



# ROYAL HOUSE OF SEFWI OBENG-MIM

His Majesty Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II, Head of the Royal House and Chief of Sefwi Obeng-Mim,  
Grand Master of The Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog & Royal Order of Obeng II,  
and a Divisional Chief under the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area  
A Traditional Chieftaincy and Stool Land in the Western North Region of Ghana

## 2020 DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Despite a worldwide pandemic, all of the fundraising initiatives in 2020 were a success. The Royal House has worked hard and has accomplished great things! We have done so well that the Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim and the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional area is becoming globally known.

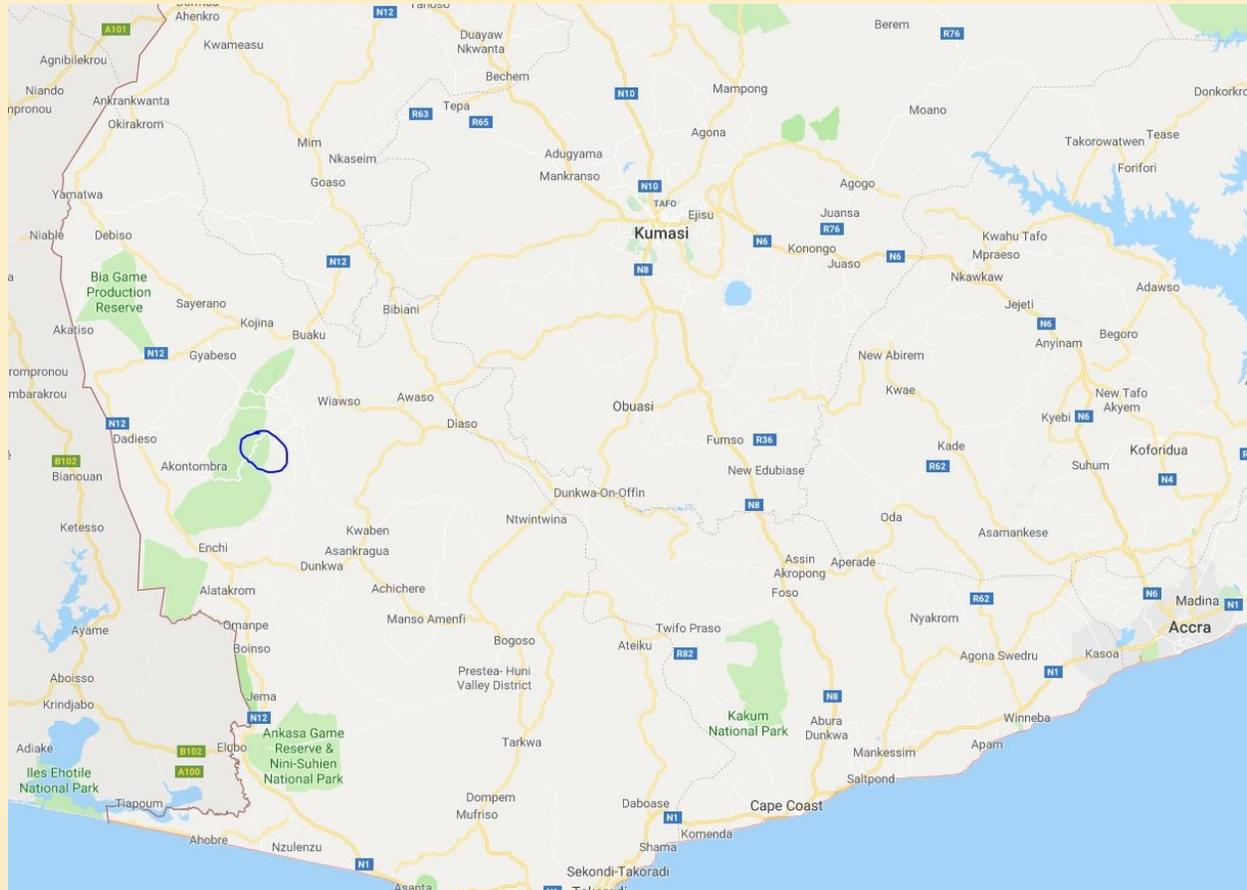
I, as traditional Chief/King, am very grateful to everyone who aided and supported our initiatives. By the grace of God, and the generosity of our many friends, we continue to move forward with our development efforts in 2021, namely, to provide housing for the teachers at the Royal School.

