

CURRICULUM VITAE**Albert Kobina Mensah**

(PhD, Germany; M.Sc., Kenya; B.Sc., Ghana)

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ResearchGate: https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Albert_Kobina_Mensah

Google Scholar: <https://scholar.google.de/citations?user=wJmx7UkAAAAJ&hl=en>

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RESEARCH FOCUS

Soil science; soil contamination and pollution, soil trace elements; soil potentially toxic elements and remediation; phytoremediation; environmental risk assessment; redox chemistry of potentially toxic elements; artisanal and small-scale mining sustainability

PRESENT POSITION

Research Scientist, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research- Soil Research Institute, Kumasi- Kwadaso, Ghana.

PREVIOUS RESEARCH AND ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- ✚ Post-doctoral Researcher, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Soil Science/Soil Ecology Department, Germany (January 2022 – March 2022)
- ✚ Doctoral Researcher, Department of Soil Science/Soil Ecology, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany (October 2017 – December 2021).
- ✚ Teaching Assistant/Course Tutor, Institute of Geography, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany (April 2019 – August 2020).
- ✚ Research Stay, Department of Soil Science, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast (Ghana) (March 2016 – March 2017).
- ✚ Science Tutor, Holy Child School (Ghana Education Service), Cape Coast, Ghana (September 2012 – September 2013).
- ✚ National Service, Department of Soil Science, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast (Ghana) (October 2011 – August 2012).
- ✚ Chemistry Teaching Assistant, Prestea Senior High Technical School, Ghana (May 2010 - July 2010).
- ✚ English and Agricultural Science Teacher, Prestea Islamic Junior High School, Ghana (October 2005 - July 2007).

EDUCATION

- ✚ PhD (Natural Sciences), Ruhr University Bochum, Bochum (Germany). October 2017 – December 2021.
- ✚ German as a Foreign Language, Carls Duisberg Centre, Cologne, Germany. April – September 2017.
- ✚ Master of Science (Water resources/watershed management), Kenyatta University, Nairobi (Kenya). September 2013 – July 2016.
- ✚ Bachelor of Science (Agricultural Science). University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana. August 2007 – May 2011.
- ✚ Senior Secondary School Certificate (SSSCE). Prestea Secondary Technical School, Prestea, Ghana. September 2001 – July 2004.

TEACHING, RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- ✚ **Research scientist, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research- Soil Research Institute, Kumasi- Kwadaso, Ghana (November 2021 – present)**
 - Concept and proposal development for research grants and funding
 - Conducting on-station and on-farm agronomy and remediation research trials
 - Conducting and running rigorous statistical analyses of data using OriginPro
 - Mentoring and supervising other young scientists
 - Supervision of graduate thesis
 - Writing of scientific papers and policy briefs
- ✚ **Post-doctoral Researcher, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Soil Science/Soil Ecology Department, Germany (January 2022 – March 2022)**
 - Involved in writing and preparation of manuscripts of scientific research findings for publication in very high impacts journals
 - Involved in data manipulation and rigorous statistical analyses of data
 - Involved in proposal development for soliciting for research grants and funding
 - Achievement: Worked on, finished, and submitted two manuscripts for publication within a three-month period.
- ✚ **Doctoral Researcher, Department of Soil Science/Soil Ecology, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany (October 2017 – December 2021).**
 - Researched into spatial distribution of potentially toxic elements in mining tailings and spoils from mining communities in Ghana.
 - Run experiments on various factors such as redox chemistry as a factor of arsenic mobilisation using the novel redox automated microcosm experiments.
 - Run various laboratory, incubation studies and pot experiments on remediation of arsenic-contaminated gold mining spoils and tailings
 - Run experiments on various green soil amendments for remediation of arsenic in a contaminated gold mining sites.

- Involved in writing and preparation of manuscripts of scientific research findings for publication in very high impacts journals
 - Involved in data manipulation and rigorous statistical analyses of data
 - Involved in proposal development for soliciting for research grants and funding
 - Successfully ran and executed doctoral research project, and independently wrote a high quality and standard doctoral dissertation towards the award of a PhD degree.
 - Presented papers and gave oral presentations at international conferences, internal faculty and departmental colloquium.
- ✚ **Teaching Assistant/Course Tutor, Institute of Geography, Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany (April 2019 – August 2020).**
- Designed and lectured university course in mining and water resources in Africa (mining and environmental protection in Africa) for the institute.
 - Initiated the development of the new course curriculum, including student learning objectives for mining and water resources in Africa/mining and environmental protection in Africa
 - Supervised students' semester term papers
- ✚ **Research Stay, Department of Soil Science, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana (March 2016 – March 2017)**
- Supervised field workers and enumerators in land preparation, data collection, and setting up experimental field
 - Designed and supervised field and pot experiments
 - Prepared proposal for research funding
 - Prepared periodic field project reports
 - Prepared and drafted manuscript for publication
- ✚ **Science Tutor, Holy Child School (Ghana Education Service), Cape Coast, Ghana (September 2012 – September 2013)**
- Taught Integrated Science (Agricultural Science) to forms 1 and 2
 - Set quiz, mid-semester, and end of year examination questions, marked, and provided grades to the students
 - Served as an assistant examiner for West Africa Secondary School Certificate Examinations Integrated Science Paper III for two years
 - Took the students through practical agricultural science sessions
 - Attended workshops and conferences on integrated science for the school
 - Provided career guidance to the students
- ✚ **National Service Person, Department of Soil Science, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana (October 2011 – August 2012)**
- Organized tutorials for undergraduate students in agricultural sciences in soil science (introductory soil science, problem soils, and soil management)
 - Handled lectures at times in absence of the lecturer and invigilated undergraduates' exams

