

DISTRICT PROFILE

1.1 Introduction

The Zabzugu District, formerly called Zabzugu-Tatale District is one of the 16 Districts in the Northern Region. The district was carved out of the former East Dagomba District (Yendi) in 1988 by PNDC Law 207, (Act 462), and in 2012 the district became one of the newly created districts due to the carving out of Tatale/Sanguli District with LI 2053. It is one of the eastern corridor districts in the Northern Region of Ghana, with Zabzugu as the district capital. As a district we enjoy by central government and the NDPC to prepare MTDP every 4 years to guide the development of the district in line with government Agenda or framework. This plan will span from 2018-2021. It includes activities in the education, health, environment, water and sanitation, security. The plan is guided by the outcome of 2014-2017 MTDP, community action plans(CAPs), departmental plans, sustainable development goals.

1.2 Physical features

1.2.1 Location and Size

The Zabzugu District is located in the eastern part of the Northern Region and covers an area of 1,100.1sqKm². It shares boundaries with Tatale/Sanguli District to the east and North, Yendi Municipality and Mion District to the west and Nanumba North and Nanumba south Districts to the south. The distance from the district capital, Zabzugu to the northern regional capital, Tamale, is about 140km and to Accra, the national capital is about 400km.

1.2.2 Climate

The Mean rainfall for the district is (April- October.) 1,150 mm. the dry season which experience little or no rainfall, starts from November to March . Mean annual deficit is between 500 mm and 600 mm. Rainfall is seasonal and unreliable. Temperature ranges between 21⁰C- 36 ⁰C giving rise to high temperature ranges.

The long period of dry season (November-march) affects all year farming activities in the District, hence, impacting negatively on productivity, food security, economic and the general wellbeing of the people.

1.2.3 Soil and Vegetation

Soils in the district are generally sandy loam with alluvial deposits in the low lands. It is a very rich soil, which results in the growth of yam, cassava, maize, groundnuts, millet, sorghum, rice and other crops. The vegetation of the district is guinea savannah, though some areas in the southern part fall within the transitional zone. Economic trees such as Dawadawa, Shea, Teak, Kapok/silk cotton and Mango are found. There are also tall grasses, shrubs, and thorny trees.

Bush burning is rampant in the district. Another activity that affects vegetation in the district is illegal lumbering especially in the Kworli area.

The rich soils and the availability of grasses within the area enhance livestock production in the district .The soil also enhances the commercial production of root and tubers, cereals, legumes, and plantation crops like mangoes, cashew, teak.

