

## Contents

<i>List of Maps</i>		ii
<i>List of Tables</i>		iii
<i>List of Figures</i>		vi
<i>List of Photographs</i>		viii
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>		x
<i>Acknowledgements</i>		xii
Chapter 1.	Introduction	1
Chapter 2.	Actors, Structures and Institutional Change	11
Chapter 3.	The Research Area in a Broader Perspective	39
Chapter 4.	Ethnographic Description of Biu	105
Chapter 5.	Institutions, Actors, Cases: The Local Natural Resource Regime in the Tono Irrigation Project	233
Chapter 6.	Intervention, Institutional Change and Deinstitutionalization	309
<i>Bibliography</i>		343

## **List of Maps**

Map 2 -1 Research Sites and Irrigation Schemes in the Kassena-Nankana District, northern Ghana	33
Map 3 -1 The Upper East Region, northern Ghana	39
Map 3 -2 Ethnic groups of the Upper East Region, northern Ghana	43
Map 3 -3 Map of the Tono irrigation project	90
Map 4 -1 Geographical location of Biu and its sections	105
Map 4 -2 The dispersed settlement structure of Biu	106
Map 4 -3 Traditional land tenure during the rainy season in Biu	152

## List of Tables

Table 2-1 Number of semi-structured interviews and gender of respondents at research sites in the Kassena-Nankana District, northern Ghana	37
Table 3-1 Basic demographic data	42
Table 3-2 Population change and distribution in Ghana, Upper East Region and the Kassena Nankana District from 1960 - 2000	47
Table 3-3 Recovery rates for credits granted to small-scale farmers in Biu and Tono	95
Table 3-4 Irrigation zones and acreage allocated to the VC of Biu since 1996	100
Table 3-5 Lowland allocation in Biu's part of the Tono irrigation project according to patrilineal decent, dry season 2001/02	102
Table 3-6 Distribution of voters, farmers and lowland in Biu according to patrilineal descent	102
Table 4-1 Population change in the Kassena Nankana District and in Biu	113
Table 4-2 Total fertility rates in the Kassena Nankana District and in rural Ghana	130
Table 4-3 Results of the parliamentary bye-elections in Biu, March 2003	145
Table 4-4 Socioeconomic characteristics of the respondents in Biu	150
Table 4-5 Average rainy season acreage in Biu by wealth of household	153

Table 4-6 Mean household size of households in Biu by wealth of household	153
Table 4-7 Average rainy season acreage in Biu in 2002 by wealth of household	155
Table 4-8 Access to compound land by sex in Biu	157
Table 4-9 Access to compound land by age group in Biu	158
Table 4-10 Access to compound land according to the respondent's position in the compound	158
Table 4-11 Access to family land according to the respondent's position in the compound in Biu	159
Table 4-12 Availability of bush land by wealth of household in Biu	161
Table 4-13 Mean acreage of households farming bush land by wealth of household in Biu	161
Table 4-14 Access to project land during the 2001 rainy season by wealth of household in Biu	163
Table 4-15 Mean acreage of households at the Tono project area in 2001 by wealth of household	163
Table 4-16 Cost of land preparation in Biu and in the Tono irrigation project, 2002	166
Table 4-17 Acreage, yield and ratio of acreage/yield of rainy season rice by wealth of household in Biu	180
Table 4-18 Mean household size, mean number of dependants and mean household size by wealth of household in Biu	180
Table 4-19 Value (in Euro) of mean rainy season production (2003) by wealth of household in Biu	181

Table 4-20 Dry season acreage under cultivation in Biu by wealth	182
Table 4-21 Dry season acreage in Biu by gender	183
Table 4-22 Average acreage of dry season rice farms in Biu by wealth	184
Table 4-23 Cost of land preparation in Tono, dry season 2001/02	185
Table 4-24 Costs (in Cedis) per acre of dry season rice farm by wealth of household	192
Table 4-25 Yield in bags (80kg) per acre in Biu by wealth of household and gender of respondent	192
Table 4-26 Acreage of dry season tomato in Biu by wealth of household	199
Table 4-27 Mean cost (in Cedis) of tomato and rice per acre in Biu	202
Table 4-28 Mean amount and cost (in Cedis) of inputs per acre of tomato farm in Biu	202
Table 4-29 Total and marketed tomato yield (in tons) per acre in Tono	203
Table 4-30 Average number of cattle owned by respondents in Biu by wealth of household	211
Table 4-31 Number of sheep and goats by wealth of household	212
Table 4-32 Respondent's age and experience in irrigation in Biu by wealth	227
Table 4-33 Comparison of stock numbers owned by compounds in Kologo and Biu	230

