The CREATE Team in Ghana is currently working on a number of research products including fieldwork reports, academic papers and policy briefs. This workshop, held at Mankessim, focused on developing these products through collaboration and knowledge sharing as well as on data analysis using newly available CREATE survey data.

Chief Mahama Abukari

The programme included presentations by researchers from the universities of Ghana, Cape Coast, Winneba, Sussex and London. Guest-lecturer Chief Mahama Abukari spoke to the group on Dagbon Culture and Educational Access, exploring traditions of fosterage, polygamy and occupational and gender roles and their effects on educational enrolment.

Dr. Louis Boayke-Yiadom outlined his work on the effects of cost-reductions on access to school, a paper which uses national data from the GLSS.

While the workshop was in progress, colleagues of Chief Abukari at the Savelugu-Nanton District Education Office continued to collect interview data on fosterage and kayaye (migrant labour) and their relationships to educational access, both at households in Savelugu and in Accra. These interviews form the data for two studies outlined at the workshop by Caine Rolleston.

Christine Adu-Yeboah shared her work joint with Professor Joseph Ghartey which uses interviews to understand the push and pull factors which continue to keep children out of school in Northern Ghana.

Among all the work presented and discussed, recurrent themes included over-age enrolment, child labour, poor academic progress and high indirect and opportunity costs.

Direct costs have been all but eliminated in Ghana since the introduction of the Capitation Grant Scheme in 2005, a topic addressed in the work of Dr. Kwame Akyeampong.

Dr. Kwame Akyeampong

The final report will examine issues of access across all the CREATE Zones of Exclusion and will be available in the autumn.