



EAST GONJA

Feed the Future Ghana District Profile Series - February 2017 - Issue 1

DISTRICT PROFILE CONTENT

- 1. Cover Page
- 2. USAID Project Data
- 3-5. Agricultural Data
- 6. Health, Nutrition and Sanitation
- 7. USAID Presence
- 8. Demographic and Weather Data
- 9. Discussion Questions

East Gonja is a district in Ghana's Northern Region. It shares boundaries with the Mion District and Tamale Metropolitan Assembly to the North, Central Gonja District to the West, Nanumba-North, Nanumba-South and Kpandai Districts to the East, and the Brong-Ahafo Region to the South. The total surface area of the District is 8,340.1 square kilometers. The district has a total population of 152,503 inhabitants, out of which 74,004 are females and 78,499 males with an average household size of 5.9 persons. The boxes below contain relevant economic indicators such as per capita expenditure and poverty prevalence for a better understanding of its development.

Poverty Prevalence 16.7 %

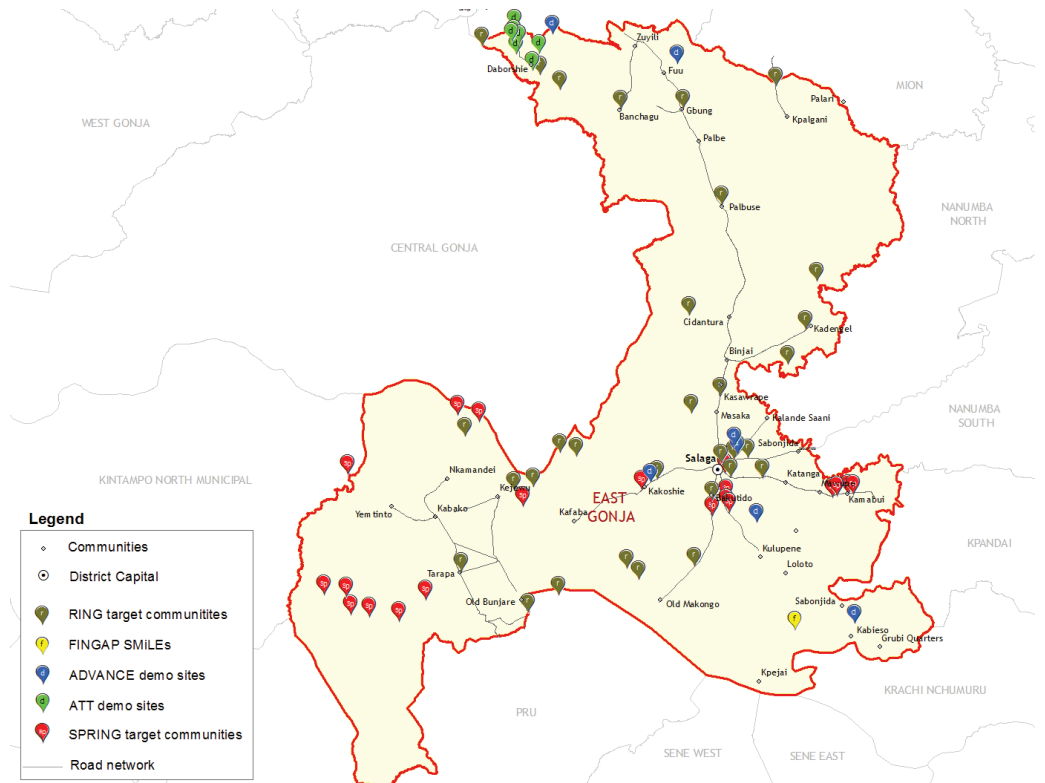
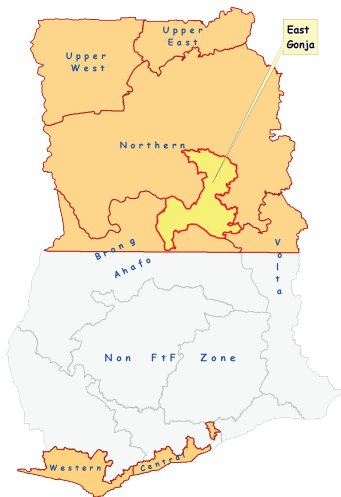
Daily per capita expenditure 4.21 USD

