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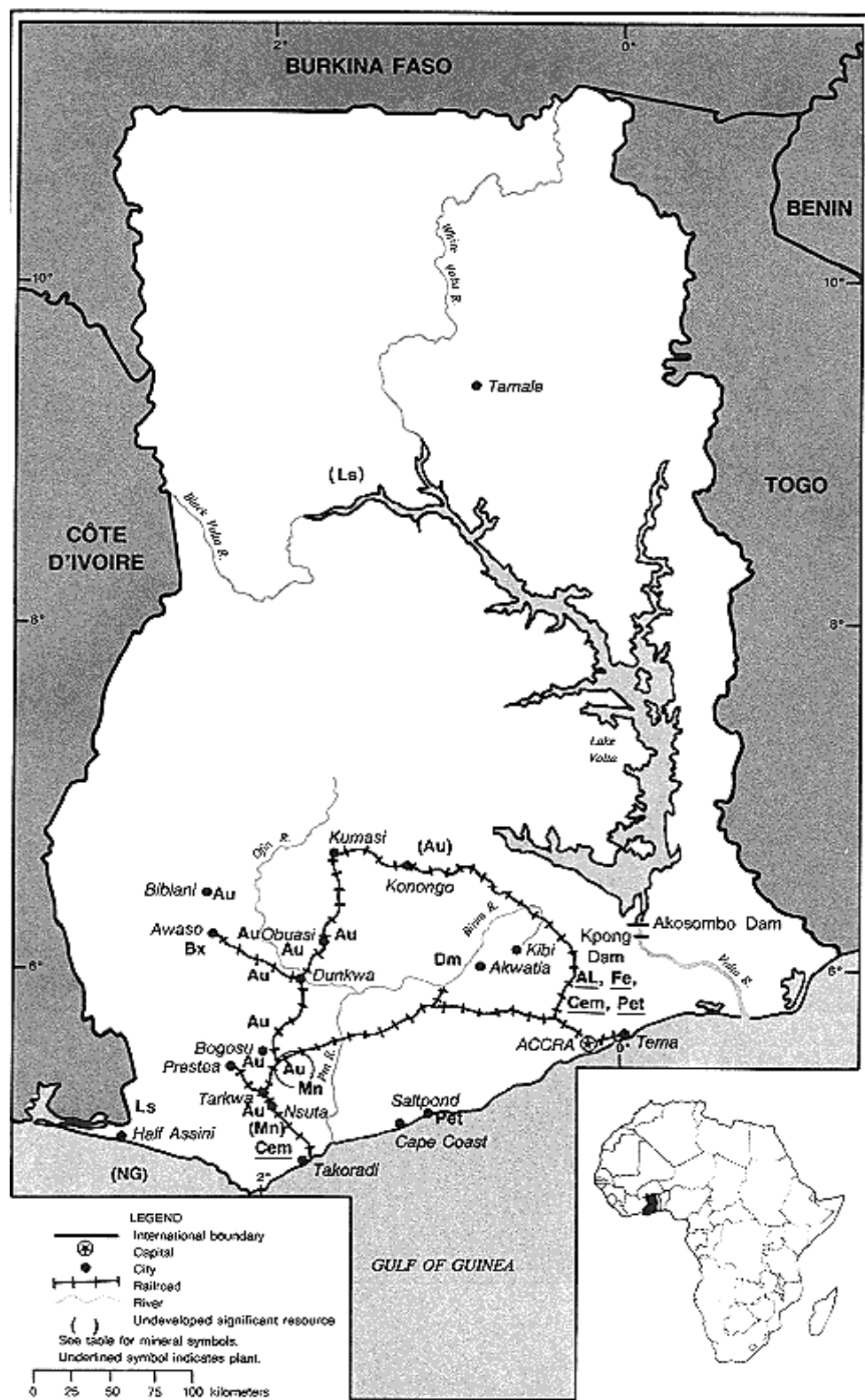


PREPARED BY

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Figure 1: Mineral map of Ghana



Foreword

The Wassa Association of Communities Affected by Mining (WACAM) began its activities as a small community-based organisation in the Wassa West District of Ghana with the view to creating a voice for the marginalised mining communities in the area.

Today, WACAM's activities have expanded to other mining communities in Ghana including the Adansi West Municipal area, and the Asutifi District. WACAM is now operating in about 60 communities in the Wassa West District, Asutifi District and the Adansi Municipal Area. Initial contacts have been made in the New Abirem District to commence mobilisation work in communities affected by the operations of the Newmont Akyem mine in the Eastern Region.

The challenges of WACAM grow with the increasing mining investment in Ghana. Our work in communities have revealed human rights abuses, increased unemployment through loss of livelihood of affected communities in addition to the fact that many mining communities are loosing their streams which serve as sources of drinking water. Ghana is loosing its fresh water sources through mining activities at an alarming rate and this must be a source of concern to all of us.

The organisation had to develop its capacity to respond rapidly to emerging issues, which included seeking community input in the new mining Bill through education. This required strengthening of the organisation and mobilisation of communities in new areas of mining operations for focused training. In line with the strategic objectives of the organisation, the Community Group formation strategy formed the basis of community mobilisation.

We have been encouraged by the eagerness with which diverse social groupings contributed to the discussions of issues raised by our communities on the effects of mining in general and activities of multinational mining companies. Such discussions have brought to fore the need for the nation to undertake a Cost-benefit analysis of mining.

The report is an attempt to share the advocacy experience of WACAM with other organisations.

WACAM benefited tremendously from the support of our partners, mining communities, the media, Researchers, and the legal personnel who have helped in pushing community struggles forward. We hope to count on the continued support of all in the coming year.



Daniel Owusu-Koranteng
Executive Director

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GLOSSARY-ABBREVIATIONS

AAIL	AngloGold Ashanti Iduapriem Mine
AGC	Ashanti Goldfields Company
AGA	AngloGold Ashanti Obuasi Mine
ALPE	Alliance for Poverty Eradication
BGL	Bogoso Gold Limited
CEPIL	Centre for Public Interest Law
CLARCS	Centre for Labour Rights and Community Service
ED	Environmental Defense
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FIAN	Foodfirst International Action Network
GMC	Global Mining Campaign
HND	Higher National Diploma
IFC	International Finance Corporation
MAG	Monitoring Advisory Group
NGGL	Newmont Ghana Gold Limited
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
RAVI	Rights And Voice Initiative
RBA	Rights –Based Approach
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infections
TWN	Third World Network
UNGC	United Nations Global Compact
VCT	Voluntary Counselling and Testing
WACAM	Wassa Association of Communities Affected by Mining
WERENGO	Western Region Non-Governmental Organisations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Wassa Association of Communities Affected by Mining (WACAM) is working with communities affected by activities of multinational mining companies. Currently, WACAM is working in communities located in Wassa West, Adansi and Asutifi Districts of Western, Ashanti and Brong Ahafo regions of Ghana respectively. WACAM has initiated work in the Akyem area in the Eastern Region and the Amenfi district of Western region of Ghana.

The report focused on activities undertaken by WACAM at the community, National and International levels and relationship of WACAM with its partners. WACAM uses the Rights –Based Approach (RBA) in its organisation and sensitisation of affected mining communities, which ensures that mining communities have information to take decisions and engage in advocacy to effect changes on issues affecting their lives. The outcomes of the sensitisation programmes informs the advocacy strategy at the local, national and international levels

The year 2005 was challenging for WACAM because of the increased mining investment and WACAM had to mobilise communities in new areas of mining activities. In order to achieve its objectives of effective community organisation, WACAM implemented the Community Group formation strategy in 2005. An important lesson was that the communities consider themselves as Local investors whose activities are in conformity with sustainable development.

WACAM targets the following groups for its work.

- Mining communities
- Intelligentsia with nationalistic views
- Media people
- Traditional authorities – Politicians, Chiefs
- Women and Youth
- Governmental / non governmental agencies
- Assemblywomen, assemblymen and opinion leaders
- Volunteers of WACAM in the communities

For future work, WACAM would make mining and gender an important focus in the mining campaign. It would continue its work on Campaign and Advocacy on mining, Environment and Community Livelihood issues. WACAM would make experience sharing among communities and organisations an important aspect of its work.

1. INTRODUCTION

The report is a summary of activities from the January to December 2005. The report focused on activities of WACAM and its partners at the local, national and international levels. The report has five segments as follows:

- Background Information
- Administrative structure of WACAM
- Activities, Achievements, limitations and lessons
- Future projections
- Financial report

1.1. Background

WACAM is a community-based Advocacy Organisation that was officially formed in September 1998 at Tarkwa in the Wassa West district of the Western region by a group of concerned people who were desirous to protect national and community interest in the event of increased mining investment.

With its humble beginning from the Wassa West District of Ghana, WACAM's activities gradually spread to other areas of the country to help develop capacity of communities to address the negative effects of mining on communities. These areas include Adansi West Municipal Assembly in the Ashanti region, Asutifi District in the Brong Ahafo region and Akyem mining area of Newmont in the Eastern region.

