

Introduction

Mining companies have been accused of shirking their responsibilities towards the development of the communities in which they operate, thereby increasing the level of poverty and vulnerability in these communities (Boon and Ababio, 2009). As a result, mining companies have adopted Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) as an appropriate strategy to mitigating the negative effects of their activities.

Purpose

To assess the effects of NADeF's activities on beneficiaries and make recommendations to enhance effective contribution of its corporate social responsibility.

Scope

- The study focused on Ghana in West Africa (Figure 1a)
- NADeF has invested in community development projects in five communities in the Brong Ahafo Region (Figure 1b).
- The study covered five communities in the district namely; Kenyase No.1, Kenyase No. 2, Ntotroso, Gyedu and Wamahinso. (Figure 1c)



Figure 1a: Asutifi North District in African context

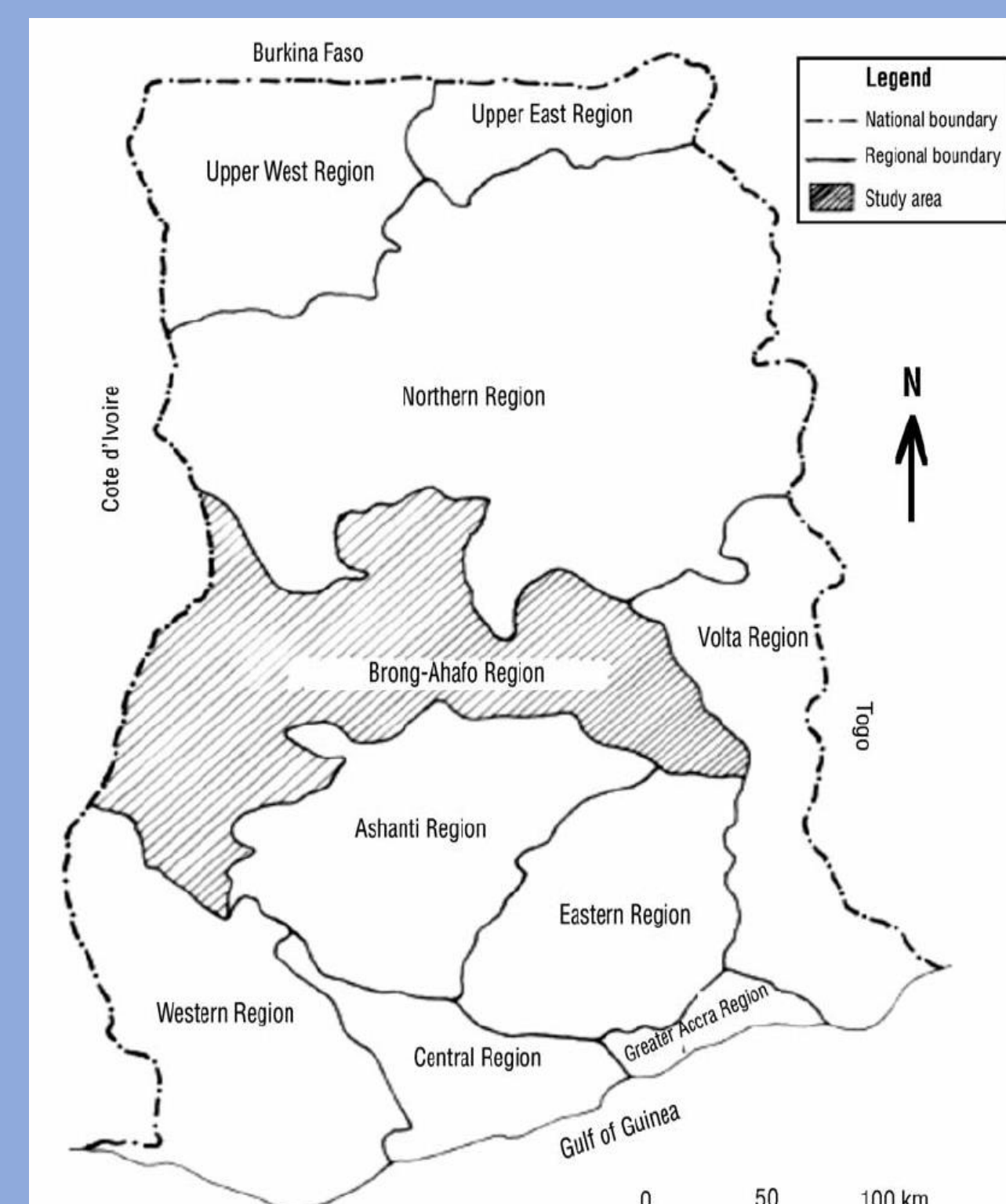


Figure 1b: Asutifi North District in National Context

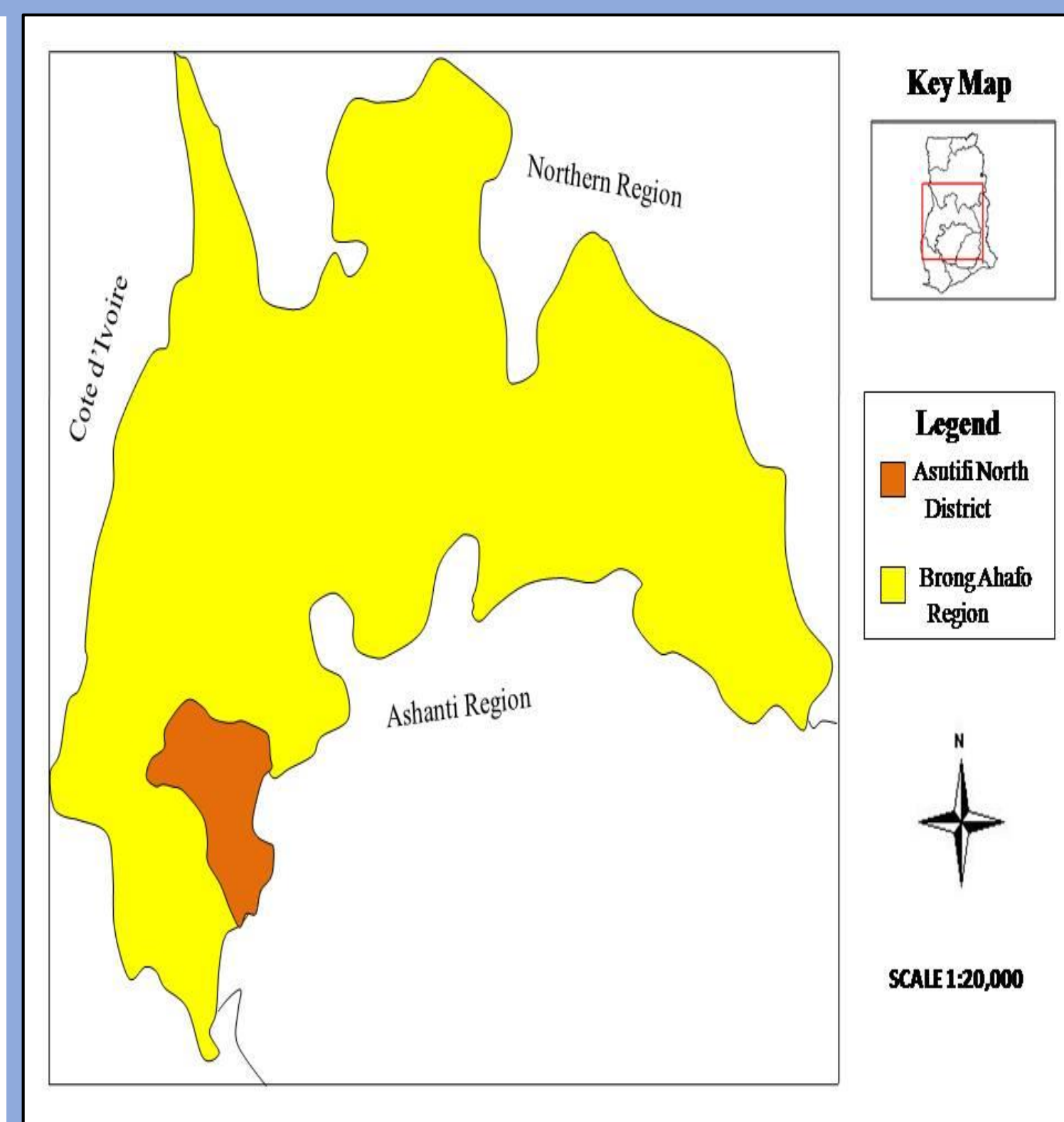


Figure 1c: Asutifi North District in Regional Context

Methods

- The research design type adopted for this study was the case study.
- The case study approach was preferred because it involves empirical investigation.
- The sample size was determined by the Slovin's formula (Figure 3a)
- The sample size was distributed proportionally based on the number of households of the communities.
- Systematic sampling was used to select houses for household heads to be interviewed(Figure 3b)
- The selection of houses for the study was based on an interval of five. The purposive sampling technique was used for the institutional survey.

