



**Dealing with social and economic  
inequalities in mining communities.**

**The Case of Northern Ghana**

**By**

**Chrys Anab (PhD)**

**Mob: +233-244821024**

**Email: [chrysogonus124@yahoo.com](mailto:chrysogonus124@yahoo.com)**

**TAMA Foundation**



# Outline

- Brief Profile of TAMA Foundation
- Northern Ghana Context
- State of Mining in NG
- Community Voices on Mining
- TAMA Foundation

# Northern Ghana and Inequality



# Brief Profile of TAMA Foundation



- TAMA Foundation is acronym for Transformation of Marginalised Areas.
- The TAMA Foundation is a relatively young, but respected and formally registered NGO in Ghana.
- A creation of a group of accomplished professionals as a non-partisan and respected vehicle for tackle drivers of inequalities locally, nationally and globally.
- Thematic focus include: Natural Resource Governance and Climate Change, Conflict and Peace building and LED.
- Partnership with Ford Foundation, University for Development Studies (FNRE), Minerals Commission, National Peace Council, Houses of Chiefs, NADMO, STAR Ghana Foundation, Songtaba, Widows and Orphans Movement, CEPIL, ISODEC, CSOs in Extractive Sector in Ghana.

# Northern Ghana and Inequality



- NG comprises of 5 geographic regions ( NR, UE,UW, NE & SR).
- Pop of 5.8m(51% female) of 30.8m in Ghana (GSS,2021).
- Occupies 54% of land size of Ghana.
- Northern Ghana's economy is predominantly agrarian, nearly 80% (mainly rain fed family farms).
- NG easily feed up to 50 million people and beyond, contribute significantly to substituting for the US\$2billion annual food imports (USAID, 2014).
- 0.5% of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) goes there (UNDP,2018).

# Northern Ghana and Inequality



- One of the mineral rich zones in Ghana ( both precious and industrial minerals)
  - Gold, manganese, diamond, iron ore, limestone, and clay. A large part of the
  - Voltain Basin lies within Northern Ghana and this presents the best prospects for onshore oil and gas production in Ghana.

# Northern Ghana and Inequality



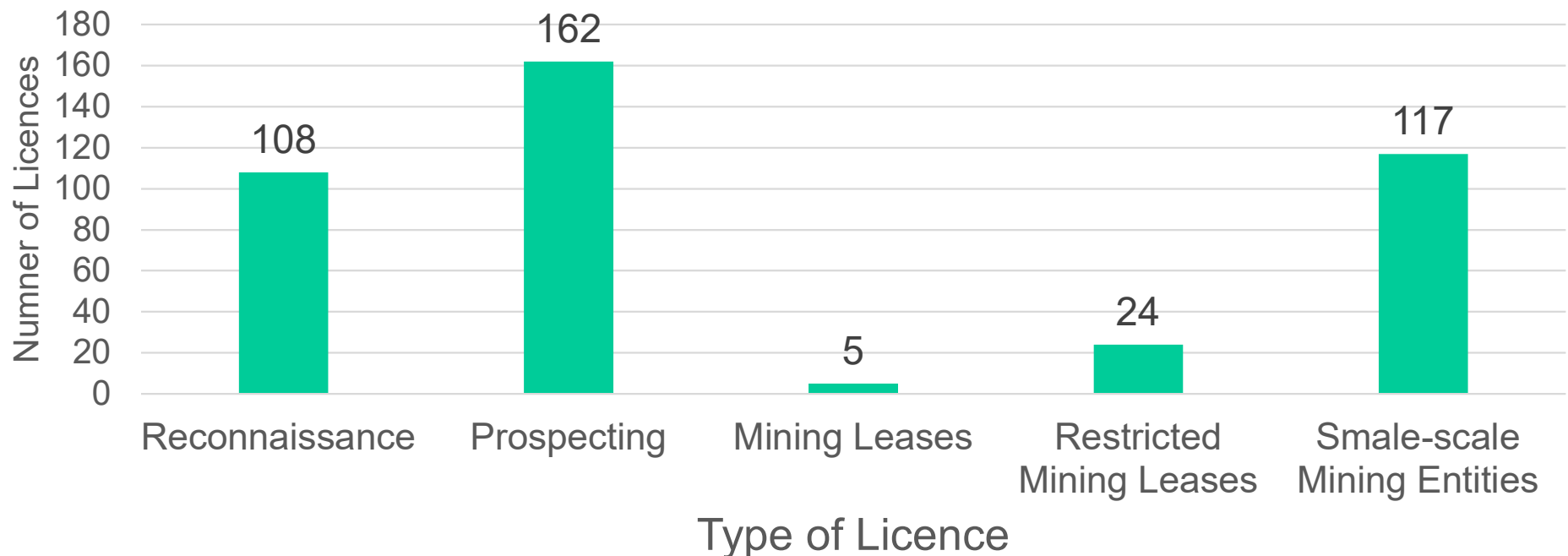
S/N	Mineral	Mineralization Belt
1	Gold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Bole-Nangodi</li> <li>✓ Wa-Lawra</li> <li>✓ Nadowli-Kaleo-Jirapa</li> <li>✓ Bawku West, Talensi, Bolgatanga</li> </ul>
2	Limestone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Buipe</li> <li>✓ Banga-Da</li> <li>✓ Daboya</li> </ul>
3	Iron Ore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Zabzugu and Tatale (Sheini hills)</li> <li>✓ Pudo</li> </ul>
4	Manganese	Mole National Park
5	Granite	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Talensi</li> <li>✓ Pwalugu</li> </ul>
6	Clay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Builsa North</li> <li>✓ Builsa South</li> <li>✓ Jirapa</li> <li>✓ Lambussie</li> <li>✓ Kami</li> </ul>

