



MINISTRY OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

SECTOR MEDIUM-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN

2026-2029

FOREWORD

The Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) is proud to present the 2026-2029 Sector Medium-Term Development Plan (SMTDP), a strategic blueprint designed to position Ghana's youth as the driving force of sustainable national transformation. This

SMTDP marks a decisive step towards creating an inclusive, skilled, and empowered generation capable of leading Ghana into a resilient and globally competitive future.

Established under Executive Instrument (E.I.) 1 as a newly created Ministry, the MYDE reflects Government's renewed focus on youth development as a cornerstone of national progress. The creation of this Ministry signals a bold commitment to prioritising youth empowerment, coordination, and policy coherence across all sectors impacting the lives of young people.

SMTDP was developed through extensive consultations with key stakeholders including Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs), , development partners, civic society organisations, and youth representatives. It reflects a collective commitment to addressing the evolving needs, aspirations, and challenges of Ghana's youth. It provides a clear framework for reducing youth unemployment, strengthening institutional coordination, enhancing youth participation in governance, and promoting health and well-being among the youth population.

The Ministry recognises that the demographic advantage Ghana possesses can only yield dividends if the right investments are made in human capital, skills development, and innovation. Through the implementation of targeted programmes and evidence-based interventions, the SMTDP seeks to unlock the creativity, energy, and resilience of young people, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to national and global development.

This SMTDP also reaffirms Government's unwavering commitment to empowering the youth through inclusive policies, strategic partnerships, and sustainable financing.

We call on all stakeholders, public, private, and civic society to support the implementation of this SMTDP and to work together in nurturing a generation of empowered, innovative, and patriotic youth ready to take charge of Ghana's development agenda.

HON. GEORGE OPARE-ADDO ESQ.

MINISTER FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND EMPOWERMENT

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment wishes to express its profound gratitude to the Hon. Minister whose dedication, guidance and leadership made the development of the Youth Sector Medium-Term Development Plan (2026–2029) possible.

Special recognition is extended to Management of the Ministry and Sector Agencies for their active support towards the development of the plan. The Ministry's gratitude goes to the National Development Planning Commission for comments, technical guidance and alignment support to ensure that the Plan reflects the National Medium-Term Development priorities.

We also appreciate the collaboration and support from all Development Partners particularly UNICEF and UNFPA, who contributed financially to the development of the document. Further, the Ministry appreciate comments from the Youth Sector Working Group and other Youth Groups.

The active participation of all stakeholders underscores our collective commitment to youth development and empowerment. It is the Ministry's expectation that, the Medium-Term Development Plan (2026–2029) will serve as a strategic blueprint to guide implementation of coordinated actions, mobilise resources, provide framework for monitoring & evaluation and deliver meaningful outcomes that will contribute to the development of the youth in Ghana.

Finally, the Ministry commends the Technical Working Team led by the Policy Planning, Budget, Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate for working assiduously in leading the development of the document.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AAPs	Annual Action Plans
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
AHIES	Annual Household Income and Expenditure Survey
APR	Annual Progress Report
ASRH	Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health
CEMT	Community Emergency Medical Technician
CHW	Community Health Workers
CSOs	Civic Society Organisations
DACF	District Assemblies Common Fund
DPs	Development Partners
E.I.	Executive Instrument
FBOs	Faith Based Organisations
FLGs	Foreign Loans and Grants
GDHS	Ghana Demographic & Health Survey
GETP	Ghana Economic Transformation Project
GES	Ghana Education Service
GLSS	Ghana Living Standard Survey
GoG	Government of Ghana
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
GYF	Ghana Youth Federation
GTVET	Ghana Technical and Vocational Education and Training

HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IGF	Internally Generated Funds
L.I.	Legislative Instrument
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MTEF	Medium Term Expenditure Framework
MYDE	Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment
NAP	National Apprenticeship Programme
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission
NEIP	National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme
NMTDPF	National Medium Term Development Policy Framework
NSA	National Service Authority
NYA	National Youth Authority
NYP	National Youth Policy
OHCS	Office of the Head of the Civil Service.
PBB	Programme Based Budget
PHC	Population and Housing Census
PoA	Programme of Action
PNDC	Provisional National Defence Council
PWDs	Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SMTDP	Sector Medium-Term Development Plan
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Infections

SWOT	Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund
YEA	Youth Employment Agency
YSMTDP	Youth Sector Medium Term Development Plan

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Executive Summary

The 2026–2029 Sector Medium-Term Development Plan (SMTDP) of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) provides a strategic framework for harnessing the potential of Ghana’s youthful population as a driving force for sustainable national development. The Plan articulates the Ministry’s commitment to empowering young people with the skills, opportunities, and resources required to contribute meaningfully to national and global progress. The Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment was established by Executive Instrument 1 (E.I. 1, 2025) under the Civil Service (Ministries) (Amendment Instrument, 2025) and sections 11 and 13 of the Civil Service Law, 1993 (PNDC Law 327) as amended. It is mandated to formulate, coordinate, and implement policies and programmes that promote youth development and empowerment.

A Technical Working Group (made up of representatives from the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment, the National Youth Authority, the National Service Authority, the Youth Employment Agency, the National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme) was established for the development of the SMTDP document. The SMTDP was developed through extensive stakeholder consultations and guided by key strategic documents, including the Guidelines for the Preparing 2026–2029 Medium-Term Development Plans, the National Medium-Term Development Policy Framework (2026–2029), Medium Term Expenditure Framework, Annual Performance Reviews of sector agencies and Government’s vision of creating a stable, resilient, and inclusive economy driven by empowered, skilled, and productive youth. It is anchored on the Ministry’s thematic focus areas, *Education and Skills Development, Health and Well-being, Civic Engagement, Personal and Leadership Development, and Economic Empowerment*, which collectively address the multi-dimensional needs of Ghana’s youth.

The situational analysis underpinning the Plan highlights key sectoral strengths, including strong institutional mandates, established agencies, and political commitment, while identifying weaknesses such as limited data systems, inadequate financing, fragmented programming and implementation further limit the impact of youth policies.

Additionally, persistent challenges such as high youth unemployment (21.7% as of 2023), vulnerable employment, limited access to entrepreneurship and support (financing, skills, etc.), and rising mental health and substance abuse, and declining civic participation continue to impede the realization of youth potential.

MYDE’s Plan therefore aims to reposition the youth sector through an integrated, evidence-based, and results-oriented approach to policy formulation, coordination, and implementation. It also seeks to leverage opportunities such as digital innovation, public-private partnerships, and youth-oriented initiatives under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) to provide a renewed platform for inclusive and sustainable growth.

Anchored on the national priority of reducing youth unemployment and enhancing human capital, the SMTDP focuses on four objectives:

1. Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10%. This is to be achieved through expansion of market-relevant skills training, entrepreneurship, and decent job creation.

2. To attain civic engagement, volunteerism and foster patriotism, social responsibility, and youth participation in governance and decision-making.
3. To improve health, safety, and well-being of 40% of the youth population by strengthening preventive health-care services, mental health awareness programmes, youth-friendly health systems, adolescent reproductive health and preventive health interventions.
4. To strengthen institutional capacity and coordination; through improved policy coherence, data-driven planning, efficient resource utilisation and inter-agency collaboration within the youth ecosystem.

To achieve these objectives, the Plan outlines targeted strategies and composite programmes across four thematic areas:

- Skills development and employment,
- Health and well-being,
- Empowerment and leadership, and
- Institutional development and management.

By 2029, MYDE aims to reduce youth unemployment to 10%, enhance access to quality skills development, improved civic participation of Ghanaian youth by at least 40%, ensure personal development, health and well-being of the youth.

The above targets will be achieved through the implementation of flagship programmes such as the Adwumawura Programme, and the National Apprenticeship Programme (NAP), as well as other modules including, Work Abroad Programme, Youth in Security, Graduate in Corporate Support Initiative (GRICS), Youth in Technology Programmes, Youth Volunteerism and Leadership Initiatives, and Youth Resource Centre Projects across the country. These interventions will be complemented by strengthened monitoring, evaluation, and communication mechanisms to ensure transparency, accountability, and impact tracking.

The total estimated investment for implementing the Plan amounts to GHS 22.22 billion, sourced primarily from Government of Ghana Funds, Statutory Funds, Internally Generated Funds and contributions from Development Partners. However, the total projected revenue within the 4year period of the plan is estimated at GHS10.10 billion, this leaves a funding gap of GHS 12.12 billion.

This Plan serves as a strategic development compass for the Ministry and its agencies providing clear policy direction, implementation priorities, and measurable outcomes aimed at empowering Ghana's youth to become resilient, innovative, and globally competitive.

It constitutes a transformative investment in Ghana's human capital, advancing a coordinated, inclusive, and sustainable ecosystem that equips young people with the skills, values, and opportunities necessary to drive national progress. Ultimately, the Plan reaffirms Government's unwavering commitment to positioning the youth sector as a vibrant catalyst for socio-economic transformation and a cornerstone of Ghana's long-term development agenda.

CHAPTER ONE: GENERAL INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter provides background information on the Ministry, highlighting its vision, mission, core values and functions. It further outlines the organizational structure of the Ministry.

1.1 Profile and Mandate of the Ministry

The Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment is established by Executive Instrument 1 (E.I. 1, 2025) Civil Service (Ministries) (Amendment Instrument, 2025) and sections 11 & 13 of the Civil Service Law, 1993 (PNDC Law 327) as amended, to formulate and implement policies that promote youth development and empowerment. It is responsible for creating enabling environments that equip youth with skills, opportunities, and resources to participate in national and international development.

1.2 Vision

An empowered youth for national development and global competitiveness.

1.3 Mission

To empower, equip and inspire the youth in Ghana to become nationally responsive and globally competitive.

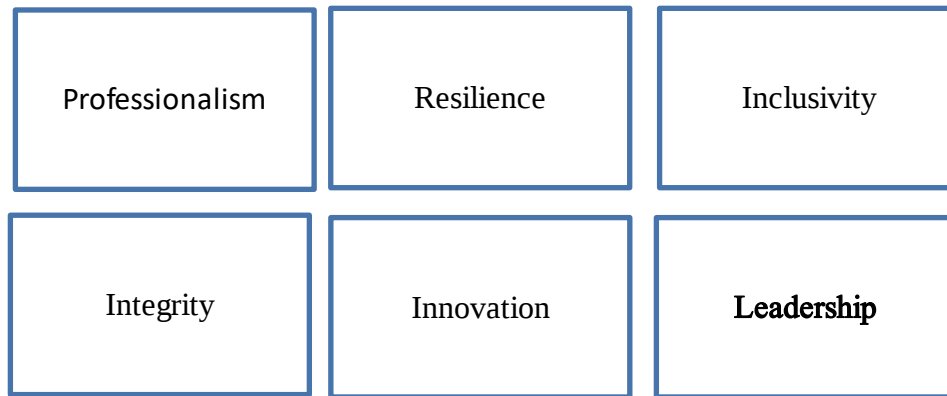
1.4 Functions

Pursuant to section 3 & 13 of the Civil Service Law, 1993 (PNDC Law 327), the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment shall:

- a. Initiate, formulate and review policies for youth development and empowerment.
- b. Advise on government plans and programmes on youth development and empowerment.
- c. Undertake the necessary research for the effective implementation of youth policies and programmes.
- d. Coordinate, monitor, and evaluate the implementation of youth policies, plans, and programmes.
- e. Undertake stakeholder engagement, knowledge and experience sharing, and innovation toward youth development and empowerment.
- f. Mobilize resources for the sector
- g. Perform other functions that are related to the sector

1.5 Core Values

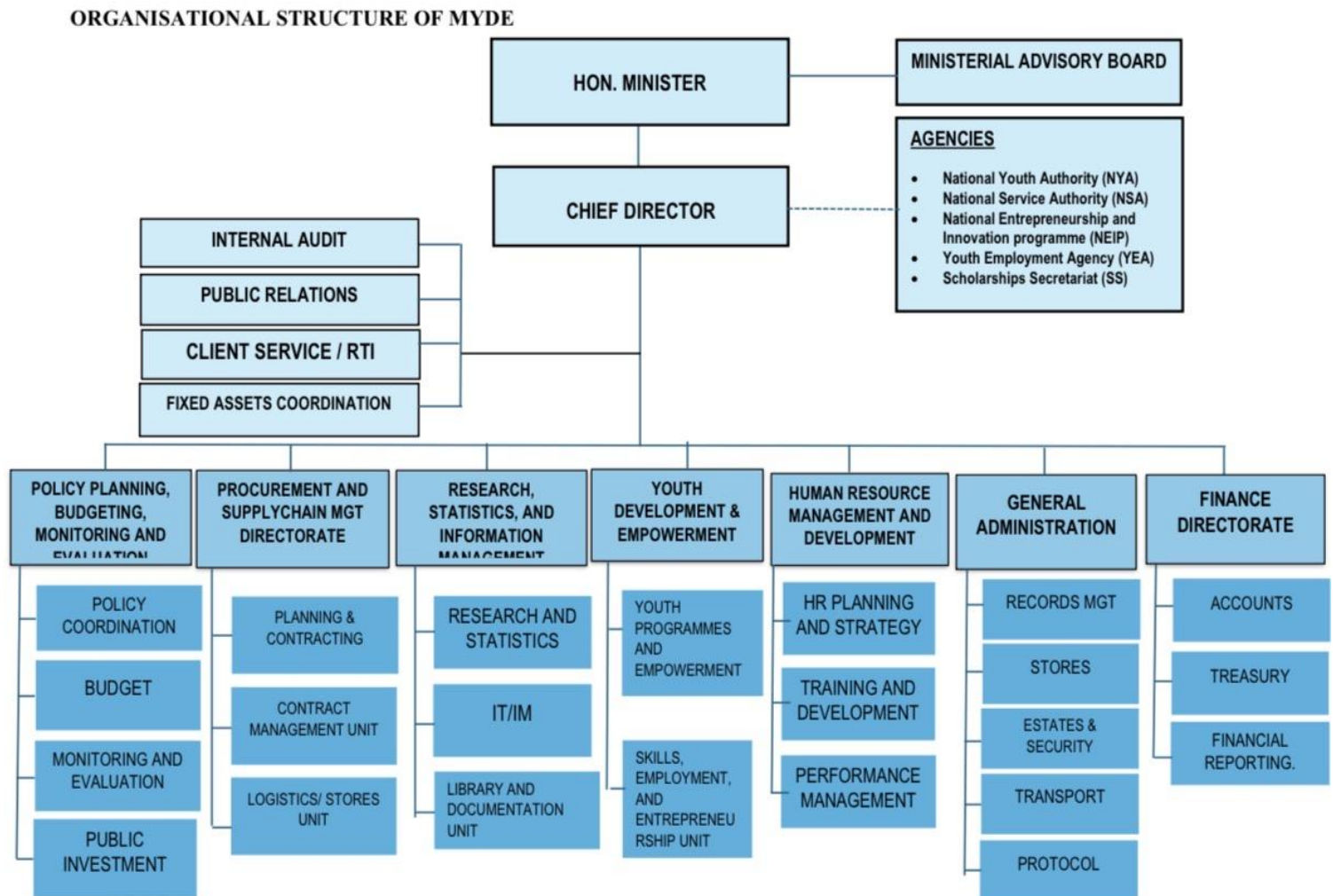
The core values of the sector include the following:



1.6 Organisational Structure

The Ministry has five functional directorates in line with the Civil Service structure to support the Ministry carry out its stewardship role. It also has four Agencies to carry out the implementation of policies and programs. Figure 1 provides a diagrammatic expression of the institutional arrangements within the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment.

