

GLOWA VOLTA PROJECT (GVP), C1:  
Knowledge Exchange and Participatory Decision Support

Proceedings of the GVP-Workshop 'Ghanaian Civil Society:  
Campaigning and Advocacy with in the Water and Mining Sector',  
Accra, October 16, 2006

Compiled by

Wolfram Laube and Daniel Spalthoff

## **Workshop participants:**

Wolfram Laube, Daniel Spalthoff .....	Glowa Volta Project
Francesca Ayerro, Nichola Adamtey .....	ISODEC
Francis Ampadu .....	TREND
Fred Mahama .....	Arc Foundation
Mohammed Bingle, Abdul Hakeem .....	Sukura Local Action Committee, NCAP

## **Workshop schedule:**

1. Wolfram Laube: Short introduction to the GLOWA Volta Project (The NCAP representatives had not attended the forgoing meetings)
2. Nicolas Adamtey: Networking and research-based campaigning
3. Francesca Ayerro: Campaigning and public relations
4. Mohammed Bingle: Local NCAP Action Committees and water supply problems in Sukura and beyond
5. Francis Ampadu: Current situation of the Volta Lake Resettlement Scheme
6. Fred Mahama: Problems Arising through Gold Mining (short introduction)

## **Introduction:**

After the first meeting with representatives from civil society organizations at the 16.09.06, in Accra, and the overall 'GLOWA Volta 3<sup>rd</sup>-Phase Inception Meeting and Workshop, in which the new research focus on 'Negotiation processes in the Ghanaian water sector and the role of the civil society' as well as the overall GLOWA Volta project had been introduced respectively, this workshop was planned to provide an forum for dialogue between project scientists and representatives from the Ghanaian civil society.

The idea was that after two workshops that had been largely earmarked by presentations by scientists and, especially in the inception workshop, little room for question and discussion, another meeting was needed to start off a dialogue between project scientists and NGO representatives. Therefore, the various participants were asked to report of certain aspects of the work NGOs are doing the Ghanaian water sector and/or to talk about pertinent issues in the water sector (including related sectors such as mining and resettlement) that call for an active involvement of civil society. Furthermore, they had been asked to reflect about the GLOWA Volta Project, its implementation plans, and ways in which civil society organizations could benefit from scientific results, capacity building and the DSS-tools that will be developed by project scientists.

## **Synopsis of presentations and discussions:**

### **Nicholas Adamtey: Networking and research-based campaigning**

#### **Forums:**

If ISODEC gets interested in a certain issue (e.g. water privatization or the Privatization of the Ghana Commercial Bank (GCB)) it will invite various experts and if possible politicians (e.g. MPs) and representatives of the various camps to for a, in which the issued will be discussed. In the for a ISODEC tries to establish facts and to get an impression of the background of the issue at hand. Only after a forum has been held, ISODEC will decide whether to engage in an issue and which stance to take.

#### **Networking:**

As ISODEC can not and does not want to campaign on important issues alone, networking is an important aspect of its work. Networks, according to the issue at hand, can span the local, national and international level and may include activists, experts, stakeholders and politicians. Within this network information is shared via communication, meetings, and workshops and through publications.

#### **Example: GCB privatization**

After the initial forum was held, ISODEC established a network of experts and stakeholders at the local and the national level in which people kept each other updated and informed.

#### **Example: National Coalition against Privatization (NCAP)**

Before the privatization of urban water supplies had become an hot issue in Ghana ISODEC had already focused on the issue of water service delivery by the GWCL. Therefore, ISODEC already possessed a lot of expertise on the water sector before the issue became important. ISODEC started the NCAP in 2001/2002 and established a networked spanning local action groups, experts and activists at the national level as well as international partners. Foreign partners were organizations such as Oxfam, Christian Aid, Public Citizen (has a valuable database on international corporations engaged in the water sector), TNI, and Bread for the World. While international expertise, experiences and support was sought, a national coalition of NGOs and trade unions (TUC) was formed and independent local action committees founded.