Households with moderate or severe hunger 19%

Household Size 5.9 members

Poverty Depth 7 %

Total Population of the Poor 25,468



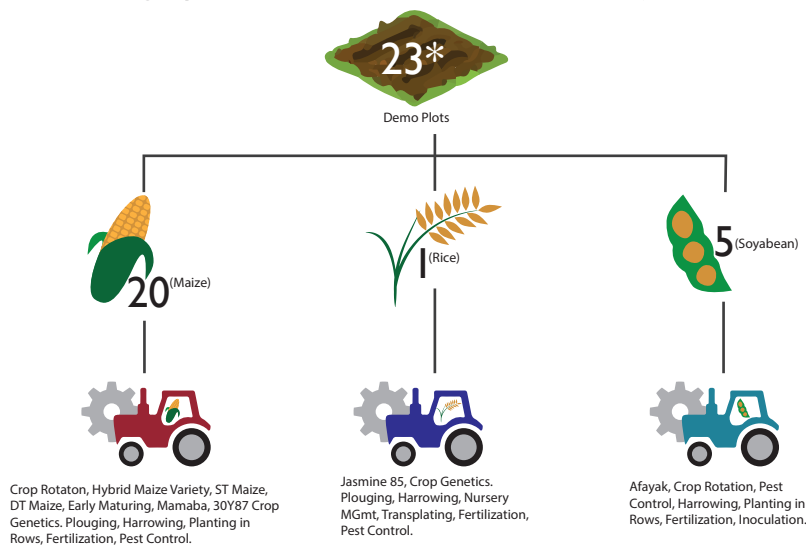
This section contains data and information related to USAID sponsored interventions in East Gonja

Table 1: USAID Projects Info, East Gonja, 2014-2015

Beneficiaries Data	2014	2015	2016
Direct Beneficiaries	1322	1,794	2,968
Male	740	1146	1316
Female	582	648	1652
Undefined	0	0	0
Nucleus Farmers	2	2	n/a
Male	2	2	
Female	-	-	
Undefined			
Demoplots	13	10	n/a
Male		6	
Female		1	
Undefined	13	3	n/a
Production			
Maize Gross Margin USD/ha	n/a	n/a	n/a
Maize Yield MT/ha	n/a	n/a	n/a
Investment and Impact			
Ag. Rural loans	0	93,180	26,608
Projects Presence		4	
Beneficiaries Score	2	2	2
Presence Score			1.7
District Flag			Light Green

Source: USAID Project Reporting, 2014-2016

Infographic 1: Demo Plots in East Gonja, 2014-2015



Source: USAID Project Reporting, 2014, 2015

* Please note that the number of demoplots is smaller than the sum of separate plots by crop because crop rotation has been exercised in the same demo, ** "Direct Beneficiary, an individual who comes in direct contact with a set of interventions" FTF Handbook, 2016, *** and **** Presence and Flag Ranges are explained in page 7

The number of direct USAID beneficiaries** doubled in East Gonja from 1,322 in 2014 to 2,968 in 2016. No nucleus farmer is currently operating in the district and 23 demonstration plots have been established to support beneficiary training. See Infographic 1 for the demonstration plot disaggregate. The value of agricultural loans is shown in Table 1. However, direct beneficiaries yields and gross margins for the district are unavailable. The presence of USAID development work is almost average, with a decent number of beneficiaries, demo plots and some loans present in 2015. This resulted in a USAID presence score*** of (1.7 out of 4). The district is, however, flagged **Light Green****** indicating that while the project presence or intervention is satisfactory, one of the impact indicator values has stagnated while the other has improved. Find more details on USAID Presence vs. Impact scoring on page 7.

The presence calculation includes the number of direct beneficiaries and Agricultural Rural loans.

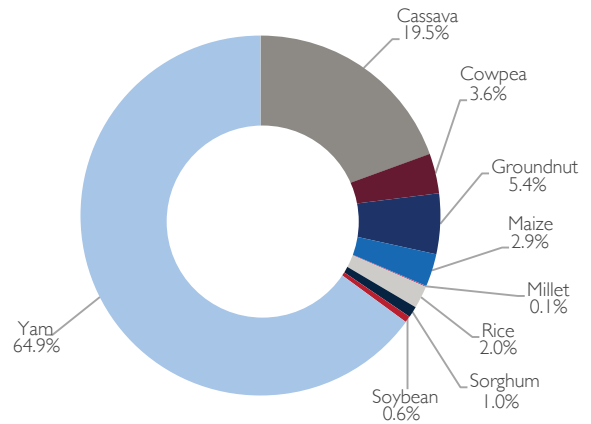
This section contains agricultural data for East Gonja, such as production by commodity, gross margins and yields.