WACAM's activities target communities affected by activities of Multinational mining companies. WACAM uses the Rights-Based Approach in its organisational work and this provides communities with access to information that empowers communities to participate in decision-making processes.

1.2. WACAM's Vision

WACAM has the vision to be ultimately transformed into a social movement well structured with resources and capacity to influence policies in favour of the marginalized people, especially those living in mining communities.

1.3. Mission Statement Of WACAM

WACAM seeks to protect the environment, natural resources and rights of marginalized mining communities through networking, advocacy, campaign and representation within a legal framework that is sensitive to the concerns of mining communities

1.4. Objectives of WACAM

- To work with mining communities for the protection of their rights.
- To sensitise communities whose lands have been ceded to mining companies to obtain acceptable compensation or appreciable packages in relocation and resettlement issues pertaining to mining.
- To liaise with Governmental and other agencies on issues of concern to the mining communities

- To raise public awareness about issues on mining, environment, gender and livelihood.
- To collaborate with other groups and organisations with similar interests.

1.5. Thematic Areas

- Human rights
- Community Livelihood
- Environment
- Youth, Gender and Mining

1.6. Areas of Work

- WACAM to work with Advocacy groups at the local, national and international levels
- To strengthen networks for effective campaigns
- Organisation of new groups in areas about to experience surface mining
- Consolidate and strengthen its grass root base through continued education in the operational areas.
- To strengthen Community group formation as an organisational strategy of WACAM's work particularly in areas located around forest reserves of the country.
- Work to improve its media relations and to develop a media strategy as part of the campaign. WACAM should make mining and gender an important focus in the mining campaign.
- WACAM would improve its human resource capacity through training for volunteers, which should include formal trainings in educational institutions.

1.7. Forms of Work

- Campaign and Advocacy on mining, Environment and Community Livelihood
- Network with Civil Society Organisations with similar objectives to provide service to the communities.
- Legal support
- Dissemination of information and representation of mining communities in negotiations
- Information Gathering, Research and documentation
- Sensitisation of communities on their rights and responsibilities
- Work towards sustainable Alternative Employment Issues with communities

1.8. Identified Critical Community Concerns

- Land acquisition, Land use conflicts/ loss of farmlands, land degradation
- Destruction of sacred and cultural sites
- Police and mine security brutalities in the mining communities
- Forced evictions
- Inadequate compensations during Resettlement/relocation
- Increased school dropout rate
- Destruction of social systems and family cohesion
- Unemployment/loss of economic activities and incomes
- Human rights violations

- Displacement of communities
- Pollution of air and water bodies
- Water and airborne diseases

1.9. Target Group

WACAM focussed its activities on the following:

- Mining communities
- Intelligentsia with nationalistic views
- Media people
- Traditional authorities – Politicians, Chiefs
- Women and Youth
- Governmental / non governmental agencies
- Assemblywomen, assemblymen and opinion leaders
- Volunteers of WACAM in the communities

1.10 Strategic priorities for 2005

- To strengthen community organisation and the structure of the zones through the formation of community groups and increased education on community rights.
- To increase media reportage of mining issues and to encourage visit of media people to mining communities in order for them to gain first hand information on mining impacts on communities
- To respond promptly to human rights violations and environmental problems when they occur in communities
- Develop women leaders and expand the role of women in the work of WACAM
- Develop programmes with youth and students' groups
- Documentation

2. ADMINISTRATION AND STRUCTURE

WACAM has an eleven-member Executive Council (EC) that is the governing body of the organisation. The EC meets at least once every quarter to take important decisions that affect the organisation. There are four women and seven men serving on the Executive Council. Seven of the members on the Executive Council are from affected mining communities.

WACAM has divided its operational areas into six zones with officers in the zone working as volunteers. WACAM has extended its operations to communities affected by the operations of AGC now AngloGold Ashanti Obuasi Mine (AGA) in the Adansi West District of Ashanti Region and one volunteer has been appointed to co-ordinate the work in Obuasi for WACAM. Volunteers from communities liaise with officers in the zone to raise issues affecting the communities.

WACAM has four permanent staff. The administration is headed by the Executive Director and is assisted by the Director for Training, Research, and Director of Programmes. The Accounts Officer manages the finances of the organisation and doubles as the Administrative Assistant. A Programmes Assistant and a Community Mobilisation Assistant work closely with Zonal officers.

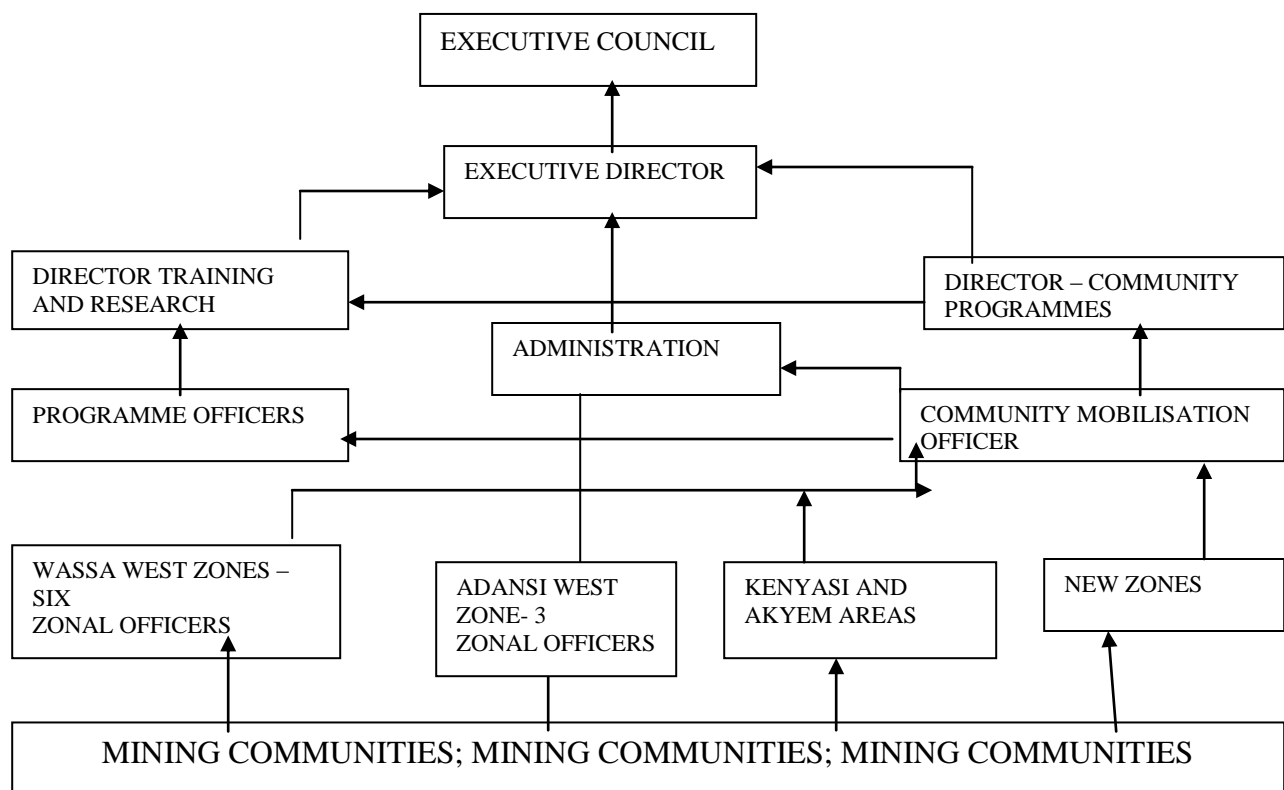


Figure 2: Surface mining and environmental pollution

2.1. Professional Capacity

- Executive Director – MA Human Resource Development; Agriculturalist /Project Analysis and Trade Unionist
- Director for Training and Research – MA Environmental Management and Policy, Agriculturalist with vast experience in Trade Union , Gender, Project Co-ordination, Informal sector organisation, Organisational Development and the use of Participatory methods.
- Head of Administration / Accounts – HND Accounting with experience in the teaching of Accounting at the High school level
- WACAM has a technical team, which includes lawyers, environmentalists, Mining Economist, and journalists who work as volunteers.

2.2. WACAM's ORGANOGRAM



3. ACTIVITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS AND LESSONS

3.1 Networking / Partnership

WACAM has the challenge of mobilising mining communities for effective engagement with multinational mining companies. The vulnerability of the mining communities pitched against the enormous resources of the multinational mining companies creates a capacity gap. The enormous challenges facing WACAM, makes it imperative for us to commit ourselves to networking/partnerships at the local and international level to advance objectives of the mining advocacy. WACAM exercises caution not to engage in networks, alliance building and partnerships that would compromise its independence in carrying out activities to achieve its objectives. The Executive Council gave approval for the following partnerships and networks some of which have been on going to advance the work of WACAM.

3.1.1 Foodfirst International Action Network (FIAN)-WACAM Partnership

FIAN- WACAM partnership which as been going on for five years concentrated its activities for the year under review in two mining areas of AngloGold Ashanti Iduapriem Mine Limited (AIL) in Wassa West and Newmont Gold Ghana Limited (NGGL) Ahafo Mine in the Asutifi District.

