

## Education

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Aug. 2024 to date	PhD	<b>Doctor of Philosophy, Geography</b> <b>The Pennsylvania State University</b> , University Park, PA Advisor: Professor Ida Djenontin
Jan. 2022 to Aug 2024	MA	<b>Master of Arts Geography</b> <b>Ohio University, Athens OH</b> Thesis: Changing Farmer-Herder Relations Amidst Climate Uncertainty: New Dynamics of Interdependence Among Agrarian and Pastoralist Livelihood Systems in the Gushiegu Municipality and Karaga District in Northern Ghana Advisor: Professor Thomas Smucker
2015 – 2019	BSc	<b>BSc. Development Planning (First Class Honours)</b> <b>Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST)</b> Thesis: The politics of customary land administration and management in the Tamale Metropolis, Ghana. Advisor: Professor Clifford Amoako

## Research Interests

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Environmental Change and Impacts, Climate Change Adaptation, Agriculture, Biodiversity Conservation, Livelihoods, Natural Resource Management, Urban Sustainability, Sustainable development.

## Research Publications

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### *Peer-reviewed Journal Articles*

- Asibey, M. O., Appiah-Kusi, F., Kisiwaa, N. A., Bilson, M. A., & **Abdulai, A. S. J.** (2024). Local multilevel governance arrangements for climate change planning and management in Kumasi, Ghana. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 153. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envsci.2024.103680>
- Asibey M. O., **Abdulai A. J.**, Iddrisu Z., et al (2023). Incremental housing and compliance with development control in urban Ghana. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07352166.2022.2160337>
- Asibey M. O., Mintah F., Adutwum I. O, Wireko-Gyebi R. S, ... & **Abdulai A. J.** (2022). Beyond rhetoric: Urban planning-climate change resilience conundrum in Accra, Ghana. *Cities*, 131. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2022.103950>
- Yeboah V., Asibey M. O., & **Abdulai A. J.** (2021). Slum upgrading approaches from a social diversity perspective in the global south: Lessons from the Brazil, Kenya and Thailand cases. *Cities*, 113. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2021.103164>

### *Book Chapter*

- Asibey M. O., **Abdulai A. J.**, Dosu B. & Tornyeviadzi P. (2023). The future of e-waste in the circular economy of Ghana: Implications for urban planning, environmental, and human health risks. In: *Waste management and*

### ***Submitted/Under Review***

1. **Abdulai A. J., &** Smucker T. A. Towards a livelihood-interdependence approach to framing adaptation in research and practice: Evidence from farmers' and herders' relations in Northern Ghana. ***Accepted: Climate and Development***
2. Abdulai, A., Ofori, D. O., **Abdulai A. J,** Mohammed, K., & Alhassan, A. Y. State policies, smallholders' uncertainties, and the political economy of a 'modernizing' agrarian regime in Ghana's agriculture. ***Under review: SN Social Science***
3. Asibey M. O., Agyei F., Marfo A. B., **Abdulai A. J., &** Adu M. B. Innovating urban climate resilience via ecosystem-based adaptation actions. ***Under review: Cities***

### ***Manuscripts in preparation***

1. "Charity begins at home" reflection on the incorporation of climate justice concerns into adaptation policies in Ghana. ***Target journal: Climate and Development***
2. Governance of nature-based solutions to climate change in African cities: Prospects, challenges, and pathways. ***Target journal: Sustainable cities and society***

### **Awards and Honours**

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**Total amount received in grant funding (as of August 2024): \$10,300.00.**

<b>March 2024</b>	Working Group in African Political Economy (WGAPE) conference travel award <b>(\$2400)</b>
<b>October 2023</b>	College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award, Ohio University <b>(\$500)</b>
<b>October 2023</b>	Department of Geography Travel Support, Ohio University <b>(\$100)</b>
<b>July 2023</b>	Initiative on Climate Adaptation Research and Understanding through the Social Sciences (ICARUS) VI Workshop Student Support <b>(\$500)</b>
<b>April 2023</b>	Department of Geography Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award, Ohio University
<b>March 2023</b>	Ohio University's Student Enhancement Award <b>(\$6,000)</b>
<b>March 2023</b>	Department of Geography Travel Award, Ohio University <b>(\$300)</b>
<b>January 2023</b>	College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award, Ohio University <b>(\$500)</b>

### **Presentations/Conference Activities**

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**Abdul-Salam Jahanfo Abdulai (Presenter)** & Thomas Smucker. De-agrarianization or Diversification to adapt: Exploring farmer-herder relations and livelihood interdependence within the context of adaptation. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Honolulu, Hawaii (USA). April 16-20, 2024.

**Abdul-Salam Jahanfo Abdulai (Presenter)** & Thomas Smucker. Conflict or Cooperation: a political ecology approach to understanding farmer-herder relations within the context of livelihood diversification and climate change adaptation in Northern Ghana. Working Group in African Political Economy Annual Meeting. Accra, Ghana. March 20-23, 2024.

**Abdul-Salam Jahanfo Abdulai (Presenter).** Towards a livelihood-interdependence approach to framing adaptation research and practice: Evidence from farmers' and herders' relations in Northern Ghana. Adaptation Futures 2023. Montreal, Canada. October 02-6, 2023.

