to address important development issues innovatively. Through training and research, students become qualified for leadership positions in Africa and beyond.

Founded in 2008, the GGDDS has developed an interdisciplinary curriculum covering a variety of theoretical as well as methodological approaches in Development Studies, which is taught by lecturers from both partner institutes as well as collaborating institutions in Ghana and Germany. The GGDDS has invested in enhanced research facilities as well as academic exchange and networking in order to create a scientific environment that helps students to achieve excellence. The GGDDS is able to support five competitively selected students annually and admits qualified self-funding students.

The GGDDS is co-managed by the Institute of Statistical Social and Economic Research (ISSER) of the University of Ghana and the Center for Development Research (ZEF) of the University of Bonn, Germany. It is part of the Ghanaian-German Centre for Development Studies and Health Research, one of the five centers established by the program "African Excellence – Fachzentren zur Eliteförderung" (www.african-excellence.de) which is being funded by the German Foreign Office ("Aktion Afrika") and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) between 2008 and 2013, with a possible extension until 2018. The African Excellence program is pursuing the goal of improving the educational quality and research capacities of African universities in order to educate future African elites.



DAAD

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