Important information about the privatization was obtained from inside the GWCL, were workers and members of the lower management were afraid of privatization as they feared to loose their jobs. Actually, 1800 employees lost their jobs prior to privatization as GWCL tried to gain attractiveness in the eyes of potential investors. The debate about privatization resulted in a rift between the higher echelons of company management (people which actually

engineered the privatization and hoped to even receive better wages after international investors came in) and the large majority of employees who feared retrenchment or an deterioration of working conditions.

Despite good information the NCAP mainly based their arguments on a right-based approach against privatization. Examples were often derived from international case studies of failed and/or socially unacceptable water privatization exercises.

After ISODEC had successfully established the NCAP is slowly withdrew from a leading role and left campaigning and networking to other parties involved. This was said to be the general pattern of operation ISODEC likes to follow.

### **Scientific argumentation:**

While the NCAP and other campaigns of ISODEC mainly focus on right-based approaches, ISODEC has undertaken some efforts to use scientific evidence in its political advocacy work. While decision-making will remain political scientific arguments are more difficult to dismiss than arguments that are based on anecdotal evidence and the rights-based approach.

Some two years back ISODEC started a group involved in the modeling of the distributive effects of economic policy. The idea was to be able to come up with scientifically sound economic models that could give ideas how different social strata of the Ghanaian society would be affected by donor and governmental economic policies. Nevertheless, the effort did not succeed as the group involved realized that essential data, necessary for the modeling was not available on a disaggregated level. ISODEC itself lacked the resources to engage in a major effort of data collection.

### Possible co-operation with GLOWA

As ISODEC lacks the capacity and resources to engage in large data-gathering exercises and has been unable to get access to disaggregated Ghana Living Standard Survey (GLSS 4) data, it would be looking forward for cooperation with GLOWA towards economic modeling and data exchange. If possible, GLOWA could exchange data with ISODEC and cooperate in modeling exercises. First contacts between Mr. Adamtey and Dr. Afari-Zefa have been established.

On a more general level Mr. Adamtey stated the interest to base more of their campaigns on scientific arguments and hopes that GLOWA data and decision support tools may benefit the work of civil society. Interested representatives of civil society should be included in training programs on the use of software and models. Access to the DSS-infrastructure, once established should be granted to CSOs. Furthermore, some of the project use-cases should focus on issues that have been derived from interaction with CSOs and stakeholders from the water sector.

## G-RAP

Off late, ISODEC is involved in the donor driven G-RAP (Ghana Research and Advocacy Project) that, as part of the PRSP process, has the aim to support selected Ghanaian NGOs in order to enable them to better monitor the government and to do advocacy work based on research rather than propaganda.

While one might be skeptical about the taming effects that donor support for critical NGOs might have, it was said that the NGOs involved are on their guard against undue influencing and the NGO-members of the board of G-RAP (Dr. Yao Graham, (Director of the Third World Network (TWN)) and Dr. Rose Mensah Kutin (Director of Abantu for Development) are said to be well-known and highly independent figures of the Ghanaian NGO scene. Nevertheless, G-RAP seems to suffer some problems. Generally, the will and ability of individual NGOs to develop research capacities is rather low. Furthermore, the NGOs lack an umbrella organization that could facilitate combined (research) activities. NGOs are rather reluctant to unite and to agree on certain focal issues as they compete for funding and attention. In the meantime, G-RAP has been forced his threshold standard for applications for support and more than the initial 15 major NGOs may become eligible for support.

### **Discussion: Drinking water reform processes and water supply problems**

**Francis Ampadu** (former local coordinator of the GTZ EVORAP small-town water supply program):

There are projects targeting small-town and rural water supply such as the GTZ-project in the Volta-region. Here, PSP takes place as well. Every community has to pay an initial amount of money, 5% of the overall project's costs. This may rise as high as 400 Mio. Cedis. Many communities cannot afford these 5 %. GTZ faced delays as money could not be disbursed as communities could not meet the set contribution targets. In the end in the Volta Region HIPC money was used to pay for the community contributions. Elsewhere District Assemblies pay the initial contributions for rural communities, but this is arbitrary and may be according to political rationalities rather than consideration for the poor.

