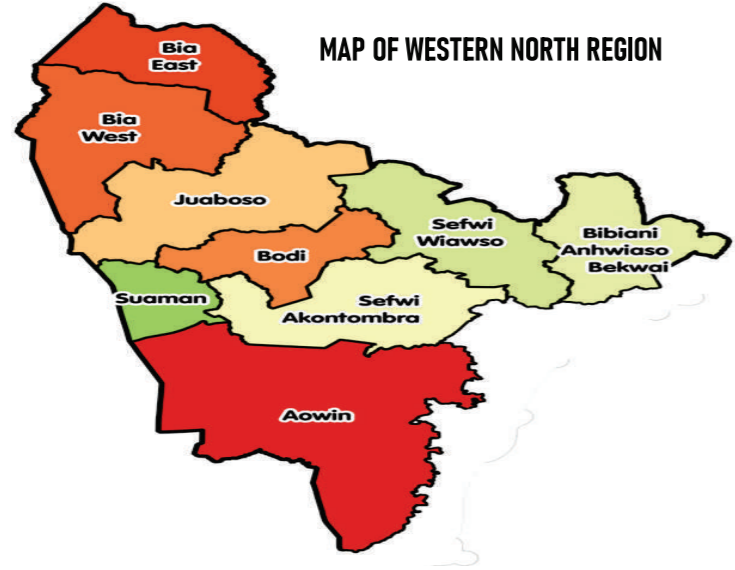




# SEFWI WIAWSO MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY



## 2024 BROCHURE

*Welcome to*

# SEFWI WIAWSO MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY

**Ngamomu ma anwosele**



MARKET AT BOAKO



SEFWI ASAWINSO GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL



SEFWI WIAWSO ASSEMBLY HALL



DATANO/AHOKWAA BRIDGE



CONSTRUCTION OF FLOOR SLAP AT DWINASE STATION



CONSTRUCTION OF DRUBAR GROUNDS AT AHWIAM



GRADING AND ELECTRIFICATION OF LIGHT INDUSTRIAL PARK



CONSTRUCTION OF ECG REGIONAL WAREHOUSE



DRIP MACHINES



**CONSTRUCTION OF REGIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL**



**CONSTRUCTION OF REGIONAL POLICE COMMAND**



**CONSTRUCTION OF REGIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE**



**STREET NAMING**



**CONSTRUCTION OF SENIOR STAFF BANGALAW FOR RCC**



**CONSTRUCTION OF COMMUNICATION MAST AT PARADISE**



**WATER EXTENSION AT SEFWI WIAWSO**



**CONSTRUCTION OF WASTE TREATMENT PLANT AT ABOANIDUA**



**DRILLING AND MECHANIZATION OF BORE HOLE AT ASAWINSU MARKET AREA**

# FOREWARD

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipal Assembly is committed to improving the quality of life of its people and has over the years devoted a lot of its resources in creating an enabling environment that will lead to food security, as well as educative and healthy population.



Since the New Patriotic Party (NPP) Government assumed power back in 2017, the Assembly, through the leadership of Hon. Louis Agyepong (MCE 2017-2024) in line with the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy and Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ) I & II, has focused on the provisions of basic social infrastructure as well as human resource development. Education, health, human resource and agriculture have been given priority and received massive infrastructural development in the Municipality.

It is therefore not surprising that all the communities in the Municipality have benefited from one project/programme or the other. These projects and programmes admittedly, have impacted positively on the lives of the people and more would be earmarked in the Assembly's Medium Term Development Plan 2025-2029 for these communities.

In spite of these achievement, poverty is evident among some communities in the Municipality. The Assembly has resolved to tackle it with the seriousness it deserves and has accordingly planned to embark on massive human resource and infrastructural development in the years to come.

I wish to acknowledge that the developments that have taken place so far have been made possible with funding from the Government of Ghana, Internally Generated Funds (IGF) as well as our development partners to whom we owe a lot of gratitude. The Sefwi Wiawso Municipal Assembly will continue to provide services to its population to promote development and improve the standard of living.

- **Vision**

To be Economically Prosperous and Peaceful Municipality where quality social services and facilities are delivered.

- **Mission**

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipal Assembly exists as the highest political, administrative and planning authority to improve upon the quality of life of the people in the Municipality by harnessing and utilizing all resources for sustainable development.

## Location and size

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipality lies in the North-Eastern part of the Western North Region between latitudes 6°N and 6° 30' N and Longitudes 2° 45' W and 2° 15' W. The Ahafo Region shares boundary with it to the North. The Municipality also shares boundaries with Juaboso District to the West, Aowin Municipality to the South, Bibiani-Anhwiaso-Bekwai Municipality to the East and Wassa Amenfi West Municipal to the South-East. The Municipality covers a land area of 1,280 sq. km. The Municipal capital is Sefwi Wiawso which also doubles as the regional capital of Western North Region. Sefwi Wiawso being elevated as the capital of the Western North region has further opened up the Municipality and has brought a lot of pressure on social services. It has also brought a lot of investment opportunities and there is the need to create the enabling environment to tap the full potentials of the Municipality.



