# **ACHIASE DISTRICT ASSEMBLY**

# **DISTRICT PROFILE**

- 2021 -

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#### 1.0 Introduction

This document provides a brief description of the current state of situation narrowing on the physical and socio–economic characteristics and development implication in the Achiase District. The document also discusses the investment potentials and opportunities in district. The current development issues in the district are also outlined to conclude the document.

*Vision*: A people centered local government institution championing development, peace and prosperity.

*Mission:* The Achiase District Assembly exists to provide conducive socio-political and economic conditions of the citizens through provision of timely and appropriate policies and services to all

#### 1.1 Establishment, Location and Size

The Achiase District was created from the Birim South District in 2019 by L.I 2370. The district which is located at the south-western part of the Eastern Region covers an estimated land area of  $433 \text{km}^2$  and it is bounded by Asene Manso Akroso to the North-East and Birim South to the North West. It also shares boundary to the south by districts in the Central Region, namely Asikuma Odoben-Brakwa, Assin Central Municipal and Assin North District. Figure 1.1 shows the Achiase District in Regional and National Context.

ACHIASE DISTRICT IN REGIONAL AND NATIONAL CONTEXT

LEGEND
Achiase District Boundary
Eastern Districts
Other Districts
Other Districts
On 50 100 km

Figure 1.1: Achiase District in Regional and National Context

Source: Achiase District DPCU, 2021

#### 1.2 Relief and Drainage

The district is mostly undulating and hilly and lies within the semi-deciduous forest zone. The underlying rock formation is mainly made up of the upper Birimian rocks. These rocks consist predominantly of volcanic lava, schist, hyalites and greywacke with; minor granite intrusions and normally gives rise to salty clay soil without course materials. The topography of Achiase District is hilly, consisting of lava flows and schist which in some cases rise to 61 meters above sea level. Hyalite (silica) and greywacke (hardened sandstone) areas have low relief and experience relatively low rainfall. The district is drained by the Birim River. Its major tributaries include Funso, Apetesu, Asikasu, Ahonfra, Akwassua, Nsuta, Adim, Tropea and Kasawere.

#### 1.3 Vegetation

The vegetation is mostly characterized by tall trees with evergreen undergrowth endowed with economic trees. The District falls within the semi-deciduous rainforest region leading to high degree of rainfall for crop cultivation and human use. Human activities such as bad farming practices, lumbering (especially chain saw and firewood operations), illegal mining and construction works have had negative impact on the vegetation over the years resulting in scattered parcels of secondary forest.

#### 1.4 Biodiversity and Climate

The District falls within the wet semi-equatorial climatic zone which experiences substantial amount of precipitation/rainfall. Annually rainfall is between 150cm and 200cm reaching its maximum during the two peak periods of May to June and September-October. This promotes intensive farming activities within these two periods i.e. May to June and September to October. The relative humidity is about 56 percent in the dry season and 70 percent in the raining season. The temperature ranges from of 25.2°C and 27.5°C. The undulating nature of the topography occasionally results to flooding in some communities during the peak period of the rainy season.

#### 1.5 Demographic Characteristics

According to the 2021 Population and Housing Census, the district has a total population of 56,348. (56,914 IN 2022)The population density is approximately 130/km<sup>2</sup>. Females represent 51 percent of the population against 49 percent males. Children under 15 years constitute 40.1% of the District's population. The rural population constitute about 49.6 percent of the population while urban dwellers constitute 50.4 percent.

#### 1.6 Culture and Ethnicity

The Akan ethnic group is the highest in the district (88%). Figure 1.13 shows that majority of Ghanaians in the district are Akans, numbering 74,586. The second most popular ethnic group in the district is Ewe with a population of 3,814 (4.5%) followed by Ga-Adangbe 2,458 (2.9%) then Guan (2.4%). Ethnic groups from the northern part of the country and others constitute less than 2.5 percent of the population. The District is heterogeneous in terms of ethnicity and the greater proportion of the migrants tribes have lived in a peaceful co-existence, a pre-requisite for development.

There are three Traditional Councils in the District namely Bosome, Abuakwa and Kotoku. All of these councils celebrate different festivals each year at different times. The people of Achiase from the Abuakwa traditional council celebrate Ahintan and Norma festival while the people Aperade and Anamase from the Bosome traditional council celebrate the Odwira festival.