**Mohammed Bingle:**

NCAP did not only work on urban water supplies but also attacked the CWSA for their policies. Many see these 5% as unjust: why does the GWCL provide a free pipe system (in urban areas) while the establishment of the system in rural areas and small-towns has partially to be covered by the communities? Initial contributions as well as the cost per bucket are too high for poor communities. While the GWCL charges 80 Cedis per bucket in urban areas certain rural communities (e.g. Waluwo Adange West?) pay up to 200 Cedis per bucket, although a certain degree of cross-subsidization is actually taking place and a small percentage of the urban water bills is meant to support rural water delivery.

### **Fred Mahama:**

Water supply problems are not only due to lacking infrastructure but also due to inefficient operation. In a hilly part of Ashoman (a rich to middle income area) for example water only reaches only once in a while although all houses are connected and bills are even paid for. To get water the local representatives of GWCL have to be tipped before they open the pipes. This is although (or because?) GWCL managers live in the estates.

### **Mohamed Bingle:**

In urban areas lacking infrastructure seems to be the main problem. The Infrastructure has seen its last major rehabilitation in 1965. By then Accra was much smaller. Water delivery problems will continue unless the headworks and the pipelines to Accra are expanded. Another option might be decentralized water supplies.

The GWCL claims to lose 51% of the water through old pipes (some of them date back to 1928) and through illegal tapping of water. While it is evident that the GWCL is in charge of improving the pipe system to solve parts of the problem, it is not clear if illegal tapping of water by poor people is merely part of the problem or of the solution: on the one hand it contributes to water shortages in many areas, on the other it represents the a cheap, perhaps the only way for many people to get water. Research into cheap water delivery technologies (such as VIOLIA (?) is undertaking) could help the situation as it would decrease the high costs of legal connections.

### **Francesca Ayerro: Campaigning and public relations**

ISODEC (Integrated Social Development Centre) is an NGO with +/- 70 employees that operates in 5 out of Ghana's of ten regions (GA, AS, BA, NR, UER) and co-operates with partners in the other regions. Currently, ISODEC engages or has been engaged amongst others in the following campaigns and activities:

- **National Coalition against Privatization of Water:** see above and below
- **Universal Access to Anti-Retroviral Treatment Campaign:** part of an international campaign to advocate for the free provision of anti-retroviral drugs for HIV/AIDS patients.
- **Free Basic Education Campaign:** Monitoring of the disbursement of Capitation Grants and education of the district education teams. Advocacy for rural areas deprived of teachers.
- **Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative/Publish What you Pay Campaign:** Together with its offshoot, the Centre for Public Interest Law (CEPIL) tries to monitor the activities in mining and timber industries and to do advocacy and legal counseling for affected communities.
- **Ghana Trade and Livelihoods Coalition:** Campaigns against unjust terms of trade promoted by WTO and IMF especially with regard to the trade of agricultural products such as rice and tomato.

- **Centre for Budget Advocacy:** Research and modeling into the distributive effects of economic policies, monitoring of governance on the national and local levels

### **Coalition building:**

ISODEC tries to initiate coalitions with not more than 25 members, NGOs and other interested individuals or organizations, around certain topics (e.g. NCAP). They see themselves as starters, who try to provide the momentum and the forum for interested groups to get together. They only try to influence campaigns or veto decisions, if they feel that coalitions are falling apart or counterproductive steps are taken.

### **Policy monitoring and interventions:**

ISODEC officers attend parliamentary sessions. Proceedings are recorded and analyzed. If important decisions, which ISODEC wants to influence, are to be made, ISODEC may create for a in which PMs are educated on alternative views.

If ISODEC itself is invited to workshops and meetings, which it feels are important for political decision makers it may ask PMs to attend on ISODEC's behalf.