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His Majesty Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II

## The Development Area



Sefwi Obeng-Mim is composed of numerous farming communities in Juabeso District in the Western Region of the Republic of Ghana. The Obeng-Mim Stool Land has about 1,500 people, many who are subsistent cocoa farmers. The primary development area is located in the middle of the Krokosue Forest Reserve under Sefwi Wiawso Traditional area, one of the largest forest reserves in Ghana. Due to the location of the community, it is difficult in accessing the most basic developmental project by the central government and government funding. Providing safe and clean potable water, as well as medical and educational development, as well as other human services, is left to the traditional chieftaincy institution.

## 2020 Royal House Projects

**Total donations received for the projects:**

**USD: 11,964 GH: 69,603**

H.M. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II, with the support of the Royal Council and the Supreme Council of the Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog, has named the following 2020 Development Projects with our overall fundraising goal is \$10,000 for 2020.

Some additional projects have been added as a response to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.



**Second Village Well, \$3,500.**

**Purchase of a ceremonial drum for the children in the Royal School, \$70.**



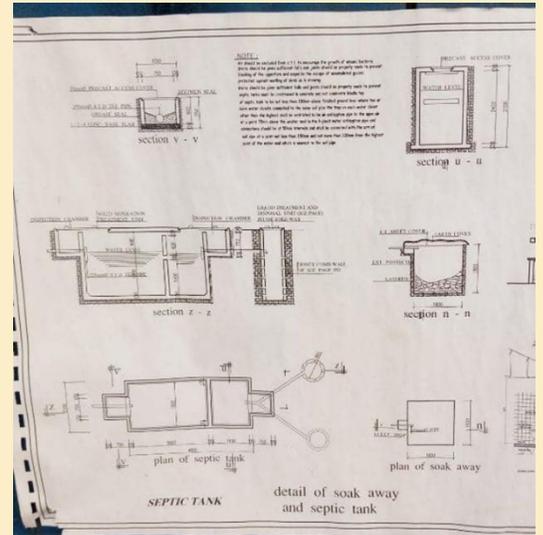
**Collection and Distribution of face masks and hand sanitizers, \$1,000.**



**Support of 25 elder women effected by the pandemic economy, \$375.**



### Washrooms, \$2,000



**Purchase and distribution of machetes to the cocoa farmers to help them in their harvest, \$400.**

**Salaries for the Royal School teachers, \$1,900.**



**Underwrote a partnership between an artisan basket weaver to create harvesting baskets for the cocoa farmers, \$100.**



**Purchased cocoa seedlings for the Royal Cocoa Farm project, whose proceeds will help fund future Stool Land development and raise the people out of poverty, \$619.**