The major religion of the inhabitants is the Christian religion; Islamic and Traditional religions constitute the minority in the District. These structures could be used effectively in the dissemination of information in the District.

#### 1.7 Settlement Systems

Figure 1.6 shows the land use cover of the Achiase District. The green portion shows that the district covered predominantly dense vegetation. The yellowish orange color which represents crops indicated that farms located close to the settlements. The settlement type is predominantly rural with nucleated pattern. There are few dispersed settlements but these are basically farm houses. The major settlements are located along the arterial roads and the railways and it appears that the road network determine the settlement hierarchies. Additionally, the settlement pattern is more dispersed in the rural communities and nucleated or compact in the urban communities.

Physical development and control in the District poses problems for development. Most of the human settlements are not planned and do not have proper layouts. The uncontrolled nature of some human settlements invariably creates land disputes and litigations. The major settlement in the district are growing rapidly and citing of unauthorized structures has been rampant because weak of regulatory structures and lack of layout and planning schemes. Facilities such as health center, police stations, and financial institutions are concentrated in these communities.

LAND USE COVER OF THE ACHIASE DISTRICT Trees: Any significant clustering of tall (~15-m or higher) dense vegetation, typically with a closed or dense canopy; examples: wooded vegetation, clusters of dense tall vegetation within savannas, plantations, swamp or mangroves (dense/tall vegetation with ephemeral water or canopy too thick to detect water underneath). Crops: Human planted/plotted cereals, grasses, and crops not at tree height; examples: com, wheat, soy, fallow plots of structured land. Built Area: Human made structures: LEGEND major road and rail networks; large homogenous impervious surfaces Water including parking structures, office buildings and residential housing; examples: houses, dense villages / towns / cities, paved roads, asphalt. Trees Grass Crops 2500 2500 km Credit: Esri 2020 Land Cover V2. Built Area

Figure 1.6: Land use cover of the Achiase District

#### 1.8 Relief, Drainage and Natural Resource Environment)

The district is mostly undulating and hilly. It is drained by the Birim River which has several tributaries spreading across the district. The undulating nature of the topography occasionally results in flooding in some communities during the peak period of the rainy season.

The Map in Figure 1.2 shows that the forest reserve in the district covers areas around Aperade, Osorase and its surroundings. The forest produces numerous commercial wood species. The under lying rock of the district is about 95 percent granite, about 4 percent alluvial and one percent birrimian. There are no formal mining activities in the district, however, sand winning activities in Kokobeng, Anyinam, Osorase and Aperade have wrecked considerable farm lands by stripping the land of the topsoil and also leaving gaping holes most times filled with water and serving as death traps to unsuspecting people. Pollution from waste, leaching of toxic chemicals from fertilizers and pesticides used in agriculture, has further deepened the woes in the potential use of freshwater resources.

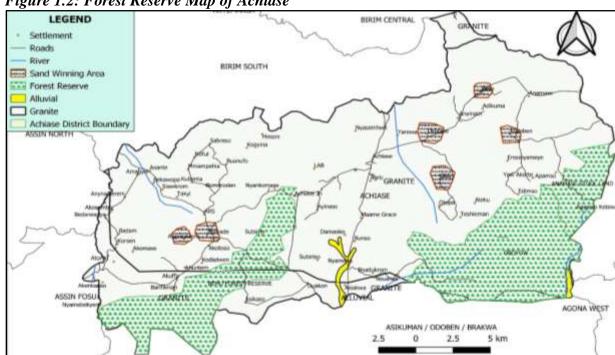


Figure 1.2: Forest Reserve Map of Achiase

Source: Achiase District DPCU, 2021

#### 2.0 **Infrastructure Development**

#### 2.1 Water Security, Sanitation and Waste Management

The District has a 141 water facilities (including one (1) Small Town Water System at Aperade). As indicated in that chart in the Figure 1.3, manual boreholes with hand pumps constitutes 62 percent while mechanized borehole and hand dug well with pumps constitute 21percent and 9 percent respectively. About 69 percent of the facilities are in good condition and functioning well. The rest, however, are either broken down or need urgent repairs. The Pipe borne<sup>1</sup> water which only services Achiase is not functional. The potable water coverage in the district is 62 percent.

There are 13 public toilet facilities in the district but only four (4) are currently functioning. Open defecation which is the worst form of unimproved sanitation, accounts from more than percent of household usage. Currently sanitation coverage is 42 percent.