### **Public relations:**

ISODEC issues its own newspaper, the *PUBLIC AGENDA* that serves as means of campaigning and information distribution. Furthermore, press releases are issued and when important meetings or forums are held TV-, radio- and press reporters are invited to attend and report Good relations with editors and 'transportation' fees paid to media representatives ensure good media coverage. Coverage is indeed usually good and often more reporters than invited turn up. ISODEC does not suffer any neglect by any parts of the media and the feeling is that media are generally very independent. ISODEC continually screens the media on coverage and in order to be able to avoid misrepresentations.

The radio is a most effect means for the transportation of information in Ghana. Important forums are call-inns in which the audience can ask questions and discuss political and social issues with journalists, experts or politicians. ISODEC sends officers to sit at call-inns or makes sure that officers call the radio stations when important issues are debated and voice their opinion.

### **Public gatherings:**

In order to raise public attention for certain topics and to put pressure on politicians and/or administration ISODEC organizes peaceful public gatherings with posters in front of ministries or government agencies. Media coverage is ensured. This is seen as a very effective means of campaigning as it draws a lot of public attention and shames the targeted institutions or persons (e.g. public gathering in front of Ministry of Health).

### **Fund raising:**

Fund raising is a very essential task of ISODEC. So far ISODEC has been able to attract funding through international donor agencies such as: NOVIP, DFID, Christian Aid, and G-RAP.

### **Advocacy in mining areas:**

Mining frequently goes along with the appropriation of large areas of land which were formerly inhabited or cultivated by the communities in the mining areas. Mining communities often suffer from the loss and pollution of farmland, the pollution and degradation of water resources, dust and air pollution as well as the vibrations of explosions. This results in the deterioration of living conditions and local livelihoods. If mining concessions are granted, the mining companies usually promise resettlement-, compensation- and social infrastructure programs for the affected communities. These promises are frequently not kept. ISODEC in cooperation with its off-shoot CEPIL and other local (e.g. WACAM), national and international partner-NGOs tries to help affected communities through advocacy campaigns, public awareness raising, legal counseling and legal representation in court.

But it is not only the mining companies which are at fault. Often compensations and payments for rehabilitation efforts have been made by the companies but payments have never reached the affected communities. Therefore, in cooperation with international partners, ISODEC supports the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative and the Publish What You Pay Initiative, which want to ensure social accountability and that the funds made available by mining (and timber) industries are really spend for the intended purposes.

Especially CEPIL, employing quite a number of lawyers, is well equipped to lobby for the communities affected by mining and to negotiate with the mining industries. If negotiations do not lead to agreements, cases are taken to court. If the communities lack the means for prolonged litigation ISODEC and CEPIL may try to even raise funds.

### **Capacity building:**

In order to broaden the base of critical and knowledgeable citizens that are able to understand and challenge governmental or donor policies ISODEC tries to build the capacities of young scientists and of partner organizations. ISODEC annually recruits 10-15 young scientists who leave university after their first degree to do their national service. They work for ISODEC on various campaigns and are trained (e.g. welfare economics). The best ones may be kept while the hope for the others is that they will carry on the awareness and training they got from ISODEC into their future careers in different sectors.

Especially during the early stages of campaigns and coalition-building ISODEC likes to invite leading representatives of partner organizations that may not yet live up to professional standards for training courses in order to develop their organizational and leadership skills and their ability to campaign. Up to 10-12 people especially from local committees may be invited for such courses. They are then asked to further distribute their new knowledge in the communities. These courses are not always easy to organize as resources are lacking. As

people are frequently poor they may even look for compensations, while ISODEC is already suffering to get funds for such training programs.

### **Co-operation with GLOWA:**

ISODEC is very interested to base its campaign work on scientific grounds. Scientific arguments are less easily dismissed. NGOs frequently lack the resources and capacities to carry out research project on their own. As ISODEC has shown longstanding interest in water sector policies it may be quite interested in a DSS for the water sector and would like to be able have access to any such instrument. An accessible DSS might enable CSOs to better understand the results of water sector policies, certain infrastructure projects (e.g. the construction of large dams) and of the effects of extractive industries on local and regional water availability and quality. Therefore, capacity building and training courses should be open for CSO representatives active in the water sector.