Agricultural production in East Gonja is largely focused on the cultivation of yam, which is a major staple food. It constitutes 64.9 percent of overall crop production followed by cassava, which accounts for 19.5 percent. Other commodities produced include groundnuts, maize, cowpea and rice. See Figure 1.

Yield data, presented in Figure 2, contain values of yields of mostly grown commodities in 2015. Apart from yam and cassava with yields within the range of 13-15 MT/ha, the other commodities yields range between 1.3 - 2.4 MT/ha in 2015. These are low values especially for rice and maize, when compared with average yields reached by supported beneficiaries in other districts. Nevertheless the maize yields at the district average level have drastically increased as compared to the yields quoted by the Agriculture Production Survey in 2013 (1.68 MT/ha in 2015 vs 0.62 MT/ha in 2013).

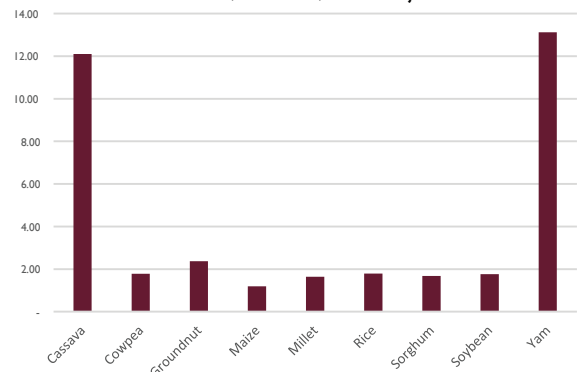
Figure 3 below shows that the majority of household income in East Gonja rely on the agricultural sector. A large majority rely on sales of crop produce (74.6%) followed by petty trading (15.7%).

Figure 1: Share of Agricultural Production by Commodity in East Gonja, during 2010 - 2015, in %



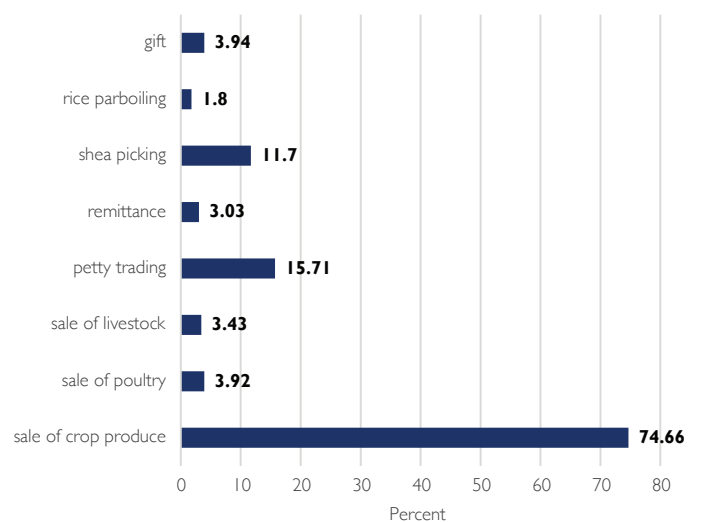
Source: Agriculture Production Reports 2010- 2015, MOFA

Figure 2: Yields of agriculture commodities, 2015, in MT/ha, East Gonja



Source: Agriculture Production Reports 2011- 2015, MOFA

Figure 3: Income Source in East Gonja, in %, 2015



Source: Ring & Spring Survey, 2015 USAID METSS Project

This section contains agricultural data for East Gonja including production by commodity (MT/ha), yields (MT/ha) and average land size.

