

## **KPANDAI DISTRICT PROFILE**

### **1.2.1 Introduction**

This section examines the geophysical characteristics of the District including the demography, culture, the district economy, social services, vulnerability as well as HIV/AIDs and gender, nature and status of the built environment as well as the current situation in relation to the seven pillars of the Medium-Term Development Policy Framework.

### **1.2.3 Geophysical Characteristics**

#### **1.2.3.1 Location and size**

The District can be located at the South-Eastern corner of the Northern Region of Ghana and lies between latitudes 8° N and 9.29° N and longitudes 0.29 ° E and 1.26°W. It is bordered to the North by Nanumba South District, East Gonja to the West, Krachi West District to the South-West, Nkwanta North District to the East and Pru District in Brong Ahafo Region to the South

The District has a total surface area of 1,772.04sqkm with water covering about 5%. The District is strategically located – the central point between the Northern part and Southern part of the Eastern corridor of Ghana. The District can therefore take advantage of its strategic location to be a gateway to both the Southern and Northern Ghana. Similarly, strategic facilities of national importance aimed at wider coverage for both the southern and northern Ghana can be conveniently located in the district to achieve the desired results. Being strategically located in the transitional zone, the district has the advantage of experiencing mixed climatic conditions that have both positive and adverse implications for the district's development.

#### **1.2.3.2 Relief and Drainage**

The lands are gently undulating with few depressions. There are few high hills to the eastern corridor of the district but mountains are completely absent. The soils are generally sandy loamy except in the lowlands and swampy areas where alluvial deposits are found.

The district is endowed with three big rivers- River Oti, River Daka, White Volta and its tributaries that transverse the district at vantage points and floods these areas at the peak of the rainy season. There are also low lying and swampy areas which also become waterlogged during the rainy season. Other water bodies found in the District include numerous intermittent streams located in most parts of the District. These water bodies constitute important resources for the people as most of them depend on them for household use, fishing and transportation.

The topography of the District is not a hindrance for road development and yet most of the communities in the District are accessible only by foot paths .Generally, the area is well drained except that few portions located close to the major rivers and streams become waterlogged and pose problems for human and vehicle movement in the rainy seasons. The

water bodies also create large expanse of river banks that offer an advantage for rice cultivation.

### **1.2.3.3 Climate**

The District lies in the Tropical Continental Climatic Zone with the mid-day sun always overhead. As result, temperatures are fairly high ranging between 29°C and 40°C. Maximum temperature is usually recorded in April, towards the end of the dry season. Minimum temperatures are also recorded around December-January, during the Harmattan period. Just like any part of West Africa, the district comes under the influence of the wet South-West Monsoon and the dry North-East Trades winds which are associated with the rainy season and the dry harmattan conditions respectively.

The rainfall pattern in Kpandai District is characterized by irregularity and variability in terms of timing of onset, duration and total amount of rainfall, which has been the key limiting factor affecting crop production in the district. However, the district has one main rainy season which is sufficient to support and sustain plant life. The total annual rainfall ranges between 1150mm to 1500mm.

This climatic pattern is good for food crop production and to some extent, forest development. However, the concentration of the rains in three months period affect farming since most parts of the year when rains are off is usually declared as “off farming” and the people spend most of this period idling. Similarly, the pattern affects accessibility to certain communities as most roads become flooded during the peak season rendering them impossible or unmotorable.

### **1.2.3.4 Vegetation**

The District is located in the transitional zone between the Northern Savannah and the moist semi deciduous forest. The natural vegetation in the district is the Guinea Savannah Woodland, which has evolved from climatic conditions and modified substantially by human activities. There are few grooves, which have been preserved over the years.

The tree cover consists of semi-deciduous trees such as oil palm trees; raffia palm; acacia; shea-nut trees; dawadawa trees among others. In addition, tall grasses that characterize Guinea Savannah areas are extensively spread throughout the district. A large number of both plant and animal species inhabit the natural environment.

The tree cover is relatively dense, compared to the rest of the districts in Northern Region. However, intensive harvesting of the trees for fuel wood and charcoal production, and bad attitude of the Fulani herdsmen are fast reducing the tree cover.

### **1.2.3.5 Soils**

The soils in the district are classified into three major groupings. These include alluvial soils classified as Gleysols, which is found around the Volta Lake, particularly in the drawn-down zone of the Volta Lake, in the dry season. The soils along the Lake are medium textured and

moderately well drained in parts. The soil is potentially fertile for the commercial cultivation of yams and maize.

The bulk of the district is covered by ground water laterites, developed mainly from Voltaian Sandstone materials, highly concretionally with frequent exposures of iron pan and boulders. There are, however, deeper and slightly better soils in some locations, which could support shifting cultivation patterns. Any development should include maintenance of vegetation cover to prevent soil erosion.

The other major soil group is the relatively fertile Savannah Ochrosols. This soil group is moderately well drained with good water retention. The soils types found in the District are good for the cultivation of crops such as yam, maize, groundnut, cassava among others. Also the recent discoveries of smooth sand (Sea-Sand) around Blajai may be an important revenue sources to the District if access road is created to the site.

#### **1.2.3.5.0 Environmental Situation**

The quality of both the built and natural environment is vital for the sustainable growth and development of the district. Developmental initiatives can only be meaningful and sustainable when it is founded on a well managed and healthy built environment. To this end, the protection of natural environment to prevent deforestation, land degradation and loss of ecosystem is paramount. The District Natural and Built Environment are therefore examined in this section.

#### **1.2.3.5.1 Natural Environment**

The District's natural environment is characterized by numerous problems emanating from the rainfall pattern, nature of soils, use of energy resources, farming and household activities.

The pattern of rainfall experienced in the district to a large extent contributes to the environmental degradation of the district. From December to March when the rains are off, the area becomes dry and the vegetation is destroyed by bush fires leaving the land bare. This serves as an avenue for extensive soil erosion when the rains set-in around April or May. This phenomenon has led to extensive land degradation in most parts of the district.

A significant portion of the district abound in clay soils and this poses serious problems for human and vehicle movement due to the floods that are normally associated with clay with the onset of the rains.

About 90% of the population depends on wood and charcoal as the main source of energy for both domestic and commercial purposes. The collection of wood and the production of charcoal lead to environmental degradation in all the settlements in the district. The developmental constraints associated with the use of charcoal and wood as the main sources of energy includes.

- Deforestation
- Soil erosion
- Loss of soil fertility
- Ecological imbalance

The practice of clearing and burning the vegetation for farming in the district also cause erosion and deforestation in the district. Since about 90% of the population is farmers, these have adverse impact on the food security in the District.

The main problems of the district environment and sanitation are caused by household activities. About 80% of the population in the district disposes off both solid and liquid waste within the vicinity of their houses and these are carried into the various water bodies by run-offs thereby polluting them. The logical consequence of this is the wide spread incidence of sanitation related diseases such as diarrhoea, bilharzias, dysentery and other water borne diseases etc.

#### **1.2.3.5.2 Built Environment**

The state of the built environment in the District leaves much to be desired. This is traceable to poor spatial planning, poor waste management, lack of District bye- laws, poor building technology etc. With the absence of effective development control machinery in the district, physical development has been haphazard and uncoordinated leading to incompatible land uses especially in the urban and semi urban settlements of Kpandai, Kumdi, Buya and Kitare etc. Worse still the general absence of drains in the district has exposed most communities to severe erosion resulting in reel and gullies and these exposed foundations of buildings. Similarly, large portions of the feeder roads in the District are badly eroded increasing travelling time by more than half the normal travel time.

#### **1.2.4.0 Demographic Characteristics**

Population is a critical issue in every district development. The Population of a District is its greatest resource. It is the instrument and objective of the district’s development, hence the protection and enhancement of its welfare is the District’s first responsibility (adapted from “Ghana Population Policy, 1969”)

##### **1.2.4.1 Population Size and Density**

The District population for 2000 PHC was 78,501 people with a growth rate of 2.1%, the present population is therefore estimated to be of 96,291 people. The major towns with their 2000 Population and Housing Census figures as well as 2009 projections are as follows;

**Table 1.9: Major Towns and 2000 PHC Figures**

Town	2000 Population	2009 Projection
Kpandai	7,714	9,318
Ekumdi	1,562	1,886
Loloto	1,526	1,843
Nkanchina No. 2	1,478	1,745

Katiejeli	1,988	2,401
Gulbi Quarters	2,657	3,209
Sabon-Gida	1,585	1,914
Lonto	1,329	1,605
Kodwobone	1,069	1,291
Kitare	2,926	3,534
Buya	2,855	3,448
Bladjai	2,462	2,974
Kabonwule	1,369	1,653

**Table 1.10: Population by Area Council (2000 PHC)**

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	% SHARE
Kpandai Town Council	5,059	4,868	9,927	12.66%
Nkanchina Area Council	4,699	4,692	9,391	11.96%
Jambuai Area Council	6,998	7,299	14,297	18.21%
Kabonwule Area Council	7,966	7,737	15,703	20.00%
Ekumdi Area Council	7,201	7,061	14,262	18.17%
Katiejeli	3,802	3,715	7,517	9.58%
Lonto/Kpadjai	3,745	3,659	7,404	9.43%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39,470</b>	<b>39,031</b>	<b>78,501</b>	<b>100%</b>

The current projected population based on 1984 and 2000 Population and Housing Census put the population figure for 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 at 98,458; 100,548; 102,681 and 104,861 respectively. This indicates that the district population had grown at an increasing rate of 2.1% over a 16 year period (1984-2000). This is a rather low growth rate compared to other rural districts in the country. It is also useful to add that giving the general population growth rate of 2.1%, population growth at the rural areas are quite higher than those at the urban settlements. This may be attributed to the absence of recreational facilities in the rural areas and the low levels of population control measures in those areas.

