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Article: Promoting Cultural Traditions, Social Inclusion and Local Community Participation in Environmental Development Schemes

The protection of the environment has been at the heart of local communities. The old sages, in most communities creatively fashioned cultural traditions with the goal of conserving the environment while judiciously using its precious resources. It is regrettable that local people and their time-tested cultural practices are neglected in environmental schemes, especially at the consultation and implementation stages. The thrust of the research was to highlight the benefits of incorporating local communities and their cultural traditions in all activities related to the environment using the classic example of the people of Anyinam in Ghana. Focus group discussions and direct observations were the main instrumentations used for soliciting data from the phenomenological study in a qualitative research approach. The study concludes that developmental planners and policy makers must promote the full participation of local communities in environmental schemes to aid in better infrastructure development schemes for the environment.

Personal Information

Dickson Adom had his First Class Bachelor of Arts degree in Integrated Rural Arts and Industry and a grade 'A' Master of Arts degree in African Art and Culture from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana in 2006 and 2010 respectively. He earned his Distinction in Education at the University of Education, Winneba in Ghana. He also earned an excellent grade in Computer Studies at the Data Link Institute in Ghana. He is a prolific writer of various textbooks used at various educational levels in Ghana as well as articles and refereed papers in the field of art, education, rural community participation research, anthropological and cultural studies as well as biodiversity conservation using traditional ecological knowledge. He is an erudite researcher and a member of the Open Researcher and Contributor Association (ORCID), Research Gate, LinkedIn, Mendeley and European Centre for Research, Training, and Development. He is currently a Doctor of Philosophy candidate in African Art and Culture at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Kumasi, Ghana.