### **Discussion: Political aspects of ISODEC's work**

After the change of government in 2000/2001 ISODEC shifted its emphasis from the monitoring of water supply delivery towards the anti-privatization campaign. This led to a situation where ISODEC was clearly opposing the water sector policies of the new government. This led to a situation in which ISODEC was perceived as being aligned with the opposition by the ruling NPP government. The rift between the government and ISODEC extended so far that the government sponsored a full page advert in the government newspaper *THE GRAPHIC* in which ISODEC was harshly attacked for their oppositional stance and alleged socialist tendencies. Readers were asked to ignore what was called ISODEC's propaganda.

Ever since the situation has somewhat calmed down. Nevertheless, it is still mainly opposition MPs that attend to ISODEC forums, although, depending on the issue at hand ISODEC claims to have good links with certain MPs of the ruling party, who, for political reasons might not attend to ISODEC's invitations personally, but send representatives.

### **Mohammed Bingle: Local NCAP Action Committees of the and water supply problems in Sukura and beyond**

#### **Experiences with the Local Action Committee of NCAP in Sukura:**

The Local Action Committee of the NCAP in Sukura, a low-income area of Accra, was established by 2002. Initially youth from the neighborhood united to protest against seemingly random and violent police crack-downs in Sukura, which followed an unprecedented wave of armed robbery in Accra that followed the transfer of power to the new NPP-government. In the course of their protest the youth contacted a renowned UK-based activist, Kofi Kakraba Pratt for support. After the police had ended its activities, Pratt sensitized the youth associations for the by-then ongoing water privatization process and linked the Sukura Youth Association with the CAP started off by ISODEC.

On the local level activities were meant to raise local awareness and to provide community-input for the national campaign. Nevertheless, local awareness-raising was not easy. The Local Action Committee tried to organized discussion within the community and engaged people in debates at their bases (places where people hang out and communicate with each other). Nevertheless, most people were only concerned with their immediate access to water and less with the water politics. Attempts to engage local political leaders such as assemblymen and the MP of the area into discussion also failed as the debate had grown political/partisan. They did not attend meetings and rather sent representatives. Lower-level community leaders, such as tribal chiefs, imams and church leaders were more open for the issue but lacked influence (“how far does their voice reach?”) Therefore, locally campaigning was an uphill task as “NCAP can only be the match, not the fire”.

### **Local perspective on privatization:**

Privatization policy is very biased, and strongly influenced by international donor’s interests. Efficiency in the water sector should be measured in terms of percentage of household connection coverage. Nevertheless, under privatization efficiency is measured in terms of cost recovery. Therefore, poor areas where payments are difficult and a lot of illegal connections exist will be sidelined, as locals can hardly afford connections cost (1,5 -5 Mio. Cedis, plus the 800.000 Cedis for the meter), while rich areas where people can easily pay and all connections are metered will be treated preferential. Airport Residential would be served, but water would be denied to poor areas such as Nima or Sukura.

### **Additional water problems:**

#### Quota system

The household quota system is seen as unfair it follows the principle “the more you use, the more you pay” and works as follows:

The first 10cbm are sold at approx. 4000 Cedis each

The 11<sup>th</sup> till the 20<sup>th</sup> cbm are sold at approx. 5000 Cedis each

The 21<sup>st</sup> till the 30<sup>th</sup> cbm are sold at approx, 6000 Cedis each.

It has been introduced to curb the wastage of water and the good effect is that, e.g. swimming-pool owners have to pay more than poorer households, because they consume more. Nevertheless, with regard to the poor areas town the problem of the compound houses arises. Within this compound houses you may find up to 10-20 households, who all withdraw water from the same pipe. The amount of water used per month, while low at the household level, is therefore exorbitantly high and water has to be bought at higher (quota) costs than they would arise for middle- or high income households with their own metered connection in their private homes.