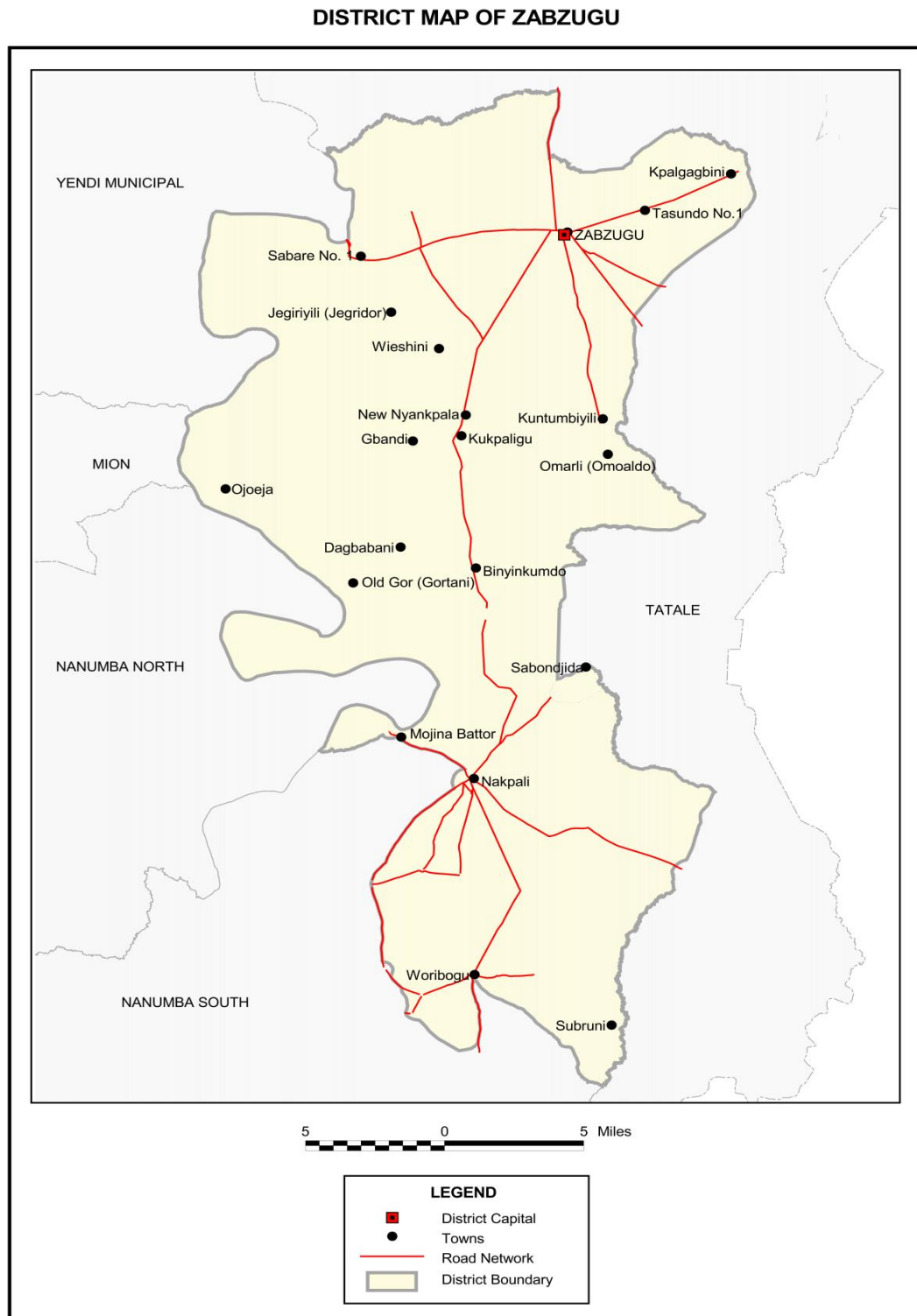
1.2.4 Drainage

The district has one large water body thus, the River Oti that flows through the district. The river also have a number of tributaries like takpa, kulani . Over 15 settlements are along the river Oti which mostly engage in fishing activities. A number of streams, dugouts, valleys and hills are also found at various locations in the district, as components of the natural environment.

The activities of bad farming practices (burning and felling of trees) along the river have eroded the amount of vegetation along the river resulting in reduction of the volume of water in the river. Also, bad fishing practices such as light fishing, use of unapproved fishing nets and use of chemicals in fishing has negatively reduced the fish stock in the river.

The availability of these water bodies serve as basis for investment in fish farming, irrigation development and source of water for livestock. Also, Sand winning along river Oti could serve as a good source of revenue for the district.

Figure 1.1: Map of the Zabzugu District



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, GIS

1.3 Political Administration

The Zabzugu District Assembly is made up of 24 Assembly members comprising 15 elected and 7 government appointees, District Chief Executive and a Member of Parliament. Out of the 24 assembly members, only two (2) are women and they are appointed members. The district has only one electoral constituency and therefore only one Member of Parliament.

➤ 1.3.1 Composition of the District Assembly

The Zabzugu District Assembly in consonance with the Local Governance Act, 2016 (Act 936) is composed of the District Chief Executive who is appointed by Government and approved by 2/3 majority of the members of the Assembly, a member of parliament for the Zabzugu constituency. The District Chief Executive is both the administrative and political head of the District. The general Assembly is made up of 15 elected members elected from the 15 electoral areas through universal adult suffrage and the remaining 7 are appointed by government in consultation with the Traditional Authority and other interested groups. The District Chief Executive and the member of parliament of the Zabzugu constituency are also members of the general assembly. However, the member of parliament has no voting right. The Presiding Member is the head of the Assembly and presides over all meetings of the Assembly. The Assembly has 1 Area Council(kworli town council) and 1 Urban Council(Zabzugu town council).

The general Assembly performs deliberative and legislative functions and takes decisions for implementation by management of the Assembly.

There are 15 unit committees with a membership of 5 in each. These unit committees take decisions at the community level for the consideration of the area councils and the General Assembly.

➤ 1.4 Security Situation in the District

The District Assembly has District Security Council (DISEC) chaired by the DCE. The main role of this body is to ensure that at every point in time there is adequate security in the district to ensure proper development. The Security committees at times invite potential conflict groups to meet and resolve issues through dialog.

