

January 2008 - Dumase Resettlement Project Update

The year began with the introduction of a new team, set-up within Golden Star (Bogoso / Prestea) Limited (GSBPL) for resettlement. The team has since been directly liaising with the Dumasi Oversight Committee (DOC) and stakeholders on the resettlement process and related matters. Guidelines and procedures have been established and all community consultation is going through the DOC.

Community Consultations

Golden Star raised a concern that committee member(s) who form part of the DOC also provide services / supplies to the company. Even though these relationships pre-date the formation of the DOC, the concern was that both the DOC and GSBPL could be accused of a conflict of interest in their dealings over the Dumase Resettlement Project, either now or in the future. As the conflict of interest involves DOC member(s), GSBPL requested inputs from the DOC as to how it should be best handled. The DOC responded in writing that the issue should not pose any conflict of interest and should rather be regarded as improving the relationship between the company and the community.

The DOC requested a written apology from GSBPL for attempting to undermine the credibility of the DOC before they could honour any invitation to attend any meeting with GSR. The written apology was sent and a meeting has since been held.

Issues that were raised in the last meeting of 2007 are being addressed. The DOC requested GSBPL to reconsider the development package requested by the community and this has received attention.

- A scholarship scheme has been developed for the catchment communities including Dumase.
- Training would be given to four Dumase community members for water maintenance.
- Necessary preparations are ongoing for training for some employees from Dumase.
- Transportation for SSS Students is in place for implementation.

All the other issues are earmarked for discussion and consideration during negotiations.

Baseline Development

Plans are far underway for the socioeconomic survey of Dumase Community, as agreed with the DOC in the last meeting between the DOC and GSBPL in December 2007. Bids were received from the consultants and the final selection is underway with a start expected in mid-February, 2008. GSBPL has asked the DOC to nominate three people from the community to take part in monitoring and supervision during the survey.

Continued development of the baseline with the asset survey is required before resettlement negotiations can be completed.

Main Ongoing Activities

Final planning for capacity building for the members of the DOC, and socio-economic survey are completed and activities will begin as soon as GSBPL receives feedback from the DOC. We continue to work with the DOC to complete the baseline so that negotiations can start.