

# Causes of rural-urban migration in Sankana in the Nadowli-kalio district of Ghana and its effects on community development.

Joseph Abedi-Lartey



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## **BACHELOR'S THESIS**

Author: Joseph Abedi-Lartey

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Supervisor: Anna Granberg

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The study seeks to find out the causes of migration in Sankana (a rural community) to urban cities and the effects it has on community mobilization, community participation and on the extended family system in Sankana.

The study is both a qualitative and a quantitative research, which was done by sampling a small proportion of the population of Sankana. Interview schedule, interview guide and a focus group discussion guide were used to collect data from participants. The sampling process involved non-probability purposive sampling technique and purposive sampling technique. The sample of the purposive sampling technique included chiefs and elders, opinion leaders, community members and district assembly members.

The study found out that, the causes of migration was mainly due to poverty, followed by lack of education, lack of social amenities and unpredictable rainfall patterns in that order. It was also established that migration did have a negative influence on community mobilization, community participation and on the extended family system.

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Language: English    Key words: Migration Community Mobilization Community Participation Extended family Rural Urban Sankana Nadowli-Kalio District Ghana

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## 1 Introduction

Migration is defined as the movement of people from one geographical location to another for a purpose (National Geography Society, 2005). The process of people migrating to other areas in search of a better life is not a new thinking. However, what has gained recognition is the increasing voluntary movement in quest of quality of life by low-skill and low-wage workers as well as high-skill and high-wage workers from less developed rural areas to more developed urban areas, especially among the poor in the developing countries (Ajaero & Onokala, 2013). According to Bahns (2005), about half of the population in the world resides in cities and urban areas, and the population in cities is hypothesised to be around one million every year. Bahns reiterate that most of these migrants have migrated from other parts of the country, particularly from the rural areas. Adding to Bahns (2005) assertion, Dao (2002) contend that the rate of current urban population growth has reached up to 6% every year in many African countries, including Ghana (Accra), Nigeria (Lagos), and Kenya (Nairobi).

Consequently, one of the most noteworthy demographic phenomena faced by many developing countries is the rapid population growth in the urban centres, largely caused by the prevalence of rural-urban migration (Agesa & Kim, 2001). The occurrence of rural-urban migration is caused by many push factors. According to Ajaero and Onokala (2013), the push factors include the rural-urban inequality in wealth and other opportunities. Ajaero and Mozie (2011) adds that the overwhelming concentration of wealth, assets, purchasing capacity, economic activities, and the variety of services in the urban centres, but lacking in the rural areas are among the causes of rural-urban migration in Africa. In congruence, Afshar (2003) argues that the inadequacy of incomes, lack of gainful employment, coupled with poverty in the rural areas, has pushed people out of their villages in search of better sources of livelihoods in the urban areas.

## **1.1 Statement of the Problem**

In Ghana, migration is particularly crucial because of a long tradition of population mobility and, particularly higher rates of rural–urban migration. Caldwell (1969) in his study found that, migrating from the rural areas to urban towns has been an important part of the farm household livelihood strategy for decades. He adds that, for many Ghanaians, urban life represents new employment opportunities, the possibility of working indoors, modernity and being less tied to family duties, which is different from working mainly on farms, coupled with enormous family responsibilities (Caldwell, 1969). Movement of people in the Northern parts of Ghana (rural area), including the Nadowli-Kaleo District, where Sankana is located to the big cities (southward) has continued unabated. For instance, rural households under the District send out internal migrants for prolonged periods, primarily to the large urban centres in the southern cities of Kumasi and Accra to compete for unavailable jobs. Consequently, these migrants upon arrival becomes vulnerable, as many of them are unskilled and with no formal education (Awumbila & Ardayfio-Schandorf, 2008).

In effect, some tend to leave a deviant lifestyle in order to make a living. Among the unfitting lifestyles, include prostitution, armed robbery, pickpocketing, and increasing crime rate among others (Yang, 2008). Recently, a new dominant north-south migration stream has emerged involving that of females moving independently of their families to the urban centres of Accra and Kumasi (Awumbila & Ardayfio-Schandorf, 2008). Consequently, the majority end up becoming homeless, sleeps in front of peoples' shops at night and become exposed to rape and malaria, especially the young females and nursing mothers (Issifu, 2015). Dungumaro (2013) concludes that HIV/AIDS is also one of the profound challenges affecting community development upon migrants' return to the rural areas. It is against this background that Dugbazah (2007) posit that migration is a widespread phenomenon;

therefore, any study on urban centre in sub-Saharan Africa should consider the effects of rural-urban migration on community development.

## **2 Problem description/Background**

Migrants' remittances and the income multipliers they create are becoming critical resources for the sustenance strategies of receiving households in rural communities (World Bank, 2005). Numerous studies conducted by scholars, including Glytsos (2002) in Eastern Europe, Sibanda (2004) in South Africa, Azam and Gubert (2005) in Mali, Lucas (2005) in Albania and Morocco, Nwajiuba (2005) in Nigeria, Adams (2006) in Latin America, and Mahama (2013) in Ghana has shown that migration plays a key role in migrants' areas of origin through remittances. However, although migration has been identified as a survival strategy utilised by the poor, especially the rural folks as a catalyst in the transformation process of not only the destiny of individual migrants, but also, the conditions of family members left behind, local communities, and the wider regions through remittances, there is the need to re-examine its effects on community development.

The previous studies conducted on migration by Glytsos (2002), Sibanda (2004), Azam and Gubert (2005), Lucas (2005), Nwajiuba (2005), Adams (2006), and Mahama (2013) only focused on the international migration and the uses of migrants' remittances, which they rarely looked at the negative impacts on community development. Therefore, there is the need for a study that will examine the effects of rural-urban migration on community development in relation to community mobilisation, community participation and the extended family ties in Ghana, particularly, the movement of people from Sankana southward to the urban areas. Hence, the motivation for this study.



## **2.1 Location and size of the study area**

The Nadowli-Kaleo District is centrally located in the Upper West region of Ghana. It lies between latitude 10° 20' N and 11° 30' N North and longitude 31° 10' W and 21° 10' W West. It is bordered to the South by Wa Municipal, West by Burkina Faso, North by Jirapa and Lambussie-Karni Districts and to the East by the Daffiama-Bussie-Issa District. The Nadowli-Kaleo District, with a territorial size of 1,132.02 km<sup>2</sup> extends from the Billi Bridge (4km from Wa) to the Dapuori Bridge (almost 12km from Jirapa) on the Wa-Jirapa Hamile road. From West to East, it extends from the Black Volta to Daffiama (Ghana Statistical Service, 2012).

