The complex hierarchy of power relations among key actors in a hotspot mining district in Ghana

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The complex hierarchy of power relations among key actors in a hotspot mining District in Ghana.

Jacob Obodai, Geography, FASS. The Open University. Email: jacob.Obodai@open.ac.uk

Supervisors: Dr Shonil Bhagwat and Prof. Giles Mohan

1. Introduction

- Overlap of mining and farming activities in parts of Ghana’s semi-deciduous rain forest agroecological zones
- Fierce competition for factors of production

Introduction Con’d

- Development of complex power relations in accessing resources and accrued benefits
  - The State
  - Traditional Authority
  - Farmers and Miners

2. Aim

- To understand the complex power relations among key actors in a hotspot mining district in Ghana

3. Methods

- Theoretical Lens: A blend of Political Ecology and Capability Approach
- Research Approach: Qualitative
- Data Collection methods/instruments
  - Key Informant and Semi structured interviews, Focus Group Discussions
- Data Analysis
  - Thematic Analysis

4. Study Area

5. Preliminary Findings

- Excessive power of the State and traditional authority actors in accessing resources and benefits
- Migrant food crop farmers and female artisanal miners exercise the least power in relation to access to resources and the economic benefits accrued
- Pronounced social differential
  - Young miners versus old farmers
- The observed power relations hold great implications for food security (study ongoing to unearth these impacts)

6. Conclusions