

Mining Resettlements and Their Repercussions on the Affected Communities: A Qualitative Study

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ABSTRACT

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The contributions from mineral exploitations to the Gross Domestic Product of many countries in the world cannot be overemphasized. However, it comes at a great cost. The study examines the repercussions on mining resettled communities. The focus is on the unintended consequences confronting the people in a mining resettlement communities. It focused on the interaction with the people living in the communities, involving 54 qualitative interviews and focus group discussions with household heads, chiefs, the youth, opinion leaders and market women. The research indicates that most people in the communities were experiencing a downturn in terms of income to take care of their families as well as difficulty to get employment in the mining companies that displaced them.

Keywords: : Repercussions, mining resettlement, income, employment

1. INTRODUCTION

The exploitation of resources such as mineral deposits has the potential to bring about significant changes, affecting the development trajectories of nations, communities, and individuals. However, this utilization can also have adverse consequences for the environment and ecosystems (Franks, 2012). It is commonly known that there are finite amounts of natural resources and ecosystems that sustain human life. Making informed decisions about how to use these resources is therefore more crucial than ever in order to safeguard the needs of both current and future generations (Cobbinah & Amoakoh 2018; Avnimelech et al., 2008; Gough, 2015).

However, decision-makers, particularly governments, often face the challenge of balancing economic growth with environmental protection. While the broader environmental perspective is crucial, its effects are often felt at the individual level, with communities experiencing displacement due to purported developmental activities within their environments.

Mares (2012) categorizes affected individuals into two groups: those who are physically displaced and those who are economically displaced. Despite receiving compensation, both resettled individuals and those economically displaced are susceptible to vulnerability. According to official data, the majority of the active labour force in local communities living in mining concession regions is employed in agriculture, which provides their primary means of subsistence. Furthermore, a 2010 survey from the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) stated that 90% of people working in other industries likewise rely on agriculture as a supplementary source of income.

Although land governance structures vary throughout regions, it is generally acknowledged that land is essential to growth (Ubink 2008; Toulmin et al., 2002; Andersen et al., 2015). The "customary" and "statutory" systems are the two tenure systems that govern land administration in Ghana (Tsikata and Yaro 2014; Kidido et al., 2015). About 80% of the land is controlled by customary land, which is overseen by chiefs, family leaders, and landlords. The other 20% is subject to state authority by forced purchase (Kasanga 2002).

2. BACKGROUND

In Ghana, land purchases by the government for purposes deemed to be in the public interest are permitted by law. This contains the State Lands Act of 1962 (Act 123) for the acquisition of public lands and the Mining and Minerals Act of 2006 (amended in 2010 and 2015) for mineral concessions. Ghana's Republican Constitution of 1992 permits forced land purchase for public purposes as long as just compensation is given, as stated in Article 20(a). A new Lands Act was proposed in 2016 in an effort to harmonize Ghana's existing land regulations. However, problems still exist, particularly regarding community sensitivity in forced land acquisition processes (Andrews, 2018; Adonteng-Kissi, 2017; Kidido et al., 2015; Larbi et al., 2004).

Thus researchers have determined that one of the primary causes of dispossession is land acquisition for mining operations (Kidido et al., 2015; Andrews, 2018; Adonteng-Kissi, 2017). Land with mineral deposits being seized and cultural heritage being lost are just two examples of the various ways that dispossession resulting from mining can occur (Bebbington et al., 2008). In Ghanaian mining towns, Adonteng-Kissi (2017) questions if land rights are adequate to safeguard the interests of local farmers, particularly in light of the favourable treatment accorded to major mining corporations. The fact that many farming households have lost their farmlands to mining operations puts their means of sustenance in danger, which results in food insecurity and poverty in the affected areas (Andrews, 2018; Ayelazuno, 2011; Adonteng-Kissi, 2017). Despite the economic benefits derived from mining in Ghana, they often do not result in the development of capital assets or improvements in living standards for affected communities.

In the context of striving towards Agenda 2030, it becomes imperative to examine the state's involvement in land dispossession procedures. In Ghana, this dispossession typically initiates with state entities and their decentralized branches, utilizing compulsory land acquisition measures. However, public offices and agencies in charge of making sure affected households receive appropriate compensation frequently fall short in their efficacy (Cobbinah and Amoakoh, 2018). Ghana's progress towards reaching the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is hampered by this shortcoming, which makes it harder for the affected households to manage and access land for their livelihoods.