Sankana is also located in the Nadowli-Kaleo District. It shares boundaries to the West by Gyili, to the East by Kuluri, the North by Chawe and South by Samatigu (Issifu, Antwi, Kwofie, Quarshie & Mustapha, 2013). It is approximately 14km from Wa, the regional capital. The people are largely Dagaabas, Christians, traditional believers and Muslims, and speaks the Dagaari language. Farming is the main source of livelihood followed by Pito

(local beer) brewing (Issifu et al., 2013).

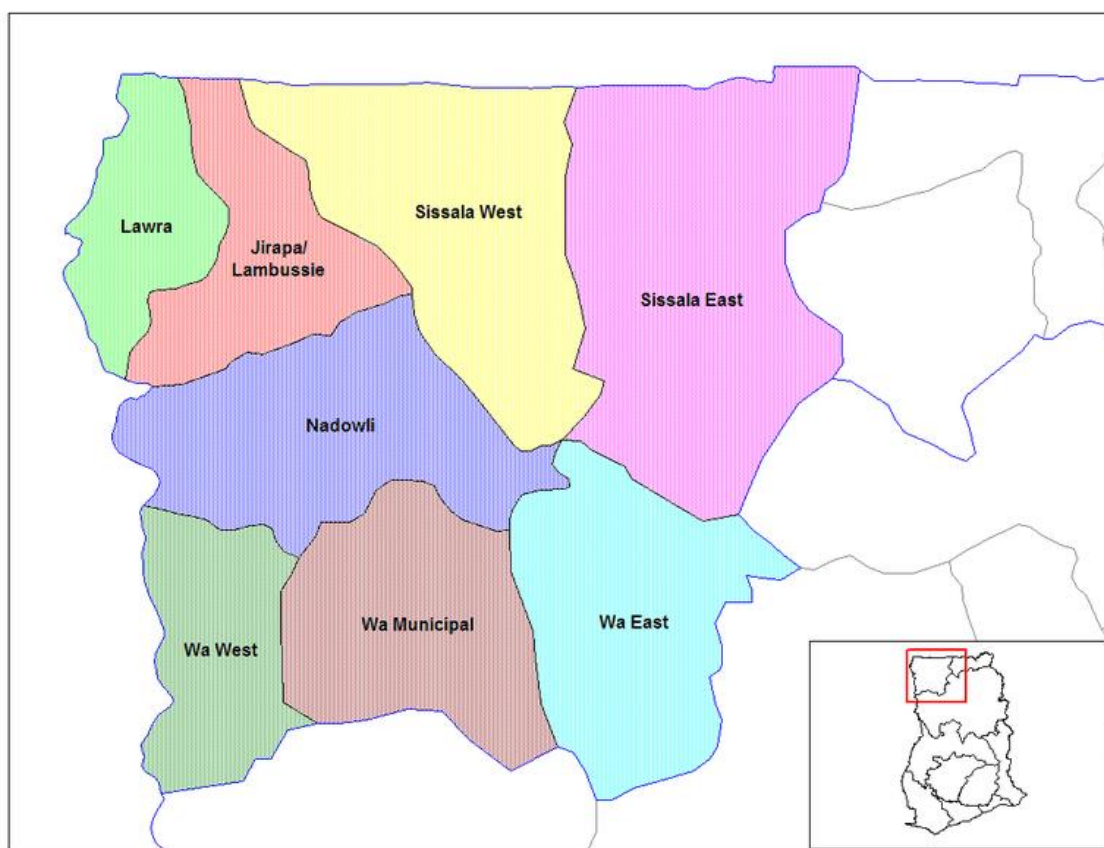


Figure 1: Map showing Districts map of the UWR, including Nadowli-Kaleo District map

Source: Wikipedia 2016.

### 2.1.1 Study Population and geology

The total population of the Upper West Region is 702,110, with Sankana having a total population of 2,639 (Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), 2012). According to the 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC), the Nadowli-Kaleo District has a total population of 61,561 (GSS, 2012). Going by the international standard for the definition of an urban settlement, which defines an urban community as any community with a population of 5,000 or more, many of the communities under the District, including Sankana has not attained an urban status. Sankana is a rocky area and the rock types are Granite and Birimian. The rocks are mainly extrusive and intrusive and are found in the western part of the community. The

nature of rocks found in Sankana reduce farm size and adversely affect crop yield and income level of the farmers, leading to lower savings and investments (Issifu et al., 2013).

### **2.1.2 Drainage Relief and Vegetation**

Sankana has a poor drainage system that hinders healthy living. There is only one gutter and is situated in the market. However, it is choked, causing over flooding and results in erosion when it rains. In terms of relief, the landscape is both lowland and highland with undulating ranging from 150m-300m above sea level, which offers a cooler climate for human and animal settlement as well as agriculture. The vegetation of Sankana falls under the Guinea Savannah Woodland and characterised by shrubs and grassland with scattered medium size and tall trees, including Shear nut, Dawadawa and Mango tree (Issifu et al., 2013).

## **3 Theoretical Framework**

### **3.1 Introduction**

This chapter starts with the definitions and conceptualisations of terminologies. A comprehensive understanding of these terminologies was important for explaining the effects of rural-urban migration on community development. The chapter also reviews the literature on; migration and how it affects community mobilisation and community participation. It goes further to review community development, migration in Ghana, the causes of migration, the effects of migration on community development, as well as the benefits of rural-urban migration.

### **3.2 Migration**

Migration is the movement of people from one place to another for the purposes of taking up permanent or semi-permanent abode, usually across a political boundary (National Geographic Society, 2005).

### **3.3 Types of Migration**

Migration is grouped into types, including internal migration, external migration, emigration, immigration, population transfer, impelled migration, step migration, chain migration, return migration and seasonal migration. These definitions from the national Geographic society (2005) are explained below.

#### **3.3.1 Internal Migration**

This type of migration is the process of moving to a new home within a state, country, or continent. For example, moving from Sankana in the Upper West Region of Ghana to Kaneshie in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana.

### **3.3.2 External Migration**

This type of migration is also the process of moving to a new home in a different state, country, or continent. For instance, moving from Ghana to stay at a new home in Nigeria.

### **3.3.3 Emigration**

Emigration is the process of leaving one country to move to another country. For example, the Pilgrims emigrated from Ghana.

### **3.3.4 Immigration**

This type of migration is the process of moving into a new country. For instance, the Pilgrims from Ghana immigrated to Saudi Arabia.

### **3.3.5 Population Transfer**

This type of migration occurs when a government forces a large group of people out of a region, usually based on ethnicity or religion. According to the National Geographic Society (2005), this type of migration is also known as involuntary or forced migration.

### **3.3.6 Impelled Migration**

Impelled migration is also called “reluctant” or “imposed” migration. In this type of migration, individuals are not forced out of their country, but leave because of unfavourable situations such as warfare, political problems, and outbreak of disease or religious persecution.

### **3.3.7 Step Migration**

This type of migration is a series of shorter, less extreme migrations from a person’s place of origin to a final destination, such as moving from a farm, to a village, to a town, and finally to a city.

