



**HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE
AND LIFE SCIENCES**

SZENT ISTVÁN CAMPUS

MSC. RURAL DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERING

**EXAMINING RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN
GHANA - THE EFFECTS ON RURAL INHABITANTS
CASE STUDY OF JINIJINI**

PRIMARY SUPERVISOR: DR. HABIL. KRISZTIÁN RITTER

AUTHOR: DOTSE PRINCESS YAYRA ESI

NEPTUN CODE: MRESFI

INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Gödöllő, 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 CHAPTER ONE - INTRODUCTION.....	4
1.1 Background of the study	4
1.2 Statement of Problem.....	7
1.3 Research Objectives.....	7
1.4 Research Hypotheses	8
1.5 Significance of study.....	8
2.0 CHAPTER TWO - LITERATURE REVIEW.....	9
2.1 The concept and dimensions of Rural.....	9
2.2. The concept of Development	10
2.3. The concept of Rural Development	11
2.4 Neoclassical Theory/Neoliberalism and its Influence on Rural Development.....	15
2.5. Rural Development Strategies	15
2.6. Poverty Reduction Strategy	16
2.7. Decentralisation Policy	17
2.8. Infrastructure Development Policy	18
2.9. Agriculture Development Policy	19
2.10 Local Economic Development.....	19
2.11 Integrated Rural Development Policy.....	21
3.0 CHAPTER THREE - OVERVIEW OF GHANA’S RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY EXPERIENCE	26
3.1 Background.....	26
3.2 Macro-Economic Policies and Processes on Rural Development	29
3.3 Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development (MLGRD).30	
3.4 Rural Areas in Ghana.....	30
3.5 Some Key Rural Development Programmes in Ghana.....	31

3.6 Stakeholders in Ghana’s Rural Development	35
4.0 CHAPTER FOUR - MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY	36
4.1 Methodology	36
4.2 Research Design.....	36
4.3 Sources of data	36
4.4 Data Collection	37
4.5 Focus Rural Area	37
4.6 Data Analysis	39
4.7 Ethical considerations	39
5.0 CHAPTER FIVE - RESULTS.....	40
5.1 Introduction.....	40
5.2 Demographic Characteristics	40
5.3 The effects existing policies felt at Jinijini	43
6.0 CHAPTER SIX - CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	51
7.0 CHAPTER SEVEN - SUMMARY	53
8.0 REFERENCES	60
ANNEXES	68
ANNEX 1 RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE USED	68
ANNEX 2 LIST OF TABLES	74
ANNEX 3 LIST OF FIGURES	75
APPENDICES	76
Appendix 1. – Declaration	76
Appendix 2 - SUPERVISOR’S DECLARATION	77
Appendix 3. – ABSTRACT OF THESIS	78

1.0 CHAPTER ONE - INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

In present day 49% of Ghana's population live in rural areas. After the last population census in 2021, the Ghana statistical service (GHANA STATISTICAL SERVICE) published the results on this find. For the first time in Ghana's history, the urban population was higher. For one school of thought, this means development and urbanization of the country whereas another school of thought indicated over modernization will only phase out Ghana's authentic tradition. This trend can be seen in other parts of the world as urban areas are gaining a higher percentile as compared to the rural areas. As much as the rural areas in Ghana has seen a reduction, which could mean efforts are being put in place to urbanize the country. What are the efforts that have been put in place to achieve this milestone.

Ghana launched a variety of development programmes and policies aimed at alleviating poverty in the 1990s. Ghana Vision 2020 was adopted in 1996 and intended to be implemented during the next 25 years (1995-2020). The programme, also known as the National Development Policy Framework, aims to transform the country from a low-income to a middle-income one. Since then, the World Bank has attempted to revive rural development through policy prescriptions to developing nations. Rural development was one of the six strategically vital initiatives included in Ghana Vision 2020's domestic strategy in 1998 (Ahmed & Gasparatos, 2020).

The term Rural is typically used to describe underdeveloped areas with high levels of poverty and a small population, although its meaning varies depending on location and demography. Rural areas in Ghana are areas with a population of lesser than 5,000 people, according to the recent population census by the Ghana Statistical Service (Ghana Statistical Service, 2021). More than two out of every three people in Ghana lived in settlements with fewer than 5,000 people, according to a Republic of Ghana Presidential report from 1995, but most recently, the Ghana Statistical Service (2021) estimated that 49.1 percent of people lived in rural regions. Most clearly, rural areas are diverse areas where the majority of the population spends a greater proportion of their time working on farms and where land is both abundant and reasonably priced (Oversees Development Institute, 2002). Rural areas are specifically the natural regions outside of cities and towns, where the majority of people work primarily in primary production.

Rural areas often differ from urban ones in that they typically have lower population densities and are dominated by economic activity related to agriculture.

The stages of an organism's advanced growth from conception to maturity are referred to as development in biology. However, when the phrase is employed in relation to people, it places a strong emphasis on reducing global poverty (Holst, 2020). According to Liu et al. (2021) development as a range of processes that include adjustments to institutions, structures, and attitudes in addition to accelerating economic growth, eradicating inequality, and eradicating absolute poverty. Recent definitional approaches appear to be convergent in their understanding of what development is. Although the term development has no single definition, regardless of how it is measured or defined, it must include the following: economic component (creation and equitable distribution of wealth); social welfare (quality education, respectable jobs, good health, and housing); political aspect (human rights, democracy, political freedom); cultural dimension (respect for cultures and dignity to individuals); complete-life model (understand systems, symbols, and beliefs about the importance of life a person's life; (Holst, 2020). Even though there isn't a single, universal set of guidelines that must be followed, a variety of development strategies would promote development. Development is a result of either the intentional policies and actions of development-oriented organisations or the intentional pursuit of a higher level in connection to predetermined goals.

Ghana entered a new political era in the 1950s. It was the era when Ghana became independent of British colonial rule. Ghana strongly supported the modernisation agenda that was widely recognised by other developing countries at the time. The Russian experience of a centralist planning strategy, with industry as the major sector and led by a formal structure of national and sectoral plans, had a strong influence on Ghana's first African prime minister and president; Dr. Kwame Nkrumah's economic model. According to Hess (2000), Nkrumah's philosophy was defined by a mix of socialism (African Socialism) and free market characteristics. Industrialisation boosted agricultural productivity and rural infrastructure development got top attention by the Nkrumah-led first democratically elected administration. Nkrumah's framework also assured equal growth in all areas and the closing of the colonial administration's north-south development gap (Hess, 2000). Nkrumah's Convention Peoples Party approached rural development and modernisation by expanding health facilities, providing free and compulsory education, and investing heavily in the public sector.

In the 1960s, the policy framework for rural development appears to have followed the modernization model. During the 1960s, the mainstream development policy of emerging countries prioritised economic expansion through government-led industrialization. Ghana's post-independence economic policy was characterised, among other things, by the promotion of import substitution industrialization (ISI), which aimed to foster domestic baby industry. One major policy emphasis was the enormous public sector investment in infrastructure, health, and education that began in the 1960s in order to achieve rapid economic growth (Baah-Boateng, 2004). Though Nkrumah's regime was toppled in a coup d'état in 1966, Ghana's economic institutions of state ownership and state planning remained essentially unchanged until the 1980s.

The 1970s saw the emergence of new initiatives geared toward rural development. In the 1970s, the World Bank and other donor agencies strongly supported the Integrated Rural Development (IRD) concept (Takuechi et al., 2000). The agricultural development method and integrated development were the mainstay policies for rural development in the 1970s. The Kofi Abrefa Busia led government (1972-75) was the first political regime with a defined focus on agricultural growth and rural development, shifting the emphasis away from cocoa and large farms and toward investment in rural infrastructure such as electrification, roads, and rural water. Colonel. Ignatius Kutu Acheampong was president of Ghana from 1975-1978. His government concentrated on national self-sufficiency to address the country's rapid economic collapse and rising poverty levels (Diao, 2010). The Acheampong-led government implemented "operation feed yourself" in response to the "political economy of agrarian change" in the global development paradigm, which encouraged both large scale (mechanisation) agriculture and smallholder farming (such as backyard gardens), with a focus on the latter. According to Hill (1996:58), agriculture development was the primary sole item on government development budgets during the 1970s and 1980s, ahead of industry, education, transportation, and health. However, Adatara et al. (2018) noticed that the concept of rural development developed in the 1970s and strongly criticised previous Third World development policies.

Though no development plan was articulated in the 1980s, significant programmes and policies from the neoliberal counterrevolution, such as the Structural Adjustment Programme (SAP), economic recovery programme (ERP), and PAMSCAD, were prominent. The implementation of neoliberal economic adjustment policies represented a paradigm shift away from the excessive control regime and toward more liberal policies. The SAP increased the

infrastructural backbone of rural areas, opening them up and allowing the populace in these areas to enjoy facilities that had previously been considered the luxury of those living in medium and large towns (Owusu, 2005). However, the economic adjustment came at a heavy social cost because most disadvantaged people were negatively affected both directly and indirectly by measures such as worker retrenchment, the loss of social service subsidies, and the overall rise in the costs of goods and services (Adatarara et al., 2018).

1.2 Statement of Problem

It is safe to say, efforts are being put in place to develop the country as well as its rural communities. It is no doubt that Ghana's development is keenly aligned with the political party in power and not exactly a laid down system of operations. It is also quite clear that the impact of a political party's impact as well as most of its policies ends when their tenure in office ends. This has a negative effect on the development pattern of the country especially its rural areas.

Again, there isn't much research regarding the lives and livelihood of people living in Rural areas save for a few documentaries and articles by media houses and news agencies. Are rural areas a focus of consideration when policies are being made However are these measures put in place effective and efficient? Are they the necessary steps to be taken to develop the lives of people living in rural areas? What are the policies put in place to focus on the development of just rural communities and what are the effects of these policies on the lives of rural inhabitants? Should policies change when a political party changes? Are the needs of the people actually being met with the existing policies? What is the approach in setting policies for rural development.

1.3 Research Objectives

The main objective of this study is to assess rural development policies in Ghana. Specific objectives are as follows:

1. To collect rural development approaches and policies in Ghana.
2. To examine the impact of some rural development policies in Ghana.
3. To find out the effect of the existing policies have an impact of from people living in the rural area of Ghana called Jinijini.
4. To assess the efficacy of agricultural development projects in Rural Ghana.

5. To find out the impact of rural development interventions on the people living in Jinijini and which interventions they will prefer and appreciate better.

1.4 Research Hypotheses

These hypotheses started as a guess by the researcher on how rural development is undertaken in Ghana (her home country) and how much is known about rural development by inhabitants of rural areas. These hypotheses are hence constructed based on the objectives of this research to examine rural development policies and the impact of these policies on a specific group of people living in a rural area in Ghana. Below are the hypotheses set to be a guideline to undertake this research:

Hypothesis 1-The people in Jinijini do not know of the policies regarding their development and do not completely benefit from the existing policies regarding rural development.

Hypothesis 2 -- The people in Jinijini prefer to depend on the government for development and will not put in efforts to develop themselves.

Hypothesis 3 - Non-Governmental and Religious organizations make more impact in developing Jinijini than the government.

1.5 Significance of study

Many factors justify analysing Ghana's rural development policies. The topmost factor is that, little study has been done on rural development policies in Ghana. Second, cross-country and country-specific empirical research underline the poor status of rural social service infrastructure compared to urban areas. Empirical research utilising primary data is necessary to determine the response of insufficient social service delivery to existing rural development plans. Again, Ghana's structural changes and reforms need adequate rural development policies. This policy-oriented study aims to inform pro-poor rural development policies. It helps governments and international organisations like the World Bank formulate pro-poor policies in Ghana. The study will boost rural development knowledge.

2.0 CHAPTER TWO - LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 The concept and dimensions of Rural

The term Rural is typically used to describe underdeveloped areas with high levels of poverty and a small population, although its meaning varies depending on location and demography. Rural areas in Ghana are areas with a population of lesser than 5,000 people, according to the recent population census (Ghana Statistical Service, 2012). More than two out of every three people in Ghana lived in settlements with fewer than 5,000 people, according to a Republic of Ghana Presidential report from 1995, but most recently, the Ghana Statistical Service (2012) estimated that 49.1 percent of people lived in rural regions. Most clearly, rural areas are diverse areas where the majority of the population spends a greater proportion of their time working on farms and where land is both abundant and reasonably priced (Overseas Development Institute, 2002). Rural areas are specifically the natural regions outside of cities and towns, where the majority of people work primarily in primary production. Rural areas often differ from urban ones in that they typically have lower population densities and are dominated by economic activity related to agriculture.

The three forms of regional classification of rural areas include remote rural areas, intermediate rural areas, and integrated rural areas, according to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Programme of Rural Development (1998). Integrated rural communities are typically found close to the metropolitan core and are expanding economically and racially. Despite being physically quite remote, intermediate rural areas have adequate infrastructure that makes travelling to urban centres simple. The least populated remote rural areas are those that are far from metropolitan centres, located in border regions, and are isolated because of the topography of the area and inadequate transportation options. However, the rural economy of Ghana might simply be characterised as underdeveloped and unorganised. This is largely accounted for by the fact that no major development strategy has influenced this sector's development. Therefore, the programmes and interventions aimed at other sectors including agriculture, health, education, water, and sewage have characterised the sector's experience in the country's development process.

2.2. The concept of Development

The word development has come to characterise western ideas of antiquity since World War II. Perhaps the most treasured desire shared by all nations, communities, families, and people is development, although the term itself is difficult to define and is hotly debated among experts. Income per capita was traditionally employed in early development literatures as a measure of development with the belief that it will immediately increase wellbeing (Nayak, 2013). Less developed newly independent countries made economic development their primary policy objective. However, the economic strategy produced economic growth with benefits that did not have an effect on many people's wellbeing (World Bank, 2001). Additionally, it mainly disregarded political, social, and environmental considerations. This criticism sparked the creation of the basic needs approach, which placed more emphasis on the wellness of individuals than the state of the national economy by emphasising their access to food, shelter, clothes, social services, and healthcare. The Human Development Index (HDI), which covers three dimensions - a healthy and long life, education and knowledge, and a respectable quality of living - was created by the UNDP once more in the late 1980s (UNDP, 1990). The HDI aims to expand people's options for education, a respectable level of living, a long and healthy life, employment, political freedom, the rule of law, freedom from discrimination, and the right to associate freely. In 2008, the World Bank utilised the Gross National Income per capita to categorise the world's nations (see Table 1.) into low-income, lower-middle-income, and upper-middle-income countries (those with an income of US\$3,855 to US\$11,906 or more) (World Bank, 2010: 377).

Despite the fluid conceptualization and measurement of development, some academics have tried to define and characterise it. The stages of an organism's advanced growth from conception to maturity are referred to as development in biology. However, when the phrase is employed in relation to people, it places a strong emphasis on reducing global poverty (Holst, 2020). (Liu et al, 2021) defined development as a range of processes that include adjustments to institutions, structures, and attitudes in addition to accelerating economic growth, eradicating inequality, and eradicating absolute poverty. Recent definitional approaches appear to be convergent in their understanding of what development is. Although the term development has no single definition, regardless of how it is measured or defined, it must include the following: economic component (creation and equitable distribution of wealth); social welfare (quality education, respectable jobs, good health, and housing); political aspect (human rights, democracy, political freedom); cultural dimension (respect for cultures and dignity to

individuals); complete-life model (understand systems, symbols, and beliefs about the importance of life a person's life; and (Holst, 2020). Even though there isn't a single, universal set of guidelines that must be followed, a variety of development strategies would promote development. Development is a result of either the intentional policies and actions of development-oriented organisations or the intentional pursuit of a higher level in connection to predetermined goals.