- Guided undergraduate students in their dissertations
- Helped lecturers with research activities for their consultancy services

+ Internship, Environmental Department, Prestea Sankofa Gold Limited, Prestea, Ghana (June 2010 – August 2010)

- Carried out water sampling from mining catchment areas to assess and monitor the effects of gold mining activities on water quality in the surrounding villages/communities.
- Ensured environmental compliance by employees
- Wrote and reviewed environmental reports
- Monitored rehabilitation of degraded gold mined lands of the company
- Carried out desktop research and made recommendation on some plant species for gold mine soil remediation and restoration (E.g., Vetiver grass, Leucaena, Acacia sp., etc.)
- Supervised filling/control of gullies created around tailings dam to aid avoid collapse of the dam
- Carried out tailings dam maintenance to avoid spillage and pollution of surrounding environment.
- Participated in planting of cover grasses, legumes, and trees around the tailings dam to help conserve moisture and to prevent water erosion around the dam, to prevent spillage, etc.

+ Internship, Environmental Protection Agency, Tarkwa (Ghana) (June 2009 – August 2009)

- Formed part of the team to educate the public on environmental conservation.
- Assisted in carrying out environmental audit and report writing.
- Reviewed environmental reports submitted by the mining companies
- Carried out water quality assessment from mining catchment areas.
- Carried out field and desktop research on reclamation of degraded gold mine soils for the agency
- Actively participated in field monitoring and supervision of mined lands under rehabilitation by the mining companies in the district.
- Monitored small scale mining sites to assess the measures put in place for environmental management before granting them environmental permit for full operation.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2022

Mensah, A. K., Shaheen, S. M., Rinklebe, J., Heinze, S., & Marschner, B. (2022). Phytoavailability and uptake of arsenic in ryegrass affected by various amendments in soil of an abandoned gold mining site. *Environmental Research*, 214, 113729.

Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Wang, J., Bundschuh, J., Wang, S. L., Yang, P. T., ... & Rinklebe,

J. (2022). Reducing conditions increased the mobilisation and hazardous effects of arsenic in a highly contaminated gold mine spoil. *Journal of Hazardous Materials*, 129238.

Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., & Rinklebe, J. (2022). Biochar, compost, iron oxide, manure, and inorganic fertilizer affect bioavailability of arsenic and improve soil quality of an abandoned arsenic-contaminated gold mine spoil. *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety*, 234, 113358.

2021

Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Antoniadis, V., Stemn, E., Shaheen, S. M., & Rinklebe, J. (2021). Human health risk via soil ingestion of potentially toxic elements and remediation potential of native plants near an abandoned mine spoil in Ghana. *Science of The Total Environment*, 149272.

2020

Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., Wang, J., Wang, S. L., & Rinklebe, J. (2020). Arsenic contamination in abandoned and active gold mine spoils in Ghana: Geochemical fractionation, speciation, and assessment of the potential human health risk. *Environmental Pollution*, 261. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2020.114116>.

2019

Owusu, O., Bansah, K. J., and **Mensah, A. K.** (2019). "Small in size, but big in impact": socio-environmental reforms for sustainable artisanal and small-scale mining. *Journal of Sustainable Mining*, 18(1), 38-44.

2018

Mensah, A. K., and Frimpong, K. A. (2018). Biochar and/or compost applications improve soil properties, growth, and yield of maize grown in acidic rainforest and coastal savannah soils in Ghana. *International Journal of Agronomy*.

2016

Owusu, O., Wireko, I., and **Mensah, A. K.** (2016). The performance of the mining sector in Ghana: A decomposition analysis of the relative contribution of price and output to revenue growth. *Resources Policy*, 50, 214-223.

Kakaire, J., **Mensah, A. K.**, and Menya, E. (2016). Factors affecting adoption of mulching in Kibaale sub-catchment, South Central Uganda. *International Journal of Sustainable Agricultural Management and Informatics*, 2(1), 19-39.

2015

Mensah, A. K., Mahiri, I. O., Owusu, O., Mireku, O. D., Wireko, I., and Kissi, E. A. (2015). Environmental Impacts of Mining : A Study of Mining Communities in Ghana. *Applied Ecology and Environmental Sciences*, 3(3), 81–94. <https://doi.org/10.12691/aees-3-3-3>

- Mensah, A. K.** (2015). Role of revegetation in restoring fertility of degraded mined soils in Ghana. A review. *International Journal of Biodiversity and Conservation*, 7(2): 57-80.
- Kakaire, J., Makokha, G. L, Mwanjalolo, M., **Mensah A. K.**, and Menya, E. (2015). Effects of mulching on soil hydro-physical properties in Kibaale sub-catchment, South Central Uganda. *Applied Ecology and Environmental Sciences*, 3 (5): 127-135
- Mensah, A. K.**, Kissi, E. A., Krah, K., and Mireku, O. D. (2015). The extent of groundwater use for domestic and irrigation activities in Thiririka sub-catchment, Gatundu South District, Kiambu County, Kenya. *African Journal of Environmental Science and Technology*, 9(6), 519-530.
- Mireku, O. D., and **Mensah, A. K.** (2015). Institutionalizing community participation in watershed management, a study of the Inchaban Watershed in the western region of Ghana. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, 5(5), 1-9.
- Mireku, O. D., and **Mensah, A. K.** (2015). Policy interventions in watershed management: the case of the Inchaban Watershed, Ghana. *International Journal of Water Resources and Environmental Engineering*, 7(3), 38-49.

PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS

- Mensah, A. K.**, Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., and Rinklebe, J. (2021). Compost and manure addition enhanced arsenic phytostabilization potential of ryegrass grown in a contaminated gold mine spoil. ASA, CSSA, SSSA International Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT.
<https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2021am/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/133911>
- Mensah, A. K.**, Marschner, B., Wang, J., Shaheen, S. M., and Rinklebe, J. (2020). Mobilization, release, and speciation of arsenic in an As-contaminated gold mine spoil under varied soil redox conditions, EGU General Assembly 2020, Online, 4–8 May 2020, EGU2020-1360, <https://doi.org/10.5194/egusphere-egu2020-1360>
- Mensah, A. K.**, Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., Wang, J., and Rinklebe, J. (2019). Mobilisation and release of arsenic from an arsenic-contaminated gold mine spoil under varied soil redox conditions. Available at:
<https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2019am/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/119005>. ASA-CSSA-SSSA International Annual Meeting 2019 | Nov. 10-13 | San Antonio, Texas.
- Mensah, A. K.**, Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., Rinklebe, J. (2019). Arsenic in an abandoned gold mine spoil in Ghana: effects of pH, geochemical fractionation, and potential mobilisation. Available at: <https://spss2019.azuleon.org/welcome.php>

RESEARCH PAPERS IN REVIEW AND UNDER PREPARATIONS

- Mensah, A. K.**, Bansah, K. J., and Tuokuu, X. F. D. Informal artisanal mining and the military: perspectives on the use of armed security forces to 'hunt' informal miners in Ghana (yet to submit revision in *African Geographical Review*).
- Addai, P., **Mensah, A. K.**, Sakyi-Annan, E., and Adjei, E. O. (2022). Biochar, compost and/or NPK fertilizer affected the uptake of potentially toxic elements and promoted the yield of lettuce grown in an abandoned gold mine tailing (under review in the *Journal of Trace Elements and Minerals*).

Mensah, A. K., and Tuokuu, X. F. D. Polluting our rivers in search of gold: how sustainable are reforms to stop informal miners from returning to mining sites in Ghana? (under review in *Resources Policy*).

Mensah, A. K., Shaheen, S. M., Rinklebe J., Addai P., and Marschner, B. (2023). Various amendments affected phytoavailability of Co, Mo, Hg, Ni, Sb, Se and Pb in ryegrass grown in a multi-contaminated gold mine tailing (Ready for submission).

Mensah, A. K., Shaheen, S. M., Rinklebe J., Addai P., Marschner, B. (2023). Soil contamination assessment of an abandoned gold mine tailing reveals high arsenic and mercury human health concerns for children and women.

Mensah, A. K., Shaheen, S. M., Rinklebe J., Addai P., and Marschner, B. (2023). Various amendments affected phytoavailability of Cd, Cu, Fe, Ti, Zn and Mn in ryegrass grown in a multi-contaminated gold mine tailing.

Yeboah, E., **Mensah, A. K.**, Amoah, B., Addai, P., and Boateng, K. K. (2023). Improving agricultural productions systems in Ghana through organic fertilizer application.

BOOK CHAPTER

Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Bansah, K., Stemn, E., Shaheen, S.M., Rinklebe, J. (2023). Arsenic in gold mining wastes: an environmental and human health threat in Ghana. In: N. K. Niazi et al. (eds.), *Global Arsenic Hazard*, Environmental Science and Engineering, https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-16360-9_4

PUBLISHED BOOKS

Albert Kobina Mensah. I Speak of A Better Society (ISBN: 978-9988323639). [I Speak of A Better Society : Mensah, Albert Kobina: Amazon.co.uk: Books](#)

Albert Kobina Mensah. THE SCHOLAR'S JOURNEY: A practical guide to entering graduate school and securing master's and PhD funding (ISBN: 979-8354745586). [THE SCHOLAR'S JOURNEY: A practical guide to entering graduate school and securing master's and PhD funding : Mensah, PhD, Albert Kobina: Amazon.de: Books](#)

RESEARCH DISSERTATIONS AND THESES

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD): *Arsenic contamination from gold mining and remediation of active and abandoned mining spoils in Ghana.* Institute of Geography, Department of Soil Science and Soil Ecology, **Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany.** Defended on 21 December 2021.

Master of Science (M.Sc.): *Effects of Eucalyptus sp. plantation on soil physico-chemical properties in Thiririka Sub-catchment, Kiambu County, Kenya.* Department of Geography, **Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya.** February 2016.

Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.): *Can revegetation restore fertility of degraded mined soils? A Review.* Department of Soil Science, **University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana.** May 2011.