Mares (2012) has drawn attention to the fact that several communities in Ghana that were resettled have either not received any compensation at all or only insufficient compensation in the form of cash compensation or replacement agricultural land. This discrepancy persists despite research indicating that compensation should encompass more than just resettlement, extending to interventions aimed at enhancing human well-being and facilitating the adaptation of affected local communities to their evolving surroundings (Antwi et al., 2017; Cobbinah and Amoakoh, 2018).

These challenges highlight the mining resettlement sites in Ghana's Western region as the prime location for investigating the repercussions on mining resettlement communities, particularly focusing on aspects such as income and employment outcomes.

2.1. Supporting Theories

Development organizations such as the UNDP, DFID and CARE have embraced the sustainable livelihoods (SL) framework for poverty alleviation, realizing that impoverishment is more than just a lack of resources (Krantz, 2001; Petersen, 2010). This framework identifies five essential livelihood assets that are necessary for the sustainable development of humankind. It then uses this model to construct developmental strategies targeted at strengthening the underprivileged communities' foundation of livelihood assets (Petersen, 2010). These means of subsistence consist of:

- i. Human capital: people who are healthy both physically and intellectually, educated, and able to take advantage of possibilities.
- ii. Economic/financial capital: the money needed to support oneself, obtained from jobs, government handouts, and credit loans.

- iii. Physical and infrastructural capital: access to fundamental infrastructure such as water and electricity, transportation, housing, education and healthcare facilities, and other amenities.
- iv. Natural capital: having access to contamination-free land and other environmental resources.
- v. Social and political capital consists of relationships that foster reciprocity and trust, support systems, and memberships (including cultural affiliations) (Petersen, 2010).

The SL paradigm posits that a shortfall in one part of livelihood assets is likely to result in deficits in other areas, leading to increased deprivation. This notion is based on Sen's (2004) capacity approach and similar viewpoints (Petersen 2010). For instance, a lack of funds may make it more difficult to obtain essential infrastructure, which can lead to stress in the home and detrimental effects on mental or physical health. It can also make it more difficult for people to make meaningful contributions to their social, economic, and environmental environments, which can worsen poverty in the community. Consequently, communities could get caught in a vicious cycle of deprivation in which poverty gets worse when any of the five livelihood assets is insufficient (Swanepoel and de Beer, 2006; Petersen, 2010).

2.2. Effects of Resettlement: Mining Induced Displacement and Resettlement (MIDR)

Mass Involuntary Displacement and Resettlement are frequently accompanied by the phenomenon known as the Resettlement Effect (MIDR). This effect includes the loss of both material and immaterial assets, such as communities, homes, land for habitation, income streams, means of subsistence, locations of cultural heritage, social networks, cultural identity, and support systems (Viratkapan, 2006). Significant social, economic, and environmental changes are brought about by the displacement caused by development projects; these changes are characterized by recurring patterns in the projects or industries that cause the displacement (Viratkapan 2006; Scudder and Colson, 2019). Due to this consequence, dangers related to the emergence of "new poverty" have been recognized.

2.3 Impoverishment risks and the reconstruction model (IRR)

The impoverishment risks and reconstruction (IRR) model developed by Michael Cernea provides valuable insights into the hazards connected to involuntary resettlements and is a theory of great value in this regard. Cernea identified eight core dangers that affect people displaced due to development, including landlessness, unemployment, homelessness, marginalization, food insecurity, loss of access to common property resources, increased illness and mortality and community disarticulation are among the eight core dangers identified by Cernea as affecting people who are displaced due to development. While land loss is a notable risk factor in MIDR, it accounts for just 10–20% of the risks of impoverishment associated with involuntary displacement. Additional displacement-related hazards have been found, which represent serious dangers to sustainability. If these dangers are not addressed or reduced, "new poverty" may arise, exacerbating the problems already faced by APs. This may cause the living conditions and dignity of the underprivileged to further deteriorate. Furthermore, MIDR has significant long-term effects that significantly restrict people's opportunities for sustainable growth on both a societal and personal level. Societies that have existed for centuries may crumble and become unstable due to the strains of forced relocation. On the other hand, well-thought-out actions that lessen but do not completely eradicate the impacts of MIDR enhance societal sustainability.

