

MICHAEL BATAME

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EDUCATION

Aug. 2025 - Present	PhD	Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication (ALEC) College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) University of Georgia, Athens, US
Jan. 2024 – Jul. 2025	MNR	Natural Resources Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources University of Georgia, Athens, US
Sep. 2021 - Jun. 2023	MSc	Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation, Natural Resources Management ITC Faculty, University of Twente, Netherlands
Aug. 2016 - May 2020	BA	Geography and Resource Development First Class Honours University of Ghana

WORK EXPERIENCE

Aug. 2025 - Present	Graduate Research Assistant ALEC, University of Georgia, Athens, US <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Assisting with human research data collection in the US.❖ Analyzing qualitative and quantitative data.❖ Developing a PhD dissertation.❖ Assisting in writing and editing manuscripts that employ mixed research methods.❖ Designing research presentations and posters for conferences.❖ Assisting with undergraduate instruction, mentorship, and grading.❖ Performing other duties.
Aug. 2024 – May 2025	Graduate Teaching Assistant Warnell Forestry, University of Georgia, Athens, US Introduction to Forestry <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Graded students' assignments and provided feedback.❖ Monitored students' class participation. Other administrative tasks.
Jan. 2024 – Aug. 2024	Graduate Research Assistant Warnell Forestry, University of Georgia, Athens, US <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Developed research topics for the project.❖ Data curation and development of questionnaires/surveys.❖ Submitted and received approval for the pilot study's IRB application for phase 1.❖ Conducted 5 semi-structured interviews, comprising 2 employees of federal agencies and 3 professors.❖ Manuscript draft development.❖ Other administrative tasks.
Feb. 2023 – Apr. 2023	MSc Research Internship Regional Institute for Population Studies, University of Ghana <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Undertook a project on "Time series analysis of built-up expansion and its

implication on vegetation health, cover, and surface temperature: A case study of Accra Metropolitan Assembly". I performed the following analysis:

- Identified and classified built-up, bareland, and water bodies class changes between 2000 and 2020 in Accra Metropolitan Assembly.
- Calculated NDVI and NDBI for 2000, 2010, and 2020 in Accra Metropolitan Assembly.
- Mapped the changes in land surface temperature from 2000 to 2020 in Accra Metropolitan Assembly.

Jun. 2021

Research Assistant

Regional Institute for Population Studies, University of Ghana

- ❖ Undertook a project on " Climate Change, Food Beliefs, and Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Food Security in Northern Ghana"
 - Conducted 5 in-depth interviews.
 - Assisted with 4 focus group discussions.
 - Reviewed about 10 transcribed audio files.
 - Supervised 7 fieldworkers.
 - Booked accommodation, transportation, and venue.

Sep. 2020 – Aug. 2021

Teaching and Research Assistant- National Service Scheme

Department of Geography and Resource Development, University of Ghana

- ❖ Taught students Cartography, Human and Physical Geography, Remote Sensing, GIS, and Geographic Thought.
- ❖ Led practical sessions on how to use ArcMap and Envi Remote Sensing software.
- ❖ Marked and graded scripts and performed other office work.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Science Communication
Natural Resources Management
Extension

Agricultural/Environmental Issues
Community Livelihoods

Sustainability and Policy
Climate Change

Food Security
Landuse/cover

PROFESSIONAL/ RESEARCH SKILLS

Data Analysis, Scientific Writing, and Publication
Surveys, Interviews, Focus Group Discussion
ArcGIS, QGIS, ENVI, and ArcGIS Story Maps

STATA, SPSS, and R Programming

Q-Methodology

Qualtrics, Atlas, Kobo Collect, OSM Field Papers, and ArcGIS Survey123

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Jun. 2025

State of the Map US 2025

Boston, US

Mensah, D. O., Yeboah, G., **Batame, M. (Presenter)**, Lillywhite, R., & Oyeboade, O. (2022). Type, density, and healthiness of food-outlets in a university foodscape: a geographical mapping and characterisation of food resources in a Ghanaian university campus. BMC Public Health, 22(1), 1912.

Aug. 2022

State of the Map and FOSS4G 2022

Florence, Italy

- ❖ Learned about the state of open-source software.
Listened to keynote speakers and discussions on open source, such as QGIS.

Nov. 2021

The INFORMAS Food Environment Research eSymposium Series.

Mensah, D. O., Mintah., F., **Batame, M. (Presenter)**, Oteng, S. A., Aryeetey, R., Yeboah, G., Lilywhite, R., Oyeboade, O. Emerging adults' attitudes and perceptions towards ultra-processed foods, fruit, and vegetable consumption in a Ghanaian university foodscape.