**Abdul-Salam Jahanfo Abdulai (Presenter)** & Thomas Smucker. Changing farmer-herder relations amidst climate uncertainty: new dynamics of interdependence among agrarian and pastoralist livelihood systems in Northern Ghana. The Initiative on Climate Adaptation Research and Understanding through the Social Sciences (ICARUS) VI Workshop. Ann Arbor, Michigan (USA). September 29 – October 01, 2023.

**Abdul-Salam Jahanfo Abdulai.** Poster presentation (Sole presenter). A “Charity begins at home” reflection on the incorporation of climate justice concerns into adaptation policies in Ghana. American Association of Geographers Annual Meeting. Denver, Colorado (USA). March 23 – 27, 2023.

**Abdul-Salam Jahanfo Abdulai.** Changing farmer-herder relations amidst climate uncertainty: exploring emerging dynamics. Rural Action: Youth Climate Action Team Retreat (camp). South-eastern Ohio, March 09, 2023.

**Abdul-Salam Jahanfo Abdulai.** Climate change: experiences from Northern Ghana. Rural Action: Youth Climate Action Team (camp). South-eastern Ohio, March 17, 2022.

## Research Related Service

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### Grant Reviewing

- ❖ **Reviewer (Fall 2023)**, Graduate College – Graduate Student Senate Original Work Grant, Ohio University, Athens
- ❖ **Reviewer (Fall 2022)**, Graduate College – Graduate Student Senate Original Work Grant, Ohio University, Athens

### Ad hoc Journal Reviewer:

Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems (July 2022); Regional Environmental Change (July 2022)

## Professional Affiliations

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- ❖ American Association of Geographers (April 2022 to present)
- ❖ American Geographical Society (January 2023 to present)

## Competencies and Professional Skills

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Working knowledge of the application of computer software such as: Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) [Intermediate], NVivo, R programming (intermediate), Stata (intermediate).

## Other Research Experience

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Sept., 2019 – Aug., 2020      **Research Assistant, Department of Planning, KNUST, Kumasi, Ghana**

- ❖ Provided mentorship/guidance to 10 undergraduate students on their theses – reviewed their writing, provided relevant comments to improve their work, and scheduled discussion meetings.
- ❖ Assisted in planning data collection field trips and reviewing data collection instruments for First-year undergraduate class. Coordinated field trips and visited study communities with students to collect data.
- ❖ Conducted (individual) mixed methods research on the politics of customary land administration and management in the Tamale Metropolis, Ghana.
- ❖ Prepared and administered 100 questionnaires and interviewed 10 state officials and key informants.
- ❖ Led a group to prepare community/district medium-term and annual action plans for Kyiremfaso community (in second year) and Atwima Mponua district (in third year).
- ❖ Collaborated with five other colleagues to prepare district plan implementation and management frameworks including Monitoring and Evaluation plan, Project Stakeholder Analysis, as well as conduct Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) of the KMA Medium-Term Development Plan.

## Other Professional Experience

Feb.,-Dec., 2021

**Graduate Intern, Urban Agriculture Network (UrbanetGH), Tamale, Ghana**

- ❖ Assisted in the implementation of the Northern Ghana Integrated Development Project (NGIDP) (in Gushiegu District, Mion District, Kpandai District, and Central Gonja District in Northern Ghana).
- ❖ Assisted in the implementation of the Women Innovation for Sustainable Enterprises (WISE) Project (in Kumbungu and Tolon Districts).
- ❖ Participated in the writing of 2 grant application: reviewed literature and contributed in driving proposed project activities.
- ❖ Facilitated the training of 20 women groups on the Village Saving and Loans Association (VSLA) scheme – as a sustainable financing option and a tool for social protection for the rural poor. This increased rural women’s ability to save and access small loans.
- ❖ Helped establish demonstration farms and learning spaces in 80 communities in the Gushegu, Mion, Kpandai and Central Gonja Districts. This gave rural women farmers spaces to practice ideals of agroecological farming and build resilience.
- ❖ Prepared activity reports after every field visit to document progress of implementation. Reports prepared helped in the preparation of monitoring and evaluation reports.
- ❖ Assisted project officers in the periodic monitoring of VSLA groups in the project districts. This included documenting VSLA proceedings and reviewing savings booklets.

July – Aug. 2018

**Undergraduate Intern, Municipal Planning and Coordinating Unit, Yendi, Ghana**

- ❖ Reviewed the 2014 – 2017 Medium – Term Development Plan to document progress of implementation.
- ❖ Assisted in the preparation of 2017 Annual Progress Report

- ❖ Involved in the preparation of the 2018 – 2021 Medium Term Development Plan.

## Teaching Experience

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- Jan., 2022 to date**      **Teaching Assistant | Department of Geography | Ohio University**  
❖ Giving quizzes, preparing assignments drafts, grading assignments, proctor exams and working with students on academic issues.
- Sep., 2019 – Aug., 2020**      **Teaching Assistant | Department of Planning | KNUST**  
❖ Prepared assignment briefs, graded assignments, marked reports, participated in students' group meetings, facilitated class discussions; provided tutorials; set class up for teaching (online and in-person); worked with students on academic issues; and maintained good communication with students.

## Leadership/Volunteering Experience

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- ❖ Member, KNUST Peer Counsellors (KPC) (2018 – 2019)
- ❖ Electoral Commissioner, Northern Students' Union – KNUST (2018 – 2019)
- ❖ Organizing Secretary, Dagbon Students' Association – KNUST (DASA-KNUST) (2017 – 2018)