2.4. Research Problem

In countries like Ghana and other developing nations, relocating households and communities affected by mining activities has become a common method of compensating them (Cernea, 2008). However, contemporary mining resettlements present a growing number of social and economic difficulties, which contribute to the depletion of vital resources for subsistence that are crucial for the long-term survival of humanity. Because they understand that poverty is more than just a lack of resources, organizations like the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), CARE International and the Department for International Development (DFID) have embraced the sustainable livelihoods (SL) paradigm as a means of addressing it (Krantz, 2001; Petersen, 2010).

Despite the many studies showing the impoverished state of households and communities following resettlement (see Smyth et al., 2015; Terminski, 2012; Yang et al., 2019), and even though mining-induced displacement and resettlement (MIDR) has received more attention recently (Adam et al., 2015; Barclay and Salam, 2015; Owen & Kemp, 2015, 2016; Smyth et al., 2015; Van der Ploeg and Vanclay, 2018; Wilson, 2019), millions of people worldwide

continue to be displaced annually due to mining projects, with largely adverse outcomes for those compelled to relocate as well as those remaining in affected areas.

Despite the adoption of principles and guidelines by the World Bank and its financial partners to alleviate the negative consequences of mining-induced displacement (MID), as widely acknowledged as international standards for involuntary resettlements, affected populations (APs) often find themselves facing increased impoverishment in areas such as income, employment, livelihood, and morbidity. As such, a detailed analysis of APs' experiences is considered essential to enhance our comprehension of these repercussions emanating from mining resettlement that confront the affected communities. These insights will guide policy creation and facilitate the planning and implementation of Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs), which will help address challenges relating to income and employment more efficiently.

2.5. Research Objective

The primary goal of the study was to evaluate the repercussions of mining resettlements on affected communities in Ghana. The study's particular goals were as follows:

1. To investigate issues on income levels of people before and after the resettlement.
2. To examine the employment opportunities available to the people before and after the resettlement.

2.6. Research Questions

An in-depth examination of the processes and outcomes of MIDR in relocated communities requires the answers to these study issues. Additionally, they offer guidance for developing policies intended to lessen the possible negative repercussions resulting from MIDR.

1. What are your levels of income before and after the resettlement?
2. What are the employment opportunities available to you before and after the resettlement?

3. METHODOLOGY

A Qualitative Approach

As a subfield of social science study, qualitative research concentrates on collecting and interpreting non-numerical data to help understand social processes within specific groups or situations (Crossman, 2020). Although there have been many complaints regarding the quality of qualitative research, those who support this approach still believe that quality is the most important prerequisite. To ensure qualitative research meets quality standards, several elements have been proposed, including a worthy topic, rigorous methodology, sincerity, credibility, resonance, significant contribution, ethical considerations, and meaningful coherence (Tracy, 2010). Furthermore, in certain situations, referential sufficiency, structural corroboration, and triangulation provide assurances for quality assurance (Eisner, 1997). Since qualitative research examines social or human problems in natural settings, researchers are urged to carefully analyse whether the qualitative technique is appropriate for their topic and study objectives (Silverman, 2008).

3.1. Selection of Research Technique

This study employed a qualitative method for a variety of reasons. First and foremost, the researcher set out to look into the repercussions of mining resettlements on the affected people in their natural surroundings (Adjei, 2007). This is in line with the opinions of proponents of qualitative research, who favour flexible and social context-aware data gathering techniques over inflexible, distant, and inferential ones (Denzin and Lincoln, 2005). The necessity for a nuanced understanding of complicated problems like money and work—which can only be elicited through direct talks with participants that allow them to freely express their experiences—also made a qualitative method preferable (Creswell, 2014). In addition, the research entailed obtaining data from professionals and high-ranking government employees in the mining industry, resulting in a small sample size (N-size) deemed appropriate for qualitative analysis. This made it necessary to use qualitative data gathering tools like focus groups and in-depth interviews, which allowed for a thorough examination of the topic because participants offered a variety of viewpoints (Creswell, 2014). After the data was collected from multiple sources, it was triangulated utilizing qualitative techniques to guarantee thorough comprehension (Yin, 2016). The study selected the qualitative technique to investigate the

repercussions of mining resettlement on the people and directly from the viewpoints of those living in these resettled communities, who are directly impacted by the ensuing benefits or challenges. The qualitative technique was more suitable because of the subtle nature of these encounters and the requirement to record subjective opinions.