# State of Mining in Northern Ghana



- Since 1997 mining activities has increased in NG.
- Both legal ( Large scale and Small-scale mining ) and illegal ( galamsey) taking place.

State of Mining Licenses in Northern Ghana



Source: Minerals Commission, 2021



# Companies with Mining Leases in Northern Ghana



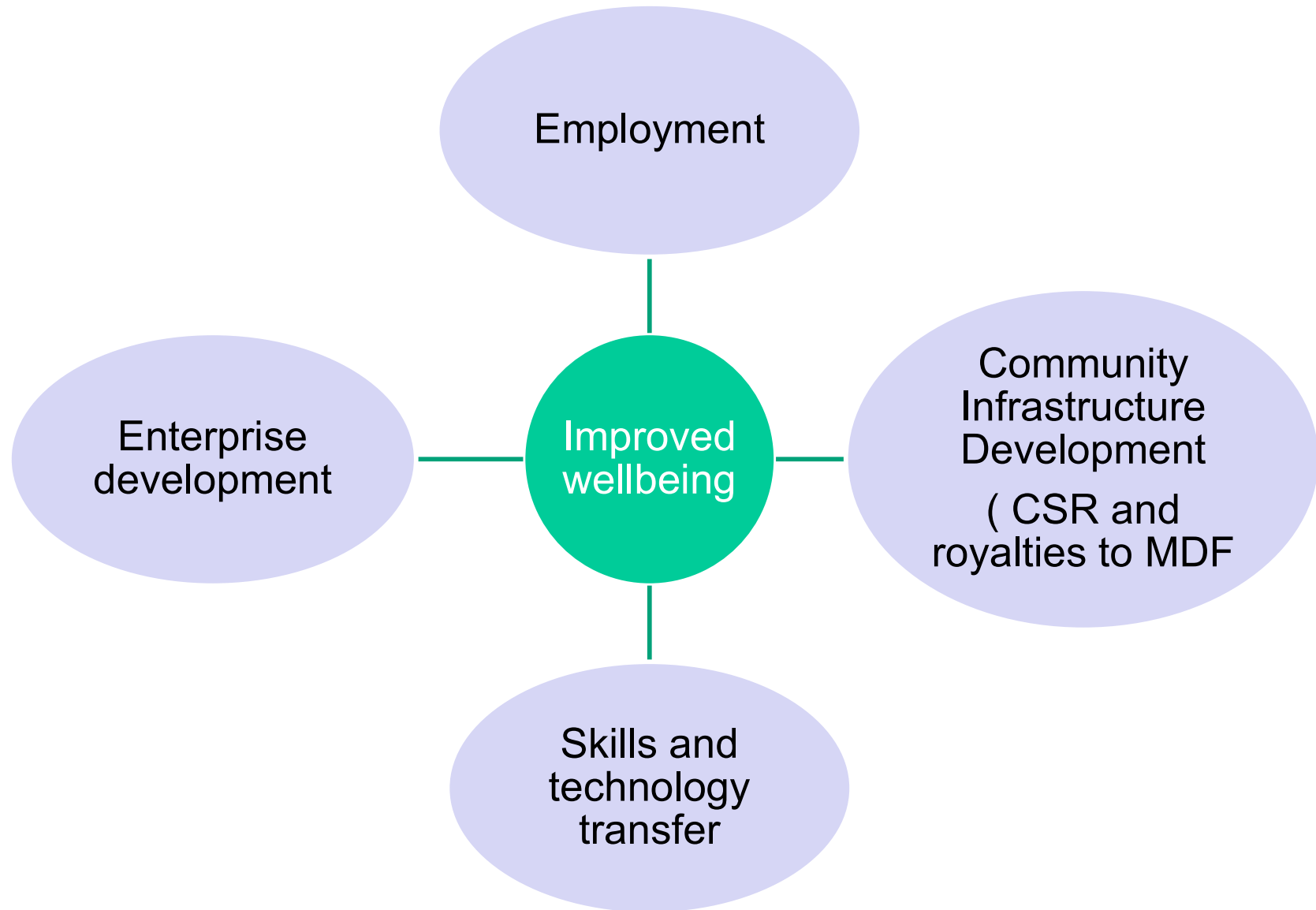
<b>COMPANY NAME</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MINERAL</b>	<b>AREA_KM<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>REGION</b>
Savanna Cement Co.Ltd.	Yakombo F/R	Limestone	40.1304	Savannah
Phoenix Res.Ltd.	Julie	Gold	10.7965	Upper West
Savanna Cement Co.Ltd.	Yakombo F/R	Limestone	50.2756	Savannah
Cardinal Namdini Mining Ltd.	Datoko	Gold	63	Upper East
Earl International Group (GH) Ltd.	Gbane	Gold	16.02	Upper East