WAREHOUSE AT ABOANIDUA



CONSTRUCTION OF 20 UNIT LOCKABLE STORES AT DWENASE MARKET



CONSTRUCTION OF STALLS AT DWENASE MARKET



CONSTRUCTION OF 1.5M X 1.2M REINFORCED CONCRETE STORM WATER DRAIN (0.404KM) AND 0.6M U-DRAINS (0.35KM) AT SEFWI DWENASE MARKET



CONSTRUCTION OF 2No 2-STOREY 28 UNIT LOCKABLE STORES



CONSTRUCTION OF 11No. 14-UNIT OPEN MARKET STALLS (MARKET COMPLEX)



CONSTRUCTION OF BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTRE



CONSTRUCTION OF STATE HOUSING PROJECT AT SEFWI WIAWSO



CONSTRUCTION OF DURBAR GROUND PUNIKROM



CONSTRUCTION OF KG BLOCK AT KUNUMA



ONE DISTRICT ONE FACTORY AT AKOTI



CONSTRUCTION OF ADMINISTRATION BLOCK AT SEFWI WIAWSO SNR HIGH TECH SCHOOL



CONSTRUCTION OF 6UNIT CLASSROOM BLOCK AT SEFWI WIAWSO SEC TECH (GNPC)



CONSTRUCTION OF 6-UNIT CLASSROOM BLOCK AT SEFWI ASAWINSO (GNPC)