- The five-year partnership resulted in a development of an Action Plan in 2003 for communities affected by AAIL. The implementation of the Action Plan had run into problems when the communities raised a number of problems with the community relations strategy of the company. The major focus of work in the year was the interview and appointment of a Convener for the Monitoring Advisory Group (MAG), a provision in the Action plan for monitoring and conflict resolution. It was realised that most of the issues of conflict around the Action Plan stemmed from the absence of the MAG. The Chairman for the Monitoring and Advisory Group (MAG) after his appointment has conducted his maiden familiarisation visits to the communities.



Figure 3: WACAM, FIAN, IFC and some lenders of AAIL on community visits to assess the implementation of the Action Plan

- A Two-member delegation of FIAN International led by Ute Haussmann visited communities affected by the operations of Newmont in August 2005 and gathered information for the campaign on the IFC loan to be granted to Newmont.
- WACAM, Centre for Public Interest Law (CEPIL), CLARCS and FIAN Ghana; Oxfam America, FIAN International, Earthworks and other organisations at the International level, teamed up to work in Newmont Ahafo mine area to sensitise communities on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of Newmont. The sensitisation led to communities sending their comments to IFC through their international partners. More than thousand two hundred community people in the Kenyasi area signed on to the comments on the EIA of Newmont.

3.1.2 Partnership With Oxfam America

WACAM and Oxfam America collaborated in the West Africa extractive industry learning and advocacy initiative project with the aim of developing a network that would strengthen the capacity of communities and NGOs in the West African sub-region for effective mining advocacy. The first phase of the project was from October 2003 and terminated in September 2005. A new partnership began in October 2005, which is the Extractive Industry and Campaign Programme for West Africa. The focus of work in the partnerships was mining communities affected by AngloGold Ashanti, Newmont and Bogoso Gold Limited. The activities included sensitisation of community people on rights and responsibilities, support for campaigns in Prestea, and Obuasi. Other activities carried out included but not limited to the following:

- **Training sessions by Dr Robert Moran.** In line with the objective of building capacity for policy advocacy at the national level, Oxfam America sponsored Dr Robert Moran, a renowned American Geo-Chemist to share his experience with local NGOs, Researchers, Public Officials, the media, mining communities and the mining industry in a one-day Public event. The event, “Alternative perspective on mining, processing and long term consequences” was organised at the Teachers Hall, Accra on 16th May 2005. Dr Moran also trained twenty-five community people from mining areas in the use of simple equipment like the pH meter and conductivity meter for water analysis in a one-day training workshop held in Tarkwa on the 18th of May 2005. Oxfam America donated the conductivity and the pH meter to WACAM. A practical demonstration of water sampling technique was undertaken in Dumase as part of the training on water analysis. Mr. Mamadou Biteye accompanied him.
- **Community visits by official of Oxfam America.** Mr Keith Slack, Senior Policy Advisor of Oxfam America visited some of the communities that WACAM had organised. He had a meeting in Dumase with about 35 people who were affected by the Cyanide spillage of Bogoso Gold Limited on 28th February 2005 and a meeting on 1st March 2005 with about 60 people in the Hia community in Obuasi area that was also affected by the Cyanide spillage of AngloGold Ashanti. He participated in a Press Conference organised by WACAM on the need for Environmental Standards for the country at the International Press Centre on the 2nd of February 2005. Mr Slack encouraged the communities to be organised to effectively struggle for the protection of their rights. He commended WACAM for developing effective advocacy strategies,

which depends on community organisation. He was accompanied by Ms Shannon Lawrence of Environmental Defence of USA in the community visits.

3.1.3 IBIS Partnership

WACAM and IBIS collaboration had the objective of strengthening the advocacy skills of WACAM to develop into a model of best practices in Rights-Based advocacy programmes, which can be adopted by civil society organisations operating at the national and international levels. The partnership has helped WACAM to develop community leaders especially women. The WACAM-IBIS collaboration helped WACAM to develop linkages with other partner organisations of IBIS in the country. IBIS supported local and national campaigns especially the AngloGold Community negotiations, sensitisation workshops, strategic and planning meetings of WACAM in the year. Areas of joint activities included the following:

- Two levels sensitisation workshops on rights and responsibilities using rights - based approach
- Community Group formation
- Develop mining campaign and advocacy strategies
- Increase the role of women in the mining campaign and decision making process through education
- Documentations of experiences



Figure 4: Community people in a training session

3.1.4 Rights And Voice Initiative (RAVI)

WACAM and RAVI went into a partnership in June 2005 with the key objective of using Rights Based Approach to develop capacity of mining communities for effective engagements with mining companies. The support of RAVI complemented the efforts of WACAM and its other partners in policy advocacy and campaign for reforms in mining policies that would protect community rights as well as maximise benefits from mining investments to the nation. The use of rights-based approach with support from other organisations has helped to position the mining campaign in Ghana by drawing attention to mining effects on communities' livelihood and environment as a subject for

national debate. Highlights of activities in the RAVI partnership for the period include the following:

- Research on gender dimension of mining effects
- Three-day needs assessment workshop for identified communities
- Media strategy including support for community visits by media personnel to have first hand information on community issues and support to a local newspaper in Obuasi to report on community issues
- Community mobilisation and provision of services for filing environmental degradation and violation of rights cases in court
- Collaboration with CEPIL and CLARCS to support community struggles in court
- Use outcomes of community sensitisation, and issues that communities take to the Law Court as campaign issues at the local and international level
- Support for the campaign and investigations into the disposal of faecal matter into River Asuopre by Newmont Ahafo Mine
- Development of a Website
- Support to the campaign against the effects of the mining operations of Bogoso Gold Limited in Prestea
- Report on activities

3.1.5 Care International-WACAM Partnership

The partnership focused on HIV/AIDS education to stimulate behavioural change towards abstinence, condom use, limiting sexual partners and seeking prompt STIs treatment. The project, which started in July 2004 and ended in August 2005, gave the opportunity for WACAM to operate in new areas by targeting galamsey operational areas. The aim for the project was to increase access to STI/HIV/AIDS services through education. The project that was implemented in 24 Galamsey communities in the Wassa West district achieved the following:

- Five thousand two hundred and eighty-nine persons reached with information on methods of HIV/AIDS transmission, safe sex practices, stigmatisation and discrimination against PLWHAs and prompt treatment of STIs/HIV/AIDS.
- 100 people went for VCT services
- 33 persons sought for STI services
- 9000 condoms were distributed to communities
- improved linkages with partners and stakeholders
- improved communication and sharing of information for use among key actors

3.1.6 DKA-WACAM Partnership

DKA is a Catholic Charity organisation based in Austria and the partnership started in April 2005 and ended in October 2005. The support was meant to strengthen community organisation for effective engagement with mining companies using the Rights-Based approach. The partnership with DKA improved WACAM's advocacy activities in the communities by providing financial support for two workshops organised in Obuasi and Tarkwa for about 80 participants. The workshop dealt with the Rights and responsibilities of communities in the event of mining investments in communities. Participants in the two workshops came out with resolutions to support

the struggles of Obuasi and Prestea communities and these were released to the media for publication. WACAM collected Newspaper cuttings for communities to use as discussion materials and to encourage other community members who had lost confidence in struggles to join their colleagues. The project terminated in October 2005

3.1.7 ALPE- WACAM Partnership

A new partnership with the Alliance for Poverty Eradication (ALPE) began in October 2005 with the objective of supporting community organisation for effective engagements with mining companies. The project that would end in 2006 started with the identification and mobilisation of new communities in the operational areas of WACAM. There would be sensitisation workshops in these communities in the following year.

3.1.8 Network on OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises.

WACAM is a member of the OECDWatch and had participated in OECDWatch activities since 2003. The many conflicts associated with FDI inflows into the extractive sector of Ghana demanded that the effectiveness of the OECD guidelines be tested. Twenty-seven CSOs from countries in Asia, Africa, Americas, Australia and Europe who share a common vision established the OECDWatch in March 2003 with the following objectives:

- Monitoring and contributing to work of the OECD's Investment Committee
- Testing the effectiveness of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises as a corporate accountability tool
- Disseminating information to civil society groups particularly in developing countries about OECD's work on international investment, corporate governance and OECD Guidelines,
- Advising NGOs about filing complaints against companies alleged to have breached the OECD Guidelines

In Ghana, the OECDWatch supported WACAM to carry out a research on the compliance of the OECD Guidelines by mining companies from OECD countries operating in the country. The Research focused on the Bogoso Gold Limited, a Canadian/US company. The Researchers presented the findings of the study in a validation workshop organised on 23rd and 24th November 2005. Participants at the workshop included community members, media, NGOs, and Peter Pennartz who represented the OECDWatch. The findings from the Research would direct the lines of advocacy work in the following year. Mr Peter Pennartz visited some mining communities in Obuasi and Tarkwa from 25th November to 27th November 2005. He participated in discussions on the Corporate Social Responsibility of mining companies at the Shaft FM, which is a Local Radio station in Obuasi.