### **3.3.8 Chain Migration**

Chain migration is also a series of migrations within a family or defined group of people. A chain migration often begins with one family member who sends money to bring other family members to the new location. Chain migration results in migration fields, the clustering of people from a specific region into certain neighborhoods or small towns.

### **3.3.9 Return Migration**

The voluntary movements of immigrants back to their place of origin is called return migration. Return migration is also known as circular migration.

### **3.3.10 Seasonal Migration**

The process of moving for a period of time in response to labor or climate conditions, for example, farm workers in northern Ghana working in the cities of southern Ghana off-season.

## **3.4 What is Rural Area?**

Nwanze (2000) defined rural areas as areas with population thresholds of between 5,000 and 10,000, who are primarily dependent on agriculture and/or natural resources for their livelihoods. This definition cannot be fully applied to the Ghanaian situation since some people in some urban areas also solely depend on agriculture for their livelihoods. In Ghana however, a population threshold of 5,000 is commonly used to classify settlements as urban. Those settlements with a population size less than 5,000 are designated rural (GSS, 2000). Other definitions include qualitative and quantitative characteristics. For example, SARDF (1997) defined rural areas as those with sparse populations who are dependent on natural resources. IFAD (2001) describes them as areas comprising of open country and settlements

with fewer than 2,500 residents; whereas compared to urban areas, people owning more rural-specific assets such as farmland, livestock, and irrigation per person than urban people do inhabit rural areas.

### **3.5 Rural-Urban Migration in Ghana**

Rural-urban migration is the movement of people from the rural areas to the urban centres for a purpose that may include employment, access to social amenities, and security among others. Rural-urban migration was in the past regarded as a natural process of economic development, whereby the surplus labour released from the rural sector was needed for urban industrial growth (Weeks, 1989). However, in contemporary times, the perspective on rural-urban migration has undergone a sharp reversal (Deshingkar & Grimm, 2005). Rural-urban migration has come to be viewed by some policymakers and urban planners as having a negative effect on the development of cities in many countries by creating slum areas and increasing the crime rate (Yang, 2008).

Rural-urban migration is the most popular type of migration in developing countries, including Ghana. However, other types of migration also exist, even though on a smaller scale. Figures from the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS, 2000) indicate that about 35% of migratory movements within the country are rural-urban, followed by 18% seasonal migration, 14% rural-rural and 23% urban-urban migration. According to Tutu (1995), the major forms of migration (based on the 1991 Migration Research Study) are rural-rural, rural-urban, and urban-rural, in that order. Using data from the fourth wave of the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS), Tutu identifies the dominant Regions of destination as the Greater Accra (Accra), Ashanti (Kumasi) and Western Regions (Sekondi-Takoradi) of the ten Regions, with the Upper East (Bolgatanga) as the least attractive destination. The GSS

(2000) computed the percentage shares of migration flows for 1998/99 as follows: urban-rural (35%), rural-rural (32%), urban-urban (23%), and rural-urban (10%).

### **3.6 Community Development**

In the Greek language, community means “fellowship” or a group of people who come together in a mutual support to fulfil their basic needs. Community is a collection of people who have become aware of some problem or some broad goal, who have gone through a process of learning about themselves and about their environment, and have formulated a group objective. Community could also be defined as a group of people who have something in common. According to Camfens (1997), Community Development (CD) is “viewed as a means for mobilising communities to join states or institutional initiatives that are aimed at alleviating poverty, solving social problems, strengthening families, fostering democracy and achieving modernisation and socio-economic development” (Camfens, 1997, p. 25). CD is an important mechanism for tackling social needs and hardship that people in urban slums and specifically, people in rural communities do face. More importantly, CD cannot be achieved without the active participation or involvement, vigorous community mobilisation, and a strong extended family tie of the people concern, taking into consideration their beliefs, norms and indigenous knowledge. More so, there cannot be any successfully CD without the active community participation, effective community mobilisation, as well as cordial extended family relations and community cohesion (Camfens, 1997, p. 26). This is because community participation can help ensure a project’s social acceptability and can increase the likelihood of beneficiaries participating in the project. In addition, community participation ensures that resource mobilisation is much easier when beneficiaries are committed to a project and actively involved in its design and implementation. Therefore, community participation and community mobilisation are key to community development.



In achieving CD, the beliefs, norms and practices of the people themselves also plays an important role in overcoming poverty, especially vulnerabilities (Bonye, Aasoglenang & Owusu- Sekyere, 2013). Flora et al (1992) adds that for community development to occur people in a community must believe working collectively via active community participation and a good community mobilisation. Taking inspiration from Flora et al (1992), rural-urban migration affects community development, because when the majority of the rural community people migrate, active participation and mobilisation becomes a problem in the community.

### **3.7 Community Participation**

Brager, Specht and Torczyner (1987) defined participation as a means to educate citizens and to increase their competence. It is a vehicle for influencing decisions that affect the lives of citizens and an avenue for transferring political power. The World Bank's Learning Group on Participatory Development (1995) defines participation as "a process through which stakeholders' influence and share control over development initiatives, and the decisions and resources which affect them" (p. 3). A descriptive definition of participation programmes would imply the involvement of a significant number of persons in situations or actions that enhance their well-being, for example, their income, security, or self- esteem (Chowdhury, 1989).

According to Oakley and Marsden (1984), community participation is the process by which individuals, families, or communities assume responsibility for their own welfare and develop a capacity to contribute to their own and the community's development. In the context of development, community participation refers to an active process whereby beneficiaries influence the direction and execution of development projects rather than merely receive a share of project benefits (Paul, in Bamberger, 1986). Analysing carefully,

Chowdhury (2009) participation means that migration can have a negative impact on community participation. This is because participation implies the involvement of a significant number of persons for actions that enhance their well-being, so if people migrate, community's population reduces, hence affecting community development.

### **3.8 Extended Family System**

An extended family as defined by the International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences(2008) as a type of family in which relatives in addition to parents and children (such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins) live in a single household. A nuclear family forms the core of an extended family. In Ghana, the extended family system is highly practised as is a greater part of our customs. During significant stages in a person's life such as birth, marriage, adolescence, death among others, the presence of the extended family signifies respect and approval which is very much respected (Steven J. Et al, 2002).

### **3.9 Migration in Ghana**

During the Colonial era, migration in Ghana was mainly internal. Essentially, the development of gold mines and cocoa farms within Ghana attracted many internal migrants. Migrant workers were recruited by the Colonial administration, which resulted in an acceleration of labour recruitment into the Northern Territories of the country (Agyei & Ofori-Mensah, 2009). The recruitment of unskilled workers from the North was very successful due to severe famines that occurred in the early 1920s in many parts of the West African Savannah and an influenza epidemic in 1918–1919 in the Northern Territories. According to Lentz (2006), labour migration was seen by the population in the North as a coping strategy to earn extra income to support the family. During the first decades of Colonial rule, the development progress in the North was very small while labour migration

to the South grew massively. Progress in the North was primarily dependent on developments in the economy and the infrastructure in the South and linked to labour migration and wages that Northern migrants remitted home to improve the livelihoods of their families (Schraven, 2010).