CONSTRUCTION OF TVET SCHOOL AT SEFWI BOAKO



CONSTRUCTION OF 500 BED CAPACITY HOSTEL AT SEFWI WIAWSO NURSING TRAINING COLLEGE

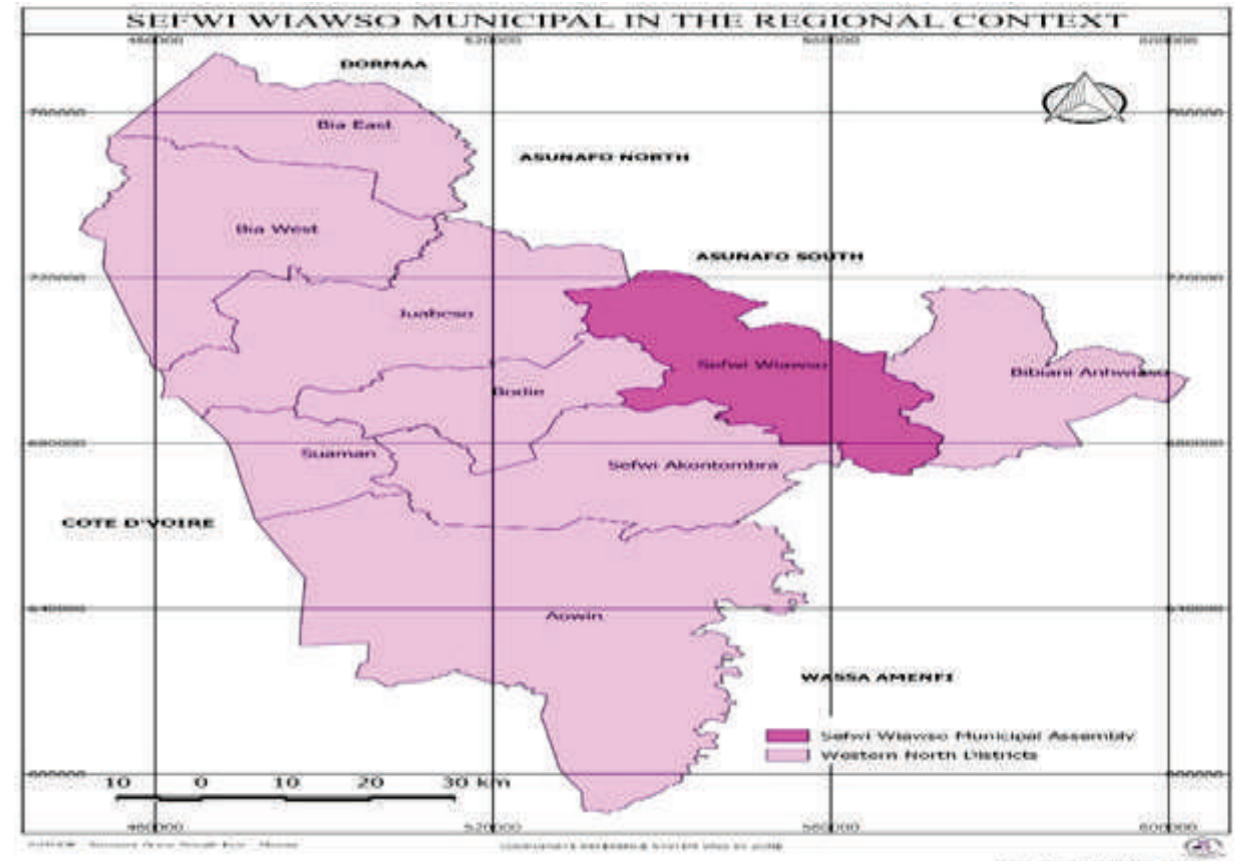


CONSTRUCTION OF CLASSROOM BLOCM AT ASAFO NURSING TRAINING



CONSTRUCTION OF HATCHERY POND AT SEFWI WIAWSO

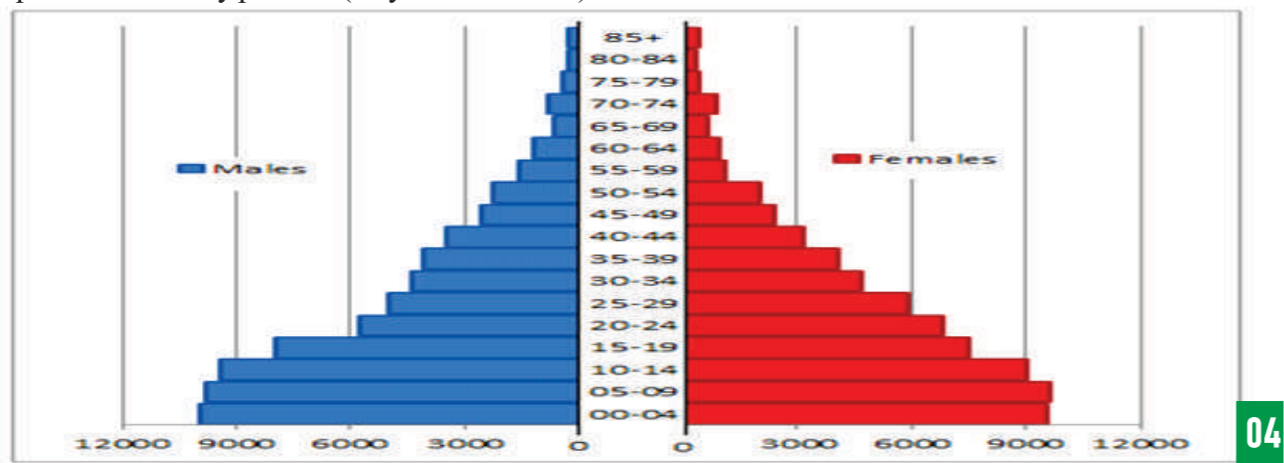
30



# 1. Population

The population of Sefwi Wiawso Municipality from the 2021 PHC is 151,220. As at 2021, the male population was 50.2 percent (75,905) and the females was 49.8 percent (75,315). Using the Regional growth rate of 0.2, the 2022 population is estimated at 157,329 with male population of 78,972 and female population of 78,358. This gives a sex ratio of the Municipality as 101 males to 100 females as against the region's ratio (100 male to 100 females).

Figure below shows the population pyramid of Sefwi-Wiawso Municipality. The results show that the Municipality has a youthful population consisting of a large proportion of children under 15 years, and a small proportion of elderly persons (65 years and older).



CONSTRUCTION OF INFECTIOUS TREATMENT CENTRE AT SEFWI ASAWINSO



COMPLETION OF BOBRA CHPS COMPOUND



CONSTRUCTION OF DISTRICT HEALTH INSURANCE OFFICE



BASIC SCHOOL PROJECT AT DWINASE METHODIST PRIM.B



CONSTRUCTION OF KG BLOCK SEFWI BOSOMOISO



CONSTRUCTION OF 3UNIT CLASSROOM BLOCK AT SEFWI ABOBOYAA



CONSTRUCTION OF 6UNIT CLASSROOM BLOCK AT AMPABAME



CONSTRUCTION OF 6UNIT CLASSROOM BLOCK AT ADEWANO



CONTINUATION OF 3UNIT CLASSROOM BLOCK AT PENAKROM

## JUDICIAL SERVICES

The judicial service is made up of High Court and a Magistrate Court. These systems have their own premises in the Municipality. Currently the construction of modern Court complex is ongoing at Wiawso to house both High and Magistrate Courts. Residential accommodation is also constructed for the High Court judges to promote accountability and fairness within the Municipality.

