

BIRIM NORTH DISTRICT ASSEMBLY

POST OFFICE BOX 1

NEW ABIREM

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PRESENTATION ON POTENTIAL TOURIST SITES IDENTIFIED IN THE DISTRICT

BY: LED COMMITTEE/DPCU

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PROFILE OF THE DISTRICT

The Birim North District was established in 1987 out of the Former Birim District Council as part of the government's decentralization program, with L.I 1422,

It aimed at promoting effective decentralized governance and accelerating development in the area.

Within our jurisdiction, there are 78 settlements. The district shares its boundaries with the Kwahu West Municipal to the North, Akyemansa District to the South, Atiwa East District and Kwaebibirem Municipal to the East, and Asante Akyem South and Adansi South District, both situated in the Ashanti Region, to the West.

POPULATION GROWTH

As per the 2021 National Population and Housing Census (PHC), the District's population was reported at 82,669 made up of 41,343 males (50.01%), slightly exceeding the female population of 41,326 (49.99%).

This represents 2.8 percent of the region's total population.

ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF THE DISTRICT

The Birim North District is primarily agrarian, with approximately 73.5 percent of the total labor force engaged in agriculture and its associated activities.

The primary crops cultivated include staples such as maize, cassava, cocoyam, taro, plantains, and various vegetables.

Also, tree crops, including cocoa, rubber, citrus, and oil palm, with oil palm being a prominent crop cultivated on a large scale.

Economic activities within the District encompass primary (crop) production, animal husbandry, small-scale industrial operations, mining, and commerce.

The District benefits from its strategic location and a rapidly growing population, making it one of the most dynamically expanding and vibrant commercial Districts in the region.

Beyond serving as a robust marketing center for neighboring Districts, it plays a pivotal role in the marketing of goods originating from Kade, Nkawkaw, and Akim Oda.

HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

The District offers a variety of accommodation options, including three four-star hotels: Obaa's Golden Plaza (Afosu), Miners Inn (New Abirem), Beige Village Golf Resort and Spa (Afosu), and Candlelight Hotel and Restaurant (Afosu), Paradis Hotel (Nyafoman).

There are seven guesthouses located throughout the district: Ma Home (Afosu), Royal Hill (New Abirem), Righteous (New Abirem), Naagyei (Afosu), Ofori (Afosu), Manna Lodge (Akoase), Nketia (Akoase), and Amadu Guest House in Akoase.

BEIGE VILLAGE AT NEW ABIREM



MINNERS INN HOTEL AT NEW ABIREM





OBAA’S GOLDEN PLAZA AT AKIM-AFOSO



NATURAL RESOURCE ENDOWMENT

A variety of minerals are found within the District, with gold being the most prominent mineral deposit. Gold is present in both rock formations and alluvial deposits

The District also boasts of five efficiently managed forest reserves teeming with beautiful flora and fauna, providing a solid foundation for the creation of captivating wildlife sanctuaries or parks.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Although tourism has emerged as one of the primary sources of income and employment generation in the country, the Birim North District Assembly is yet to fully harness its potential benefits.

The Birim North District Assembly lead by the Local economic development committee embarked on tourism identification.

They unveiled four (4) stunning tourist sites that are sure to captivate visitors, generate revenue, create jobs for the unemployed youths and also lead to massive development in the district.

The district is known for its rich natural resources, beauty and rich cultural heritage and these newly discovered attractions further enhances its appeal.

This presentation aims to shed light on the captivating features, historical significance and potentials for tourism development in three (3) of these newly found site.

A team of officers from the Assembly comprising of the District Development Planning Officer (DPO), District Works Engineer (DWE), the Head of Social Welfare and Community Development Officer, officers from the Information Services Department, some Assembly members and Elders from selected communities where the sites were located visited the following sites.

- ☐ Coffin-like cave at Akrofonso
- ☐ Confluence of Abenasuo and River Pra (Two Joint Rivers)
- ☐ Waterfalls at Adjendua
- ☐ Three headed Palm Tree at Akrofonso

WATERFALLS AT ADJENDUA

The waterfalls at Adjendua is a magnificent natural wonder nestled in the heart of the District situated amidst lush greenery and towering cliffs. This waterfalls offers a breathtaking sight for nature enthusiastic and adventure seekers alike. Here are some key features of the site.