After independence in 1957, Ghana's first president Dr Kwame Nkrumah aimed at transforming the Ghanaian economy to overcome the state's high dependence on agricultural products, timber and minerals. As a result, farmer co-operations and state-owned agricultural enterprises were established to achieve this aim. Another goal was to reduce the development gap between the North and South, which was not realised partly because the political era of Nkrumah was overthrown by a military coup in 1966. Until the 1960s, higher poverty rates and the poor performance of the agricultural production in the North made labour migration even more important instead of decreasing it as intended by Nkrumah's development agenda. An additional factor was certainly that travelling to the South now was easier, faster and more secure than in the past (Schraven, 2010). Mensah-Bonsu (2003) stresses the fact that migration was used as an adaptation strategy in response to high population pressure on the natural resources.

### **3.10 Migration in the Nadowli-Kaleo District**

Migration in the Northern part of Ghana is not a new phenomenon. It has been practiced both through force as well as by the willingness of people (Abdul-Korah, 2011). During the Colonial era, people from the North were forced down South to work in the mines and on cocoa farms. As a result, the North served as the labour pool for the South. However, after the Colonial era, migration continued, this time more on a voluntary basis. The Daagabas, natives of the District, were no exception. In his study among the Daagabas of the District, Abdul-Korah writes that while their predecessors were forced to migrate to the South by

harsh Colonial policies, the Dagaaba men who migrated between 1936 (before independence) and 1957 (independence) did so willingly in the absence of force or coercion (Abdul-Korah, 2011).

According to Abdul-Korah (2011), Dagaabas, especially the men travelled for two reasons: first, to see the world and gain experience, and secondly, to satisfy their taste for European goods like bicycles, towels, hats, etc. Migration of Dagaaba men was an adventure. This is expressed in part of the title of his article, *Ka bie ba yor*, which means, “if a child does not travel”, it will not gain experience” Abdul-Korah argues further that, towards the 1950s, there was a shift of the reasons for migration from “travel and see” to economic factors and the need for personal assets. Other reasons included domestic disputes and witchcraft accusation in the District. (Abdul-Korah, 2011, p.4)

### **3.11 Causes of Migration in Ghana**

According to Black et al (2008), migration is fuelled by infertile soils and lack of local services in Ghana’s Northern Regions, including Sankana in the Upper West Region. Kwankye (2009) stresses the natural resource distribution as a major reason for migration in Northern Ghana. “Migration flows have largely been in response to the spatial pattern of natural resource distribution across the three ecological zones, namely the coastal belt, forest middle belt and the Northern savannah. There has, consequently, been a north-south pattern of internal migration flow in the country with regions that are less-endowed with natural resources becoming the main sources of migrants while those with rich natural resources have become the main destination centres for many internal migrants” (Kwankye, 2009, p. 1).

Generally, the main causes of rural-urban migration in Ghana includes the lack of social amenities and employment in the rural communities, unavailability of fertile lands for farming, long dry seasons and the lack of good education (Kwankye et al., 2009). Ominda (1981) lists a number of reasons, including the attraction of the areas migrants' wants to go, and the ease of means through which these movements take place. There are also environmental pressures, such as soil depletion, erratic rainfall, drought, floods, as well as other natural disasters. For some people, environmental reasons are the main push factors. Luginaah et al. (2009) wrote in a study of migrants in Techiman in the Brong Ahafo Region of Ghana that permanent migration from the UWR to the more fertile lands of the Brong Ahafo Region increased where migrants are able to access farmland through different leasehold arrangements. The findings of the study suggest that UWR migrants view their growing settlement in the Brong Ahafo Region to be a long-term phenomenon, and that many of these migrants have no intention of returning to their villages of origin in the UWR due to the poor soils in UWR as compared to the fertile lands in the Brong Ahafo Region. (Luginaah et al 2009, pg 15).

Luginaah et al (2009) asserted that the main reason for these migrants to leave their places of origin is to accumulate more food for their families back home in the UWR. They send back food and money as a way of helping relatives to cope with food insecurity (Van der Geest, 2011). More so, poverty is often cited as a cause

Migration in Ghana (Anarfi et al., 2003). Awumbila and Ardayfio-Schandorf (2008) argue that poverty may also be a result of migration, especially in the UWR, the poorest region among the three Northern regions. In conclusion, a major cause of rural-urban migration in Ghana is urban bias. Government policies supporting disproportionate increases in wage rates and employment opportunities in the urban areas contribute to imbalances in the rural-urban landscape.

### **3.12 Effects of Migration**

A major consequence of rural-urban migration is excessive urbanisation. There is a very strong link between excessive urbanisation and rural-urban migration. Migration has increased urban populations significantly over the years. In effect, excessive urbanisation leads to high rates of city congestion, crime and poor infrastructure such as sewage systems, drinking water and other amenities (McCatty, 2004). There is also the problem of chronic unemployment, which is also a key cause of crime, as people need to find ways of putting food on their tables. Excessive urbanisation has brought with it the creation of large slums and shantytowns, as new migrants find it difficult to get proper housing in urban cities (McCatty, 2004).

In developing countries, slum settlements represent over one-third of the urban population; in many cases, they account for more than 60% of the urban total (Mike Davis, 2006). The cost of travel associated with large cities begins to rise as urbanisation becomes excessive, because congestion takes place, which wastes resources such as time and fuel. The expansion of cities causes the cost of providing basic services to increase; as a result, the quality and availability of existing services deteriorate rapidly. Additionally, excessive urbanisation because of rural-urban migration makes people dependent on others for necessities. Thus, urban-dwellers rely on the rural hinterland for agricultural production, for instance, because city residents do not have enough land to grow their own food. Urban-dwellers suffer the psychological degradation that comes from depending on other people to accomplish the activities of daily life, from transportation to education to entertainment. In their study, Tayfun and Besirli (2008) found that social problems linked with urban societies, includes traffic problems and an increasing mental health disorders.

### **3.13 Benefits of Rural-Urban Migration**

Aside the numerous challenges associated with migration; there are also benefits in migration. For example, when families move into urban areas, they automatically place themselves in close proximity to basic services such as hospitals and schools. Urbanisation often brings health care and educational opportunities to those who might not have had access to them in rural areas. Cities also offer public transportation, government-run sanitation services and social programmes such as libraries, health clinics and children's programmes. For many people, especially in developing countries, access to these services offers many advantages in terms of creating opportunities. Additionally, as large-scale agriculture displaces many traditional farmers from the rural lifestyle, the tremendous growth of modern industry in large urban areas attracts people with the promise of employment. In general, urban wages are significantly higher, so moving to the city is an opportunity to earn that was impossible in rural areas.