Table 1. Distribution of Countries based on income levels and GDP per capita

Low-income countries			
	Country	GDP Per capita	Continent
1	Burundi	221.48 USD	Africa
2	Central African Republic	461.14 USD	Africa
3	Democratic Republic of Congo	577.21 USD	Africa
Lower Middle-Income Countries			
	Country	GDP Per capita	Continent
1	India	2,256.59USD	Asia
2	Bangladesh	2,457.92USD	Asia
3	Pakistan	1505.01USD	Asia
Middle-income countries			
	Country	GDP Per capita	Continent
1	China	12,556.33USD	Asia
2	Brazil	7,507.16USD	South America
3	Mexico	10,045.68USD	South America
High-income countries			
	Country	GDP Per capita	Continent
1	Qatar	66,838.36USD	Asia
2	Macao SAR, China	43,873.59USD	Asia
3	Luxembourg	133,590.15USD	Europe

Source: own edition based on the data of World Bank, 2023

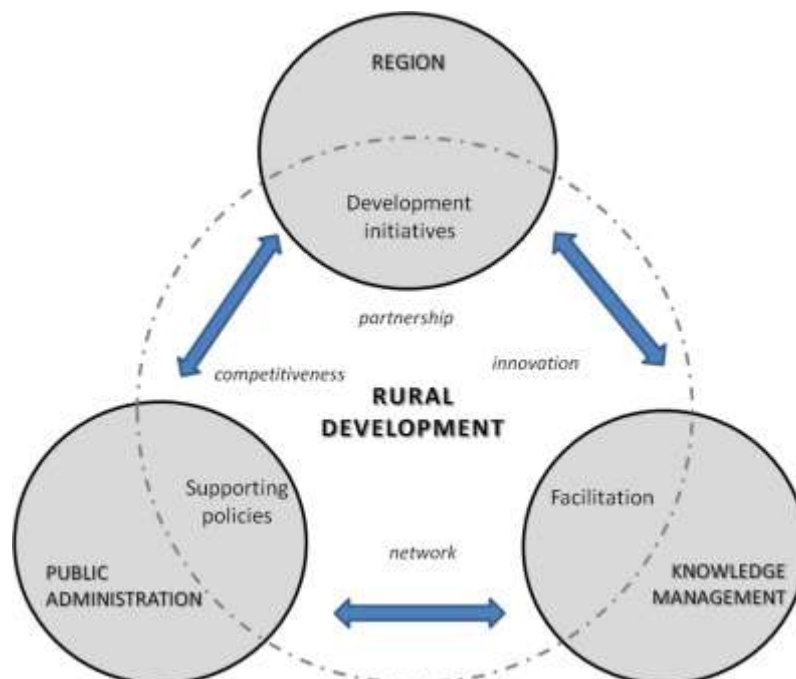
2.3. The concept of Rural Development

Literally, the term rural development refers to development in a certain geographic region known as a rural area. According to Chambers (1983), rural development is a strategy aimed at assisting the rural poor in meeting their requirements. According to the World Bank (1975),

rural development is a strategy aimed at enhancing the social and economic well-being of those who live in rural areas. It includes expanding development initiatives for the rural poor. The process of ensuring that people who live in rural areas have a good standard of living and enhanced quality of life is known as rural development (Mamirkulova et al., 2020). In this study, the term rural development refers to the creation of infrastructure, an increase in agricultural output, the establishment of social safety nets for those living in rural poverty, and the growth of rural businesses. Indeed, the goal of rural development cannot be achieved without interventions in social protection, infrastructure, enterprise, and agriculture growth. It can be inferred from these theories that rural development is the process of improving the economic, social, and environmental conditions of rural areas, with the goal of enhancing the quality of life for those who live and work in these communities.

Rural development literature is distinguished by a blend of theory and practise concerning the mechanisms by which development is likely to occur, as well as real-world initiatives to put the many parts of development into reality. The concept and primacies of rural development are profoundly influenced by changing worldwide development trends and power dynamics. Histories of development thinking typically aim to periodize various development approaches and fundamental ideas by decades (Mamirkulova et al., 2020). (see Figure 1.)

Figure 1: The concept of Rural Development



Source: Markarova et al., 2020

The structural-change theory and the emphasis on modernization were the key theoretical contributions that guided international development in the 1950s. The structural-change perspective emphasised the channel through which underdeveloped areas could transform their local economic structures from outmoded small-scale agriculture to a more contemporary developed, and technologically diverse industrial economy (Todaro & Smith, 2010), whereas the modernization perspective emphasised the importance of investment in an economy. The structural-change method is exemplified by Arthur Lewis' two-sector theoretic model and (Hollis et al, 1970) empirical examination of "patterns of development." Development theories and notions such as 'balanced growth,' 'big push', 'stages of growth,' and 'critical minimum effort thesis' have greatly affected worldwide development debate. The main development policies of this decade arose logically from these development theories and conceptions, which emphasised the critical role of investment as a key mover of economic growth (Lewis, 1954; Chenery et al., 1986; Rosenstein-Rodan, 1943; Murphy et al, 1989; Rostow, 1960; Nurkse, 1953)

On the conceptual front, the 1960s development doctrine was built on modernization. Industrialization was seen as the primary engine of economic expansion that leads to economic progress. As a result, the 1960s are associated with modernization tactics that prioritise technological transfer (Mamirkulova et al., 2020). The triumphant development policies/strategies arose directly from the intellectual contributions of Rostow's fundamental careful examination of modernising development aims. The impact of the modernization model on African development strategy planning and implementation lasted until the mid-1960s (Mamirkulova et al., 2020). By extension, the modernization approach highlighted the necessity for underdeveloped rural traditional societies to transition their economies into modern, urbanised, and service-oriented economies through a number of developmental stages.

The 1970s development model was related with dependency theory, redistribution with growth, and the achievement of basic human needs. During this decade, a pivotal dialogue on rural transformation and agricultural reform found inspiration in Marxist doctrines (Holst, 2020). The 'redistribution with growth' plan was inherently incremental in nature, relying on the existing asset distribution and boosting investment transfers in initiatives that benefited the poor significantly (Holst, 2020). The integrated rural development policy was a complementing policy within the agriculture sector. By extension, the dependency theory sees rural communities as having been purposefully positioned as recipients of pitiful services and bad

counsel by urban areas. Similarly, rural Ghana's underdevelopment is the result of a strained interaction between rural and urban areas.

The 1980s were dominated by IMF-World Bank-inspired economic recovery and adjustment policies in developing countries. Many aspects of the World Bank and IMF's policy machinery are sound, including fiscal control, government expenditure management, and tax reform (Liu et al., 2021). Despite the fact that the accompanying treatments are far more complex, a significant outcome of this policy combination has been a reduced role for the state in development (Holst, 2020). The neoliberal counterrevolution evolved during this decade, emphasising the beneficial influence of free markets and the private sector. Again, the endogenous growth concept arose, recognising that poor human capital is the primary impediment to progress. As a result, the endogenous growth paradigm significantly expands our understanding of the significance of indigenous processes and human capital development as a driving force in rural development.

In the early 1990s, the Third World's prevailing goals were still stabilisation and structural adjustment. The impact of adjustment programmes on people's wellbeing was a prominent issue investigated during this decade. As a result, the importance of Computable General Equilibrium (CGE) models has grown. General equilibrium models provided a tool for comparing the impact of different policy situations, such as the consequences of an adjustment programme versus a counterfactual non-adjustment programme (Theobcke, 2019). During the mid-1990s, the focus of third-world development strategy switched to poverty reduction, which has been strengthened since the millennium's beginning and is now the dominating paradigm.

In a nutshell, the 1950s were associated with structural change; the 1960s were associated with modernization; the 1970s were associated with large-scale state development interventions and integrated rural development programmes; the 1980s were associated with structural adjustment, market liberalisation, and efforts to roll back the state (SAP/ERP/Neoliberal policies); and the late 1990s emphasised approaches and concepts such as sustainable livelihoods and empowerment (Theobcke, 2019). These paradigms have presented a comprehensive picture of current developments in rural development thinking. The historical, socioeconomic, and political aspects of rural development are rooted in the West's diverse post-war growth. Indeed, it is critical to acknowledge that the ideas underlying post-1945 development theories and programmes were anchored in traditional political, economic, and sociological theorising that emerged in Europe from the 18th century onwards (Stahl &

Rosamond, 2022). As a result, the Third World rural development literature is fuelled by a plethora of conflicting philosophies, ideologies, and techniques (Madrueno & Tezanos, 2018).

2.4 Neoclassical Theory/Neoliberalism and its Influence on Rural Development

Since the 1980s, a development viewpoint has arisen from the works of neoclassical theorists. This viewpoint has been characterised as a counter-revolution, with the goal of replacing past orthodox conceptions of Third World development with a focus on a mixed economy approach in which the state and the market coexist. It is the prevailing paradigm today, and Holst (2020) writes that the concept of a mixed economy, in which the state and markets coexist, is arguably the most cherished legacy that the twentieth century has bestowed on the twenty-first century in the sphere of economic policy. Neoliberalism necessitates the promotion of a free market economy at the expense of governmental ownership and control of economic activities, as well as statist planning. Thus, the neoliberal school's central claim is that underdevelopment is the result of inefficient resource allocation caused by improper price policies and excessive government intervention by desperately active Third World governments (Todaro & Smith, 2010). Elaborating on Adam Smith's political economy (as supplemented by David Ricardo's viewpoint), neoliberals have proposed that a free market economy, with privatisation of national businesses, unfettered trade, and the elimination of government controls, would ensure economic growth. Gavin and Healy (2020) believe that neoclassical government spending cuts will harm the economy and necessitate cuts to education, nutrition, and social services. It has been suggested that the neoclassical paradigm of liberalisation and adjustment harmed the most vulnerable segments of society while failing to provide a safety net for the poor (Gavin & Healy, 2020). In his Nobel lecture, economic historian Douglas North (1994) argues that neoliberal philosophy is simply an inadequate instrument for studying and recommending policies that might favour growth; it is preoccupied with the functioning of markets rather than how markets developed.

2.5. Rural Development Strategies

Every nation's goal is to develop by using acceptable measures. A strategy is a plan designed to attain a specified goal (Elton, 2009). It is a strategy that combines a society's major goals, policies, options, and courses of action into a coherent whole (Proctor, 2000). It can also refer

to a set of policies, programmes, activities, judgments, and/or resource allocations that define what a certain institution is (Nyathi, 2012). A strategy is judged by the outcomes it generates, not by the process that produced them.

Development strategies are defined as “*a set of policies and programmes that affect both the form and the rate of growth*” (Norton, 2010: 122). A development strategy generally refers to the actions and interventions utilised to promote specific development goals (Awan, 2021). Development strategies are, in the broadest sense, blueprints for the optimal use of a country's resources toward short-term and long-term development goals, which are frequently stated in terms of economic growth, poverty reduction, and structural transformation, among other things. A development strategy and its policies seek to maximise output in the form of development goals from a given input of resources while working within various resource restrictions (Norton 2010). National Development Strategies, which cover the entire economy at the largest level, are followed by sector and subsector strategies, as well as local/rural development strategies. Infrastructure development strategies, company development strategies, and agricultural development strategies are among the development strategies.

There is a need in Ghana to streamline development initiatives in order to ensure rural development in the various District Assemblies (Thorbecke, 2019).

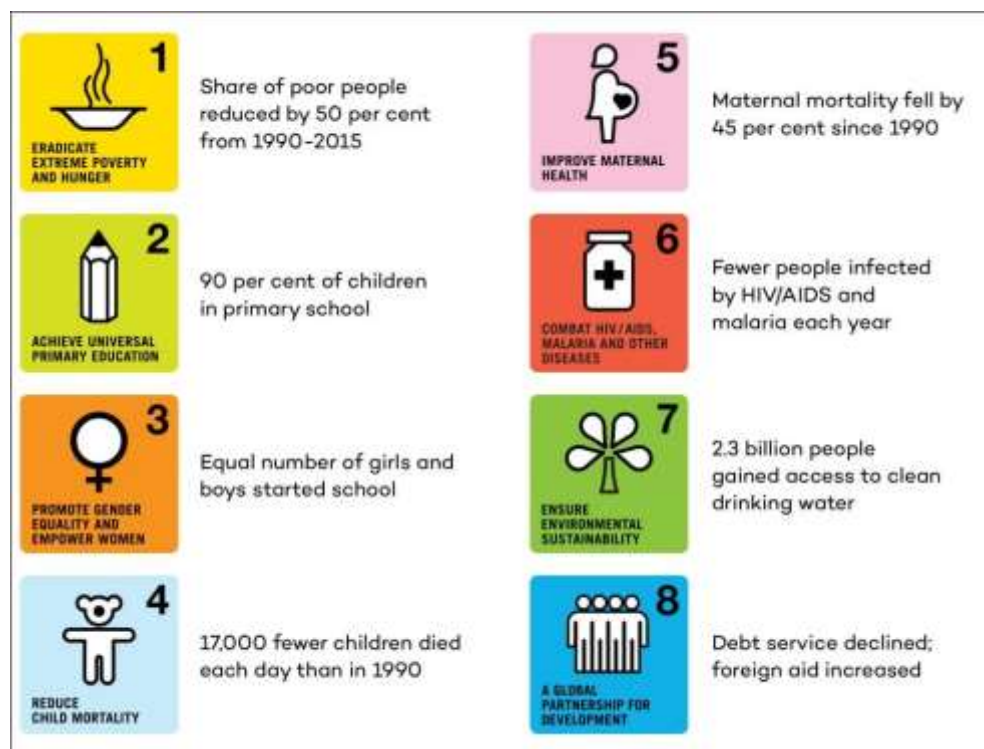
2.6. Poverty Reduction Strategy

Poverty has however returned as the focal point of global development initiatives. The percentage of the poor who live on \$1 per day varies depending on the region and country. However, according to the World Bank, the percentage of the global population living below the international poverty line of \$1.90 per day (as of 2011) was 9.2% in 2020. This figure is down from 10.7% in 2019, but the COVID-19 pandemic is expected to push millions back into poverty. It's worth noting that the international poverty line has been revised over time to reflect changes in the cost of living and inflation. The previous poverty line of \$1.25 per day was revised to \$1.90 per day in 2011 (World Bank, 2021). People in Rural communities are mostly vulnerable and rely on natural resources and agriculture for income and survival, hence rural development is critical to poverty alleviation. This explains why the World Bank and IMF's rural development strategies prioritise reaching out to the poorest rural residents (World Bank, 2002). It is obvious that the goals of developing rural communities will not be accomplished unless poverty is decreased. Rural development is thus important to subsequent poverty

reduction; thus, development organisations believe that the primary development goal should be poverty alleviation.

Poverty alleviation is a task for economic policy, and antipoverty programmes are critical for effectively reaching the poor. Poverty reduction strategy papers (PRSPs) are documents that define the techniques that governments in the Third World will use to achieve economic development (UNCTAD, 2002). A PRSP is a medium-term poverty-reduction strategy produced through thorough consultation with stakeholders. PRSPs aim to create a key link between donor support, national public activities, and the development outcomes required to accomplish the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (UN, 2015). (see Figure 2.)

Figure 2: United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)



Source: (UN, 2015)

2.7. Decentralisation Policy

In accordance with the global trend of simplifying the role of the state, most governments in the developing countries have decentralised authority in order to boost growth. The rollback of the state as a result of the decentralisation development plan does not exclude the state from actively participating in local level development, nor does it provide a framework for decentralisation to achieve its goals. Decentralization refers to a variety of different

institutional and financial arrangements for power sharing and resource allocation (Berka & Dreyfus, 2021). Indeed, decentralisation is said to have improved resource allocation and facility delivery in order to eliminate spatial disparities (World Bank, 2007).

In contrast to centralised development models, the participative goal of decentralisation allows local people to influence development policy through empowerment to decide their needs and aspirations. Thus, one of the most appealing aspects of the 'bottom-up' participatory planning model is its ability to incorporate local perspectives into development policies (Pinto-Correia et al., 2006). The participatory development strategy stresses the involvement of local people in the design, planning, implementation, and provision of initiatives based on local well-being. Indeed, the intended development goals will be difficult to attain if the receivers' perspectives differ from those of the implementers (Berka & Dreyfus, 2021). Development activities will only have a limited positive impact unless rural people are given the opportunity to participate in the development process. Despite the potential benefits, detractors contend that most developing nations have implemented decentralisation to satisfy donor conditions in their requests for (Wigboldus et al., 2015)

2.8. Infrastructure Development Policy

Many empirical studies have shown that public infrastructure investment is critical to the growth process. In a formal study, Loayza et al. (2004) discovered that public infrastructure has a significant impact on growth in the Caribbean and Latin America. Despite the fact that Mamirkulova et al. (2020) concentrated on peri-urban locations, they discovered that a well-organized road system lowered goods transit costs by almost 90%. Fedderke et al. (2006) examined the impact of infrastructure spending on long-run economic growth in South Africa using a more advanced econometric approach. They employed a vector error correction model (VECM) to prove that infrastructure's job is to generate additional capital output while also promoting private sector investments.

Most developing countries adopt the infrastructure delivery method to rural development. The presence of rural infrastructure has frequently been utilised as an alternative metric of rural development. According to Mamirkulova et al. (2020), access to infrastructure is the best measure for assessing rural development since it reveals the extent to which society enjoys social amenities. The importance of infrastructure is based on its ability to support daily activities, quality of life, and economic basis in rural areas. Mamirkulova et al. (2020)

emphasise the role of rural infrastructure in expanding the income multipliers of agricultural growth to the non-farm sector in their research of growth connections.

