

# WEST AFRICAN JOURNAL OF APPLIED ECOLOGY

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# **WEST AFRICAN JOURNAL OF APPLIED ECOLOGY**

Volume 26 Special Issue

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## FOREWORD

This Special Issue (SI) was inspired by the desire to bring together valuable contributions in Environmental Science covering Climate, Land use, Mining, Sanitation and Sustainability issues. The contributions were based on the Conference on Climate, Land use, Mining and Sanitation for Sustainable Development (CLaMSS) held at the University of Ghana from February 27 to 28, 2018. CLaMSS conference was held against the backdrop that the effects of climate change, land use change and small scale illegal mining (*galamsey*) on the environment have attracted national attention in recent times. The objective of the conference was to bring together a range of stakeholders involved in environmental and sustainability research, practice and policy sectors, to discuss and share ideas and research findings on key aspects of the conference theme. The conference was a success and 19 of the 40 presentations made were selected for this Special Issue.

We are greatly indebted to Prof. Chris Gordon of the Institute for Environment and Sanitation Studies (IESS) who mooted the idea of the Special Issue. We also wish to thank Dr. Daniel Nukpezah of IESS and Prof. Erasmus Owusu of the Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability Studies (C<sub>3</sub>SS) for their input in organizing the conference. We are further grateful to the Office of Research Innovation and Development (ORID) of the University of Ghana for partial funding of the conference. All who participated in the conference are also hereby acknowledged. Their critique of the presentations helped to improve the quality of papers that were subsequently selected for publication. Indeed we show our appreciation to all the authors who contributed to this Special Issue for their availability and commitment.

Warm thanks go also to the reviewers of the articles including Drs. Daniel Nukpezah, Robert Manford, Samuel S. Koranteng, Benjamin D. Ofori, Ted Annang, Adelina Mensah, Dan Darko, Selase Adanu, Daniel Twerefou (University of Ghana); Emmanuel Acquah-Sam, Shine Francis Gbedemah (Wisconsin International University College) and Melvin Adonadaga (University for Development Studies) who provided the authors with valuable comments and suggestions. Last but not least, we thank the Special Issue Editorial Board and the Staff of the Journal for giving us the chance of putting together this Special Issue.

**The Editors**

## CONTENTS

<b>S. I. Alhassan, M.T. Shaibu, J.K.M. Kuwornu and O.T. Damba</b>	1
Factors Influencing Farmers' Awareness and Choice of Indigenous Practices in Adapting to Climate Change and Variability in Northern Ghana	
<b>Louisa Kabobah, D. Nukpezah and Yaa Ntiamoah-Baidu</b>	14
Adaptive Capacity of Farmers to Climate Change in the Kassena Nankana Municipality of Ghana: Implications for climate adaptation strategies	
<b>M.T. Shaibu, S.I. Alhassan, E.K. Panyan, F.K. Avornyo, S.P. Konlan and S. Salifu</b>	27
An Assessment of Institutional Importance of Climate Change Adaptation in the Volta River Basin of Northern Ghana	
<b>S. F. Gbedemah, F. O. Torgbor, and S. K. Kufogbe</b>	41
Adaptation Strategies of Poultry Farmers to Rising Temperature in the Greater Accra Region of Ghana	
<b>Rabiatu Abass, Adelina Mensah and Benedicta Fosu Mensah</b>	56
The Role of Formal and Informal Institutions in Smallholder Agricultural Adaptation: The Case of Lawra and Nandom Districts, Ghana	
<b>M. K. Koranteng and A. Adu-Asare</b>	73
Geospatial Assessment of Vegetation Changes around the Odublasi Quarry in Ghana	
<b>E.K. Doe, B. E. Aikins, E. Njomaba and A.B. Owusu</b>	87
Land Use Land Cover Change within Kakum Conservation Area in the Assin South District of Ghana, 1991-2015	
<b>S. A. Agyeman</b>	100
Impacts of Urban Sprawl on Livelihoods and Ecology in Peri-Urban Fringe of the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area	
<b>K. Abass, S. K. Adanu and R. M. Gyasi</b>	118
Urban sprawl and land use/land-cover transition probabilities in peri-urban Kumasi, Ghana	
<b>D. Kuma, E. Adum Nyarko</b>	133
Gold Mining and its Effects through the Lens of an Archaeologist: Experiences from the Prestea Area, South Western Ghana	

<b>S. Bewiadzi, R. Awubomu and N. Glover-Meni</b>	149
Searching and Cracking: Stone Quarrying, Livelihood and the Environment in the Daglama Quarry Site in the Ho Municipality	
<b>B.Y Fosu-Mensah, A. Ofori, M. Ofosuhene, E. Ofori-Attah, F.K.E Nunoo, G. Darko, I. Tuffour, C.Gordon, D. K Arhinful, A. K Nyarko and R. Appiah-Opong</b>	167
Assessment of Heavy Metal Contamination and Distribution in Surface Soils and Plants along the West Coast of Ghana	
<b>Michael Mensah, Grace Villamor and Paul L. G. Vlek</b>	179
Gender specific determinants of inorganic fertilizer adoption in the semi-arid region of Ghana	
<b>S. S. Koranteng, D. Nukpezah, D.A. Darko and G. K. Ameka</b>	193
Pesticides Bio concentration Potential of Aquatic Plants in the Volta Lake	
<b>S. Adjibolosoo, P.B. Adongo, D.Yirenya-Tawiah, B.D. Ofori and S. Afranie</b>	203
Behavioural Factors That Influence Open Defecation among Pre-secondary School Pupils in the Eastern and Volta Regions of Ghana	
<b>I. T. Mensah and E. A. Udofia</b>	228
Biosand Filtration as a Green Approach to Septic Tank Effluent Management in a Tertiary Institution in Ghana	
<b>D. K. Twerefou, K. S. Iddrisu and E. A. Twum</b>	242
Energy Consumption and Economic Growth: Evidence from the West African Sub Region	
<b>E. Essien, A. Addo and K. A. Dzisi</b>	259
Determining the Efficiency of the Government of Ghana's Network of Grain Storage Facilities	
<b>Y. K. Amoako , C. Gordon , P.A. Sakyi and R. Gyimah</b>	267
Carbon Footprint of the Large Scale Gold Mining Industry of Ghana	
Instructions to Authors	286