With reference to the land size and the population, population density for the planned period stands at 38; 39; 40 and 41 persons per square kilometre for 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 respectively. These compared to the national average of 89 persons per sq. km. indicates that the district is sparsely populated. However, compared to the rate of food production, the district cannot be said to be under populated and hence steps need to be taken to reduce the

rate of growth through the provision of adequate social services and recreational facilities in all the communities in the district.

#### 1.2.4.2 Age/Sex Distribution

An analysis of the Age/Sex distribution is important for the district development since needs and aspirations vary with age and sex. Hence having adequate information on the age/sex distribution of the district's population will inform appropriate planning aimed at ensuring equity in the distribution of resources across gender or sex.

The sex structure of the population from the 2000 PHC revealed that 50.42% of the population was male and 49.58% female. Thus putting the male/female ratio at 1.02:1.00. This differs from the national situation where there are more females (50.5%) than males (49.5%). From the projected population of 96,291, the following structure was realized: 0-15 constituted 41.60% while the youth between the ages of 16-45 years constitute 46.38%. The youth who constitute the larger proportion of the population however lack employable and entrepreneurial skills to enable them contribute significantly to the district development. Those above 60 years (aged) constituted only 5.30% of the population.

The dependent population in district from the above analysis consisting of the last two cohorts (0-15 & 61+) was 46.90%. The economically active population (16-60) age cohort is thus 53.11%. The dependency ratio from the projected population is therefore 1.3:1.0 this implies that 13 workers will be feeding 10 dependents or 130 workers will be feeding 100 dependents if all the population within the economically active age cohort were in active labour force. The economic dependency ratio was found to be 1:1.2. Meaning that 100 workers have 102 dependents, compared with the national ratio of 1:0.87. This economic burden though lower than the national level could still be minimized with combined measures of increased job opportunities and increased productivity. The table below shows the age/sex structure of the district.

**Table 1.11: Age/Sex Distribution**

Age Range	2008			2009		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
0-5	6909	6794	13703	7056	6938	13994
6-10	7055	6937	13992	7204	7085	14289
11-15	5811	5714	11526	5934	5836	11770
16-20	6809	6696	13505	6953	6838	13791
21-25	4291	4220	8511	4383	4309	8692

26-30	4184	4114	8298	4273	4201	8474
31-35	2480	2438	4918	2532	2490	5022
36-40	2549	2506	5055	2603	2559	5162
41-45	1735	1706	3441	1772	1742	3514
46-50	1504	1480	2984	1537	1510	3047
51-55	668	657	1325	682	671	1353
56-60	1028	1012	2040	1050	1033	2083
61-65	545	536	1081	557	547	1104
66-70	614	604	1218	627	617	1244
71-75	353	347	700	360	355	715
76-80	422	415	837	431	424	855
81-85	154	151	305	157	154	311
86-90	200	196	396	204	200	404
91+	231	226	457	235	231	466
<b>Total</b>	<b>47542</b>	<b>46749</b>	<b>94291</b>	<b>48550</b>	<b>47741</b>	<b>96291</b>

Source: District Baseline Survey; 2008

### 1.2.4.3 Spatial Distribution of Population

The district population like most other Districts is not evenly distributed. The 2000 PHC revealed a pattern of population concentration in the District capital and other larger settlements. The concentration of people in these major towns put significant stress on existing social services such as schools, health and water facilities and on land for agriculture and residential activities. The table below shows the percentage share of population of seven sub-structures in the District.

**Table 1.12: Population by Area Council (2000 PHC)**

TOWN/AREA COUNCIL	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	% SHARE
Kpandai Town Council	5,059	4,868	9,927	12.66%
Nkanchina Area Council	4,699	4,692	9,391	11.96%
Jambuai Area Council	6,998	7,299	14,297	18.21%

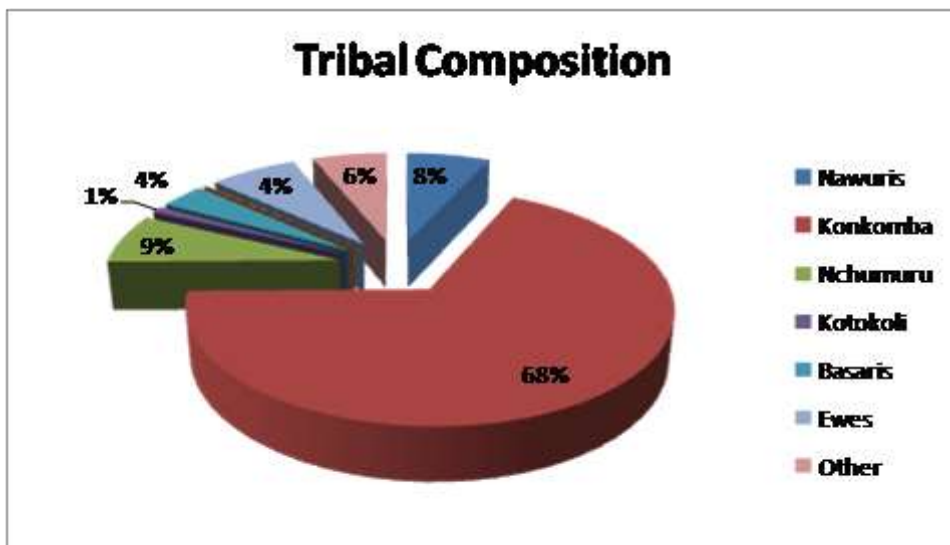
Kabonwule Area Council	7,966	7,737	15,703	20.00%
Ekumdi Area Council	7,201	7,061	14,262	18.17%
Katiejeli	3,802	3,715	7,517	9.58%
Lonto/Kpadjai	3,745	3,659	7,404	9.43%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39,470</b>	<b>39,031</b>	<b>78,501</b>	<b>100%</b>

Source: 2000 PHC

### 1.2.5 Ethnicity

Kpandai district is a cosmopolitan district with the Konkombas constituting about 68% of the District population. The pie chart below shows the percentage distribution of ethnic groups in the District. The widely spoken dialect is Twi

**Figure 1.1: Tribal Composition**

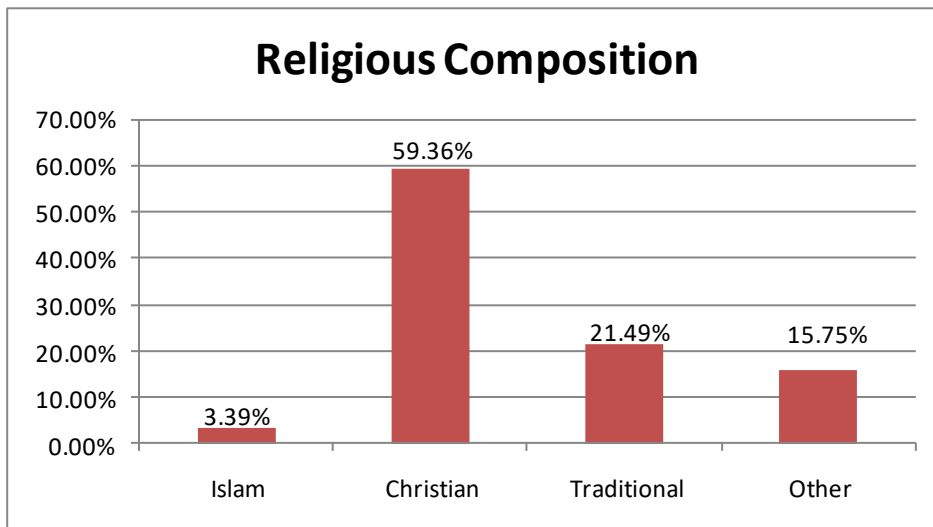


Source: District Baseline Survey; 2008

### 1.2.6 Religion

Christianity is the dominant religion in the district consisting of about 59.36% of the population, followed by Traditional African religion (21.49%), and Islam (3.39%). Other religious groups constitute 15.75%. The bar chart below shows the distribution of the sampled population and their religious affiliation.

**Figure 1.2: Religious Composition**



Source: District Baseline Survey; 2008

Unlike other areas of the country where religious diversity poses significant threat to conflict, the diversity in Kpandai District is rather a good tool for community mobilization and development.

