

# **July-September 2008 - Dumasi Resettlement Project Update**

## ***General***

Consultations between Bogoso / Prestea and the Dumasi Oversight Committee (DOC) continued. However, despite extensive efforts by Bogoso / Prestea, little progress was made on baseline development and resettlement planning.

The main focus for our team remained addressing the community concerns that led to the interruption of the socio-economic survey and resuming the survey, but we have received little cooperation from the DOC in that direction.

## ***Community Consultations***

- Significant increases in the costs for fuel and electric power this year necessitated a review of the mine operations with a temporary hiatus on the consultations process during this period.
- The DOC threatened to boycott the process if they were not paid the demanded rates for sitting and transport allowances. GSR completed a corporate review of rates, which were then offered to the DOC. The revised rates were considered inadequate by the DOC, and they decided, once again, to continue the process without any cash allowances.
- To avoid misunderstandings and misinterpretations in relation to project activities and agreements reached, the two parties agreed to set in place certain procedures and record keeping for meetings.
- Traditional leaders of Dumasi were promptly informed on the status of the consultation process and of the issues creating holdups or contributing to delays.

## ***Stakeholder Updates***

- We continued to meet with the Dumasi community elders to brief them on the process and to receive their comments and suggestions.
- Updates on the project were presented to the District Chief Executive at the new District Assembly in Bogoso. The DCE or his representative will regularly participate at the meetings with the DOC.
- The concept and process of the socio-economic survey was presented along with updates on the project to the national regulatory body (EPA) and their comments and suggestions were incorporated in the project planning.
- Through consultations with the regional stakeholders, attention shifted towards goodwill building through generating initiatives that will benefit the broader Dumasi community.

## ***Baseline Development***

- The community and the DOC presented new inputs for the socioeconomic survey questionnaire that were incorporated into the general questionnaire.
- A suitable mode to conduct the survey in the community without using number coding for the houses was designed and communicated to the DOC.
- Requests to resume the socio-economic survey were addressed to the DOC on several occasions.
- Currently, consultations are continuing on resuming the surveys. The DOC is demanding that before they agree on resuming the survey GSBPL pays their fees for legal counsel related to the socioeconomic survey and that GSBPL brings in the consultant to confirm modality of conducting the survey without using house coding.