➤ ***Breathtaking Beauty***

The waterfalls cascades down from a height, creating a mesmerizing display of glistening water against the backdrop of verdant surroundings. The lush vegetation and the soothing sounds of rushing water makes it an ideal place for relaxation and rejuvenation

➤ ***Hiking and trekking opportunities***

The waterfalls is accessible in a well-marked trail that winds through the picturesque landscape.

Adventure enthusiasts can indulge in hiking and trekking activities immersing themselves in the beauty of the natural surroundings while enduring a moderate physical challenge.

➤ ***Flora and Fauna***

The area surrounding the waterfalls is home to diverse range of plants and animal species that can serve as ecotourism. Visitors may have the opportunity to spot vibrant bird species, exotic butterflies and unique flora endemic to the District and Region as a Whole.

It presents an excellent opportunity for nature lovers and photographers to explore and capture the beauty of the local biodiversity.

The coffin-like stone (cave) is an intriguing archeological discovery. This ancient artifact has historical and cultural significance making it an intriguing site to explore. Here are some notable aspects of this tourist site.

➤ ***Historical significance***

The casket-like stone is believed to be an ancient built structure dating back centuries, it is a large stone structure resembling a casket intricately carved with symbols and engravings that reflect the artistic and cultural heritage of the region. The stone serves as a testament to the rich historical background of the District offering valuable insights into the past.

➤ ***Cultural exploration***

Visitors can delve into the local culture and traditions by exploring this archaeological marvel. The stone's carvings provide glimpses into the lives, believes and customs of the ancient civilizations that once inhabited the area. Guided doors and interpretative displays can further enhance the visitor's experience, providing context and explanations of the carving significance.

➤ ***Photography and research opportunities***

The coffin-like stone presents a unique subject for photographers and researchers interested in studying and documenting ancient civilizations. Its intricate engravings and mysterious aura provides ample material for academic and artistic explanation, attracting scholars and artist from around the world.

WATERFALLS AT ADJENDUA



COFFIN-LIKE STONE AT AMOANA PRASO

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COFFIN-LIKE CAVE AT AKROFONSO



CONFLUENCE OF ABENASUO AND RIVER PRA

The Pra River, a major water course in the region, flows through the District while Abenasuo River runs adjacent to it.

These two rivers have been found to converge at Praso Kuma creating a significant confluence.

The confluence of the River Pra and Asuaobena at Praso Kuma holds great ecological importance.

The discovery of the Pra-Abenasuo river confluence enriches our understanding of the region's hydrological network, mapping and maintaining this confluence can aid in effective water management and land-use planning.

The confluence has the potential to stimulate socio-economic development in the District.

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The serene beauty of the site offers opportunities for eco-tourism and recreational activities, attracting visitors and generating revenue for the local community.

Additionally, the confluence may have implications for agriculture thus farming, fishing and other water-dependent livelihoods in the area.

CONFLUENCE OF ABENASUO AND RIVER PRA



THREE HEADED PALM TREE - AKROFONSO



CHALLENGES

The team encountered difficulties in getting access to some identified sites since these sites were remotely located. There are no official roads only foot paths leading to the sites.

CONCLUSION

The newly discovered tourist sites namely waterfalls at Adjendua, Coffin-like stone at Praso-Kuma and the River Confluence add to the allure of the District as a prime destination for nature. These attraction offers visitors a chance to immerse themselves in the District's natural beauty, engage in adventure activities, explore the District cultural heritage and gain insight into its rich historical background. With proper development and promotion, this site have the potential to become significant contributions to the local tourism industry, boost the local economy, offer employment opportunities for the youth, empower women and generate revenue for the Assembly.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Economic Development Committee recommends the following to the General Assembly for consideration and implementation.

We also encourage members to help solicit for private persons to partner the Assembly to develop the identified tourist sites.