



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO ALL MEDIA AGENCIES

URGENT: DESTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES AT LAKE BOSOMTWE DEMAND IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION AND INVESTIGATION

Abrodwum, Ashanti Region, April 14, 2026: Reports received from residents of the Abrodwum Community on the shores of Lake Bosomtwe indicate ongoing large-scale clearing and destructive activities within critical sections of the lake's core zone. Similar incidents have been observed in nearby communities, including Adwafo and Abaase, with indications that the activity may be spreading toward Abono. At present, the individuals or entities responsible for these actions remain unidentified.

This situation is deeply alarming. Abrodwum is not only a lakeside settlement but also home to the revered Abrodwum Stone, widely regarded as the spiritual center of Lake Bosomtwe. This sacred site plays a vital role in Asante cultural and ceremonial practices, including rites personally overseen by the Asantehene during periods of poor fishing or perceived spiritual imbalance. The destruction of this area constitutes not only environmental damage but also a serious affront to cultural heritage.

Lake Bosomtwe holds exceptional national and global importance. It is Ghana's only natural lake and one of just six known meteoritic lakes in the world, formed over one million years ago by a meteor impact. Recognized as a UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve since 2016, the lake supports a delicate balance between biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods.

The lake is critical to the Ashanti Region and Ghana at large:

- **Ecological Importance:** The biosphere reserve sustains diverse ecosystems, including forests, wetlands, and mountainous terrain, and supports numerous wildlife species.
- **Economic Significance:** More than 70,000 people across approximately 30 communities depend on the lake for farming, fishing, and tourism.
- **Tourism Value:** As a major national attraction, the lake contributes significantly to local and national revenue.
- **Research and Education:** The site serves as an important hub for environmental research, particularly in climate change studies, and provides educational opportunities for institutions nationwide.

Destruction within the core zone of the biosphere reserve is particularly concerning. This zone represents the most protected and ecologically sensitive area of the lake. Damage here risks irreversible consequences that could destabilize the entire ecosystem.

Recent studies have already highlighted troubling trends, including significant shoreline recession over the past two decades and declining fish stocks. Additionally, illegal mining activities in the surrounding areas have contributed to environmental degradation and public safety hazards.

We urgently call for:

- The immediate suspension of all destructive activities at Abrodwum, Abaase, and surrounding communities.
- A thorough investigation to identify and prosecute those responsible.
- The restoration and protection of the lake's core zone.
- Stronger enforcement of environmental regulations and by-laws governing the Lake Bosomtwe area.

The preservation of Lake Bosomtwe is not optional. It is essential. Protecting this natural, cultural, and economic treasure is a responsibility that must be upheld without delay.

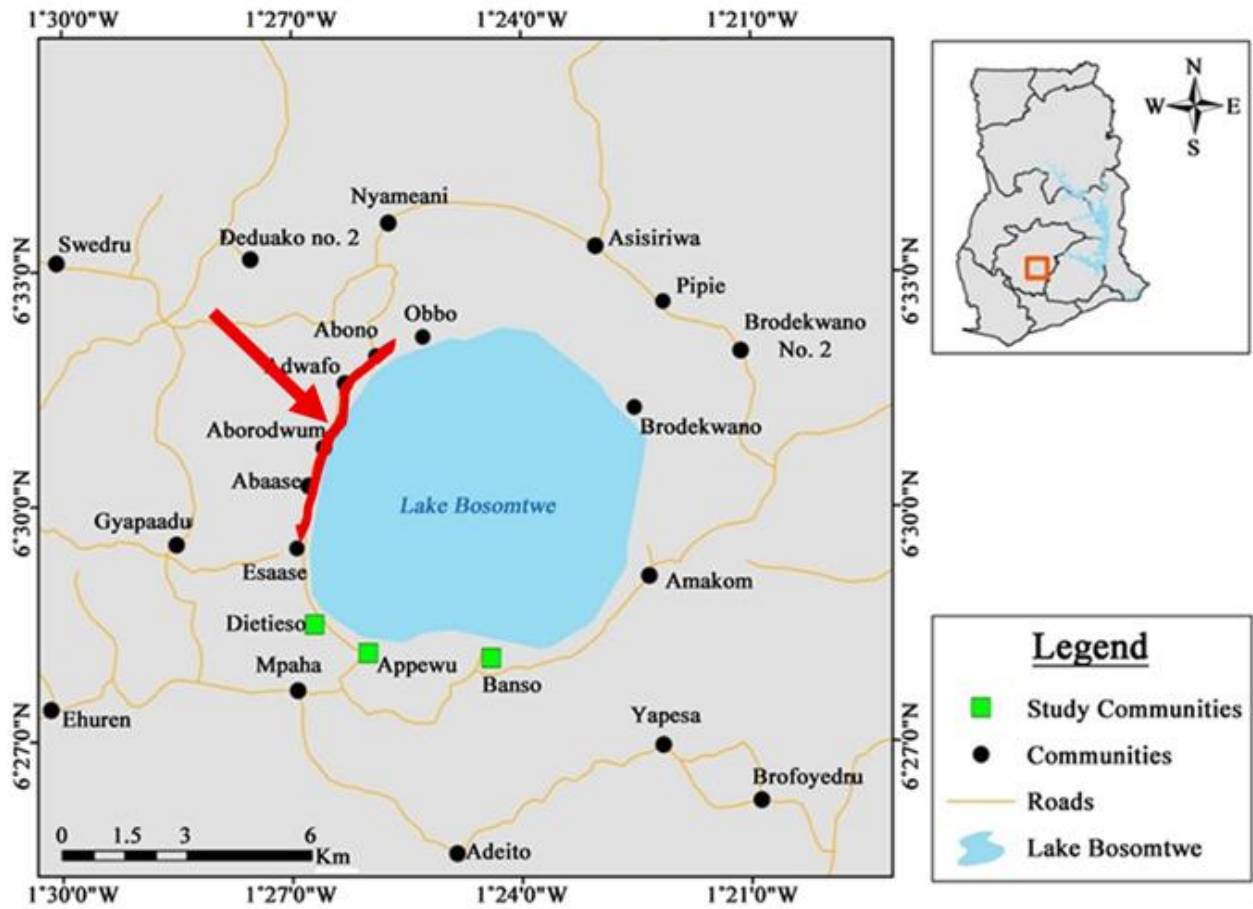
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Appendix



Find Photos and videos here:

- <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DNUtpKtYpIG4UrtX58f6JSqGBvwI6Z88?usp=sharing>