## **4 Purpose and Research Question**

To examine the effects of rural-urban migration on community development in Sankana in the Nadowli-Kaleo District.

### **4.1 Specific Research Objectives**

- To investigate the effects of rural-urban migration on community mobilisation in Sankana.
- To analyse the effects of rural-urban migration on community participation in Sankana.
- To assess the impact of rural urban migration on the extended family system in Sankana

### **4.2 Research Questions**

- What are the Causes and effects of rural-urban migration on community development in Sankana, a suburb of the Nadwoli-Kalio District of Ghana.

### **4.3 Significance of the study**

The findings of the study will serve as a guide for future research in the same field or elsewhere in the District. In addition, the empirical findings of the study would provide insights for policy makers on the appropriate choice of rural community development strategies that can help check the increasing rate of rural-urban migration in Ghana, particularly in Sankana.



## **5 Method**

### **5.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the research procedure used in the data collection and the data analysis. It includes the research design, sample and sampling techniques, source of data, data collection instruments, and the method of data analysis and presentation.

### **5.2 Research Design**

The study adopted both the quantitative and qualitative method known as the mixed method approach. The mixed method approach was used to collect data for the study. The central premise for the choice of the mixed method approach is that, the use of quantitative and qualitative approaches in combination provides a better understanding of research problems than either approach alone, and help uses the appropriate technique in data collection (Plano Clark, 2005). Besides, case study was the specific design for the study. According to Bromley (1990, p.302), case study is a “systematic inquiry into an event or a set of related events which aims to describe and explain the phenomenon of interest”.

### **5.3 Sample and Sampling Procedures**

Sample is a small proportion of a population selected for observation and analysis. The non-probability purposive sampling technique, including the purposive sampling technique was employed in the study to select key informant, comprising chiefs and elders, opinion leaders, community members, district assembly members and sub chiefs/women’s groups/youth group’s leaders. The reason for the purposive technique was the judgments of the researcher based on who can provide the relevant data for the study (Kumar, 1999). In addition, a research approach that adopts a great amount of qualitative techniques, whereby in-depth

interviews are concluded, uses a small sample size determined by the researcher (Sarantakos, 1993). Therefore, guided by this principle, a small sample size of 44 respondents was found appropriate for the study, in gathering data about the effects of rural-urban migration on community development.

#### **5.4 Sources of Data**

Data was obtained from both the primary and secondary sources. Under the primary source, first-hand information was collected through an in-depth/unstructured interview and a focus group discussion method. The methods were considered appropriate for the study, because they allowed for the assessment of people's experiences with coherent predetermined questions about migration. Secondly, books, journals, articles, DA reports, internet and other researchers' works on rural-urban migration served as a secondary source of data for the study. In addition, one advantage of using secondary data source has always been the saving of time and money (Ghauri, 2005).

#### **5.5 Data Collection Instruments**

Interview schedule, interview guide and a focus group discussion guide were the data collection instruments for the study. These instruments were used to solicit for in-depth information on what respondents make about the effects of rural-urban migration on community development in Sankana.

#### **5.6 Data Presentation and Analysis**

The data obtained was first sorted and edited. In addition, data obtained was described, and analysed based on the responses of the various categories of the respondents. A simple

descriptive statistical measures such as frequencies, graphs and tables were used for the description of the responses.

## **6 Results**

### **6.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the data collected and analysis of results obtained. The analysis covers the background characteristics of the respondents; community members' opinion about the causes of rural-urban migration; the effects of rural-urban migration on community mobilisation, community participation and the impact of rural-urban migration on the extended family ties in Sankana.

### **6.2 Background Characteristics of Respondents**

The focus group of the respondents in the study include gender, age and occupation distributions. Results were obtained randomly from people during the day when commercial activities were at its peak. Data on Age was not known until it was given by respondents through interview which was the way results were obtained.

#### **6.2.1 Gender Distribution**

The table 1 below shows the gender distribution of males and females respondents in the study. Out of the 44 respondents interviewed, 50% were males and 50% being females. This was a deliberate attempt to give equal chances to gender.

**Table 1: Gender Distribution of Respondents**

Gender	Number	Percent (%)
<b>Male</b>	22	50
<b>Female</b>	22	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2016

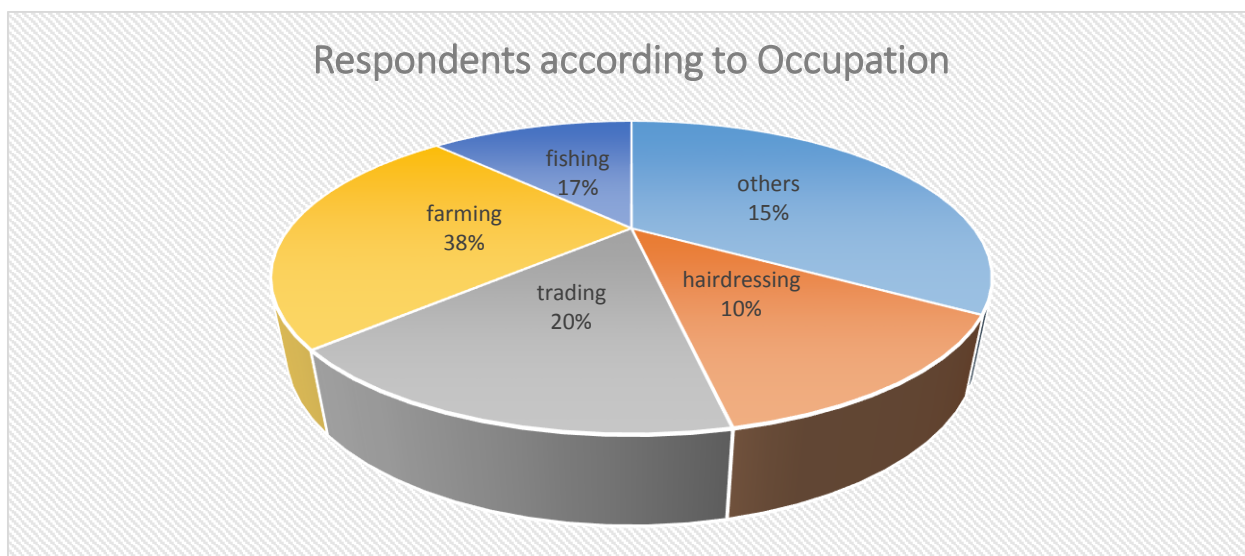
**Table 2 Age Distribution of the Respondents**

Age group	Number	Percent (%)
<b>15-20</b>	19	43
<b>21-25</b>	11	25
<b>26-30</b>	7	16
<b>31-35</b>	4	9
<b>36+</b>	3	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2016

From table 2 above, 43% of respondents fall between the age group of 15-20 and they constitute the majority of respondents, while 7% of respondents fall between the age group of 36+ representing the least of respondents interviewed. The implication is that Sankana has the potential to develop if employment and other social services are created to avoid rural-urban migration in the community.