# The Problem



- **60% of the extreme poor people reside in the five northern regions of Ghana (GSS, 2018).**
- **Many chieftaincy and land conflicts, and possibility of VEOs activities.**
- **Limited CSOs mobilisation to deal with mining issues.**
- **Weak community voices and involvement.**
- **limited information and data on companies, mining activities, benefits and related environmental issues.**
- **Different community responses to mining:**
  - **Radicalists**
  - **Conformists**
  - **Transformationalists**

# Community Expectations from Mining





# Voices from the Mining Communities

## Lost of lives

“ We the youth are in great pain. Shanxi Mining Co( Earl International) through unannounced blasting in our community killed 7 legal small-scale miners in 2017. In January, 2021, they again killed 16 youth. They behave with impunity. We are not safe in our own God given land”. Leader, Concerned Citizens of Talensi



# Voices from the Mining Communities

## Transparency question

“ We are grateful to you for resurrecting the discussions on mining in our district. We have given up the struggle. Azumah Resources Ltd have been in our district for close to twenty (20) years. No one has benefited from their activities. They tell us they are prospecting and not mining. Yet we hear of them mining on the quiet. We need them to be transparent with us. When you invite them for engagement they refuse to come. We are helpless and need your support”. Community Chief in Wa East



# Voices from the Mining Communities

## Lost of livelihoods for women

“ I don't know what to do. I use to pick shea nuts, process them into butter sell and take care of my children. Now the security guards of the mining company say were cannot pick any shea because they say the land and shea trees are for them. So we don't know what to do” 35 year women in Gbane.



**Bulinga/Zoa mining site/Bawku West District**



**Dakurpe mining site**



**Tinga mining site**

# TAMA Foundation Interventions



## 1. Building capacity of community leaders on mining laws and policies





# TAMA Foundation Interventions



## 2. Building capacity of CSOs and strengthening NG CSO Platform for NRG (50 CSOs currently)



*Nafisatu Chinery, Anglophone West Africa Regional Manager of the Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI) in a panel discussion*

# TAMA Foundation Interventions



## 3. Collaboration with Faculty of Natural Resources and Environment, University for Development Studies.



- Research
- Conference
- Capacity building-community, CSOs and Regulatory Agencies.

# Recommendations



1. Build the capacity of community leaders in mineral rich communities across the five northern regions of Ghana. The focus will be on key mining laws and policies and role of regulatory agencies.
2. Facilitate the formation of community structures to engage with mining companies.
3. Promote green jobs for women in mineral rich communities in Northern Ghana.
4. Strengthen the capacity of the 50 CSOs who are members of the Northern Ghana Platform on Natural Resource Governance to promote environmental justice.
5. Collaborate with the Faculty of Natural Resources and Environment, University for Development Studies to conduct research on the impact of mining in mineral rich communities in Northern Ghana.

I AM GRATEFUL FOR THE AUDIENCE  
THANK YOU