6

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Distributed by the Ghana Water Company

The collection, transportation and disposal of solid and liquid waste has been contracted to the Zoomlion Company Limited. The District has one land fill site located at Nyankomase.

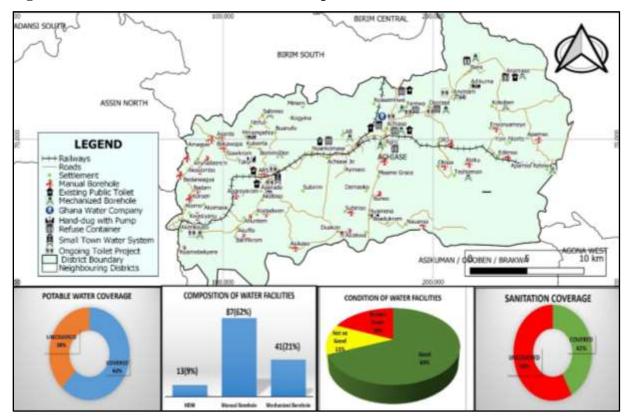


Figure 1.3: District Water and Sanitation Map

Source: Achiase District Profile, 2021

### 2.2 Transport and Road

The district has both road and railway networks. The road transport is the only reliable mode of transport in the District. Total length of road network in the district is 127.1km. Figure 1.4 shows the road type and the conditions of roads in the district. Out of 62.8km highway roads, 21.km are earth roads while all the feeder roads have earth surface. About 18km of the bituminous roads are in bad condition as compared to 19.5 km of the earth surface roads.

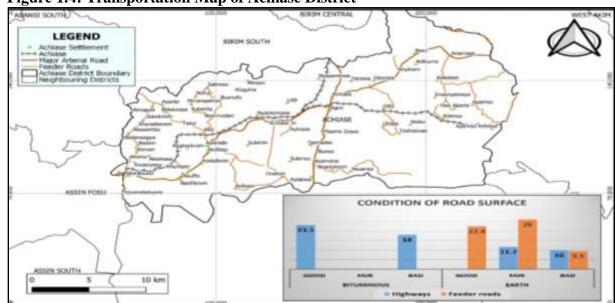


Figure 1.4: Transportation Map of Achiase District

Source: DPCU Field Survey, 2021

Key development issues include abandoned railway infrastructure, unpaved carriageways local roads, no enforcement road hierarchy system poor road safety. In addition there is no bus terminal and lack of waiting area for taxi.

#### 2.3 Postal and Telecommunication

The district has a tele-density penetration of 86 percent Postal and Telecommunication facilities though not adequate have seen some improvement in recent times. The Postal Services in the District are located at Akim Achiase. The facilities are supported by postal agencies in Aperade and Anamase.

#### 2.4 Energy

Electricity, LPG and fuel wood are the main sources of energy in the District. Percentage of communities covered by electricity is 97.5 percent, 95 percent of rural communities are connected to the national grid. LPG and fuel wood are used for cooking and small scale industrial and commercial activities while electricity is used for lightning. The district has one (1) LPG supply point in Achiase. The three (3) fuel filling stations are located in Achiase.

#### 3.0 Social Development

#### 3.1 Education

Figure 3.1 shows the spatial distribution of educational infrastructure and ownership of facilities. The number of educational institutions in the district is 157 out of which, 109 (69.4%) are public schools while 48 representing 30.6 percent are privately owned. The District has been divided into five (5) circuits to enhance supervision. Pre-school levels have 56 facilities and 55 facilities for the JHS. The district has two (2) Senior High Schools. There are inadequate classrooms at both the KG and primary levels. The situation is even worse in rural communities. At the primary level, there are 16 classrooms under tree and 6 dilapidated ones while 26 are under trees. Most of the schools do not have ancillary facilities like toilets and urinals. Where these facilities exist, they are either in deplorable state or they are not enough for the pupils and teachers.

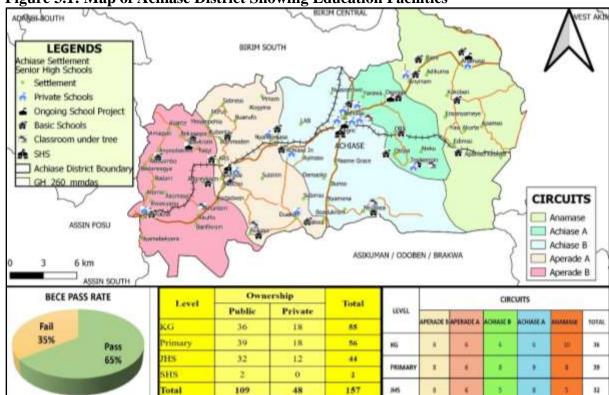


Figure 3.1: Map of Achiase District Showing Education Facilities

Source: Achiase District DPCU, 2021

#### Access and Participation to Education

Both the Gross Enrolment Ratio and the Net Enrolment Ratio indicate that all persons of school going age are enrolled in school.