SELECTED FEATURE/BLOG/MEDIA PUBLICATIONS

Mensah, A. K. (2022). Dr. Albert Mensah: There's is absolutely no disconnect between academia and industry. Retrieved from the following links: [Dr. Albert Mensah: There's is absolutely no disconnect between academia and industry - MyJoyOnline.com](#); [There's Is Absolutely No Disconnect Between The Academia And The Industry \(modernghana.com\)](#); [Albert Kobina Mensah writes: There's absolutely no disconnect between academia and industry \(citinewsroom.com\)](#); and [There's is no disconnect between the academia and the industry | Dr. Albert Kobina Mensah – CEBSAR-AFRICA \(cebsarafrica.org\)](#)

Mensah, A. K. (2022). Gold mining has not been able to transform local host mining communities; here is why. Available at the following links: [GOLD MINING HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO TRANSFORM MINING COMMUNITIES – DR. ALBERT KOBINA MENSAH » CSIR-Soil Research Institute](#); [Gold mining has not been able to transform local host mining communities; here is why \(ghanaweb.com\)](#); [Gold mining has not been able to transform local host mining communities; Here is why \(modernghana.com\)](#); [Dr. AK Mensah writes: Gold mining hasn't been able to transform mining communities \(citinewsroom.com\)](#)

Mensah, A. K. (2021). Albert Kobina Mensah: I got a cup of coffee; it's not your usual coffee. Retrieved from the following links: [Albert Kobina Mensah: I got a cup of coffee; it's not your usual coffee - MyJoyOnline.com](#); [Albert Kobina Mensah writes: I got a cup of coffee; it's not your usual coffee \(citinewsroom.com\)](#); [I got a cup of coffee, it's not your usual coffee \(ghanaweb.com\)](#); [I got a cup of coffee; it's not your usual coffee \(modernghana.com\)](#)

Mensah, A. K. (2021). Galamsey is neither a canker nor a menace; and national dialogue in Accra not the solution. Retrieved from the following links: <https://www.myjoyonline.com/albert-kobina-mensah-galamsey-is-neither-a-canker-nor-a-menace-and-national-dialogue-in-accra-not-the-solution/>; ['Galamsey' is neither a 'canker' nor a 'menace'; and national dialogue in Accra not the solution! \(modernghana.com\)](#)

Mensah, A. K. (2020). Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, He Was a Messiah | **AK Mensah.** Retrieved from: <https://cebsarafrica.org/2020/06/08/dr-kwame-nkrumah-he-was-a-messiah-ak-mensah/>

Mensah, A. K. (2020). Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah: An iconic and most selfless leader Ghana had. Retrieved from the following links: <https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Osagyefo-Dr-Kwame-Nkrumah-An-iconic-and-most-selfless-leader-Ghana-had-1080532>; [Osagyefo Dr. Kwame Nkrumah: Iconic And Most Selfless Leader Ghana Had Had \(modernghana.com\)](#)

Mensah, A. K. (2018). \$259 Million Tax Exemptions for AGA is a Misguide - Part 1 | **AK Mensah.** Retrieved from: [https://www.ilapi.org/?home/showpage/37/\\$259-Million-Tax-Exemptions-for--AGA-is-a-Misguide---Part-1-%7C-AK-Mensah](https://www.ilapi.org/?home/showpage/37/$259-Million-Tax-Exemptions-for--AGA-is-a-Misguide---Part-1-%7C-AK-Mensah)

Mensah, A. K. (2018). \$259 Million Tax Exemptions for AGA is a Misguide - Part 2 | **AK**

Mensah. Retrieved from:

[https://www.ilapi.org/?home/showpage/44/\\$259-Million-Tax-Exemptions-for--AGA-is-a-Misguide---Part-2-%7C-AK-Mensah](https://www.ilapi.org/?home/showpage/44/$259-Million-Tax-Exemptions-for--AGA-is-a-Misguide---Part-2-%7C-AK-Mensah)

Mensah, A. K. (2019). What I call 'Probational Democracy' – **AK Mensah.** Retrieved from:

<https://cebsarafrica.org/2019/01/26/what-i-call-probational-democracy-ak-mensah/>

Mensah, A. K (2018). Building A Better Society in Africa; It's Our Own Responsibility! Retrieved

from: <https://cebsarafrica.org/2018/05/19/building-a-better-society-in-africa-its-our-own-responsibility-albert-kobina-mensah/>

Mensah, A. K (2018). A Wake-Up Call for Ghana! Things Exigently Need to Change for Our

Good! Retrieved from: <https://www.modernghana.com/news/828403/a-wake-up-call-for-ghana-things-exigently-need.html>

Mensah, A. K (2018). Building Better Society for The Next Generation: We Need Paradigm Shift!

Retrieved from: <https://www.modernghana.com/news/825854/building-better-society-for-the-next-generation.html>

Mensah, A. K (2017). The Agricultural Sector Budget 2017, Issues for Debates. Available at:

<https://www.modernghana.com/news/759512/the-agricultural-sector-budget-2017-issues-for.html>

Mensah, A. K (2017). Agriculture Analysis on the 2017 Budget – ILAPI-Ghana. Available at:

<https://www.modernghana.com/news/759593/agriculture-analysis-on-the-2017-budget-ilapi.html>

Mensah, A. K (2016). Flooding in Accra, the Problem Is Solely a Leadership Problem (Part1).