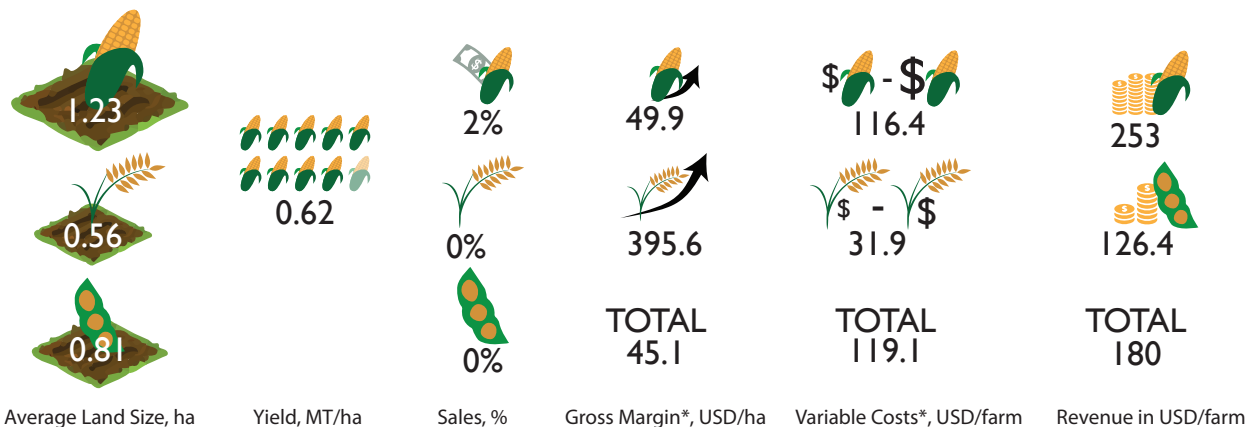
Table 2: Agricultural Production and Yields by commodity in MT and MT/ha, 2010-2015, East Gonja

Production in MT							
Commodity	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	Total
Cassava	48,041	45,425	56,170	52,932	94,250	83,979	380,797
Cowpea	9,917	9,626	11,260	13,073	14,008	12,199	70,083
Groundnut	15,559	15,598	16,817	18,226	19,680	20,253	106,133
Maize	5,791	5,411	6,743	12,934	12,844	13,965	57,689
Millet	13	12	13	14	16	1,547	1,615
Rice	4,874	4,519	5,493	5,171	9,521	9,775	39,352
Sorghum	2,122	2,405	2,421	3,360	4,914	4,368	19,589
Soybean	1,375	1,311	1,634	1,810	2,894	2,016	11,040
Yam	188,661	183,076	227,132	183,374	259,960	229,099	1,271,303
Yields in MT/Ha							
Commodity	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	Total
Cassava	12.80	12.10	13.71	13.20	14.50	13.02	
Cowpea	1.83	1.78	1.98	2.10	2.06	1.84	
Groundnut	2.35	2.37	2.45	2.60	2.40	2.58	
Maize	1.68	1.19	1.45	1.62	1.52	1.90	
Millet	1.69	1.64	1.79	1.80	1.63	1.70	
Rice	1.89	1.79	2.12	2.21	2.10	2.30	
Sorghum	1.47	1.68	1.96	2.40	2.34	2.10	
Soybean	1.85	1.76	1.98	2.00	2.12	1.92	
Yam	13.48	13.12	15.70	12.90	13.40	12.65	

Source: Agriculture Production Reports 2011-2015, MOFA

Table 2 above provides detailed information on specific commodities in respect of overall annual production in East Gonja as well as average yields for the years 2011-2015. The infographic below shows a summary of agricultural statistics for East Gonja, as captured in the Agriculture Production Survey, 2013. The first column of information indicates the relatively smaller farm size by commodity with average farm plots of 1.23, 0.56 and 0.81 ha respectively for maize, rice, and soybean. Other agricultural data associated with East Gonja including variable costs per hectare and commodity, as well as farm revenue are also displayed below in infographic 2.

Infographic 2: Average Land size, Yields, Sales and other Farm indicators in East Gonja, 2013



Source: Agriculture Production Survey, Kansas State University, 2013 *Gross margin, variable cost and farm revenue captured from the APS in infographic 2 have been converted to USD using 2012 exchange rates (1.88 GHC to \$1 USD) to align with the 'farmer recall' survey methodology deployed.

All data and information including full citations can be accessed at www.ghanalinks.org

What is the Women Empowerment in Agriculture Index?

Women play a prominent role in agriculture. Yet they face persistent economic and social constraints. Women’s empowerment is a main focus of Feed the Future in order to achieve its objectives of inclusive agriculture sector growth and improved nutritional status. The WEAI is comprised of two weighted sub-indexes: Domains Empowerment Index (5DE) and Gender Parity Index (GPI). The 5DE examines the five domains of empowerment: production, resources, income, leadership and time. The GPI compares the empowerment of women to the empowerment of their male counterpart in the household. This section presents the results from these empowerment indicators of the 5DE for East Gonja, part of a bigger survey conducted by Kansas State University.