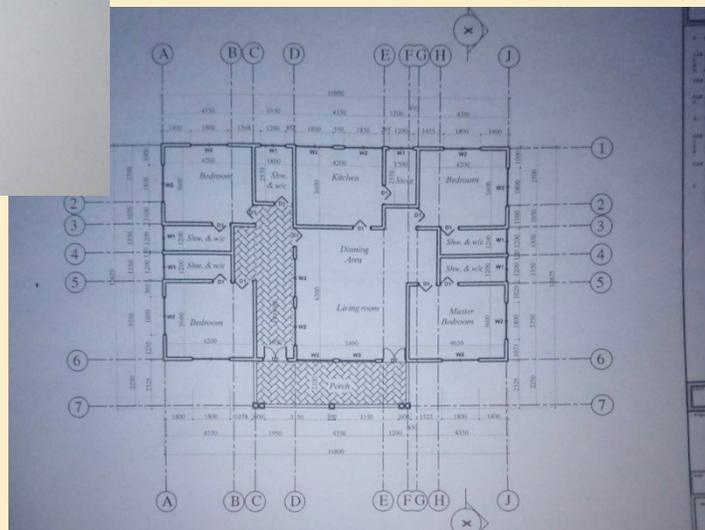
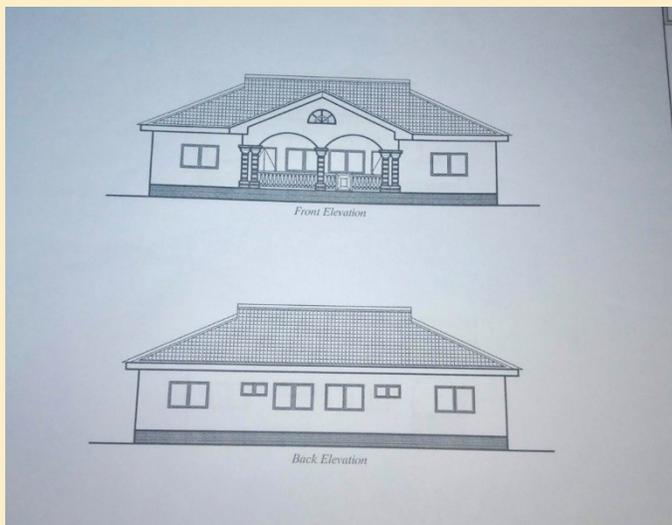
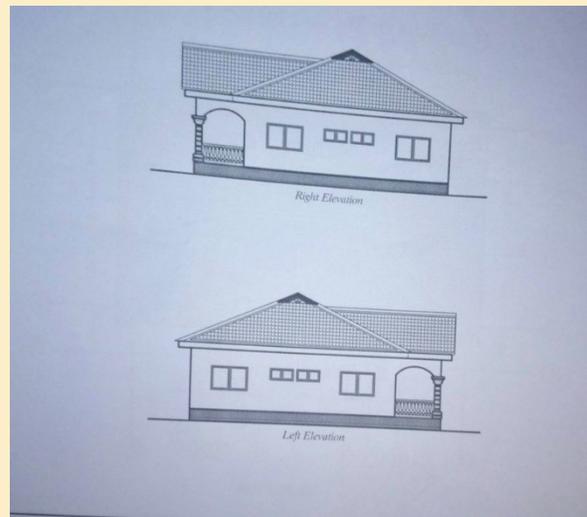


**The 2021 Project:**

- **Teachers’ Dormitory, \$8,000 (plans and sample pictured); and**
- **Completion of registration of the Oheneba Foundation as an NGO with regional government and administrative costs to expedite its creation, \$1,000 (to be completed in first quarter of 2021).**



Any funds not used in the budget for the registration of the Foundation will be applied to the Teacher’s Dormitory.



## **Total 2019 Funds Invested in the People of Sefwi Obeng-Mim**

**USD: 14,500 GH: 75,400**

**A 3-Unit School Building:** \$7,000 investment in education and the future of children made by local and international sources.

**Village Water Well #1:** \$3,500 invested by local and international sources in the health and wellbeing of people.

**Children's Backpacks:** \$500 investment in education by Royal House members.

**Furniture, Teacher Equipment, School Supplies, Uniforms and Assistance with Teachers' Salaries:** \$3,000 investment in education by Royal House members, as well as local and International sources.

**Nurse's Motorcycle:** \$500 investment toward healthcare by Royal House members and other international donors.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **Introduction to the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area and The Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim**

#### **CHIEFTAINCY INSTITUTION IN GHANA**

The chieftaincy institution in Ghana is a system that structures and regulates the activity of local chieftains (monarchs and aristocracy) in the Ghanaian society and state. In 1925, when Ghana was called the British Gold Coast Colony, provincial councils of chiefs were established in all three territories of the colony, partly to give the chiefs a colony-wide function. The 1927 Native Administration Ordinance clarified and regulated the powers and areas of jurisdiction of chiefs and councils. In 1935 the Native Authorities Ordinance combined the central colonial government and the local authorities into a single governing system. New native authorities, appointed by the governor, were given wide powers of local government under the supervision of the central government's provincial commissioners. The chieftaincy institution of Ghana has been enshrined in the Republic's Constitution (chapter 270-277) and the Chieftaincy Act of 2008. Under customary law, the Traditional Area Elders and Kingmakers have the authority to "nominate, elect or select and enstool, enskin or install a chief or queen mother." The National House of Chiefs, which is instrumental in the development and conservation of law relative to chieftaincy and customary law, registers all Chiefs. Those who hold the sacred title of "Chief" in Ghana are considered constituted and sovereign rulers in their designated traditional areas.