The existence of DISEC has put measures in place to resolve conflicts amicably in communities to ensure that conflicts do not hinder the development efforts of the district

The lack of adequate skilled personnel and logistics for the decentralized departments and the DPCU will have serious repercussion on the Assembly's capacity to implement, monitor and evaluate the MTDP and undertake further participatory development planning. The DPCU therefore need to be expanded and adequately resourced to effectively execute its mandate on be

Administratively only seven out of the stipulated eleven decentralized departments are operational in the District and these are:

1. Education, Youth and Sports,
2. Social Welfare and Community Development,
3. Finance,
4. Central Administration,
5. Health,
6. Agriculture and,
7. Disaster Prevention and Management

Vocational training programme started in the District and sensitization on the dangers of Kayayee led to reduction in out migration and increases in in-migration. The vocational centre is presently offering only dress making and weaving. Support is therefore required for other training programmes to be brought on board and also for satellite centres to be opened in the District.

For the ease of administration, the Zabzugu District has been zoned into two Area Councils with 15 electoral areas. The District Chief Executive is the Chief Executive Officer of the Assembly with both administrative and political responsibilities. The District Coordinating Director is the Head of Administration of the Assembly. Only seven out of the stipulated 11 decentralized departments are operational in the district. These departments are: central administration, finance, education youth and sports, community development and social welfare, district health directorate, agricultural and disaster prevention and management departments.

1.5 Population size, structure and composition

The population of the Zabzugu District, according to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, is 63,815 representing 2.6 percent of the region's population. Males constitute 49.1 percent and females represent 50.9 percent. The proportion of the population living in rural localities (68%) is higher than that living in rural localities (32%) of the district's population. The district has a sex ratio of 96.3. The population of the district is youthful (46.5% of the population is below 15 years) depicting a broad base population pyramid which tapers off with a small number of elderly persons (60 years and older) representing 5.3 percent. The total age dependency ratio for the district is 100.2, the age dependency ratio for rural localities is higher (109.3) than that of urban localities (83.1).

1.5.1 POPULATION BY SETTLEMENT

The District has over 120 Settlements 20 out of which have a total population of over 38075 constituting 60% of the Districts population. The population growth trend in the 20 largest settlements in the District from 2010 population census to 2018 is presented below:

Table 1

S/no.	COMMUNITY	POPULATION(2010)	POPULATION FOR 2018
1	Zabzugu	14656	18,422
2	Nakpali (Kworli)	4446	5,588
3	Woribogu	2,389	3,002
4	Gbandi	1777	2233
5	Gor Tanei	1392	1,749
6	Gor – Kukani	1335	1678
7	Kuntumbiyili	1,212	1,523

8	Kukpalgu	1117	1404
9	Sabare No. 1	1,073	1,349
10	Kpalgagbini	983	1235
11	Jangbegdo	953	1197
12	Kukpaliga	936	1176
13	Gorlanyili	875	1099
14	Bitido	804	1010
15	Mognegu	800	1005
16	Ojoja	798	1003
17	Mongoase	749	941
18	Binyinkundo	732	920
19	Taambihya	559	702
20	Dazuligbini	489	414
	TOTAL	38075	

The figures clearly indicate that, Zabzugu, the District Capital, recorded higher figure relative to the District's population. This may be due mainly to high birth rates, and the relatively better economic and social in frastructural facilities available there. It is, therefore, necessary to ensure that opportunities for improving the lives of the people in the District are more evenly distributed.

The proportion of children under 15 years is about 46%(29,647) while the active labour group, (15-59) is 48%. The dependency ratio, that is the ratio of non-productive persons (0 – 15 years and 60 years and over) to persons aged 15 – 59 years is 1:1. This means for every 1 productive member takes care of 1 dependent. In other words each adult household has himself and one additional person to care for.

Households in Zabzugu District are predominantly male-headed. The proportion of female-headed households is 4.2%. The average household size is 7.7 with the smallest household comprising one member and the largest household having 30 members.

1.6 Social and Cultural Structure

The ethnic groups in the district are Dagombas, Kokombas, Basare, Fulanis, and the Ewes. The Ewes are mainly settler fishermen who have settled along the major River, Oti to engage in fishing. The Fulanis who have also settled in the District are herdsmen for the indigenous people.

The Zabzugu District forms part of the Dagbon Traditional Kingdom with the King (the Ya- Naa) as the President whose court and administrative headquarters is in Yendi in the Yendi Municipality. The Zabzugu Chief (Yelizoli-Lana) is the divisional chief who expresses his traditional administrative authority over the Zabzugu district. Chiefs see to the traditional administration and also serve as the custodians of the land. The District, like many other districts in the Northern Region boasts of a variety of festivals. Prominent among them are Damba, Fire (Bugum) and Eid festivals celebrated by the Dagombas while the Bassares and Konkombas celebrate the Yam and Christmas festivals.