The Domains: What Do They Represent?

The Production domain assesses the ability of individuals to provide input and autonomously make decisions about agricultural production. The Resources domain reflects individuals’ control over and access to productive resources. The Income domain monitors individuals’ ability to direct the financial resources derived from agricultural production or other sources. The Leadership domain reflects individuals’ social capital and comfort speaking in public within their community. The Time domain reflects individuals’ workload and satisfaction with leisure time.

East Gonja Results

Both male and female respondents results on the four domains are displayed in Figure 4.

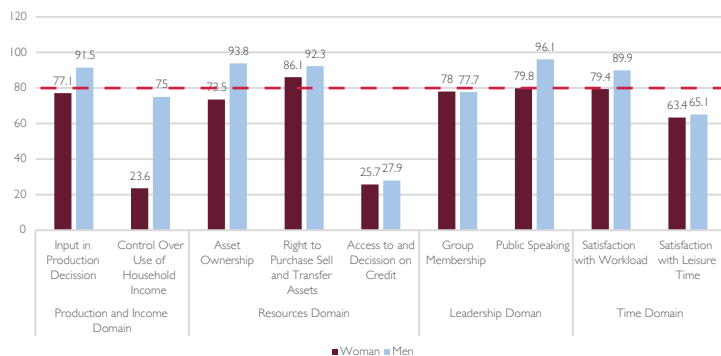
Production Domain: women feel comfortable with providing input related to production decisions as confirmed by 77.1% of the women of the survey sample. However, they have much less control over use of household income than men- 23.6% of women vs 75% of male respondents. This is the second lowest value in the Northern Region.

Resource Domain: a majority of the women have right to asset ownership and to purchase and move assets- 73.5% and 86.1% respectively. These figures are slightly lower than the figures for male respondents. Only 25.7% of the women have the right to decide or the access to credit, compared to 27.9% of the male respondents. Access to credit is almost equally low for both genders.

Leadership Domain: 78% and 79.8% of the women interviewed have scored adequacy in the right to group membership and public speaking respectively. In East Gonja, group membership attendance is higher among women than men.

Time Domain: The majority of women and men in East Gonja are satisfied with the workload in their everyday life- 79.4% and 89.9% respectively. The values drop slightly with respect to satisfaction with leisure time; a modest majority, only 63.4% and 65.1% are satisfied with the amount of leisure time at their disposal.

Figure 4: Results on Domains of Empowerment, WEAI, East Gonja, in %, 2015



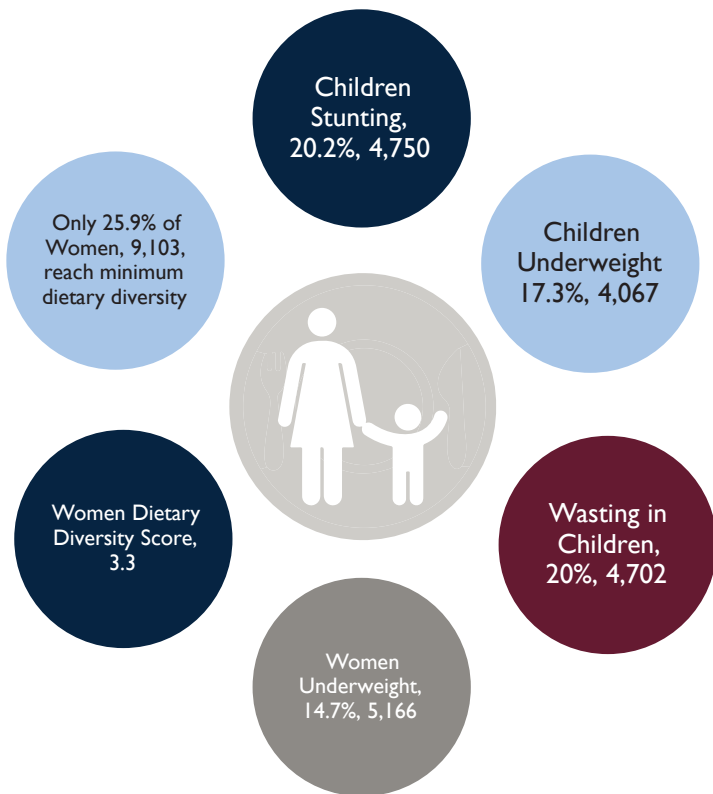
Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University

{ Adequacy & Differences }

Highest differences between male and female respondents observed with production domain: the control over use of household income and in the resources domain: the right to asset ownership.