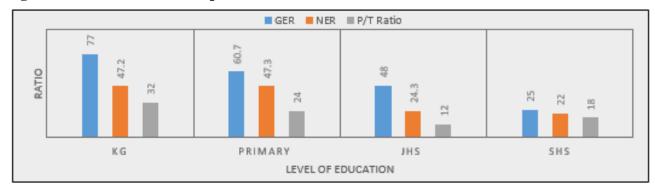


Figure 2.2: Access and Participation to Education

Source: Achiase District Education Directorate, 2021

Figure 1.2 shows that enrolment decreases at higher educational levels. The NER shows that more than 40 percent persons of school going age at all levels are not in school. Teacher people ratio is high at the KG level but lower at the primary and JHS.

Summary of issues identified included:

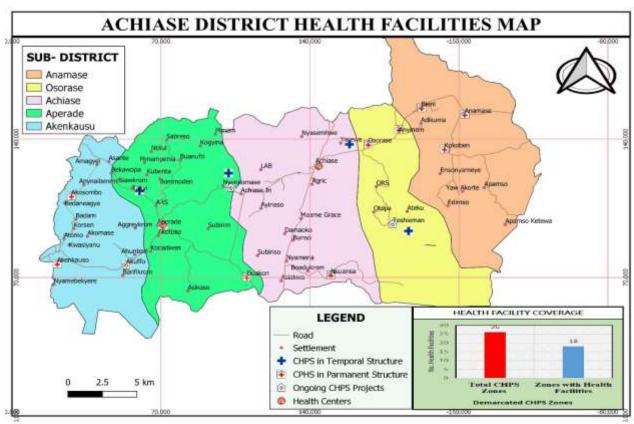
- Poor and inadequate school infrastructure
- Inadequate furniture
- Poor Academic performance
- Uneven distribution of teachers
- High incidence of teenage pregnancy and drug abuse
- Lack of water and sanitation facilities in schools

#### 3.2 Health

Health delivery in the District is generally skewed towards the urban centers with few facilities in the rural areas. Table 3.3presents the distribution of health facilities by sub-districts.

Out of the 26 demarcated CPHS zones, 18 are covered with health facilities including 16 CHPS Compound and 2 health centers at Achiase and Aperade. Out of the 16 existing CHPS, Four (4) operate in temporal structures (i.e. either rented or in a wooden structure) and two are under construction. The district does not have a maternity home nor a hospital.

Figure 1.9: Distribution of Health Infrastructure in the Achiase District



Source: Achiase District Health Administration, 2020

#### 3.2.1 Private Health Facilities and Herbalists

There are 13 herbalists and two herbal clinics (one in Achiase and the other in Anyinam) that provide healthcare services through the use of herbs in the district. The district also has 21 Traditional Birth Attendants who provide delivery services to pregnant women.

#### 3.2.2 Health Personnel

The District Administration has staff strength of 96 health professionals with varied skills and disciplines. In relation to the required health personnel (239) in the district, the existing personnel constitutes 40.2 percent. The implication is that additional 143 health personnel are needed to fill the gap in order to effectively deliver quality health care.

#### 3.2.3 Top Ten Diseases

OPD attendance increased from 42144 in 2019 to 53914 in 2020. Malaria continues to top the ten (10) diseases and causes of OPD attendance in the District followed by Upper Respiratory Tract Infection, Rheumatism and Diarrhoea over the past two years (2019-2020) as shown in the Figure below.

25000 20000 15000 15000 15000 10000 58559 5868 5064 4892 2413 2293 497 494 197 0 10000 5000 100000 100000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10000 10

Figure 3.4: Top Ten Diseases

Source: ADA Health Administration, 2020

#### 3.2.2 Nutrition

Table 1.2, shows recorded malnutrition cases of children between 0-59 months from 2020 to 2021. The current trend for severe malnutrition has comparatively reduced in relation to previous years, even though there has been increase in moderate malnutrition.