3.1.9 TWN-WACAM Partnership

WACAM and the Third World Network collaborated on a number of issues in the mining sector including the campaign against mining in forest reserves. TWN provided small grant administrative support to WACAM. Some of the members of WACAM in Obuasi and Tarkwa participated in a validation workshop organised by TWN from 24th

to 25th August 2005 on a Research conducted by the Third World Network on the impact of the mining operations of AngloGold Ashanti on the environment, health and rivers in Obuasi area.

3.2 NETWORKS

3.2.1 National Coalition against Mining in Forest Reserves

WACAM participated actively in the National Coalition against Mining in forest reserves by mobilising community support for the activities of the coalition. The coalition expanded its activities to cover mining law review and the need for concerted efforts to campaign at the national level to influence policies.

3.2.2 Global Mining Campaign (GMC)

WACAM is a member of the Global Mining Campaign, which is a global network of mining advocacy organisations, Researchers, Community groups that share information and experiences. The Earthworks of USA coordinates the activities of the network. The network shared useful information on global activities of the mining industry and supported the ground campaigns of organisations. WACAM benefited from the support of the network for campaigns on activities of Newmont Ahafo Mine, campaigns against the activities of Bogoso Gold Limited in Prestea and the campaign on the human rights abuses of AngloGold Ashanti.

3.2.3 Global Response

Global Response generated international solidarity in the form of letter writing campaign against mining in forest reserves. Global Response supported the campaign on the operations of Newmont.

3.2.4 Environmental Defense

Environmental Defense provided a small grant to WACAM to support community organisation after Ms Shannon Lawrence, an official of the organisation, had visited the communities in Tarkwa and Obuasi to acquaint herself with the challenges of community organisation for effective engagement with mining companies. She visited Dumase and Hia communities on 28th February 2005 and 1st March 2005 respectively.

3.2.5 WERENGO

WACAM participated in the activities of the Western Regional Network of NGOs.

3.3 ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS

3.3.1 Campaign on Human Rights Abuses of AngloGold Ashanti ,Obuasi Mine (AGA)

WACAM continued the mobilisation of the communities in Obuasi and strengthened the network of communities. The strategic objective of the advocacy work included:

- Sensitising Assembly members on Human Rights issues as a way of getting the Municipal Assembly to be sensitive to the Human Rights abuses of AngloGold Ashanti

- Increased rights education to help communities to develop confidence to speak out against Human Rights abuses when they occur.
- To break the fear and general culture of silence that had gripped the communities as a result of the many years of intimidation, manipulation and suppression by Ashanti Goldfields Company now AngloGold Ashanti
- To ensure prompt and regular reportage of human rights violations when they occur.
- To sensitise both the local and national media on the Human Rights abuses and environmental problems of communities on the concession of AngloGold

In line with the above objectives, three workshops were organised in Obuasi for the communities. Activists from Obuasi participated in workshops organised by WACAM in Tarkwa, Kumasi and Accra. Media people visited the mining communities affected by the operations of AGA.

Some important incidents of Human Rights abuses by AngloGold Ashanti include the shooting of Awudu Mohammed of Sanso, a “Galamsey” suspect on 21st June 2005 by a security team of Police and the Security of AngloGold Ashanti. AngloGold Ashanti initially put up a public statement that Awudu Mohammed who was alleged to be engaged in “Galamsey” sustained the injury when he tried to jump over a fence whilst being chased by the security team and was pierced by the spikes on the fence which gushed out his intestines. The campaign on the shooting of Awudu Mohammed by WACAM generated public interest and the controversy about Awudu Mohammed’s case was resolved when the Ghana News Agency reported on the 1st of July 2005 that Dr Oheneba Danso, the surgeon who conducted the surgical operation on Awudu Mohammed had confirmed that he sustained the wounds from a gunshot. Awudu Mohammed had petitioned the Commissioner for the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) to investigate the case.

On 29th September, 2005, there was a security, Military and Police swoop in Sanso community, which is near Obuasi. The security team under the guise of checking the activities of “Galamsey” operators invaded homes and arrested Madam Afua Frimpomaa, a 70-year-old woman who was detained in the office of the mine security office for about eight hours. A similar operation was carried out by the security team in Binsere community near Obuasi in October 2005. The security team molested the residents of Binsere.

WACAM issued a press statement on the shooting of Awudu Mohammed on 29th June 2005 and made public statements against the military/security brutalities in mining communities.

A meeting was held with AngloGold Ashanti on 27th July 2005 in the office of CEPIL on the dialogue process. WACAM was represented by the following team;

- Professor Atta Britwum, (Lecturer at University of Cape Coast)
- Mr John Opoku(Lawyer, Executive Director of CLARCS))
- Mrs. Hannah Owusu-Koranteng -(Director of Training and Research, WACAM)
- Mr Dominic Ayine(Lawyer/ lecturer and Executive Director of CEPIL)
- Mr Augustine Niber (Lawyer and Director of Litigation-CEPIL)

- Mr Ben Annan (Assemblyman of Sanso)
- Nana Gyebi(Chief of Hia)
- Mr. Kwame Boateng (Hia Community)
- Nana Amma Dufie(Queenmother of Amamom)

AngloGold Ashanti was represented by Mr John Owusu (Group Community and Public Relations Manager), Mr Y. B. Amponsah (Human Resources Manager, Mr Dzokoto (Company Lawyer), Dr. Barnnerman, (Environment Unit) and Mr. Twumasi (Lawyer). AngloGold Ashanti reneged on the decisions taken at the meeting that there should be a six –member sub committee from WACAM and the company in three weeks to investigate allegations of human rights abuses and rather proposed many months after the meeting that WACAM should take up all the issues with the Ghana Chamber of Mines.

The communities in Obuasi resolved in a meeting organised on 17th September 2005 in Obuasi to withdraw from the dialogue process, which was given a wide publicity in the press. AngloGold Ashanti expressed commitment for the renewal of the dialogue process around October 2005 and WACAM commenced consultations with the communities on the proposal by AngloGold Ashanti.

3.3.2 Campaign on Newmont Ghana Gold Limited

Newmont Ghana Gold Limited (NGGL) has its Ahafo Mine in Kenyasi and the Akyem Mine in the North Abirem District. WACAM worked on the following issues, which relate to the Ahafo Mine of the company:

- The effects of the damming of River Subri on communities
- The resettlement problems of people displaced by the activities of Newmont
- Newmont's extension of the moratorium on farming to cover areas not originally covered by the moratorium
- The \$125 million IFC loan facility to Newmont for the Ahafo Mine
- The disposal of faecal matter into River Asuopre by Newmont Ahafo Mine
- Shooting of community people
- Compensation and negotiations

The communities were mobilised around the aforementioned issues. Some of the difficulties encountered were the intimidation of activists by the Regional Police Commander of the Brong Ahafo who warned the community people in Kenyasi that they would face the wrath of the Police if they dared organise a demonstration against Newmont. The Ghanaian Chronicle of 5th July 2005 carried the story of the encounter of the Kenyasi activists with the Regional Police Commander of Brong Ahafo.

- On 16th October 2005, Kofi Agyekum (29 years) and Yaw Frimpong (30 years) were drowned and died in the dam constructed by Newmont on River Subri. WACAM issued a press statement on the incident.
- WACAM and CEPIL organised a public forum in Kenyasi on 12th of October 2005 to collate views of the community people on the Environmental Impact Statement of Newmont. The concerns raised by the communities in the forum were collated and validated by the community people. A petition signed by 1246 petitioners from communities around Kenyasi was presented to IFC Board of Directors on community concerns relating to the effects of the operations of

Newmont Ahafo mine on the communities. An international expert conducted a review of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of Newmont and the review revealed many lapses in Newmont's EIA. A network of NGOs comprising WACAM, FIAN, Earthworks, Oxfam America, League of Environmental Journalists, CEPIL and Bank Information Centre developed a campaign around the lapses in the EIA of Newmont and the petition of the communities in Kenyasi.

- The community problems formed the basis of a meeting held on 13th October 2005 with WACAM, CEPIL, the communities and Newmont with the Regional Coordinating Director of Brong Ahafo acting as the facilitator of the meeting. The meeting agreed that there should be verification visits of local people, WACAM members, the District Administration and the company on the concerns raised by the communities especially the extension of the moratorium to cover areas that did not form part of the mine take area at the time of the moratorium. The DCE was charged to present a report to the meeting but WACAM had not received the report on the site visit to date.
- WACAM investigated allegations of deliberate disposal of faecal matter into River Asuopre by Newmont for about two months and established the disposal of faecal matter into River Asuopre by Newmont. WACAM had a video documentation of the faecal disposal into River Asuopre. WACAM held a Press Conference on 21st December 2005 where the video footage of the faecal disposal was shown to Journalists. A Research team was put in place to conduct water analysis of River Asuopre and Tano because River Asuopre flows into River Tano. A preliminary report by the Researchers indicated high levels of E Coli contamination in River Asuopre, which indicates faecal contamination of the river. The water monitoring would continue for about three months.
- The Newmont Akyem Mine is at the initial stages of construction. The main issue for the communities relates to compensation. The Police acting on behalf of Newmont shot at the communities around New Abirem who embarked on a peaceful demonstration on 2nd November 2005 to support their demand for the payment of prompt, fair and adequate compensation. WACAM issued a Press release on the incident and condemned the action in addition to a call for investigations into the causes of the incident.