### **1.2.7 Migration**

Kpandai District has experiences both in and out migration, especially during the 1992 and 1994 ethnic conflict that devastated the area. The youth from the area continue to migrate to bigger and developed towns in the region and, the southern part of the country. This is due to the absence or inadequacy of socio-economic infrastructure, social facilities and alternative employment opportunities in the area. On the other hand, migrant farmers and farm laborers from outside the area do come into the area during the farming season to till the lands.

### **1.2.8 Culture**

Kpandai district being a cosmopolitan one implies that the district has diverse cultures. All the ethnic groups in the District have their local chiefs. They are further divided into clans with recognized clan heads. The Nawuris were the first ethnic group to be migrated into the area and so they are the land owners.

These heads play various roles in mobilizing their people for special functions. Amongst the various clans, there is no established structure or hierarchy and this often lead to chaos as to who amongst the numerous clan heads, to pay homage to on a visit to a particular community. There is high communal spirit among community members in occasions such as funeral performance but the same is yet to be seen in terms of communal labour on self-help projects. Ethnic diversity in the District is a potential source of conflict and efforts should be made to avert those situations.

Major celebrations that bring the people from all over the country to their traditional homes include funerals and festivals such as yam festival. These celebrations could be used to raise funds to support major development efforts in the District.

### **1.2.9 Spatial Analysis**

The settlement pattern is generally the dispersed type. Many of the communities are located along major roads in the area, with populations sparsely distributed.

### **1.2.10.0 District Economy**

A formidable micro economy of the District is vital for the reduction of extreme poverty. This section is therefore devoted to the analysis of the structure of the District's economy, household income and expenditure patterns as well as revenue and expenditure status, economic infrastructure and commodity export.

### **1.2.10.1 Structure of the Local Economy**

The economy of the District is dominated by agriculture followed by commerce and industrial sectors. Agriculture accounts for about 90% of the District labour force, commerce and industry sectors accounting for about 10%.

### **1.2.10.2 Agriculture**

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people in the District employing about 90% of its labour force. The sector consists of crop farmers, fishermen, and livestock farmers. Farming in the area however is still at a primary stage of development characterized by use of crude and inefficient implements. The main implements used for farming include cutlasses and hoes. Farming is not yet mechanized in the District and the people still practice rain fed agriculture. Although the District has large expanse of water resources for irrigation but any form of irrigation is not practiced in the District. This is largely due to the absence of irrigation facilities and partly due to limited knowledge of farmers on irrigation development. The hopes are that when Kumdi and Nkanchina irrigation dams are completed, they will offer opportunity to the farmers in the District to practice dry season farming.

### **1.2.10.2.1 Cropping pattern**

The main crops grown in the District include yam, cassava, maize, rice, and groundnut. Mixed cropping is a common feature among the farmers in the district. This is largely due to the fact that crops grown are suitable to be inter-cropped with others. For instance yams planted on mounds are inter-cropped with maize or cassava. The advantages associated with mixed cropping as obtained from the farmers was that it provided the singular opportunity for the two crops to be harvested on the same piece of land during the same season and also serves as security against total loss of yield due to pest or disease infestation of any one crop.

However, mixed cropping put a lot of pressure on the soil as crops compete for soil nutrients at the same time. Soil fertility management should therefore be encouraged.

#### **1.2.10.2.2 Farm Inputs and Services**

Almost all the farmers in the district use hoes and cutlasses for their farming operations. These tools are labour intensive and less efficient and not suitable for large scale farming. Tractor service in the district is low and only accessible to the few that can meet the cost. Animal traction is not a common phenomenon in the District even though the potentials exist for its development. About 50% of the farmers do not use fertilizers, and or insecticides. The major reasons for this were ascertained to include: high cost, the second reason for low use of fertilizer could be linked to the poor condition of the roads network. It is almost close to impossible for big trucks carrying fertilizer to get to the district capital to off load. This makes demand to exceed supply. In the hinterlands, farmers would have to trek longer distances to the district capital in search of fertilizer which is at times not available. The third reason that might be a contributory factor is the introduction of the coupon system. Farmers would have to be issued with a coupon to enable him/her purchase fertilizer at a subsidized price. At times too, coupons may be in short supply or run out of stock and the District Agriculture Director would have to travel to the Regional capital for coupons at times spending weeks before he could be supplied thereby worsening the plight of the farmers.

What compounds the problem is that farmers also lack knowledge on the use of alternative soil nutrients such as organic matter that equally enriches the soil and less expensive and environmentally friendly.

Some few farmers in the District receive extension services through eleven (11) agriculture extension agents from the District Directorate of Agriculture. The extension agent to farmer ratio in the District is 1:5,140. This means that one Extension agent is handling more farmers as compare to the national ratio of 1:1400 as at 2004 as against a target of 1:1200. This is to say that the District's extension service coverage is not satisfactory and therefore steps need to be taken to strengthen the extension staff in terms of numbers, logistics and training.

#### **1.2.10.2.3 Crop Storage Processing and Marketing**

Farmers store their produce in structures made from leaves and wood often referred to as 'Kechagla'. Other places of storage include putting farm produce in jute sacks and fertilizer sacks. Some farmers prefer leaving their farm produce on the farms but most of these farmers lose their produce through bush fires and theft. All the farmers in the district lack access to appropriate storage facilities and this has led to high post harvest losses. Owing to this, most farmers prefer selling their produce at give-away prices immediately after harvest.

There are very few small scale agro-based processing industries in the district. The bulk of agricultural produce is sold unprocessed. Establishment of more small scale manufacturing industries can assist in value addition of the produce which will increase the shelf life of the produce and thereby improve the income levels of farmers on the long term.

#### **1.2.10.2.4 Livestock and Poultry**

It is a common practice in the district that, small ruminants and poultry are on free range or the extensive system and only a few farmers practice the semi intensive system. The district is blessed with large expanse of pastoral lands. Inhabitants interested in cattle rearing take advantage of this to keep large numbers of cattle. Other types of animals such as goats and sheep are also reared on a limited scale. Livestock and poultry are mostly not kept for commercial purposes but as a buffer against poverty.

#### **1.2.10.3 Fishing**

Fishing is an important agricultural activity in the District. The district is blessed with the Oti River and its tributaries. People leaving in settlements around it do a lot of fishing. Various types of fresh water fishes are normally harvested in the rivers. Some of the fish types include; tilapia, mud fish, “gear box”, tug fish, among others.

The fishes harvested are normally smoked, fried and some salted into salted fish (used as flavour in soup). Both salted and smoked fish are normally sold on the local markets to resident buyers who use it locally. A large chunk of the locally processed fish is sold out to market women from other districts.

Most of the fishermen lack appropriate storage facilities that will enable them to store their fish and sell at appropriate times. Other major constraints of fishing in the district include: poor catch in the dry seasons, low profit margins and spoilage of fish. In recent times the fishermen use unauthorized nets for fishing there by depleting the stock on the rivers and the lake.

#### **1.2.10.4 General Problems in Agricultural Sector**

The major problems confronting agricultural development in the District include the following:

##### **Crop farming**

- ✚ High farmer AEA ratio
- ✚ Inadequate tractors for mechanization
- ✚ Low use of quality and improved seeds
- ✚ Misuse and abuse of agro-chemicals
- ✚ Bad access roads linking farm settlements to market centres
- ✚ Over reliance on rain fed agriculture
- ✚ Lack of appropriate storage facilities
- ✚ Low farm gate prices
- ✚ Perennial bush burning
- ✚ High cost of agricultural inputs
- ✚ Inadequate micro credit facilities

## Livestock Rearing

- ✚ Frequent outbreaks of schedule diseases such as anthrax, PPR, foot and mouth rot
- ✚ High cost of veterinary drugs and services
- ✚ High farmer to veterinary officer ratio

## Fishing

- ✚ Use of unauthorized fishing gears)
- ✚ Use of unauthorized chemicals to poison fish for bumper catch
- ✚ Lack of fish culture

### 1.2.10.5 Commerce and Industry

This sector employs about 10% of the District's labour force. The sector is least developed and dominated by petty traders, kiosk owners, and transport owners. Commercial activities are enhanced by periodic markets that are scattered all over the District. Notable among these are the Kpandai, Kumdi, Kitare, Katiejeli, and Jamboai among others. These market centres constitute the major sources of revenue to the District Assembly. However the market infrastructure are poorly developed. Only few of the markets have stalls or stores and activities are largely conducted under trees and in temporally structures. Due to the importance of the markets in the District's economy steps need to be taken to facilitate their development through the provision of adequate support infrastructure. Also trustworthy and qualified market revenue collectors need to be employed to ensure effective and efficient revenue mobilization

Industrial activities are largely on small scale and characterized by over reliance on indigenous knowledge and resources. Family ownership and use of labour intensive technology are some of the basic features of this sector. Major small scale industrial activities engaged in by the people include carpentry and cassava processing, as well as tailoring.

