

Komkomba



We visited Komkomba on 13 January 2020 and interviewed community members including Jacob Mbelare, son of the absent chief. Jacob is a teacher at a neighbouring village and knows about Ashanti Development as he has received training from our teacher-trainer, Dave Banks.

We were told that five hundred people live in the village, which is divided into forty households. Five or six of these are located slightly apart and could be sponsored separately.

The population consists mainly of people from the Komkomba tribe, immigrants from the north who have come to Ashanti because of climate change. Four in five speak Twi, the majority Ghanaian language, as well as their own language. They include Christians - mainly Roman Catholics - and followers of the traditional religion.

The community is about fifty years old, and was started by Jacob Mbelare's father, who came to look for good farmland. He was eventually joined by family members and some friends.

Komkomba is slowly growing in size, with five people joining it last year. Their families sometimes visit



them from the north, and everyone goes home at least once a year. The community are farmers and grow cowpeas, cassava, millet and rice. The harvest is good and they sell any surplus at Ejura Market. There is no hunger in the village.

Water, Sanitation and Power

For water, the community walk to the next door village of Asasebonsu and draw water from the Afram River. In the rainy season it floods and goes dark brown. In the dry season it becomes heavily polluted and most people suffer from diarrhoea for around three days in seven.

The village has no latrines except for one traditional pit latrine (see photo). They move this round often because the wood is bad and easily rots, making it easy for the children to fall in. People hate to use it, as it is smelly and dirty, so most practise open defecation.



There is one dumping site, see photo below. Knowledge of hygiene is non-existent as is shown in the photo.

There is no electricity in this area, but we saw that some of the homes have solar panels on their roofs. Some people can apparently watch television.

Health

Principal sicknesses are malaria, diarrhoea and coughing, specially in the harmattan. The children have all been vaccinated. When they get sick, people go to Asubuasu Clinic and the community nurse visits each month.

Education

Children walk to school in Asasebonsu or Dagomba. Over the last ten years, six children from Komkomba have gone to senior secondary school – a good record.



Plastic waste disposal constitutes a big problem

Institutions

The community is governed by a Committee of Chief and Elders and an elected Development Committee. They share a Parent-Teacher Association with Asasebonsu.

The chief of Kokomba reports to the chief of Asasebonsu.

Wish List

The village wish list is for a mechanised borehole, a kindergarten, latrines and a corn mill.