Table 1.3: Nutritional status of the children (0-59) months

Status	2020	2021
Moderate	87	116
Severe	13	1
Total	100	117

Source: DHA, 2020

#### 3.2.3 Private Health Facilities and Herbalists

There 13 herbalists and two herbal clinics (one in Achiase and the other in Anyinam) that provide healthcare services through the use of medicinal herbs in the district. The District Health

Directorate should continuously monitor their activities to ensure compliance with laid down procedure.

#### 3.2.3 Traditional Birth Attendance

There are 21 Traditional Birth Attendant in the district that provide delivery services to pregnant women. Achiase has five (5), four (4) in Aperade and two (2) in Akenkausu. The following communities has one (1) each: Achiase Junction, Yarewa, Nsuansa, Kokobeng, Anyinam, Osorase, Teshieman, Akosombo, Duakon and Takyi. Total delivery made by reduced from 81 in 2020 to 73 in 2021. There is the need to identify all traditional birth attendance in the district and forge a stronger collaboration to ensure supervised and safe delivery.

#### 3.3.1 Child Protection

Between 2019 and 2020 the Department of Social Welfare and Community Development received and solved 28 cases (involving 10 males and 18 females) of child maintenance and custody. As a result of poor parental control and ignorance of child protection issues, most children are exposed to vices such as pornography and harmful economic activities. Participating in economic activities such as operation of commercial tricycles and hazardous farm work (especially in cocoa producing areas) result in school in absenteeism. A total of 25 pupils (including 12 boys and 13 girls) with special needs such as visual and hearing impairment, physically or mentally imbalance were identified and registered.

#### 3.3.2 Gender and Vulnerability

Almost all the communities in the district are patricentric. Participation of women and children in decision making is limited. In 2019 no woman contested in the local level elections. Out of the 21 Assembly members only one (one) is woman. The situation is even worse with the unit committee where women constitute less than 3 percent of 80 elected to the unit committee members.

The extremely poor are particularly vulnerable to sickness, unemployment, disability and loss of assets. This in turn increases the risk of falling even further into poverty and deprivation. Under the LEAP, a total of 1370 heads of households (including 383 males and 987 females) identified to be extremely poor have been receiving cash support as a way of improving basic household consumption and nutrition among children, the aged and people with severe disability. Currently

191 (87 males and 104 female) persons with disability have been registered and counselled. The Department of Community Development and Social Welfare has rolled processes to identify and registered all PWDs in the district. Between 2019 and 2021, 94 PWDs including 49 females and 45 males have benefited from the PWD share of the DACF allocations. The District has established corn and flour mill station at Achiase to provide sustainable income to PWDs.

#### 4.0 Economic Activities

The district has a diversified local economy. According to Figure 4.1 Agriculture engages 65.9 percent of the economically active population whereas the service and manufacturing sectors engage 19.4 percent and 14.7 percent respectively. Achiase is the main commercial center of the District.

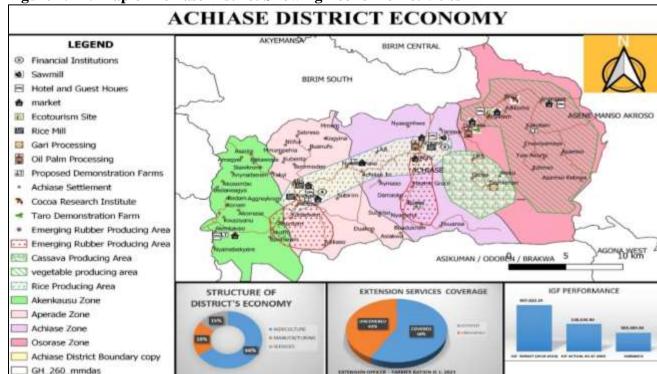


Figure 1. 11: Map of Achiase District Showing Economic Activities

Source: Author's Field Construct, 2021

#### 4.1 District Financial Management

The fiscal management of the district comprises revenue mobilization and expenditure. The district has three major sources of revenue namely Internally Generated Funds (IGF), Inter-governmental Fiscal Transfers, and other Financial Arrangements. Major challenges in local IGF collection

- Unwillingness on the part of the people to pay rates and fees as result of a lack of education;
- Ineffective checks system to ensure proper accounting from revenue collectors;
- Lack of Logistics such as vehicles for revenue collection activities; and
- Unreliable revenue database

Meagre IGF revenues implies the District depends heavily on external sources for the financing of most its development projects.