Figure 1: Organisational Structure



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Source: MYDE Organizational Manual

1.7 Structure of the Plan

The Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment's Sector MTDP is organized in line with the 2026–2029 planning guidelines. It outlines eight (8) inter-related chapters and these are as follows:

- Chapter One: General Introduction
- Chapter Two: Situational Analysis of MDA/RCC/MMDA
- Chapter Three: Key Development Priorities
- Chapter Four: Development Goals, Objectives and Strategies
- Chapter Five: Composite Development Programmes
- Chapter Six: Annual Action Plans
- Chapter Seven: Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements
- Chapter Eight: Development Communication Strategy

CHAPTER TWO: SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

2.0 Introduction

The Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment was established by E.I 1 2025. The functions and the Agencies of the Ministry were calved out from other Ministries. This chapter provides an overview of key performances of the Agencies under the Ministry for the 2022-2025 Agency Medium Term Plans. The performance information provided below reflect the performances of Agencies that were aligned to the Ministry and not the entire sector as a whole. The chapter also looks at some assessment of the youth ecosystem, list of development issues and projected future developmental needs.

2.1 Performance Review

2.1.1 Non-Financials

Youth Employment Agency (YEA)

The YEA is a government Agency that leads job creation and employment to the youth. It runs a number of Youth Employment modules. Between 2022-2025, the Agency engaged 303,312 youth under the various youth employment modules.

Table 1: Youth engaged under the various YEA Modules

S/N	MODULES	YEARS			
		2022	2023	2024	2025
1.	Youth in Security	15,000	15,000	15,000	12,000
2.	Youth in Sanitation	45,000	45,000	45,000	-
3.	Community Health Assistants	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
4.	Trades & Vocation	-	500	10,000	-
5.	Community Improvement	7,735	-	-	-
6.	Job Centre	3,806	11,483	-	6650
7.	Youth in Prison service	2,000	1,500	1,500	5,000
8.	Entrepreneurship	5,000	10,000	-	-
9.	Garment& Apparel Textile	-	2,500	2,100	-
10.	Youth in ICT	-	2,000	-	-
11.	Youth in Modern Building Technology/BRRI	-	-	250	-
12.	Business support/ Industrial Attachment	-	-	3,088	-
13.	Kayayei	-	-	1,200	-
14.	Community Medical first responders	-	-	-	6,000
15.	Youth in Fire Service	-	-	-	5,000
	TOTAL	84,541	93,983	84,138	40,650

NB: Most of the programmes were not carried out in all the years under review.

sourceⁱ (Youth Employment Agency (YEA), Annual Reports, 2022-2025)

National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (NEIP)

NEIP is a government programme that supports business financing and innovation. For the period under review, NEIP trained over 55,000 individuals through various flagship programmes such as the Presidential Business Support Programme, YouStart, Youth in Innovative Agriculture, and the Entrepreneurship for Restoration initiative. Notably, over 1,000 prison officers and inmates were trained under the Entrepreneurship for Restoration Programme, promoting rehabilitation and reintegration. Also, the NEIP through initiatives like the Presidential Pitch, National Innovation Challenge, and STEMnovation fostered innovation through empowering young innovators and students to develop and pitch transformative ideas, with top performers receiving mentorship and seed support. NEIP through the STEMnovation contest, collaborated with the Ministry of Education to engage senior high schools nationwide, promoting STEM education and critical thinking.

The NEIP further through its Inclusion and Social Impact programme provided empowerment support to 2,000 persons with disabilities (PWDs). In addition, through the Ghana Economic Transformation Project (GETP), NEIP supported 45 incubation hubs across all regions, enhancing the entrepreneurial support infrastructure. These hubs provide business development services in agriculture, technology, climate business, and more.

National Service Authority (NSA)

The NSA mandate is to prepare graduates for school to work transition. The Authority during the period under review (2022-2025) deployed a total of 592,979 graduates to undertake national service in both public and private sectors of the economy.

From table 2.2 below, Youth participation across various modules recorded fluctuations during the period. Total engagement rose from 110,324 in 2022 to a peak of 182,142 in 2024, before declining to 121,204 in 2025. The Education module consistently engaged the highest numbers, followed by Health Support and Administrative Support. Notable growth was also seen in Private Sector Support, which increased steadily to become the leading module in 2025. On the other hand, modules such as Agriculture/Agro-business, Rural Development, and NSA Support recorded relatively low participation, while Urban Sanitation had no engagement throughout the period.

The trends suggest strong emphasis on education, health, and private sector interventions, but highlight the need to scale up efforts in rural development, agriculture, and sanitation to achieve balanced youth development outcomes.

Table 2: Deployment of National Service Personnel

S/N	MODULES	YEARS			
		2022	2023	2024	2025
1	Education	37,481	69,486	63,368	45,875
2	Health Support	19,102	29,838	47,749	18,876
3	Agriculture/ Agro-business	4,628	5,728	1,374	3,746
4	Administrative Support	21,661	27,577	27,738	18,523

S/N	MODULES	YEARS			
		2022	2023	2024	2025
5	Rural Development	1,494	8,683	4,086	3,467
6	Private Sector Support	12,035	23,687	23,595	28,234
7	Urban Traffic	231	963	105	250
8	NSA Support	3,753	2,758	726	692
9	Private Schools	9,939	10,589	13,400	1,541
TOTAL		110,324	179,309	182,141	121,204

(Source: National Service Authority (NSA), Annual Reports, 2022-2025)

In addition, the Authority through its Graduate youth in Agriculture programme deployed 2,800 service personnel with Agriculture background from the various tertiary institutions to the public and private agriculture sectors of the economy. Out of this, 1,500 are currently engaged in their own businesses in Agriculture and Ad-Adjacent jobs. Also, 3,583 service personnel with STEM background from tertiary institutions, were trained in teaching methodologies under the Pedagogy Training Programme and posted to Senior High Schools.

Furthermore, 278 female service personnel's capacity were built under the "My Better World" programme as Learner Guides for young girls in their place of service and beyond. Through the Differentiated Learning Plus programme, UNICEF supported the Authority to train 17 service personnel and deployed to schools in hard-to-reach communities as mentors.

National Youth Authority (NYA)

The NYA is mandated by law to build capacity and lead youth initiatives. Under the National Youth Volunteers Programme, 8,183 youth volunteers were deployed and 24,520 youth were engaged under the Skills Towards Employability and Productivity (STEP) Programme and, District skills and Entrepreneurship Roadshow Programme.

Further to its mandate to enhance youth development, the Authority undertook the following activities:

1. Developed the National Youth Policy (NYP) (2022 – 2032) and Implementation Plan (2022 – 2027)
2. Constructed two Youth Resource Centres (Koforidua & Wa)
3. Constructed two astro turfs at Tuba (Awutu Senya East District) and Yagaba Kubori (Mamprugu Moaduru District).
4. Organised two (2) national annual conferences and capacity building on climate change and environmental sustainability for young people within the climate change ecosystem.
5. Organised three (3) annual national youth conferences in August as part of the "Youth Month" Celebrations.
6. Inaugurated 248 District and 11 Regional Youth Parliaments across the country.
7. Launched the two Regional and District Youth Committees in Eastern and Greater Accra respectively
8. Launched the Ghana Youth Federation (GYF).

Table 3: Promotion of career guidance and, youth health and well-being

YEAR	NUMBER OF YOUTH ENGAGED
2022	12,117
2023	20,163
2024	6,006,631
2025	6,001,502

(Source: National Youth Authority (NYA), 2022-2025)

Table 3 above, shows a combined figure of youth engagement in career guidance, health and well-being. The engagement increased astronomically from 20,163 to 6,006,631 from 2023 to 2024 as a result of large-scale interventions, involving mass campaigns, digital platforms and broad community outreach.

Table 4: Performance Review (2022-2025)

Development Dimension	Indicator	Baseline (AHIES 2022, Q3 2)	2022-2025 Medium-Term Target	Cumulative Achievement		Remarks
				Year	Data	
Social Development	Youth unemployment rate	20.7%%	8%	2023	21.7 %	AHIES, 2023 (Q3)

(Source: AHIES, 2022 (Q3), 2023 (3))

The performance assessment in table 4 above under the social development dimension reveals a widening gap between the medium-term target and actual outcomes. The baseline youth unemployment rate in 2022 stood at 20.7%%, with a set target of 8% by the end of the 2022–2025 medium-term period. However, the cumulative achievement reported in 2023 indicates that the youth unemployment rate increased to 21.7% (AHIES, 2023 Q3).

This outcome shows a deterioration in performance relative to the baseline, rather than progress towards the set target. The rise in youth unemployment suggests that interventions implemented so far have not been effective in addressing the structural and emerging challenges confronting the labour market. This trend poses significant social and economic concerns, as high youth unemployment can undermine social stability, reduce productivity, and constrain economic growth.

Strengthening employment creation strategies, promoting entrepreneurship, and aligning skills development with labour market needs will be critical in reversing this trend and moving closer to the set target in the remaining years of the plan period.

2.1.2 Financial performance (2022-2025)

The major source of funding for the Agencies of the Ministry is Government of Ghana (GOG). It constitutes 94.96% of the total budget followed by District Assembly Common Fund (DACF) 3.58% , the rest of the other sources of funding contributed less than 1% of the total budget.

Table 5 below shows budget analysis of the Agencies of the Ministry (2022-2025). 50% of the total budget approved was released to Agencies. By funding sources, releases for Internally Generated Fund (IGF) exceeded approved budget by 1.53%. Averagely, a total of 46% for the other funding sources.

Table 5: Financial performance of the Agencies under the Ministry

Source of funds	Total Estimated Cost of Plan (A)	Total amount received (B)	Percentage of Amount Received (%)	Variance (C) = (A-B)
GOG	8,012,001,014.00	4,613,004,669.50	0.58	3,398,996,344.50
IGF	74,920,607.81	114,887,932.09	1.53	(39,967,324.28)
DACF	302,302,000.00	172,777,841.00	0.57	129,524,159.00
DACF-RFG	-	-	#DIV/0!	-
DPs	48,000,000.00	29,923,374.06	0.62	18,076,625.94
ABFA	-	-	#DIV/0!	-
Others (Specify)	-	-	#DIV/0!	-
TOTAL	8,437,223,621.81	4,930,593,816.65	0.58	3,506,629,805.16

(Source: MYDE, NYA, YEA, NSA, NEIP Financial Records, 2022-2025)

2.2 Existing Situation

2.2.1 Ghana's Youth Population Profile

According to the 2024 Population and Housing Census conducted by the Ghana Statistical Service, the country's population was 33,007,618. It comprises 16,273,744 (49.3%) male and 16,733,874 (50.7%) female. Ghana, like many developing countries, has a predominantly youthful population.

According to the 2021 Population and Housing Census (2021 PHC), youth aged 15 to 35 make up approximately 11.7 million (38.2%) comprising **5,777,826 (49%) males** and **6,004,788 (51%) females**. This reflects a near-equal gender distribution with a slight female majority of the youth population.

The 2021 PHC further projects that Ghana's population age structure is transitioning from one dominated by children (0-14 years) to one dominated by the youth (15-35 years). The proportion of children declined from 41.3 % in 2000 to 35.3 % in 2021, while that of young people increased from 34.6% in 2000 to 38.2 % in 2021. The transitioning of the population from children to the youth is evident in all the regions and urban areas. (Source: GSS, 2021 Population and Housing Census)

The **Greater Accra** and **Ashanti** regions stand out prominently, with each contributing over two million youth to the national total. Together, these two regions alone account for **36.7%** of Ghana's total youth population, highlighting their significance as demographic and economic hubs. Other regions with substantial youth populations include **Central**, **Eastern**, and **Northern**, each exceeding 800,000 youth. In contrast, regions like **North East**, **Savannah**, **Ahafo**, and **Oti** have the smallest youth populations, each recording fewer than 300,000 individuals. In terms of gender distribution within regions, a clear pattern emerges: **females outnumber males in all but two regions-Oti and Western North-where males slightly exceed females**. In urban areas, Greater Accra depicts the most pronounced transition, while in rural areas across all the regions, the transition is yet to occur. Youth (15-35 years) are more in urban (7,125,070 - 60.5%) than rural areas (4,657,544 - 39.5%). The youth population in Ghana is projected to increase by six million over the next few decades. (Source: GSS, 2021 Population and Housing Census)

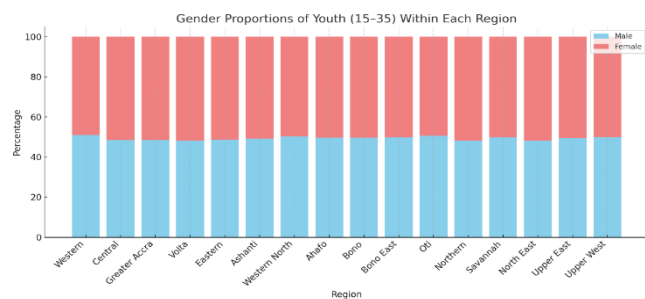


Figure 2: Gender Proportion of Youth (15-35) by region

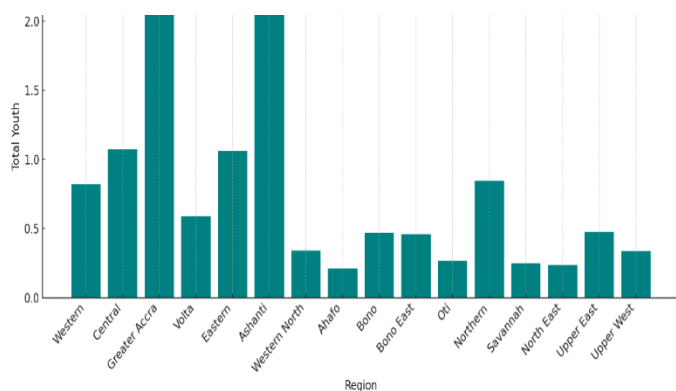


Figure 3: Total Youth Population (15-35) by Region

Table 6: Regional Youth Population Breakdown (Ages 15-35)

Region	Total Youth	Males	Females	% Male in Region	% Female in Region	% of National Males	% of National Females
Western	820,197	417,553	402,644	50.9%	49.1%	7.23%	6.70%
Central	1,072,546	519,798	552,748	48.5%	51.5%	8.99%	9.20%
Greater Accra	2,221,721	1,076,901	1,144,820	48.4%	51.5%	18.63%	19.06%
Volta	588,701	283,233	305,468	48.1%	51.9%	4.90%	5.09%
Eastern	1,060,187	516,481	543,706	48.7%	51.3%	8.94%	9.05%
Ashanti	2,127,464	1,043,220	1,084,244	49.0%	50.9%	18.06%	18.06%
Western North	341,042	171,276	169,766	50.2%	49.8%	2.96%	2.83%
Ahafo	211,017	104,760	106,257	49.6%	50.4%	1.81%	1.77%
Bono	470,886	233,398	237,488	49.6%	50.4%	4.04%	3.95%
Bono East	459,566	228,801	230,765	49.8%	50.2%	3.96%	3.84%
Oti	264,820	133,952	130,868	50.6%	49.4%	2.32%	2.18%
Northern	843,584	405,597	437,987	48.1%	51.9%	7.02%	7.29%
Savannah	247,749	123,368	124,381	49.8%	50.2%	2.14%	2.07%
North East	238,426	114,950	123,476	48.2%	51.8%	1.99%	2.06%
Upper East	476,315	235,659	240,656	49.5%	50.5%	4.08%	4.01%
Upper West	338,393	168,879	169,514	49.9%	50.1%	2.92%	2.82%

(Source: Ghana Statistical Service, 2021 Population and Housing Census (2021 PHC), General Report Vol. 3B)

A youthful population presents good opportunities for a country to benefit from the demographic dividend, which offers a unique window of opportunity for fast economic growth. However, this is not automatic, it requires strong investments in the youth and the creation of decent jobs to turn the potential into reality.