Available at: <https://www.modernghana.com/news/703415/flooding-in-accra-the-problem-is-solely-a-leaders.html>


Mensah, A. K (2015). Ending poverty now! The case of the current water situation in Prestea,

Western Region. Available at: <https://www.modernghana.com/news/650065/ending-poverty-now-the-case-of-the-current-water.html>

Mensah, A. K (2015). Buhari's Style: Any Borrowed Lessons for Ghana? Available at:

<https://www.modernghana.com/news/647301/buharis-style-any-borrowed-lessons-for-ghana.html>

EVIDENCE OF RESEARCH QUALITY, IMPACT AND VISIBILITY

 **Google Scholar citation matrix since 2016** across 26 research items as at November 19, 2022:

- *Total citations:* **559**
- *H-index:* **7**
- *i10-index:* **7**
- *Available:*

<https://scholar.google.de/citations?user=wJmx7UkAAAAJ&hl=en>

- ✚ **ResearchGate matrix** across 26 research items as at November 19, 2022:
 - *Research Interest Score:* **591.2**
 - *Total citations:* **499**
 - *Total recommendations:* **122**
 - *Total reads:* **56,265**
 - *Available:* https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Albert_Kobina_Mensah

MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS/APPEARANCE/COMMUNITY OUREACH

- ✚ Panel Guest on **STARR RADIO UK FAITH TALK** on the 13 November 2022. Discussion: The horrible effects of illegal mining (galamsey) in Ghana- the diasporian take.
- ✚ Panel Guest on **CITITV/FM The Big Issue** on 15 October 2022. Discussion: the use of the military approach in addressing galamsey in Ghana.
- ✚ Panel Guest on **CITITV/FM The Big Issue** on 01 October 2022. Discussion: the use of the military approach in addressing galamsey in Ghana.
- ✚ Interview with **SPICE 91.9 FM** morning show in Takoradi on the mining sector sustainability on 09 July 2022.
- ✚ Interview with **SPICE 91.9 FM** morning show in Takoradi on the missing excavators and the so-called fight against galamsey. 09 September 2022
- ✚ **Guest Speaker** at the joint Centre for Better Society Advocacy and Research Africa (CEBSAR-AFRICA) and Migrant Media Network (MMN) Virtual Seminar on sustainable alternatives to irregular migration. August 28, 2021. Topic delivered: Sustainable artisanal mining as a possible panacea to irregular migration.
- ✚ **E.TV Fact Sheet with Samuel Eshun** on Tuesday June 1, 2021, at 8pm GMT. Discussion: Galamsey fight: operation halt II; burning of excavators; the law and way forward.
- ✚ **Homebase TV Evening News with RSM Kofi Doe Lawson** on Friday February 7, 2020, at 5.30 – 7.00pm GMT. Discussion: Building a prosperous society for all in Ghana.
- ✚ **Guest Panel on Star Radio UK Faith Talk** on Sunday May 02, 2021, at 5pm GMT. Discussion: The church, national politics, and the community: focus on Ghana.
- ✚ **Guest Panel on CEBSAR TALK** with Evans Appiah Kissi on Saturday May 1, 2021, at 4pm GMT. Discussion: Is small-scale mining in Ghana a right call?
- ✚ **Guest Panel** on TEEN leadership and entrepreneurial development foundation talk sessions on our environment our life on May 29, 2021, at 2pm GMT. Discussion: How safe is our environment in Ghana?
- ✚ **Guest Panel** on Teen leadership and entrepreneurial development foundation talk sessions on STEM careers on the March 27, 2021, at 5pm GMT. Discussion: Career opportunities in soil and environmental sciences.
- ✚ **Institute for Liberty and Policy Innovation Ghana 20 minutes with AK Mensah** on Friday May 8, 2020, at 19.00 GMT. Theme delivered: Covid-19 pandemic: galamsey on the rise, military taskforce not the solution.

- ✚ **Guest Speaker at CEBSAR-AFRICA 1st Public Lecture with Dr. Abu Sakara Foster** at the University of Cape Coast Sasakawa conference room, Saturday February 15, 2020. Theme: Building a prosperous society for all, not few.
- ✚ **Guest Panel on CEBSAR TALK** with Dr. Evans Appiah Kissi on Saturday December 5, 2020, at 4pm GMT. Discussion: Ghana Elections 2020.
- ✚ **Guest Panel on CEBSAR TALK** with Dr. Evans Appiah Kissi on Saturday September 12, 2020, at 3pm GMT. Discussion: Could artisanal and small-scale mining be the future of Ghana's mining sector?
- ✚ **Guest Panel on CEBSAR TALK** with Dr. Evans Appiah Kissi on Saturday September 5, 2020, at 3 pm GMT. Discussion: Is mineral mining in Africa a blessing or a curse?
- ✚ **Guest Speaker**, 3-day African Journalists for Economic Opportunity Training organised by Institute for Liberty and Policy Innovation Ghana (ILAPI-GHANA). July 12 – 15, 2019. Topic delivered: Sustainability in the mining sector in Africa.
- ✚ **Main Speaker**, Centre for Better Society Advocacy and Research Africa 1st Public Lecture at the J. N. Aryeetey Auditorium-South Campus University of Education Winneba, Ghana. Date: Saturday March 17, 2018, 10am. Theme: Building a better society in Ghana: need for paradigm shifts.
- ✚ **Association of African Universities TV Talks with Paa Kwesi Acquah** on Thursday June 21, 2018, at 11am GMT. Discussion: Biochar and compost application for improve crop yield.