This section contains facts and figures related to Health, Nutrition and Sanitation in East Gonja

Infograph 3: Health and Nutrition Figures, East Gonja, 2015



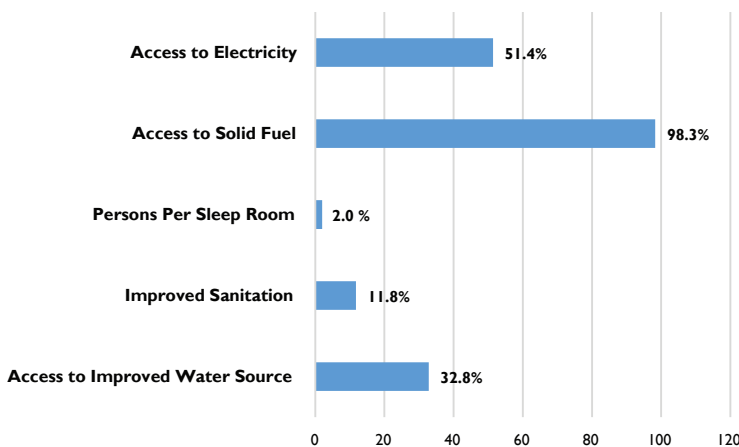
Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University, 2015

Infograph 3 focuses on the health and nutrition of women and children in the district. Percentages and absolute numbers are revealed in the respective circles for stunting, wasting, children and women underweight as well as Women Dietary Diversity: The WDDS is based on nine food groups. A woman's score is based on the sum of different food groups consumed in the 24 hours prior to the interview. Women Minimum Dietary Diversity (MDD-W) represents the proportion of women consuming a minimum of five food groups out of the possible ten food groups based on their dietary intake.

The dietary diversity score of women in East Gonja is 3.3, which means that women consume on average 3 to 4 types of foods out of 10. A low percentage of women (only 25.9%) reach the minimum dietary diversity of 5 food groups. East Gonja has the lowest percentage of stunting in children among all the districts in the Northern Region, according to PBS Survey, 2015.

Figure 5 displays specifics of household dwelling, evaluated based on sources of water, energy, waste disposal, cooking fuel source, and the number of people per sleep room as measured from the PBS Survey, 2015. East Gonja accounts for low levels of improved sanitation as well as access to improved water source.

Figure 5: Household Dwelling Characteristics, East Gonja, 2015



Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University, 2015,

This section provides an analysis of USAID presence vis-a-vis impact indicators in East Gonja

Presence vs. Impact reveals in more details the presence of the Feed the Future Implementing Partners in the field, in combination with impact indicators measured by the Population Based Survey in 2012 and 2015: per capita expenditure & prevalence of poverty. This combination aims to show relevance of the presence of key indicators measuring progress/regress in the area. The following graphs are a print screen of the Presence vs. Impact Dashboard focusing on East Gonja. Both key impact indicators, 'prevalence of poverty' and 'per capita expenditure', have increased. See Figure 6 and 8.

In 2015 poverty increased at a minimal value of only 5% percentage points to 16.7% compared to 2012. In addition, 2015 per capita expenditure increased by 11.1 percent to 4.21 USD. The change in poverty is almost insignificant followed by a slightly higher change in expenditure. This is accompanied by a satisfactory USAID presence score of 1.7 out of 4. Therefore the district is flagged Light GREEN (good presence and one improving impact indicator and one stagnating). Poverty has stagnated while per capita expenditure have improved, even so slightly. Therefore the development of the district should be carefully observed the following period to see which side the pendulum will swing: progress or regress. Enhanced intervention and customized intervention can contribute to the movement in the right direction and bring progress to the area.