Using the type of raw materials as a criterion, Small Scale Industries can be grouped into the following categories as contained in the table below

**Table 1.13: Types of Small Scale Industries**

Category of Small Scale Industries	Industries
Agro-based	Milling, gari processing, distillery, brewery, fishing
Wood-based	Carpentry, charcoal production, wood carvers
Clothing	Tailoring, seamstress
Service	Hair dressing, restaurants/chop bars, guest

	houses
Repairs	Bicycle repairing, motor cycle repairers, tyre vulcanizing, car repairing
Metal based	Black smith, welding
Art based	Pottery, basket, weaving

Source: District Base line Survey, 2008

Most industries in the District are operated by the owners themselves with about 1-5 people being apprentices. Most of the owners of the industries have little or no formal education and or training and rely largely on indigenous knowledge and experience which does not easily allow for dynamism or adoption of new ideas.

#### **1.2.10.5.1 Starting Capital**

The major source of starting capital for commerce and industry come from own savings (about 80%), the remaining 20% is ascertained to be coming from loans of friends, and relatives. The contribution of Banks as a source of starting capital is very negligible.

#### **1.2.10.5.2 Supply of Raw Materials**

Mostly the business owners get their supply from the local markets (mostly throughout the year). This means that for most of the businesses there could be uninterrupted supply of services throughout the year. Those that receive their supply of raw materials occasionally always make provision for enough reserve that can take them for reasonable period of time.

#### **1.2.10.5 .3 General Problems of Small Scale Industries**

- Inadequate working capital
- Unreliable energy supply
- High cost of inputs
- Lack of organized unions
- Inadequate avenue for credit facilities
- Lack of communal spirit

### **1.2.11.0 Analysis of Household Income**

#### **1.2.11.1 Household Income and Expenditure**

The annual average household income for a sampled population of 900 households is GH¢650.00. The average per capita income was realized to be GH¢54.17. Most of the people draw their income from food crop farming (61%) and other businesses 39% as shown in the table below. With this high dominance of food crop farming as a major source of household

income in the district, coupled with rain fed agriculture, there is the need for the development of irrigation facilities that will constantly supply water to reduce the degree of vulnerability associated with rain failures.

**Table 1.14: Source of Household Income in the District**

Number	Source of income	Percentage (%)
1.	Crop farming	61
2	Business/trading	20.6
3	Salary	10.7
4	Fishing	3.6
5	Livestock	1.4
6	Small scale industries	1.3
7	Rent/lease	0.4
8	Contribution from relatives and friends	0.3
9	Others	0.7
		100

The mean annual household expenditure for the District was Gh¢721.00 per annum giving an average monthly expenditure of Gh¢60.00. The gap between the household income and expenditure represents non-costed consumption expenditure; basically on food items.

#### **1.2.11.2 Savings**

Saving is an important part of the District's economy since it is the mechanism for accumulating capital for investment. The District 2008 socio-economic survey revealed that about 90% of the people do not save in the banks. This could be attributed to the absence of financial institutions in the District with the exception of Kpandai Credit Union.

#### **1.2.11.3 Levels of poverty**

The District adopted a World Bank definition of poverty for this analysis. By this, two lines of poverty were identified.

- ✚ The 'poverty line' which defines the population earning less than two thirds of the average income for the District

- ✚ The 'Hard Core' line which defines the population earning less than one third of the average income.

According to this definition, it can be said that, the population within the poverty lines is deprived of their basic needs and demand special attention, those within the hard core line however require urgent attention. In estimating average income, the District adopted the median as a measure of average due to the skewed nature of income distribution in the District. With the district's average annual household income standing at GH¢650.00, the two lines of poverty based on the calculation of the annual household income stands at GH¢216.67 (hard core poverty) and GH¢433.33 (for poverty line). Depending on these estimates the level of poverty and hard core poverty is estimated at 66.67 per cent and 33.33 percent of the district respectively.

### **1.2.12.0 District Food Security**

Food is available and affordable during harvesting period that is between September - February and scarce during lean season, which is between March to August. Middlemen and women take advantage of the situation to purchase food stuffs at cheaper prizes. The leftovers are kept in barns and sacks against the lean season.

#### **1.2.12.1 Causes of Food Insecurity**

The main cause of food insecurity in the District are due to food wastage during funerals, weddings, out-doorings and other festivities, inability to access loan to increase production hence majority of the farmers practice subsistence farming. Other causes are high cost of labour, farm inputs, bush fires, theft, grazing of farms by animals and erratic rainfall pattern due to bad cultivation practices.

#### **1.2.12.2 Effect of Food Insecurity**

Parents cannot adequately feed their family. The most affected people in the communities are the aged, physically challenged, children and women. Women have to manage with what is available to take them through the hard period, children and pregnant mothers do not get balance diet (malnutrition) that affect their growth and development.

Also parents cannot pay for medical bills, school fees and other social obligations. The consequences of food insecurity are broken homes, divorce, youth migration to urban centres, school drop outs, child delinquencies and abject poverty leading to poor standard of living of the people.

### **1.2.13.0 District Finance**

This section of the plan deals with the analysis of revenue and expenditure of the District from 2008-2009. This is to assess the performance of various revenue and expenditure components since the creation of the District. It is intended to inform the recommendations to be made in order to improve the performance of the District's finance. It further analyses key areas in both revenue and expenditure that will require prompt attention if substantial financial allocations from the District's own resources to new development projects are to be

made. Figures for the revenue and expenditure for the period under review in this section have not been discounted to reflect real change. Therefore the basic assumption is that changes in most of the rates charged over the years (2) are manifestations of inflationary changes in the country over the period.

**Table 1.15: District Revenue Source from 2008-2009**

Revenue Source	2008		2009	
	Amount (Gh¢)	%	Amount (Gh¢)	%
<u>Internal Sources</u>				
Rates	1,966.30	37.52	5,107.70	19.58
Land (development permit)	85.00	1.62	10,605.00	40.66
Toilets	-		-	
Lotteries	60.00	1.14	-	
Slaughter Fees	-		232.00	0.89
Spot fine	-		-	
Licenses	2,691.50	51.35	3,632.00	13.92
Rent	-		-	
Investments	133.34	2.54	5,262.29	20.17
Market toll	305.20	5.82	532.35	2.04
Miscellaneous	-		712.00	2.73
Sub-Total	<u>5,241.34</u>		<u>26,083.34</u>	
<u>External Sources</u>				
Salaries and Wages (GoG)	-		-	
Common Fund	897,177.42	89.27	1,290,388.44	82.14
Ceded Revenue	-		-	
Donor Support	107,846.41	10.73	280,655.67	17.86

Sub-Total	<u>100,5023.83</u>		1,571,044.11	
Total	<u>1,010,265.17</u>		1,597,127.45	

An analysis of the District revenue sources indicates that licenses and rates are the major contributors to the Internally Generated Revenue. It contributed about 88.87% of the internal revenue in 2008.

The major source of funds to the District is from external sources. The most important of these to the financing of capital projects in the District is the District Assembly Common Fund which accounts for about 89.27% and 82.14% for 2008 and 2009 respectively. This implies that the timely and sustainable disbursement of the Common Fund is a key factor in the District development. Other external sources include CBRDP, NORPREP, DWAP, I-WASH, IBIS, GETFund among others.

### 1.2.13.1 Expenditure

The expenditure side of the District's Budget has been divided into Recurrent and capital expenditure to conform to the conventional budget structure of Local Governance in Ghana. As can be noticed in the table below Travel & Transport was the highest recurrent expenditure item accounting for about 1.72% and 1.24% of the expenditure for 2008 and 2009 respectively. Development projects account for about 95.35% of the total budget for 2008 and 97.47% of the budget for 2009. This means that most of the funds received by the District are spent on development projects.

**Table 1.16: Expenditure Pattern (2008-2009)**

Expenditure Heads	Amount (2008)	%	Amount (2009)	%
Recurrent:				
Personal Emolument	8,585.63	0.86	6,440.47	0.46
Travel & Transport	17,183.38	1.72	17,562.40	1.24
General Expenditure	14,999.98	1.50	10,360.43	0.73
Maintenance Repairs & Renewals	4,582.60	0.46	633.45	0.04
Miscellaneous	1,183.00	0.12	812.50	0.06
Capital:				
Development	955,223.60	95.35	1,378,620.90	97.47

Total	<u>1,001,758.19</u>		<u>1,414,430.17</u>	
-------	---------------------	--	---------------------	--

## **1.2.14.0 Governance**

### **1.2.14.1 Traditional System of Governance**

This describes the established structures and processes which promote and guide development in the District. There are two main systems of governance in the District. These are the traditional system with established chiefs and clan heads representing the communities. The District traditional governance is led by the Nawuris and Nchumburus Wuras and they oversee all the communities in the District. They however have appointed representatives in communities all over the District. Directly below the representatives are the elders and family heads as well as settler's heads. The next in the hierarchy are opinion leaders who mostly represent various interest groups in the communities. These people play various roles in the management of development projects and fostering peaceful co-existence in the various communities.