1.7 Economy of the District

The district had an active labour force of 34,168 in 2010 out of which 27,267 were gainfully employed. Amongst those employed, 86.3 percent are employed in agriculture, forestry and fishery related occupation while 4.0 percent are engaged in crafts and related trade. The common food products cultivated in the district include yam, maize, millet, rice, cassava and groundnuts. The main cash crop produced is the Shea nut, which is grown in the wild. Goats and Sheep are the small ruminants reared in the district. They are often sold during the lean season (May to July) to meet the food needs of households. The district enjoys the services of Zabzugu Rural Bank and it is the only resident banking institution in the district.

1.7.1 Economic Activity Status

Greater majority (81.6%) of the population aged 15 years and older in the district are economically active and only 18.4 percent are economically not active. Of the economically active population, 97.7 percent are employed while 2.3 percent are unemployed. For those who are economically not active, the largest proportions of them (36.8%) are students, 31.4 percent perform household duties and 18.0 percent are either too young or old to work. About four out of ten (46.8%) of unemployed persons in the district are seeking work for the first time.

1.7.2 Occupation

Of the employed population in the Zabzugu District, the highest proportions (86.3%) are engaged as skilled agricultural, forestry and fishery workers. The second largest occupation is service and sales workers who constitute 5.3 percent of the employed population. The number of craft and related trades workers represent 4.0 percent of the employed population. Those employed as professionals constitute only one percent.

1.7.3 Employment status and sector

Of the population 15 years and older, the highest proportion (53.0%) are self-employed without employees, 2.0 percent are employees, 38.5 percent are contributing family workers and 4.8 percent are self-employed with employees. Higher proportion of males is self-employed without employees (58.8%), compared to 47.8 percent for females. The proportion of females who are employees (0.9%) is however smaller than that of male employees (2.0%). The private informal sector is the largest employer in the district, employing 97.7 percent of the employed population. Public sector employs only 1.2 percent while all other sectors together engage 1.1 percent of the employed population

➤ 1.7.4 Agriculture –

About 98% of the people of Zabzugu District are farmers in both crop production and rearing of small ruminants.

The main crops cultivated by farmers in the District are: Yam, Millet, Maize, Rice, Sorghum, Cassava, Groundnuts, Cowpea and Soya beans. The cash crop produced is the shea nut which is grown in the wild.

Goats and Sheep are the small ruminants reared in the District. Cattle is also largely They are often sold during the lean season (May to July) to meet the food needs of household.

The district's major source of transportation is the road transport with motor vehicles and bikes as the main means of transportation. The district is span by 402km of roads network which links the district capital to other communities as well as other neighbouring districts. Out of this, 243.6km are engineered and only 35.10km partly engineered. The non-engineered roads are 140.40km. Others are farm tracks, which are accessible only during the dry season.

The Weather and its effect on Agriculture:

The weather during the reporting period was characterized mostly by sunshine, cloudy, warm conditions and a number of heavy rain falls. The rainfall during the period can relatively be described as normal in terms of its distribution. Generally, total rainfall and wet days for the period under review was moderately well distributed. Details are shown in the table below:

Table 2: Comparative Rainfall Distribution for Annual 2014 - 2017

Year	RAINFALL (MM)									
	1st Quarter		2nd Quarter		3rd Quarter		4th Quarter		Totals	
	Rainfall (mm)	Wet day	Rainfall (mm)	Wet day	Rainfall (mm)	Wet day	Rainfall (mm)	Wet day	Rainfall (mm)	Wet day
2014	44	2	493	26	439	25	136	13	1,112	66
2015	111	4	140.5	12	854	29	134	12	1,239.5	57
2016	58	4	251.5	16	845	37	142	12	1,296.5	69
2017	22	2	493	18	585	26	159	5	1,259	51

WEATHER EFFECTS ON CROPS & LIVESTOCK

The weather affected the following:

- Late planted fields yielded poorly.
- Yields of almost all the crops (maize, sorghum, millet, yam and cassava are affected as a result of the early end of the rains.
- There was abundant water and forage for livestock during the rainy period.
- Legume crops like groundnuts and cowpea yields are better as compared to last year.