### 6.2.2 Occupational Distribution of the Respondents



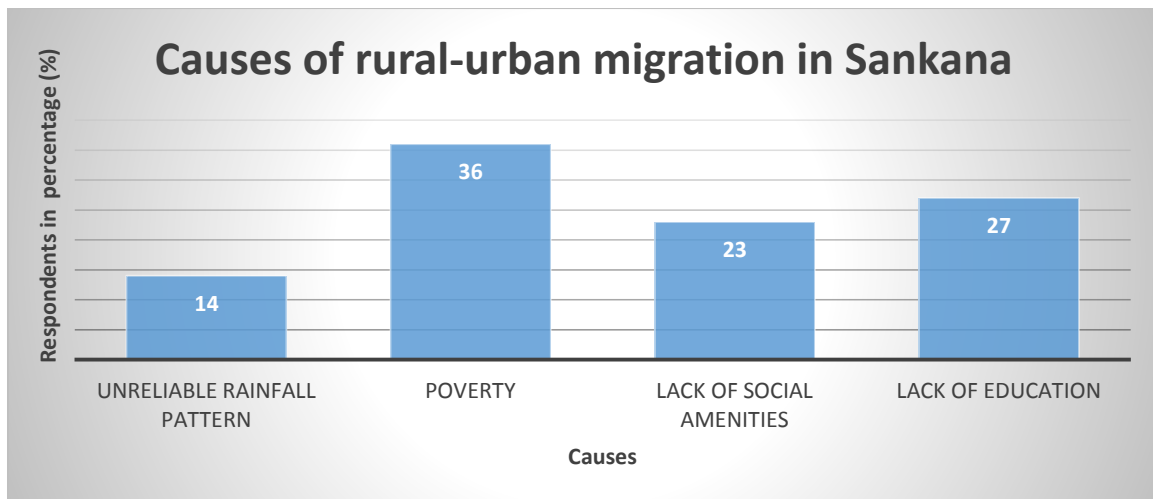
**Figure 2: Occupational distribution of the respondents**

Source: Field Survey 2016

Figure 2 above shows the occupational distribution of the respondents in Sankana. Out of the total number of 44 respondents interviewed, 17% of the respondents are fisher folks who depends on the Dam in Sankana, 38% are into farming, 20% in trading, 10% are into hairdressing, and 15% in other activities. From the diagram above, the majority of the population are into farming which is the major occupation in the village. Industrial or manufacturing activities are rarely ongoing in the community.

### 6.3 Opinions about the Causes of Rural-Urban Migration in Sankana

Out of the 44 respondents interviewed, 6 respondents representing 14% said unreliable rainfall pattern is the cause of rural-urban migration, 16 respondents representing 36% mentioned poverty, 10 respondents representing 23% said lack of social amenities, 12 respondents representing 27% said lack of employment opportunities.

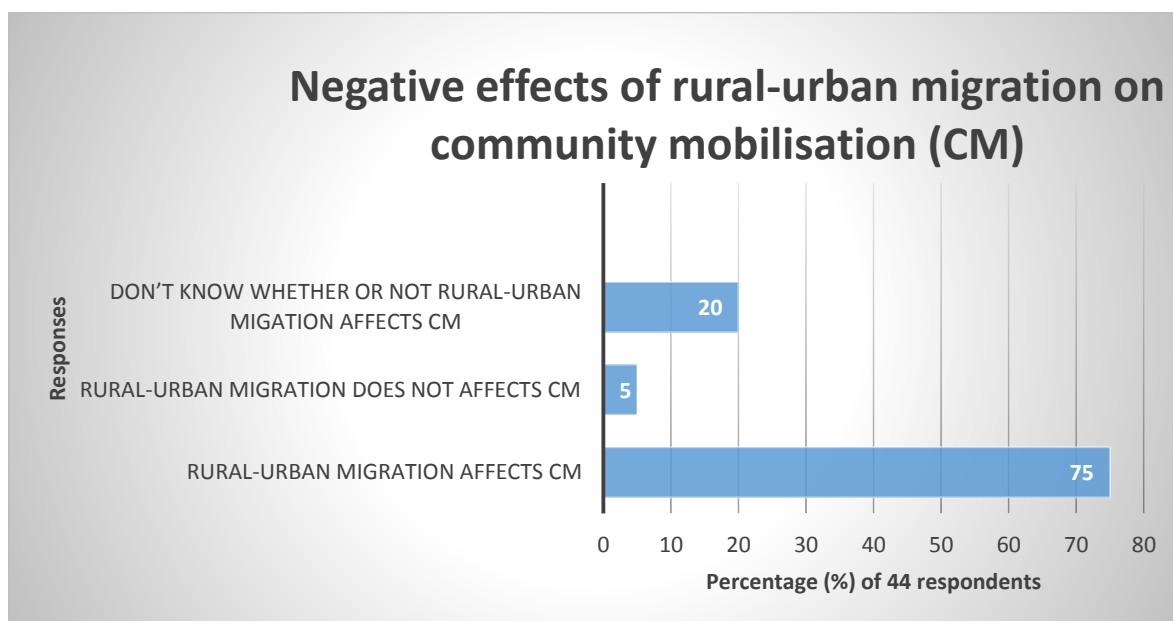


*Figure 3: Community members' opinions about the causes of rural-urban migration*

Source: Field survey 2016

The figure 3 above shows that poverty, representing 36% is the highest factor that causes rural-urban migration in Sankana. This is followed by the lack of education, representing 27% of the respondents, and the lack of social amenities, representing 23% as well as 14% going for unreliable rainfall pattern as the causes of rural-urban in the Sankana.

## 6.4 Effects of Rural-Urban Migration on Community Mobilisation



*Figure 4: Effects of rural-urban migration on community mobilisation*

Source: Field Survey 2016

Figure 4 above indicates that out of 44 respondents interviewed, 33 respondents representing 75% mentioned that rural-urban migration really affects community mobilisation negatively, 9 respondents representing 20% said they don't know whether or not rural-urban migration affects community mobilisation negatively, and 2 respondents representing 5% maintained that rural-urban migration does not affect community mobilization negatively. From the diagram in fig. 4 above, rural-urban migration really affects community mobilisation negatively in that, when community members are mobilised for community action, their number is always so minimal that they cannot achieve any reasonable result since many of the people, especially the energetic youth have migrated to the urban centres. This argument is from the fact that 33 respondents representing 75% mentioned that rural-urban migration really affects community mobilisation negatively.