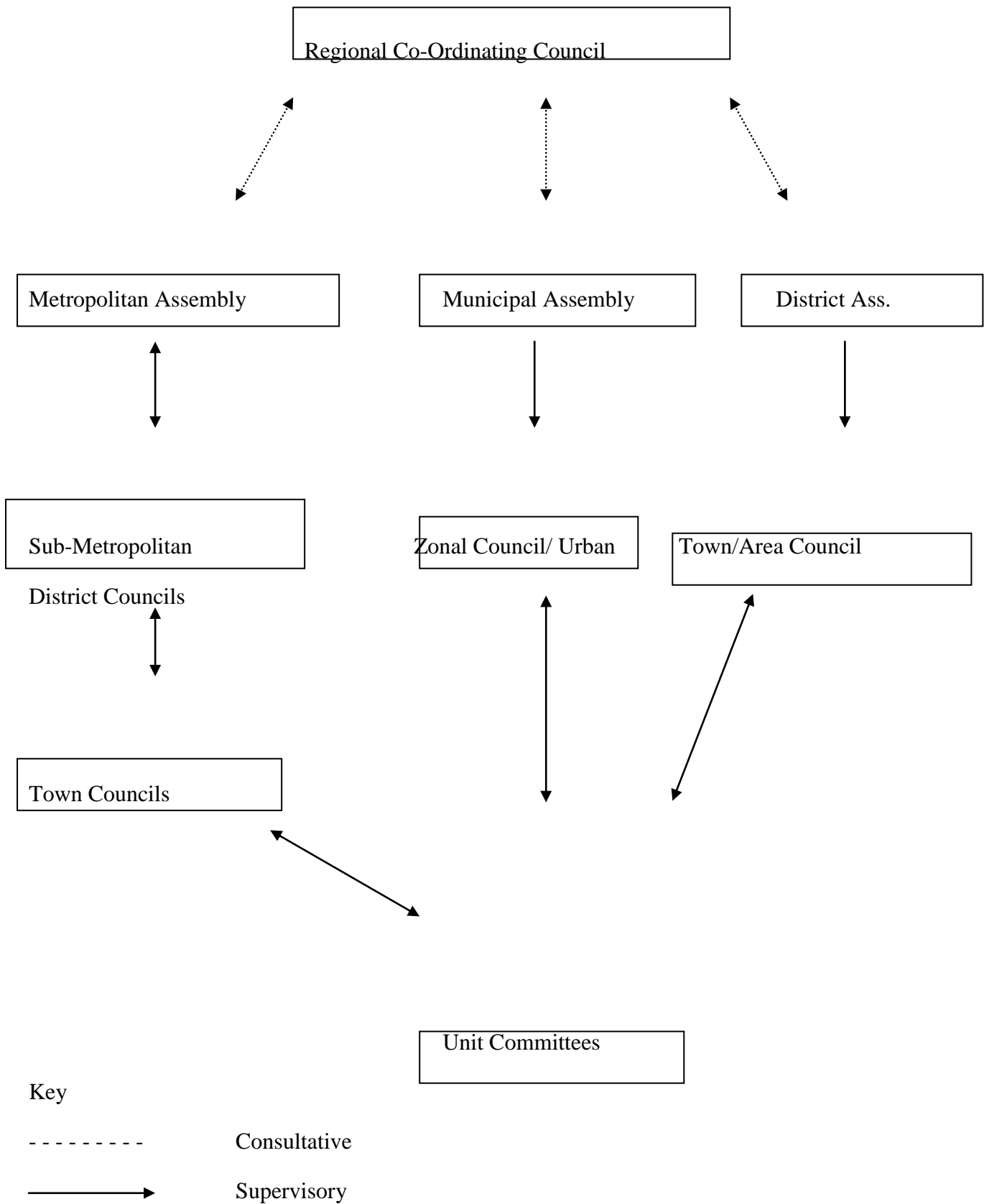
### **1.2.14.2 Institutional Framework for Local Governance**

The various legal frameworks which guide local development in Ghana includes: the Civil Service Law, 1993 (PNDC Law, 327), the National Development Planning System Law, 1994, (Act 480) and the Local Government Law, 1993 (Act 462). These enactments place emphasis on District Assembly in order to reinforce the attainment of total decentralization and participatory development

According to the National Development (System) Law, 1994, (Act 480), all District Assemblies are to submit District Development Plans to the Regional Coordinating Councils which will intend harmonize the plans with the national development policies and priorities for consideration and approval by the National Development Planning Commission.

There is therefore a vertical relationship between the National Development Planning Commission at the National level, Regional Planning Coordinating Council at the Regional level and the District Assembly at the District level. The figure below shows the New Local Government Structure.

Figure 1.3: The New Local Government Structure



### 1.2.14.3 The District Assembly as Planning Machinery









Kpandai District Assembly is the highest Political and Administrative body in the District. The Assembly is made up of thirty (41) Member General Assembly consisting of thirteen (27) elected members, seven (14) government appointees and the District Chief Executive and one Member of Parliament. The General Assembly has both Deliberative and executive functions presided over by the Presiding Member who is elected by at least Two-thirds of the members of the General Assembly from among themselves. The Assembly works through its Executive Committee and the District Chief Executive as its chairman. The Executive Committee operates through the following sub committees:

1. Development Planning Sub-committee
2. Works Sub-committee
3. Finance and Administration Sub-committee
4. Justice and Security Sub-committee
5. Social Services Sub-committee
6. Agriculture and Environment Sub-committee
7. Women and Children Sub-committee


These sub-committees have the responsibility of deliberating on specific issues related to their area of operation and submitting their recommendations to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee intends presents them to the General Assembly for further deliberations and adoption.

The day to day administration of the District and operationalizing the decisions taken by the General Assembly is undertaken by the Central Administration. These consist of the core staff of the District Assembly and the Decentralized Departments under the leadership of the District Coordinating Director.

With the enactment of the Local Government Act 1993, Act 462, there ought to have been eleven Departments (known as Decentralized Departments) established at the Assembly level but we have only eight. The Departments are:

-  Central Administration
-  Education
-  Health
-  Finance
-  Works
-  Agriculture
-  Social Welfare and Community Development
-  NADMO

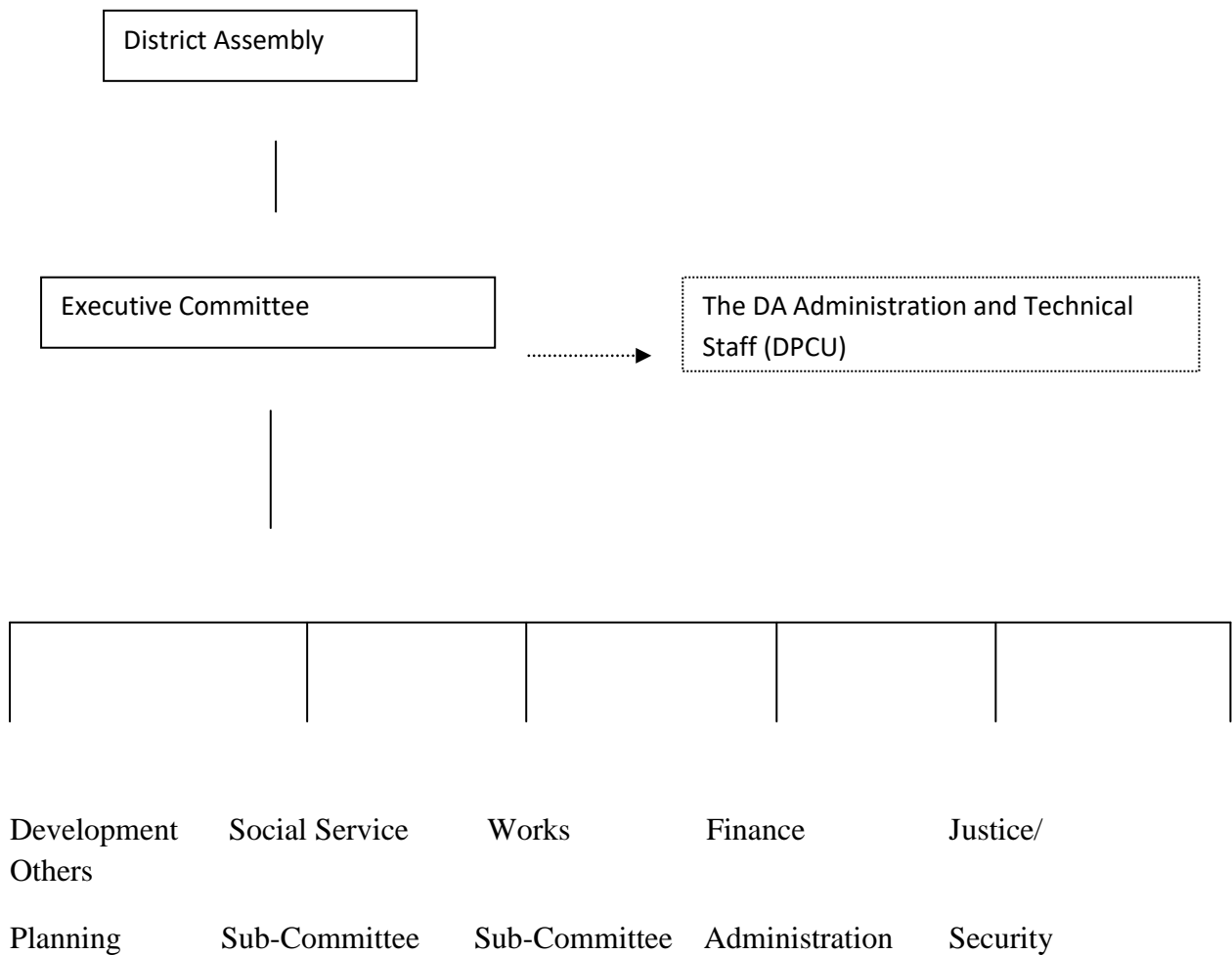
The other Public Institutions not decentralized and operating in the District are:

-  Ghana Police Service
-  Bureau of National Investigations

- 🇬🇭 National Commission for Civic Education
- 🇬🇭 Electoral Commission
- 🇬🇭 Centre for National Culture
- 🇬🇭 Ghana Meteorological Services Department
- 🇬🇭 Ghana Postal Services
- 🇬🇭 NFED

The figure shows an Organogram of the District Assembly

**Figure 1.4: Organogram of the Kpandai District Assembly**



**1.2.14.4 Sub-District Structures**

Town/Area Councils are instrumental in local level development. The District has one Town Council (Kpandai), six Area Councils and 62 Unit Committees. These sub-district structures have temporal staff and are responsible for development activities at the lowest local level.

