

The Effect of Infrastructural Development on Urban Growth: a Case Study of Pokuase Interchange, Ghana

Diana Ahiaku (Ghana)

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SUMMARY

Infrastructural development projects have been seen to erupt in recent times both in rural and urban areas. These developments are known to give the community a facelift, making them more competitive, open to more investment, connect various cities and towns, and as well leverage community livelihood. While development changes the peri-urban environments in the sub-region, little or sometimes no attention is given to the consequences of infrastructure development in these areas. These lead to the objective of this paper; to determine the rate and extent of land use land cover change in Pokuase, to examine the problems and prospect of infrastructure development on the Pokuase corridor, and to determine the impact of the development on the communities' livelihoods in the Ga West municipality. The research put to use methods of qualitative and quantitative approaches of analyzing the case study and as well as spatial interpretation of the results of socio-economic developments. Findings made from the research show that land use land cover has seen some transformation over the studied years, as many farmlands have been converted to places of residence and factories thus increasing population. Road link between communities has increased as well as provided employment opportunities. However, the spatial modification of the peri-urban area has been limited by the Displacement of people living along the construction route. Therefore, this led to an increase in land prices and house rents over the period. As the result of the research may prove, it is evident that the impact of infrastructure development in the urban sector requires essential planning and collaboration with technical and traditional leaders which brings integration between all related parties involved in the success of the development. It is however significant to conduct thorough studies on relative areas close to the highway development projects and enquire if the outcomes discovered in this research are rare or differ based on location.

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