3.2. Selection of Research Subjects

Conversational methods, focus group discussions, observations and interviews were some of the key methods used in the qualitative approach. It is noteworthy that this research is grounded in context and seeks to obtain distinctive perspectives from each home, focus group and key informants. The qualitative approach was thought to be the most appropriate because of the subjective character of these perspectives and the need to capture the variety of individual experiences. The participants were consciously chosen from three (3) resettled mining communities to get a holistic understanding. Interview selection process involved identifying potential people from the selected resettled communities. The list of participants comprises household heads, opinion leaders, market women, focus group and personnel from institutions involved in the resettlement programme.

3.3. Sampling Design

Table 3.1: Interviewees details

NAMES OF RESETTLED COMMUNITIES	TARGET PERSONS INTERVIEWED	NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS
Salman community, Nkroful community and Teleku-Bokazo community	Household	12
	Institutional level	6
	Opinion leaders	9
	FOCUS GROUP	
Salman community		9
Nkroful community		9
Teleku-Bokazo		9
	TOTAL	54

3.4. Data Collection

After selection of communities, the next step was connecting with potential participants. This was done by the researcher visiting the selected resettled communities to seek the indulgence of the participants to take part in the research willingly. The actual process of interview involved conducting semi-structured or unstructured interviews with them to learn their past and current experiences in their new settlement. The participants were informed in advance through the visit of the researcher to the selected communities. Each participants was checked for a day of availability and then interviews were scheduled. At the start of the session a consent was obtained from each participant to document and record the interviews and then each participant was asked questions based on the questionnaire protocol prepared but it was personalised according to each participant's response and follow up questions were asked to make use of the in-depth interview method. The questionnaire protocol involved the following questions.

1. Can you tell me how the resettlement process happened and how it turn out for you?
2. Describe your way of life/how you went about doing things before the resettlement?
3. Describe your way of life/how you go about doing things now?
4. What was your total yearly income before/after the resettlement?
5. What employment opportunities are available to you after the resettlement?
6. Describe the struggles you are experiencing now?
7. What was your livelihood centred on before the resettlement?

8. How is your way of life assured in your new resettlement in terms of income?
9. Do you have any health related issues as a result of the resettlement?
10. How do you get money to take care of your family?

After the completion of interviews and focus group discussions in the three communities selected, the responses were transformed from verbatim from vernacular to e-form like excel for further thematic coding and analysis.

3.5. Data Analysis and Interpretation

The analysis revealed that mining resettlements create many unfavourable issues which affect the general livelihood of the affected people. The interviews and the focus group discussions revealed two major livelihood issues that the Salman, Teleku-Bokazo and Nkroful resettled mining communities face. These were income and employment issues. Though the thematic groupings from the data obtained brought up other livelihood issues like morbidity and pollution of the environment, the people no longer having access to their land as it used to be, expensive food prices due to the influx of people into the communities and loss of their cultural artefacts etc.

Participants in the study agreed to the notion that indeed mining resettlement has brought enormous repercussions in their lives which could be positive or negative and which is now up to them to cope with the situation.

4. ANSWER TO THE RESEARCH QUESTIONS

4.1 Income

The three resettled communities agreed unanimously on how the resettlement had inflicted hardship on the people and brought impoverishment to the entire community. They explained what has brought these hardships among them, such as the forfeiture of livelihood and loss of income. Twerefoo (2021: 824) said, "Displacement and resettlement especially tend to deprive people of their daily sources of income. Most of them were not enduring such hardships because they had various means of supporting themselves from various sources of income and various occupational opportunities available to them. They also agreed that severe hardship has come upon them now because of the lack of socioeconomic activities, the absence of commercial centres and dependents' properties which have been lost, which resulted in the loss of income generation.