3.3.3 Campaign on Bogoso Gold Limited (BGL)

WACAM is working with about 10 communities on the effects of the operations of BGL on the communities. The issues include:

- ✚ Working with the Concerned Citizens Association of Prestea on the effects of the mining operations of BGL on Prestea and Himan
- ✚ Working with the residents of Dumase affected by the Cyanide spillage of BGL
- ✚ The effects of BGLs operations on the Dumase community especially water problems
- ✚ Problems of Kojokrom , a resettled farming community
- ✚ Effects of the Sulphur emissions from the roaster on Ayensukrom , Bodwire Egya , Anikoko
- ✚ Unlawful arrests of activists

Problems of Brakwaline

Shooting of peaceful demonstrators in Prestea by the Military/Police

- WACAM worked with the Concerned Citizens Association of Prestea to launch a grand campaign against the mining operations of BGL in Prestea on 3rd September 2005. The Concerned Citizens Association of Prestea organised a peaceful demonstration against the effects of the mining operations of BGL on 13th July 2005 and the Military/Police opened fire on the demonstrators resulting in seven people receiving gunshots. The campaign, which was launched in Prestea, was preceded by a Press Conference on the effects of BGLs operations at the International Press Centre in Accra on 25th August 2005. The campaign involved the generation of public interest and national discussion on the effects of the mining operations of BGL on the Prestea and surrounding communities through increased media reportage.
- After the launch of the campaign, the Prestea community engaged in picketing with a banner close to the active pit in Prestea for about a week. As part of the struggles, the people of Prestea community especially Akatoa, which is located very close to the active mine pit led by their chief, demonstrated and blocked the company's office on 19th September 2005. As part of the efforts to intimidate the activists in Prestea, Mr Dominic Nyame one of the key activists was arrested and detained by the Prestea Police on 4th October 2005 when he was going round the town in a Taxi with mounted loudspeakers to announce the holding of a mass meeting in the town to discuss the problems of the community and to plan actions. According to the Police, they detained the activist when the Chairman of the Urban Council who is an employee of BGL and another person who is a contractor of the company complained that Mr Nyame had insulted them in the course of the announcement. WACAM reported the case of the unlawful arrest to the Police Headquarters who issued an order for his release.
- The pressure of the campaign compelled the company to stop its operations in Prestea on the 28th of September 2005 though the order for the company to suspend its operations had been given by the Environmental Protection Agency three weeks earlier. The suspension of BGL's operations in Prestea was reported in the Daily Graphic issue of 29th September 2005.
- EPA lifted the ban placed on the suspension of the operations of BGL in Prestea in November 2005 when the agency stated that the company had met the four conditions, which necessitated the ban. These conditions, which did not include the concerns of the Prestea people, were the relocation of the Police to the new Police station, diversion of the road, construction of a fence around the mine site and the sensitisation of the residents on the effects of the mining operations. WACAM and the Concerned Citizens of Prestea released a joint Press statement condemning the lifting of the ban on BGL's operations in Prestea as a gross disregard for the concerns of the Prestea and Himan communities.

3.3.4 Campaign on AngloGold Ashanti Iduapriem Mine Limited (AAIL)

- The result of the campaign launched against Ghanaian Australian Goldfields (GAG) now AAIL by WACAM and FIAN was the development of an Action Plan to address the short and medium term problems of the communities.

Highlights of the Action Plan include scholarship to children in the affected communities, construction of boreholes, Livelihood and employment projects, School buildings etc. WACAM and FIAN accused the company of not implementing the agreed activities in the plan and the communities led by the Assemblyman of the Teberebie Electoral area resolved not to cooperate with the Senior Community Relations Officer of the company.

- The constitution of the Monitoring Advisory Group (MAG) and the selection of the Chairperson for MAG became a contentious issue. Mr John Opoku, a lawyer who was nominated by WACAM and FIAN, was selected as the Chairperson of MAG when an interview was conducted on the 8th of August 2005 for him and two other people nominated by the company. An innovation for the selection of the MAG Chairperson was the proposal by WACAM for the inclusion of Community representatives in the interview panel as a way of involving communities in decisions that affect their lives. The absence of the MAG Chairperson affected the implementation of the Action Plan.
- The establishment of a rock waste dump in Teberebie created many problems, which formed the basis of struggles. Some of the issues related to compensation payment, blocking of access road to farms, alternative land etc. An important complaint-relating to the payment of compensation to the affected people was the discrepancies in the quantum of compensation to be paid to the affected farmers. For example, a farmer who receives a slip from the company that he is entitled to compensation of 150 million cedis could later be given another slip indicating his entitlement as 50 million cedis. The discrepancies were common. The Concerned Farmers Association of Teberebie filed a suit against the company on 4th March 2005 with the support of WACAM and CEPIL.

3.3.5 Campaign on Wexford Ghana Limited

The Wexford Ghana Limited, a subsidiary of Golden Star Resources had a cyanide spillage on 11th January 2005. The spillage affected river Kubekro and some community people fell sick when they ate some of the poisoned fishes unknowingly. WACAM raised public awareness on the spillage through media reportage. Some media people visited the affected communities. In addition to the cyanide incident, some farmers of Nsadweso were supported to engage in a struggle against intimidation by some Chiefs and the Police when they decided to struggle for fair and adequate compensation from the company. WACAM could not advance this campaign effectively because of financial constraints

3.3.6 Campaign on Abosso Goldfields

The work in communities affected by the operations of the company includes the following:

- The forced eviction of some residents of old Kyekyewere
- The Human rights abuses in Koduakrom
- Water problems of communities near Amuanda

Support was given to the Koduakrom case, which is in court. There were discussions to have headway in the Kyekyewere case, which was compounded by the divisions in the community.

Communities in Amuanda and other surrounding villages solicited the support of WACAM in their engagement with Abosso Goldfields Limited, a subsidiary of Goldfields Ghana Limited on issues like water problems of the communities. A meeting was held with the company and the company agreed to address the water problems

3.3.7 Campaign on SIAN Goldfields Limited

The SIAN Goldfields Limited is a Ghanaian and Chinese company that had folded up in November 2004. The issues in SIAN Goldfields Limited were:

- Non payment of compensation to affected farmers
- Problems of resettled communities
- Salary arrears of 250 employees for 4 months
- Non payment of workmen compensation to injured workers

The SIAN Goldfields case is a deviation from the normal strategy of work because the leaders of the aggrieved workers established contact with WACAM. However, the workers provided information on the community problems that they regarded as linked to the labour issues. WACAM raised awareness on the issue in the media.

WACAM and CEPIL worked on the labour issues and a report was made to the National Labour Commission. The recalcitrant Managing Director decided to enter into negotiations with the employees on the payment of the salary arrears and the workers compensation because of the litigation and the media reportage. Because of the distressed conditions of the workers, the daughter of one of the injured employees, a Second Year student of Information studies at the University of Ghana, dropped out of the university when her father could not afford to pay for her fees. WACAM solicited for charitable donations to put the woman back to school. Resource constraints prevented WACAM from building a campaign around the community issues.

3.3.8 Campaign on New Mining Bill

- Education on the new mining bill was made an important aspect of the workshops organised for mining communities in Obuasi, Tarkwa and Kenyasi. WACAM collated community views on the mining bill.
- The Executive Director of WACAM presented the organisation's comments on the mining bill to the Parliamentary select committee on Mines and Energy on 7th July 2005.
- WACAM participated actively in the work of the National Coalition on Mining (NCOM) on the new mining bill. WACAM supported 25 representatives from mining communities to attend a 2-day Mining Conference on the new mining bill organised by NCOM on the 13th and 14th October 2005. WACAM contributed to the comments of NCOM on the mining bill, which was presented to Parliament for discussion.

3.4 YOUTH AND STUDENTS' PROGRAMME

The youth constitute an important target group of WACAM's work. To achieve the objective of working with youth and students' groups WACAM developed relations with the Youth for Action Ghana, a students' group on the University of Cape Coast (UCC). WACAM and the Youth for Action Ghana organised a one-day public seminar in the auditorium of UCC on 7th October 2005. The event, which attracted about 250 students, was under the theme "Charting a new path of development for Ghana-the role of the Youth". The following speakers made presentations at the public event:

- Costs and benefits of Mining by Mr Daniel Owusu-Koranteng (Executive Director of WACAM),
- Ghana's Swiss Bank Account by Mr Gregg Frazier
- Mining and Human Rights Abuses by Mr Augustine Niber(Director of Litigation-CEPIL)
- Youth in advocacy by Mr James Kwabena Bomfeh (Executive Director of Youth for Action, Ghana)

3.5 WOMEN'S GROUP

WACAM in the latter part of the year began organising women as a special group to learn more about the grossed-over effects of mining on women. The activity began in the Wassa West District with the formation of two groups in Atuabo and Teberebie. Teberebie women's group has twenty members whilst that of New Atuabo has fifteen members.