2.9. Agriculture Development Policy

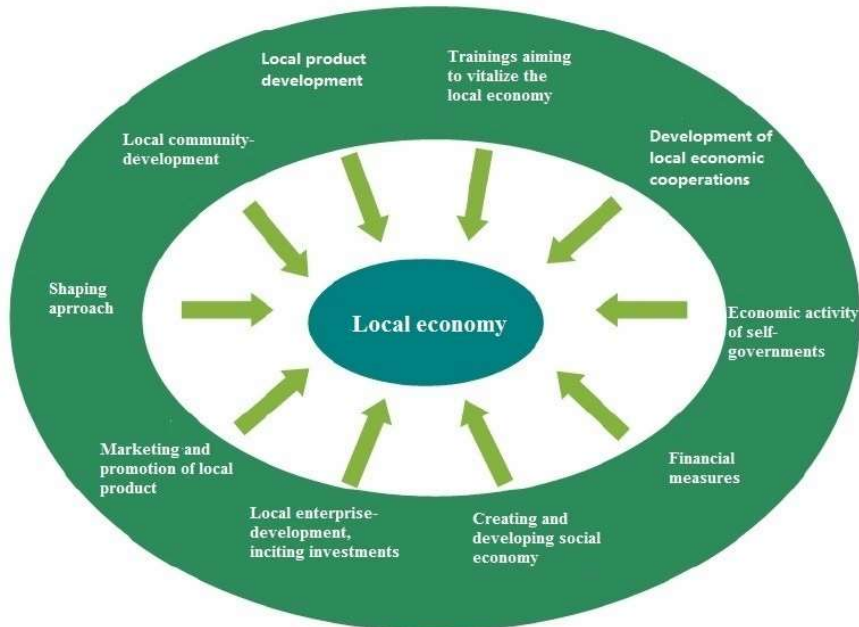
Agriculture has traditionally been beneficial to economic development in all societies. It laid the groundwork for industrialization to take off in the West (Todaro and Smith, 2004). More importantly, the role of agriculture in encouraging rural development cannot be overstated. Historical evidence suggests that periods of rapid agricultural growth are associated with decreases in rural poverty (Barrios, 2007). High agricultural growth leads to decreased food prices and more income-generating opportunities for farmers. No country has been able to sustain rapid economic expansion without addressing issues of macro food security. This is because agriculture provides a living for more than 80% of rural people (World Bank, 2007). Thus, the abandonment of agriculture in rural Africa is possibly the most serious policy error. Agriculture leads in the economic welfare of rural people in the context of rural development due to its impact on various sectors, including social (quality of life in health, education), economic (income, employment), and environmental (landscape, biodiversity, natural resource preservation), in addition to its prominence as a source of primary raw materials.

2.10 Local Economic Development

In recent years, the concept and development approach of Local Economic Development (LED) has acquired significant acceptance as an area-based response to the challenges of globalisation and local-level opportunities. Although LED strategies originated in advanced countries, LED has gradually evolved as a development strategy in less developed countries. As a result, significant arguments concerning the value of LED as a development policy have emerged throughout time. Local Economic Growth, in its broadest sense, refers to the process and approach meant to unlock and facilitate latent economic development opportunities for indigenous benefits in a sustainable manner. It is a product born by local innovation and driven by local interest. It is important to note that LED happens at several scales, such as the global, neighbourhood, or town level, and can be classified as rural or urban (Malizia et al., 2020). In a 2010 article titled "Local Economic Development: Tools and Approaches", Hungarian

economist Márta Czene-Ritz outlined several tools and approaches that can be used to promote local economic development. (see Figure 3.)

Figure 3: The tools of local economic development



Source: Czene-Ritz, 2010

These tools and approaches can be used in combination or individually, depending on the specific economic context and goals of a locality. Czene-Ritz emphasizes the importance of involving local stakeholders, such as businesses, government, civil society, and academia, in the development and implementation of local economic development strategies.

Asher and Novosad (2020) make a clear distinction between the three fundamental LED strategies, namely enterprise development, community economic development, and neighbourhood development planning. Community Economic Development (CED) is the process by which local residents form groups and partnerships that link lucrative firms with other tenets and interests. The physical and constructed environment, infrastructure, and territorial organisational growth are all aspects of locality development (Rogerson, 2018). For Local Economic Development to be effective, certain services, infrastructure, and socioeconomic capital must be available; this is given through local development planning. Enterprise development focuses on strengthening the local economy and includes components such as the provision of business development services and the formation of industrial clusters that promote group learning among businesses and the building of a local innovation environment (Malecki, 2018). The implementation of Local Economic Development as a

development approach is not without difficulties. The challenges are interwoven and co-dependent policy concerns that span from conceptual obscurity through planning challenges to policy challenges. Another important shortcoming of Local Economic Development implementation is the insufficient capacity of local governments' personnel and capital resources.

2.11 Integrated Rural Development Policy

Rural development is multifaceted and necessitates a coordinated approach. This means that having an integrated strategy is essential for achieving rural development goals. Integrated rural development (IRD), like other development terms, has numerous definitions. According to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Integrated Rural Development is the one that provides access to assets (human, infrastructural, environmental, technological, and financial competence) and ensures critical growth. In general, Integrated Rural Development is the process of integrating several development services into a holistic delivery plan with the goal of improving rural people's well-being. It combines a variety of related and unrelated (inter-sectoral) components addressing various facets of rural underdevelopment (see Figure 4.). There are four major components that are generally agreed upon: agricultural development, infrastructure development, enterprise development, and social protection interventions (Adamowicz, 2018).

Figure 4: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles on Rural Policy



Source: (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2015)

Agricultural Development: This component aims to improve the productivity and profitability of agriculture in rural areas. It includes interventions such as providing farmers with access to better seeds, fertilizers, and irrigation systems, as well as training in modern farming techniques (FAO, 2015).

Infrastructure Development: This component focuses on improving access to basic infrastructure such as roads, water supply, and electricity. It is essential for improving the overall living conditions of rural communities and enabling economic growth (USAID, 2014).

Enterprise Development: This component aims to promote entrepreneurship and support the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in rural areas. It includes interventions such as providing access to credit, business training, and marketing support (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, 2015).

Social Protection Interventions: This component aims to provide a safety net for vulnerable populations in rural areas. It includes interventions such as providing cash transfers, food assistance, and health services to those in need (World Bank, 2015).

Overall, the empirical evidence on the effectiveness of IRD is mixed. Some studies have shown that IRD has had a positive impact on rural communities, while others have found little or no impact.

One of the main challenges in evaluating IRD is that it is a complex and multifaceted approach, and it can be difficult to isolate the effects of specific interventions. Additionally, the impact of IRD may vary depending on factors such as the local context, the specific interventions implemented, and the level of community participation (Adamowicz, 2018).

However, some studies have found positive results from IRD interventions. For example, a study in Tanzania by (Lugoe & Mbwambo, 2015) found that an IRD program led to improvements in agricultural production, access to clean water, and primary education enrolment rates. Another study in India by (Kuwahara & Yoshino, 2017) found that an IRD program had positive impacts on health outcomes, including reduced child mortality rates and increased access to healthcare services.

On the other hand, some studies have found little or no impact from IRD interventions. A study in Indonesia by (Ward & Phanvilay, 2015) found that an IRD program had no significant impact on poverty reduction or rural livelihoods. Similarly, a review of IRD programs in sub-Saharan Africa found that while many programs had positive impacts on some aspects of rural development, they often fell short in achieving their overall objectives.

Summary

The study has established that Rural areas in Ghana are diverse and abundant, but the rural economy is underdeveloped and unorganised due to no major development strategy. The literature established that Development is a range of processes that promote economic growth, inequality, and poverty. The UNDP created the HDI to expand people's options for education, living, employment, political freedom, rule of law, and freedom from discrimination.

The literature also expounded that Rural development is the process of improving the economic, social, and environmental conditions of rural areas, with the goal of enhancing the quality of life for those who live and work in these communities. Development theories and notions such as 'balanced growth', 'big push', 'stages of growth', and 'critical minimum effort thesis' have greatly affected worldwide development debate. Neoclassical Theory/Neoliberalism has been a major influence on rural development since the 1980s. It proposes a free market economy with privatisation of national businesses, unfettered trade, and

the elimination of government controls. Douglas North (1994) argues that neoliberal philosophy is an inadequate instrument for studying and recommending policies that might favour growth.

Decentralisation policy is a medium-term poverty-reduction strategy produced through thorough consultation with stakeholders. Participatory development strategy stresses the involvement of local people in the design, planning, implementation, and provision of initiatives.

From this literature, we can learn several key points:

- The rural economy in Ghana is underdeveloped and unorganized due to a lack of major development strategies.
- Development is a range of processes that promote economic growth, inequality, and poverty. The UNDP created the HDI to expand people's options for education, living, employment, political freedom, rule of law, and freedom from discrimination.
- Rural development is the process of improving the economic, social, and environmental conditions of rural areas, with the goal of enhancing the quality of life for those who live and work in these communities.
- Development theories and notions have greatly affected worldwide development debate, including 'balanced growth', 'big push', 'stages of growth', and 'critical minimum effort thesis.'
- Neoclassical Theory/Neoliberalism has been a major influence on rural development since the 1980s, proposing a free market economy with privatisation of national businesses, unfettered trade, and the elimination of government controls. However, this philosophy has been criticized for being inadequate for studying and recommending policies that might favour growth.
- Decentralisation policy is a medium-term poverty-reduction strategy produced through thorough consultation with stakeholders.
- Participatory development strategy stresses the involvement of local people in the design, planning, implementation, and provision of initiatives.

Overall, this literature provides valuable insights into the challenges and opportunities for rural development in Ghana, including the need for a comprehensive development strategy and the importance of involving local communities in the development process. It also highlights the

limitations of neoliberalism as a development philosophy and the potential benefits of decentralization and participatory development strategies.

3.0 CHAPTER THREE - OVERVIEW OF GHANA'S RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY EXPERIENCE

3.1 Background

Ghana is a country located in West Africa, bordered by Côte d'Ivoire to the west, Burkina Faso to the north, Togo to the east, and the Gulf of Guinea to the south. The capital of Ghana is Accra, and its official language is English (C.I.T.E.S, 2021). (see Figure 5.)

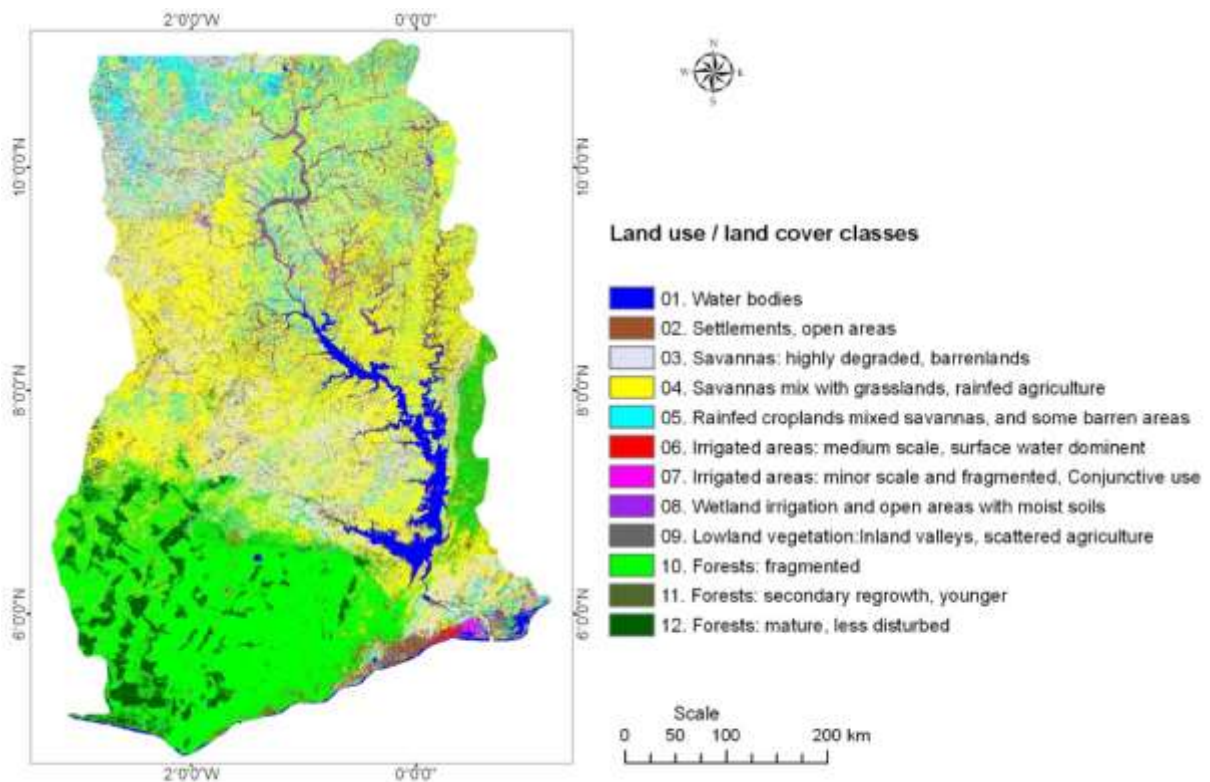
Figure 5: Map of Ghana



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2021

Agriculture plays a significant role in Ghana's economy, accounting for approximately 20% of the country's GDP and employing over half of the population. The country is a major producer of cocoa, with Ghana being the second-largest producer in the world after Côte d'Ivoire. Other agricultural products include cashews, shea nuts, cassava, yams, and maize (Ghana Statistical Service, 2021). (see Figure 6.)

Figure 6: Land use and land cover classes of Ghana



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2023

In terms of rural-urban and territorial differences, there are notable disparities in Ghana. The rural areas are generally characterized by low levels of economic development and poverty, while urban areas tend to have higher levels of economic activity and better access to services such as healthcare and education. Additionally, there are significant regional differences within Ghana, with the northern regions of the country generally being less developed than the southern regions. These disparities have led to efforts by the government and international organizations to promote more balanced development across the country (Ghana Statistical Service, 2021).

Ghana's rural development efforts stretch back to 1943, when the establishment of the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development was originally discussed. When the Department of Social Welfare and Housing was established in 1946, the majority of its efforts were focused on the development of community centres, social clubs, and youth centres as the foundation of welfare work (Boakye, 2010). The community development strategy attempted to assist rural people in developing civic obligations and in maximising their potential and talents in order to achieve desirable economic and socio-cultural goals. The major goal was to encourage the local population to participate in self-help projects in order to better their living conditions (Boakye, 2010).

As an alternative development approach, substantial decentralisation reforms have been adopted since 1988 (MLGRD, 2010). A fundamental goal of the programme is rural development as a means of minimising youth outflow to towns and cities and, more broadly, redirecting population mobility from over-concentrated places to disadvantaged ones. Since the beginning of decentralisation in Ghana, the central government has also made it a policy to provide a certain set of facilities such as power, hospitals, a model secondary school, portable water supplies, and accessible road links to district capitals. Indeed, the decentralisation policy has influenced much of the effort to provide power and other services to rural Ghana.

In March 2001, the Vision 2020 plan gave way to the IMF-World Bank-backed Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative. As a criterion for receiving development aid under the HIPC programme, the then John Agyekum Kuffuor government launched the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (2003-2005) in 2002, followed by the Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy (2006-2009). More recently, the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda I (2010-2013) was introduced in 2010 under the leadership of Former President John Evans Atta -Mills to make growth pro-poor through redistribution, and now an inheritor medium-term development policy framework, the GSGDA II (2014-2017), has been introduced. These blueprints made a significant contribution to guiding resource allocation and also provided a forum for dialogue between the Ghanaian government and development partners in mainstreaming the Millennium/Sustainable Development Goals (MDGs).

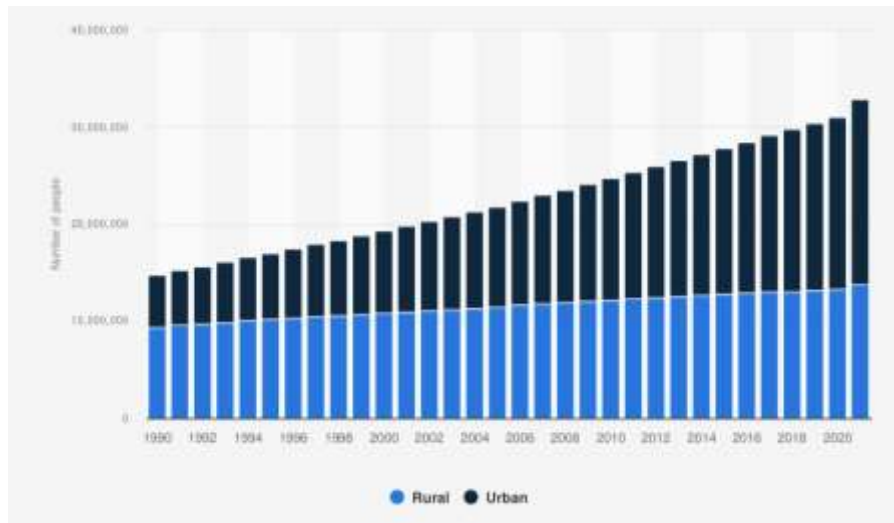
The rural-urban population dynamics in Ghana have changed significantly over the past few decades. As per the data from the Ghana Statistical Service and World Bank, Ghana's urban population has been growing at a faster rate than its rural population. In 1990, the rural population was almost two and a half times the urban population, but by 2010, the urban population had surpassed the rural population by a considerable margin (Ghana Statistical Service, 2021).