#### **1.2.14.5 Problems of District Administration**

The main problems of the District Administration machinery include the following:

1. Inadequate staff accommodation
2. Inadequate logistics
3. Lack of incentives for workers
4. Poor revenue generation
5. Inadequate office accommodation
6. Low staff strength (especially Decentralized Departments)
7. Poor level of integration of decentralized departments into the District Assembly System

A number of decentralized departments are yet to be established in the District including:

1. Physical Planning Department
2. Industry and trade Department
3. Natural Resource Conservation Department, Forestry, Game and Wild Life Division

#### **1.2.15 Peace, Security and Justice**

The District has a Police Station at Kpandai. The police personnel maintain law and order in the various communities. Military detachment at Bimbila supplements the efforts of the District police to maintain peace and order. The District has no court and most cases are sent to Bimbila and Salaga District Courts. The major security problems in the District include the activities of Fulani Herdsmen, leadership problems in terms of the multi ethnic nature of the District's population which lack clear or established structures or hierarchy

#### **1.2.16 Non Governmental Organizations**

The following Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and Community Based Organizations are operating in the District:

**Table 1.17: NGOs in District**

No	Name	Area of Operation
1	IBIS Ghana	Local Governance , Decentralization & Education
2	SEND Foundation of West Africa	Food Security and Micro Finance
3	GDCA	Community Empowerment
4	EGOCSA	Capacity Building and Advocacy

5	JIDA	Capacity Building and Advocacy
---	------	--------------------------------

### 1.2.17.0 Social Services

This section of the plan is an analysis of the existing social services such as education, health care, housing, water and sanitation among others.

#### 1.2.17.1.1 Education

The improvement of the Educational sector is paramount to the District development as it is the main determinant of the nature and caliber of its human resource. The table below shows the number of schools in the District.

**Table 1.18: Number of Schools by Category**

2008/2009			
	Public	Private	Total
KG	54	0	54
Primary	72	11	85
JHS	19	0	19
SHS	1	0	1

The District is estimated to have over 250 communities; from the table above it means the District still needs more schools to be established in the communities to make education accessible to every community.

#### 1.2.17.1.2 Circuits in the District

From the table below, it could be seen that the distribution of schools is skewed in favour of Kpandai Circuit which is the District Capital. This implies that more schools are needed to be established in the other circuits especially the Wiae and Lonto Circuits.

**Table 1.19: Circuits and their Schools**

Circuits	No. of Schools				
	KG	Primary	JHS	SHS	Total
Kpandai	12	17	6	1	36
Katiejeli	8	10	2	0	20
Kumdi	4	16	2	0	22

Kabonwule	11	15	3	0	29
Wiar	6	9	2	0	17
Lonto	6	11	2	0	19
Jamboai	9	13	2	0	24
Total	56	91	19	1	

Source: District Directorate of GES, 2009

### 1.2.17.1.3 Staffing Situation in the Schools

The teacher situation in the District is very bad compare to the Ghana Education Service standards. The table below shows the staffing situation in the schools in the District

**Table 1.20: Staffing in Schools**

Level	Number of Teachers		
	Male	Female	Total
KG	0	35	35
Primary	146	11	157
JHS	69	6	75
SHS	30	0	30

Source: District Directorate of GES, 2009

Out of 35 teachers at the KG level only 6 of them are trained. It is therefore not acceptable to have very high non professional teachers at the KG level, if foundation of children's education is to be very strong. The situation at the primary level is not different, while the total number of teachers is 157, out of this only 54% are trained against 57% untrained. A similar situation prevails at the JHS and SHS levels. It therefore implies that the District should sponsor more teachers into the Teacher Training Colleges to augment the trained teachers situation in the schools.

### 1.2.17.1.4 Pupil Teacher Ratio (PTR)

Considering the enrolments at the KG and Primary levels against the total number of teachers, one could see that PTR is at unacceptable levels of 250:1 and 105:1 at KG and Primary respectively. This calls for more teachers in the District. The table below shows the PTR at various educational levels.

**Table 1.21: Pupil Teacher Ratio**

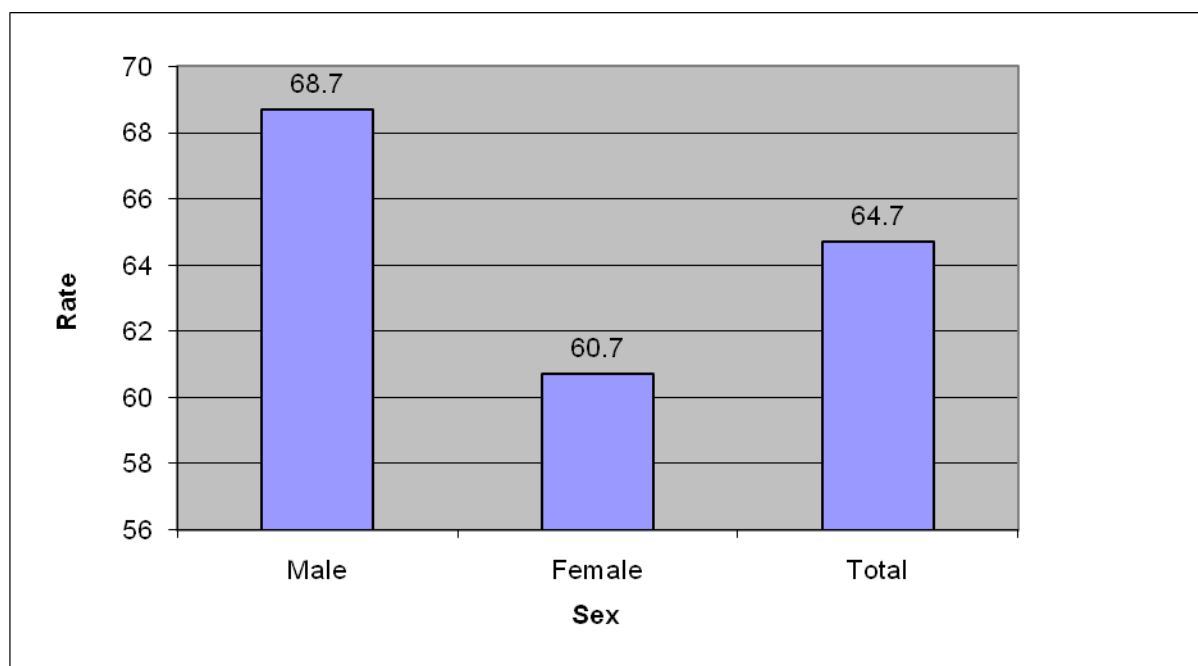
Level	Enrolment for 2009/PTR				
	Boys	Girls	Total	PTR(2009)	Standards
KG	3,116	3,131	6,247	250:1	25:1
Primary	8,810	7,673	16,483	105:1	33:1
JHS	1,759	1,095	2,854	38:1	25:1
SHS	704	257	961	32:1	30:1