2.2.2 Economic Empowerment and Employment

The demographic shift in Ghana towards a predominantly youthful population presents both a strategic opportunity and a structural policy challenge. While the youth group represents the engine of innovation, productivity, and national transformation, its potential remains largely underutilised due to systemic labour market inefficiencies.

According to the Labour Statistics Bulletin from the Annual Household Income and Expenditure Survey (AHIES) 2023, as of the third quarter of 2023, youth unemployment stood at 21.7%, affecting approximately 1.3 million young people, with a further 3.1 million engaged in vulnerable employment. This condition is marked by informality, income insecurity and the absence of social protection (AHIES 2023). According to the Labour Statistics Bulletin Quarter 3 2023 published as part of the AHIES, an estimated 3.1 million employed youth were in vulnerable employment i.e., self-employed without employees or a contributing family worker. Two in every three (63.9%) persons aged 15 to 35 that was employed in Q3 2023 was in vulnerable employment. The percentage of youth workers in vulnerable employment was substantially higher for females (71.3%) compared to males (55.7%). The National Youth Policy (2022–2032) also emphasises barriers such as limited experience, weak labour market information systems, and unfair hiring practices persist within the youth labour market.

Moreover, data from the AHIES (2023) revealed that 72.4% of all unemployed persons in Q3 2023 were aged between 15 and 35 years. These statistics reflect a deepening crisis of labour absorption and skills mismatch, particularly among recent graduates and first-time job seekers.

(III) Economic Empowerment of the Youth

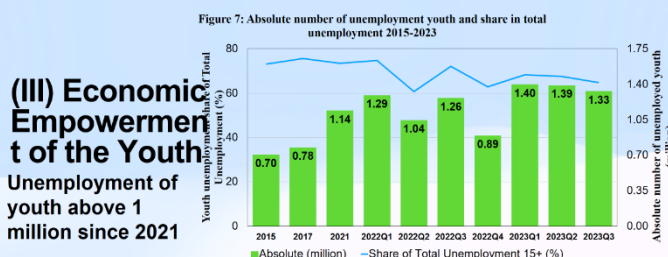
Unemployment by gender and location
- higher for women & girls
- higher in urban areas

Table 5: Unemployment Rate (15-35) by Gender and Location

Period	Male	Female	F/M	Urban	Rural	U/R
2015	16.4	17.4	1.06	18.3	13.9	1.32
2017	11.4	13.8	1.21	17.2	8.6	2.00
2021	17.4	28.7	1.65	20.4	18.7	1.09
2022Q1	16.6	23.9	1.44	24.9	15.3	1.61
2022Q2	15.5	20.9	1.35	20.7	15.8	1.31
2022Q3	16.6	24.2	1.46	25.0	15.4	1.62
2022Q4	13.8	17.5	1.27	19.6	11.1	1.77
2023Q1	17.3	26.5	1.53	26.6	17.2	1.55
2023Q2	17.3	25.8	1.49	27.5	15.0	1.83
2023Q3	17.0	25.5	1.50	27.0	15.0	1.80

Source: 2015 LF Survey, GLSS_VII, 2021 Census and AHIES

Figure 4: Youth Unemployment by gender and location



Source: 2015 LF Survey, GLSS_VII, 2021 Census and AHIES

Figure 5: Absolute Youth Unemployment (2015-2023)

According to the 2015 Labour Force Survey, the Ghana Living Standard Survey round VII, the 2021 PHC and the AHIES, unemployment is low among older youth (25-35) as compared to the younger youth (15-24) as depicted by Figure 6.

(III) Economic Empowerment of the Youth Unemployment - Lower among older youth



Figure 6: Youth Unemployment Rate (2015-2023)

Equally, unemployment varies among the youth levels of education attained. The data revealed that unemployment is high among youth with secondary, vocational, or bachelors education. However, the unemployment rates are lower for youth with no education or some level of apprenticeship.

There are other challenges such as start-up funds to promote youth innovation and entrepreneurship. Again, World Bank (2021) underscored that young women and person with disabilities remain disproportionately disadvantaged due to entrenched gender norms, limited property and inheritance rights, inadequate access to capital, and low participation in digital and technological ecosystems. This affirms the persistent structural and sociocultural barriers that continue to constrain equitable access to employment and entrepreneurial opportunities among Ghanaian youth. (Source: GSS, AHIES Labour Statistics Bulletin, Q3, 2023)

(III) Economic Empowerment of the Youth Unemployment by education - Higher for secondary, bachelors and vocational Lower for no education & apprenticeship

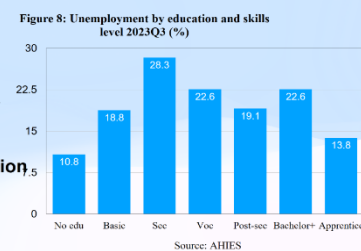


Figure 7: Unemployment by education and skills level 2023 Q3

This situation underscores the urgent need for sustainable, multi-sectorial, and evidence-based interventions that align youth capabilities with evolving labour market demands. Key imperatives include:

- ❖ Scaling up market-relevant Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET);
- ❖ Fostering youth entrepreneurship through financing and provision of business advisory services; and
- ❖ Expanding access to decent and productive employment, especially within green and digital economies.

¹ Christabel E. Dadzie, Mawuko Fumey, And Suleiman Namara (2020). Youth Employment Programs in Ghana Options for Effective Policy Making and Implementation. World Bank, 2020

An inclusive youth employment agenda must prioritize affirmative action, gender-responsive programming, and disability mainstreaming across policy and regulatory levels. Without deliberate investment in youth employment pathways, Ghana risks forfeiting its demographic dividend and entrenching cycles of poverty, exclusion, and social vulnerability.

2.2.3 Civic Engagement, Governance and Social Inclusion

Civic engagement, governance and social inclusion is vital for democratic legitimacy, social responsibility, and civic identity. Yet in Ghana, youth engagement remains limited due to cultural norms, weak institutions, and the absence of inclusive policies.

Participation in Decision-Making:

Meaningful inclusion of youth in governance ensures that policies reflect their needs, aspirations, and lived experiences. According to the 2024 Youth Barometer, there is high level of awareness among the youth regarding their right to participate in decision-making processes concerning education. However, despite the awareness, actual involvement was limited, with many youth feeling that their voices were not adequately represented or taken seriously by policymakers. This disconnect was more pronounced in rural areas, where opportunities for youth engagement were significantly lower compared to urban centres.

Volunteerism and Community Service:

The Youth Policy (2022-2032) acknowledges the benefits of volunteerism for society at large, providing volunteers with acquisition of skills, varied experiences and understanding of cross-cultural issues. The Policy further notes that Volunteerism in Ghana before independence and the immediate post-independence period was quite vibrant and almost natural amongst citizens. However, in recent times, youth volunteerism has dwindled with no clear indication of changing for the better. The situation, according to the policy has been blamed on weak and uncommitted leadership, economic hardship, perceived corruption, diminishing social support systems, loss of communalism, patriotism and nationalism, disregard for family values and limited incentives for future progress (reward of jobs, scholarships, etc. for volunteers).

Ghana's youth have been involved in international youth engagement such as Commonwealth, African Union, ECOWAS youth associations among others and have the potential to contribute more to uplift the image of Ghana. However, youth participation in international exchange platforms are limited by access to information, weak digital infrastructure, funding support among others.

Community Participation:

Inadequate participation of the youth in political governance, community development and decision-making are some of the key policy issues that the National Youth Policy (2022-2032) identifies and seeks to address. Also, structural and normative barriers, including gender roles, persons with disability and adultism, often exclude youth from community leadership spaces. Again, lack of incentives, weak structures, and financial pressures further reduces community participation. Addressing this requires intergenerational dialogue, youth-focused civic education, and support for youth-led local development initiatives.

“Young people are the backbone of prosperous societies and economies and future-fit democracies. In the context of major environmental, demographic, fiscal and technological challenges, they express lower trust in government than any other age group and face highly uncertain economic prospects. Governments need to ensure a whole-of-government approach to youth policy and service delivery, provide meaningful opportunities for youth participation and representation in public life, and embed an intergenerational perspective in policymaking to support their transition to an autonomous life, regain trust and help navigate global transformations².

2.2.4 Health Safety and Wellbeing

The health and well-being of the youth are central to achieving sustainable socio-economic development worldwide. Understanding their health and well-being becomes very crucial if Ghana is to harness the potentials of the demographic dividends of the youth.

Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH)

Data from 1993 -2022 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS) indicates that teenage pregnancy declined from 21.5% to 14.1% from 1993 to 1998, there has been a gradual increase up to 15% in the year 2022, even though not up to the 1993 prevalence rate. According to 2022 GDHS, limited awareness and persistent misconceptions regarding ASRH remain prevalent, particularly in rural Ghana. This knowledge gap contributes significantly to rising rates of teenage pregnancy (According to the 2022 GDHS, one in every 10 adolescents aged 15 to 19 years have ever had a live birth), unsafe abortions, and sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Cultural taboos and social stigma hinder open communication between adolescents and guardians, thereby restricting access to accurate information and services. (Source: Ghana Statistical Service/ ICF, Ghana Demographic and Health Surveys (GDHS), 1993-2022)

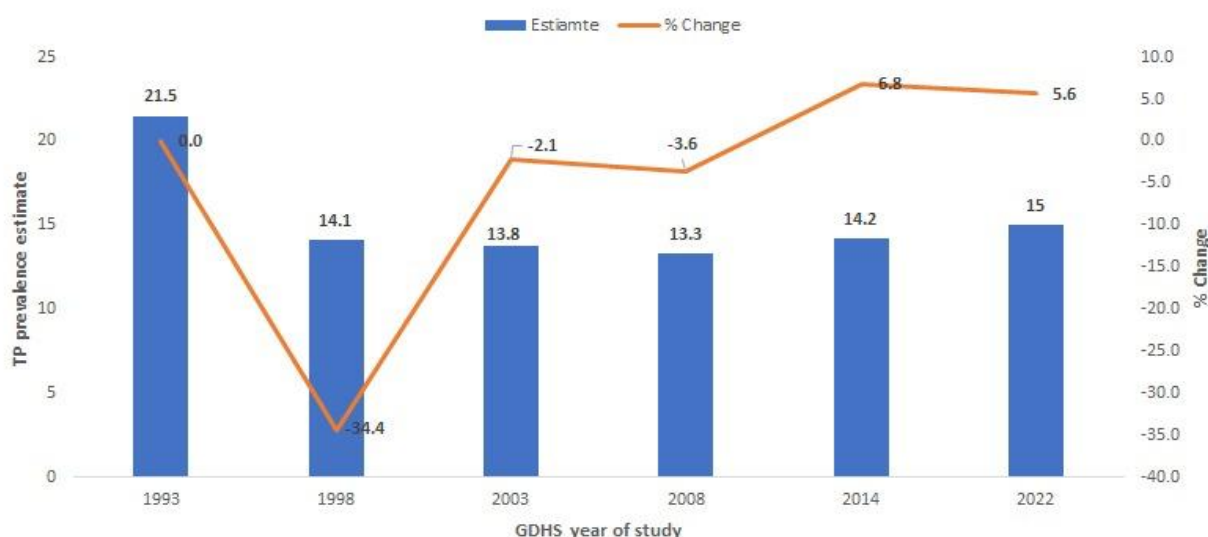
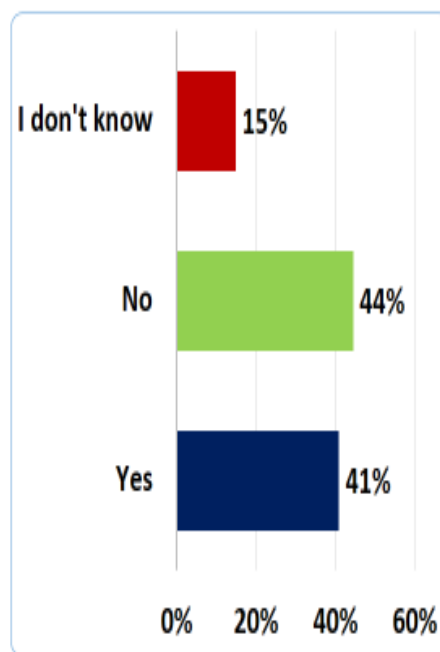


Figure 8: Prevalence of Teenage Pregnancy among the Youth in Ghana from 1993-2022

² <https://www.oecd.org/en/topics/policy-issues/youth.html>

Nationally, only 36% of young women and 37% of young men demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of HIV prevention, including the rejection of major misconceptions and awareness of asymptomatic transmission (2022 GDHS). These deficiencies result in poor sexual health outcomes, increased vulnerability, and limited reproductive autonomy among adolescents. HIV services are available for all, including the youth who are seropositive and need them. Figure 9 illustrates a general increase in HIV testing among the youth until 2020, when there was a sharp decline, likely as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though the testing has seen an increase from 2021, the prevalence is still lower than the pre-COVID-19 levels. Further, there is also a decline in testing from 2024. The percentage increase rate in teenage pregnancy and decline of HIV testing may have negative implications for youth development. (Source: 2022, 2024 GDHS)

Awareness of availability and usage of alcohol/drugs/substances in institutions



Common Alcohol/Drugs/Substances available in tertiary institutions

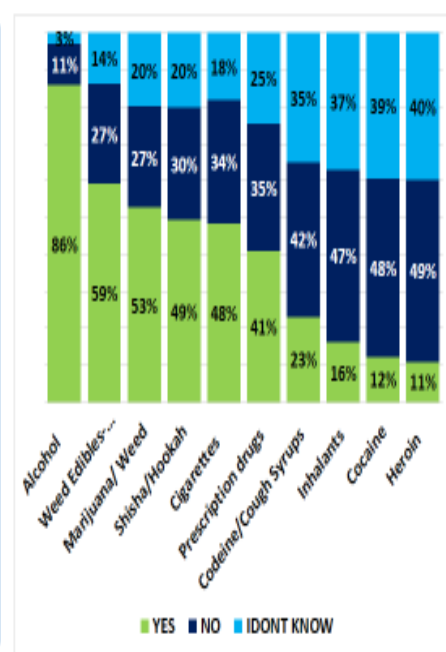


Figure 9: HIV testing among the Youth

Drug and Substance Abuse

Substance abuse among Ghanaian youth is a growing public health and security threat. Some portion of the youth are increasingly consuming alcohol, tramadol, marijuana, shisha, tobacco, and heroin, often initiated through peer pressure, curiosity, or coping with trauma. While tobacco use among junior high school students declined from 4.8% in 2000 to 2.8% in 2017, shisha use rose to 1.3% in the same period, and tramadol abuse has escalated significantly due to its heroin-like effects (National Health Policy, 2017). A recent study commissioned by the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment on Alcohol, Drugs and Substance Abuse in Tertiary Institutions in Ghana reveals that 41% of students in tertiary institutions are aware of drug use and Alcohol is the most accessible substance on campus. The survey also revealed that the common drugs and substances available in these institutions were alcohol, weed edibles and marijuana where 86%, 59% and 53% of the respondents confirmed they are aware of their availability and use. Cocaine and heroin were the least common substances with 12% and 11% respectively saying they are aware of their availability and use. The knowledge of cocaine and heroin availability are 12% and 11% respectively and accessibility is 13% for both cocaine and heroin. The most common substance used is alcohol (86%) while prescription drugs account for 41%.