## 6.5 Effect of Rural-Urban Migration on Community Participation

**Table 3: Effect of rural-urban migration on community participation**

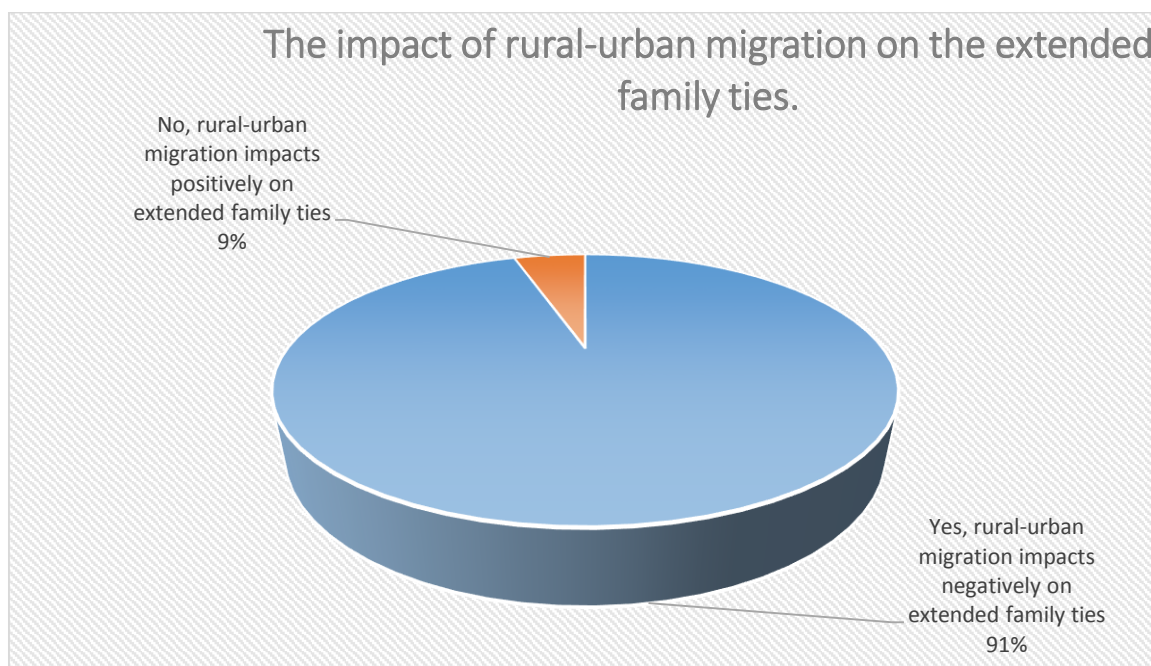
Response	Frequency	Percent (%)
<b>Don't Know</b>	11	25
<b>Yes</b>	33	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey 2016

In the table 3 above, respondents were asked in the interview process whether rural-urban migration affects community participation. In that regard, 25% of the respondents said they do not think rural-urban migrations affects community participation in Sankana. Explaining that, participation in Sankana is not mandatory apart from state mandatory community participation activities like tax payment, sanitation enhancement and others. However, 75% of the respondents said rural-urban migration really affects community participation. They explained among others that because of the increasing rate of rural-urban migration, during social gatherings and special occasions like funerals, naming ceremonies, festivals, etc., the number of participants was always reduced, hence affecting community participation and development.

Unlike the effects of rural-urban migration on community mobilisation where some respondents (20%) said they do not know whether or not rural-urban migration affects community mobilisation, such situation was not encountered when respondents were asked about the effects of rural-urban migration on community participation. This means the majority of the community members really understands the concept of participation in community development.

## 6.6 Impact of Rural-Urban Migration on the Extended Family Ties



**Figure 5: Effects of rural-urban migration on the extended family ties**

Source: Field Survey 2016

The diagram in figure 5 above shows the responses of respondents about whether or not rural-urban migration has impacted (negatively or positively) on the extended family ties. Out of the total number of 44 respondents interviewed, 40 respondents representing 91% said yes, rural-urban migration really has negative impacts on the extended family ties. They argued that, when family members migrates, they tend to forget about their extended families back home, others said it becomes worse when they marry in the urban centres where the extended family system is not highly recognised, but the nuclear family. However, 4 respondents representing 9% did not agree that rural-urban migration has a negative impacts on the external family system. According to them, it rather relieves the migrants from the extended family burdens and, provides them the peace of mind to focus on their nuclear family's growth and development.

## **7 Critical Analysis (Conclusions and Recommendations)**

### **7.1 Introduction**

This chapter presents the key findings of the research. It offers necessary findings, conclusions and recommendations for international development partners, NGOs, DA, government and policy makers about the need to put the necessary measures on board to eradicate or drastically reduce the high incidence of rural-urban migration in Sankana.

### **7.2 Key Findings**

The study sought to examine the effects of rural-urban migration on community development in Sankana in the UWR of Ghana. Major findings in the study revealed the following:

#### **7.2.1 Findings on the Opinions about the Causes of Rural-Urban Migration in Sankana**

The study revealed that poverty is the main cause of rural-urban migration in Sankana. As it is shown in figure 3, out of the 44 respondents selected for the survey, 36% of the respondents said the main cause of rural-urban migration in Sankana is poverty. This goes on to support earlier findings by Ajaero and Onokala (2013) who used the term income inequality which is by far no different from poverty. The second cause of rural-urban migration which is lack of education representing 27% of the respondents interviewed in the survey goes further to strengthen (Awumbila & Ardayfio-Schandorf, 2008). Sankana is bedevilled with high poverty rates and the implication is that, the high poverty rate in Sankana has become a push factor pushing many people away from the community to the urban centres in order to escape poverty. Lack of education among even the youth is the cause of their lack of gainful employment even after they have migrated because they lack

the skill that will guarantee them a secure employment. Be it as it may, to migrants, the urban cities represent employment opportunity, the possibility to working indoors, modernity, and being less tied to family duties as stated by Cowdwell (1969).

### **7.2.2 Findings on the Effects of Rural-Urban Migration on Community Mobilisation**

Moreover, the study revealed in figure 4 above that 75% of the respondents agreed that rural-urban migration really affects community mobilisation negatively. Rural-urban migration really affects community mobilisation negatively in Sankana since most of the youth is not available during community mobilization.

### **7.2.3 Findings on the Effect of Rural-Urban Migration on Community Participation**

Because of the increasing rate of rural-urban migration, during activities such as funerals, naming ceremonies, voting, festivals, etc., the number of participants are reduced and this affects community decision making process” (field survey, 2016). Obviously, the majority of the people in Sankana really understands the concept of participation in community development.