MEDIA MENTIONS

- ✚ What's the fate of citizens in Ghana's mining communities? – Asks Dr Mensah. Retrieved from: [What's the fate of citizens in Ghana's mining communities? – Asks Dr Mensah - Ghana Business News](#)
- ✚ CSIR researcher argues against use of soldiers to fight galamsey. Retrieved from: [CSIR researcher argues against use of soldiers to fight galamsey \(citinewsroom.com\)](#)
- ✚ Using military to fight galamsey jackboot approach — Researcher. Retrieved from: [Using military to fight galamsey jackboot approach — Researcher \(modernghana.com\)](#)
- ✚ Use Artisanal Miners to Regulate Mining Activities – Research Scientist. Retrieved from: [Use Artisanal Miners To Regulate Mining Activities – Research Scientist - Beach Fm Online](#)
- ✚ Laws are not enough to fight illegal mining – Researcher claims. Retrieved from: [Laws are not enough to fight illegal mining - Researcher claims - e.TVGhana \(etvghana.com\)](#)
- ✚ Regional dialogue on galamsey will not solve the problem – Researcher. Retrieved from: [Regional dialogue on galamsey will not solve the problem – Researcher - e.TVGhana \(etvghana.com\)](#)

HONOURS, AWARDS AND GRANTS

- ✚ **Young Future Leadership Award as early career young scientist making outstanding contribution to agriculture** at the West African Forum on Precision Agriculture organised by the African Plant Nutrition Institute at the University of Cape Coast in

Ghana. 11 - 12 February 2020.

- ✚ **GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SERVICE (DAAD) – GOVERNMENT OF GHANA research scholarship grant** for PhD training at Ruhr University, Bochum, Germany. 2017-2021
- ✚ **Association of African Universities (AAU) six months graduate internship grant.** University of Cape Coast, Ghana. July 2016 – March 2017.
- ✚ **GERMAN ACADEMIC EXCHANGE SERVICE (DAAD) In-Region Scholarship** for Master of Science (IWM) Studies at Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya. 2013 – 2015.
- ✚ **Best Graduating Student 2004.** Prestea Senior Secondary Technical School, Ghana.

PRESENTATIONS AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

- ✚ ASA, CSSA, SSSA International Annual Meeting conference on the theme: “*A Creative Economy for Sustainable Development*”, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA. November 7 – 10, 2021.
Oral Paper Presented: Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., and Rinklebe, J. (2021). Compost and manure addition improved arsenic phytostabilization potential of ryegrass grown in a contaminated gold mine spoil. Available at:
<https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2021am/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/133911>
- ✚ DAAD Scholarship Holders Meeting in Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. November 21, 2019.
Public Lecture Delivered: From Nairobi to Deutschland: 6 Years of Being a DAAD Scholar!
- ✚ DAAD Alumni workshop in Accra- “Contemporary Healthcare Issues in Sub-Saharan Africa-Economic, Social and Cultural Perspective” held on November 25 and 26, 2019.
Abstract accepted for oral presentation: Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., Wang, J., Wang, S. L., & Rinklebe, J. (2019). Arsenic in highly contaminated abandoned and active gold mine spoils in Ghana: geochemical fractionation, and assessment of potential environmental and human health risks.
- ✚ First Joint Meeting on Soil and Plant System Sciences (SPSS 2019). Natural and Human-induced Impacts on the Critical Zone and Food Production, Bari, Italy. 23-26 September 2019. Available at: <https://spss2019.azuleon.org/welcome.php>
Oral Paper Presented: Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., Rinklebe, J. (2019). Arsenic in an abandoned gold mine spoil in Ghana: effects of pH, geochemical fractionation, and potential mobilisation.
- ✚ British Soil Science Society Annual Meeting Conference on the theme: “*Managing soil resources to secure our future*”, Sheffield, United Kingdom. 4-5 September 2019. Available at: <https://www.soils.org.uk/event/1674>.

- Oral Paper Presented: Mensah, A. K., Marschner, B., Shaheen, S. M., Rinklebe, J. (2019).** Arsenic in highly contaminated gold mine spoils in Ghana: geochemical fractionation, potential mobilization, and risk assessment.
- ✚ Research Day organised by Research School at the Ruhr University Bochum on “Requirements and Attitudes for a Successful Research Career”. Venue: Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. February 28, 2019.
- Poster Paper Presented: Mensah, A. K., and Marschner, B. (2019).** Arsenic contamination, binding forms and factors influencing mobility and release.
- ✚ DAAD Scholarship Holders Meeting in Cologne, Germany. 8 – 10th June 2018.
- Public Lecture Delivered:** Arsenic: a silent soil and environmental health threat from gold mining in Ghana. Available on page 11 at:
https://www.daad.de/medien/der-daad/presse/downloads/programmheft_stipendiatentreffen_k%C3%B6ln.pdf
- ✚ Selected as a Right Livelihood Junior Scientist. Presented and participated in the workshop “Mobilization for Change: Human Rights, Governance and the Empowerment of the Marginalised”, Bonn, Germany. September 2 – 7th 2017.
- Poster Paper Presented: Mensah, A. K. (2017).** Effects of biochar and compost application on soil properties, growth and yield of maize grown in acidic rainforest and coastal savannah soils in Ghana. Available at: <https://rlc-blog.org/?p=1491>
- ✚ An Interaction Between Iowa State University, USA and Soil Science Department of the University of Cape Coast at Academic Board Chamber, University of Cape Coast, Ghana. May 25, 2012.
- Oral Paper Presented:** *Soil and Water Quality Assessment in Ghana.*