3.6 MEETINGS

3.6.1 Executive Council Meeting

The Executive council is the decision making body of the organisation. During the year under review, the council met several times to discuss emerging challenges in some of the communities under its operational areas and developed strategies to resolve them. The leadership also discussed partnership policies of some sister organisations, both national and international who have collaborated WACAM to build the capacity of inhabitants in marginalized mining communities. The Executive Council developed strategies for work and campaigns in the country and gave mandates to the Administration for particular campaigns in the country

3.6.2 Planning Meetings

The Board held two planning meetings in the year at the beginning and the middle of the year. The Administration had planning meetings with communities affected by BGL, AngloGold Ashanti Obuasi and Iduapriem Mines and the Kenyasi area to develop roles and strategies in the on-going campaigns in the areas.

3.7 WORKSHOPS

3.7.1 Local Workshops of Partners

- The community mobilisation assistant represented WACAM in three workshops organised by Action Aid on FoodSpan and food security. The workshop discussed the effects of World Trade Organisation's policies on developing countries and the policies could promote the interest of developing countries.

- CARE-International organised monitoring and evaluation skills for partner organisations at Coconut Groove Hotel. The aim of the workshop was to update the monitoring and evaluation skills of field officers of partner organisation.
- The Director of Training and the Community mobilisation assistant attended a two-week workshop on ‘application of rights based approach to community issues and challenges from 11th to 22nd May 2005.
- The Community Mobilisation Assistant represented WACAM at Teachers’ hall, Accra in an Environmental Exhibition workshop from 24th to 25th November 2005 organised by Environmental Services Organisation.
- The Community Mobilisation Assistant and the Assistant Programme Officer attended a one-day workshop on the theme ‘Good Governance organised by Wassa West District Assembly GAIT project on the 20th of October 2005.
- The Director of Training and Research and the Accountant attended four RAVI meetings/workshops in the year.
- The Chairperson of WACAM attended a validation workshop organised by TWN Africa on a research in Obuasi
- CEPIL invited WACAM locals from Obuasi, Kenyasi and Tarkwa to a training workshop on Human Rights and Advocacy organised by CEPIL from 27th to 29th October 2005.
- The Director of Training and Research participated in the first Ibis West Africa Annual National Partner Meeting which took place 17-18 November 2005 in Accra
- The Programmes Assistant and the Director of Research and Training participated in a 3-day RAVI meeting in Accra from 28 -30 November 2005 at the Royal Ravico hotel.

3.7.2 International Workshops and Conferences

- The Executive Director and the Director of Training and Research were invited to Sweden to participate in the hundred years of peaceful separation of Norway and Sweden and the Edberg Seminar at Karlstad University from 1st to 3rd February 2005. The two officers gave presentations on the following topics
 - Presentation on” Mining, Costs And Benefits-The Case Of Ghana” by the Executive Director of WACAM
 - Development - Rural Communities’ Perspectives by the Director of Training and Research WACAM
- The Director of Training and Research was part of an OECDWatch meeting from April 1st 2005, in Brussels on putting the OECD guidelines for MNEs into practice using the OECD Guidelines as an instrument for implementing CSR five years after their revision
- The Executive Director attended a shareholders meeting of Newmont on proxy status in Denver from 23rd to 29th April. He had the opportunity to raise the effects of the operations of Newmont’s Ahafo mines on the communities.
- Director of Training and Research attended FIAN Meeting in Germany from 15th to 25th September 2005
- Director of Training and Research attended a conference in Sao Paulo, Brazil on Business and the 2010 Biodiversity Challenge an initiative that aims to strengthen business engagement in the implementation of the Convention on Biological

Diversity (CBD), as a means of working towards the 2010 target from 2nd to 7th November 2005.

- The Executive Director attended a meeting in France from 7th November to 11th November 2005 on developing campaigns
- The Director of Programmes attended a meeting from 3rd to 5th December in Cameroon on “Publish What You Pay” Regional Meeting of Civil Society Representatives from Central and Western Africa

3.8 REPRESENTATION OF MINING COMMUNITIES ON NEGOTIATIONS

3.8.1 Legal Issues

The centre for Public Interest Law (CEPIL), continued to represent inhabitants of Nkwantakrom, Teberebie, Korbeda and Dumase communities in court over various cases of human rights violations by GAG Mining Company, Goldfields Ghana Limited and Bogoso Gold limited respectively

3.8.2 Litigation/Court Case

- Legal case against GAG instituted by Nkwantakrom community over demolition of community building which has been pending since 1997.
- Legal case against GAG instituted by Teberebie concerned farmers Group over dumping of waste on community farms, without paying compensation.
- Legal action against BGL over cyanide spillage of October 2004, which affected some community people in Dumase and its environs

3.9 MEDIA STRATEGY AND ENCOUNTER

- Press statement of WACAM on the need for binding and enforceable standards to regulate surface mining activities in Ghana. Presented by Daniel Owusu Koranteng (Executive Director of WACAM) at a Press Conference held on 2nd march 2005 at the International Conference Centre, Accra .Ghana
- Press statement by WACAM on the aftermath of the cyanide spillage by Wexford Ghana limited – 11th may 2005
- Breakfast show featuring the Executive Director of WACAM and Dr Robert Moran , a renowned American Geo-chemical and Hydrological consultant on the Theme “Alternative Perspective of Mining, Processing and Long term consequences”
- Press statement of the Prestea Concerned Citizens Association presented at a press conference organised by the association with WACAM on the August 25 ,2005 at the International Conference Centre ,Accra
- Statement of WACAM on the drowning of two community people in the water dam of the Ahafo mine of Newmont gold Ghana limited in Kenyasi – 16th October 2005
- Statement by WACAM on the direction of sewage from Newmont’s camp in Kenyasi into river Asuopre October 28 2005
- Statement by WACAM on the commencement of mining operations by Bogoso Gold Limited (BGL) dated:2nd November 2005
- WACAM condemns the shooting of farmers demonstrating against Newmont Gold Ghana Limited at New Abirem dated 3rd November 2005

- Press conference on faecal pollution of river Asuopre by NGGL on 21ST December 2005. Showed a video footage of the pollution at the press conference

3.10 PHOTOGRAPH EXHIBITION OF MINING EFFECTS

- WACAM collaborated with Mr Florian Kebs, a German Journalist to document the community issues in the form of pictures. The pictures were put together as “Faces of Gold” .An exhibition on the “Faces of Gold” was mounted early part of the year in Germany to tell the mining story and to highlight the issues that WACAM is working on.
- The “Faces of Gold” was exhibited in Ghana on 21st April 2005 by the Goethe Institute in Accra. The Goethe Institute had donated the pictures to WACAM with the consent of Mr Florian Kebs
- WACAM mounted the “Faces of Gold “in an exhibition called Earth Service Photo Exhibition organised by Earth Service at the GNAT Hall from 24th to 25th November 2005



Figure 5: Mining community people seriously engaged in learning for improved livelihood

3.11 OBSERVATIONS AND LESSONS

The overall objective of the mining advocacy is to build the capacity of mining communities to have effective engagement with mining companies and to generate national discussion on mining with the increased dependence on mining as a development model. The strategy of using rights-based advocacy through rights education for mining communities and the media in addition to campaigns have been effective in the empowerment of mining communities. In the past mining companies related to affected communities from a position of strength leading to gross human rights abuses. The strategies of community education and media sensitisation have resulted in increased reportage on critical community concerns especially Human Rights abuses, loss of Livelihood and environmental degradation. The media reports of community issues have strengthened communities' confidence in organisation as an effective means of building campaigns and struggles using the rights-based approach. The campaigns have sought to provide outlets for communities to air their grievances and thus reduced frustrations and curbed the tendency for communities to resort to violence as a means of seeking redress of community problems. Rights education for communities has helped communities to develop confidence in using legal processes to seek redress of their problems. This is an important contribution to the strengthening of democracy and the Rule of Law.

WACAM has had the opportunity of experiencing different levels of community mobilisation and commitment of the communities to work to demand their rights within the democratic dispensation. Community people have been more effective in addressing their concerns when they work as a group. Building a virile organisation to articulate the concerns of mining communities as well as harness their collective efforts for the protection of their rights is critical for the success of the mining campaign. WACAM has learnt that providing knowledge, information and guidance to community people on their rights and responsibilities in addition to creating opportunities for them to build networks tend to create the necessary conditions for communities to own their struggles.

The mining lobby hyped up its Public Relations to create the impression that surface mining is in conformity with sustainable development objectives. There is a drive to attract foreign investment into the country and this drive diminishes the importance of local investors. Some of these investors are the small to medium farmers living in mining communities whose efforts drive the rural economies. These local investors loose resources to mining companies and this lost translates into loss of huge sums of monies when their lands and farms are ceded to mining companies for surface mining activities. The implication is that, the foreign mining companies receive indirect subsidies from the local investors, which help in the accumulation of high profits of mining investors through the payment of low compensation in compulsory acquisition of lands for mining.

Ghana has been effective in attracting mining investment but the mining laws and environmental standards have not been effective in regulating the operations of mining companies. The non-application of the Polluter Pays Principle helped mining companies to externalise the environmental cost of doing business. The externalisation of environmental cost would increase the mining legacy when the mining boom is over and this underscores the need for issues of Corporate Accountability.