- The harsh nature of the weather affected reproduction of small ruminants like sheep and goats (abortions).
- It rendered some roads un motorable making it difficult for food commodity movement

Table 3. COLLABORATING PARTNERS IN AGRIC

NO.	NAME OF PARTNER	ACTIVITY	ACHIEVEMENT	REMARKS
1	SPRING GHANA	-Select and train 1000 day households on: -Aflatoxin -Nutrition -Sanitation -GAPs on groundnuts	A total of 500 farmers were registered and trained.	Trainings were successfully carried out
2	SEND GHANA	-Establishment of demonstration fields in 16 communities. -Production and utilization of soybeans in 16 communities.	Established demonstration fields in 14 communities. Registered 420 males and 420 females for the programme.	Demonstration fields harvested with good yields.
3	ACDEP (NRGP)	-Formation and training of DVCC. -Identify and build capacities of FBOs	17 farmer groups' capacities built.	More FBOs yet to be brought on board.
4	SARI	Establishment of demonstrations on groundnuts, soybeans, cowpea and maize	All demonstration fields have been harvested.	Results of demo. Fields were encouraging. Farmers showed interest in some of the varieties.

➤ 7.4.1 Land Tenure –

Chiefs and Tindanas own lands in the District. An individual or a group of people can acquire a piece of land for construction or farming purposes. Land acquisition is easy in the District and it is opened to everybody without discrimination.

1.8 Transportation system

The district's major source of transportation is road transport with motor vehicles and bikes as the main means of transportation. The district is span by 402km of feeder roads network, which links the district capital to other communities as well as other neighbouring districts.

1.9 Tourism

The district has a lot of untapped tourism potentials in the following areas: Naa Zangina's Grave at Sabare, Naa Zangina's Mosque at Sabare, Water Falls, the Steep Slope at Kukuokpanga, Checheboni Waterfalls at Mogneigu, the Grave Yard of Spiritual leaders at Sabare, etc.

1.10 Telecommunication

The district enjoys the services of four telecommunication service providers namely Vodafone Ghana which provides fixed line services as well as cellular network, MTN Ghana, Airtel Ghana and Millicom Ghana Ltd which are the operators of TIGO provide only cellular services.

1.11 Housing

The housing stock of Zabzugu District is 5,519 representing 2.1 percent of the total number of houses in the Northern Region. There are a total of 6,567 households and the average number of persons per house is 11.6. Average household size for the district is 9.7, which is higher than the regional average of

1.11.1 Type, tenancy arrangement and ownership of dwelling units

The most dominant type of dwelling in the district is compound house (rooms), constituting 73.8 percent of dwellings. Semi-detached houses make-up 10.8 percent, the second commonest type of dwelling units. Huts/building (same compound) type of dwellings constitutes 7.3 percent and semi-detached houses constitute 5.2 percent. A large majority (84.1%) of the dwelling units in the district are owned by members of the household. Public/Government owned dwellings constitute only 1.8 percent of dwellings in the district.

1.11.2 Material for construction of outer wall, floor and roof

The main construction material for outer walls of dwelling units in the district are mud brick/earth which constitute the material used for constructing the outer walls of a proportion 81.1 percent of dwelling units. In urban localities, the proportion is lower (62.5%) than that of rural localities where 87.8 percent of outer walls of dwelling units are constructed using cement mud bricks/earth. The use of cement blocks/concrete, which constitutes 9.3 percent of dwellings, is also significant in the district. They constitute the main material used in constructing the outer walls of 27.0 percent of dwelling units in urban localities and 2.9 percent in rural localities. Metal sheets (65.4%) and thatch/palm leaf or raffia (26.9%) are the two main materials used in the construction of roofs of dwelling units in the district. Cement/concrete is the commonest main floor materials, constituting about 74.0 percent of floors of dwellings. The second commonest is earth/mud which is used for flooring 24.7 percent of dwellings.

1.12 SOCIAL SERVICES –

➤ 1.12.1 Education

1. Enrollment by level, class and gender
2. Teacher population gender and qualification
3. School infrastructure
4. Classrooms
5. Gross Enrollment rates
6. Net enrollment rate

7. Gender parity index

The District as at the end of December 2017 had 55 Early Childhood Development Centers (ECD) including 10 private, 64 Primary Schools(8 Private), 17 Junior High Schools(1 private) and 1 Senior High Schools. The District also has one (1) Integrated Center for Employable Skills, where only weaving and dressmaking is undertaking. The District has a total of Six(6) circuits.

➤ 1.12.2 School infrastructure

Level	Number of classrooms
Kindergarten	44
Primary school	247
Junior high	44
Senior High	22

Gross Primary School enrolment rate for girls is 92.9% and that of boys is 100%. Primary School Dropout rate is 1.9% and 1.3% for girls and boys respectively.