## List of Figures

Figure 3-1 Number of dry-season small-scale and commercial farmers in Tono, 1985 -2000	97
Figure 3-2 Prices for 100 kg parboiled local rice in Navrongo in Cedis and USD, 1989-2003	99
Figure 3-3 Prices of agricultural inputs at selected dry seasons in the Tono irrigation project (in Cedis)	99
Figure 4-1 Sectional division of Bui	119
Figure 4-2 Change in acreage in Bui between the rainy seasons (2001 and 2002) by wealth of the household	155
Figure 4-3 Cropping calendar for rainy season farming in Bui	165
Figure 4-4 Rainy season acreage in 2001 and 2002 by crop in Bui	172
Figure 4-5 Crop yields (in kg) per acre for main rainy season crops in Navrongo in 1986 and Bui in 2002	173
Figure 4-6 Wholesale market prices (in Cedis) for the major local staple crops in Navrongo, February 2002 – April 2003	175
Figure 4-7 Wholesale prices for Bambara beans and cowpea in Navrongo, Feb. 2002 – Apr. 2003	176
Figure 4-8 Mean value added (in Cedis) of rainy season harvest 2003, by wealth of household in Bui	178
Figure 4-9 Rice prices (80 kg bag) in the Navrongo market in Cedis, Apr. 2002- Jan. 2003	194
Figure 4- 10 Cost, estimated value of harvest and profit of dry season cultivation in Bui	196

Figure 4- 11 Costs, returns and profits of an average tomato farmer in Biu, dry season 2002/03	202
Figure 4- 12 Tomato prices on the Navrongo market, 01.02.-29.04.2002	207
Figure 4- 13 Average monthly stock prices at the Navrongo market in 2001	215
Figure 4- 14 Average value added (in Cedis) in irrigation and rain-fed agriculture in Biu by wealth, dry season 2001/02 and wet season 2002	225

## List of Photographs

Photograph 1-1 White Volta River, close to Pwalugu, Upper East Region, Northern Ghana	6
Photograph 3-1 Market at Biu's second station	40
Photograph 3-2 Farm compound in Biu	41
Photograph 3-3 Densely-populated area around Bolgatanga, Upper East Region, northern Ghana	44
Photograph 3-4 Sparsely-populated area in the Upper East Region, northern Ghana	46
Photograph 3-5 Signboard promoting the payment of taxes	72
Photograph 3-6 Imported rice from the US and Thailand in a local shop	79
Photograph 3-7 Signboard of residents demanding electricity	83
Photograph 3-8 Irrigation infrastructure: Tono dam and spillway	89
Photograph 4-1 A local compound	107
Photograph 4-2 Market truck in Seenza station	108
Photograph 4-3 Diviner and his equipment	116
Photograph 4-4 Women plastering the African Gospel Church in Biu	118
Photograph 4-5 Land preparation in the Tono irrigation project	186
Photograph 4-6 Rice nursery and rice transplanting in the Tono irrigation project	186



Photograph 4-7 Freshly transplanted rice in the Tono irrigation project	187
Photograph 4-8 Birds and bird scarers in the Tono irrigation project	189
Photograph 4-9 Rice harvesting in the Tono irrigation project: 'Biu combine' and combine harvester	190
Photograph 4-10 Trashing and winnowing of rice in the Tono irrigation project	191
Photograph 4-11 Rice being sold at the market	195
Photograph 4-12 Chief Jimmy negotiating with market queens	198
Photograph 4-13 Commercial farmer selling tomatoes to market ladies	205
Photograph 4-14 Parked and damaged tomato trucks	206
Photograph 4-15 Cattle wandering in the bush during the rainy season	214
Photograph 4-16 Farm laborers waiting for work in zone V of the Tono irrigation project	217
Photograph 4-17 Achampongbe at work	220
Photograph 5-1 Land allocation in zone Q	269
Photograph 5-2 Settlement of land conflict in the Kologo naba's court, Kologo	292