The mining communities are realising the importance of building a new organisation that provides them with an opportunity to work together to promote their interest. The Rights education had created leaders especially women whom have emerged as local leaders leading community struggles. This underscores the fact that rights education through participatory methods of teaching and learning achieves better results of making communities masters of their own destiny than the elite worldview that development can only be achieved through stereotyped development models supported by massive inflows of FDIs.

Equity implies treating all people fairly and entails the respect for the opinions of people who would be affected by the operations of a business activity. The application of the principle of Free Prior and Informed Consent of communities in the event of mining relates to equity and justice. In some instances, communities expressed sentiments against the effects of the operations of mining activities right from the onset of the project in public hearings. The conflict between the people of Prestea /Himan and Bogoso Gold Limited on the effects of the operations of the plant North pit in Prestea is a clear example of how community views are ignored during mining investment and how this contributes to conflicts and violence. It is imperative to build the principle of Free Prior and Informed Consent in the development process to make communities that would be affected by such development processes to be part of decisions based on ground truths and knowledge.

3.12 LIMITATIONS

WACAM has worked in communities that have limited knowledge and expertise in Law and their rights under a globalised economy that requires that these community people compete on equal footing with multinational investing companies. Community people have trusted their leaders in the past and looked up to these leaders to provide them with what they lacked – knowledge, information and guidance to take decisions that affected their livelihoods.

With the influx of mining investments in the communities, community people based on their values of people coming together to discuss issues in the open as contracts, have trusted investors and their collaborators when they convinced them of the benefits of mining for the communities and the country.

Such communities realised much later that they had been shortchanged for some intended development that worsened their situation.

The lost of confidence in the structures and systems by such community people means extra work to convince community people of their own potentials and organise them to struggle for self liberation. Community people had seen WACAM Volunteers as possessing the solutions to all their economic and livelihood problems

This had required consistent work and understanding of community concerns and the ability of WACAM to encourage community people as possessing the potential to provide solution

to their problems. This requires a lot of resources especially human resource, which stretches WACAM to limits

With the price hype of gold on the world market and the enabling economic climate created for mining investment, Ghana has become the destination for investors in the extractive sector. Government wants to attract and protect the interest of investors and this had disrupted the work of governments and its regulatory agencies and had compromised on the sovereign interest of the nation.

This has increased community vulnerability and resulted in high expectations WACAM's ability to resolve community problems.



Figure 4: The Leader of Teberebie Concerned Farmers Association, presenting a copy of their resolution to the Wassa West District Chief Executive

4. PROJECTIONS FOR 2006

- Promoting change processes towards CSOs using RBA
- Help develop/strengthen networks at the national, sub regional, regional and international levels
- Develop structures to ensure sustained community organisation and struggles
- Strengthen institutional capacity of WACAM
- Research to validate community claims of Human rights violations and environmental degradation
- Media strategy including support for community visits by media personnel to have first hand information on community issues
- Mobilise communities and provide services for environmental and Human rights justice
- Collaboration with CEPIL and CLARCS to represent communities in negotiations and support community struggles in court
- Documentation and sharing of experiences



Figure 6: Construction site of new settlement for communities displaced by NGGL in Kenyasi. Picture taken in 2005 May

5. APPENDIXES

5.1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Outcome
3 rd January 2005	Meeting with people affected by the cyanide spillage of BGL in Dumase	
11 th January 2005	Cyanide spillage of Wexford Ghana Limited	Affected communities like Kubekro, Juaben and Senkye
27 th February 2005 to 1 st March 2005	Visit of Personnel from Oxfam America and Environmental Defence	Had a meeting with the Executive council, Teberebie and Nkantakrom Communities Meeting with Dumase community who were affected by cyanide spillage of BGL; Meeting with Hia community
2 nd March 2005	Press conference by WACAM at the International Press Centre on the need for enforceable environmental standards	
21 st April 2005	Exhibition of the “aces of Gold” at the Goethe Institute on pictures taken by Forian Kebs	WACAM made a presentation to introduce the evening activity
13 th June 2005	Demonstration by Prestea and Himan communities on the effects of BGL’s operations. The Police opened fire and wounded seven people.	The community invited WACAM for support in their struggles with BGL
21 June 2005	AngloGold Ashanti security personnel shot Awudu Mohamed from Sansu community. The company said that he was a thief and was wounded when he tried to jump over a barbed wire fence.	The Servant, a local newspaper operating in Obuasi published a report on the shooting on 29 th June 2005 WACAM issued a statement on the shooting
29 th June 2005	WACAM officially met with Prestea and Himan communities to develop strategies of work	
7 th July 2005	Meeting with Parliamentary Select Committee on Mines and Energy to discuss the Mining Bill of Ghana	
8 th August 2005	WACAM, FIAN, the District Administration and AAIL Mine conducted an interview to select the convener for Monitoring Advisory Group.	Mr. John Opoku was selected as the convener
3 rd September 2005	WACAM Launched “The Save Prestea Campaign” in Prestea	Community people after the Launching engaged in leafleting and Picketing. This attracted a lot of media attention to Prestea
4 th September 2005	WACAM had information on pollution of River Asuopre with faecal matter by Newmont	Carried out investigations that lasted three months. Investigations indicated that the disposal of faecal

		matter into the river began some months before the information got to WACAM
26 th Sept. 2005	GTV showed a documentary on Prestea	
27 th Sept. 2005	Parliamentary Select Committee on Environment and Science visited BGL and Prestea community	
28 th Sept. 2005	WACAM met the people in Prestea, BGL stopped its activities in Prestea	
29 th Sept. 2005	Graphic reported that EPA had suspended the operations of BGL Afua Frimpomaa, a seventy year old woman was arrested for alleged involvement in Galamsey operation in one of the many swoops of AngloGold Ashanti in Sansu	
7 th October 2005	Seminar with Youth for Action Ghana at University of Cape Coast Campus on the theme “Charting a new path, the role of the youth”.	
16 th October 2005 19 th October 2005	Two men; Kofi Agyekum aged 29 and Yaw Frimpong 30 fell and died in a dam created on river Subri by Newmont for its operations in the Ahafo Mine Meeting of Prestea community with EPA officials	WACAM local members reported the case and the Secretariat released a statement on the issue Prestea community insisted that BGL should resettle them
31 st October 2005	Four members of the Parliamentary Select Committee onmet with the Prestea community and told them that BGL would resume operations by all means	BGL began operations without addressing the community concerns
2 nd November 2005 11 th November 2005	Shooting of farmers demonstrating in New Abriem against Newmont operating on their lands without negotiating compensation Demonstration by Prestea community against the lifting of the ban on the suspension of operations of BGL	WACAM released a press statement to condemn the shooting WACAM and the Concerned Citizens of Prestea released a joint statement
21 st December 2005	Press conference on faecal pollution of river Asuopre by NGGL. Showed a video footage of the pollution at the press conference.	NGGL is trying to talk to the affected people to accept compensation and not to report the case to WACAM. The affected communities are divided on this.

5.2 REPORT ON COMMUNITY VISITS

NAME OF ZONE	NAMES OF COMMUNITIES IN THE ZONE	ISSUES IN THE ZONE	VISITS MADE / PURPOSE	ACHIEVEMENTS/REMARKS
Dumase Affected by activities of BGL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dumase ▪ Brakwaline ▪ Prestea ▪ Himan ▪ Anikoko ▪ Menakete ▪ Kwame Niapar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Construction of Waste dump on community farm lands ▪ Cyanide spillage by BGL ▪ Blasting and air pollution ▪ Uncovered pit ▪ Destruction of farmlands by smoke from BGL carbon emission plant ▪ Mining and degraded environment of Prestea community. ▪ Take-over of farmlands for construction of tailings dam by BGL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meeting with communities on group formation, and consolidation of existing groups ▪ Discussion with affected people in the BGL Cyanide Spillage, which resulted in community people becoming sick after drinking the contaminated water ▪ Preparatory meetings with victims of cyanide pollution on legal case against the company ▪ Meetings to develop strategies for campaign against BGL for mining Prestea Himan communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ officer in the zone formed WACAM groups in all the ▪ Series of meetings with the victims of Dumase cyanide spillage resulted in the community taking legal action against the company. The company is yet to write a defence for the hearing of the case ▪ WACAM and the people in the area teamed up to launch a campaign against BGL's activities in Prestea Himan which resulted in EPA halting the operations of the company for the company to put in place some remedial measures. Some community people who were leading the struggle bucked out of the campaign after meeting with the company
Nkwantakrom Affected by activities of AngloGold Ashanti Iduapriem Mine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nkwantakrom, ▪ Adisakrom ▪ Teberebie ▪ Badukrom/ Wangarakrom ▪ Mile 7 ▪ Mile 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal case against GAG now AAIL at Nkwantakrom and Teberebie ▪ Take over of agricultural lands. ▪ Contaminated water from hand dug well. ▪ Lack of employment. ▪ Increase in school dropout rate of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formation and consolidation of WACAM Local groups, preparation towards meeting with AAIL on Action Plan and Community Development plan implementation ▪ Discussions of communities' problems relating to poor quality of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WACAM, GAG and The District Assembly carried out interviews to select a Convener for the Implementation of the Action Plan. The successful candidate had made two visits to the communities to learn more about the issues ▪ Members of the group met to discuss draft by-laws to govern the association and convenient date for election of officers.