4.2. Employment

Upon examining the job options accessible to those impacted by the relocated mining areas, three issues that plagued the individuals emerged: discrimination in the workplace and unemployment. These two have been narrowed down to stagnation of livelihood. The residents' livelihoods had stagnated due to issues relating to employment at the new settlement. The affected people made it clear that there were few employment opportunities to take advantage of. They were quick to point out that the limited job openings were offered to non-indigenes who had the skills to work in the mine, which was an indication of employment discrimination. Drechsel attested that government representatives and management had made promises about job prospects prior to or during the installation of mine. Nevertheless, they were only partially realized (Drechsel et al., 2019: 17). It was also found that individuals' career focus has shifted because of a lack of employment and workforce discrimination and now they wanted to move to the towns and cities of Ghana where they believed they could get jobs to take care of their families back home. Others also engaged in illegal mining, or "galamsey", as it is known in Ghana.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1. Income

The objective was to examine how the income levels of the people in the resettled communities have been affected. The qualitative findings demonstrated a severe impact on people's ability to make ends meet, except for a small number of individuals who successfully obtained work and wisely invested their compensation funds. The qualitative results showed that the establishment of mining resettlement negatively impacted the income of most of the communities. Prior to the arrival of the mines, they had been receiving their regular income from their agricultural and fishing operations, where they raised food crops like cassava, cocoyam, plantains and yams as well as cash crops like cocoa, rubber, palm trees, and coconuts to make up a major percentage of their income.

The findings extracted by engaging with participants revealed that the community has lost their main source of income—the land—as mining concessions have taken it away from them (Twerefoo, 2021). The loss of land shows that the resettlement activities negatively affected a greater percentage of the communities' income (Twerefoo, 2021). The findings revealed the impoverished state in which most of the communities found themselves. The forfeiture of livelihood, loss of income and severe hardships they experienced were evident on their faces. Until then, most people did not deal with this nature of economic hardship because they had various avenues to generate enough income to take care of their family's needs. The literature on mining resettlements commonly depicts a mixture of negative and positive impacts on the immediate communities. The results of this investigation support Owen's (2018) definition of economic displacement which is the loss of resources or access to resources as a result of land acquisition or use related to a project leading to the loss of income sources or means of subsistence. This aligns with the findings of Collado and Orozoco (2020), who examined the experiences of urban poor people relocated to resettlements and found that disruptions to traditional sources of income in pre-eviction residences undermined living conditions.

Furthermore, the literature indicates that many individuals in these communities are peasant farmers who are reliant on farm produce as their primary source of income. Cernea (2016) observed in their study that livelihoods in such communities often revolve around farming as the sole income-generating activity. The absence of viable alternative income activities may render household heads less capable of addressing potential livelihood issues, potentially leaving them vulnerable to caring for their families. Consequently, resettlement communities are often associated with poverty. Nonetheless, though it is not the subject of investigation here, mining resettlements may also bring about positive changes in the lives of some individuals in designated mining operation areas (Cernea, 2016).

5.2. Employment

Research objective 2 aimed to ascertain the employment opportunities available to the people as a result of their displacement. The findings revealed two categories of problems as far as employment is concerned. These were employment discrimination and unemployment, all of which culminated in a theme of stagnation of livelihood among the communities. This finding is in line with the body of research that shows that resettlement and displacement caused by mining are well-discussed issues (Andrew, 2018; Cobbinah and Amoakoh, 2018; Terminski, 2012). Terminski confirmed that open-pit mining employs very few people, and its expansion usually results in the displacement of local residents (Terminski, 2012). According to research on resettlement and displacement caused by mining, as described by Downing (2002) and Wilson (2018), indicates that the mining sector as it currently operates is not socially viable and causes significant issues with employment and displacement.

The findings show a stagnation in the livelihood of the people, with the majority lacking the opportunity to work in the mines. Downing's (2002: 116) assertion "land is acquired to access that ore and to mine it when rich ore is found" supports the previous statement. This land acquisition displaces people who had lived there before, causing them to lose their homes, productive land, sources of income, jobs and personal resources, which inevitably results in poverty (Bennett and McDowell, 2012; Wilson, 2018: 72; Manduna, 2023). The people interviewed revealed that employment was not readily available to them (the displaced people) in the communities, as one needs to pass through hurdles and have the requisite skills before being employed. The data provides both positive and negative perspectives on job chances. A positive aspect emerged when some people from the communities, considered to be indigenes with the requisite skills needed by the mining companies, secured employment in the mining companies (Twerefoo, 2021). Mining also allows for the adaptation of alternative livelihood options, which is crucial given that the mining sector is unable to employ the majority of unemployed young people in affected regions (Drechsel et al., 2019: 17). However, one disadvantage that contributed to poverty in resettled populations was limited access to land-based resources. Participants said that there was very little farmland available in their new areas, particularly infertile grounds, which has had a negative impact on farming, which is their primary occupation. The loss of access to and usage of farmland (both quantity and quality) and other natural resources has had a significant impact on food security in resettled communities (Twerefoo, 2021).