Source: District Directorate of GES, 2009

**1.2.17.1.5 Gross Enrolment Rate (GER)**

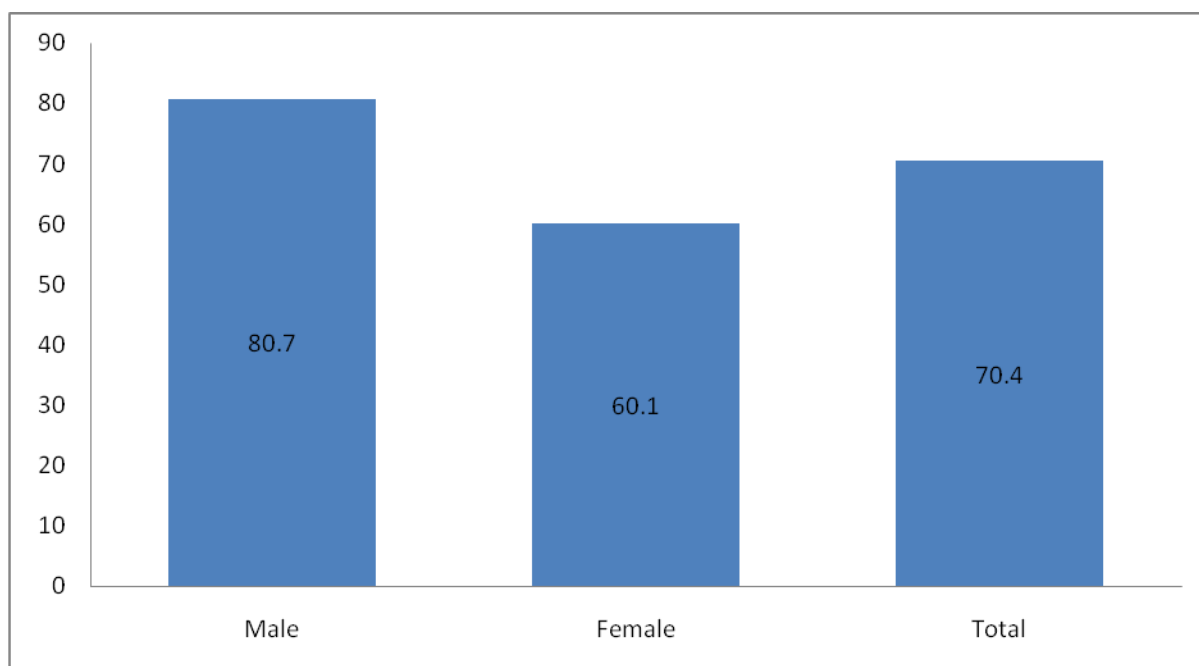
GER measures the total enrolment in a given educational level (irrespective of age) expressed as a percentage of the corresponding official age for that level. Therefore, gross primary school enrolment rate for boys (male) and girls (female) in 2009/2010 academic year are 68.7 and 60.7 respectively. The total district gross primary school enrolment rate is 64.7, implying that more children are still outside the classroom as indicated on the bar graph below. To solve this, the District Education Office needs to embark on the enrolment drive and sanctification in the school communities.

**Figure 1.5: Gross Primary School Enrolment Rate**



This is the number of pupils who manage to complete JHS 3 in a given year over the number of pupils who enter JHS 1 in that particular year expressed as a percentage. From the graph below, the JHS completion rates for both boys and girls are 80.7 and 60.1 respectively in 2009/2010 academic year. The total JHS completion rate in the district is 70.4 for the same academic year. This implies that the JHS completion rate in the district for JHS is generally high but that of girls is low. There is the need therefore to encourage more girls to be retained in the schools and also encourage more girls to be enrolled.

**Figure 1.6: Junior High Completion Rate**



#### 1.2.17.1.6 School Infrastructure

There are a number of on-going and completed school building projects in the district. These projects are funded by DWAP, EU Micro Projects Programme, GETFund, NORPREP and CBRDP among others. With the increasing number of school children of school going age, there is the need for more interventions. Supporting facilities like furniture and equipment are still inadequate and in some cases completely lacking. The table below shows schools without standard structures,

**Table 1.22: Schools without Standard Structures**

2008/2009			
	Public	Private	Total
KG	53	0	53
Primary	50	7	57

JHS	5	-	5
SHS	1	-	1

### 1.2.17.1.7 School Feeding Programme

Currently there are 10 schools benefitting from the School Feeding Programme in the District. The schools are:

-  Kitare Primary
-  Kojobone Primary
-  Kabonwule Almighty International
-  Okyerepe Presby Primary
-  Mbowura D/A Primary
-  Kpandai D/A Primary
-  Katiejeli E/A Primary
-  Wiae Tagbegben Primary
-  Kabeso Presby Primary
-  Kumdi West Bank Primarty

The general challenges of education in the district include: low level of gross enrolment of pupils especially the girl-child, poor and inadequate school infrastructure, inadequate furniture, high percentage of untrained teachers, inadequate teachers accommodation, lack of sanitation facilities at schools, lack of adequate teaching and learning materials, inadequate trained teachers , dormant PTAs and SMCs.

### 1.2.17.2.0 Health Care

The provision of quality health care delivery remains one of the top priorities of the District. However, the existing condition and distribution of Health Facilities is poor leading to poor access to quality health care delivery.

#### 1.2.17.2.1 Health Facilities

The following are the health facilities available in the District.

-  Kpandai Poly-Clinic (New)
-  Kpandai Health Centre
-  Kpandai ECG Health Centre
-  Oti River Poly-Clinic
-  Kitare Clinic
-  Bladjai Clinic
-  Kumdi Clinic

- ✚ Loloto Clinic
- ✚ Gulbi Quarters Clinic
- ✚ Sobonjida Clinic
- ✚ Lonto Health Centre
- ✚ Buya Health Centre (New)

For the people in the District to have access to modern health care, it means that more health centres and clinics are to be opened to augment the twelve health facilities currently serving the over 96,000 people in the District.

#### 1.2.17.2.2 Health Personnel

It is not only the limited health facilities that the District is struggling with, but personnel to man these facilities are virtually not available. Of all the ten health facilities in the District, there is no medical doctor and currently there are only four medical assistants in four of the facilities.

The table below shows the health personnel distribution by facility.

**Table 1.23: Distribution of Health Personnel by Facility**

Health Facility/Personnel	MO	MA	PHN	Staff Nurse	EN	CHN	M/wife	DCO	Support staff
Kpandai H/C	0	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	4
Kpandai ECG H/C	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	10
Oti River Poly-Clinic	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	0	6
Kitare Clinic	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
Bladjai Clinic	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Kumdi Clinic	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	5
Loloto Clinic	0	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	4
Lonto Clinic	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Gulbi Quarters Clinic	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	3
Sabonjida Clinic	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	2

Source: Ghana Health Services, 2009

### 1.2.17.2.3 Ten Top Diseases in the District

The major diseases in the district ranked in terms of most prevalent include the following:

**Table 1.24: Ten Top Causes of Consultation**

Disease	2008 (%)	2009 (%)
Malaria	52	55.17
Diarrhoea	13	10
Skin Diseases	10	6
RTI	5	3
Gastroenteritis	3	2
Intestinal Worms	5	2
Hypertension	2	1
Anaemia	3	5
Snake Bite	1	2
STI	1	1

### 1.2.17.2.4 Four Top Causes of Maternal Death

In terms of maternal deaths, the following are the four top causes in the District

- Haemorrhage (bleeding)
- Eclampsia ( pregnancy induced hypertension)
- Sepsis (infection after delivery)
- Obstructed labour

It is worth adding that all the health facilities are concentrated at the urban and semi- urban settlements but 85% of the settlements in the district are rural. In more specific terms about 65% of the populations (consisting of villages that are situated far off the major towns) have limited access to the orthodox system of health delivery. The nature of access roads linking the health facilities to the rural settlements is so poor that it takes the rural dwellers an average of 5 hours travelling time to be able reach the nearest health facility.

### 1.2.17.2.5 Challenges of the Health Sector

The health sector is besieged with a number of problems. Among them are:

1. Inadequate health personnel
2. Lack of a district hospital
3. Inadequate residential and office accommodation for health personnel
4. Inadequate logistics
5. Inadequate health facilities
6. Poor road network
7. Lack of ambulance services

### 1.2.17.3.0 Water and Sanitation

#### 1.2.17.3.1 Water

The main sources of potable water for the people in the district include small town water systems, boreholes, and wells. The District has a total number of 5 small water system, 117 boreholes and 6 wells in about 250 communities. The other sources of drinking water included Oti River, River Dakar, dams and seasonal streams. The District potable water coverage as at 2009 is 37.90% but the table below shows the spatial coverage in terms of Town/Area Councils.

**Table 1.25: Water Facilities and Coverage**

Area/Town Council	2010 Kpandai District Water Statistics					
	BH	HDW	PS	PPOP	POPC	COV
Kpandai	21	3	28	11964	11541	96.46%
Lonto/Kpajai	0	0	0	9958	0	0.00%
Ketiejeli	29	3	14	11627	9307	80.05%
Jambuoi	6	0	8	18113	4200	23.19%
Nkanchina/Balai	31	0	0	14305	7299	51.02%
Ekumdi	26	0	10	19213	8054	41.92%
Kabonwule	4	0	0	24576	1200	4.88%
District Coverage	117	6	60	109756	41601	37.90%

### 1.2.17.3.2 Sanitation

The general sanitation situation in the district leaves much to be desired. There is only one approved final refuse disposal site at Kpandai which is about 4km. from District Capital. All other communities in the district have no approved sites for solid waste disposal. They dump refuse indiscriminately. Only the District Capital has a limited number of refuse containers for refuse disposal.

There are no sewage systems for disposing liquid waste as such; most of the people therefore resort to throwing their liquid waste around the surroundings of their houses and in gullies created by the erosion. These wastes get collected in these gullies and serve as the major grounds for the breeding of mosquitoes and other harmful insects that pose serious health hazards to the people.