24.5% of Early Childhood Development Centers have no standard structures, whereas 52.8% of Primary Schools and 26.3% of Junior High Schools have no standard structures.

Table 5. NUMBER OF SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT BY LEVEL;2016/2017

S/no	LEVEL	PUBLIC	PRIVATE	TOTAL
1	KINDERGARTEN	55	10	65
2	PRIMARY	56	8	64
3	JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	16	1	17
4	SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	1	0	1
	Total	128	19	147

➤ 1.12.3 Teacher Pupil Ratio (TPR)

The teacher pupil ratios at the kindergarten and primary schools are quite high compare to the junior high. This is largely due inadequacy of teachers at the basic schools. Efforts should made by District Education Directorate and District Assembly to sponsor more teachers to fill the gaps.

The table below details of total enrollment in both the private and public schools as well as teacher pupil ratio.

➤ Table 6. Total enrollment in both the private and public schools as well as Teacher Pupil Ratio (TPR): 2016/2017

S/NO	LEVEL	BOYS	GIRLS	TOTAL	PTR
1	KINDERGARTEN	1,606	3,196	5,067	93:1
2	PRIMARY	6,762	6,016	12,778	57:1
3	JUNIOR HIGH	1,846	1,271	3,117	30:1
4	SENIOR HIGH	1,489	924	2,413	
		11,703	11,407	23,375	

Source:GES, 2017, Zabzugu office

GROSS ENROLLMENT RATE: 2016/2017

No	LEVEL	INDICATOR						GPI
		GER			NER			
		MGER	FGER	TOT	MNER	FNER	TOT	
1	KG	62.6	129.2	95.3	39.6	81.7	81.5	2.06
2	PRIM	81.8	79.1	80.5	64.5	63	64.3	0.97
3	JHS	55.5	48.1	52.2	34.0	31.5	32.8	0.867
4	SHS	48.6	38.2	44.1	36.7	24.4	31.3	0.79

Source:GES office, 2017, Zabzugu

➤ 1.12.4 School Feeding Programme

The schools benefiting from the programme are Fourteen (14) in number. Below are the schools concerned

Table 7. Number of schools benefiting from the school feeding programme

NO.	SCHOOL	LOCATION	ENROLLMENT
1	Sakpaleenga Baani DA Prm		210
2	Tuvugu Prm A		531

3	Tuvugu Prm B		531
4	Gor-Lanyili D/A Prim		302
5	Laribanga D/A Prim.		311
6	Sabare No. 1 prm		452
7	Kukpaligu		401
8	Tochedo prm.		185
9	Kalegu D/A		332
10	Laagbani D/A Prm.		239
11	Gumpila D/A prm.		172
12	Kworli D/A prm.		136
13	Zabzugu D/A prim. A		974
14	Zabzugu D/A prm.		650
	TOTAL		5,426

It is hoped that many more schools will be absorbed into the system as it is the desire of many of the local communities.

Attention however, must be shifted to schools that are situation at disadvantage areas.

➤ 1.12.5 Study of ICT

The study of Information Communication Technology (ICT) in the District is nothing to write home about. Most of the schools are without computers and their accessories to undertake the programme. ICT instructors are not readily available as the study of the subject is undertaken in isolated cases.

The absence of electricity power in the majority of the areas further compounds the challenges.

➤ 1.13 HEALTH SITUATION

The District has one (1) Hospital at Zabzugu; two (2) health centers at Nakpali and Kukpaligu, seventeen demarcated Community Based Health Planning Services (CHPS) Centers, ten (10) functional CHPS at Woribogu, Sabare, Kuntumbiyili, Gor-kukani, Ojoja, kukuokpanga, Suburuni, Kpaligagbini, Mognegu and Gor-Tanei and two clinics (RCH and Zabzugu Senior High school) .

Out of the ten functional CHPS, eight of them have structures, four have equipment and the rest depend on the health Center for support.

The only referral facility, which is the Zabzugu hospital, has no isolation ward and mortuary. The newly constructed childrens' ward has not yet been furnished for use. Also access to health facilities still remains a major challenge in the District due to poor road network and transportation coupled with inadequate health facilities and personnel.