### Security services

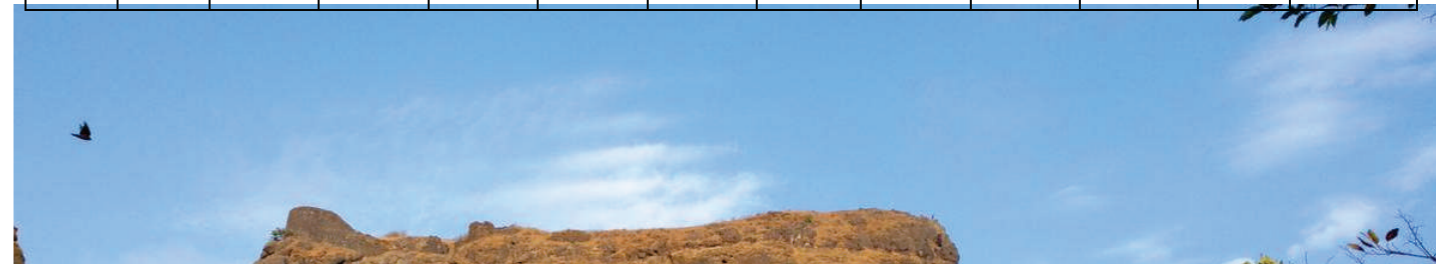
The Ghana Police Service has two District Headquarters. One divisional headquarters and a regional headquarters office. There are six police station in the Municipality. The Regional headquarters is located in Sefwi Wiawso which is made up of Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Arms and Ammunition Unit, Communications Unit and Motor Traffic unit (MTU). Ghana immigration services have one District office and one regional office. However, the Ghana Armed forces are also present in the Municipality with their newly constructed barracks at Sefwi Punikrom. The activities of the security forces in the Municipality have reduce crime in the Municipality.



## CLIMATE (TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL)

The Municipality falls within the tropical rainforest climatic zone with high temperatures throughout the year between 25C -30C and moderate to heavy rainfall between 1524mm-1780mm per annum with double maximum characteristics in June-July and September-October as peaks. Humidity is relatively high, which is about 90% at night falling to 75% during the day. The average monthly rainfall figures for Sefwi Wiawso are shown below in mm:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
21.1	57.1	133.8	148.3	181.3	250.9	132.5	64.7	158.4	204.9	102.3	33.2	1488.7



### Relief and Drainage

Most part of the Municipality is generally undulating and lies between 152.4m – 510m above sea level. The highest point, the Krokoo peak which is 510m above sea level lies roughly to the South-West of Sefwi Wiawso. The main drainage feature is the Tano River and its tributaries. The Tano River runs roughly in a North-South direction and enters the sea in La Cote D'ivoire. The major tributaries include the Suhien, Kunuma, Sui and the Yoyo rivers.

## GEOLOGY AND MINERAL DEPOSITS

The geology of the Municipality is mainly the Lower and Upper Birimian types with the Lower Birimian formation to the East and North Eastern part of the Municipality. These are volcanic rocks, which have been solidified from molten materials (lava). The occasional granite intrusions give the Municipality its undulating nature and form part of the long hill ranges known as the Bibiani range. These are often steep and strongly dissected. There are gold deposits at Kokokrom, Paboase and Akoti areas. The figure below shows the geology of the Municipality.

### Vegetation and Forest Reserve Cover

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipality falls within the moist semi-deciduous forest zone of Ghana, which covers most of Ashanti, Western, Brong Ahafo and Eastern Regions. The forest type consists of the Celtic Triplochiton Association. Common species found are Onyina, Odum, Wawa, Mahogany, Sapele, Emire, Asamfina, Red cedar, among others.

There is a high degree of depletion of the original forest as large sections of the forest are now secondary due to improper farming practices and logging. Due to this, a large section of the forest totalling 226.41km<sup>2</sup> has been put under reserves. The Municipality has four (4) forest reserves as depicted by the table below and the map below:



## SANITATION

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipal Assembly over the years is doing its bit through the support of the Municipal Environmental Health Department to promote sanitation conditions within the Municipality. The Municipal Assembly is doing this through stakeholders' engagement with community members and organizing townhall meetings to educate the population on environmental hygiene. A survey conducted revealed that majority of the communities have their own dumping sites to help keep their communities clean. All waste generated within the Municipality are franchised to one private waste contractor which is Zoomlion Ghana Limited under the Sanitation Improvement Package (S.I.P). An agreement between the Municipal Assembly and Zoomlion Ghana Limited.