The growth in urban population can be attributed to various factors, such as urbanization, industrialization, and the migration of people from rural areas to urban centres in search of better opportunities. This growth in urban population has also resulted in challenges such as increased pressure on urban infrastructure, provision of basic amenities, and housing shortages, among others (Ghana Statistical Service, 2021).

On the other hand, the slow growth rate of the rural population can be attributed to factors such as limited employment opportunities, lack of basic amenities and infrastructure, and low levels

of education and healthcare, among others (Boakye, 2010). As a result, there has been a rural-urban migration of people seeking better opportunities in urban centres (see Figure 7.).

Figure 7: Rural and Urban population of Ghana, 1990 to 2021 (in 1,000s)



Sources: World Bank; Ghana Statistical Service (2021)

3.2 Macro-Economic Policies and Processes on Rural Development

National economic management methods and strategies have shifted from reliance on state control of development strategy between the 1950s and 1980s to a greater reliance on market-oriented orthodoxy and less direct public engagement by the 1990s. Since 1950, almost all governments have implemented policies that were either directly or indirectly related to rural development, though the majority of these policies were geared toward general infrastructure provision, agricultural development, and economic growth, with the expectation that the trickle-down effect would reduce poverty.

Significant efforts are hence made at the national level to address critical development issues. Aside from governments enunciating explicit policies aimed at influencing the rural economy and providing social, economic, and physical infrastructure, the state uses three main macroeconomic policy instruments (monetary policy, fiscal policy, and trade policy) to influence the national economy, with intended or unintended consequences for individual segments of the economy. This state-centred macroeconomic development policy has an impact on rural areas via a redistribution mechanism or 'shared growth and development' connected with an increasing national economy. According to Meurs et al. (2019), GDP growth is not relevant in and of itself; the more important question is whether economic expansion

automatically leads to development and poverty reduction. As a result, development models have been looking for additional ways that go beyond faster expansion to share the advantages to rural areas (Akpomovie, 2010).

Although approaches to national economic management in Ghana have shifted from a planned to a free market strategy since the 1980s, the state remains critical in establishing the framework for development and strategic national objectives such as assuring economic growth and benefit distribution. Thus, rather than indigenous impulses arising from settlements, the growth of rural hinterland is stimulated by macro policies and macroeconomic processes at the state and global levels. However, the effectiveness of economic growth in reducing poverty is heavily dependent on the sectoral composition of growth, the translation of growth into increases in individual income, and changes in the distribution of individual income. (McKinley, 2001) criticises the conventional approach to macroeconomic policy for focusing excessively on short-term stability while ignoring the redistributive implications of growth policies. While GDP growth may not benefit the impoverished (UNCTAD, 2002).

3.3 Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development (MLGRD)

The Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development was established to promote the development of a vibrant and well-resourced decentralized system of local government for the people of Ghana to ensure good administration of governance from top to bottom and balanced rural based development. It is the principal institution in supervising the management of human settlements in Ghana. Some of the functions of this ministry includes administering projects and programs for the development of rural areas. This multifaceted ministry is currently overseeing certain projects at the Municipal and district levels to develop these areas. These projects include; Ghana Secondary Cities Project GSCP, Ghana Productive Safety Net Project (GPSNP), Modernizing Agriculture in Ghana (MAG), Street Naming and Property Addressing Project (SNPAP), District Performance Assessment Tool (DPAT).

3.4 Rural Areas in Ghana.

As previously mentioned, 49% of Ghanaians live in rural areas. It is therefore imperative to know which areas are termed as rural. Ghana, is made up of 16 regions with the Greater Accra Region containing its capital city thus Accra. Accra serves as the regional and national capital. Each region has a regional capital, municipal and districts. Nevertheless, some regions have

seen more development than others. Most of the developed areas are located in the southern part of the country whereas the less developed areas are the northern sector. Regardless, there are some spatially developed areas in the Southern regions as well.

In this research, a few of these ongoing projects by the MLGRD and other related bodies will be analysed and evaluated to discover its effect on the average inhabitant of a Jinijini.

3.5 Some Key Rural Development Programmes in Ghana

There are some rural development programs/ projects that have been put in place to aid human resource development in the area. A few of these projects will be discussed in this section. These projects will later be assessed to know the impact it has had on the lives and livelihood of persons living in rural areas since its inception.

Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)

The Government of Ghana launched the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty LEAP initiative in 2008 as a social intervention programme for orphaned and vulnerable children, the extremely poor above the age of 65, and people with severe disabilities who lack productive talents. The program's goal is to empower and assist the extremely poor in meeting their basic requirements, Stipends supplied is intended to help them escape the shackles of extreme poverty and eventually empower them to contribute to the country's socioeconomic progress. In their analysis of LEAP, Oxford Policy Management (2013) found that the programme had improved the living standards of benefactors. LEAP participants in both locations reported a considerable improvement in their diets (better quality and more nutritious food). The LEAP transfer also helped eligible household members in both regions to preserve their health by paying for continuous prescription medications. Because financial transfers often received in lump sums in a context of seasonal food insecurity in the north, beneficiaries in the Northern Region were better able to buy grains in bulk for storage and depend on them during the dry season.

Fertilizer Subsidy Programme

The government launched the Fertilizer Subsidy Programme in 2008 to alleviate the burden of high fertiliser costs on farmers and, as a result, enhance food production in order to combat

food insecurity in the country. The subsidy program's purpose is to encourage fertiliser use so that food crop output is not dramatically reduced owing to rising fertiliser costs. The scheme included a nationwide subsidy on four types of fertilisers: NPK, 15:15:15, NPK 23:10:05, urea, and ammonia sulphate. Chen, Fu and Liu (2022) found that fertiliser subsidy programmes were implemented by governments around the world in order to encourage fertiliser use by small-scale farmers. However, Iddrisu et al. (2020) indicates a high level of discontent among respondents with access to subsidised fertiliser while researching Ghana's Fertilizer Subsidy Policy.

Northern Rural Growth Programme (NRGP)

The Northern Rural Growth Programme (NRGP) was launched by the Ghanaian government and funded by the African Development Bank. The programme was launched in 2009 in a few experimental districts. It was extended to the Builsa North District in 2010. (DMTDP, 2014). The NRGF attempts to solve difficulties in the agricultural sector in northern Ghana by focusing on specific initiatives oriented towards achieving sustainable agricultural in northern Ghana. The program's aims are to facilitate input (fertiliser) access and distribution to Farmer Based Organizations (FBOs), to facilitate loan access by FBOs, and to provide training to FBOs. The NRGF is a targeted poverty intervention for food crop/peasant farmers in Ghana's savannah area, with an overall sector goal of ensuring sustainable equitable reduction of poverty and food security among rural households, and a specific aim of increasing northern Ghana area rural households' income on a sustainable basis. According to Garba (2013), the Northern Rural Growth Programme increased beneficiary consumption (household food security) and income levels.

Millennium Villages Project (MVP)

The Millennium Village Project (MVP) is a community-based approach to attaining the Millennium Development Goals while keeping in mind the United Nations Millennium Project's recommended priorities. The MVP is concerned with rural poverty reduction and the development of remote rural communities. The project includes a wide range of interventions such as school construction, microfinance, road construction, construction of pipe lines to supply water into homes, and irrigation (Millennium Villages Project Handbook, 2008). MVP enables communities to invest in a package of coordinated activities aimed at increasing agricultural production, improving infrastructure, health care, access to safe water, and

education (Millennium Villages Project Handbook, 2008). Minkah (2013) noted in his ex-ante and ex-post analysis of the Millennium Village Project in Bonsaaso Cluster in the Amansie West District that prior to the MVP, residents of Millennium Village Communities (MVC) lacked basic needs such as health centres and potable drinking water, which harmed their health, but the project improved their access to such infrastructure. An independent investigation comparing the MVC to nearby areas discovers far more moderate effects (Clemen and Demombynes, 2011). An additional independent review discovered that, while agricultural productivity rose, the MVP had no effect on final household income (Wanjala and Muradian, 2013).

Rural Enterprises Programme (REP)

The Rural Enterprises Programme (REP) commenced in 1996 as part of the Ghanaian government's attempts to eliminate poverty and improve living conditions in rural areas. The Rural Enterprises Programme is an expansion of the Rural Enterprises Project's stages I and II. The Ghanaian government and its development partners see the REP model as a powerful tool for rural Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) development and poverty alleviation. REP is being carried out through four interconnected components: institutional capacity building (entrepreneurial skills); access to rural finance; business development services; and technology promotion and dissemination. The initiative aims to support and promote rural small-scale firms in order to generate growth and reduce poverty in rural areas. As a result, the project's goal is to boost rural productivity, employment, and income. Its goal is to increase the number of rural MSMEs that produce profit, growth, and job opportunities. In examining the Rural Enterprises Project as a Poverty Reduction Strategy in Ghana's Asuogyaman District, Ayerakwa (2012) found that REP greatly improved the livelihood of around 80% of respondents. Ayerakwa (2012) adds that REP beneficiaries saw it as an appropriate tool for job creation.

Ghana Social Opportunities Project (GSOP).

The Ghana Social Opportunities Project (GSOP) is a five-year project sponsored by International Development Assistance (IDA) and the Ghanaian government, administered by the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development. It began in 2008 with the goal of increasing rural poor access to work and income earning opportunities. Specifically, the

initiative aims to improve the targeting of social security programmes and offer income support to disadvantaged households in designated regions through supporting Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Grants and Labour-Intensive Public Works (LIPW) infrastructure (World Bank, 2015). The Labour-Intensive Public Works (LIPW) component intends to provide short-term work to the very poor in rural areas who struggle to fulfil their family expenditures, especially during the agricultural off-season. As published on the Ghana Social Opportunities Project's (2015) website, the project has several success stories. For example, in the Kamachu and Lamina communities of the Volta Region's Nkwanta North District, GSOP is said to have employed a number of women in tree planting as well as funded and supervised the construction of a dam to provide water for the rural people. Sustainable Rural Water and Sanitation Projects (SRWSP)

The Ghana Sustainable Rural Water and Sanitation Project began in 2010 with the goal of increasing access to, and ensuring the affordability, dependability, and sustainability of, water and sanitation services in rural and small-town areas. The project's goal is to offer rural residents with clean water and an environment free of open defecation. Entsua-Mensah et al. (2007) concluded that the community water and sanitation programme in Ghana's Ashanti, Bono, and Central regions has contributed significantly in extending potable water to remote and marginalised areas with a high degree of reliability, but more work needs to be done in the area of good sanitation.

Community Health Planning and Services (CHPS) Programmes

The Community-based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) programme, which was implemented in 1999, is a national health policy effort that attempts to remove geographical obstacles to health care, with a particular emphasis on isolated and underserved rural districts. This endeavour represents the expansion of the Navrongo model into a national health-care reform movement. Tierozie (2011) discovered in his impact assessment of the CHPS initiative in the Berekum Municipality in Ghana's Bono Region that the programme largely enabled people in the municipality to have convenient access to health services in their community rather than travelling long distances to access healthcare. Indeed, communities who have seen the CHPS programme implemented have experienced a significant improvement in terms of access and health outcomes (Send Ghana, 2013).

3.6 Stakeholders in Ghana's Rural Development

Governments, non-governmental organisations, religious organisations and some private sector actors all make substantial contributions to local governance in order to promote the social and economic well-being of people in rural areas. In recent years, donor policy has favoured two primary strategies: enhancing governance and investing in pro-poor growth. The former emphasises decentralisation alternatives, whilst the latter is heavily reliant on central government-directed involvement. In Ghana, the state is responsible for developing, implementing, and managing development strategies. However, the last two decades have seen an upsurge in the participation of non-state actors in the development process.

The rise of non-state agencies as rural development agents has occurred as a result of the reduction in government enthusiasm and the de-concentration of power to the grassroots. In general, the neoliberal revolution favoured private sector growth, which is how non-governmental organisations came to fill the void left by the Bretton Woods institutions' neoliberal policies and methods. Non-Governmental Organizations provide cost-effective welfare services to the needy, are viewed as agents of the vulnerable and impoverished, and their link with the people gives them greater public acceptance than certain governments. The increased importance of NGOs in the development process is owing to their assumed efficiency in meeting the needs of the disadvantaged through programme delivery (Busiinge, 2008). However, it has been stated that Civil Society Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have become implementers of donor policies, and their affiliation with donors jeopardises their work (Nancy and Yontchera, 2006).

4.0 CHAPTER FOUR - MATERIAL AND METHODOLOGY

The goal of this research is to gather data from inhabitants of Jinijini to realise the actuality and efficiency of rural development policies on their lives and community. The data gathering methods and processes used in this investigation are outlined and justified in this chapter.

4.1 Methodology

According to Kabila (2008), methodology describes the techniques that will be followed to accomplish the study's specified goals and objectives. This chapter focuses on the research design, research technique, measuring method, and measurement equipment (survey questionnaires) utilised in the study, as well as the data collection, and analysis procedure used to meet the study's main objectives. A precise characterization of the population, sampling methodologies, and sample size determination are all part of the process.

4.2 Research Design

Kabir (2016) defines research as a systematic and orderly gathering, arrangement, and analysis of information with the ultimate purpose of making the study helpful in decision-making. According to Baiden (2006), research strategies include quantitative, qualitative, and triangulation. However, the technique used depends on the study's objective, kind, and accessible data (Naoum, 1998; Baiden, 2006). Where a key objective of a research study is the establishment of the cause(s) of (an) outcome(s) or establishing the causative links between variables, then the quantitative method is appropriate (Saunders, et al. 2009; Creswell et al., 2003). Hence this research adopts a quantitative approach to gather primary data and makes good use of existing secondary data. The data will be used to validate the study's existence and scope. To guarantee deeper depth and comprehension.

The approach used relies on the study field and the research goals. The research attempted to examine rural development approaches in Ghana.

4.3 Sources of data

The sources of data are mainly primary and secondary sources of data. As described by Saunders et al. (2009):

Primary data is data obtained directly by the researcher for a particular study aim. It is gathered via self-administered surveys, interviews, field observations, and experiments, and is not processed or manipulated in any manner. The study will employ the administration of structured survey questionnaires to institutions and agencies determined for the study which will be subjected to analysis to obtain the result for the study.

Secondary data can be found in books, periodicals, newspapers, trade journals, websites, the internet, and other materials that have been gathered or previously available and reviewed by others. This inquiry uses secondary data from other researchers' studies on the same topic as well as reviewing documents from the Ministry of Rural developments and local government.

The literature review includes reviewing and evaluating previous scholars' work on the topic (Naoum, 2007). Parts of the material evaluated were used in this investigation. First, a thorough review of relevant prior literature is undertaken. The data acquired helped identify concerns and suggestions for the next study step. Second, the literature review aided the researcher in gathering and improving the research study (Naoum, 2007).

4.4 Data Collection

For obtaining information for new research projects, Creswell refers to the data collection process as a “circle” of interconnected activities; a process that includes data collection but goes beyond it (Creswell, 2013). Interviews, observations of events and tangible documents (e.g., students' portfolios), assessments (tests), and different types of documentation, such as evaluation reports, are all examples of data gathering methods (Siagian, 2020). Data will be gathered via the use of primary sources such as distribution of Questionnaires.