➤ HEALTH PERSONNEL AND SERVICE

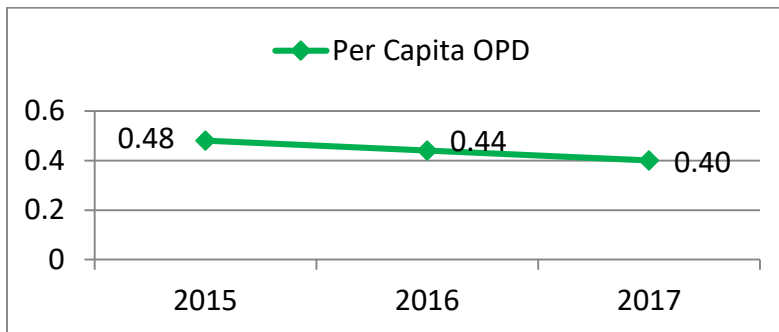
Table 8. Health Personnel and Service

CATEGORY	Number Available	Number required	Deficit
DDH	1	1	0
Medical officer	1	2	1
Anesthetics	0	2	2
Public health nurse	0	2	2
Medical Assistants	2	7	5
CHN	16	39	23
General Nurse	15	30	15
Midwives	8	35	27
Disease control officers	2	8	6
pharmacist	1	1	0
Pharmacy Technicians	1	4	3
Biomedical scientist	1	2	1
Laboratory technician	1	8	7
Nutrition officer	1	2	1
Health information officer	2	2	0
Health promotion officer	0	2	2
Executive officer	2	2	0

Source: **District health Directorate, 2017,Zabzugu.**

The ratio of Doctor and nurses to patients are 1:78,767 and 1: 616 respectively. This is relatively low for the Doctors compare to the national average of 1:20,000.

Accessibility to health care (physical and financial)



Source: **District health Directorate, Zabzugu**

The above graph indicates that only 40% of the population access health facilities. The challenges include; Geographical, Financial Access and Utilization

Top 10 causes of OPD consultation

Disease	2015	%	Disease	2016	%	Disease	2017	%
Malaria	4111	29.7	Malaria	5167	35.1	Malaria	7889	45.4
Upper Respiratory Tract Infections	2024	14.6	Upper Respiratory Tract Infections	2052	13.9	Upper Respiratory Tract Infections	2261	13.0
Diarrhoea	1305	9.4	Diarrhoea	1340	9.1	Diarrhoea	1238	7.1
Rheumatism & Other Joint Pains	639	4.6	Rheumatism & Other Joint Pains	675	4.6	Rheumatism & Other Joint Pains	789	4.5
Acute Urinary Tract Infection	370	2.7	Acute Urinary Tract Infection	398	2.7	Acute Urinary Tract Infection	539	3.1
Anaemia	362	2.6	Skin Diseases	396	2.7	Hypertension	519	3.0

Skin Diseases	287	2.1	Anaemia	346	2.4	Intestinal Worms	328	1.9
Typhoid Fever	209	1.5	Hypertension	219	1.5	Skin Diseases	326	1.9
Hypertension	185	1.3	Typhoid Fever	195	1.3	Anaemia	309	1.8
Intestinal Worms	147	1.1	Intestinal Worms	183	1.2	Typhoid Fever	78	0.4

Source: **District health Directorate, 2017, Zabzugu**

Malaria remain no. 1 cause of admission despite the continues distribution of long lasting insecticides treated nets(LLINs) largely attributed to bad attitudes towards its usage and poor sanitation practices in the Zabzugu. More public sensitization fora need to be intensified.

Top 10 causes of admission

Disease	2015	%	Disease	2016	%	Disease	2017	%
Malaria	925	49%	Malaria	960	36.6	Malaria	711	29.1
Sepsis	188	8.1	Sepsis	205	7.7	Gastroenteritis	292	7
Anaemia	128	4.6	Gastro Enteritis	159	6.6	Pregnancy related complications	146	6
Mal In Pregnancy	117	4	Anaemia	113	4.1	Anaemia	126	4.7
ARI	116	3.9	Preg Related complications	105	3.4	Sepsis	122	4.1
Preg Related complications	81	3.8	ARI	95	2.4	Gastritis	98	4
Pnuemonia	78	2.7	Mal In Preg	85	1.6	Pneumonia	89	4
Gynaecological condition	62	2	Gynaecological condition	72	1.6	UTI	88	3
Snake bite	55	1.3	Pnuemonia	44	1.1	Gynaecological Conditions	85	2
TF	37	1.2	TF	43	0.9	ARI	73	2