The Municipality generate all kinds of solid waste which includes: Organic, Plastic, glass, metal (Combined) and Medical Waste. The Municipal Assembly operates one major system in the collection of solid waste (Communal Refuse Container Collection Service). In addition to this system, there is also periodic pushing, levelling, compacting and evacuation of refuse. Communal Container Collection Service (Waste Transfer Sites). This method of waste collection system is where a container is placed at designated site approved by the Assembly. When the container gets full, a skip truck picks





With respect to Ahwiaa Zone, mechanized borehole recorded the highest with 27 followed by 24 handpumps. Total number of stand pipe in the Ahwiaa Zone was 25. In all three categories were identified. Wiawso Zone had a total of four categories. It includes 15 handpump, 14 mechanized boreholes, 16 stand pipe and 1 well. With respect to Dwinase zonal council, a total of three categories were found with the highest being handpump which recorded 19 followed by 15 mechanized boreholes and a total 11 stand pipes. Last but not the least is Asafo with a total of four categories. Mechanized borehole is the highest with 19 followed by handpump which is 13. Stand pipe recorded was 25 and 1 well.

Boako zone recorded the highest water facility with a total of 115 representing 26.7% followed by Asawinso zone which recorded 90 representing 20.9%. Ahwiaa zone was third with 76 representing 17.7% followed by Asafo zone with a total of 58 representing 13.5%. Wiawso and Dwinase zone recorded the lowest with 46 and 45 representing 10.7% and 10.5% respectively.



Table below shows total forest reserves in the Municipality

S / N	N A M E O F R	A R E A <sup>2</sup> )(K
1	M u r o	1 1 . 9 4
2	S u h u m a	5 7 . 4 4
3	T a n o S u h i e m	9 1 . 7 8
4	T a n o S u r a w	6 5 . 2 5
T o t a l		2 2 6 . 4 1

## SOILS

There are three main soils types in the Municipality. The most widespread is the forest Ochrosols, which covers most of the Northern and Western parts of the Municipality. The forest Ochrosols and Oxysols are rich soils, which support the cultivation of cash and food crops, such as cocoa, palm tree, cola, coffee, cashew, plantains, cocoyam, cassava and maize, with high yields in the Municipality.



## DEFORESTATION AND DEGRADATION OF VEGETATION AND FOREST RESERVE COVER

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipality falls within the moist semi-deciduous forest zone of Ghana. The forest type consists of the Celtic Triplochiton association. Common species found are Onyina, Odum, Wawa, Mahogany, Sapele, Emire, Asamfina, Red cedar, among others. Until three decades ago, most forest reserves in the Sefwi-Wiawso area had good tree cover and maintained their compositional integrity as forests. However, in the last decade, a combination of intense uncontrolled illegal farming, chainsaw activities and to a lesser extent illegal mining have degraded more than 50% of forest reserves e.g. Sui River Forest Reserves. In other forest reserves, e.g. Muro, human settlement and agricultural expansion have almost completely wiped out the forest cover within the past three decades. Within the Municipality, only the Santomang forest reserve remains in good condition as a forest.



## Economic Resources (Potentials)

Sefwi Wiawso Municipality has enormous economic potentials of which if harnessed could make the Municipality one of the richest in the country.

The Municipality is the second largest producer of cocoa in the Western North Region. It produces nearly 6,000 metric tons of cocoa annually and has the potential for expansion.

## Economic Infrastructure

The major economic infrastructure of the Municipality is its road network, which is the vehicle for accelerated progress, is in bad shape. It consists of 234.5km of highways and 514km of feeder roads. There are vibrant weekly markets centres located at Dwinase, Asawinso and Boako. These attract large number of traders from Accra, Takoradi, Kumasi and Tamale.

There is also the existence of small scale agro-processing industries like cassava, rice, plantain and palm oil.

## WATER AND SANITATION Water

Sefwi Wiawso Municipal Assembly has five main categories of water service. It includes; river/stream, stand pipes, handpumps, mechanized boreholes and wells. Asawinso had three (3) categories of water services, with 49 handpump being the highest, followed by 38 mechanized borehole and 3 wells. Boako on the other hand had five (5) categories of water services with 57 handpump being the highest followed by 45 mechanized boreholes. Stand pipe within the Zone is 10, 2 wells and 1 stream.

## MANUFACTURING

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipality is not noted for large scale manufacturing industries despite the fact that it has the potential in terms of availability of cocoa, for instance, which could serve as the raw material base for the establishment of a large-scale cocoa processing industry. However, there are four timber-processing factories, namely:

Name of Company	Type of Processing
Suhuma Timber company	- Timber Processing
Buadac Company	- Timber Processing
T. Andrews Ent. Ltd	- Timber Processing
A- List Co. Ltd	- Timber Processing
Namoro Timber Ltd	- Timber Processing
Dongfung Timber Industries	- Timber Processing
Anwonakrom	- Gari processing



## TOURIST ATTRACTION AND PROMOTION

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipality abounds in rich tourism potential which when harnessed could serve as second employment after agriculture. The following are some identified tourist sites found within the Municipality that the assembly has prepared enabling environment to partner the private sector to develop them as the Municipality has attained a regional capital status.