$$n = N / (1 + Ne^2)$$

Where, n = sampling size
N = total population
e = margin of error

$$n = 5,105 / [1+5,105(0.1)^2]$$

$$n = 98.08$$

Figure 3a: sample size calculation

Communities	Number of households	Number of households interviewed	Percentage
Kenyase No.1	1282	24	24.5
Kenyase No.2	1361	26	26.5
Ntotroso	862	17	17.4
Gyedu	978	19	19.4
Wamahinso	622	12	12.2
Total	5105	98	100

Figure 3b: households interviewed

Results

- The study found out that NADeF has been very active in the provision of :
 - Educational infrastructure such as classroom blocks, ICT centres and teachers' bungalows (Figure 4a) has increased accessibility and promoted quality of education (Figure 4b)
 - Health facilities such as clinics and health screening programs (Figure 5a) has increased awareness creation on health status (5b)
 - Water and sanitation infrastructure like boreholes and toilet facilities (Figure 6a) led to reduction in sanitation related diseases, increase water accessibility and reduced time spent in fetching water (Figure 6c)
 - Construction of community centres and durbar grounds provided accommodation for community gatherings and adherence to cultural practices festivals in the district
 - Energy infrastructure in the likes of low voltage poles to provide electricity
- Major challenges identified were the unsustainable nature of projects as a result of lack of partnership; absence of fund for project maintenance; and lack of long-term planning approach in development initiatives.



Figure 4a: Educational infrastructure

"... NADeF has provided Ntotroso community with a modern classroom block and I believe many good things come from the classroom. Classroom is the center for enriching lives..."