Source: **District health Directorate, 2017,Zabzugu**

Top ten causes of institutional deaths

Disease	2015	%	Disease	2016	%	Disease	2017	%
Malaria	13	25	Malaria	13	38	Anaemia	9	30
Birth Asphyxia	10	19	Anaemia	6	17	Malaria	8	26
Pneumonia	7	13	Sepsis	5	9.5	Pneumonia	4	13.5
Anaemia	7	13	Meningitis	4	8.6	RTI	2	9.6
Neonatal Sepsis	5	3.7	NNS	1	8.6	Septiceamia	2	7.7
Sepsis	5	3.1	Pneumonia	1	7.6	NNS	1	3.8
Meningitis	2	2.5	RTI	1	3.8	Birth Asphyxia	1	1.9
TF	1	1.9	Snake Bite	1	1.9	Hepatic Failure	1	1.9
Acute Pancreatis	1	1.9	Intestinal Worms	1	1	CVA	1	1.9
Snake Bite	1	1.9	HPT	1	1	DM	1	1.9

Status of district health insurance scheme(NHIS)

Indicator	Target	Achievement
Total pop Insured	71059	17,292
Active NHIS pop proportion	>40%	22.0%
Proportion of females/ males insured	>45%	56.6%/43.4%
NHIS members in exempt category	>63	79.5%
Indigents of pop covered	7%	2.2%

Source: **District health Directorate,2017, Zabzugu**

From the table above, it can be seen that only 22% of the population are covered with the NHIS,

Infant and maternal mortality.

1.15 LAND TENURE

Chiefs and Tindanas own lands in the District. An individual or a group of people can acquire a piece of land for construction or farming purposes. Land acquisition is easy in the District and it is opened to everybody without discrimination.

1.16 INVESTMENT POTENTIALS

- Huge potential for vegetable Irrigation and fish farming along river Oti
- Vast and fertile land for commercial yam production
- Shea butter processing
- Big yam market at Zabzugu

- Fertile land for afforestation

- Vast areas of valleys and bonds created for rice cultivation

➤ 1.17 SANITATION SITUATION

The sanitation in the District is managed by Environmental Health unit of Assembly through the collaboration of Zoomlion, Ghana limited. However, the practice of disposing of solid waste materials in drains and open spaces is still common in some suburbs of Zabzugu. Indiscriminate defecation around the town is also common. This often results in the fecal matters being washed to sources of water supply. Most communities also lack drainage system and refuse containers.

This situation poses serious health and environmental hazards to the people in the District.

The District WATSAN Mapping in 2017 revealed that Safe toilet facility coverage is 50% in the district

Table 1. Facilities and equipment for waste management in the district

SN	FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT	QUANTITY	FUNCTIONALITY	
1	Skip truck	2	Functional	
2	Roll on roll on tractor	1	Not functional	
3	Communal refuse containers	9	Functional	
4				

Table 2. NUMBER OF FINAL DISPOSAL SITES

WASTE MANAGEMENT SITES	QUANTITY	COMMENTS
Solid waste	3	Crude dumping
Liquid waste	1	Crude dumping

➤ 1.18 WATER\

Based on Community Water and Sanitation Agency's standard of one (1) borehole per 300 persons, the District's safe water coverage is 72% (Source: Water and Sanitation (WATSAN) Mapping conducted in the District,2017).

1.19 Water Hygiene, and Sanitation NGOs/Development Partners Operating in the District

- UNICEF
- WORLD VISION
- APDO
- PPADF

1.20 VULNURABLE AND EXCLUDED

Women, children and physically challenged as well as mentally challenged in the District have been neglected over the years. But in recent times the District Assembly in line with new government policies has drawn a programme of activities to improve the living conditions of these groups.

Activities included the registration of all vulnerable and the excluded in the district to develop a reliable database on them with employable skills through training, facilitating the formation of women's groups, establishment of micro credit scheme for the vulnerable, assisting women groups with soft loans and advocating for disabled friendly public building in the district.

An evaluation of the level of implementation of the above indicates that attempts have been made to develop a data base on the Physically Challenged in the district, and need assessment was carried out.

1.21 Private Sector

The Private Sector is not well developed in the district. It is predominantly micro and small-scale processors, artisans and service providers. Although the district has enormous potential for tourism and

agro-industry the lack of infrastructure and basic utilities increases cost of doing business. There is no platform for public-private interface.

Public-Private Partnership needs to be promoted. The Assembly would create the necessary enabling environment for the growth of the private sector. Inadequate logistics and poor accessibility have cut off a significant number of people in the district from active participation in governance and access to information.

There is therefore an urgent need for a mass communication network e.g. F.M. to facilitate information dissemination and public education in the district in order to reach a wider section of the people especially the unreached deprived communities. The lack of logistics and funds have constrained the Assembly's ability to fully adopt the participatory development planning process to promote transparency of Assembly decisions and ensure accountability from both public and private sectors. More collaboration, consultation and information sharing would be promoted with Traditional Authority.