- ### The Tree of God (NyameDua)

The Tree of God is located at Nyamebekyere, a distance of about 5 km from Wiawso. It is told that about 150 years ago, a farmer stuck a machete into the stump of a tree. The tree re-started to grow and has continued to grow ever since. Today the machete is completely surrounded by the trunk of the tree.



- ### Okomfo Anokye Akoma

This is sacred grove located in Amafie, a distance of 3 km or 25 minutes' walk from Wiawso the Municipal capital. The legendary fetish priest, Okomfo Anokye of the Golden Stool fame of the Asante Kingdom, was believed to have practiced his trade here. He was reported to have danced and made acrobatic displays on a rope tied between two distant trees, like the legendary Niagara Dare devil of Niagara Falls.



- **Abobirim Sacred Tortoise Forest**

It is a sacred forest preserve in which a giant tortoise lives. When one sees the tortoise and picks it, there turn to be total darkness in the forest. Until such a time that the tortoise is left for light to re-appear, one will not be able to find a way out of the forest. It is located at Sefwi Boako, a 21 km distance from Sefwi Wiawso.



- **The Ancestral Hole**

The Royal family of Bosomoiso, a community of 4 km away from Wiawso, is believed to have originated from this hole. It is believed to be a bottomless hole. It is surrounded by trees but no leaf falls into it. The hole is alleged to have healing powers.



- **Apomasua Sacred Crocodile Pond**

It is a sacred crocodile pond about 11 kilometres square with trees and other plants beautifying the surrounding. Crocodiles live in this pond but it is a taboo to kill any otherwise, the wrath of the gods will come upon the people. There are a lot of crabs at one end of the pond, while the other side is completely devoid of any. It is located at Sefwi Aboduam, 4 kilometres from Wiawso.



10

## FOOD PROCESSING

The agricultural produce which is processed to some appreciable extent continues to be cassava, oil palm, coconut and sugar cane. Whilst cassava is processed into flour, dough and *Gari*, palm oil/palm kernel oil is extracted from the palm nuts, coconut oil extracted from coconut, and sugar-cane processed into a local gin (*akpeteshie*). However, in all of the above cases, the technologies employed are low, resulting in low conversion rates. This has negative implications for the incomes of the farmers, processors and the local economy.



## AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Agriculture is the major economic activity in the Municipality in terms of employment and income generation, with about Seventy-Four percent (74%) of the working population engaged in this sector, comprising of twenty-five percent females (25%) and seventy five percent males (75%) which constitutes the main source of household income in the Municipality. Some of the crops include cocoa, palm tree, plantains, cocoyam, cassava and maize.



23

## RELIGION

Christianity forms the majority of the religious group in the Municipality constituting 81.7 percent with others; Islamic, traditionalist and no religion forming the remaining 18.3 percent.

### 1. Economy

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipality is a predominantly rural economy, with agriculture and its ancillary activities being the main live stay of the people. Agriculture employs about 74% of the active population. Because of these, the Municipal Assembly has significant investment in market infrastructure at Dwinase and Boako to boost local economic activities. The annual levels of agricultural production and profitability determines household income levels. Thus, it is significant to note a remarkable improvement in household income and expenditure during the food and cash crops harvest seasons, especially during the cocoa buying seasons of September to February. There is therefore the need to support cocoa farmers with alternative livelihood. Other economic activities that serve as employment to the 26% of the labour force include logging and lumbering, information and communication industry, public and civil service, petty trading, hotel and catering industries, finance and insurance, as well as auto mechanics, dressmaking and hairdressing.



22

## HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

The hospitality industry of the Municipality is developing to support the tourist attraction. There are a number of hotels within the Municipality and a number of decent restaurants (chop bars), which are operated by local entrepreneurs. The table below shows types of hospitality in the Municipality.

Type of Hotel Facilities in the Municipality

S/N	Type of Hotel	Number
1	5 Star Hotel	1
2	3 StaHotel	6
3	1 Star Hotel	12
4	Guest house	35
5	Restaurant	42
<b>TOTAL</b>		96

Source: SWMA, MPCU, 2022



Food is not a problem in the Municipality because, there are a number of food joints. Also, tourists who come to the Municipality do not have any issues with accommodation due to the availability of hotels and guest house in the Municipality.

### BANKING

Due to the Municipality's strategic importance in the cocoa and timber industry, it has attracted a number of Banks and insurance companies.



