**REPORT ON FIELD TRIP (DATA COLLECTION)**

The field trip was to collect data or information on the blasting and some personal or demographic information on the people of Tarkwa and their willingness or ability to sign up to the possible solution I will be providing. Below are some of analysis I made on the data collected. I was able to get to 260 respondents. The data was collected from Old and New Banso, Nsuta, Teberebe, Mile 5 and Mile 8 all suburbs in Tarkwa Municipality. Banso and Nsuta are catchment areas for Ghana Manganese Company Ltd (GMC) while Teberebe, Mile 5 and 8 are catchment areas for AngloGold Asante.

**Age of respondents**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Age** | **Frequency** | **Percent** |
|  | 16\_20 | 11 | 4.2 |
|  | 21\_25 | 53 | 20.4 |
|  | 26\_30 | 53 | 20.4 |
|  | 31\_35 | 52 | 20.0 |
|  | 36\_40 | 20 | 7.7 |
|  | 41\_45 | 29 | 11.2 |
|  | 46\_50 | 17 | 6.5 |
|  | 51\_55 | 17 | 6.5 |
|  | 55\_60 | 4 | 1.5 |
|  | 60\_and\_abo | 4 | 1.5 |
|  | **Total** | **260** | **100**.**0** |

**Table 1:**

The table above shows the age of respondents and it can be seen from the table that most of the respondents fall within the youthful age.

**Sex of respondents**

**Figure 1:**

Out of 260 respondents, 132 were females and 128 were males.

**Occupation Of respondents**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Occupation** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Farmer | 58 | 22.3 |
| Trader | 76 | 29.2 |
| Others | 126 | 48.5 |
| Total | 260 | 100 |

**Table 2:**

Majority of the respondents were into trading. This is because most of them were females. Nevertheless some were also into farming. The others consist of drivers, small scale miners and others who did not have any occupation including students.

**Educational status**

**Figure 2:**

The educational status of the respondents as per the graph is low since majority of them have basic education. Just a few of them had higher education.

**Monthly income**

**Figure 3:**

It can be seen from the pie chart than most the respondents were earning less that is between 200 and 500 cedis monthly with about 82 earning between 500 and 100 cedis monthly. While none represents those who do not earn monthly.

**Access to mobile phone and phone type**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Do you have a mobile phone** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 233 | 89.6 |
| No | 27 | 10.4 |
| **Total** | **260** | **100** |

**Table 3:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Phone Type** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Smart Phone | 99 | 38.1 |
| Feature Phone (Yam) | 134 | 51.5 |
| None | 27 | 10.4 |
| **Total** | **260** | **100** |

**Table 4:**

It can be seen from the tables above that majority of the people had access to mobile phones but as to which type of phones they have access to, most of them used feature phones (Yam) and some didn’t have access to phones.

**Expense on call credit and data weekly**

**Figure 4:**

With regards to how much they spend on call credit weekly, most of them spent more than 10 cedis worth of credit weekly which can go as far as 20 cedis or 50 cedis because they said that is the only means to get to family and friends and clients.

**Figure 5:**

For data expenses, it could be seen from the graph that majority do not use data because if we refer to the **Table 4** which is the type of phone they use, it was seen that most of them use feature phones which can’t access internet.

**Network type**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Network Type** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| MTN | 228 | 85.7 |
| AirtelTigo | 16 | 6 |
| Vodafone | 22 | 8.3 |
| **Total** | **266** | **100** |

**Table 5:**

The network they used most was MTN because it the only network with strong signal/connectivity.

**Access to Laptop**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Access to Laptop** | **Frequency** | **Percentage** |
| Yes | 16 | 6.2 |
| No | 244 | 93.8 |
| **Total** | **260** | **100** |

**Table 6:**

**For access to** laptop, majority do not have.

Furthermore they were asked if they would want to receive an SMS/TEXT notification to inform them on the impacts of mining activities, on strategies they can employ to find profits and nonprofit organizations to help them or if they would like to be informed on mining activities, to educate the public on right channels to use to gain the attention of the mining companies, about 150 respondents answered NO, this is due to their inability to decipher the message since their level of education is low. So some will tell you “though is good but how do you expect me that I can’t read to even read and understand the message” so they had to reject it. But not withstanding they were asked if having an intermediate organization to channel issues to, if those in authority are not helping and being publicly engaged in issues concerning mining activities can help achieve a sustainable mining community, majority said yes about 257 of them.

In conclusion the idea of receiving an SMS/TEXT notification was great to them but since majority would not be able to decipher the message they had to reject it but they suggested using the media such the radio to inform them in their own dialect and using their information center to announce would help and will reach many people. They have two information centers for Banso one at old Banso and another at new Banso.

Currently the kind of notification they receive is siren blowing which informs them of the blasting of which it is those only at old Banso who get such kind of notification those at the new site don’t receive any since it is assumed that once they have been relocated they would not feel the impacts. They also have a notice board stationed at the old site but it’s not functioning. For Teberebe which is a catchment area for AngloGold Asante, they also receive a siren notification and also have a notice board of which it functions. For Mile 5 and 8 the do not receive any form of notification but those at Mile 5 said the mining company (AngloGold Asante) is considering relocating them.