According to the findings, the people also had to bear employment discrimination in the workplace. The people in the resettled communities see the non-indigenes being employed more in the mines than the indigenes from the communities. It was discovered that a large number of people that go to mining locations in search of work may already possess the necessary abilities before they arrive. With this, they may have the necessary skills needed by the mine, and hence they are readily employed by the mine. The findings contradicted Deller and Schreiber's (2013)

observation that "employment opportunities for rural communities also increased and mining created employment in sectors related to but not limited to mining" (Deller and Schreiber, 2013). However, with the exception of a few who were employed, the literature verifies the findings of the residents in the research area that it is difficult to get work in the mine. Wilson, in his study of the displacement of a community in the rutile mining area in Sierra Leone, confirmed that mining resettlement brings economic marginalization to the affected communities, and the area mostly involved the acquisition of jobs from the mining company (Wilson, 2019: 97).

6. IMPLICATIONS

Evidence from this study suggests that the people had reliable sources of income, had access to the community's resources, and appeared to have delighted in their entire way of life prior to the onset of mining operations in the region. They were able to secure their necessities of life, like food, water, shelter and clothing, which form the bedrock of people's livelihoods. The results of the study corroborate the widely held beliefs of previous studies suggesting that people's ability is defined by their capability to meet their own and their family's fundamental requirements through the acquisition of food, water, medication, housing and clothes, which constitute their livelihood. The actions taken to obtain the essentials must be consistently carried out in a dignified and sustainable manner.

The findings after the resettlement are contrary to the livelihoods before the mining operations. The participants claimed to have received inadequate compensation, lost occupational activities, faced a high cost of living, resided in deplorable shelters, and had poor health status. Most of the individuals who were interviewed and participated in the focus group discussions stated that they were currently in a bad situation citing their inability to pursue their professional activities, which made it harder for them to live in the communities. This has confirmed studies that displacement results in taking away people's jobs and livelihoods, thus pushing them into abject poverty. Although the mining companies have implemented measures to alleviate poverty in the affected communities, the people, especially those who are directly or indirectly affected by the operations of the mines perceive these measures as insignificant.

7. CONCLUSION

The findings reflect the income status of the people after the resettlement. The findings revealed that a greater number of people who were directly affected by the displacement were experiencing a downturn in their income situations in their new environment. Mining operations have taken away their land, which is their primary source of revenue. According to the research, the people felt that the compensation they received for their lost land and other properties was insufficient, and they were unable to use the money to make wise investments that would eventually allow them to live comfortably. As a result, during the focus groups and in-depth interviews, the results showed how poor the majority of the residents were in the three towns. The various ways used to supplement the people's incomes were no longer available to them as those places are now marked as security zones by the mining companies.

The study further reflects that employment opportunities were a key factor in softening the hearts of the people to allow mining operations to take place in the areas. The findings brought up employment discrimination and unemployment. This resulted in what is referred to as stagnation of livelihood among the members of the communities. The results of the focus group discussions revealed that the blockade in the employment portfolio was in the areas of skills, quota systems and age. The results obtained from the in-depth interviews and focus group discussions pertaining to unemployment are consistent with the IRR model. This model posits that the loss of local income-generating resources is the primary cause of post-displacement unemployment or underemployment. According to the IRR model, there are few options for unskilled local workers to find employment since industries find it difficult to switch to less labour-intensive processes and hire a more skilled workforce.

8. LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH

Although the study's conclusions provide insight into the socioeconomic effects of mining resettlement in Ghana, it is crucial to remember that these conclusions cannot be applied universally because of restrictions on the study's sample size and geographic scope. The Nkroful, Teleku-Bokazo, and Salman communities in western Ghana were the specific cases that were the focus of the study. As such, extrapolating the results to different resettlement scenarios could prove difficult. It is imperative to acknowledge that the opinions offered by this study are those of the resettled community members residing in the Ellembele District of Ghana's Western Region. It is possible that not all resettlement communities in Ghana have the same experiences and perspectives represented in these findings.

The study suggests using larger population samples to support the conclusions drawn from this investigation. Additionally, the study suggests using an experimental design and a research tool like a questionnaire to introduce quantitative and qualitative data, respectively. It is also advised that future studies examine copying strategies of resettled people in various Ghanaian regions in order to make clear distinctions between similarities and variances.

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