Figure 10: Substance abuse - Awareness and Common Substances

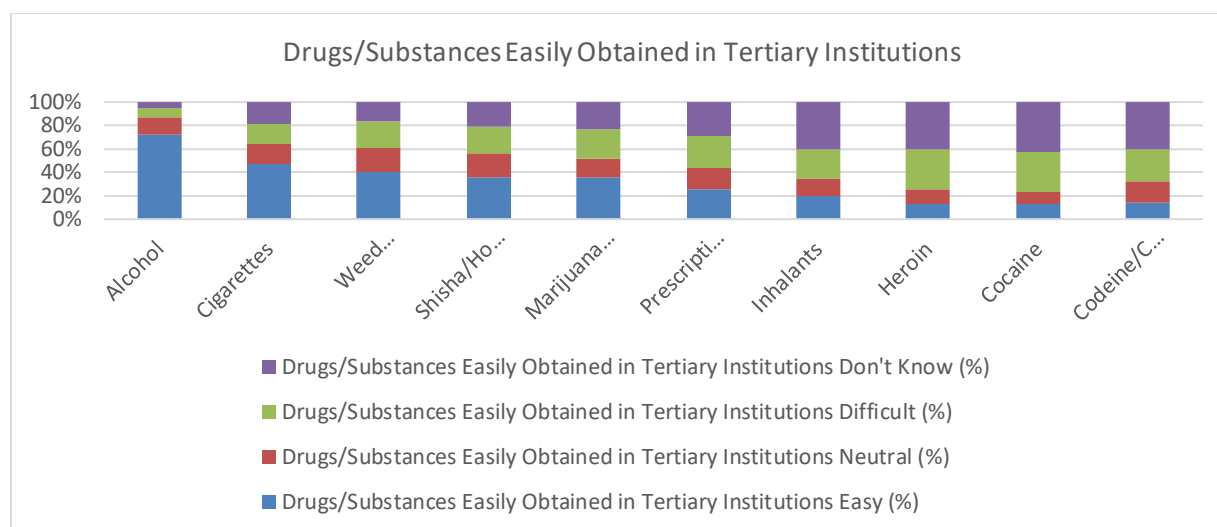


Figure 11: Access to substances in tertiary institutions

Even though the study is not nationwide, the evidence is quiet revealing and may corroborate nationwide anecdotal evidence. The growing concern about substance abuse among Ghanaian youth, particularly with the emergence of prescription drugs (“Red 225” tablets, “Wonim Red”) poses threat to the health and well-being of the Ghanaian Youth. This threat calls for coordinated national interventions to sensitize and educate the youth on the effects of drug abuse. (Source: MYDE commissioned study on Alcohol, Drugs and Substance Abuse in Tertiary Institutions in Ghana)

Another study commissioned by the Ministry Youth Development and Empowerment titled “The State of the Youth in Ghana Health & Wellbeing including Mental Health” (2025) found that the youth in Ghana are faced with many mental health challenges due to unemployment, cultural stigma, and academic pressures, among others, all of which contribute to anxiety and stress. Unfortunately, mental health services for the youth, like all other healthcare services, are generally inequitably distributed and more skewed towards the population in urban than rural areas. Mental health services in schools, including the universities, often barely exist due to limited trained personnel and space for the youth to freely speak.

The study also concluded that gaming addiction is rapidly evolving in Ghana, and mental health experts have called for increased awareness and education. This is taking a toll on the youth of Ghana, including poor academic performance, reduced social relationships, and deteriorating mental well-being. This addiction could lead to severe outcomes like depression, anxiety, and social isolation, which undermine the mental well-being of youth in the country. Mental health experts have raised alarms about the need for early intervention to curb this menace. It also observed that gaming addiction's consequences extend beyond the individual; they have both global and national effects.

The National Youth Policy (NYP) positions Ghana’s youth demographic credentials as a critical driver for nation-building, however the health and wellbeing remain a major challenge to the development and empowerment of the youth. The challenge includes Barriers to youth-friendly

health services, including stigma, lack of confidentiality and poor service coverage in the area of Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH), mental health, substance abuse among others.

Crimes such as armed robbery and inter-gang clashes and students' riots are now more common among young people. For example, between 2022 and 2025, 27 senior high schools across Ghana experienced serious violence-related incidents. These according to the report, ranged from student-on-student assaults and teacher attacks to property destruction and fatal clashes, some categorised as first-degree felonies (Misornu Safety Centre, a public-interest NGO focused on building a safety-first mindset in communities). Recent happenings (daily media reportage) also testify that community and street violence by the youth is on the rise. This calls for multi-sectoral prevention strategies to address them.

2.2.5 Institutional Capacity

Over the years, youth development and empowerment policies and programs have been fragmented thereby leading to persistent capacity constraints, to effectively coordinate and deliver the needed change. There is paucity of data and effective monitoring on youth development and empowerment over the years to support evidence-based policies and programmes. It is also known that there is disparity in youth development and empowerment programs between urban and rural areas.

2.3 SWOT Analysis

A thorough assessment of prevailing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats that can positively or negatively affect outcomes have been identified. **Error! Reference source not found.**table 7 below presents the SWOT analysis for the youth sector.

Table 7: SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
Strong Policy Base	Weak Inter-Agency Coordination
Established Youth Sector Institutions	Inadequate and Unreliable Data Base on Youth Programmes
Institutional Mandate and Convening Power (establishment of Ministry of youth development and empowerment)	Inadequate Budget Allocation and un-timely releases
Strategic Partnerships	Limited Capacity Building and Training For Sector Workers
Governmental Commitment to Youth Development and Empowerment (political will)	Weak Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Systems
Trainable and Educated Workforce	Fragmented and Uncoordinated Policies and Programmes
Youth programmes	
Opportunities	Threats
Digital Innovation and ICT Infrastructure	Changing Regulatory and Fiscal Environment
Emerging Youth Markets and Gig Economy	Overlapping Mandates and Parallel Institutions
Public-Private Partnerships	Paucity of Youth related data

Youth Treaties and conventions	Social and Structural Inequalities
Diverse Youth Actors and Youth Initiatives	Youth Expectation Shifts
High commitment of development partners	Youth Mistrust in Public Institutions
Platforms for youth advocacy and civic engagement	Rising Security and Social Risks
High youth entrepreneurial drive	Political instability in neighbouring countries
High tolerance of diversity	Mismatch between education curricula and the job market demand/skills mismatch
Platforms for youth benefits e.g., AfCFTA, Commonwealth Youth Council	Limited job opportunities/High youth unemployment
A corps of trainable youth	Limited support for youth initiatives
Increasing Demand For Environmental Sustainability (GREEN ECONOMY)	Growing youth population
Energetic and vibrant youth	Political interference in youth programmes
Growing youth population	
Highly literate youth	

2.4 List of Key Development Issues

Youth Development and Empowerment

1. High unemployment, underemployment and vulnerable employment.
2. Low levels of patriotism and volunteerism
3. Limited opportunities to participate in governance and global affairs
4. Disparity between urban and rural youth development,
5. Socio-cultural norms and barriers.
6. Weak entrepreneurial skills, finance and business advisory services

Health and Well-Being

1. Increasing rate of Drugs and substance abuse and mental health issues
2. Rising incidence of violence and crime
3. Barriers to youth-friendly health services eg, Stigma, Lack of confidentiality, Poor health service coverage

Institutional Development and Management

1. Fragmented Implementation of youth programmes
2. Weak co-ordination of youth related institutions and programs
3. Paucity and fragmented youth related data
4. Low budgetary allocation

2.5 Future Development Needs

Government prediction of stable and resilient economic growth in the medium-term coupled with the stable socio-economic environment that the country is enjoying, commitment from all stakeholders and the ready support of private sector to partner the youth sector is reassuring. The youth sector in the medium term is therefore repositioning itself to take full advantage of the current political climate to address the challenges of youth development and empowerment. The attainment of these responses will be measured by;

- Expansion of sustainable youth employment programmes
- Skill certification for youth
- Bridge skill training gaps
- Promote youth governance, voluntarism, and community participation
- Youth leadership
- Health and well -being
- Provide start-up (entrepreneurship)
- Coordination / governance of the sector

CHAPTER THREE: KEY DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES

3.0 Introduction

This chapter outlines the development issues that have been identified from the performance review and situational analysis with implication for the next medium-term plan. The identified issues have been appropriately linked to the development dimensions in the medium-term development policy framework. The chapter also indicates issues prioritised using the criteria provided in the NDPC guidelines to ensure effective and efficient implementation.

Following the performance review analysis, a number of development issues were identified. Taking cognisance of the limited fiscal space to the sector, the development issues were prioritised. Issues that are deemed to have the most impact on the sector and national development were prioritised to ensure effective implementation of the plan. The development issues were assigned weights and ranked using the criteria listed below.

3.1 Criteria for Prioritisation

Prioritisation was done bearing in mind the vision of the President for the youth, international youth regulations and treaties as well as the impact of the issues identified. The criteria include the following:

1. Severity and diversity of the problem and intended benefits (social, economic, environmental, etc.) of addressing it.
2. Significant multiplier effect on economic efficiency, e.g., attraction of investors, job creation, increases in incomes and growth.
3. Significant linkage to meeting basic human needs and rights.
4. Significant multiplier effects in the sustainable spatial development of designated spaces or corridors.
5. Opportunities for addressing key cross-cutting development themes such as; (marginalised and vulnerable groups, gender equality and equity with respect to practical and strategic needs and interests, environmental concerns including climate, biodiversity, disaster risk reduction, etc.)

Table 8: Criteria for Prioritisation

S/N	Youth Development and Empowerment	Severity and diversity of the problem and intended benefits (social, economic, environmental, etc.) of addressing it. (0.4)	Significant multiplier effect on economic efficiency, e.g., attraction of investors, job creation, increases in incomes and growth. (0.3)	Significant linkage to meeting basic human needs and rights. (0.15)	Significant multiplier effects in the sustainable spatial development of designated spaces or corridors. (0.05)	Opportunities for addressing key cross-cutting development themes. (0.1)	Total	Ranking
1.	High unemployment, underemployment, and vulnerable employment.	0.4	0.3	0.15	0.05	0.1	1	1st
2.	Low levels of patriotism and volunteerism	0.25	0.3	0.05	0.025	0.035	0.66	13th
3.	Limited opportunities to participate in governance and global affairs	0.25	0.3	0.15	0.05	0.1	0.85	3rd
4.	Disparity between urban and rural youth development	0.3	0.25	0.15	0.05	0.05	0.8	7th
5.	Weak entrepreneurial skills finance and business advisory services	0.25	0.3	0.05	0.21	0.01	0.82	5th

Health and well being								
6.	Increasing rate of Drugs and substance abuse and mental Health issues	0.4	0.3	0.15	0.02	0.02	0.89	2nd
7.	Rising incidence of violence and crime	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.02	0.02	0.84	4th
8.	Barriers to youth-friendly health services eg, Stigma, Lack of confidentiality, Poor health service coverage	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.02	0.03	0.75	9th
9.	Socio-cultural norms and barriers.	0.3	0.25	0.1	0.01	0.01	0.67	12th
Institutional Development and Management								
10.	Fragmented Implementation of youth programmes	0.4	0.25	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.69	11th
11.	Weak co-ordination of youth related institutions and programs	0.25	0.25	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.54	16th
12.	Paucity and fragmented youth-related data-	0.3	0.2	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.53	17th
13.	Low budgetary allocation	0.4	0.3	0.15	0.05	0.1	1	1st

3.2 Prioritised Issues

- i. Low budgetary allocation
- ii. High unemployment, underemployment and vulnerable employment.
- iii. Increasing rate of drugs and substance abuse and mental health issues
- iv. Limited opportunities to participate in governance and global affairs
- v. Rising incidence of violence and crime
- vi. Weak entrepreneurial skills, finance and business advisory services.
- vii. Disparity between urban and rural youth development
- viii. Barriers to youth-friendly health services eg, Stigma, Lack of confidentiality, Poor health service coverage
- ix. Fragmented Implementation of youth programmes
- x. Socio-cultural norms and barriers.
- xi. Low levels of patriotism and volunteerism
- xii. Weak co-ordination of youth related institutions and programs
- xiii. Paucity and fragmented youth related data

The Prioritised development issues for the youth sector are enshrined in the following policy objectives of the youth sector to be implemented in the period 2026-2029

1. Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10%. This is to be achieved through expansion of market-relevant skills training, entrepreneurship, and decent job creation.
2. Attain Civic Engagement, volunteerism and Patriotism among 40% of the youth population.
3. Improve Health, Safety and Wellbeing of 40% of the youth population
4. Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of MYDE and its Agencies to meet growing youth demands critical infrastructure

CHAPTER FOUR: DEVELOPMENT GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

4.0 Introduction

Chapter Four outlines the strategic direction of the Ministry towards achieving its core mandate of empowering young people for national development and global competitiveness.

The strategies articulated herein are aligned with the National Medium-Term Development Policy Framework (2026-2029) and the Government's vision of a stable, resilient, and inclusive economy. They are designed to harness the demographic dividend through integrated approaches that promote decent work, entrepreneurship, health, personal development, and leadership among the youth.

The government's medium-term priorities (2026-2029) provide overall direction for socio-economic national development by creating the conditions for the private sector to thrive to propel growth and create ample employment opportunities, especially for the youth. The medium-term priorities provide the basis for the preparation of a detailed medium-term national development plan, to be implemented over the period 2026-2029 by the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) as well as Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs). The Youth Sector Medium-Term Strategy is based on and inspired by the Medium-Term Policy Goal of stabilising the economy and positioning it for strong, sustainable and resilient growth.

4.1 National Developmental Priorities

The youth sector will work with national medium-term key priorities of growth and development, namely:

- the implementation of the 'Big Push' agenda;
- the Digital Jobs Initiative;
- the Agriculture for Jobs programme;
- the Rapid Industrialisation for Jobs Programme;
- increase in large-scale mining output in the medium-term;
- increased foreign investor confidence resulting from stability in the macro-economy;
- implementation of the Ghana local economic development policy and enhanced private sector participation in industrial growth; and
- Expected growth in intra-African trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

4.2 National Medium Term Policy Framework (NMTPF)

The economic development policy goal of government over the medium-term is to stabilize the economy and place it on the path of strong and resilient growth. Similarly, the youth sector, taking inspiration in implementing its 2026-2029 MTDP together with all stakeholders will work to reduce youth unemployment by improving management and promotion of inclusive youth skill training, entrepreneurship, governance, health and well-being and personal development which will be measured by;

- Decent youth employment
- Skilled youth
- Youth entrepreneurship

- Youth health and well-being
- Personal development

4.3 Youth Sector Goals

Improving the youth ecosystem outcomes, promoting physical and mental health support, access to quality education, vocational training, access to employment opportunities & entrepreneurship training, and opportunities for young people to participate in decision-making and foster personal growth and leadership skills shall be the driving force to achieving the sector goal of having a productive youth.

