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The impact of environmental degradation through surface mining on sustainable agriculture in Ghana

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Surface mining require large tracts of land for mining and human labor, which comes with worrying issues such as rapid deforestation, including wild economic trees, shift of labor from food crop farming to mining, reduction of soil fertility through erosion, pollution of water bodies for irrigation purposes and reduction in the health status of people. Against this background, the question that needs to be answered is “should surface mining be continued despite its numerous negative impacts?” This paper investigates the impact of surface mining on sustainable agriculture and the environment in the Western Region. The study will examine both production and price trend of some key agricultural commodities in the study area. The expected results of this paper will seek to come out with recommendations aimed at improving food production in the region.

Biography

Kutah Joseph King Junior is currently a first year Master's student of Life and Environmental Science at the University of Tsukuba, Japan. He is an Agricultural Economist at the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Ghana. He works with the policy planning monitoring and evaluation directorate under the Ministry. He was born in Sekondi-Takoradi, the Western Region of Ghana; he was educated at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana and he was graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Agricultural Science. He has been working with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture in Ghana since 2008. He was the Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Officer. His current research is about how to increase food production in Ghana. His research work is to determine the impact of environmental degradation through surface mining on sustainable agriculture in Ghana.

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