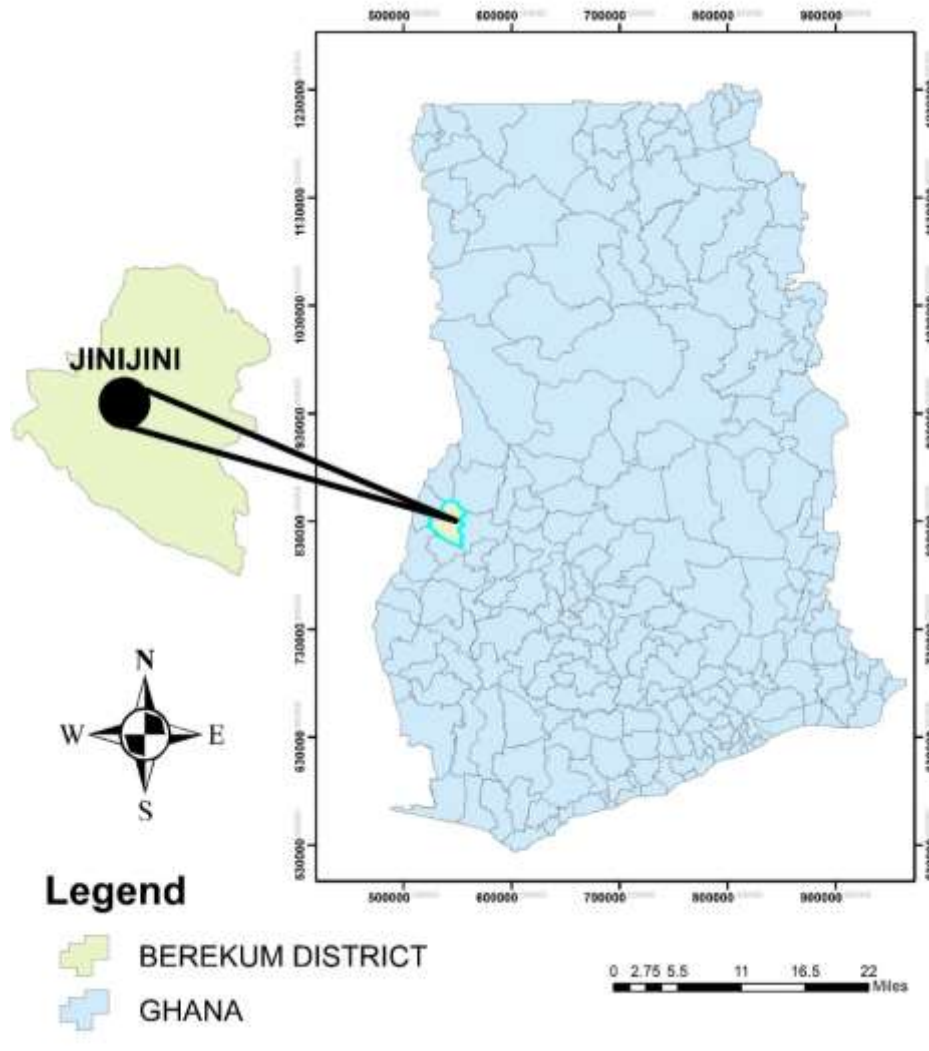
Purposive sampling and convenience sampling will be utilized as sampling procedures. Because they are suggested on a limited number of people, these approaches will be suited for this investigation.

4.5 Focus Rural Area

Jinijini is a town located in the Berekum West District of the Bono Region in Ghana, West Africa. The Bono Region is situated in the middle belt of Ghana and is known for its agricultural productivity, with crops such as cocoa, tomatoes, maize, yam, and plantain being

cultivated in the region. The region is also home to several hills and rivers, including the Tano River, which is the largest river in Ghana (see Figure 8.).

Figure 8: Map of focus area



Source: own edition, 2023

Jinijini itself is a small town with a population of around 5,000 people. The town has a few basic amenities, such as schools, a health center, and a market, but is predominantly rural in character. The main economic activities in Jinijini include agriculture and small-scale trading. The distance between Jinijini and the city is 5.34 miles (8.60kilometers). This means that Jinijini is in close proximity to Berekum, which makes it relatively easy for residents of Jinijini to access the services and opportunities available in Berekum.

The surrounding area is characterized by forested hills and valleys, with small farms and settlements scattered throughout. The climate in Jinijini is tropical, with a rainy season from

April to October and a dry season from November to March. Studies conducted in Jinijini and the surrounding area have focused on a range of topics, including agriculture, health, and environmental issues.

4.6 Data Analysis

Qualitative research examines significant statements and generates meaningful units. (Smith, Flowers, and Larkin ,2009) give several recommendations about research techniques, empirical context, and organization, all the while, stressing that research should centre on participants' efforts to make sense of their lived experiences.

4.7 Ethical considerations

The study will be carried out with the participants' informed consent.

- Participation in this research will not pose any risks that were not previously present in ordinary life. There will be no negative implications (physical, social, economic, legal, or psychological) if an institution chooses to withdraw from the study at any time. In case of a withdrawal, the participant's data will not be used for this research analysis. It will be deleted.
- Participation in the research will be entirely per choice of the participant, and participants may decline to participate and/or quit at any moment without penalty or disadvantage.
- The participant will be advised that his or her involvement, or lack thereof, would have no bearing on any collaborations and work performance ratings. The identity of the participants representing the institutions (individual names and address information) will also be kept private.

5.0 CHAPTER FIVE - RESULTS

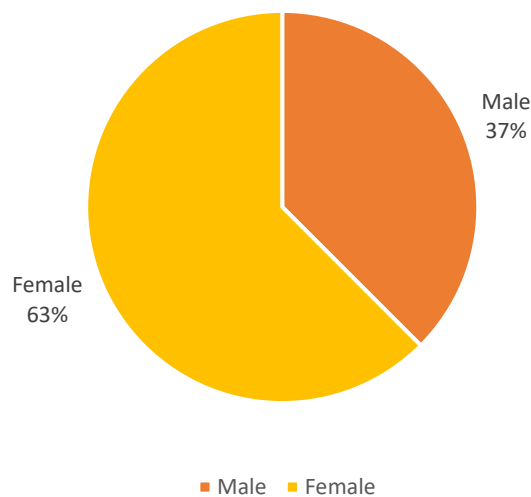
5.1 Introduction

The presentation and analysis of data gathered from the field are the subjects dealt with in this chapter. Data was gathered from the field at the community of Jinijini, Ghana. The SPSS statistical analysis programme was used to analyse the data that had been gathered. Data was analysed based on the specific objectives of the study and the research hypotheses. The implementation of a few significant programmes and initiatives also provided the basis for the study and discussion of the results.

5.2 Demographic Characteristics

Among the 200 respondents, the female participants constituted the majority with a proportion of 125 individuals, which accounts for 62.5% of the total sample (see Figure 9).

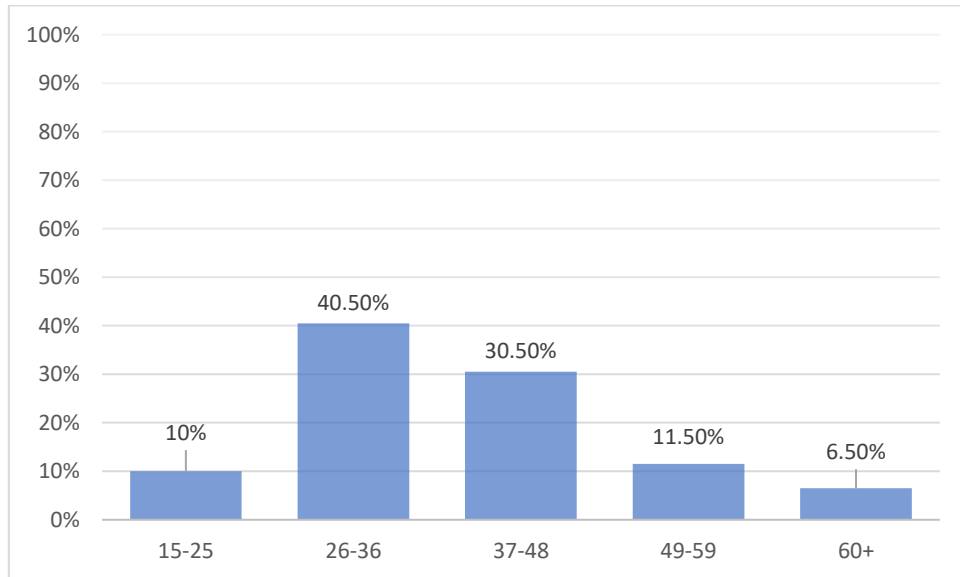
Figure 9: Share of the respondents by gender (%)



Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

The majority of participants fell within the age range of 26-36 years, comprising 81 individuals, which accounts for 40.5% of the sample (see Figure 10).

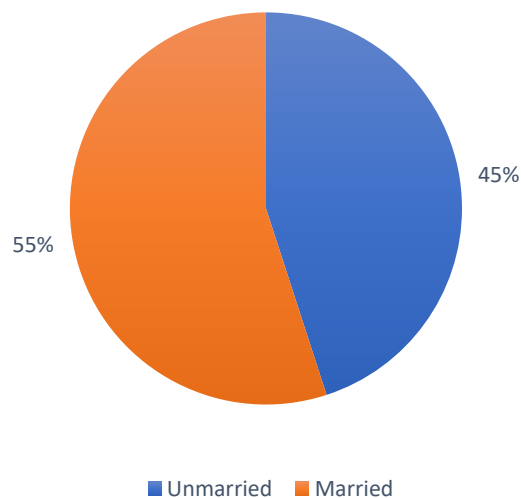
Figure 10: Share of the respondents by Age Range



Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

Out of the total number of respondents, 110 individuals, accounting for 55% of the sample, reported being married (see Figure 11)

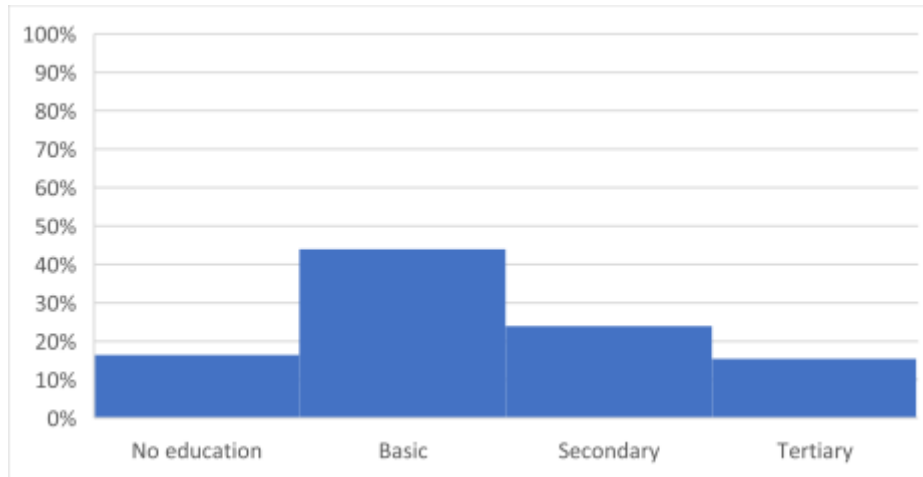
Figure 11: Share of the respondents by Marital Status



Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

Additionally, a significant proportion of the participants, specifically 88 individuals (44%), had attained basic education or lower (see Figure 12).

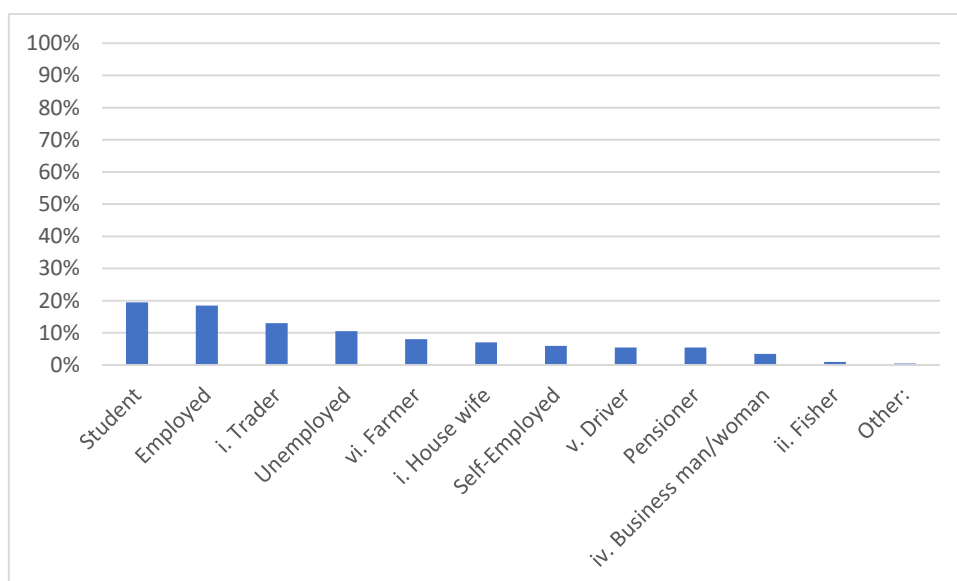
Figure 12: Share of the respondents by Educational Level



Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

Twenty percent of the participants in the study were found to be employed, according to the majority of the respondents. The primary profession reported by the respondents was that of a trader, with a proportion of 23 individuals (11.5%). This finding aligns with the gender distribution data, which initially suggested a predominance of female participants (see Figure 13).

Figure 13: Share of the respondents by Occupation



Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

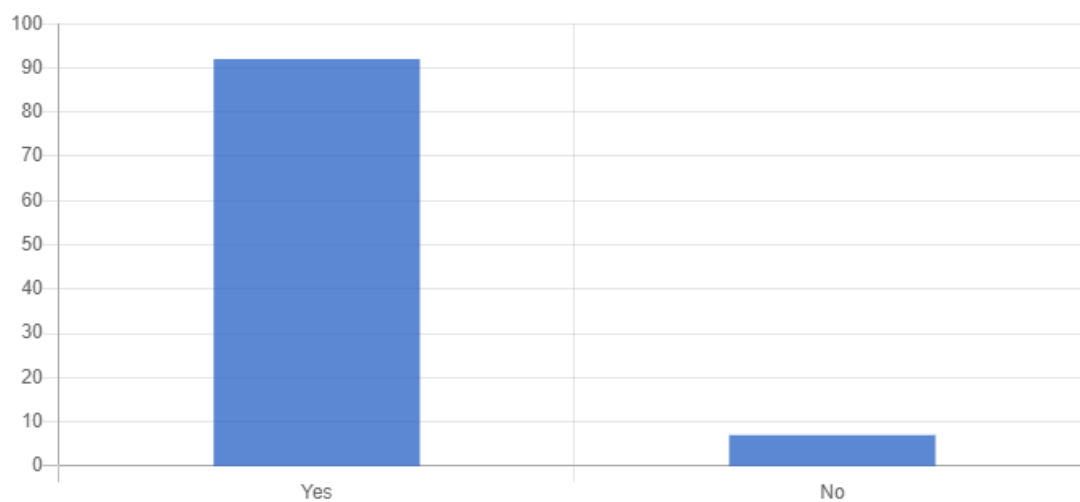
5.3 The effects existing policies felt at Jinijini

Respondents were queried to provide information about the effects existing rural development policies and programmes have had on the people of Jinijini. These questions were asked in different forms to arrive at the objective.

Knowledge about policy for rural areas

Respondents were asked about whether they know of any policy or programme for rural areas (see Figure 14)

Figure 14: Do you know about rural development policies?



Source: own research and edition, 2023

The responses show that majority of the respondents 184 (92%) indicated that they know about any rural development policy. Respondents were further asked to choose from a list of literature searched pre-set of rural development policy/programme in Ghana. The results have been presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Rural Development Programs

Rural Development Program	N	%	Rank
Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)	172	86	1st
Community Health Planning and Services Program (CHPS)	159	79.5	2nd
Fertilizer Subsidy Program (FSP)	133	66.5	3rd
Northern Rural Growth Program (NRGP)	100	50	4th
Millennium Villages Project (MVP)	66	33	5th
Rural Enterprises Program (REP)	38	19	6th
Ghana Social Opportunities Project (GSOP)	19	9.5	7th
Others	1	0.5	8th

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

The findings obtained from the survey conducted in the field revealed that a significant proportion of the participants were aware of Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP), as evidenced by a response rate of 172 (86%). This was closely followed by Community Health Planning and Services Programme (CHPS), which had a response rate of 159 (79.5%). The Fertiliser Subsidy Programme (FSP) exhibited a response rate of 133 (66.5%), while the Northern Rural Growth Programme (NRGP) demonstrated a response rate of 100 (50%). The Ghana Social Opportunities Project (GSOP) was found to be the least familiar rural development policy, with a response rate of 19 (9.5%).