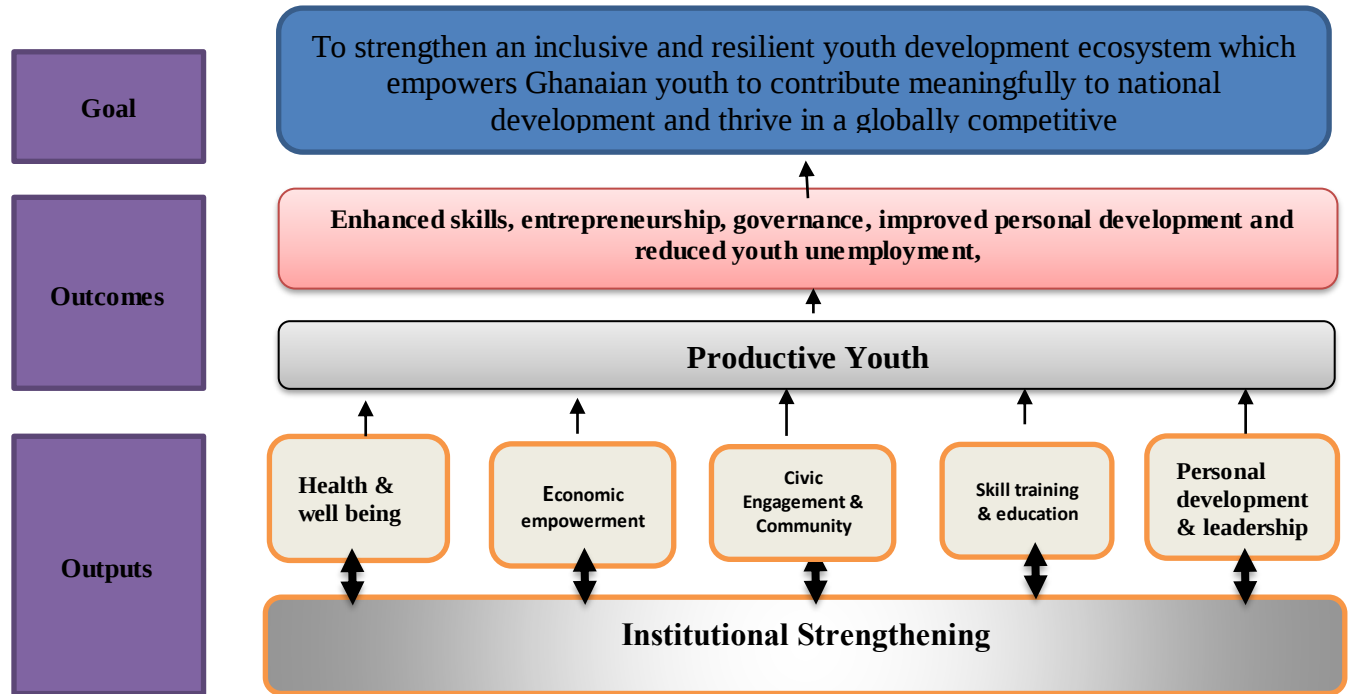


Figure 12: YSMTD Framework

4.3.1 Goal

To strengthen an inclusive and resilient youth development ecosystem that empowers Ghanaian youth to contribute meaningfully to national development and thrive in a globally competitive environment

4.3.2 Objectives

The objectives of the Sector Medium-Term Development Plan (2026-2029) are as follows:

1. Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10% by 2029
2. Promote civic engagement, volunteerism, and patriotism from 47% to 60% by 2029 among the youth population
3. Increase awareness of health, safety, and well-being among at least 60% of the youth population by 2029
4. Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) and Agencies by 2029
5. Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10% by 2029. The objective aims at reducing unemployment through targeted public and private employment, skills development, and entrepreneurship initiatives.
6. Promote civic engagement, volunteerism, and patriotism from 47% to 60% by 2029 among the youth population. The objective seeks to foster active community engagement, leadership, volunteerism and patriotism for national development.
7. Increase awareness of health, safety, and well-being among at least 60% of the youth population by 2029. The objective will help inculcate and sustain public education, advocacy campaigns, and youth-focused health and safety interventions.
8. Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) and Agencies by 2029. This objective aims to improve governance systems, staff capacity development, enhanced inter-agency collaboration, and strengthened monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.

Table 9: Development Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Programmes

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
• High unemployment, underemployment, and vulnerable employment among the youth • Limited decent job opportunities for the youth • Low entrepreneurial skills among the youth • Inadequate access to business financing-start-up capital and credit facilities • Disparity between urban and rural youth development • Untapped Youth Bulge	To strengthen an inclusive and resilient youth development ecosystem that empowers Ghanaian youth to contribute meaningfully to national development and thrive in a globally competitive environment	Reduce Youth Unemployment Rate from ³ 21.7% (1,300,000) to 10% (599,078)	Promote effective participation of the youth in socioeconomic development Harness the vast talents, skills, and energies of the youth for national development Improve support for entrepreneurship and MSME development Harness the demographic dividend	Facilitate inclusive decent youth employment and livelihood initiatives. Promote green and climate resilient businesses Strengthen/ Promote inclusive access to vocational and technical skills training	Implement the Adwumawura Programme Implement the Youth Employment Modules. Facilitate the implementation of Youth Domestic Work Empowerment Initiative (YDWEI) Infrastructure development Promote Green & Environmental Sustainability Initiatives Promote cooperatives for youth green enterprises.	Skills Development and Employment

³ SOURCE (21.7%): GSS 3rd Quarter AHIES 2024

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
					Train youth in solar panel installation/waste recycling. Promote Digital Employment, Technology, ICT & Innovation Implement the National Apprenticeship programme Collaborate with National TVET and other partners on Skills Training (Apprenticeship & Vocational Development and certification).	
Low levels of patriotism and volunteerism		Promote civic engagement, volunteerism, and patriotism from	Empower young people to actively engage in political processes,	Promote culture of volunteerism, patriotism, social and	Develop a national Volunteerism strategy.	Empowerment and leadership

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
- Limited participation of youth in governance and decision-making - Limited opportunities to participate in international and global affairs - Rising incidence of violence and crime - Socio-cultural norms and barriers		47% ⁴ to 60% by 2029 among the youth population	electoral democracy, and governance	civic responsibility among the youth Strengthen youth participation in governance and decision-making Encourage youth participation in international leadership platforms Institutionalise inclusive leadership programmes and leadership opportunities Strengthen coaching, mentorship	Design and implement National Volunteer Programme for the youth Institute a certification programme for the Youth Volunteers Institute a national programme to identify and recognise highly performing youth volunteers. Build Capacity of Youth in Leadership Promote the activities of Youth Councils at all levels.	

⁴ SOURCE (47%) : Understanding Ghanaian Youth Aspirations, MYDE August 2025

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
				and internship among the youth Strengthen school-to-work transition pathways	Strengthen Youth Parliaments at the district, regional, and national levels Parliamentary Youth mentoring programme. Launch and celebrate the National Youth Month Support young leaders annually to participate in Bilateral and Multi-lateral youth assemblies (Youth in Diplomacy Programmes) Promote the activities of Ghana Youth Federation	

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGI ES	ACTIVITIES	DEVEL PMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
					Establish GirlsLead Ghana Clubs in junior and senior high schools Launch and institutionalise Annual Girls Leadership Accelerator programme (focusing on entrepreneurship , STEM, and civic engagement). Implement Leadership Fellowship programme for PWDs. (Training, internships, and public speaking opportunities) Complete and Operationalise Youth Resource Centres	

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
					Strengthen coaching, mentorship and internship among the youth Develop a Digital MentorMe Network programme (match youth with professionals) Partner with private and public sector to implement skill-based internship programme. Reintroduce Military Training as part of national service Promote agriculture as part of national service programme	

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
					Sensitize the youth on migration	
• Limited institutional capacity needed to sustain the increasing demand of youth • Fragmented implementation of youth programmes • Paucity and fragmented youth-related data • Low budgetary allocation		Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) and Agencies by 2029	Improve coordination of youth development	Improve institutional capacity of the Ministry Improve generation of evidence-based data (research)	Strengthen coordination of youth-related institutions and programmes Coordinate Policy review and formulation <i>Draft Bills and LIs</i> Develop and implement the resource mobilisation strategy Strengthen accountability & results measurement (M&E sector performance etc)	Institutional Development and Management

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGI ES	ACTIVITIES	DEVEL PMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
					Develop and Implement the YouthXplore tracker. Conduct researches in youth ecosystem.	

PRIORITISED ISSUES	GOALS	OBJECTIVES	ALIGNED NATIONAL OBJECTIVES	STRATEGIES	ACTIVITIES	DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Dimension/Thematic Area: Social Development						
Increasing rate of drug and substance abuse • Limited knowledge of Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health (ASRH) • Rising mental health issues • Barriers to youth-friendly health services eg, Stigma, Lack of confidentiality, Poor health service coverage		Increase awareness of health, safety, and well-being among at least 60% of the youth population by 2029	Reduce the incidence of new STIs, HIV and AIDS and other infections, especially among vulnerable groups. Improve mental health services at all levels	1. Create mental health awareness and psychosocial support opportunities 2. Facilitate youth integration and inclusivity in health and well-being 3. Strengthen/Promote preventive health and behaviour change communication 4. Promote youth safety		Health and Well-Being

CHAPTER FIVE: COMPOSITE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

5.0 Introduction

This Section outlines the cost estimates and projected resources available for the implementation of the set objectives and targets. This is an essential component of the Plan. Cost estimates for the YSMTDP were done for the period 2022-2025 in line with the government commitment towards youth development and empowerment.

The Ministry will require a total of GHS 22.22 billion to implement programmes and activities within the plan period 2026-2029. The cost of the plan is broken down into the following programmes: Health Safety and Well-being; Empowerment and Leadership; Skills Development and Employment; and Institutional Development and Management.

5.1 Costing Methodology

The costing exercise was done through a consultative and iterative process between the Ministry and Agencies. The costing team prioritise activities, collected data on all funding sources, trend expenditures and possible government fiscal space through the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) projections. Based on the priorities, targets were set to ensure accuracy of the estimates. The costing team used activity-based costing and price increments to cost the priority programmes for the 4-year term. Cost of various projects under the various programmes were then aggregated to the programme levels.

5.2 Costing Assumptions

The following are the assumptions underpinning the costing,

- Government commitment to youth development and empowerment
- Stable macro-economic projections (increase in budget)
- Earmarked funds for special youth programmes
- Development Partners support

Table 10: Programme of Action (POA)

Development Programme	Time Frame				Cost				Programme Status		Implementation Institution/Department	
	2026	2027	2028	2029	GoG	DACF	IGF	Foreign Loans & Grants (FLG)	New	Ongoing	Lead	Collaborating
Health and Well-Being					550,478,370	6,810,000	-	5,200,000		X	MYDE, NYA	NSA, YEA, NEIP, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, MDAs, MMDAs and all other relevant stakeholders
Empowerment and leadership					675,931,037	100,895,000	-	20,302,800		X	MYDE, NYA	NSA, YEA, NEIP, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, MDAs, MMDAs and all other relevant stakeholders
Skills Development and Employment					16,629,105,193	249,484,340	11,600,000	2,105,451,680		X	MYDE, NYA, YEA, NEIP	NSA, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, MDAs, MMDAs and all other relevant stakeholders
Institutional Development and Management					1,085,418,811	772,405,466	4,100,000.	6,965,600		X	MYDE, NYA	NSA, YEA, NEIP, DPs, CSOs, FBOs, MDAs, MMDAs and all other relevant stakeholders

PROGRAMME FINANCING

Table 11: Programme Financing

Development Programme	Programme Cost (A)	Expected Revenue and Sources of Funding						Total (B)	GAP (B-A)
		GoG	IGF	DACF	ABFA	CST	GETFUND		
Health and Well-Being	562,488,370	6,600,000		111,964,413				118,564,413	- 443,923,957
Empowerment and leadership	797,128,837	6,600,000	90,806,115	111,964,413				209,370,528	- 587,758,309
Skills Development and Employment	18,995,641,213	1,486,802,982		3,516,128,464		2,716,555,097	1,989,111,511	9,708,598,054	- 9,287,043,159
Institutional Development and Management	1,868,889,877	66,000,000						66,000,000	- 1,802,889,877

CHAPTER SIX: ANNUAL ACTION PLANS

6.0 INTRODUCTION

The AAPs serve as a critical planning and management tool that guides resource allocation, coordination, and performance of the Ministry and its implementing agencies-the National Youth Authority, National Service Authority, National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme, and Youth Employment Agency. Each year's action plan details the key programmes, expected outputs, timelines, and responsible institutions.

Table 12: 2026 Annual Action Plan

Objective: Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) and Agencies by 2029													
Programme: Institutional Development and Management													
Projects	Location	Time Frame				Cost				Project Status		Implementing Institutions	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	GoG	DACF	IGF	Foreign Loans & Grants (FLG)	New	Ongoing	Lead	Collaborating
<i>Policy Formulation, Planning & Resource Mobilisation</i> - Development of Bills & L.Is - Development Sector Policies	HQ		x	x	x	7,711,800.00	366,600.00	-	-		x	MYDE-PPBME	NYA, YEA, NEIP, NSA, MOFA
<i>Monitoring, Evaluation, Research & Learning (MERL)</i> - Monitor the Sector - Annual Youth Sector Performance - ICT & Digital Transformation (eg. Implement Youth Xplore Tracker, Digital Mentor	HQ		x	x	x	42,381,606.00	6,831,700.00	300,000.00	500,000.00		x	MYDE-PPBME	NYA, YEA, NEIP, NSA,

Programme, Promote digital employment) • Conduct Research In Youth Ecosystem													
<i>Institutional Capacity Building & Human Resource Development</i>	HQ	x	x	x	x	53,247,429.00	4,400,000.00	600,000.00	800,000.00		x	MYDE-HRMD,	All MYDE Directorates, NYA
<i>Finance, Audit & Administration</i> • Develop And Implement Public Financial Management Plan	HQ	x	x	x	x	68,910,359.54	73,119,200.00				x	MYDE-FC	MYDE-PSC, NYA, AGENCIES
<i>Infrastructure Development & Facility Management</i>	HQ	x	x	x	x	188,700,000.00	168,000,000.00	-	-		x	NYA	RCCs, MMDAs
Total						361,123,194.79	252,717,500.00	900,000.00	1,300,000.00				
Objective: Promote civic engagement, volunteerism, and patriotism from 47% to 60% by 2029 among the youth population													
Programme: Empowerment and Leadership													
<i>Orientation, Sensitisation & Awareness</i> • Promote youth migration	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	119,807,009.30	1,200,000.00		1,000,000.00		x	NSA, NYA	MMDAs, MDAs, DPs, Youth Groups
<i>Volunteerism & Civic Participation</i> • Promote Volunteerism among the youth • Military training as part of national service	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	2,400,000.00 475,852,520.00	14,000,000.00	-	4,900,000.00		x	NYA, NSA	RCCs, MMDAs, GES, Universities

<i>Youth Leadership Capacity Building</i> - Establish GirlsLead Ghana Clubs in schools - Implement Leadership Fellowship programme for youth including Women and PWDs. (Training, internships, and public speaking opportunities) - Build Capacity of Youth in Leadership	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	6,700,000.00	15,500,000.00		1,602,800.00		x	NYA	GES, Universities, UNFPA
<i>Recognition & Motivation</i> - Promote the activities of Youth federation at regional level - Strengthen Youth Parliaments at the district, regional, and national levels	National	x	x	x	x	22,005,394.00	50,000.00		100,000.00	x		YA, NEIP	Youth Groups, Presidency
<i>International Exposure & Engagement</i> Support young leaders annually to participate in Bilateral and Multi-lateral youth assemblies e.g. Youth in Diplomacy Programme.	National	x	x	x	x	4,600,000.00	2,800,000.00		2,300,000.00		x	NYA	DPs, CSOs, UN Systems
<i>Skills Strengthening & Professional Development</i> Partner with private and public sector to implement skill-based internship programme	National	x	x	x	x	40,000,000.00					x	YEA	GTJET service, Private sector Partners
Total						162,207,09.30	33,550,000.00	-	8,300,000.00				

Objective: Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10% by 2029													
Programme: Skills Development and Employment													
<i>Agriculture & Agribusiness</i> Promote agriculture as part of national service programme	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	118,428,4 20.00	6,700,00 0.00		155,400,0 00.00		x	NSA NYA YEA	Mastercard Foundation, ASH, FAO, AGRA, MOFA, UNIDO, Academia, Universities MYDE, MoFA, MoLGCRA, MoLNR
<i>Green & Environmental Sustainability Initiatives</i>	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	737,452,0 00.00			3,000,000 .00		x	NSA YEA	MYDE, MoLNR, Forestry Commission MoLNR, EPA, Water Resources Commission
<i>Skills Training, Apprenticeship & Vocational Development</i> Collaborate with National TVET and other partners on Skills Training (Apprenticeship & Vocational Development and certification)	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	432,928,6 45.00			2,000,000 .00		x	YEA	MYDE, GTVET, Private Sector Partner
<i>National Apprenticeship programme</i>	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	2,300,000 ,000.00			350,500,0 00.00		x	NYA	

