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Being pushed and pulled: understanding how climate change and foreign investment interact to influence rural-to-rural migration in sub-Saharan Africa

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My doctoral research explores how climate change and foreign investment interact to influence people's decisions to migrate from rural areas in northern Ghana to rural areas in southern Ghana, and the gendered differences in these experiences. I want to identify who migrates, where they migrate to, and what work they do in the migration destination. I am also interested in learning about why some people never migrate, and why some migrate but return to the migration origin. I chose to study migrant communities in sub-Saharan Africa because my own parents migrated from northern to southern Ghana to provide me with better educational, economic and health opportunities. I focus on rural communities and rural-to-rural migration because four out of five people living in poverty globally are rural dwellers. I expect my research to inform economic and social policies that can improve the lives of rural people in Ghana and sub-Saharan Africa.

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