#### 4.2 Tourism

The only developed tourist site in the district is the Set Anthony Jungle Warfare school is under the management of the Ghana Armed Forces. The school organizes annual open day on March 7<sup>th</sup> for the public. Another emerging tourist interest which is owned and operated privately is Anyinam Eco-farm and park. The festivals celebrated by the Abuakwa, Kotoku and Bosome traditional councils such as Ahuntan, Norma and Odwira festivals attract a lot of people from all walks of life. Major issues confronting the tourism sector include:

- Lack of interest from the private sector resulting in limited investment into the sector
- Weak collaboration between the stakeholders.

#### 4.3 Trade, Commerce and Industry

The major activities with respect to commerce, trade and industry include trading services, agriculture, small-scale processing and manufacturing. Trading is mainly concentrated on general goods, groceries and textiles. The common scene is the large number of hawkers on the streets, erected kiosk and numerous "table top" activities.

The major markets are located in Akim Achiase, Akenkansu, Aperade and Anamase, however greater volume of trade takes place at Akim Achiase market which is the biggest. The market days are Tuesdays and Fridays and its reach is beyond the eastern region to major markets in Central, Ashanti, and Greater Accra Regions. The market in Achiase does not have enough stalls to accommodate traders and the security is very poor. Major traded commodities include lumber

products and agricultural produce that flow-out and industrial products which flow-in. Major challenges identified are poor market infrastructure and lack access to credit facilities.

#### 4.3 Financial Sector

The Financial sector mainly constituted by two banks (South Birim rural bank and the defunct GN) and micro finance institutions, most of which are located in Achiase and Aperade. There are also a couple of savings and loans companies that are operating with the district. The issue with the financial sector in the district include high interest rate on loans making it difficult for small businesses to thrive; and weak regulatory system to monitor and regulate their activities.

#### 4.4 Agriculture

Agriculture is the main source of livelihood of the inhabitants of the district, employing about 70 percent of the economically active population. Estimated number of farmers in the district is 33,250. PPEs, autoclave, sterilizers and surgical tables.

The main agriculture activities are crop farming, tree growing, animal husbandry and fish farming. More than 9 in 10 rural households are engaged in crop farming (98.4%) compared to a slightly lower proportion of urban households (97.7%). The main crops cultivated are cassava, maize, plantain and rice. Other crops include beans, tomatoes, garden eggs, pepper and cabbage. Tree crop plantations in the district include oil palm, cocoa, citrus and lately, rubber and coconut. The implementation of the Planting for Food and Jobs program, Planting for Export and Rural Development, Rearing for Food and Job and the adoption of improved technologies have culminated in improved and increased yields for crops such as plantain, maize and cassava.

With regards to animal husbandry, there are over 10,000 keepers and an average of 15 animals per keeper. The average animal per keeper for goat and sheep are 9 and 10 respectively. Livestock reared are sheep, goats, pigs, cattle and poultry. Challenges of animal husbandry include inadequate veterinary officers and lack of clinic to provide proper healthcare for animals. Other pressing problems include lack of equipment such as surgical forceps and burdizor, kidney bowls,

#### **4.4.1** Value Addition and Farmer Based Organizations (FBOs)

Value addition of farm inputs in the district is mostly pursued by Farmer Based Organizations which are engaged in widespread processing of oil palm, kernel oil and Cassava. Currently three (3) FBOs have been reorganized, trained and registered with the district. The department of agriculture intends to form and train at least eight (8) FBOs annually. The capacities of the FBOs can be built to enhance value chain of the various food crops and also serve as input suppliers to farmers. The FBOs can be linked to financial institutions by registering them into cooperatives.

#### 4.4.2 Extension Services

In order to ensure even access to extension services the district has been divided into four sub-districts namely Osoroase, Achiase, Akenkausu and Aperade. These sub-districts are supervised by five (5) District Development Officers (DDO). The sub-districts are also divided into 19 operational areas, which are also manned by six (6) Agriculture Extension Agents (AEAs). In essence, only 11 out of the 19 operational areas are covered. The current extension officer-farmer ratio is 1:2023 compared to the standard ratio of 1:1500.

Challenges confronting agriculture in the district include inadequate Agriculture Extension Agents and Veterinary officers; aged farmers; limited access to credit facilities; reliance on the climate; high post-harvest loss; and low adaption to technology.