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

- ✚ Training on ESBL E. coli surveillance for selected agencies and partners, in preparation for the implementation of the AMR MPTF project activity 4.5.12, aimed at supporting the integration of ESBL surveillance protocol in one other region of Ghana (Ashanti Region, Kumasi). Held at the CSIR-Soil Research Institute, Kumasi from the 12 – 16 September, 2022.
- ✚ Participant, 1st Phy2SUDOE Workshop - Phytomanagement for Soil Remediation and the Creation of Value", organized by the Faculty of Biotechnology of Universidade Católica Portuguesa - Porto, under the Interreg SUDOE project "Phy2SUDOE - Advancing in the Application of Innovative Phytomanagement Strategies in Polluted Sites in Southwest Europe". Held online on July 8, 2021; 9.00am-13.00pm CEST. Available at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPoP_XMRHAM&t=2869s
- ✚ West African Forum on Precision Agriculture organised by the African Plant Nutrition Institute at the University of Cape Coast in Ghana. 11 - 12 February 2020.
- ✚ Participant, Science College organised by Research School on “Building Trust in Research(ers)”. Venue: Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. 3rd July 2018.
- ✚ Orientation Seminar for DAAD-scholarship holders from Sub-Saharan Africa. Gustav-Stresemann-Institute (GSI), Bonn, Germany. 26 – 27th October 2017
- ✚ Participant, PhD Proposal Writing Workshop organized by the German Academic

- Exchange Service (DAAD) at Noguchi Memorial Centre for Medical Research Conference Centre, Legon, Accra, Ghana. 30 – 31 August 2016.
- ✚ Participant, Ghana Science Association 15th Biennial Workshop on “Efficient Waste and Sanitation Management for Sustainable Development: The Role of Science, Technology, and Innovation. Erata Hotel-East Legon, Accra. August 3, 2016.
 - ✚ One-day seminar on “Is Ghana Food Secure?” Seminar organized by CSIR-Science Technology Education and Policy Research Institute (STEPRI). STEPRI Auditorium, Accra, Ghana. June 21, 2016.
 - ✚ Participant, seminar organized by CSIR-Water Research Institute at Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences (GAAS) Conference room, Accra, Ghana. Topic: Sustainable Water Resources Management in Ghana. June 23, 2016.
 - ✚ 2nd Africa Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security Conference 2015. United Nations Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya. 30 to 31st July 2015.
 - ✚ Participant, Seminar organised by Soil Science Department of the University of Cape Coast, Ghana, on the topic: *Precision Agriculture- Tools, Challenges and Significance*. March 20, 2012.

OTHER TRAINING AND CERTIFICATES

- ✚ Fundamentals of statistics, experimental designs, and introduction to R for Soil Scientists. Witzhausen, Germany. March 27 – April 2019.
- ✚ Reviewing a scientific paper. Ruhr University Research School in Bochum, Germany. April 30, 2018.
- ✚ Writing a successful research proposal for a post-doc project”. Ruhr University Research School in Bochum, Germany. June 26, 2018.
- ✚ Certificate in Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Juja, Kenya. October 09, 2015 – November 2015
- ✚ Certificate in Participatory GIS and E-Learning. Institute for Geographical Sciences, University of Berlin, and Kenyatta University, Kimunye (Mount Kenya), Kenya. November 02 – 06, 2015.
- ✚ Certificate in Developing Lively E-Learning Materials for Integrated Watershed Management. University of Berlin (Germany) and Kenyatta University (Kenya). Thika, Kenya. October 27 - November 01, 2014.
- ✚ Certificate in E-Library Resources. German Academic Exchange Service (Nairobi) and Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa (South Africa). Nairobi, Kenya. August 25 – 29, 2014

RESEARCH PROJECT EXPERIENCE

- ✚ A proposal on the phytoremediation potential of plant functional groups on contaminated mined soils (November 2022), a collaboration between CSIR-Forestry Research Institute Ghana (FORIG) and Soil Research Institute (SRI).

- ✚ **POLY4 product trial (beauty contest) on maize in two main growing areas of Ghana.**
This project aimed at evaluating polyhalite products as a base dressing (POLY4:DAP 50:50 + 50kg/ha urea) and top-dress (POLY4:urea 20:80) vs the local practice of 150 kg/ha 23-10-5 basal plus 100 kg/ha urea top-dress. I was part of the lead scientists to establish a maize trial in the transition zone of the country to determine POLY-4 fertilizers efficacy in improving soil properties for increased maize yield.
- ✚ **Improving agricultural productions systems in Ghana through organic fertilizer application:** We conducted a three-month field trial to investigate the effects of bio-deposit material applied alone (full rate (90kgN/ha) or in combination (50% bio-deposit + 50% NPK) and control (NPK 23-10-5 (90-60-60) on soil physicochemical properties, growth, and yield of maize on two soils of contrasting pH and texture collected from the Semi-deciduous and Transitional agroecological zones of Ghana.
- ✚ **Gender Inclusion & Empowerment Technical Proposal (Ref: WIM/GH/FRD/001) (May 2022 – August 2022).** I was part of the 5-man team that won a three-month project to investigate gender inclusion, women's participation, and professional growth in Ghana's mining sector. Contract of the project was signed on 04 May 2022 and the project ends in August 2022.
- ✚ **PhD research project/fellowship at the Ruhr University Bochum, Germany (2017 – 2021).** This 4-year project was funded by the Ruhr University Bochum in Germany, Government of Ghana, and German Academic Exchange Service. I independently planned and successfully executed a PhD project on contamination of potentially toxic elements in gold mine polluted sites, and green and sustainable remediation options. The project resulted in publishing of four quality research papers in highly ranked journals, four abstracts and compiling of a 232-paged doctoral dissertation towards the award of a Doctor of Philosophy in natural sciences.
- ✚ **Artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) sustainability/use of the military and armed security men against informal miners in Ghana (2018 – 2021).**
This project investigated the contributions of the informal mining sector in Ghana to gold mining revenues in Ghana as well as sustainable options for ensuring a cleaner ASM. The project was personally funded, and it was a collaboration between Dr. Obed Owusu (University of Dalhousie, Canada), Dr. Kenneth Bansah (Missouri University of Mines and Technology, USA) and me. Additionally, we also appraised the sustainability of the military interventions and mining enactments instituted by Governments of Ghana since 1980 to 2021 against informal miners. Parts of the results were published in 2019 in the *Journal of Sustainable Mining*.
- ✚ **Impacts of biochar and compost applications on soil properties, growth, and yield of maize in acidic rainforest and coastal savannah soils in Ghana (2016 – 2017).**
This project was funded by the Association of African Universities (AAU) six months graduate internship grant. This six-month project was executed at the Department of Soil Sciences and Technology Village at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana. The project was executed successfully, and the results were published in 2018 in the *International Journal of Agronomy*.