Oct. 2019 – Nov. 2019

SERVIR West Africa

Center for Remote Sensing and GIS, University of Ghana.

- ❖ Trained in GLOBE Water Quality.
- ❖ Performed measurements protocol in an illegal mining community in Ghana.

Jan. 2019

YouthMappers Leadership Fellowship Workshop

- ❖ Learned how to organize mapathon and use open data tools, such as OpenData Kit (ODK), OpenMapKit (OMK), JOSM, and leadership skills.

LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

May 2024 – Sep. 2024

President, Warnell Graduate Student Association

Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia

May 2024 – May 2025

Graduate Representative, Warnell Curriculum Committee

Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of Georgia

Jan. 2022 – Dec. 2022

President, Student Association Board

Faculty of ITC, University of Twente

Oct. 2021 – Oct. 2022

Internal/External Affairs Head, UniTe

University of Twente

Aug. 2019 – Sep. 2020

President, Geography and Resource Development Students Association

Department of Geography and Resource Development, University of Ghana

Aug. 2018 – May 2020

President, University of Ghana YouthMappers

Department of Geography and Resource Development, University of Ghana

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Jan. 2024 – May 2025

Sustainability Certification

University of Georgia

Project Topic: UGA Healthy Habitats: Nandina Tracking, Removal, and Native Plant Replacement on UGA's Campus

Aug. 2024 - Present

Interdisciplinary Certificate in University Teaching

University of Georgia

Feb. 2024

Social & Behavioral Research

CITI Program course, University of Georgia

Apr. 2021 - May 2021

Certificate of Drone and Data Technology (CDDT) Level 1

Virgin Tech, Furman University, and Malawi University of Science and Technology

AWARDS AND HONORS

Feb. 2025

US State of the Map 2025 Conference Travel Grant (\$500.00)

OpenStreetMap US

Dec. 2022

Fieldwork Grant (€1, 500.00)

Faculty of ITC, University of Twente

Aug. 2022

State of the Map and FOSS4G 2022 Conference Travel Grant (€ 400.00)

FOSS4G, Florence, Italy

Jun. 2021

Holland and ITC Excellence Scholarships (€35, 426.00)

2020

2020 YouthMappers Community Outreach Award
YouthMappers

VOLUNTEERING

Nov. 2024

Wilderness Inquiry
Chattahoochee Nature Center
Georgia, USA

- ❖ Assisted with outdoor adventures for people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities.

Feb. 2024 – Present

Christ the King Ghana Methodist Church
Bethlehem, Georgia, USA

- ❖ Assist in feeding the homeless in Athens, Georgia, at First Baptist Church.

2021 and 2023

Toda Africa
NGO in Ghana

- ❖ In 2021, I assisted in mobilizing 200 street hawkers at Madina-Accra, Ghana, to medically screen them for tests such as malaria and COVID-19. I also did a similar service in 2023 at Panten, Accra.

Jun. 2019

Undergrad Research Assistant
University of Southampton and University of Ghana Regional Institute for Population Studies

- ❖ Participated in the BRECCIA project in the Talensi District of the Upper East Region. I assisted with the focus group discussions as the note-taker and GIS expert.

JOURNAL MANUSCRIPTS REVIEWED

Jun. 2025

NJAS: Impact in Agricultural and Life Sciences, Taylor and Francis

Pathways to Food Security: The Role of Market Access in Enhancing Dietary Diversity and Household Consumption in Rural Pakistan

Oct. 2024

Agriculture and Food Security, BMC, Springer Nature

The pathway from domestic remittances to food security in India: Is agriculture a mediator?

Mar. 2024

Discover Cities, Springer Nature

Employing Post Classification Comparison to Detect Land Use Cover Change Patterns and Quantify Conversions in Abakaliki LGA Nigeria from 2000 to 2022.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

