

Environmental Health and Disaster Risks, Livelihoods and Ecology Within the Korle-Lagoon Complex in Accra, Ghana. Author(s): Songsore, J., Alhassan, O., Avle, S., Amponsah, P.E., Kala, M., and Chama, M.

The focus of this study is the Korle Lagoon Complex of the GAMA in Ghana. The Lagoon is an outlet for the Odaw River's drainage system, and is surrounded by an agglomeration of squatter settlements and low income high density areas with underserved environmental health facilities also most at risk from flood, fire, earthquake disaster risks.

The study adopts a multi-hazard framework for understanding the interconnections between risks processes, livelihoods and ecology and how these are constructed by social, economic and political structures around the Korle-Lagoon and its catchment in Accra working closely with low income communities around the Lagoon.

The study advocates the need for partnerships between low income communities, civil society groups, industry and the state in addressing the multiple vulnerabilities of the poor and for the ecological restoration of the Korle-Lagoon. In short, city authorities will have to find a way of formalizing the informal city by engaging the urban poor as partners in development rather than as a burden on city authorities.

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