### **7.2.4 Findings on the Impact of Rural-Urban Migration on the Extended Family Ties**

Finally, out of the total number of 44 respondents interviewed, 40 respondents representing 91% said yes, rural-urban migration really has negative impacts on the extended family ties. They argued that, when family members migrate, they tend to forget about their extended families back home, and when they are sick, they are brought back home and becomes a burden on the family members. Others said that it becomes worsened when they marry in

the urban centres where the extended family system is highly not recognised as the nuclear family. A leader of a women's group in the focus group discussion mentioned, "Some upon their return come with dangerous sickness and diseases, which makes family members face community ostracism" (field survey, 2016). In congruence, Dungumaro (2013) posits that HIV/AIDS is also one of the profound challenges facing migrants' family ties, community participation, and community mobilisation upon their return.

### **7.3 Conclusion**

The study sought to examine the effects of rural-urban migration on community development in Sankana in the Nadowli-Kaleo District, Upper West Region of Ghana. The study covered the opinions about the causes of rural-urban migration, effects of rural-urban migration on community mobilisation, effect of rural-urban migration on community participation, the impact of rural-urban migration on the extended family ties. The study has demonstrated that the increasing rate of rural-urban migration in Sankana is caused by poverty. In the light of the findings, the study makes the following recommendations:

### **7.4 Recommendation**

Based on the key findings of the study, the following recommendations have been made for consideration of all direct and indirect stakeholders concerned about the increasing rate of rural-urban migration in Sankana.

#### **7.4.1 Recommendations on the opinions about the causes of rural-urban migration in Sankana**

Since the study found the high rate of poverty as the main cause of rural-urban migration in Sankana, the Ghanaian government, DA, NGOs, and all other stakeholders should intervene with social intervention programmes. In addition, the Ghanaian government's Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) programme should be extended to Sankana to help curb the problem of migration in the area. Besides, employment opportunities should be provided to enable the rural folks engaged in economic activities that can help them support their families.

#### **7.4.2 Recommendation on effects of Rural-Urban Migration on Community Mobilisation**

In a focus group discussion, a traditional leader argued, "since many of the youth, especially the active youth have migrated to the urban centres, mobilising people for community action was always made up of the aged and women who could not achieve any result because of their age" (field survey, 2016). Therefore, there is the need for incentives for people who avail themselves for community mobilisation activities. A youth in the community stated that "incentives like access to vast land should be provided to the few remained youth in the community to farm so that during community mobilisation we can be available for any action" (field survey, 2016). Based on the responses of the respondents, the study recommends that community based incentives in the form of land access should be provided to the few youth in the community who have made their mind not to migrate and are active in community mobilisation activities.

#### **7.4.3 6.4.3 Recommendation on the Effect of Rural-Urban Migration on Community Participation**

Since 75% of the respondents interviewed said, rural-urban migration really affects community participation negatively and a respondent arguing that “because of the increasing rate of rural-urban migration, during funerals, naming ceremonies, voting, festivals, etc., the number of participants are reduced and this affects community decision making process” (field survey, 2016). Therefore, there is the need for an effective community based approach to promote community participation. Thus, the traditional authority in Sankana should make a conscious effort in educating the community members about the need for active community participation. Community members who have migrated to the urban cities should make adequate efforts to attend to special or social gatherings like community festivals, rituals, naming ceremonies and others to help promote not only participation, but also cohesion.

#### **7.4.4 Recommendation on Impact of Rural-Urban Migration on the Extended Family Ties**

In the study, 91% of the respondents interviewed maintained that, of course rural-urban migration really has negative impacts on the extended family ties. As such, they argued that many of the migrants forget about their extended relatives in the community, yet when they are sick, they are brought home, and become a burden on the family members. In that regard, the study recommends that community members in the urban cities should develop the habit of savings in their communities for any eventualities. In addition, since some of the migrants carry diseases and sicknesses back to the community as revealed in the study, there is the need for community health education by the government, DA, NGOs, and religious leaders since migration is a widespread phenomenon. As such, Dugbazah (2007) concludes that migration is a widespread phenomenon; any study on urban centre should consider the effects of rural-urban migration on community development.

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## **9 APPENDIXES**

This research is thus, conducted in a partial fulfilment of a Degree programme in Sustainable Coastal Management by Novia University of Applied Science. Information provided therefore, is for academic purpose and shall be treated in the strictest sense of confidentiality.

### **APPENDIX 1**

#### **INTERVIEW SCHEDULE AND INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR CHIEFS AND ELDERS, OPINION LEADERS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

##### **SECTION A (Interview Schedule) Background Information**

- Age.....
- Sex.....
- Occupation.....

##### **SECTION B (Interview Guide) Community members' opinion about the causes of rural urban migration in Sankana?**

1. What position do you hold in the community?
2. How long have you been living in Sankana?
3. What is your opinion about rural-urban migration in Sankana?
4. What do you think are the causes of rural-urban migration in Sankana

##### **SECTION C (Interview Guide) How the effects of rural-urban migration affect**

**Community mobilisation in Sankana?**

1. How does the community members respond during community mobilisation?
2. Is community mobilisation mandatory in the Sankana?
3. Does rural-urban migration negatively affects or does not affect community mobilisation negatively? Probe further.
4. Do you have idea about how the effects of migration affects community mobilisation?

**SECTION D (Interview Guide). How does rural-urban migration affect community participation in Sankana?**

1. What is your understanding about community participation?
2. Do you think rural-urban migration affects community participation in Sankana?
3. If yes, how? If no, explain why it does not.
4. Does rural-urban migration affects participation in special or social gatherings.
5. Is community participation mandatory in Sankana?

**SECTION E (Interview Guide) .What are the impacts of rural-urban migration on the**

**Extended family ties in Sankana?**

1. What is your understanding about the nuclear and extended family relation?
2. Do you think rural-urban migration affects the extended family ties in Sankana?
3. If yes, how? If no, explain why it does not.
4. Does migrants supports the extended families ties at home (Sankana).
5. What are the challenges the extended family face when some migrants return?

**APPENDIX 2****FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR DISTRICT ASSEMBLY MEMBERS  
AND SUB CHIEFS/WOMEN'S GROUPS/YOUTH GROUP'S LEADERS**

1. What position do you hold in the community?
2. How long have you been living in Sankana?
3. What is your opinion about rural-urban migration in Sankana?
4. What do you think are the causes of rural-urban migration in Sankana?
5. How do the community members respond during community mobilisation?
6. Does rural-urban migration negatively affect or does not affect community mobilisation negatively?
7. Do you have an idea about how the effects of migration affect community mobilisation?
8. Do you think migration affects community participation in Sankana? Probe further.
9. Does rural-urban migration affect participation in special or social gatherings.
10. Do you think rural-urban migration affects the extended family ties in Sankana?
11. If yes, how? If no, explain why it does not. Probe further.
12. Does migration support the extended family ties at home (Sankana)?
13. What are the challenges the extended family face when some migrants return?