#### **SEFWI WIAWSO TRADITIONAL AREA**

The Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim is under the Paramount Chief of Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area, His Majesty Katakylie Kwasi Bumagama II. The Stool Land goes back in history to the ancient times of Ghana.

The Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area covers an area of 2,695 square miles crossed by the Tano and Bia rivers. That is approximately the size of the states of Delaware and Rhode Island combined.

- The total population at the last census was 572,020.
- There are five major towns including the capital of Sefwi Wiawso, home of the Chief's Palace.
- There are two colleges in the Traditional Area: Wiawso College of Education and Asafo Health Care College

- English and Akan Twi are the languages.
- Sefwi is the agricultural powerhouse of Ghana and the area is known for export of cocoa, cassava and other agricultural products.
- It is also home to natural resources such as gold, bauxite and timber.
- With cocoa farming as a main occupation of the people, Sefwi produces two thirds of Ghana's cocoa.
- The Sefwi land is great for investment and development given that is blessed with almost all the natural resources of Ghana.

The Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim has a natural forest reserve with all kinds of animal species and wonderful unique weather conditions. We are the perfect place to go on camera safari in West Africa. There are numerous tourism possibilities besides safaris including many ancestral sites and our famous Yam Festival (Alluolue), held in November. We have the Tree of God (Nyame Dua), the Ancestral Hole (which has healing powers and the Abombirim Sacred Tortoise Forest. We welcome you to visit our beautiful land and help us to develop the land, build schools and clinics, increase tourism and meet our friendly Sefwi people.

#### **CHRONOLOGY OF SEFWI OBENG-MIM**

The Stool Land (a traditional area, or kingdom) of Sefwi Obeng-Mim, under the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area, was constituted in 1935 under the first Chief/King, Nana Kwame Obeng I. His Majesty, Obeng I, with his chief priest, ushered in reforms to the constitution and the ceremonial regalia (cloths, ornaments, and decorations). Even though the size of the Stool Land seems small in comparison to other stool lands, it's people and leaders have been a powerhouse in the development of not only their region but also the whole Traditional Area and post-colonial Ghana.



The Historic Succession of Sefwi Obeng-Mim Chiefs:

1. Nana Kwame Obeng I (1935-1960)
2. Nana yaw Brobbery (1960-1990)
3. Nana Kofi Ntori (1990-2001)
4. Nana Kwame Ofori (2001-2005)
5. Nana Kwame Wusu I (2005-2011)
6. Nana Kwame Ofori II (2011-2016)
7. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II (2016-Current)

H.M. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II, known in his private life as Mr. Ofosuhene Dacosta, was enstooled and outdoored as the Chief of Sefwi Obeng-Mim within the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area of the Western North Region of Ghana, West Africa, on 3rd June 2016. Nana is recognized by the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Council as the rightful enstooled chief of the area by the Elders and Kingmakers, and registered. The Paramount Chief of the Sefwi Wiawaso Tradition Area and President of the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Council is H.M. Katakylie Kwasi Bumagama II, father of H.M. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II. H.M. Katakylie Kwasi Bumagama II elevated H.M. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II as a Divisional Chief on 16th July 2017.

## THE ROYAL ORDERS OF SEFWI OBENG-MIM



### The Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog

The Aduana people are believed to have been led out of the ground by a dog which had fire in his mouth. Hence, they are referred to as Ogyaasefu. It is also believed that the first Aduana had a dog that once was out to search for food and on seeing fire the dog thought there was something to eat for him and in doing so got his mouth seriously burnt. When the owner saw it coming with the fire he then said, "m'atwea woabre me adie" meaning 'my dog you have brought me something worthy'.

The Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog was constituted and inaugurated under the auspices of the Royal House and Traditional Council of Sefwi Obeng-Mim as a dynastic order (Asafo), in order to promote the ancient code of the military protectors of the ancient Akan Kingdom dating back to time immemorial, as well as to be in service to the Royal House and people of Sefwi Obeng-Mim.

The international members of this Royal Order are dedicated to the development of the Stool Lands under the care of His Majesty, the Royal House, and the Sefwi Obeng-Mim Traditional Council. Acceptance into the Order is based on the assessment of the human values and quality of character of the applicant, without distinction or discrimination based on religious, social class, race, political tendencies, physical disability, or sexual orientation. Advancement in rank is based on merit.

The noble dignity and ranks, in order of accession: Member, Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog (MG); Knight/Dame, Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog (KG/DG); Knight Commander, Order of the Golden Fire Dog (KCG/DCG); Knight/Dame Grand Officer, Order of the Golden Fire Dog (KGOG/DGOG); and Knight/Dame Grand Cross, Order of the Golden Fire Dog (KGCG/DGCG).

### The Royal Order of Obeng II

The Royal Order of Obeng II is the highest Order of the Royal House and the Sefwi Obeng-Mim Traditional Council. It is designed as a dynastic order (Asafo) conveying noble dignity under the Sefwi Obeng-Mim traditional customs. The membership of this order is restricted to the Chief of Obeng-Mim Stool Land and the very few other persons who have honored the Chief and the kingdom through their noble acts of love and charity that build up Sefwi Obeng-Mim and its legacy for future generations. The Chief is the Grand Master of the Royal Order and grants the dignity of the Order to others found to be of merit by His Majesty and the Royal House. Those who hold the rank of Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog may receive the noble title and style of Grand Knight/Dame Grand Cross of the Order of Obeng II (KGCO/DGCO). The Chief may also grant the noble title and style Royal Knight/Dame Grand Collar (GCO) to other recognized heads and members of royal houses, nobles, and heads of state, as well as a lifetime achievement to a member of the Royal Order of the Golden Fire Dog.





### THE OHENEBA FOUNDATION

Under the Republic of Ghana law, The Companies Act, 1963, Act 179, H.M. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II created and registered with the Republic the Oheneba Foundation to develop the stool lands under his care as Chief of Sefwi Obeng-Mim and Divisional Chief of the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Area. The Oheneba Foundation, tax identification number C0035079100, was registered in Accra on 21st February 2020, registration number CG012342020, tax ID number C0035079169.

The Oheneba Foundation is a separate entity from the person of H.M. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II (a.k.a Mr. Dacosta Ofosuhene) and all finances of the Foundation and H.M. are separated. The Board of the Foundation is composed on H.M. Oheneba Nana Kwame Obeng II (Dacosta Ofosuhene), Chairman; H.E. Patricia Ataah Kwarteng, Director; H.E. Asante Stella, Member; H.E. Eddie Nikol, Auditor. Honorary and Advisory members are Obahemaa (Queen Mother of Development) H.H. Nana Akua Kra II (a.k.a. Tee Gambles-Francis) of the U.S. State of Hawaii, and the M.E. Rev'd Dr. Christian D. Boyd, GCO, KGCG of the U.S. State of Wisconsin as the Royal House Project Coordinator, Fundraising Officer, and Adontehene (Grand Chancellor) of the Royal Orders. H.H. Nana Akua Kra II, as the Queen Mother of Development, oversees the finances of the Royal House and Foundation and is the key contact for development partnerships. H.E. Patricia Akosua Attah of Ghana's Suaman Dadieso, Western Region, serves as the Director of the Foundation and oversees the in-country day-to-day operations.

Report compiled by:

The Most Excellent Rev'd Dr. Christian D. Boyd, GCO, KGCG  
 Adontehene of Royal Orders, Project Coordinator, and Fundraising Officer  
 Royal House of Sefwi Obeng-Mim and the Oheneba Foundation  
 Sefwi Wiawso Tradition Area, Republic of Ghana