COURSES DEVELOPED

- ✚ **Course 170077: Mining and Water Resources/Environmental Protection in Africa (Summer Semesters 2019 and 2020).** Institute of Geography, Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. Available at: <https://moodle.ruhr-uni-bochum.de/course/view.php?id=27126>. The course exposed students to the concepts of environmental sustainability. Specifically, it focused on introducing to students, issues of mining and environmental protection. It also discussed with students the various options available for solving environmental problems from mining activities in Africa and improving livelihoods of people in mining communities. Teaching modes involved lecture, short assignments, tutorials, videos, short films, and presentations.

- ✚ **Scientific Writing Training Seminar (2022).** In this online training, postgraduate students, doctoral researchers, academics, project managers, postdoctoral researchers, program officers, among others were taken through a three-day training workshop on how to write and publish their research in a high impact scientific journal. The training took place from 26 – 28th August 2022 at 5pm – 7pm GMT each day.

PEER-REVIEW AND EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

- ✚ Journal: *People and Nature* (Manuscript ID: PAN-22-08-190)
 Article type: Full-length Research Paper
 Article title: Malaria incidence in an era of ecosystem intervention – a qualitative comparative analysis of the contributions of Ghana’s mangroves
 Date invited: 08 september 2022
 Date due for review submission: 29 september 2022
 Review submitted: 30-Sep-2022

- ✚ Journal: *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*- Article ID: IJERPH-1587102
 Article type: Research Paper
 Article title: An assessment for metal removal capability of endemic Chilean species
 Date invited: 07 February 2022
 Date due for review submission: 17 February 2022
 Review submitted: 17 February 2022

- ✚ Journal: *Science of The Total Environment* (Article ID: STOTEN-D-21-19164)
 Article type: Research Paper
 Article title: Accumulation risk of potentially toxic elements through the soil-tobacco-human pathway: Causative factors, novel probabilistic models, and soil thresholds
 Date invited: August 20, 2021
 Date due for review submission: September 10, 2021
 Review submitted: September 12, 2021

- ✚ Journal: *Agronomy* (Article ID: Agronomy-1363188)
 Article type: Research Paper
 Article title: Presence of metals and metalloids in the environment of east Croatia as possible post-war consequence
 Date due for review submission: September 3, 2021
 Date invited: August 20, 2021
 Date submitted: September 4, 2021

- ✚ Journal: *African Geographical Review* (Article ID: RAFG-2020-0088)
 Article type: Commentary
 Article title: Risk-based contaminated land management policy mindset: a way out for Ghana's environmental challenges
 Date due for review submission: 24-Nov-2020; 2nd round review due on 04-Jan-2021
 Date invited: October 25, 2020; 2nd invite on the 05-Dec-2020
 Date submitted: November 23, 2020; 2nd round submission on 30-Dec-2020

- ✚ Journal: *Ecological Engineering* (Article ID: ECOLENG-D-18-01069)
 Article type: Research paper
 Article title: Biological traits beneficial for restoration on soils with elevated concentrations of copper- a study of native trees on mine tailings in Zambia
 Date due for review submission: Oct 10, 2018; 2nd round review due on March 23, 2019.
 Date invited: Sep 19, 2018; 2nd invite on the March 2, 2019
 Date submitted: 9th October 2018; 2nd round revision submitted on the March 23, 2019.

INTERNAL REVIEWER

I served as an internal reviewer of three abstracts submitted to the CSIR RSA Annual General Meeting in 2022. The abstracts were:

- ✚ A comparative analysis of the chemical characteristics of Bauxite deposits from African producing countries
- ✚ Identifying Hydrogeochemical Processes Influencing Groundwater Quality for Sustainable Management Within the Birimian Granites of Ashanti Region- Ghana
- ✚ Geologic Sequestration as Alternative Technology to Achieving Zero Carbon Dioxide Emission: Formation Characterization and Suitability for CCUS Offshore Ghana

PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS/GROUPS

- ✚ DAAD Scholars Ghana Alumni
- ✚ DAAD Scholars IWM Alumni
- ✚ Ecosystem Based Adaptation Approaches to Food Security (EBAFOSA) – GHANA
- ✚ American Soil Science Society (SSSA)

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- ✚ English (native speaker)
- ✚ Deutsch (medium proficiency)
- ✚ Twi (Akan) (mother tongue)

REFEREES

- ✚ Prof. Dr. Bernd Marschner
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- ✚ Prof. Dr. Joerg Rinklebe
Bergische University, Wuppertal Germany
Head of Soil and Groundwater Management Dept.
rinklebe@uni-wuppertal.de

Signature:



Date: November 05, 2022