## Commercial tariffs for local water vendors

Many of those who have been lucky to be connected to the pipe in poor areas of town turn into water vendors. As maybe only 10% of the houses in poor areas have pipe connections, people from houses without pipe connection come to their compounds to ask for water and it will be difficult to deny them access. Therefore, either by economic enterprise or default (“necessity is the mother of invention”) many of those with a connection become water vendors. The problem is that GWCL charges the higher commercial rates (approx. 5000 per cbm) so that they are forced to charge higher prices. Therefore, those without connection are not only forced to pay the profit-margin that water vendors will certainly put on top of the price they buy water for, but this price is even higher than the one people with household connections have to pay. In the end, the very poor, who frequently can not afford connections, pay the highest water prizes.

The lack of connections and the GWCL refusal to provide public standpipes where agents could sell water leads to an informal privatization of water delivery. While GWCL claims that a bucket should be sold at 80 Cedis poor people pay up to 300 Cedis a bucket. It is estimated that people in areas such as Sukura or Nima spend 15-25% of their income on water.

### **Solutions:**

It is not enough to criticize the current system but alternatives have to be developed. Discussions with the Public Utilities Regulatory Commission (PURC) have been held and possible solutions have been presented. One solution could be public standpipes with GWCL agents selling the water. This could ensure fixed and affordable prices. As long as there are private vendors selling water, they should not be charged commercial rates. The quota system has to be changed or compounded houses registered and treated differently. Furthermore, the current type of meters is cheating the customers. With the frequent water cuts a lot of air is measured before the water starts flowing again. Vacuum meters (costly) would be beneficial.

### **Research and possible co-operation with GLOWA Volta:**

As part of the opposition against the privatization the Sukura Youth Association was involved in a study of poor household expenses for water that was carried out by an expatriate student Richard Gordon with the assistance of ISODEC and NCAP. Mostly women from 160 households were interviewed in some low-income areas of Accra. While no real report is available (supposed to be with NCAP) the data indicated that in poor households 15-25% of the household income is spent on water.

Research into the varying water supply systems in socio-structurally diverging areas of Accra, potentially carried out, could deliver the quantitative data that could be used to engage the GWCL, the PURC and politicians in a discussion about efficient and affordable water delivery for the poor. Daniel Spalthoff, maybe with the co-operation of Ghanaian M. phil. Students, may provide such data as a result of his research.

**Discussion: NCAP and the role of local action committees, water vendors and regionally diverging water problems:**

**Francesca Ayerro:**

What is NCAP doing to solve the above mentioned problems? Initially, it grew out of ISODEC's initiative to ensure acceptable water service delivery in Nima and some towns (?) in Ashati region. Why does it not tackle these problems? Local action committees should unite.

**Mohammed Bingle:**

NCAP has only worked on privatization but not involved itself with the details of water service delivery on the local level. There is a number of local Action Committees (Sukura, Nima, Mamobi, Ashale Botie, New Town) but each area has to deal with its own problems. Some areas suffer from lack of connections, some from unreliable water delivery, some from lack of main pipes. But as individual group you are too small to be heard. Nevertheless, it is true that NCAP should make suggestion for the amelioration of water service delivery especially to poor areas.

**Francesca Ayerro/Fred Mahama:**

Water vendors are part of the problem. They often build their tanks at lowland areas where water can easily reach and fill their big tanks before others can even get water to their houses. If the others are not lucky they will not even get water before the water is closed again. Some of the GWCL officials (allegedly in Ashoman) are involved in the provision of water through tanker services. It was felt that unreliable and delaying delivery of pipe water may work to their advantage as it may force better-off households to order extremely costly tanker services. If water vendors would be given better rates it could not be assured that the price decreases would actually reach the poor or only fill the pockets of water vendors, who would refuse to decrease prices.

**Mohammed Bingle:**

Since GWCL refuses to provide public standpipes private water vendors are the only solution to poorer areas with only a very limited number of connections. Nevertheless, it is true that water vendors may not decrease prices, if they receive better tariffs, but this should be monitored.