Figure 4b: increased quality of education



Figure 5a: Health facility at Gyedu

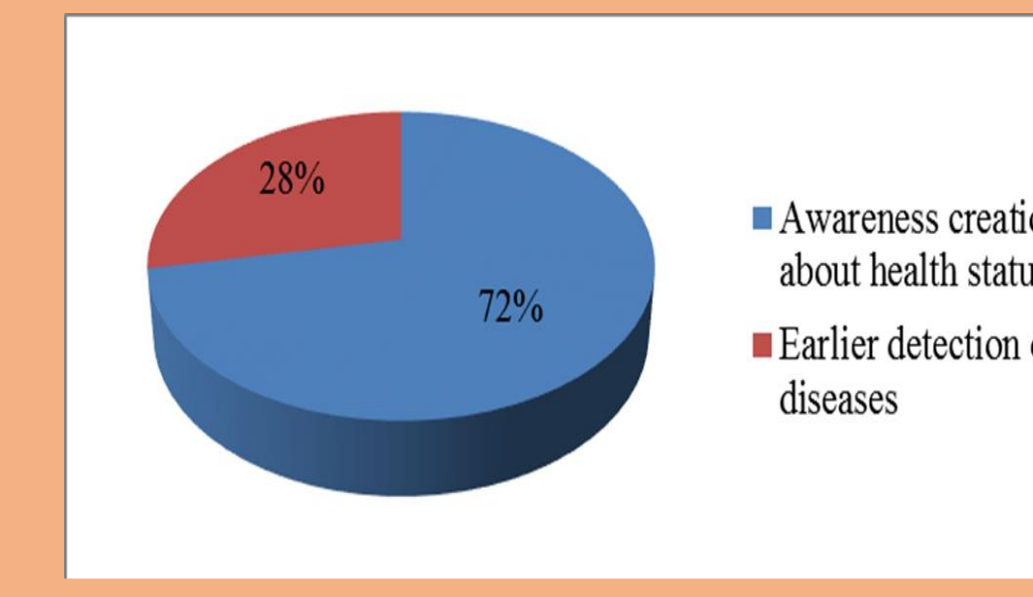


Figure 5b: health awareness creation

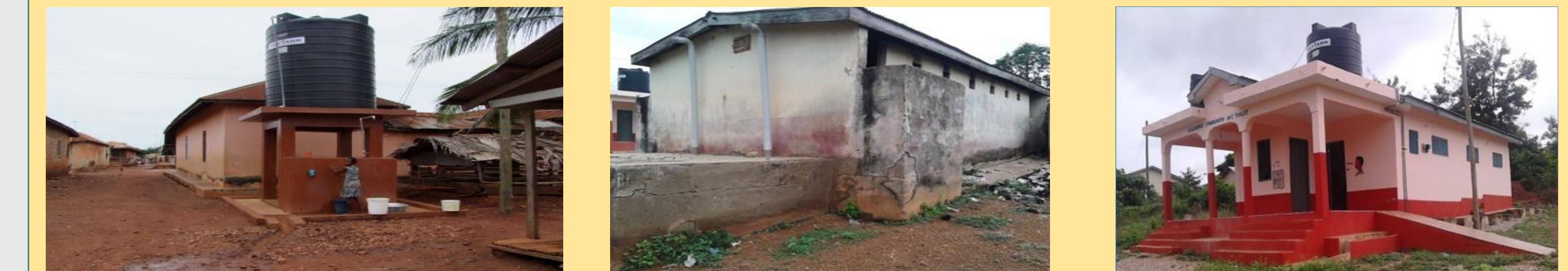


Figure 6a: water and sanitation infrastructure

"...before the current boreholes, there were so many of us depending on the 'old' boreholes and because of this our children were mostly late at school due to the time they used to spend in fetching water from the borehole. Aside this, the borehole was not always reliable because of it frequent break-down. Now with the 'new' boreholes, I can boldly say that it is easily accessible and reliable..."

Figure 6b: water accessibility

The study also revealed that the time spent in fetching water has reduced significantly to an average of 8 minutes. This finding is consistent with the District Medium Term Development Plan (2010-2013), that before the intervention of NADeF, the average time spent in accessing water was 35 minutes as the study communities had access to only 10 boreholes (Figure 6c).

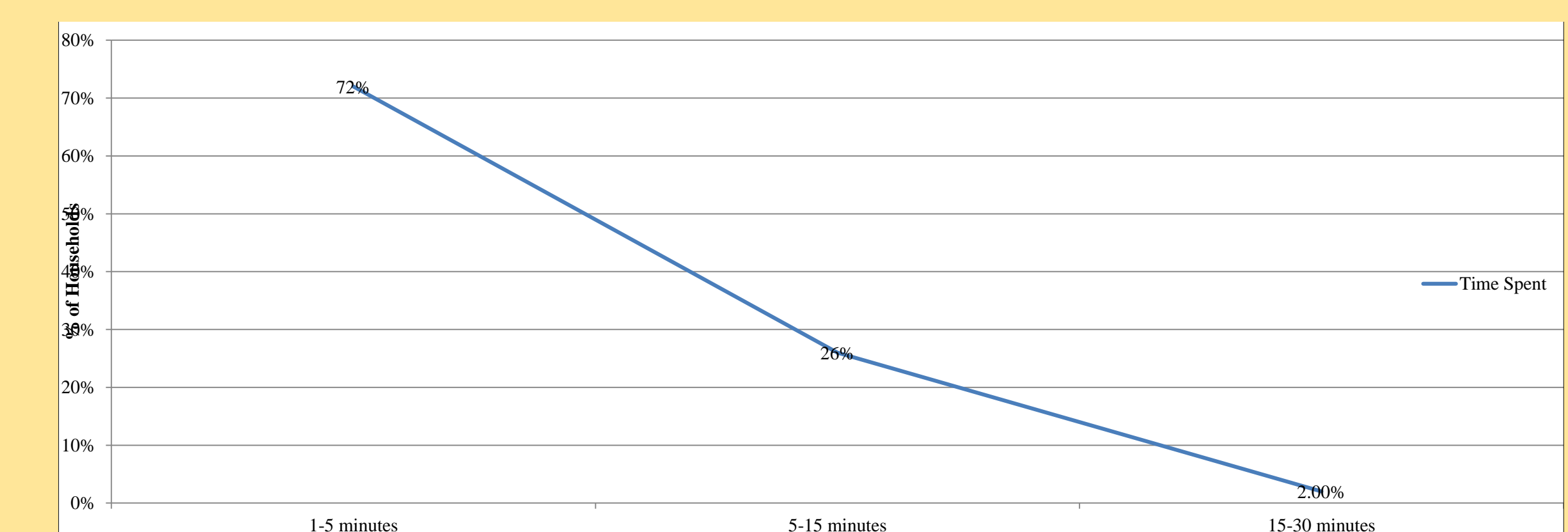


Figure 6c: Time spent in fetching water

Conclusion

- The study found that the provision of infrastructure has contributed to reducing poverty and improving the welfare of community members.
- NGGL have adopted CSR dubbed "NADeF" as a mechanism to mitigating the negative effects of their activities in communities where they operate. Areas of concern include education, health, water and sanitation, culture and energy as these are seen as the basic needs and areas that fuel almost activities of the economy.
- Recommendations;
 - Intensify public-private partnership effective collaboration between the District Assembly and NGGL in fulfillment of maintenance, project long life of accomplished projects.
 - setting of fund for project maintenance to ensure long and sustained use.
 - develop a long-term planning approach working with the communities and the District Assemblies to develop medium to long term development plans (3-5 years) for the communities.
 - draw a strong and well-resourced Monitoring and Evaluation portfolio to track baseline data on all the development projects.

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