USAID District Presence Score

- 0** NO USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 0.1 - 1** LOW USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 1.1 - 1.9** BELOW AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 2** AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 2.1 - 3** ABOVE AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE
- 3.1 - 4** HIGH USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE

USAID District Presence Vs. Impact Flag

- BELOW AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND CONTRADICTIONING IMPACT INDICATORS
- ABOVE AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND CONTRADICTIONING IMPACT INDICATORS
- BELOW AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND REGRESSING IMPACT INDICATORS
- ABOVE AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND IMPROVING IMPACT INDICATORS
- BELOW AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND IMPROVING IMPACT INDICATORS
- ABOVE AVERAGE USAID DISTRICT PRESENCE AND REGRESSING IMPACT INDICATORS

Figure 6: Poverty in % and Poverty Change in percentage points, 2012,2015, East Gonja

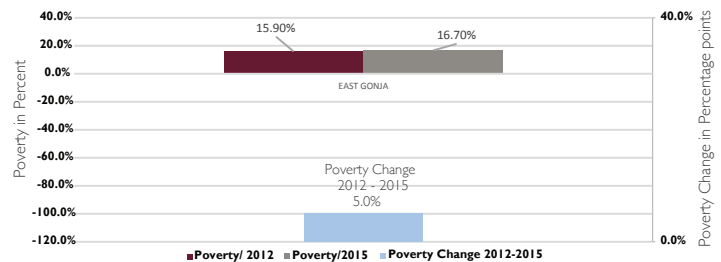


Figure 7: Population of Poor, Non-Poor East Gonja, 2015

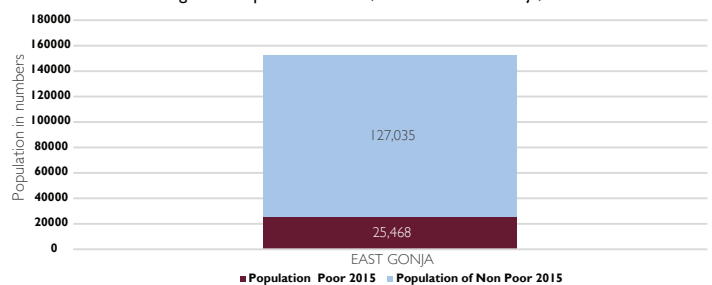
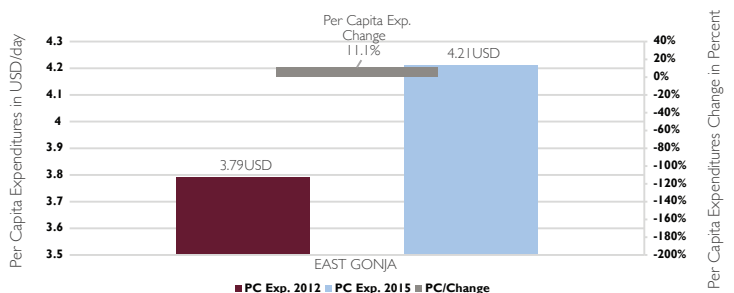


Figure 8: Per Capita Expenditure in 2012 and 2015, in USD/day; Per Capita Expenditure Change in percent, East Gonja

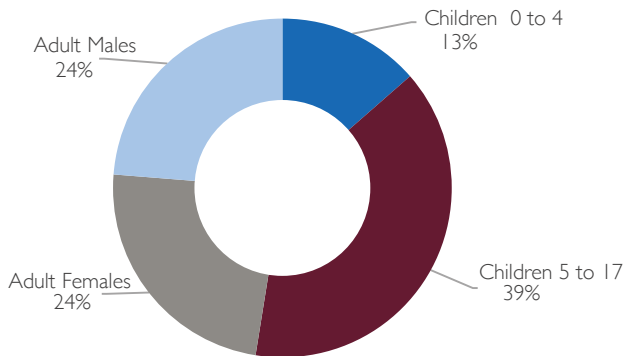


Source: Figure 8,9,10, Population based Survey, 2012,2015, Kansas State University, METSS, USAID Project Reporting 2014,2015