#### 4.4.3 Food security in Achiase

The District enjoys both comparative and competitive advantages in production of varieties of crops ranging from food crops, vegetables and tree. Livestock of various types like sheep, and goats are kept. Poultry production is also on a high scale ranging from exotic to local. Almost every community in the district has one or more access to food outlets. Food commodities especially vegetables, cereals, cassava, plantain and cocoyam are usually fresh and of high quality because they are often transported directly from the farm gate to the consumer. The availability of almost all the relevant classes of food nutrients in the district guarantees the nutritional aspect of food intake of the people in the district. The pursuit of food security in the district could however suffer a setback due to the high incidence of post-harvest loss; poor agricultural practices; emerging land use such as sand wining and illegal mining; and high cost of inputs.

## 5.0 Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

The District's economy is heavily dependent on climate sensitive sectors such as agriculture and forestry. Increase in temperature, decrease in rainfall and its unpredictability is likely to jeopardize the employment of the economically active population majority of whom are small scale rural farmers. The rise in drought, flooding from heavy rains, and erosion has already led to rise in poverty levels in some communities resulting in a great loss of income, lives and property.

The dramatic change in the Achiase District result in unusual rainstorms, flash floods and bushfires which often leave their trials of destruction to livelihoods and vital socio economic infrastructure such as houses, schools, roads, bridges and crops. Figure 5.1 shows the most common disasters in the district and the areas they usually affect. The most common disasters in the district include:

- Flooding: common in Achiase, Anamase, Aperade, Bieni
- Wind storm: common in Achiase, Duakon, kokobeng Aperade, Nyanomase
- Destruction of farms by rainstorm and bushfires
- Locust invasion such as fall army worm
- Epidemics. (i.e. cholera)

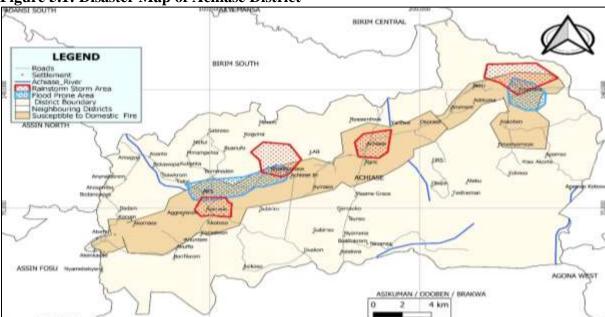


Figure 5.1: Disaster Map of Achiase District

#### 6.0 Governance and Security

The Assembly performs its function through the Executive Committee and other sub-committees. The executive committee exercises executive and administrative functions of the Assembly while the sub-committees gather and deliberate on issues that relate to their functions. To ensure administrative efficiency and effectiveness, the District Chief Executive is supported by a secretariat or the central administration referred to as the office of the District Assembly, headed by the District Co-ordinating Director.

As shown in figure 6.1, the Achiase District Assembly is divided into two (2) Area Councils, which is also sub-divided into 16 electoral areas. There are also 80 unit committee members. The Assembly Members are 23, of which 16 are elected and 7 Government appointees. There about 69 communities in the District. All the Area Councils in the District have offices.

The district has four police stations, a fire station and one military installation. Currently the district does not have a court.

- The following are summary of key issues
- Inadequate office infrastructure
- Inadequate logistics
- Lack of bye-laws
- Lack of Accommodation for staff
- Limited opportunities for citizens participation

Low human resource capacity

- Ineffective sub-district
- Low service delivery
- Poor security infrastructure
- Chieftaincy disputes