1. **Batame, M.**, Ayelazuno, R. A., Sarfo, I., and Yeboah, E. Mapping Food Accessibility and Examining Drivers of Staple Food Sources and Household Food Security: Insights from Bia West District, Ghana. **Accepted: Food Security, Springer Nature.**
 2. Gyan, P., and **Batame, M.** A Review of The Role of Indigenous Knowledge and Scientific Methods in Flood Risk Reduction Among Communities in the East African Mountains. **Under review: SN Social Sciences, Springer Nature.**
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1. Kwang, C., Afele, I. K., Yeboah, E., Sarfo, I., **Batame, M.**, Okrah, A., Shwe, M. M, Siaw, W., Boyetey, D., Larbi, R. O., Agyen, J., and Andorful, F. Machine learning assessment of illegal mining (Galamsey) impacts on forest vegetation: a case study of Wassa Amenfi East District, Ghana. *Earth Sci Inform* 18, 348 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12145-025-01860-7>
2. **Batame, M.**, and Lei, K. M. Exploring the Impact of Neighborhood Characteristics on Crime Rates in the United States: A Case Study of Homicide Using the Multilevel Modeling Analysis. *SN Social Sciences* 4, no. 4 (2024): 1-17.
3. Sarfo, I., Qiao, J., Yeboah, E., Puplampu, D. A., Kwang, C., Fynn, I. E. M., **Batame, M.**, Appea, E. A., Hagan, D. F. T., & Ayelazuno, R. A. (2024). Meta-analysis of land use systems development in Africa: Trajectories, implications, adaptive capacity, and future dynamics. *Land use policy*, 144, 107261. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2024.107261>
4. **Batame, M.** Unlocking gender dynamics in food and nutrition security in Ghana: assessing dietary diversity, food security, and crop diversification among cocoa household heads in the Juaboso-Bia cocoa landscape. *BMC Public Health* 24, 985 (2024). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-024-18204-7>
5. Sarfo, I, Qiao, J., Effah, N. A. A., Djan, M. A., Puplampu, D. A., **Batame, M.**, Ayelazuno, R. A., Yeboah, E., Allotey, M. K., and Zhu, X. "A bibliometric analysis of China's rural revitalization paradox: opportunities for collaboration, social innovation and global development." *Environment*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10668-023-04302-w>
6. **Batame, M.** "Global Trade and Local Food Security: Mapping and Monitoring Cocoa Expansion and its impact on Household Food Security in the Bia West District, Ghana." Master's thesis, University of Twente, 2023.
7. Sarfo, I., Bi, S., Xu, X., Yeboah, E., Kwang, C., **Batame, M.**, Addai, F. K., Adamu, U. W., Appea, E. A., & Djan, M. A. (2023). Planning for cooler cities in Ghana: Contribution of green infrastructure to urban heat mitigation in Kumasi Metropolis. *Land use policy*, 133, 106842. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landusepol.2023.106842>
8. **Batame, M.**, Sarfo, I., Yeboah, E., Njomaba, E., and Puplampu, D. A. "Mapping of sacred groves in Ghana: the case of Talensi district in the guinea ecological zone." *SN Social Sciences* 3, no. 9 (2023): 145.
9. Sarfo, I., Bi, S., Kwang, C., Yeboah, E., Addai, F. K., Nkunuzimana, A., Ofori, M. A., **Batame, M.**, Appea, E. A., & Asiedu, A. (2023). Class dynamics and relationship between land-use systems and surface temperature in south-eastern Ghana. *Environmental Earth Sciences*, 82(4), 104. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s12665-023-10755-z>
10. Mensah, D. O., Yeboah, G., **Batame, M.**, Lillywhite, R., and Oyeboode, O. "Type, density, and healthiness of food-outlets in a university foodscape: a geographical mapping and characterisation of food resources in a Ghanaian university campus." *BMC Public Health* 22, no. 1 (2022): 1912. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-022-14266-7>
11. Yeboah, E., Sarfo, I., **Batame, M.**, Kwang, C., Addai, F. K., Koku, J. E., Aikins, B., Madeleina, O. N. D., and Boah, A. "Spatial Distribution of Telecom Masts, Accessibility and Customer Hotspots in the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area, Ghana." *Archives of Current Research International* 22, no. 7 (2022): 55-68.
12. Yeboah, E., Sarfo, I., Kwang, C., **Batame, M.**, Addai, F. K., Darko, G., Amankwah, S. O. Y., Nketiah, J., Appea, E. A., and Oduro, C. "COVID-19 Contact Tracing: Ghana's Efforts in the Application of Geospatial Technology in Minimizing the Impact of the Pandemic." *European Journal of Development Studies* 1, no. 4 (2021): 8-21. <https://doi.org/10.24018/ejdevelop.2021.1.4.47>
13. Adamu, U.W., Yeboah, E., Sarfo, I., Nunoo, E.K., Kwang, C., Addai, F.K., Oduro, C., Darko, G., Ndafira, G.C., **Batame, M.** and Appea, E.A., 2021. Assessment of Oil Spillage Impact on Vegetation in South-Western Niger Delta, Nigeria. *Assessment*, 25(9).