

CENTER FOR SOCIAL IMPACT STUDIES (CeSIS)

**COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES WITH MINING –INDUCED COMPENSATION AND
RESETTLEMENT IN THE ADANSI DISTRICTS OF GHANA**

BY

ROBERT TANTI ALI

WORLD RESOURCES FORUM (2023)

6TH SEPTEMBER, 2023



Background

- Multinational gold mining companies who operate in mineral-rich developing countries continue to profit from their activities while the nexus amongst company profits, socio-economic and environmental outcomes in the local communities within which they operate are weak.
- Community inhabitants lose lands, cultural sites, cultural identity, income-earning assets and sources, networks and social ties due to resettlement.
- Additionally, community inhabitants face several challenges which includes resettlement problems, environmental degradation and human rights abuses

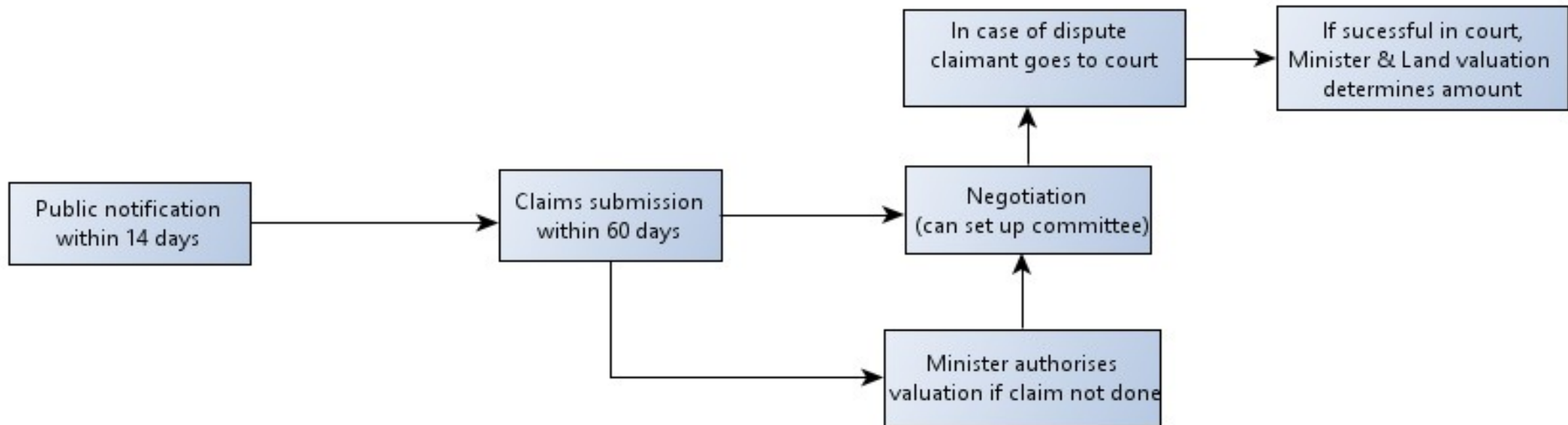
Background

- Communities are shortchanged because they have no or little capacity to negotiate with multinational companies.
- To deal with some of these issues, the 1992 constitution and the Minerals and Mining Act, 2006 (Act 703) the Minerals and Mining (Compensation and Resettlement) Regulations, 2012 (LI 2175) have been promulgated to address issues of fair, adequate and timely payment of compensation claims and resettlement related issues.
- Despite this regulation, the current legal and regulatory regime fails to compensate lands and for the use of common resources in communities.

Objectives

This study sought to find out the dynamics at play at the community level in processes leading up to, during and after negotiations around resettlement and compensation, including identification of the actors, their roles and their power to influence the process.

Summary of valuation, compensation, and grievances processes



Method

- Three separate communities in the Adansi traditional area of the Ashanti Region were purposively selected based on study objectives. These communities are New Bediem, Dokyiwa, and Anwiam.
- The study used a mixed method approach. This comprises four key approaches
- Desk review, Focus Group Discussion (FGD)
- Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) , Survey.
- The desk review begun in June 2022
- FGDs, KIIs and the survey were conducted in July 2022

Findings

- The Land Act, 2020 (Act 1036), the 1992 Constitution of Ghana, the Mineral and Mining Policy of Ghana, the Minerals and Mining Act 2006 (Act 703), and the Minerals and Mining (Compensation and Resettlement) Regulations, 2012 (L.I. 2175) are the key State legal and regulatory frameworks that guide practice on resettlement and compensation for mining-affected communities.
- The Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Resettlement Monitoring Committee, traditional authorities, district assembly, and mining company have the most power and interest to influence negotiations on resettlement and compensation processes whilst community members, assembly members, and the Minerals Commission have less power to influence negotiations on resettlement and compensation processes, even though they have the most interest.

Findings

- Most residents of the impacted mining communities are unaware of the applicable laws governing resettlement and compensation, and those who are aware of the laws have little or no understanding of the legal frameworks.
- Majority of people in the study communities have not made any efforts to obtain adequate compensation and resettlement; the few who took action have not gone beyond protests and grievance reporting meetings
- There were indications of nifty and unfulfilled promises, involuntary displacements and little or no resettlement support systems to persons and families

Conclusion

The findings of this study provide more evidence to support recent reports regarding the critical need for large-scale mining companies and sub-national and national governments to give attention to ensuring that the gaps in compensation and resettlement processes of mining companies and national legislation are closed as laws are implemented to the letter, while at the same time minimising the social costs linked to the resettlement of communities.

Bibliography

- ActionAid Ghana. 2006. *Gold rush: the impact of mining on poor people in Obuasi in Ghana*. Accra: ActionAid Ghana.
- Adonteng-Kissi, Obed. 2017. “Poverty and Mine’s Compensation Package: Experiences of Local Farmers in Prestea Mining Community”, *Resource Policy* 52: 226-234.
- AngloGold Ashanti. 2008. *Report to the Plenary Session of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights*. Available at https://thevault.exchange/?get_group_doc=143/1502888750-VoluntaryPrinciplesPlenaryReport2007.pdf
- AngloGold Ashanti. 2011. *Communities’ Supplementary Information*. Available at <https://www.aga-reports.com/11/sustainability-report/supplementary-information/communities>