• Implement National Apprenticeship programme													
• Promote Entrepreneurship	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	87,752,50 0.00							
<i>Adwumawura Programme</i> • Implement Adwumawura Programme	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	500,000,0 00.00			30,000,00 0.00		x	NEIP	SIF
<i>Economic Empowerment</i> • Implement Youth Employment Modules	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	367,536,5 00	700,000. 00	400, 000.00	56,870,00 0.00		x	YEA, NEIP	MYDE, MEJL, MoFARI, Private sector partners, IOM,MoCDTI , Private sector partner, SIF
<i>Youth Service, Security & Protection</i> • Collaborate with partners to create awareness of youth safety • Promote Youth Peace and security /SOCO	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	300,000.0 0	200,000. 00		500,000.0 0		x	YEA, NYA	MoI, Ghana Prison Service, RCCs, MMDAs, CSOs, DPs, MDAs
Infrastructure & Public services	Nationw ide	x	x	x	x	36,926,50 0.00					x	YEA	MoLG, MoE, ECG/NEDCO, MMDAs
TOTAL						4,969,424 ,585.00	7,600,00 0.00	400,00 0.00	598,270,0 00.00				
Objective: Increase awareness of health, safety, and well-being among at least 60% of the youth population by 2029													
Programme: Health and Well-Being													

Community Health Services & Support - Educate the youth on substance abuse and its effect. (e.g. Red Means Stop) - Collaborate with relevant institutions to promote preventive health activities, e.g. teenage pregnancy, obesity, HIV/AIDS, mental health. (e.g. GHS and Mental Health Authority, Christian Health Association, DPs, Religious organisation, etc) - Institutionalise a national competition on substance abuse awareness in schools - Advocate for youth corners in health facilities	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	221,559,000.00	-	-	-		X	YEA	MYDE, MoH, GHS, Millennium Promise, Ghana Ambulance Service
TOTAL						223,759,000.00	2,000,000.00	-	3,700,000.00				
GRAND TOTAL						5,604,634,289.09	294,867,500.00	1,300,000.00	609,720,000.00				

Table 13: 2027 Annual Action Plan

Objective: Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) and Agencies by 2029													
Programme: Institutional Development and Management													
Projects	Location	Time Frame				Cost				Project Status		Implementing Institution	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	GoG	DACF	IGF	FLG	New	Ongoing	Lead	Collaborating
Policy Formulation, Planning & Resource Mobilisation Development of Bills & L.I	HQ		x	x	x	2,993,240.00	1,000,000.00	0	1,500,000.00		X	MYDE-PPBME	NYA, YEA, NEIP, NSA, MOFA
Monitoring, Evaluation, Research & Learning (MERL) - Monitor the Sector - Annual Youth Sector Performance - ICT & Digital Transformation (e.g. Implement Youth Xplore Tracker, Digital Mentor Programme, Promote digital employment) - Conduct Researches In Youth Ecosystem	HQ		x	x	x	161,990,250	20,950,000	700,000	500,000		X	MYDE-PPBME	NYA, YEA, NEIP, NSA,
Finance, Audit & Administration Develop And Implement Public Financial Management Plan	HQ	x	x	x	x	43,837,553.52	27723000				X	MYDE-FC	MYDE-PSC, NYA, AGENCIES

Institutional Capacity Building & Human Resource Development	HQ		x	x	x	44,168,429.00	6,000,000.00	800,000.00	60,000.00		X	MYD E-RSIM	
Infrastructure Development & Facility Management	HQ	X	X	X	X	178,700,000	167,700,000	0	0		X	NYA, YEA	Media Houses, Private sector partners
TOTAL						295,199,222.52	223,373,000.00	1,100,000.00	2,060,000.00				
Objective: Promote civic engagement, volunteerism, and patriotism from 47% to 60% by 2029 among the youth population													
Programme: Empowerment and Leadership													
Orientation & Sensitisation Awareness • Promote youth migration	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	114,957,009.30	350,000.00	0	1,000,000.00		x	NSA, NYA	MMDAs, MDAs, DPs, Youth Groups
Volunteerism & Civic Participation • Promote Volunteerism among the youth • Military training as part of national service	Nation wide	X	X	X	X	856,747,439.00	7,350,000		2,500,000		x	NYA	RCCs, MMDAs, GES, Universities
Youth Leadership Development & Capacity Building • Establish GirlsLead Ghana Clubs in junior and senior high schools • Implement Leadership Fellowship programme for the youth including women and PWDs. (Training, internships,	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	30,365,000	7,300,000	0	1,602,800		x	NYA	GES Universities UNFPA

and public speaking opportunities) • Build Capacity of Youth in Leadership													
Recognition & Motivation • Promote the activities of Youth federation at regional level • Strengthen Youth Parliaments at the district, regional, and national levels	National	x	x	x	x	25,065,000.00	35,000.00	0	100,000.00		X	YA, NEIP	Youth Groups, Presidency
International Exposure & Engagement • Support young leaders annually to participate in Bilateral and Multi-lateral youth assemblies (eg. Youth in Diplomacy Programme)	National	x	x	x	x	3,000,000.00	31,500,000.00	0			X	NYA	DPs, CSOs, UN Systems
TOTAL						173,387,009.30	44,535,000.00	0	5,202,800.00				
Objective: Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10% by 2029													
Programme: Skills Development and Employment													
Agriculture & Agribusiness • Promote agriculture as part of national service programme	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	1,722,408,602.00	25,000,000.00		189,400,000.00		X	NSA NYA YEA	Mastercard Foundation ASH, FAO, AGRA, MOFA, UNIDO,

													Academia, Universities MYDE, MoFA, MoLGC RA, MoLNR
<i>Skills Training, Apprenticeship & Vocational Development</i> • Collaborate with National TVET and other partners on Skills Training (Apprenticeship & Vocational Development and certification)	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	367,536,500					X	NSA YEA	MYDE, MoLNR, Forestry Commission MoLNR, EPA, Water Resources Commission
<i>National Apprenticeship Programme</i> • Implement National Apprenticeship programme	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	2,300,000,000			350,500,000.00		X	YEA	MYDE, GTVET, Private Sector Partner
<i>Adwumawura Programme</i> • Promote Entrepreneurship	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	87,752,500							
Implement Adwumawura Programme	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	500,000,000.00			30,000,000.00		X	NYA	

Entrepreneurship & Innovation Support • Promote cooperatives for youth green enterprises	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	41,380,625.00	2,500,000.00	0	0		X	NEIP	SIF
Youth Service, Security & Protection • Collaborate with partners to create awareness of youth safety • Promote Youth Peace and security /SOCO	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	852,547,439	2,000,000		200,000		X	YEA NEIP	MYDE, MoCDTI, Private sector partne, SIF
Education, Teaching & Personal Development • Implement Youth Employment Models	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	2,800,000.00			440,000.00		X	YEA, NYA	MoI, Ghana Prison Servie, RCCs, MMDAs, CSOs, DPs, MDAs
Infrastructure and Public services	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	37,926,500.00					X	YEA, NYA	MoLG, MoE, ECG/NE DCO, MMDAs
TOTAL						5,970,060,608.00	29,500,000.00	400,000.00	295,339,200.00				
Objective: Increase awareness of health, safety, and well-being among at least 60% of the youth population by 2029													
Programme: Health and Well-Being													
Health Education & Awareness • Educate the youth on substance abuse and its	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	2,570,000.00	1,130,000.00		800,000		X	NYA	Mental Health Authority, GES,

effect. (Red Means Stop Campaign) • Collaborate with relevant institutions to promote preventive health activities, e.g. Teenage pregnancy, obesity, HIV/AIDS, mental health . (eg. GHS and Mental Health Authority, Christian Health Association, DPs, Religious • Institutionalise a national competition on substance abuse awareness in schools													GHS, NACOC, UNFPA,
Community Health Services & Support • Advocate for youth corners in health facilities	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	316,829,370					X	YEA	MYDE, MoH, GHS, Millennium Promise, Ghana Ambulance Service
Total						319,399,370	1,130,000	0	800,000				
Grand Total						6,598,346,524.82	297,973,000.00	1,500,000.00	303,002,000.00				

Table 14: 2028 Annual Action Plan

Objective: Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) and Agencies by 2029													
Programme: Institutional Development and Management													
Projects	Location	Time Frame				Cost				Project Status		Implementing Institution	
		Q 1	Q2	Q3	Q 4	GoG	DACF	IGF	FLG	New	Ongoing	Lead	Collaborating
Policy Formulation, Planning & Resource Mobilisation - Development of Bills & L.Is - Development of Sector Policies	HQ		x	x	x	1,204,500.00	16000				X	MY DE-PPB ME	NYA, YEA, NEIP, NSA, MOFA
Monitoring, Evaluation, Research & Learning (MERL) - Monitor the Sector Annual Youth Sector Performance - ICT & Digital Transformation (eg. Implement Youth Xplore Tracker, Digital Mentor Programme, Promote digital employment) - Conduct Researches In Youth Ecosystem	HQ		x	x	x	26,440,000	7,850,000	300,000	500,000		X	MY DE-PPB ME	NYA, YEA, NEIP, NSA,

Finance, Audit & Administration • Develop And Implement Public Financial Management Plan	HQ	x	x	x	x	49,048,555.09	257,600.00				X	MY DE-HRM D, RSI M	All MYDE Directorates, NYA
Institutional Capacity Building & Human Resource Development	HQ	x	x	x	x	46,267,429.00	1,000,000.00	600,000.00	1,302,800.00		X	MY DE-FC	MYDE-PSC, NYA, AGENCIES
Infrastructure Development & Facility Management • Complete and Operationalise Youth Resource Centres	HQ	x	x	x	x	103,700,000.00	97,700,000.00	0	0		X	NYA	RCCs, MMDAs
Total						226,660,484.09	132,326,000.00	900,000.00	1,802,800.00				
Objective: Promote civic engagement, volunteerism, and patriotism from 47% to 60% by 2029 among the youth population													
Programme: Empowerment and Leadership													
Orientation, Sensitisation & Awareness • Promote youth migration	HQ		x	x	x	121,147,009.30	350,000.00	0	1,000,000.00		X	NSA, NYA	MMDAs, MDAs, DPs, Youth Groups
Volunteerism & Civic Participation	HQ		x	x	x	1,260,000	4,140,000	0	0			X	

Promote Volunteerism & Institute a certification for Youth Volunteers													
Military training as part of national service			x	x	x	1,300,000							
Youth Leadership Development & Capacity Building - Establish GirlsLead Ghana Clubs in schools - Implement Leadership Fellowship programme for youth including women & PWDs. (Training, internships, and public speaking opportunities) - Build Capacity of Youth in Leadership - Parliamentary Youth mentoring programme.	HQ	x	x	x	x	7,190,000	4,110,000	0	0		X	NYA	GES Universities UNFPA
Recognition & Motivation - Promote the activities of Youth federation at District levels - Strengthen Youth Parliaments at the district, regional, and national levels	HQ	x	x	x	x	29,565,000.00	35,000.00	0	100,000.00		X	YA, NEIP	Youth Groups, Presidency

International Exposure & Engagement Support young leaders annually to participate in Bilateral and Multi-lateral youth assemblies (Youth in Diplomacy Programme).	HQ		x	x	x	8,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	0	2,300,000.00		X	NYA	DPs, CSOs, UN Systems
Total						167,162,009.30	12,635,000.00	0	3,400,000.00				
Objective: Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10% by 2029													
Programme: Skills Development and Employment													
Agriculture & Agribusiness Promote agriculture as part of national service programme	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	30,905,000.00	8,300,000.00		183,500,000.00		X	NEIP NSA NYA YEA	Mastercard Foundation ASH, FAO, AGRA, MOFA, UNIDO, Academia, Universities MYDE, MoFA, MoLGCRA, MoLNR

Green & Environmental Sustainability Initiatives	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	500,000.00			3,000,000		X	NSA YEA	MYDE, MoLNR, Forestry Commission MoLNR, EPA, Water Resources Commission
National Apprenticeship Programme • Implement National Apprenticeship programme	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	2,300,000,000			450,000,000.00		X	YEA	MYDE, GTVET, Private Sector Partner
Adwumawura Programme • Implement Adwumawura Programme	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	500,000,000.00			30,000,000.00		X	NYA	
Skills Training, Apprenticeship & Vocational Development • Collaborate with National TVET and other partners on Skills Training (Apprenticeship &	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	0			2,000,000.00		X	NEIP	SIF

Vocational Development and certification)													
Promote Entrepreneurship	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	1,670,000.00	830,000	10,000,000.00	0		X	YEA	MYDE, MEJL, MoFARI, Private sector partners, IOM,
Technology, ICT & Digital Innovation Promote Digital Employment	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	100,000.00		400,000.00	48,262,480.00		X	YEA NEIP	MYDE, MoCDTI, Private sector partner, SIF
Youth Service, Security & Protection - Collaborate with partners to create awareness of youth safety - Promote Youth Peace and security /SOCO	Nationwide	x	x	x	x		700,000.00	0	200,000.00		X	YEA, NYA	MoI, Ghana Prison Service, RCCs, MMDAs, CSOs, DPs, MDAs

Education, Teaching & Personal Development • Implement Youth Employment Models	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	2,800,000.00			440,000.00		X	NSA NYA YEA	Mastercard Foundation ASH, FAO, AGRA, MOFA, UNIDO, Academia, Universities MYDE, MoFA, MoLGCRA, MoLNR
Infrastructure and Public services	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	37,926,500.00					X	YEA , NYA	
Total						2,837,275,000.00	9,830,000.00	10,400,000.00	717,402,480.00				

Objective: Increase awareness of health, safety, and well-being among at least 60% of the youth population by 2029													
Programme: Health and Well-Being													
Health Education & Awareness - Educate the youth on substance abuse and its effect. (Red Means Stop - Collaborate with relevant institutions to promote preventive health activities, eg. teenage pregnancy, obesity, HIV/AIDS, mental health . (eg. GHS and Mental Health Authority, Christian Health Association, DPs, Religious - Institutionalise a national competition on substance abuse awareness in schools - Advocate for youth corners in health facilities	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	3,670,000.00	1,830,000.00	0	350,000.00		X	NYA	Mental Health Authority , GES, GHS, NACOC, UNFPA,

Total						3,670,000.00	1,830,000.00	0.00	350,000.00				
Grand Total						3,232,932,493.39	155,706,000.00	11,300,000.00	722,780,280.00				

Table 15: 2029 Annual Action Plan

Objective: Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) and Agencies by 2029													
Programme: Institutional Development and Management													
Projects	Location	Time Frame				Cost				Project Status		Implementing Institution	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	GoG	DACF	IGF	FLG	New	Ongoing	Lead	Collaborating
Policy Formulation, Planning & Resource Mobilisation - Development of Bills & L.Is - Development of Sector Policies	HQ		X	X	X	4,321,000.00	20,000.00				X	MYDE - PPBM E	NYA, YEA, NEIP, NSA, MOFA
Monitoring, Evaluation, Research & Learning (MERL) - Monitor the Sector - Annual Youth Sector Performance - ICT & Digital Transformation (eg. Implement Youthxplore Tracker, Digital Mentor Programme, Promote digital employment) - Conduct Researches In Youth Ecosystem	HQ		X	X	X	13,395,000.00	22,550,000.00	300,000.00	500,000.00		X	MYDE - PPBM E	NYA, YEA, NEIP, NSA,
Finance, Audit & Administration Develop And Implement Public Financial Management Plan	HQ	X	X	X	X	34,759,480.71	42,718,966.00				X	MYDE-FC	MYDE-PSC, NYA, AGENCIES