		<p>children in mining communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Poor health of community members. ▪ Pollution of Rivers Agonabeng and Ahumabru ▪ Implementation of community Development Plan. 	<p>water from wells, limited access to agricultural lands, lack of employment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Planning meetings on campaigns and court actions against AAIL. ▪ Community members still find it very difficult to get access to agricultural lands for farming ▪ Inauguration of WACAM community groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In 2005, there were seven sittings in the court case against AngloGold Ashanti Iduapriem Mine over demolition of community structures in 1997. there had been about sixty sittings so far from 1997 to the end of 2005
<p>Atuabo / Akontanse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affected by Goldfields Ghana Limited ▪ Affected by Ghana Manganese Company Limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Atuabo /Akontanse ▪ Effuanta, ▪ Booboo, ▪ Ayinase ▪ Bonsa, ▪ Nsuta ▪ Tarkwa Bansa ▪ Domeabra 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unemployment ▪ Alternative livelihood ▪ Blasting ▪ noise pollution ▪ pollution of Bonsa River with Manganese waste ▪ Cracking of community buildings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Formation of WACAM groups. ▪ Meeting with Management of GGL to discuss socio-economic issues in New Atuabo/Akontanse. ▪ The opinion leaders made a report to the management of Ghana Manganese Company 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the officer operating in the zone formed WACAM groups in almost all the communities in the zone. ▪ Series of meetings between Atuabo WACAM group and the Public Relations Department of Goldfields Ghana Limited to find solutions to socio-economic and environmental problems in the community. ▪ Management promised to take the necessary precautions to negate the unfortunate situation but the situation persists.
<p>Damang Zone Affected by Goldfields Ghana Limited</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Atwereboana ▪ Achiase, ▪ Pieso. ▪ Nyamebekyere, Mile 4, ▪ Old Kyekyewere, ▪ Koduakrom, ▪ Bompieso ▪ Amoanda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Intention to mine in the Bonsa Forest Reserve ▪ Ejection of Mile 4 (Nyamebekyere inhabitants) ▪ Lack of employment. ▪ Compensation issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abosso Goldfields Limited issued an ejection notice to the Chief and people of Nyamebekyere effective October 2004. The reason for the ejection was that, the occupation of the land by the inhabitants was illegal. ▪ Community members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Exploration activities being carried out in the Bonsa Forest Reserve to pave way for extraction of gold by an unidentified mining company eased during the last quarter of 2004. This was after farmers had vehemently, resisted the take over of their cocoa farms. They dwelt on the hardships some dislocated farmers in the Wassa West District faced and the

			<p>refused employment by the management of Abosso Goldfields Limited. Authorities say they prefer artisanal to unskilled labours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The children in the Kyekyewere community now have to walk many miles to Damang to attend school. 	<p>income from cocoa farms give them at the end of each production season to arrive at that decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inhabitants of Old Kyekyewere were still waiting for CHRAJ reports on the alleged unpaid farm compensation by Abosso Goldfields limited. ▪ The drudgery of children walking long distances to and from school is gradually killing their interest in education.
<p>Abekoase Zone Affected by Goldfields Ghana Limited</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ntebe, ▪ Samahu, ▪ Abekoase, ▪ Huniso ▪ Pepesa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alternative Livelihood projects. ▪ Construction of Development Projects. ▪ Formation of WACAM groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group formation ▪ Meetings with GGL on plans for alternative livelihood. ▪ Inauguration of many of the projects for communities which was from their negotiations with GGL ▪ Community media encounter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inauguration of WACAM groups in almost all the communities ▪ Training from WACAM helped develop the confidence of community people who had meetings with GGL on the Alternative Livelihood Projects for communities and other social projects ▪ Leaders of a suburb in Abekoase zone by name “43” went on air at Space F.M. on the first week of the month of July 2005, to register their protest against Goldfields Ghana Limited on the negative impact of its mining activities on their lives and livelihoods.

OBUASI ZONE				
<p>Obuasi is affected by activities of AngloGold Ashanti Obuasi Mine. The area has three operational areas which are</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dokyiwa ▪ Amamom ▪ Hia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dokyiwa ▪ Ntonsoa ▪ Binsere ▪ Ohiampeanika ▪ Sansu ▪ Twiwaaso ▪ Gyimiso ▪ Adaase ▪ Adjeikrom, ▪ Akatekyiaso ▪ Amamom ▪ Ankaako ▪ Anyankyirem, ▪ Attakrom ▪ Badukrom ▪ Ewiasse ▪ Hia ▪ Kronko ▪ Mankonoahogro 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Group formation ▪ Meetings of group ▪ workshops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WACAM already has a group in the communities that meet in Obuasi once every month. ▪ In mid-August, members, at a workshop signed a resolution breaking off the dialogue process with AGA for the mining company's intransigence over issues repeatedly raised at previous meetings. ▪ In early December, members attended a three-day workshop on using the Rights-based approach to build the capacity of mining communities. About 45 participants attended the workshop. ▪ Participants were informed that AngloGold Ashanti had expressed the desire to re-open the dialogue process. ▪ In December, selected members attended a Needs Assessment workshop at Tarkwa. Participants were also taken through organisational skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The attendance to meetings of the group was fluctuating but picked up towards the last quarter of the year ▪ The outcome of that widely circulated resolution was the invitation extended to Assembly members from mining communities to meet the Municipal Chief Executive who had started showing interest in community issues. ▪ Members requested WACAM to lead the dialogue process with AngloGold Ashanti, WACAM asked the communities representatives to consult their constituents on the resumption of the dialogue meetings. ▪ This issue has reinvigorated the organisation and strengthened members' resolve to continue with the struggle ▪ The workshop equipped participants with the skills to identify issues of livelihood and how to safeguard them for the community.

KENYASI ZONE				
Kenyasi Affected by operations of Newmont Ghana Gold Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kenyasi No. 1 ▪ Kenyasi No. 2 ▪ Obengkrom ▪ Donkokrom ▪ Bogyampa ▪ Ntotroso 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low/non payment of compensations ▪ Mine take area and extension of Moratorium ▪ Pollution of water bodies by NGGL with faecal matter ▪ Reduced rooms for resettled communities ▪ Loss of livelihood and non employment of community people ▪ Distortions of cultural values with influx of people into communities due to mining activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community mobilisation and group formation ▪ Preparatory work towards comments on EIA presented by NGGL ▪ Meeting of WACAM, CEPIL and NGGL organised by Regional Security Council to resolve conflicts of Community people and Newmont ▪ WACAM, District Administration and NGGL joint visit to mine take area to verify community claim of Newmont taking over their land by extending Moratorium to avoid payment of compensation ▪ Meeting of WACAM local and other NGOs with USAID on the operations of NGGL and its EIA ▪ Meeting of WACAM local with NGGL consultant on what Newmont perceive as development ▪ Press conference in Accra on pollution of river Asuopre by NGGL with faecal matter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Six communities in the area have been mobilised. Some members from these communities are participating in WACAM's sensitisation programmes. ▪ The mobilised communities took part in writing comments on the EIA that Newmont prepared for its operations. More than 1200 people from these communities signed on to the document ▪ WACAM is yet to receive a report from the District Administration and the Regional Security Council who mediated in the conflict of the communities and the inspection of site of the mine take areas ▪ WACAM with support from the press documented and exposed the disposal of faecal matter into river Asuopre by NGGL.

AKYEM AREA				
New Abriem Affected by activities of Newmont Gold Ghana Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ New Abriem 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low/non payment of compensation ▪ Shooting and killing of some community people who were stopping Newmont from entering their farms without discussing and paying compensation for crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Some members of WACAM Executive Council visited communities in the Akyem area where Newmont has intensions of mining. ▪ Four community members participated in two workshops organised by WACAM in Tema and Tarkwa ▪ WACAM organised a press release on the shooting and killing incident. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The communities had been benefiting from sensitisation programmes of WACAM. They are targeted for intensive sensitisation in future work of WACAM

OTHER AREAS VISITED				
Nsadweso Area Affected by operations of Wexford Ghana Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nsadweso ▪ Kubekro 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discrepancies in compensation payments and land degradation ▪ Low compensation without proper consultation with farmers ▪ Cyanide pollution by Wexford Gold Fields. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Three visits to the community to meet and educate the people on compensation and the need to work together as a group to defend their rights. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The company had a settlement with the community people
Amoanda East Operational Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Affected by operations of Goldfields Ghana Limited Abosso Mine 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community source of drinking water contaminated by faecal materials and pollutants from the active operational zone of AAIL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Had two meetings with the community people and the company staff to resolve the water pollution problem. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The company agreed to construct potable water source for the communities. Community members have since been attending meeting of WACAM for further sensitisation