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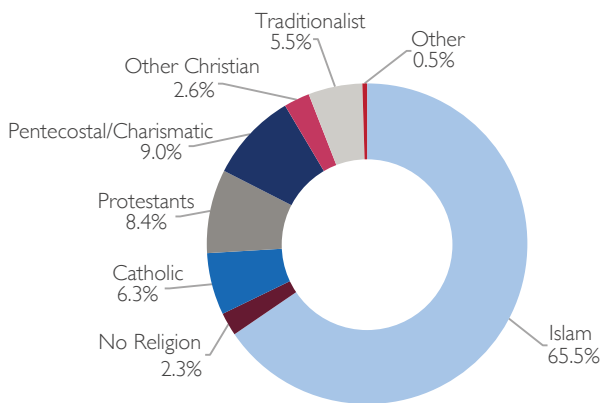
This section contains facts and figures related to East Gonja demographics, religious affiliation, literacy and weather indicators

Figure 9: Household Composition by Group Age, in East Gonja, 2015



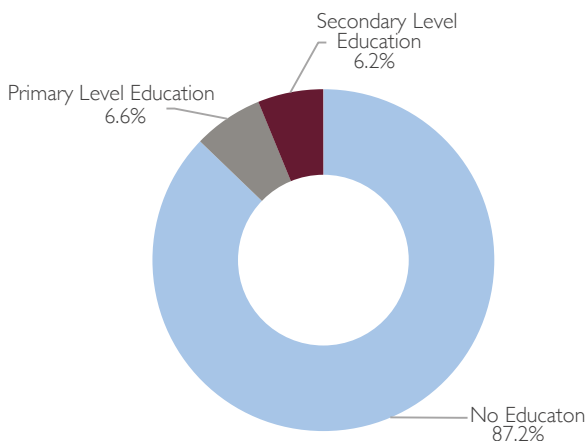
Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University

Figure 10: Religious Composition in East Gonja, 2010



Source: East Gonja Analytical Report, GSS, 2014

Figure 11: Adult Education Attainment in East Gonja, 2015



Source: PBS 2015, Kansas State University

East Gonja has a total population of 152,503 inhabitants, out of which 74,004 are females and 78,499 males. The District has an average household size of 5.9 persons. The total surface area of the district is 8,340.1 square kilometers.

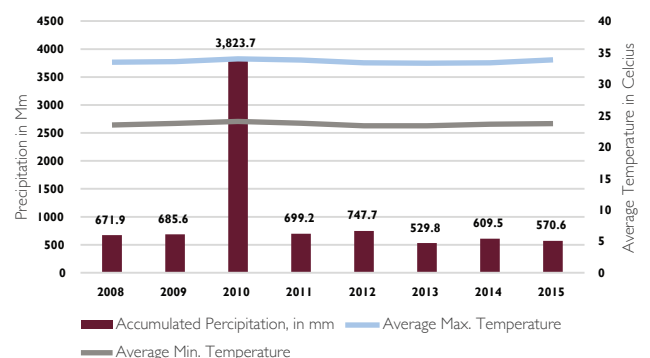
The District lies in the tropical continental climacteric zone. Average precipitation and temperature are similar to the other districts in the Northern Region. Figure 12 shows the average maximal and minimal temperatures as well as yearly average precipitation. The high values observed in 2010 were due to significant rainfall and floods in the area.

East Gonja, like many other districts in the Northern Region has a relatively young population as shown in Figure 9, with more than 50% of the population falling in the age range: 0 to 17 years old.

In terms of religious affiliation, the majority of the population are Muslims (65.5%) followed by Christians, who account for 26.3% of the population. The few remaining are either traditionalists or have no religious affiliation. For more details refer to figure 10.

The district accounts for a low adult literacy rate with 87.2% of them having received no education. Only 6.6% went through primary school and only 6.2% made it further to secondary school.

Figure 12: Yearly Accumulated Precipitation in mm and Average Max and Min. Temperature in Celcius, 2008 - 2015



Source: awhere Weather Platform, AWhere, 2016

This section contains discussion questions and potential research topics as a result of the data and analysis presented on East Gonja

QUESTION 1

Why has poverty stagnated in East Gonja while per capita expenditure has improved? Can these low values of change be taken into account as they are?

QUESTION 2

What other agricultural or nutrition focused development partner or GoG interventions have previously been implemented, are ongoing, and/or are in the pipeline that may impact East Gonja development?

QUESTION 3

Given East Gonja's agricultural production, health and sanitation figures, as well as results from the presence vs impact matrix, where should USAID development work focus on, in the next two years? What future development assistance would be helpful for East Gonja?

QUESTION 4

Why are the quantities of rice, maize and soybean produced in East Gonja so low compared to cassava and yam? Is there a link to nutrition patterns or production related challenges?

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