Reasons for benefiting from the rural policies

Several factors were identified as potential contributors to Jinijini's ability to benefit from rural development programmes. The reasons for the dominance of the rural area are listed in descending order as follows: 77% (154) of the respondents indicated that it is a rural area, 70.5% (141) stated that the people need it to survive, 36.5% (73) cited political affiliations, 29.5% (59) mentioned the contributions of the rural area to national development, 14% (28) referred to the availability of tourist sites, and 2.5% (5) were attributed to other reasons. (See Table 3)

Table 3: Reasons for benefiting from the rural policies

Reasons	N	%	Rank
It is a rural area	154	77	1st
The people need it to survive	141	70.5	2nd
Political affiliations	73	36.5	3rd
The contributions of the rural area to national development	59	29.5	4th
Availability of tourist sites	28	14	5th
Other	5	2.5	6th

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

Sectors benefiting from rural development policies

The findings of the study revealed that the rural development policy had a greater positive impact on the agriculture sector compared to other sectors in the rural area. This was evidenced by the responses of 166 participants, representing a response rate of 83%. Health and Education are ranked second and third, respectively, with Health receiving a score of 148 (74%) and Education receiving a score of 146 (73%). The rural development programmes implemented in Jinijini have provided the least benefits to the employment and rural enterprise sector, with a percentage of 11.5%, followed by other sectors with a percentage of 3.5%. (see Table 4)

Table 4: Sectors benefiting from rural development policies

Sector	N	%	Rank
Agriculture	166	83	1st
Health	148	74	2nd
Education	146	73	3rd
Transportation	65	32.5	4th
Market/Commerce	24	12	5th
Employment/Rural Enterprises	23	11.5	6th
Other	7	3.5	7th

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

The Impact of rural development interventions on the people living in Rural Areas and which interventions they will prefer and appreciate better.

In general respondents agreed (mean=3.11, SD=.518) that development have had impacts in the study area. In detail, respondents agreed (mean=3.15, SD=.520) that development policy impacts have been positive (see Table 5)

Table 5: Rural Development Impacts

Impacts	% in agreement	Mean	SD
Do you agree that rural development policies have had any impacts in your area	93.5	3.11	.518
Do you agree that Development policy impacts have been positive	94	3.15	.520
Do you agree that Development policy impacts have been negative	37	1.52	.208

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

The respondents indicated that rural development intervention that they will appreciate is Better Education Institutions 86 (43%) (see Table 6).

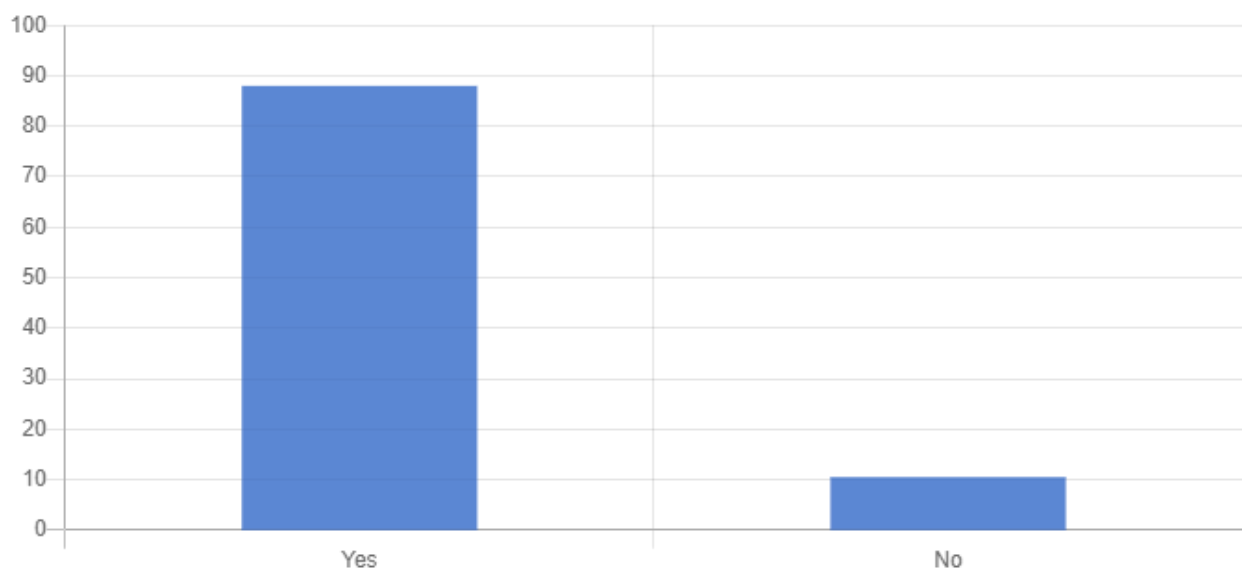
Table 6: Rural Interventions Respondents Will Appreciate Better

Rural Interventions	N	%	Rank
Better Education Institutions	86	43	1 st
Better Health Facilities	69	34.5	2 nd
Better Road network to transfer agricultural products	25	12.5	3 rd
Improvement in Agriculture	17	8.5	4 th
Others	2	1	5 th

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

The study findings indicate that the respondents residing in the Jinijini community exhibited a considerable degree of cognizance regarding the ongoing developmental initiatives within their locality. As per the survey participants, a total of 176 individuals (88%) - signifying the majority - reported being cognizant of the ongoing developmental initiatives in the locality (see Figure 15).

Figure 15: Awareness of development Activities in the community



Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

How were you made aware of Rural development policies?

The preponderance of participants expressed that community announcements represent the primary means of disseminating information regarding developmental undertakings within the locality. A total of 131 participants, accounting for 65.5% of the sample, reported this finding (see Table 7).

Table 7: How respondents are made aware of rural development policies

How respondents are made aware of rural development policies	N	%	Rank
Community Announcements	131	65.5	1 st
Through community leaders and influencers	101	50.5	2 nd
Radio and TV Announcements	77	38.5	3 rd
Social Media	57	28.5	4 th
Rumours	34	17	5 th
Others	7	3.5	6 th

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

Government's Involvement

The findings obtained from the fieldwork affirm the active participation of both the National and Local governments in the implementation of developmental initiatives within the region. The mean and standard deviation for the National government were 3.78 and 0.718, respectively, while the Local government had a mean of 3.55 and a standard deviation of 0.620 (see Table 8).

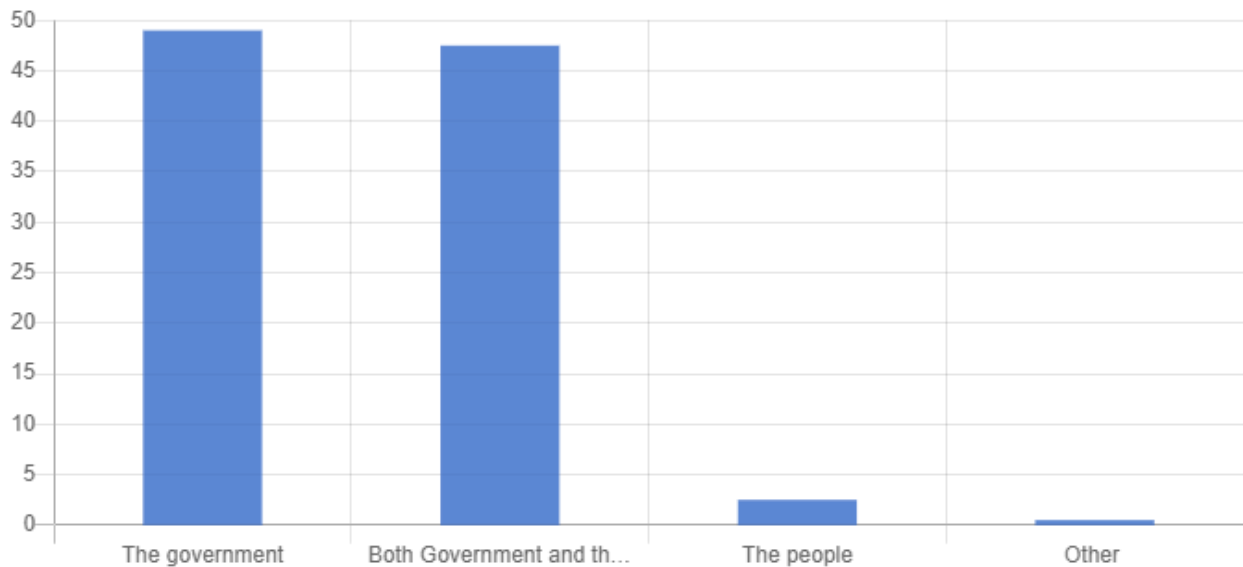
Table 8: Government's involvement

Government's Involvement	%	in Mean	SD
	agreement		
Do you agree that National government is actively involved in the project	94.5	3.78	.718
Do you agree that Local government is actively involved in the project	95	3.55	.620

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

The primary stakeholder responsible for rural development in the area, as identified by the respondents, is the government. Ninety-eight participants, accounting for 49% of the sample, reported agreement with this statement (see Figure 16).

Figure 16 Who do you think is in charge of rural development?



Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

The majority of stakeholders involved in rural development projects are local community members 157(78.5%), while religious organisations are the least interested stakeholder 8(4%), aside from the government (see Table 9).

Table 9: Other stakeholders' Involvement in Rural Development

Stakeholders	N	%	Rank
Local community members	157	78.5	1 st
Community leaders	142	71	2 nd
Scientific researchers	100	50	3 rd
NGOs	58	29	4 th
Schools	46	23	5 th
Religious organisations	8	4	6 th

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

According to field data, community members' participation in rural development programmes was primarily through employment, accounting for 105 individuals or 52.5% of the sample. Other methods of involvement were through participation 104 (52%), through education 103 (51.5%), consultancy 40 (20%) and others 19(9.5%) (see Table 10).

Table 10: Community Members Involvement

	N	%	Rank
Community Members Involvement			
Through Employment	105	52.5	1 st
Through participation	104	52	2 nd
Through education	103	51.5	3 rd
Consultancy	40	20	4 th
Other	19	9.5	5 th

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

There were numerous challenges associated with rural development projects at the Jinijini community. The prominent of these challenges was Lack of funding 71 (35.5%), followed by policies change with the government 67 (33.5), The policy will no longer be needed 45 (22.5%), lack of community involvement 40 (20%), lack of monitoring and evaluation 37 (18.5%), environmental challenges 32 (16%) and others making up the least with 6 (3%) (see Table 11).

Table 11: Challenges Associated with Rural Development Projects

Challenges	N	%	Rank
Lack of funding	71	35.5	1st
Policies change with the government	67	33.5	2nd
The policy will no longer be needed	45	22.5	3rd
Lack of community involvement	40	20	4th
Lack of monitoring and evaluation	37	18.5	5th
Environmental challenges	32	16	6th
Other	6	3	7th

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

6.0 CHAPTER SIX - CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The study examined some rural development policies and programmes in Ghana & the effects on rural inhabitants. In particular, to situate the district's strategies for rural development in the national context, a time series qualitative analysis was done to understand the rural development policies in Ghana since the 1950s. This revealed that generally the methods and strategies of national economic management distinctly changed from dependence on state control of development policy between the 1950s and 1980s to an increased reliance on market-oriented orthodoxy and less direct public involvement (the neoliberal approach) by the 1990s onwards. This historical time series analysis of rural development policies in Ghana have shown that most often, rural development policies or programmes were discontinued whenever there is a change in government leadership; most times, new government abandons the projects and programmes of its predecessor even when such programmes are appropriate. Rural development was not also given the integrated and comprehensive approach it requires.

The finding of this study contributes both empirically and theoretically. Theoretically, it enriches the contemporary discourse and body of literature on development, development strategies and rural development; however, empirically the findings are useful for future policy action. The study found that three (3) hypotheses of the study were right and thus accepted except Hypothesis 1 which states that "The people in Jinijini do not know of the policies regarding their development and do not completely benefit from the existing policies regarding rural development."

This research has brought to the fore lessons useful for policy action in Ghana. This research therefore largely achieved the research objectives and the key research questions were answered. Conclusively, rural development constitutes the plank that underlies all other efforts towards economic development and therefore government policies and strategies must emphasise the rural segment of the economy. The multi-dimensional nature of development requires multiple strategies both at local and national levels to ensure rural development. Indeed, rural development requires considerable inter-sectoral interventions at both micro (local) and macro (national) levels that prioritizes infrastructure, agriculture, enterprise and social protection interventions.

Based on the study findings, the following recommendations are suggested:

1. Increase funding for rural development: Since lack of funding is a major challenge in rural development projects, policymakers and stakeholders should explore alternative funding sources and increase investment in rural development.
2. Improve educational institutions: Respondents indicated that they prefer better educational institutions as a rural intervention. Therefore, policymakers and stakeholders should prioritize improving the quality of education in the community to enhance human capital development and promote economic growth.
3. Increase community participation: The study revealed that local community members are a significant stakeholder in rural development projects, mainly through employment. Policymakers and stakeholders should involve the community in the planning and implementation of rural development programs to promote community ownership and enhance project sustainability.
4. Utilize community announcements for information dissemination: The study found that community announcements were the main means of information dissemination. Policymakers and stakeholders should continue to use this approach and explore other communication channels to ensure effective dissemination of information about rural development programs.
5. Diversify rural development programs: Although agriculture was the sector that benefited the most from rural development policies, policymakers and stakeholders should consider diversifying rural development programs to include other sectors such as health, infrastructure, and tourism, to promote holistic development in the community.

7.0 CHAPTER SEVEN - SUMMARY

This chapter presents a summary of the major issues that were revealed from the previous chapters. The findings served as the basis for the recommendations and conclusion presented. This chapter has significant implication for rural development policy because it highlights the contribution of this research

Since the 2021 census, rural Ghana's population has decreased while urban population has increased. Urban regions worldwide are rising in percentile. Ghana announced several development plans, including Ghana Vision 2020, to reach this milestone. Depending on geography and demographics, rural refers to undeveloped areas with high poverty and a tiny population. Rural places are diversified and have plentiful land where most people work on farms.

The main objective of this study was to assess rural development policies in Ghana. The study reviewed literature on the concepts of rural, development and the theories that support rural development. One key theory reviewed was the Neoclassical Theory/Neoliberalism theory and its Influence on Rural Development. The study further reviewed rural development strategies and poverty reduction strategies in rural areas. Some of the policies were the decentralization policy, Infrastructure development policy, Agriculture development policy, local economic development, Integrated Rural development policy. Ghana's rural development efforts began in 1943 with the establishment of the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development. In the 1950s, Ghana broke free from British colonial rule and supported the modernisation agenda. In the 1960s, Ghana's post-independence economic policy was characterised by import substitution industrialization and public sector investment. In the 1970s, the Busia government implemented "operation feed yourself" and decentralisation reforms. In 2001, the Vision 2020 plan gave way to the IMF-World Bank-backed Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) initiative. The Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development is responsible for overseeing projects and programs to develop rural areas, such as the Ghana Secondary Cities Project, Ghana Productive Safety Net Project, Modernizing Agriculture in Ghana, Street Naming and Property Addressing Project, and District Performance Assessment Tool.

Some of the rural developments reviewed were the Rural Enterprise Programme (REP), Ghana Social opportunities Project (GSOP), Community Health Planning and Services (CHPS) Programmes.

Hypothesis 1 States that “**The people in Jinijini do not know of the policies regarding their development and do not completely benefit from the existing policies regarding rural development.**” However, the results from the multiple regression reveals that the hypothesis was in contrast of the data gathered from the field ($B = -.24, p < .001$). The model with only two predictors was significant, $R^2 = .13, F(2, 102) = 16.16, p < .001$ with the two predictors (Do not know of the policies and know of the policies) explaining 13% of the variance. Thus, the people in Jinijini do not know of the policies regarding their development and do not completely benefit from the existing policies regarding rural development is wrong and was rejected because indeed the people of Jinijini know of the policies and completely benefit from existing policies regarding rural development (see Table 12).

Table 12: Regression

Variable	B	SEB	β	T	R^2	ΔR^2	Model F	ΔF
Knowledge / Awareness level					.13		16.16***	
Constant	12.13	.56		26.3				
Do not know of the policies	-2.09	.65	-.24***	-2.3				
Know of the policies	1.27	.54	.18*	1.3				

Source: *own research and edition, 2023*

Hypothesis 2 states that the people in Jinijini prefer to depend on the government for development and will not put in efforts to develop themselves. From the results, 98 respondents representing 49% indicated that the government is the one responsible for development projects. Only 5 respondents (2.5%) indicated that the people are responsible for development projects. Thus, the hypothesis that the people in Jinijini prefer to depend on the government for development and will not put in efforts to develop themselves is true and was accepted by the study

Hypothesis 3 states that Non-Governmental and Religious organizations make more impact in developing Jinijini than the government. Data from the field suggested that apart from the

government those who are involved and make impacts in rural development projects were local community members 157 (78.5%). Therefore, the hypothesis that Non-Governmental and Religious organizations make more impact in developing Jinijini than the government is wrong and rejected by the study.

The study used a quantitative approach to gather primary data and makes good use of existing secondary data. Purposive sampling and convenience sampling was utilized as sampling procedures. Because they are suggested on a limited number of people, these approaches will be suited for this investigation. The study location was Jinijini, a town located in the Berekum West District of the Bono Region in Ghana, West Africa.