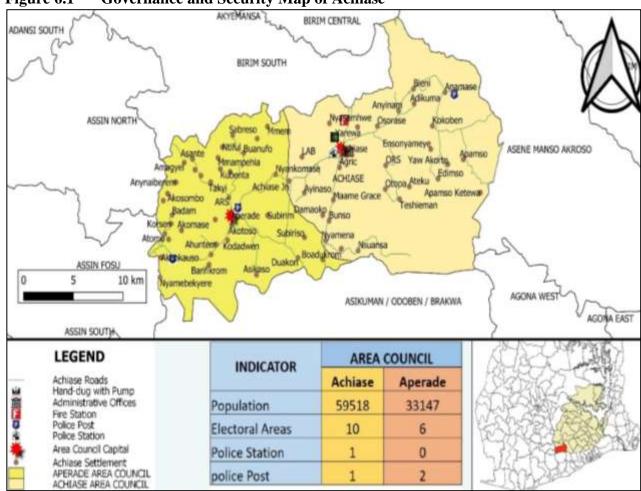


Figure 6.1 Governance and Security Map of Achiase

Source: DPCU, 2021

### 7.0 Investment Opportunities

#### 7.1 Top Five Strategic Advantages

- 1. **Quality of Life:** opportunities to live a quiet and a green life in a natural rural setting with many modern conveniences afforded to urban dwellers.
- 2. **Location:** Centrally located and accessible to major markets. Has three major entry points for markets in Accra, Tema Kumasi, Koforidua, Tema, Cape Coast and Nsawam.
- 3. **Labour Force:** mixture of both skilled and unskilled labour force that are available to work in the various sectors of the economy

- 4. **Available arable land:** opportunities for large scale farming and value addition for both food crops and cash crops
- 5. Collaborative Environment for Business and Enterprise: Wide variety of not-for-profit business support organizations and committees are available to assist all types of businesses. Eg. District Chamber of Agriculture, Commerce and Technology (DCACT), Forestry Commission and the Environmental Protection Agnency

#### 7.2 Food Production and Livelihoods

There are opportunities for investing in medium to high technology agricultural production aimed at meeting both local and export market demand in food production. The district has quality soil, favourable climate and two rainy seasons per year resulting in good condition for crop production and livestock. The well drained district gives an indication of potential irrigation to boost all year round farming.

- a. Some of the crops for consideration include:
- Starchy staples like cassava, cocoyam, and plantain,
- Legumes like beans; vegetables like tomatoes, okro, garden eggs, pepper, cabbage.
- Tree or cash crops like oil palm, cocoa, citrus, bamboo;
- Cereals like maize and rice
- Livestock: conducive environment exist for Poultry and Piggery
- Value addition

#### 7.3 Industrialization

Opportunities are available in the following areas:

#### a. Development of Industrial and Manufacturing Village:

Opportunities exist for the development of industrial enclaves including Small and Medium Scale enterprises and export processing enclaves. The zone should be able to offer a range of fiscal incentives that will help in reducing start up and operational cost. This is possible given the available of land and the fact that the district is well connected to major markets.

#### b. Agro processing and Value Addition

This will include establishment of small to medium scale to add value to several agricultural commodities such as oil palm extraction, gari and starch cake production, citrus processing and animal feed and manure production and preservation facilities.

#### c. Light Manufacturing

Areas for consideration include building and construction, metal and wood works, production of auto parts and accessories.

#### d. Wood Processing

Opportunities exist for plywood and board production, furniture production, bamboo products such as pieces of furniture, kitchen utensils, and tooth picks. Recycling of saw dusts into useful products.

### 7.4 Sports and Talent Development (Soccer and Athletics)

The establishment of a sports academy to nurture the skills of young athletes to position them to compete in both local and international events. Raw talents can be nurtured through the involvement of the private sector.

#### 7.5 Tourism, Hospitality and Recreation

#### a. Rebranding of Annual Open Day for Jungle Warfare School

Opportunity exist for the rebranding of the annual Open day of the Achiase Jungle Warfare School. The private sector can partner with the Achiase District Assembly and the Military Command to sponsor activities like balloon and helicopter flights and establishment of military museum in the school that will provide opportunity for research and learning. The open day could be organized include district trade fair to exhibit local products.

**b.** Another area for investment is in the hospitality industry. This will create a getaway and escape location for cooperate bodies, tourists and individuals who want a serene and quiet environment for relaxation and recreation.

#### 7.6 Infrastructure and Resources

#### a. Internet Service Provision

Opportunity exist in the Telecommunication through the establishment of internet services for schools, small and Medium term enterprises and government institutions.

# b. Affordable Housing and Real estate development

# c. Healthcare

Given the growing health needs of inhabitants and the lack of adequate health facilities to cater for their health needs, thus, investment in the sector is viable.

# 8.1 Key Development Issues

- 1. Inadequate Health
- 2. Inadequate Educational infrastructure
- 3. Low sanitation coverage
- 4. Low potable water coverage
- 5. Poor market infrastructure and inactive markets
- 6. Poor road and drainage infrastructure
- 7. High incidence of post-harvest losses
- 8. Uncontrolled spatial development and Environmental degradation
- 9. Chieftaincy disputes in some parts of the District