Institutional Capacity Building & Human Resource Development	HQ		X	X	X	46,260,429.00	1,000,000.00	900,000.00	1,302,800.00		X	MYD E-RSIM	
Infrastructure Development & Facility Management • Complete and Operationalise Youth Resource Centres	HQ	X	X	X	X	103,700,000.00	97,700,000.00	-	-		X	NYA, YEA	Media Houses, Private sector partners
Total						202,435,909.71	163,988,966.00	1,200,000.00	1,802,800.00				
Objective: Promote civic engagement, volunteerism, and patriotism from 47% to 60% by 2029 among the youth population													
Programme: Empowerment and Leadership													
Orientation, Sensitisation & Awareness • Promote youth migration	Nation wide	X	X	X	X	121,947,009.30	350,000.00	-	1,000,000.00		X	NSA, NYA	MMDAs, MDAs, DPs, Youth Groups
Volunteerism & Civic participation • Promote Volunteerism among the youth	Nation wide	X	X	X	X	5,700,000.00	1,700,000.00	-	-		X		
Military training as part of national service						1,340,000.00						NYA	RCCs, MMDAs, GES, Universities

<i>Youth Leadership Development & Capacity building</i> - Establish GirlsLead Ghana Clubs in schools - Implement Leadership Fellowship programme for youth including women and PWDs. (Training, internships, and public speaking opportunities) - Build Capacity of Youth in Leadership	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	4,213,000.00	4,090,000.00	-	-		X	NYA	GES Universities UNFPA
<i>Recognition & Motivation</i> - Promote the activities of Ghana Youth federations at all levels. - Strengthen Youth Parliaments at the district, regional, and national levels	National	x	x	x	x	33,315,000.00	35,000.00	-	100,000.00		X	YEA, NEIP	Youth Groups, Presidency
<i>International Exposure & Engagement</i> Support young leaders annually to participate in Bilateral and Multi-lateral youth assemblies (Youth in Diplomacy Programme).	National	x	x	x	x	8,000,000.00	4,000,000.00	-	2,300,000.00		X	NYA	DPs, CSOs, UN Systems
Total						173,175,009.30	10,175,000.00	-	3,400,000.00				

Objective: Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10% by 2029													
Programme: Skills Development and Employment													
<i>Agriculture & Agribusiness</i> Promote agriculture as part of national service programme	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	45,935,000.00	8,300,000.00		30,500,000		X	NSA NYA YEA	Mastercard Foundation ASH, FAO, AGRA, MOFA, UNIDO, Academia, Universities MYDE, MoFA, MoLGCRA, MoLNR
Green & Environmental Sustainability Initiatives	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	500,000.00			3,000,000.00		X	NSA YEA	MYDE, MoLNR, Forestry Commission MoLNR, EPA, Water Resources Commission
<i>National Apprenticeship Programme</i> Implement National Apprenticeship programme	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	2,300,000,000	185,294,340.00		450,000,000.00		X	YEA	MYDE, GTVET, Private Sector Partner
<i>Adwumawura Programme</i>	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	500,000,000.00					X	NYA	

Implement Adwumawura Programme													
<i>Skills Training, Apprenticeship & Vocational Development</i> - Youth Employment Models - Collaborate with National TVET and other partners on Skills Training (Apprenticeship & Vocational Development and certification)	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	0	0		0		X	NEIP	SIF
Promote Entrepreneurship	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	1,670,000.00	8,300,000.00		10,000,000.00		X	YEA	MYDE, MEJL, MoFARI, Private sector partners, IOM,
<i>Technology, ICT & Digital Innovation</i> Promote Digital Employment	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	100,000.00		400,000.00			X	YEA	MYDE, MoCDTI, Private sector partne, SIF
<i>Youth Service, Security & Protection</i>	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	1,340,000.00	660,000.00		200,000		X	YEA, NYA	MoI, Ghana Prison Servie,

- Collaborate with partners to create awareness of youth safety - Promote Youth Peace and security /SOCO													RCCs, MMDAs, CSOs, DPs, MDAs
<i>Education, Teaching & Personal Development</i> Youth Employment Modules	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	2,800,000.00			440,000.00		X	NSA NYA YEA	Mastercard Foundation ASH, FAO, AGRA, MOFA, UNIDO, Academia, Universities MYDE, MoFA, MoLGCRA, MoLNR
Infrastructure and Public services	Nationwide	x	x	x	x	37,926,500.00					X	YEA, NYA	MoLG, MoE, ECG/NEDCO, MMDAs
TOTAL						2,852,345,000.00	202,554,340.00	400,000.00	494,440,000.00				
Objective: Increase awareness of health, safety, and well-being among at least 60% of the youth population by 2029													
Programme: Health and Well-Being													
Health Education & Awareness Educate the youth on substance abuse and its effect. (Red Means Stop)	Nation wide	x	x	x	x	3,650,000.00	1,850,000.00	-	350,000.00		X	NYA	Mental Health Authority, GES, GHS, NACOC, UNFPA,

• Collaborate with relevant institutions to promote preventive health activities, eg. teenage pregnancy, obesity, HIV/AIDS, mental health . (eg. GHS and Mental Health Authority, Christian Health Association, DPs, Religious • Institutionalise a national competition on substance abuse awareness in schools • Advocate for youth corners in health facilities													
TOTAL						3,650,000.00	1,850,000.00	-	350,000.00				
GRAND TOTAL						3,229,780,919.01	377,643,306.00	1,600,000.00	499,817,800.00				

CHAPTER SEVEN: MONITORING AND EVALUATION ARRANGEMENTS

7.0 Introduction

This Chapter presents the monitoring framework and plan for tracking implementation of the YSMTDP over the 2026-2029 term. The indicators linked to the objectives, interventions and the various strategies are developed and summarized in the framework for performance tracking by the Ministry and its stakeholders. An M&E plan accompanying this monitoring and evaluation framework is developed to guide performance monitoring of resources and tracking of results, as well as frequency of reporting to the Management and key stakeholders. Mid-term and end-of-term evaluation of the plan will be undertaken jointly by the Ministry and its stakeholders.

7.1 Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E)

The Ministry will adopt the Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) in tracking the implementation of the plan. The Youth Sector Working Group, which is made up of partners in the youth ecosystem from governmental and non-governmental institutions, will be responsible for monitoring and evaluation of the YSMTDP. These structures will be enhanced for appropriate and timely reporting on the performance of the YSMTDP. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms will be strengthened to engender greater accountability, transparency, and sustainability both in resource use and delivery of services. Key strategies will include innovation and use of IT; leveraging and strengthening existing systems such as GIFMIS; inter-sectoral and stakeholder involvement in tracking and monitoring of resources and results. In addition, there will be continuous review and monitoring of the YSMTDP to generate evidence to support reprioritization of the YSMTDP interventions. Most Significant Change (MSC), Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Community Scorecards among others will be used.

There will be a mid-term and Final Evaluation of the YSMTDP. At mid-year a process evaluation or the plan will be conducted while a summative evaluation will be undertaken at the end of the final year.

7.3 Results Framework

Measuring progress towards youth development and empowerment in Ghana is leveraged on the existing national and global platforms for measurement, data collection and analysis. This includes the youth-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) targets and indicators; the AU Framework for Action and the Global Monitoring Reports. Table summarizes the key indicators for tracking performance of the planned activities over the medium-term, 2026-2029.

7.4 Stakeholder Analysis

Understanding stakeholder needs, interests and responsibilities, is an essential component of planning, implementation of desired actions, and monitoring and evaluation. As part of efforts to achieve the ministry's mandate, stakeholders have been identified and suitably categorized based on their needs, interests and responsibilities. Key stakeholders identified include the Office of the President, Parliament, MoF, NDPC, OHCS, MMDAs, PAC, DPs, Academia, Youth, and the media.

The table below illustrates analysis of the role of various stakeholders with respect to the monitoring and evaluation arrangements.

Table 16: Stakeholder Analysis

S/N	STAKEHOLDERS	CATEGORY	NEEDS/ INTERESTS/ RESPONSIBILITIES	INVOLVEMENT
1	MYDE HQ, National Youth Authority, National Service Authority, Youth Employment Agency, National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme	Primary	• Implement policies, programmes and projects • Conduct research and disseminate findings • Promote accountability and transparency	• Participate in M&E processes • Programme implementation • Revenue mobilisation
2	Office of the President	Primary	• Demand and use of M&E results to evaluate the performance of the Sector and demand accountability & transparency. • Ensure efficient use of resources.	• Participation in M&E processes.
3	Parliament	Primary	• Use M&E results (e.g., APR) to play oversight role over the Executive and the Ministry • Ensure appropriate allocation and efficient use of resources • Ensure accountability and transparency	• Approval of budget • Participate in M&E processes •
4	Ministry of Finance	Primary	• Budget preparation • Ensure transparency and accountability	• Resource allocation • Budget implementation • Monitoring of projects • Participate in M&E processes
5	National Development Planning Commission	Primary	• Develop medium term and annual plans • Monitor and evaluate the sector	• Issue planning guidelines • Participate in M&E processes
6	Office of the Head of Civic Service	Primary	• Supervise performance	• Participate in M&E processes • Staff performance appraisal

S/N	STAKEHOLDERS	CATEGORY	NEEDS/ INTERESTS/ RESPONSIBILITIES	INVOLVEMENT
7	Ministry, Departments and Agencies/Municipal, Metropolitans, and District Assemblies	Secondary	• Implement policies, programmes and projects	• Participate in M&E processes • Revenue mobilisation • Sensitisation
8	Development Partners	Secondary	• Programmes and project implementation • Programmes and project monitoring • Promote accountability and transparency • Conduct research	• Provide technical and financial support. • Participation in M&E processes
9	Youth	Primary	• Implement policies, programmes and projects • Conduct research and disseminate findings • Promote accountability and transparency	• Participate in M&E processes • Programme implementation
10	The Media (Print and Electronic)	Secondary	• Promote accountability and transparency	• Participation in M&E processes

Table 17: Monitoring Matrix

Goal: To strengthen an inclusive and resilient youth development ecosystem which empowers Ghanaian youth to contribute meaningfully to national development and thrive in a globally competitive environment										
Objective: Reduce youth unemployment from 21.7% to 10% by 2029										
Programme: Skills Development and Employment										
Indicators	Indicator Definition	Indicator Type	Baseline 2025	Targets				Disaggregation	Monitoring Frequency	Responsibility
				2026	2027	2028	2029			
Youth unemployment rate	Proportion of youth who are currently not in employment and are seeking for employment and are available for employment	Impact	22.5% AHIES (2024 Q4)	---	---	---	10%	Sex, Location, age, disability	Annually	MYDE HQ, GSS
Reduction in youth Not in	Proportion youth who are currently not in employment, education or training	Outcome	22.40%	---	---	---	---	Sex, Location, age, disability	Annually	MYDE HQ, GSS
Employment, Education and Training (NEET)			AHIES (2024 Q4)							
Youth Entrepreneurs trained	No. of youth who have completed Adwumawura	Output	N/A	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NEIP
	No. of youth who have completed other entrepreneurship	Output	N/A	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NEIP, NYA, YEA, NSA

	training programmes									
Trained youth entrepreneurs supported with start-up capital	No. of the youth trained in entrepreneurship and provided with start-up capital	Output	N/A	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NEIP, NYA, YEA, NSA
Proportion of trained and supported entrepreneurs with sustainable businesses	Proportion of supported entrepreneurs stayed in business over the Medium Term	Output	N/A	70%	70%	70%	70%	Sex, Location, age, disability,	Quarterly	NEIP, NYA, YEA, NSA
Direct employment created by businesses of the trained entrepreneurs	No. of persons employed by the businesses of trained entrepreneurs	Output	N/A	3,000	8,000	14,000	20,000	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NEIP, NYA, YEA, NSA
Youth engaged under the employment Modules	No. of youth engaged under the various employment modules	Output	101,950	---	---	---	---	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	YEA, Private Sector (e.g. AIS, GIZ etc.)
Beneficiaries transitioned from temporary to permanent employment	No. of youth who have transitioned from module (temporary) to direct permanent employment	Output	13,860	---	---	---	---	Sex, Location, age, disability, Module	Annually	YEA (R&P, TS, M&E)

Youth provided with employable skills (NAP and other modules)	No. of youth trained in various trade areas	Output	10,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NYA
Trained youth provided with start-ups kits	No. of trained youth provided with start-ups kits after training	Output	10,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NYA
Businesses established by NAP beneficiaries	No. of businesses set up by NAP beneficiaries	Output	100	1,000	5,000	7,000	7,000	Regional	Quarterly	NYA
Master Craft Persons (MCPs)/ Training providers accredited to implement the NAP	No. of Master Craft Persons (MCPs)/Training providers accredited to implement the NAP	Output	3,000	5,000	7,000	8,000	10,000	Regional	Quarterly	NYA

Goal: To strengthen an inclusive and resilient youth development ecosystem which empowers Ghanaian youth to contribute meaningfully to national development and thrive in a globally competitive environment										
Objective: Promote civic engagement, volunteerism, and patriotism from 47% to 60% by 2029 among the youth population										
Programme: Empowerment and leadership										
Indicators	Indicator Definition	Indicator Type	Baseline 2025	Targets				Disaggregation	Monitoring Frequency	Responsibility
				2026	2027	2028	2029			
Youth leaders trained in soft skills	No. of training workshops organised for youth leaders	Output	2	2	2	2	2	Location and type of training	Quarterly	NYA
	No. of Youth Leaders trained	Output	15	150	200	250	300	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NYA
International youth celebrations commemorated	No. of international youth celebrations commemorated	Output	3	3	3	3	3	Year and occasion	Annually	NYA
Youth supported to participate in international workshops and conferences	No. of youth supported to participate in international workshops and conferences	Output	75	80	85	90	100	Sex, Location, age, disability	Annually	NYA
Youth Resource Centres (YRCs) to be completed	No. of Youth Resource Centres completed	Output	2	5	3	---	- --	Location	Quarterly	NYA
New YRCs constructed	No. of new YRCs constructed	Output	-	1	2	2	1	Location (New Regions)	Quarterly	NYA

Youth Parliamentary (YPs) activities	No. of YPs inaugurated	Output	259	18	0	0	0	District / Region / National	Quarterly	NYA
	No. of Parliamentary Sitzings by the various youth Parliaments	Output	259	277	277	277	277	National / Regional /	Quarterly	NYA
Youth federations established	Youth federations established at all levels	Output	1	16	100	100	61	Location	Quarterly	NYA
Youth Committees (YCs) established	Youth Committees established at all levels	Output	4	14	99	99	61	Location	Quarterly	NYA
Youth enrolled under National Youth Volunteer Programme (NYVP)	No. of youth volunteers	Output	500	2,000	2,200	2,500	2,700	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NYA
Youth Achievers awards	Youth award celebrated	Output	0	1	1	1	1		Annual	MYDE, Agencies, Partners
	No. of youth with outstanding performances awarded	Output	0	21	21	21	21	Sex, Location, age, disability	Annual	MYDE, Agencies, Partners