11

NO	CATEGORY	NO	NAME OF COMPANY
1	Commercial Banks	6	GCB, CBG, ADB, Republic, Fidelity, Access
	Rural Banks	4	Upper Amenfi, Amenfiman, Sefwiman, Asawinso Rural Bank
3	Savings and Loans	5	Opportunity Savings & Loans, Snapi Aba Savings and Loan, Liberty Savings & Loans, St. Francis Savings & Loans, Bayport
4	Insurance companies	5	SIC, Star Assurance, Enterprise Life, Glico, Mi-Life,
5	Credit Unions	1	Bills micro-credit

## MAIL SERVICE

There is one main Post Office at Wiawso, the Municipal capital, and other Postal branches located at Boako, Asawinso, Asafo, and Dwinase. The Municipality has access to courier services such as EMS by Ghana Post Company Limited, DHL, and FedEx etc.



12

Friday, in the morning all black stools are sent to the Kolika River for purification. After that the Omanhene is also brought to the same river for spiritual bath. He comes in the company of the Gyasihene and the Nsosuahene. After his bath, he changes his mourning cloth for a very beautiful cloth decorated with rich ornaments. After that three-gun shots are fired into the air to inform the rest of the chiefs who will be waiting 200 meters away that all is set, they also change their mourning cloths for celebration once. They all get into their palanquins and get set for the procession on the main road. After this ritual all is about set for the people to eat the newly harvested yam. The first person to test it is the Omanhene.

On the first occasion he spits the mashed yam out to his left. The second to his right and the third to the front. On the fourth occasion he eats it. After which everybody could enjoy his/her harvest. However, if one is found eating the yam before this time, he/she is made an outcast since he brings calamity to the people of the town. There is much eating and jubilation on Saturday.



21

## ELLUO FESTIVAL

This traditional festival of the Sefwi's which is the first since Nana Nkuah Okumadom, the Omanhene of the Sefwi traditional area came to power began on the 17<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> of December, 2001. Elluo means “yam festival”. In the olden days the only staple food of the people of Sefwi was yam. When the yam was due to be harvested no one could eat any till the festival was celebrated during which rituals were performed to purify the yam for bumper harvest. The festival starts on Wednesday. Drums are beaten and everybody appears in mourning clothes. Wake is kept for it is the period that all departed souls in every home are remembered. On Thursday, a section of the Abesi Division of the six in the Sefwi Wiawso traditional area goes to the Kolika River to catch a crab. It is believed that the early settlers in their bid to find water as a prerequisite for the proper settlement came across the crab and the story was told. The crab was therefore seen as a sign of hope, long life and prosperity hence the catching of the crab each time the festival is celebrated. If a crab is not found the festival cannot be celebrated.

They later send it to the palace and transfers it to the Omanhene by hanging it on their neck. After the ceremony all will be set for showering of blessing from the gods, prosperity and long life. People rush to be marked for its believed that, if one doesn't get marked, he/she may not live to see the celebration of another Elluo Festival. On



20

## COMMUNICATION SERVICES

The Sefwi Wiawso Municipality is connected to almost all network providers in the country to promote easy communication among its populace. Networks available here includes; MTN, AT, Vodafone, and Econet Global. Globacom limited is not found in the Municipality. About (92%) total population of the Municipality are connected to internet with fast speed which is promoting communication and e-learning within the Municipality. Other services like mobile banking like MTN MoMo, AT Money and Voda cash are also available within the Municipality.



## TRANSPORTATION

The Municipality has a number of transport service for easy and safe movement from the Municipality and within the Municipality. These transport services include: State Transport Cooperation (STC), VIP, OA, VVIP, GPRTU, Neoplan, KEK and Metro-Mass transit.



13

## Road networks

Over the years, the Municipal Assembly is doing its best to improve the road network in the Municipality. With the introduction of District Road Improvement Project (DRIP) by the central government, the road infrastructure has improved significantly. The percentage of road network in good condition improved significantly from 65.5% to 80%. Majority of roads in the Municipality are classified as feeder roads, out of this, 85% were rehabilitated and maintained. Urban roads in the Municipality improved from 83% in 2022 to 85% in 2023 due to major road projects the Municipality benefited from Central Government as Sefwi Wiawso was elevated to a regional capital status.



SEFWI WIAWSO TOWN ROADS



SEFWI WIAWSO TOWN ROADS

## Radio stations

The Municipal Assembly has a number of radio stations which convey information to its members. These radio stations are as follows: Faith FM, Ghana Broadcasting Cooperation (unik FM), Sunset FM, Liberty FM, Wontumi FM and De-beat FM. There are also hundreds of community information centres in the Municipality.



