

Mobility, Road Troubles and the Travelling Sales[wo]man: On-the-road Stories from Nigeria and Ghana

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This paper explores road security, institutional harassment and associated hazards of road travel in Nigeria and Ghana from the perspective of the traveling trader and his/her driver. It draws on two case studies, both involving vegetable farmer- traders and their transporters, the first relating to travel within and extending from the Jos Plateau, Nigeria and the second focused principally on cross-border travel from Ghana's Volta region into Togo. In each case the paper examines the road-related hazards of short- and long-distance trading enterprises and the strategies that are employed for hazard avoidance. This leads on to a broader consideration of road travel hazards in the transport of agricultural produce and the way mobile phones are now being employed to reduce trader risk.