Goal: To strengthen an inclusive and resilient youth development ecosystem which empowers Ghanaian youth to contribute meaningfully to national development and thrive in a globally competitive environment										
Objective: Increase awareness of health, safety, and well-being among at least 60% of the youth population by 2029										
Programme: Health and Well-Being of the Youth										
Indicators	Indicator Definition	Indicator Type	Baseline 2025	Targets				Disaggregation	Monitoring Frequency	Responsibility
				2026	2027	2028	2029			
Percentage of youth with improved knowledge on sexual and reproduction health	Proportion of youth who have good understanding on sexual and reproduction health	Outcome	0	10%	20%	30%	40%	Sex, Location, age, disability	Annually	MYDE HQ, NYA, MOH, GHS
% reduction in substance abuse (alcohol, tobacco, drugs) among the youth	Percentage reduction in the number of youth who use substances compared to the baseline	Outcome	0	15%	30%	65%	80%	Sex, Location, age, disability	Annually	MYDE HQ, NYA
% of youth accessing sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services	Percentage of the youth who access reproductive sexual and reproductive health services	Outcome	0	10%	20%	35%	50%	Sex, Location, age, disability	Annually	MYDE HQ, NYA

% of youth reporting improved access to mental health support services	Percentage of youth who report that there have been improvement in accessing mental health services	Outcome	0	10%	20%	35%	50%	Sex, Location, age, disability	Annually	MYDE HQ, NYA
Youth sensitised on ASRH Issues	No. of young people sensitised on ASRH Issues	Output	4,000,000	7,500,000	8,000,000	8,500,000	9,000,000	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NYA
Number of young people sensitised on mental health issues	No. of young people sensitised	Output	821,867	1,000,000	1,500,000	2,000,000	2,500,000	Sex, Location, age, disability	Quarterly	NYA
Awareness campaigns on the red means stop campaign undertaken	No. of awareness and sensitisation programmes undertaken by all institutions	Output	4	100	100	100	100	by sort of campaign, Location, institution	Quarterly, annually	MYDE HQ, NYA, partners
Youth in drug use identified and supported	No. of youth in drug use who have been identified and supported with the needed services	Output	0	200	450	700	1,000	Sex, Location, age, disability, type of support	Quarterly, annually	MYDE HQ, NYA, partners

Goal: To strengthen an inclusive and resilient youth development ecosystem which empowers Ghanaian youth to contribute meaningfully to national development and thrive in a globally competitive environment										
Objective: Strengthen the institutional capacity and coordination of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment (MYDE) and Agencies by 2029										
Programme: Institutional Development and Management										
Indicators	Indicator Definition	Indicator Type	Baseline 2025	Targets				Disaggregation	Monitoring Frequency	Responsibility
				2026	2027	2028	2029			
Youth related policies developed or reviewed	No. of new policies that promote youth developed or existing ones reviewed	Output	2	3	2	2	2	Year of review	Annually	MYDE HQ, MYDE Agencies
Youth legislations developed or reviewed	No. of policy and legislations that promote youth developed or reviewed	output	4	3	1	1	1	Year of review	Annually	MYDE HQ, MYDE Agencies
Monitoring visits to youth initiatives undertaken	No. of monitoring visits undertaken by the HQ	Output	N/A	4	4	4	4	Programme	Quarterly	MYDE HQ

Youth development initiatives evaluated	No. of youth development initiatives evaluated	Output	N/A	1	---	1	---	Initiative type	Annually	MYDE HQ
Researches on contemporary youth issues undertaken	No. of researches and reviews on youth development and empowerment undertaken	Output	4	2	2	2	2	Area and depth of the research	Annually	MYDE HQ
Youth empowerment-related coordination meetings organised	No. of coordination meetings held by the youth coordination platforms	Output	2	4	4	4	4	Quarter, year	Quarterly	MYDE HQ
National Youth Summits organised	No. of National youth summits organised	output	0	1	1	1	1	Year	Annually	MYDE HQ, NYA

Table 18: Knowledge Mapping Matrix

Knowledge Area	Knowledge Holders	Knowledge Sources	Knowledge Gaps
Cabinet Memorandum writing	All Officers in the Administrative class below a Director	Trainings	Understanding of the revised Cabinet Memo manual
Monitoring and Evaluation	The M&E Unit of the PPME and M&E Units of the Agencies	Results Frameworks, KPI Dashboards, Annual Performance Reports, Trainings	Understanding of the M&E process and absence of real-time data on youth
Utilisation of the GIFMIS platform	All accounts, PPME, Chief Director Procurement and the Departments and Agencies.	Trainings	Limited knowledge on the GIFMIS
Youth Data & Research	Research Officers, Academic Institutions	Baseline Surveys, Youth Demographic Profiles, Literature Reviews, trainings,	Fragmented limitations to data on the youth
Ghana Electronic Procurement System (GHANEF)	All Directors and Heads of Agencies	Trainings	Limited knowledge on the GHANEF System
Youth Policy & Strategic Frameworks	Policy Planning Unit, Senior Directors	National Youth Policy, Sector Medium-Term Development Plan, Cabinet Memos	Limited documentation of implementation of challenges and lessons learned
Institutional Coordination & Partnerships	Policy Planning and M&E Units	MoUs, Joint Work Plans, Donor Reports, Meeting Minutes	Weak knowledge transfer and coordination of youth related programmes and projects

Knowledge Area	Knowledge Holders	Knowledge Sources	Knowledge Gaps
Budgeting & Resource Mobilization	The Budget and Resource Mobilisation Unit.	Budget Memos, Donor Proposals, Sponsorship Letters, trainings	Limited cost-benefit analyses; weak documentation of funding gaps and resource mobilisation
Communication & Advocacy	Communications Unit, Media Partners	Campaign Materials, Press Releases, Social Media Analytics	Limited audience segmentation; weak feedback mechanisms from youth audiences

Table 19: Competency Matrix for Learning

Competency	Training Programme	Evaluation Criteria	Learning Objective
Leadership	Leadership Development Programmes	Peer review	
Technical Skills	Training in Microsoft Officer suit	Practical work	Enhance skills of staff on Microsoft Officer Suit
Results-Based Monitoring & Evaluation	M&E Fundamentals Workshop; KPI Design & Data Use	Pre/post tests; dashboard simulation; field data validation exercise	Strengthen capacity to design, implement, and use M&E systems for evidence-based decision-making
Inclusive Youth Programming	Disability Inclusion Training; Gender Mainstreaming in Youth Development	Case study analysis; inclusive program redesign; stakeholder feedback	Equip staff to integrate gender and disability perspectives into youth programs
Strategic Planning & Policy Formulation	Youth Policy Development and Strategic Planning Training programmes	Draft policy briefs; theory of change mapping; peer review	Enhance skills in policy analysis, strategic alignment, and participatory planning
Proposal Writing & Resource Mobilization	Donor Proposal Writing and Budgeting programmes	Proposal scoring rubric; budget justification exercise; mock donor pitch	Build capacity to craft compelling proposals and mobilize resources for youth initiatives

Competency	Training Programme	Evaluation Criteria	Learning Objective
Data Collection & Analysis	Training in Quantitative & Qualitative Methods; Data analyses Tools	Field simulation; data quality audit; analysis presentation	Improve ability to collect, analyse, and interpret youth-related data
Institutional Coordination & Partnership	Intersectoral Collaboration Workshop; Stakeholder Mapping	Coordination plan review; partnership case study; joint action plan	Strengthen inter-ministerial and partner collaboration for integrated youth development
Communication & Advocacy	Strategic Communication for Youth; Social Media for Development	Campaign design; message testing; media engagement simulation	Build capacity to communicate youth priorities and influence public discourse
Digital Literacy & Innovation	ICT for Youth Development; Digital Tools for Programme Management	Tool application demo; digital strategy critique; innovation pitch	Enhance digital competencies for program delivery and innovation

CHAPTER EIGHT: DEVELOPMENT COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

8.0 Introduction

Chapter eight (8) of the SMTDP outlines the clear and specific strategy to communicate the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment's plan to all stakeholders including decision makers and the citizenry.

Communication is a fundamental and irreplaceable resource in the public sector and guarantees effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency. This section of the Ministry's 2026-2029 SMTDP establishes the relationship that exists between stakeholders of the Ministry and flow/exchange of appropriate information among and between all key stakeholders. It also spells out the expected roles, means of communication and dissemination of the Plan and its outcomes to all stakeholders.

To achieve this goal, there is the need for information flow among all key stakeholders. This will eventually lead to a wide appreciation of MYDE's activities and the involvement of key stakeholders.

The Communication Strategy of this Plan provides the road map on how the Ministry will disseminate its performance over the plan period (2026 - 2029).

8.1 Objective

The main objective of the communication plan is "to disseminate and create awareness on the Sector Medium Term Development Plan among key stakeholders and generate feedback to promote ownership and attainment of the goal, objectives and targets of the strategy". Other objectives of the communication plan are:

- i. To strengthen partnership with stakeholders to enhance Plan implementation and M&E work.
- ii. To promote inclusive participation in plan reviews and performance assessments.
- iii. To facilitate dialogue within the youth ecosystem to improve policy responsiveness.

8.2 Focus of communication plan

In communicating the Youth Sector Medium Term Development Plan, this communication strategy attempts to put together a coherent plan of action. The strategy will take three factors into account simultaneously:

- i. Clear articulation of the goals, objectives and targets to be achieved by the various stakeholders.
- ii. Promoting understanding of the possible operational constraints and imperatives and what is required to innovatively address or mitigate any adverse effects.
- iii. Establishing pertinent conditions in the environment that exists in the youth sector and shaping perceptions in favour of the sector.

The information and feedback generated from the communication activities should bring the perspectives of the stakeholders into annual planning and decision-making. This will enable

programmes implemented to be appropriately delivered in a structured way that fits the target audience's needs.

8.3 Sector Benefits

The Communication strategy of this Plan will enable the Ministry to:

- Enhance transparency and accountability.
- Show development Results.
- Win public confidence.
- Create a good image.
- Promote citizen and stakeholder participation.
- Strengthen internal cohesion and staff motivation.
- Enhance visibility of youth programmes and results.
- Enhance sector service delivery over the Plan period

8.4.1 Audiences

The main audience to be targeted for this activity will include all the management and staff of the Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment and its agencies; youth development partners, non-government, civic society organisations and other sectors including community leaders, and other ministries, departments and agencies whose activities directly contribute to the attainment of the sector goals and objectives. Through an interactive dialogue, the various roles and responsibilities will be articulated and agreed. Cross cutting themes, areas of collaboration and joint action will be identified. The communication process will also be used to refine joint monitoring and evaluation processes.

8.5.1 Communication Channels

Different channels of communication will be employed. These will include seminars, workshops, durbars, media engagement and broadcast activities. The YSMTDP will be translated into two-page briefs and simple flyers to support the communication process. Frequent press releases and press pull-outs will also be used to inform the public of progress being made on specific areas of greatest impact. YSMTDP, its review and progress reports, will also be published on the internet, so it is easily accessible to both the national and international community.

8.6.1 Internal Communication

Effective internal communication is a prerequisite for organizational success. Staff members are the key ambassadors of an organization and need to be informed to understand the policies, programmes, and activities for the overall performance of the organization. The main channels of internal communication for the Plan are:

- Staff Durbar
- Other Meetings
- News Magazines
- Intranet

- Notice Board
- Social Media
- Memoranda
- Newsletters
- Letters

8.6.2 External Communication

External Communication is a key ‘vehicle’ for gaining support from outside an organisation to reach its goals. Effective external communication is of utmost importance for motivating all relevant stakeholders to collaborate towards achieving the common identified goals.

It is necessary to mobilize, inspire and engage all relevant stakeholders and levels of governance whose support is required for the effective implementation of the goals. The main channels for external communication and visibility include:

Press (Print Media, Radio, Opinion editorial, Features, etc)

- Online (Website, E-mails, Facebook, Twitter, Blogs, WhatsApp)
- TV (News and features, Long-format programmes, and online television options)
- Advertising (Television, Radio, Print,
- Print (Brochures, Posters, News Magazines, Letters, Leaflets, Reports, Banners, Journals)
- Public Relations (Event/Stunt, Endorsements, Telephone calls, Conferences, Press soiree, Community durbars, Seminars, Advocacy, Lobbying, Counselling)

8.7 Evaluation of Communication Strategy

- Media coverage (volume and tone)
- Public perception and trust (survey-based)
- Stakeholder feedback and participation levels

8.8 Co-ordination Mechanism

The major components of the co-ordination are:

- Identifying experts to produce quality, evidence-based communication content.
- Developing and producing all communication materials.
- Assign communication focal persons across departments and regions
- Identifying resource persons to facilitate educational campaigns at all levels.
- Organizing workshops, meetings, seminars and stakeholder briefings
- Implement targeted media planning and buying to optimize reach and cost-effectiveness.

8.9 Communication Matrix

The table below presents a communication Matrix that outlines the key messages, target communicators, formats, timelines, and responsible entities for effectively disseminating the Ministry's 2026–2029 Sector Medium-Term Development Plan.

Table 20: Communication Matrix

What is to be Communicated	Who is to Communicate	Format	Time Frame	Responsible Entity
Components and objectives of the SMTDP	Minister / Chief Director / Policy Planning Unit	Press releases, TV interviews, website updates, public launch event	Q1 of 2026 (Launch phase)	Policy Planning Unit, PRO Unit
Sub-sector activities and milestones	Heads of Agencies/Programmes	Quarterly newsletters, reports, social media posts	Quarterly	Departmental Heads / Communications Focal Persons
Progress on implementation and M&E outcomes	M&E Unit	Mid-year/Annual performance reports	Mid-year/Annually	M&E Unit
Policy changes, youth-focused initiatives	Policy and Planning Directorate	Policy briefs	As needed	Policy Planning Unit
Internal directives and updates	HR / Management	Emails, memos, intranet notices, staff durbars	Ongoing	HR & Admin Directorate
Youth engagement opportunities	Client Service/Agencies	Social media campaigns, WhatsApp groups, community durbars	Bi-monthly	Ministry/Agencies
Feedback from youth and stakeholders	Heads of Agencies / M&E Unit	Focus group discussions, opinion polls, surveys	Quarterly	Heads of Agencies / M&E Unit
Public awareness and advocacy	RSIM/PRO	TV/radio ads, brochures, billboards	Throughout Plan Period (2026–2029)	RSIM/PRO
Crisis communication / misinformation management	RSIM/PRO	Official statements, press briefings	As required	RSIM/PRO

KEY MESSAGES AND SLOGANS (MINISTRY/AGENCY-SPECIFIC FOCUS)

Table 21: Messages and Slogans

Ministry/Agency	Key messages	Slogan
Ministry of Youth Development and Empowerment	The Ministry is committed to creating opportunities for youth growth and development	“Youth at the center, empowering for excellence”
	We provide support for skills training, entrepreneurship and employment.	“Building the nation with and for the youth”
	Our goal is to empower youth to become active citizens and leaders in Ghana’s development.	
Youth Employment Agency (YEA)	YEA provides opportunities for skills development and employment.	“Empowering youth, Building Future”
	Join YEA to develop, empower and transform the youth for improved livelihood	
	Equal access, inclusive growth for all.	
	Our programmes are designed to address youth unemployment and economic challenges.	
National Youth Authority (NYA)	NYA is dedicated to promoting youth development and empowerment.	“Youth Empowerment, National Development”
	We provide opportunities for skills training, entrepreneurship and leadership development.	
National Service Authority (NSA)	The NSA provides opportunities for Graduates to serve their country.	“Deployment for Employment”
	We promote national development through service in various sectors.	“Service to Nation, Service to Self”
	Our goal is to equip young people with valuable skills and experience	
National Entrepreneurship and Innovation Programme (NEIP)	NEIP supports entrepreneurship and innovation for young people in Ghana.	“NEIP: Empowering Ideas, building Businesses
	We provide funding, training and mentorship to startups and entrepreneurs.	Adwumawura: Creating Jobs, Changing Lives
	Our goal is to promote economic growth and job creation through innovation	