**Francis Ampadu: Shortfalls of the VRA Volta Lake resettlement program**

**Precarious economic, social, political and cultural conditions in the resettlement schemes:**

The conditions under which the communities that were resettled by the VRA after the construction of the Akosombo dam and prior to the flooding of the Volta Lake are living was

portrayed as highly problematic and as a major injustice. Resettlers lost their livelihoods as farmlands, pastures and forests were flooded and lands inadequately compensated for. Inappropriate land acquisition for resettlers has led to a situation where many resettlers have lost their newly acquired land or are involved in conflict and litigation. Housing facilities provided by VRA were inadequately built and are, due to lacking maintenance both from VRA and the resettlers, at the brink of collapse.

The communities suffer from cultural and political problems as a number of roughly 200 villages, all with their own political institutions, customs and cultural were forced into 52 resettlement schemes. The artificially created villages, therefore, suffer from political competition, legal pluralism and internal cultural differences that create frequent conflict and curb cohesion and co-operation.

Because of conflict and disunity the resettlers have so far not been able to effectively argue their plight and have not had the chance to advocate for any amelioration of their situation. Generally, the resettlers, who have largely sacrificed towards one of Ghana's most important infrastructure projects, the Volta Lake, have been victimized and do not have the means to argue their cause against the powerful VRA.

The details of Mr. Ampadu's presentation are here not fully spelled out, but Mr. Ampadu has documented the difficult socio-economic, sanitary, cultural and political conditions under which the re-settlers live in his report 'Economic and Livelihood activities in VRA-Resettled Communities', which will be attached to these proceedings.

### **Discussion: Possible Solutions, CSO advocacy, the role of scientific knowledge, GVP-co-operation**

#### **Mr. Ampadu:**

Research should be undertaken to document the situation in the resettlement schemes in order to provide the necessary input data for successful advocacy.

#### **Mr. Laube:**

The theme itself seems to be very interesting and should be certainly pursued. Nevertheless, the theme does not fit well into the GVP's current sociological research agenda as so far there is no civil society engagement and no negotiation processes underway.

#### **Mrs. Ayerro:**

Advocacy difficult as communities are divided and rife with conflict. If at least individual communities could agree on a common stance they could approach CEPIL. CEPIL is very active and has a lot of experience with regard to the negative effects of governmental land appropriation. If approached CEPIL could send a commission and start to argue the case of a community as a precedent. Nevertheless, unity is a necessary precondition.

## **Fred Mahama: Civil society involvement in (water problems in) mining areas**

### **Problem statement:**

Due to a delay caused by the many discussions there was only limited time left for the final presentation as workshop participants had to leave. Fred Mahama, therefore, only gave a short presentation on problems related to mining especially with regard to water resources. Often, surface water resources in mining areas are heavily contaminated and cause serious health problems in the affected communities. Furthermore, the removal of groundwater from the mines may negatively affect the availability of drinking water abstracted from underground aquifers. As mining companies often fail to appropriately address the environmental and social consequences of their activities communities need organize support in order to defend their interests against strong international mining companies.

Fred Mahama drew the attention to an interesting publication title (?) by (?).

### **Civil society engagement:**

Within the mining areas there is already a number of local, national and international NGOs operating. Some of the most active actors are Wassa Association of Community Affected by Mining (WACAM), CEPIL, Friends of the Nation (FoN), the Third World Network (TWN) and PLAN International.

## List of Participants:

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Organization:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
Nicolas Adamtey	ISODEC	adamtey@isodec.org.gh	0244-539521
Francis Ampadu	TREND	pfampadu@yahoo.com	0244-547105
Francesca Ayerro	ISODEC	fayerro@yahoo.com	028-7088171
Mohammed Bingle	Local Action Committee of the National Campaign Against the Privatization of Water (NCAP/Sukura)	imig07@yahoo.com	0244-687934
Abdul Hakeem	Local Action Committee of the National Campaign Against the Privatization of Water (NCAP/Sukura)/ COMNET	hakeemamd@yahoo.com	0244-568407
Wolfram Laube	GLOWA Volta Project	wlaube@uni-bonn.de	0049-228-734915 or in Ghana 0242-531836
Fred Mahama	Arc Foundation	mahama2002gh@yahoo.com	027-7310544
Daniel Spalthoff	GLOWA Volta Project	spalthoff@uni-bonn.de	0246-771533