Majority of the respondents were females (62.5%), with majority in the ages of 26-36 years (40.5%). Majority of the respondents were married (55%). Majority has attained Basic educational level (44%) and majority were employed.

The findings revealed that (92%) respondents were knowledgeable about rural development policies. Livelihood empowerment against poverty (LEAP) was the rural development programme that was popular among respondents (86%). Respondents also believed that Jinijini enjoys rural development programmes because it is a rural area (77%). Agriculture with (83%) ranked the highest among the list of sectors that benefits from rural development policies at Jinijini.

About (93.5%) of the respondents representing the majority indicated that there have been impacts from rural development policies in the community. Out of those who indicated that there has been impacts, 94% also agreed that these impacts have been positive. Respondents further indicated that the rural interventions they will appreciate better will be Better educational institutions.

The findings also revealed that respondents have high awareness level of development activities in the community. About (88%) - signifying the majority - reported being cognizant of the ongoing developmental initiatives in the locality. The study further revealed that respondents were made aware of the rural development policies through community announcements (65.5%) as the main means of information dissemination.

The findings further share light on the fact that The National government (94.5%) and the Local government (95%) are actively involved in rural development projects in the community. About (49%) of the respondents also indicated that they think the government is in charge with of rural development in the area. They also indicated that the major stakeholder involved in

rural development aside the government is the local community members (78.5%). This involvement according to them is through employment (52.5%). The major challenge associated with rural development projects is lack of funding (35.5%).

Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP), Community Health Planning and Services Programmes (CHPS), Fertilizer Subsidy Programme (FSP), Northern Rural Growth Programme (NRGP), Millennium Villages Project (MVP), Rural Enterprises Programme (REP) and Ghana Social and Opportunities Project were the rural development approaches found in the study area. The prominent among them were the LEAP and CHPS and this is very consistent with literature. According to Amankwah-Ayeh, (2017) LEAP is a comprehensive poverty reduction program that focuses on improving the livelihoods of the rural poor through a combination of interventions, including cash transfers, skills training, microcredit, and access to basic services such as healthcare and education. The study found that LEAP has played a significant role in reducing poverty and improving the livelihoods of the rural poor in Ghana. The program's cash transfer component, which provides regular payments to poor households, has been particularly effective in reducing extreme poverty and improving access to basic services such as healthcare and education. The study concluded that the LEAP program has been implemented successfully in several African countries, including Ghana, where it has contributed significantly to poverty reduction and improved the livelihoods of the rural poor (Amankwah-Ayeh, 2017).

On the other hand, Awoonor-Williams et al., (2013) found CHPS is a community-based health service delivery approach that aims to provide primary healthcare services to rural communities through a network of community health workers (CHWs). The approach involves training and deploying CHWs to provide a range of preventive and curative health services to communities within their catchment areas. The study found that CHPS has been shown to be effective in improving access to basic health services in rural areas, leading to improved health outcomes, reduced mortality rates, and increased health-seeking behaviour (Awoonor-Williams et al., 2013).

The study found that indeed rural development interventions have had impacts on them. About 93.5% agreed to this assertion. The study further probed to discover that the impacts were positive on the community. Several studies that have supported the findings of this study.

In 2017 Awunyo-Vitor conducted a study to Assess the Impact of Rural Development Projects in Ghana: This study examined the impact of rural development projects on the West Gonja

District in Ghana. The study found that rural development interventions had a positive impact on the community, including increased access to water, electricity, and health services.

Two years prior to Awunyo-Vitor's study, in 2015, Badasu also conducted a study to examine the impact of Ghana's National Community-based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) Initiative on poverty reduction. The study found that the CHPS initiative had a positive impact on poverty reduction in rural communities in Ghana, including improved access to healthcare services.

The findings of this study are also consistent with a study conducted by Amankwah-Ayeh in 2017 on the impact of the Livelihood Enhancement Against Poverty (LEAP) program on poverty reduction in Ghana.

Other studies that have been conducted worldwide were also found to be consistent with this study. Khanal, Maharjan, and Jolly in 2019 conducted a study to assess the Impact of rural development programs on the livelihoods of rural households: Evidence from Nepal. This study provides empirical evidence that rural development programs in Nepal have positive impacts on the livelihoods of rural households, including increased income, improved access to credit, and enhanced social capital. Roy in 2018 also conducted a study in rural India. His study provides evidence that rural development interventions in India have positive impacts on income and poverty alleviation.

Agriculture has been the backbone of many rural economies in Sub-Saharan Africa and around the world. This study discovered that Agriculture is the sector that has benefitted most from rural development policies at the study community. The findings are in consensus with several studies conducted to assess the efficacy of agricultural development projects in rural areas in Ghana. A study conducted by Bello et al., (2020) finds that agricultural diversification can bring significant benefits to smallholder farmers in marginal areas of Ghana, including higher income, improved food security, and enhanced resilience to climate shocks and market fluctuations. However, the study also highlights the challenges and risks associated with diversification, including limited access to credit, extension services, and market information, as well as the potential for reduced productivity and profitability if diversification is not properly managed. Another study Cadger, Quaicoo, Dawoe and Isaac in 2016 on development interventions and agriculture adaptation: a social network analysis of farmer knowledge transfer in Ghana investigates the effectiveness of different development interventions aimed at promoting agricultural adaptation and knowledge transfer in Ghana. The study finds that development interventions that promote the participation and collaboration of different stakeholders, including farmers, extension agents, and community leaders, are more effective

in promoting knowledge transfer and agricultural adaptation than interventions that rely solely on top-down approaches or technology transfer. The study further validates the efficacy of agricultural development projects in rural areas in Ghana.

The study has already established that rural development interventions have been positive on the people living in rural areas and most specifically the agricultural sector of the rural economy. However, respondents indicated that the people living in rural areas will prefer and appreciate better if rural interventions are geared towards better educational institutions and health facilities as well as better road network to transfer agricultural products. This finding is consistent with literature. Studies by Adu-Gyamfi et al., (2016), Atuoye et al., (2015), and Aomani-Boateng et al., (2015) has all conducted studies which buttresses the findings of this study.

Here are some suggestions for future studies (possibilities for further research, outlook) on examining rural development policies and programs in Ghana and their effects on rural inhabitants:

- An analysis of the impact of agricultural policies on rural livelihoods: Ghana's agricultural sector is a significant contributor to the country's economy, and many policies and programs have been implemented to support its growth. A study could analyse the impact of these policies on rural livelihoods, particularly in terms of income and employment opportunities.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of rural electrification programs: In recent years, Ghana has made significant efforts to improve rural electrification. A study could evaluate the effectiveness of these programs in terms of their impact on rural businesses and households' access to electricity, and their effects on economic development.
- Investigating the role of infrastructure development in rural areas: Access to quality infrastructure such as roads, schools, and health facilities is crucial for rural development. A study could investigate the role of infrastructure development in rural areas, including the challenges faced in implementing infrastructure projects and the impact of infrastructure on rural development.
- Examining the impact of microfinance programs on rural entrepreneurship: Microfinance programs have become increasingly popular in rural areas as a means of promoting entrepreneurship and economic development. A study could examine the impact of these programs on rural entrepreneurship, including the types of businesses supported and the success rates of these businesses.

- Assessing the effectiveness of land tenure policies in promoting rural development:
Land tenure policies play a critical role in rural development, particularly in Ghana's agricultural sector. A study could assess the effectiveness of land tenure policies in promoting sustainable agricultural practices and empowering rural communities to manage and benefit from their land resources.

8.0 REFERENCES

- Adamowicz, M. (2018). Normative aspects of rural development strategy and policy in the European Union. pp. 17-27. In: Adamowicz_Economic Science for Rural Development Conference Proceedings (No. 47). Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies
- Adatara, P. - Afaya, A. - Baku, E. A. - Salia, S. M. - Asempah, A. (2018). Perspective of traditional birth attendants on their experiences and roles in maternal health care in rural areas of northern Ghana. *International journal of reproductive medicine* (1) pp. 50-56.
- Adu-Gyamfi, R. - Adu-Gyamfi, S. - Boateng, K. A. - Oppong, A. (2016). Challenges of rural development in Ghana: the case of Abura-Asebu-Kwamankese district. *African Journal of Economic and Management Studies*, 7 (2) pp. 218-227.
- Adu-Gyamfi,- S., Donkoh,- W. J., & Addo, -A. A. (2016). Educational reforms in Ghana: Past and present. *Journal of Education and Human Development*, 5(3), 158-172.
- Ahmed, -A., & Gasparatos, A. (2020). Multi-dimensional energy poverty patterns around industrial crop projects in Ghana: Enhancing the energy poverty alleviation potential of rural development strategies. *Energy Policy*, 137, 111123.
- Akpomuvie, O. B. (2010). Self-Help as a Strategy for Rural Development in Nigeria: A Bottom-Up Approach. Delta State University (Abraka, Nigeria). *Journal of Alternative Perspectives in the Social Sciences*, 2 (1): pp. 88-111.
- Amankwah-Ayeh, J. (2017). The Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Program in Ghana: An Assessment of Program Impact and Efficiency. *International Journal of Social Welfare*, 26(2), 111-119.
- Aomani-Boateng, R., Brown, A., Osei-Kojo, A., & Robinson, K. (2015). Health-seeking behaviour and healthcare delivery in Ghana: A qualitative case study of Bongo District. *Journal of Applied Business Research* (JABR), 31(5), 1675-1688.
- Asher, S., & Novosad, P. (2020). Rural roads and local economic development. *American economic review*, 110(3), 797-823.
- Asomani-Boateng, R., Fricano, R. J., & Adarkwa, F. (2015). Assessing the socio-economic impacts of rural road improvements in Ghana: A case study of transport sector program support (II). *Case studies on transport policy*, 3(4), 355-366.

- Atuoye, -K. N., Dixon,- J., Rishworth,-A., Galaa,- S. Z., Boamah,- S. A., & Luginaah, I. (2015). Can she make it? Transportation barriers to accessing maternal and child health care services in rural Ghana. *BMC health services research*, 15, 1-10.
- Awan, U. (2021). Steering for Sustainable Development Goals: A Typology of Sustainable Innovation. In: Leal Filho,-W., Azul, A.M., - Brandli, L., Lange Salvia,- A., Wall, T. (eds) *Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure. Encyclopedia of the UN Sustainable Development Goals*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-95873-6_64.
- Awoonor-Williams,- J. K., Phillips, -J. F., Bawah,- A. A., Akazili, J., & Families, C. F. H. P. S. (2013). The Ghana community-based health planning and services initiative for scaling up service delivery innovation. *Health Policy and Planning*, 28(2), 139-145.
- Awunyo-Vitor,- D. (2017). Assessing the Impact of Rural Development Projects in Ghana: A Case Study of the West Gonja District. *Journal of Environmental Science and Engineering B*, 6(5), 212-218.
- Ayerakwa, A. A. (2012). An Assessment of the Rural Enterprises Project as a Poverty Reduction Strategy in Rural Ghana: A Case Study of the Asuogyaman District. A thesis submitted to the Institute of Distance Learning, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Degree of Commonwealth Executive Masters of Business Administration.
- Baah–Boateng, W. (2004). Employment Policies for Sustainable Development: The Experience of Ghana. A Paper Presented at A National Workshop on an Employment Framework for Ghana’s Poverty Reduction Strategy Organized by Government of Ghana/UNDP/ILO at Golden Tulip, Accra. 4-23 www.undp.org/.../employment-policies-for-sustainable-development-the-experience-of-ghana/EmploymentPoliciesForSustainableDev.pdf (Accessed November 15, 2022)
- Badasu, D. M. (2015). National community-based health planning and services initiative in Ghana: stakeholders' perceptions of the preparedness of health facilities for task shifting. *Journal of Public Health*, 23(2), 107-112.
- Bello,- M.Akinlade, - R. O., & Olowookere, S. O. (2020). Agricultural diversification and food security among rural households in Ghana: Empirical evidence from Bono East region. *Journal of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Tropics and Subtropics (JARTS)*, 121(1), 55-67.

- Bellon, M. R.,- Kotu, B. H.,- Azzarri, - C., & Caracciolo, F. (2020). To diversify or not to diversify, that is the question. Pursuing agricultural development for smallholder farmers in marginal areas of Ghana. *World Development*, 125, 104682.
- Berka, A., &- Dreyfus, M. (2021). Decentralisation and inclusivity in the energy sector: Preconditions, impacts and avenues for further research. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 138, 110663.
- Boakye, D. O. (2010). Is Rural Development significant for Ghana's Economy? Feature Article of Sunday, Article 183028, <http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Is-Rural-Development-significant-for-Ghana-s-Economy-183028>). (Accessed October 24, 2022)
- C.I.T.E.S. (2021). CITES Appendices. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.
- Cadger, K., Quaicoo, A. K., Dawoe, E., & Isaac, M. E. (2016). Development interventions and agriculture adaptation: a social network analysis of farmer knowledge transfer in Ghana. *Agriculture*, 6(3), 32[RK1] .
- Cadger, L. - R., Quaicoo, S. A., - Dawoe, E., & Isaac,- M. E. (2016). Development interventions and agriculture adaptation: a social network analysis of farmer knowledge transfer in Ghana. *Environmental Management*, 57(5), 1036-1052.
- Chen, Y., - Fu, X., - & Liu, Y. (2022). Effect of Farmland Scale on Farmers' Application Behavior with Organic Fertilizer. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 19(9), 4967.
- Clemen, M. and Demombynes, G. (2011). "When does rigorous impact evaluation make a difference? The case of the Millennium Villages". *Journal of Development Effectiveness* 3(3): 305–339.
- Czene-Ritz, T. (2010). The effects of social context on cognitive aging. *Journal of Gerontology: Psychological Sciences*, 65B(4), 447-454.
- Diao, X. (2010). Economic Importance of Agriculture for Sustainable Development and Poverty Reduction: Findings from a Case Study of Ghana. A paper presented at the Global Forum on Agriculture, Policies for Agricultural Development, Poverty Reduction and Food Security, 8-32, OECD, Paris www.oecd.org/agriculture/agricultural-policies/46341169.pdf (Accessed November 11, 2022)

- Entsua-Mensah,- R. M., Essegbey, - G., Frempong, G and Engmann, C. (2007). Assessment of Community Water and Sanitation in Ghana. African Technology Policy Studies (ATPS) Working Paper Series No. 45, 10-28.
- FAO. (2015). Agricultural development. Retrieved from <http://www.fao.org/rural-development/en/>
- Fedderke, J., - Perkins, P. and Luiz, J. (2006). Infrastructural Investment in Long-Run Economic Growth: South Africa 1875–2001, *World Development*, 34(6): 1037–1059.
- Galvin, R., & Healy, N. (2020). The Green New Deal in the United States: What it is and how to pay for it. *Energy Research & Social Science*, 67, 101529.
- Garba, G. (2013). Towards Poverty Reduction in Northern Ghana: Contribution of the Northern Rural Growth Programme in Nadowli and Wa West Districts in Upper West Region. In partial fulfillment of the requirements for obtaining the degree of Master of Arts in Development Studies International institute of social studies, Hague, The Netherlands.
- Ghana Social Opportunities Project. (2015). www.gsop.gov.gh (Accessed October 27, 2022)
- Ghana Statistical Service (2012). 2010 Population & Housing Census Summary Report of Final Results, 1-103 Government of Ghana, Accra. www.statsghana.gov.gh/.../2010phc/Census2010_Summary_report_of_final_results.pdf (Accessed November 15, 2022).
- Ghana Statistical Service. (2021). Ghana Living Standards Survey Round 7: Poverty profile in Ghana (2020/2021). Government of Ghana
- Hess, J. B. (2000). “Imaging Architecture: The Structure of Nationalism in Accra, Ghana”. *Africa Today*, 47 (2): 35-58.
- Holst, J. (2020). Global Health–emergence, hegemonic trends and biomedical reductionism. *Globalization and health*, 16(1), 1-11.
- Iddrisu, A. M.,- Gafa, D. W., Abubakari,- M., Emini, C. A., - & Beaumais, O. (2020). How the fertilizer subsidy program can boost economic growth and employment in Ghana.
- Khanal, P.,- Maharjan, K. L.,- & Jolly, Y. N. (2019). Impact of rural development programs on the livelihoods of rural households: Evidence from Nepal. *World Development Perspectives*, 13, 76-82.

