Small-scale gold mining began in the 1980s, as families, forced from their farms by drought and famine, literally began trying to scrape a living from the ground. Almost at once, the people arrived, hundreds of them. They have come many miles and traveled for days, by foot, bicycle, bus, scooter and lorry, drawn to this rocky, arid stretch of land near the Ghana border by the rumor of gold.

"Tragic sets of circumstances similar to those of Minamata disease could easily recur in our modern society. We need to be aware of the dangers."
—Dr. Harada Masazumi, a former professor at Department of Social Welfare, Kumamoto Gakuen University, and a leading researcher of Minamata disease

HIGHLY HAZARDOUS PESTICIDES THAT ARE ENDOCRINE-DISRUPTING

Endocrine-disrupting (ED) pesticides are a threat to human health and the environment.

Within the broader group of EDCs, ED pesticides can be considered a specific group of chemicals meriting special attention because of the way in which they are used, their high impact on developing and transition countries due to the importance of agriculture, and because safer alternatives are readily available. The 52 pesticides listed —on the back— should be regarded as the top priority of currently used endocrine disrupting pesticides for phase out.