The table below shows the sanitation facilities distribution by Town/Area as well as the sanitation coverage.

**Table 1.26: Sanitation Facilities and Coverage**

Area/Town Council	2009 Kpandai District Sanitation Statistics					
	KVIP	VIP	WC	POP	PC	COV
Kpandai	5	3	28	11964	2,784	10.9%
Lonto/Kpajai	2	12	0	9958	480	0%
Ketiejeli	1	191	14	11627	672	5.8%
Jambuoi	0	0	8	18113	64	0.4%
Nkanchina/Balai	0	126	0	12853	0	18.2%
Ekumdi	1	144	10	19213	580	10.8%
Kabonwule	1	8	0	24576	500	6.7%
District Coverage	7	6	60	108304	3580	7.5%

### **1.2.18 Vulnerability Analysis**

The analysis of the fundamental issues of vulnerability in relation to its causal factors as well as its relation to some sections of the population such as women and children, persons with disabilities, HIV positive persons, the extreme poor and the destitute will inform policy direction of the District towards designing programmes that will address their concerns.

The district abounds with a number of factors that predispose its population to one risk or the other. Most of these factors are natural while others are manmade. Analysis of the current situation of the District revealed that drought or rain failure is one of the factors that predispose the people to the risk of food insecurity. Crop failure is common during years of drought and the people who are mostly peasant farmers suffer severe forms of hunger. Small scale rearing of cattle, goats, sheep and poultry are kept as alternative social security against periods of drought and lean season. Other phenomenon of significant threat to the people includes floods. Sometimes the whole village could be razed down by floods. The building pattern and the roofing materials in most of the communities including sections of the District capital predispose the communities to the risk of fire outbreaks and floods.

The combined effects of these factors make the district very vulnerable to acute food shortages, fire disaster, cholera and other diseases including malaria. Women, children, the aged, the physically challenged etc are the worst affected. Women and Children are less resilient to the risk of acquiring sicknesses. Women lack equal access to productive resources such as land as their male counterparts. They are the least educated in the formal sector and the worst placed in terms of opportunities for alternative sources of employment.

A further analysis of the social setups of the indigenous people reveals a sense of declining family ties and this has negative implications on the traditional social security system especially for the aged, the physically challenged, Orphans and persons infected with HIV/AIDS. There is a growing feeling of individualism among the people and this gradually weakening the social security system. Based on the above analysis, programmes such as conserving the environment, bush fires campaigns, health promotion programmes, sensitization of communities settling around the Oti River, River Dakar and Volta Lake. Also, programmes to pursue girl-child education will be embarked on as well as construction of more classroom blocks to improve access to formal education. Child betrothal and polygamous marriages are also vulnerability issues that affect women especially the young girls of school going age in the District.

### **1.2.19 Telecommunication**

The role of communication in the District's development cannot be over emphasized as it is the major medium of social, cultural, economic and spatial integration – an effective mechanism for socio-economic development through information dissemination. The District is endowed with Vodafone fixed line particularly in the District capital. Other mobile networks that can be found in the District include MTN, Tigo, Vodafone, Zain and Kasapa.

There are no Internet facilities in the District. Postal services are very poor. It takes a minimum of 2 weeks to receive an urgent letter sent by the Ghana Post.

Television reception in the District is about the worst in the Region. Individuals need to put up outside antennas before they could receive signals. With electricity, only eight communities out of about 250 have been connected to the national grid.

### **1.2.20 HIV & AIDS**

There exist in the district institutional structures for fighting HIV/AIDS. These are the District AIDS Committee and District Response Initiative and Management Team.

However, they are not active on ground due to inadequate funding of their activities. In spite of all these numerous challenges, some education and campaigns are on-going on stigmatization, prevention and control as well as awareness creation among the people in the district. Also, know your status campaigns were carried out in the District.

Unlike other districts, the district has recorded few incidences of HIV/AIDS cases this may be due to the fact that people are not willing to go for the test.

The total number of reported cases of HIV/AIDS in the district in 2009 was 15 patients with 6 out of the 15 patients coming from Kitare which by this will constitutes the higher risk area in the District. PmTCT services had started in the antenatal clinics by trained counsellors.

### **1.2.21 Gender Analysis**

One of the key targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by the year 2025. It was adopted by 189 nations-and signed by 147 heads of state and governments during the UN Millennium Summit in September 2000 (UN, 2000). This target would be a mirage particularly when a significant majority of the rural women are the poorest, deprived and not incorporated into development programmes of nations. It has been realized in recent times that poverty and conflicts have become the bane of Africa's under development. Successive governments over the years have developed and implemented programmes aimed at reducing abject poverty, conflict, illiteracy and disease. However, these have yielded little or no desired results.

The Convention on the Elimination of All forms Of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW): Article 14 (1) calls on states to take account of particular problems faced by

women and the significant role that rural women play in the economic survival of families, including work in non- monetized sectors of the economy. Article 14 (2) also calls for measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women in rural areas including their rights to enjoy adequate living conditions. Ghana was one of the countries that ratified the CEDAW. Unfortunately not much has been done to improve the general well being of the women in District, especially those living in rural.

The Beijing Platform for Action calls on governments to promote knowledge of and sponsor research on the role of women, particularly in rural areas in food gathering and production among others.

The United Nations Convention on Education and Development (UNCED) Agenda 21 calls on governments to consider putting in place strategies to eliminate all constitutional, legal, administrative as well as cultural obstacles hindering women's participation in sustainable development.

The Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy document, estimated that about 39 percent of Ghanaians are poor and about 27 percent are extremely poor. Poverty among food producing farmers was estimated at about 59 percent, this includes rural women. (NDPC, 2001) The Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS) document was designed as a comprehensive policy measure to reduce poverty and support growth over a three-year period spanning 2002-2004. It was later revised to cover the period 2003-2005. The goal of the GPRS I&II was to ensure sustainable equitable growth, accelerated poverty reduction and the protection of the rights of the vulnerable and excluded within a decentralized democratic environment. The implementation of the GPRS II ended in 2009. However, there are still high levels of poverty especially among the rural women in the Kpandai District.

Again, the Ghana Statistical Survey in its publication 'Poverty Trends in Ghana in the 1990s' states that by geographical disparities, 5 out of the 10 regions in Ghana had more than 40 percent of the population living in poverty as at 1999. The worst affected were the three northern savannah regions. A similar situation prevails in Ghana where female-headed households are estimated to be hard hit in terms of extreme poverty (GSS, 2000).

According to the United Nations, women constitute half of the world's population, perform nearly two thirds of the work, receive one tenth of the world's income and own less than one hundredth of the world's property. Gender equity is a benchmark of a healthy society. In

developing countries hit hard by structural adjustment policies such as Ghana, 2/3 of the children who do not go to school are girls, and 2/3 of the world's illiterate people are women.

The centrality of gender is increasingly recognized and is articulated in many documents and fora which confirm that gender-based inequality limits economic growth in of a country, and that it is essential for Kpandai District to unleash the enormous productive potential of its women. It is also increasingly recognized that poverty in District has strong gender dimensions which need to be addressed explicitly .

While women retain the responsibility of maintaining the household, more and more women are moving into the paid labor market, often working for lower wages and under worse conditions than men. This results in what is referred to as women's "double burden". Women are the main source from which community survival strategies and positive social alternatives emanate. Women's active participation in community solutions to the lack of government services, results in a "triple burden" of job, household and community work. This situation analysis does not intend to underestimate the valuable contributions of men. Suffice to say that men and women should be given equal opportunity to contribute to development and have equity in the benefits of development.

It has also been realized that Violence against women has been, and continues to be, a violation of human rights that is perpetuated by gender inequities in social, political and economic systems. Three out of ten women in Ghana have suffered violence in one form or the other including women from Kpandai district. Efforts to eliminate violence and promote peaceful coexistence are therefore expedient.

Governments should adopt and implement appropriate laws that protect women's rights and promote gender equity. The Government of Ghana enactment of the domestic violence Act 732 (2007) and the establishment of the Domestic violence and Victims Support Unit of the police service are in this direction appropriate. Governments should respect and support autonomous women's initiatives and organizations.

All social and economic movements (including solidarity groups) should adopt and implement strategies that promote gender equity within their groups and ensure protection of women's rights in their work.

In Kpandai District for instance, farmlands are owned by the traditional authorities/rulers and some lands are family owned and are therefore inherited by family members.

Also, in terms of gender, majority of the farmlands are owned by men who control both the physical and natural resources whilst few women have access to farmlands. Children (both boys and girls) do not own land at all.

Below is a tabular distribution of accessibility of resources on gender-basis in percentage estimation:

**Table 1.27: Accessibility of Resources on Gender-basis**

<b>Resources</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>
<b>Land</b>	80%	20%
<b>Seeds</b>	70%	30%
<b>Tools/machinery</b>	90%	10%
<b>Labour</b>	80%	20%
<b>Cash/money</b>	70%	30%
<b>Water Bodies</b>	100%	0%

Sources: DADU 2009