- Kuwahara, A., - & Yoshino, Y. (2017). Integrated rural development program in India: An impact evaluation. *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, 52(4), 476-490. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0021909616648482>
- Liu, F.,- Li, L., Zhang, - Y., Ngo,- Q. T., & Iqbal, W. (2021). Role of education in poverty reduction: macroeconomic and social determinants form developing economies. *Environmental Science and Pollution Research*, 28(44), 63163-63177.
- Loayza, N., - Pablo F., - and Calderon C. (2004). “Economic Growth in Latin America and the Caribbean: Stylized Facts, Explanations, and Forecasts,” Working Paper No. 265, Central Bank of Chile.
- Lugoe, W. L., - & Mbwambo, J. K. (2015). An assessment of integrated rural development program on community empowerment and household welfare: Evidence from Tanzania. *Journal of Development and Agricultural Economics*, 7(3), 96-103. <https://doi.org/10.5897/JDAE2015.0698>
- Maddox, B.,- & Dorward, A. (2013). Impacts of rural development programmes in developing countries: A meta-analysis. *Journal of Rural Studies*, 32, 475-484. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jrurstud.2013.10.005>
- Madrueño, R.,- & Tezanos, S. (2018). The contemporary development discourse: *Analysing the influence of development studies’ journals*. *World Development*, 109, 334-345.
- Malecki, E. J. (2018). Entrepreneurs, networks, and economic development: A review of recent research. Reflections and extensions on key papers of the first twenty-five years of advances.
- Malizia, E., - Feser, E., -Renski, H., & Drucker, J. (2020). Understanding local economic development. Routledge.
- Mamirkulova, G.,- Mi, J., - Abbas, J.,- Mahmood, S.,- Mubeen, R., - & Ziapour, A. (2020). New Silk Road infrastructure opportunities in developing tourism environment for residents better quality of life. *Global Ecology and Conservation*, 24, e01194.
- Meurs, M.,- Seidelmann, L., - & Koutsoumpa, M. (2019). How healthy is a ‘healthy economy’? Incompatibility between current pathways towards SDG3 and SDG8. *Globalization and Health*, 15(1), 1-13.
- Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD). (2010). Draft Decentralization Policy Framework. Theme: Accelerating Decentralization and Local Governance for National Development, 2-31, Government of Ghana, Accra.

- Minkah, O. A. (2013). Millennium Village Project and Poverty Reduction: A Case Study of Bonsaaso Cluster in the Amansie West District. A Thesis Submitted to the Department of Geography and Rural Development in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Master of Philosophy Degree in Geography and Rural Development, 35-55.
- Nancy, G. and Yontchera, B. (2006). Does NGO aid go to the poor? Empirical evidence from Europe: IMF working paper 08/39, Washington D. C.
- Nayak, P. (2013). Methodological Developments in Human Development Literature North Eastern Hill University. Munich Personal Repec Archive, MPRA Paper No. 50608 <http://mpra.ub.uni-muenchen.de/50608/> (Accessed November 7, 2022).
- Norton G. (2010). “Economics of Agricultural Development; World Food Systems and Resource Use”, 2nd edition, Routledge, New York.
- Nyathi, D. (2012). An evaluation of poverty alleviation strategies implemented by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Zimbabwe: A case of Binga rural district. A dissertation submitted to the University of Fort Hare in fulfillment of the requirement of Master of Social Science in Development Studies, 24-27 <http://hdl.handle.net/10353/507> (Accessed November 10, 2022).
- OECD. (2015). Enterprise development. Retrieved from <http://www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/enterprise-development.htm>
- Overseas Development Institute. (2002). Realising the promise? Rural poverty dynamics in sub-Saharan Africa.
- Overseas Development Institute (2002). Rethinking Rural Development, ODI Briefing Paper, 1-3 Westminster Bridge, London. www.odi.org/resources/docs/1866.pdf (Accessed November 15, 2022).
- Oxford Policy Management. (2013). Qualitative Research and Analyses of the Economic Impact of Cash Transfer Programmes in Sub Saharan Africa. Ghana Country Case Study Report, 27-40, Protection to Production project report, FAO. www.fao.org/fileadmin/user_upload/p2p/.../Ghana_qualitative.pdf (Accessed October 30, 2022).
- Rogerson, C. (2018). Local economic development in the changing world: The experience of Southern Africa. Routledge.
- Roy, D. (2018). The impacts of rural development interventions on income and poverty alleviation: A case study from rural India. World Development Perspectives, 9, 1-8.

- Secretariat, C. I. T. E. S., Solutions, E. E., City, A. S. P., & Adenta, W. (2021). Submitted to.
- SEND-GHANA. (2013). Healthcare at the Door-Step of the Citizens: Unleashing the Potentials of CHPS.
- Stahl, R. M., - & Rosamond, B. (2022). Non-majoritarian institutions: two strands of liberalism in European economic governance. *Comparative European Politics*, 1-22.
- Takeuchi, S. and Amanor, K. S., Marara, J. (2000). African Rural Development Reconsidered. Institute of Development Economies, Japan External Trade Organization. International Workshop Proceedings, No 2, 1-15. www.ide.go.jp/English/Publish/Download/Workshop/pdf/02_01.pdf (Accessed November 7, 2022).
- Thorbecke, E. (2019). The History and Evolution of the Development Doctrine, 1950–2017. In *The Palgrave handbook of development economics* (pp. 61-108). Palgrave Macmillan, Cham.
- Todaro M., and Smith S.C. (2004). *Economic development*. Eight Edition Pearson Education (Singapore) . Ltd, Indian Branch, 482 F.I.E. Patparganj, Delhi, 110 092. India.
- Todaro, M. P. and Smith, S.C. (2010). *Economic Development. Classic Theories of Development: A Comparative Analysis*. Boston: Pearson Addison Wesley. Eighth Edition
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (2002). *Economic Development in Africa: From Adjustment to Poverty Reduction: What is New?* UNCTAD/GDS/AFRICA/2, 16-51, UNCTD, Geneva. unctad.org/en/Docs/pogdsafricad2.en.pdf (Accessed on November 14, 2022)
- United Nations. (2015). MDGs. Retrieved from <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/MDGs.jpg>
- USAID. (2014). Infrastructure development. Retrieved from <https://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/economic-growth-and-trade/infrastructure-development>
- Utami, L. A., - Lechner, A. M., Permasari, E., Purwandaru, P., & Ardianto, D. T. (2022). Participatory Learning and Co-Design for Sustainable Rural Living, Supporting the Revival of Indigenous Values and Community Resiliency in Sabrang Village, Indonesia. *Land*, 11(9), 1597.

- Ward, C. P., - & Phanvilay, K. (2015). Assessing the impact of integrated rural development programs: A case study from Indonesia. *World Development*, 74, 407-417. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2015.05.009>
- Wigboldus, S., - van den Berg, M.,- & Verrest, H. (2015). Decentralisation and local governance for rural development: The case of smallholder irrigation in Mozambique. *Journal of Modern African Studies*, 53(1), 59-86. doi: 10.1017/S0022278X14000502
- World Bank (2010). *Glossary of poverty and human development*. Washington D.C. World Bank. Washington D.C.
- World Bank. (2015). Social protection. Retrieved from <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/socialprotection/brief/social-protection>

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRE USED

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is "Examining rural development policies in Ghana". Only through your participation in answering the questions will we be able to finish the thesis effectively. For this reason, your complete cooperation is required and will be deeply appreciated for the study to succeed. Any information provided will be held strictly confidential and kept completely anonymous. Therefore, please respond to the items below in the manner they pertain to you. Many thanks for your assistance in this matter.

DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

NOTE: Please provide the correct information by ticking (√) in the appropriate box and also fill in the blank where necessary.

1. What is your Gender
 - A. Male
 - B. Female
2. What is your age range?
 - A. 15-25
 - B. 26-36
 - C. 37-48
 - D. 49-59
 - E. 60+
3. What is your Educational Level
 - A. No education
 - B. Basic
 - C. Secondary
 - D. Tertiary
4. Occupation
 - A. Student
 - B. Unemployed
 - i. House wife
 - ii. Disabled
 - C. Self-Employed

D. Employed

- i. Trader
- ii. Fisher
- iii. Fish monger
- iv. Business man/woman
- v. Driver
- vi. Farmer

E. Pensioner

F. Other:

RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN GHANA

Do you know about any policy for rural areas?

- A. Yes B. No

If NO Why.....

If yes choose from the following

- a. Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)
- b. Community Health Planning and Services Programme (CHPS)
- c. Fertilizer Subsidy Programme (FSP)
- d. Northern Rural Growth Programme (NRGP)
- e. Millennium Villages Project (MVP)
- f. Rural Enterprises Programme (REP)
- g. Ghana Social Opportunities Project (GSOP)
- h. Others -List them.....

Which of the policies listed above are you benefitting from in this area?

Please list the letters; e.g., a, b,

What do you think is the reason for your area to benefit from any of the policies listed above?

- a. It is a rural area
- b. The people need it to survive
- c. Political affiliations
- d. The contributions of the rural area to national development
- e. Availability of tourist sites
- f. Other(specify).....

IMPACT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN GHANA

Do you agree that rural development policies have had any impacts in your area

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. Disagree
- d. Strongly disagree

Development policy impacts have been positive

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. Disagree
- d. Strongly disagree

Development policy impacts have been negative

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. Disagree
- d. Strongly disagree

Which sectors mostly benefit from the impact of these policies? (Select up to three (3) options)

- a. Agriculture
- b. Transportation
- c. Market/Commerce
- d. Education
- e. Health
- f. Employment/Rural Enterprises
- g. Other.....

Which sector benefits **THE MOST** from these policies

Select from the above options.....

Will you like to relocate to an urban area?

- A. Yes
- B. No

If **NO**, why.....

If **YES**, what factors will attract you to an urban area?

- a. Employment opportunities
- b. Better Economic Conditions
- c. Urban infrastructure and way of life
- d. FRIENDS RECOMMENDATION
- e. Others (Specify).....

Of all the options, which is the most important factor?

Kindly indicate.....

If no, what factors will make you stay in your rural area?

- a. A peaceful life.
- b. Low cost of living
- c. Farming Opportunities
- d. More Opportunities
- e. Good Community
- f. Nice Environment
- g. Others (Specify).....

What changes will you like to see in your rural areas?

- a. Better Education Institutions
- b. Better Health Facilities
- c. Improvement in Agriculture
- d. Better Road network to transfer agricultural products
- e. Other (Specify).....

Which is the **MOST IMPORTANT** change you will like to see?

.....

HOW RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IMPLEMENTED/CARRIED OUT

Who is in charge of rural development?

- a. The government
- b. The people
- c. Both Government and the People
- d. NGOs
- e. Other (Specify).....

Are you aware of development activities in rural areas?

- A. Yes
- B. No

If NO..... why not

- a. No one has taught me
- b. It is not my concern
- c. Political reasons
- d. Low literacy levels
- e. Language barriers
- f. Limited access to information

Would you like to know about rural development policies and its policies

Yes No

If NO why not.....

If YES, how can you help in Rural Development?

.....

...

How were you made aware of Rural development policies?

- a. Community Announcements
- b. Radio and TV Announcements
- c. Rumours
- d. social media
- e. Through community leaders and influencers
- f. Other (Specify)

Are community members and leaders involved in the planning and execution out the rural development policies?

A. Yes B. No

In Case of No..... why?

- a. Lack of incentives or recognition
- b. Political interference
- c. Limited access to decision making
- d. Limited resources
- e. Lack of trust
- f. Lack of awareness or information

How were community members involved?

- a. Through Employment
- b. Consultancy
- c. Through education
- d. Through participation
- e. Other (Specify).....

What are some of the challenges the policies face in being carried out?

.....

Do you think the effects of the project will be felt after the project has ended?

A. Yes B. No

If yes, what will be done to make sure these projects will continue?

If no.....why?

- a. Policies change with the government
- b. The policy will no longer be needed
- c. Lack of funding
- d. Lack of community involvement
- e. Environmental challenges
- f. Lack of monitoring and evaluation
- g. Other(Specify).....

INVOLVEMENT OF THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN THE PROJECT

Who should be involved besides the Government?

- a. Scientific researchers
- b. Local community members
- c. Schools
- d. NGOs
- e. Community leaders
- f. Others (specify).....

National government is actively involved in the project

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. Disagree
- d. Strongly disagree

Local government is actively involved in the project

- a. Strongly Agree
- b. Agree
- c. Disagree
- d. Strongly disagree

Any other comments or concerns?

ANNEX 2 LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Distribution of Countries based on income levels and GDP per capita	11
Table 2: Rural Development Programs	44
Table 3: Reasons for benefiting from the rural policies.....	45
Table 4: Sectors benefiting from rural development policies	45
Table 5: Rural Development Impacts	46
Table 6: Rural Interventions Respondents Will Appreciate Better	46
Table 7: How respondents are made aware of rural development policies.....	48
Table 8: Government’s involvement	48
Table 9: Other stakeholders’ Involvement in Rural Development	49
Table 10: Community Members Involvement	50
Table 11: Challenges Associated with Rural Development Projects.....	50
Table 12: Regression.....	54

ANNEX 3 LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: The concept of Rural Development	12
Figure 2: United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)	17
Figure 3: The tools of local economic development	20
Figure 4: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles on Rural Policy	21
Figure 5: Map of Ghana	26
Figure 6: Land use and land cover classes of Ghana.....	27
Figure 7: Rural and Urban population of Ghana, 1990 to 2021 (in 1,000s)	29
Figure 8: Map of focus area	38
Figure 9: Share of the respondents by gender (%).....	40
Figure 10: Share of the respondents by Age Range.....	41
Figure 11: Share of the respondents by Marital Status.....	41
Figure 12: Share of the respondents by Educational Level	42
Figure 13: Share of the respondents by Occupation.....	42
Figure 14: Do you know about rural development policies?	43
Figure 15: Awareness of development Activities in the community	47
Figure 16 Who do you think is in charge of rural development?	49

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. – Declaration

STUDENT DECLARATION

Signed below, DOTSE PRINCESS YAYRA ESI, student of the Szent István Campus of the Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Science, at the BSc/MSc Course of RURAL DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERING declare that the present Thesis is my own work and I have used the cited and quoted literature in accordance with the relevant legal and ethical rules. I understand that the one-page-summary of my thesis will be uploaded on the website of the Campus/Institute/Course and my Thesis will be available at the Host Department/Institute and in the repository of the University in accordance with the relevant legal and ethical rules.

Confidential data are presented in the thesis: yes no*

Date: 2023 year 5 month 9 day



Student

Appendix 2 - SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

As primary supervisor of the author of this thesis, I hereby declare that review of the thesis was done thoroughly; student was informed and guided on the method of citing literature sources in the dissertation, attention was drawn on the importance of using literature data in accordance with the relevant legal and ethical rules.

Confidential data are presented in the thesis: yes no *

Approval of thesis for oral defense on Final Examination: approved not approved *

Date: _____ 20 _____ month _____ day

signature

Appendix 3. – ABSTRACT OF THESIS

Thesis title: EXAMINING RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN GHANA - THE EFFECTS ON RURAL INHABITANTS, CASE STUDY OF JINIJINI.

Author name: DOTSE PRINCESS YAYRA ESI

Course: RURAL DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERING, MSc

Institute: INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Primary thesis advisor: DR. HABIL. KRISZTIÁN RITTER

Institute: INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY

Rural development literature is distinguished by a blend of theory and practice concerning the mechanisms by which development is likely to occur, as well as real-world initiatives to put the many parts of development into reality. Every nation's goal is to develop by using acceptable measures. Development strategies are defined as a set of policies and programs that affect both the form and the rate of growth. A development strategy generally refers to the actions and interventions utilized to promote specific development goals. The main objective of this study is to assess rural development policies in Ghana. The study used a quantitative approach to gather primary data and makes good use of existing secondary data. Purposive sampling and convenience sampling was utilized as sampling procedures. Because they are suggested on a limited number of people, these approaches will be suited for this investigation. The study location was Jinijini, a town located in the Berekum West District of the Bono Region in Ghana, West Africa. The findings revealed that respondents were knowledgeable about rural development policies. Livelihood empowerment against poverty (LEAP) was the rural development program that was popular among respondents. Respondents also believed that Jinijini enjoys rural development programs because it is a rural area. Agriculture with ranked the highest among the list of sectors that benefits from rural development policies at Jinijini. The findings also revealed that respondents have high awareness level of development activities in the community. The study further revealed that respondents were made aware of the rural development policies through community announcements as the main means of information dissemination. The findings further share light on the fact that The National government and the Local government are actively involved in rural development projects in the community. Based on the findings the study recommended that there should be increase funding for rural development, improve educational institutions and Increase community participation. Areas for further research includes an analysis of the impact of agricultural policies on rural livelihoods, Evaluating the effectiveness of rural electrification programs, Investigating the role of infrastructure development in rural areas, Examining the impact of microfinance programs on rural entrepreneurship and assessing the effectiveness of land tenure policies in promoting rural development.