## Culture

The cultural practice of the people of the Municipality is not different from the rest of the Akan speaking communities in the country. The Municipality has one traditional council, that is, the Sefwi Wiawso Traditional Council, which is headed by the Paramount Chief of the Traditional Area (Omanhene), with the title Okogyebour. The Traditional Area also includes the whole of the political districts of Juaboso, Bodi, Akontombra, Bia East and West. The traditional council has a membership of 65 Chiefs. The inheritance system is matrilineal. The Omanhene and the people of the traditional area celebrate Yam Festival or ('Aluelue') which is celebrated in December. The sub-chiefs within the paramouncy then celebrate their festivals on convenient dates between December and February. With regards to ethnicity, the Sefwi's (Akan) forms 78.6 percent. Other minority groups include Mole-Dagbani, Krobos, Ewes and others form the remaining 21.4 percent.





## Hazards, Disaster and Security

The hazard and disasters that confront the Municipality are bushfires, flooding along the big rivers and low-lying areas and rainstorms. These disasters usually destroy properties worth of millions of Ghana cedis leading to loss of incomes and properties of the individual, the communities and the Municipality as a whole. Except for torrential rainfalls, pest insect infestation such as armyworm and anthrax and occasional bush and domestic fires which sometimes cause extensive destruction to crops and properties, the Municipality is not seriously prone to natural disasters. This could serve as an incentive to attract potential investors to the Municipality.

The general security situation in the Municipality is peaceful, calm and stable which is necessary to attract any form of investment. Mostly, factors such as land litigation, armed robbery, communal violence and other serious crimes are virtually absent in the Municipality and if there is any, it is very minimal and does not affect the peace, unity and stability of the Municipality. However, with Sefwi Wiawso status as the regional capital, there is the need to beef up security as a lot of people will move to the capital to engage in all forms of activities and miscreants may also join to engage in all forms of social vices.



18

## Internet Facility

The Municipal Assembly has established a Community Information Centre which is open to the general public and also an ultra-modern computer and library centre set up by the Chirano Gold Mines at Wiawso. This centre provides Computer Training Service and Internet service to the populace. Some private individuals have also set up Internet Cafes in the Municipality that augment the efforts of the Assembly.

## Health

The key objective under the health sector is to bridge the equity gaps in access to health care and nutritional services, ensure sustainable financing arrangement to protect the poor patients, improve health infrastructure, strengthen efficiency in health service delivery, improve maternal and child health and controlling the incidence of malaria, TB, HIV and AIDS/STI. While the Assembly continues to provide infrastructural facilities to promote health especially in the deprived communities, the Municipal Directorate of Health manages and coordinated the health delivery programmes.

Health care has become more affordable and accessible to the general public as a result of the replacement of the cash and carry system with the National Health Insurance Scheme which is has promoted health care delivery in the Municipality and the country as a whole.

The Municipal Assembly over the last seven years has seen a lot of improvement in the health sector as a total of fifty-five (55) health facilities were recorded. It includes, hospitals, clinics, health centres, CHPs and maternity



15

## Health Facility by Provider

Categories	Public	Private	CHAG	Sub-Total
Hospital	2	1	2	3
Health Centre	3	0	0	3
Clinics	0	0	1	1
Maternity Home	0	3	0	3
CHPS With Compound	21	0	0	21
CHPS Without Compound	24	0	0	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>55</b>

## Education

One policy objective under education is to increase equitable access to and participation in quality education at all levels. The policy is also aimed at improving the quality of teaching and learning; bridge the gender gap and improving access to education for people with disability. Science and technical education are also to be promoted alongside health education on key public health issues such as HIV and AIDS and road safety.

Education management in the Municipality is the responsibility of the Municipal Directorate of Education which is located in Wiawso. The Assembly is however responsible for the provision of educational infrastructure and furniture. The Municipality has a fair share of educational institution ranging from nursery to tertiary institutions.

The table below shows type of educational institution in the Municipality and the total number of such institutions as at December, 2021.



## Number of Educational Institutions in the Municipality

S / N	Types of Education	Total in the M un
1	N u r s e r y	3 5
2	K i n d e r g a r t e n	1 4 4
3	P r i m a r y	1 4 5
4	J H S	1 1 4
5	S H S	4
6	T e r t i a r y	3

## Condition of the Natural Environment

The natural vegetation cover has given way to secondary forest over most of the Municipality because of exploitation of timber and bad farming practices. Consequently, Deforestation caused by indiscriminate felling of trees and encroachment by illegal farmers on the forest reserves has become a major environmental concern. In addition, bad farming practices, including slash and burn, have resulted in soil degradation. Also, the heavy rainfall experienced in the Municipality cause erosion of the soils, especially on the hilly areas and slopes leading to serious leaching in most of the farmlands.

Another major environmental problem is the disposal of solid and liquid waste in river bodies near major settlements such as the Tano River, Bolowa and Kusin streams near Dwinase, a suburb of Wiawso. Aqua lives in these river bodies are threatened and their numbers have declined over the years.