



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING COMMISSION

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FOREWORD

The Public Relations Unit produces a biannual publication of the commission's actions to keep its stakeholders updated about the programs of the commission. The publication seeks to empower citizens to take ownership of such initiatives and promote the same in their communities and amongst stakeholders.



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NDPC ENGAGES PPBMEDS IN STRENGTHENING COORDINATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT

The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) has organised the maiden Coordination Meeting of Policy Planning, Budgets, Monitoring, and Evaluation Directorates (PPBMEDs) of Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) on Tuesday, January 31, 2023, in Accra. This is the first of the series of PPBMED meetings to be organised by the end of 2023 with support from the GIZ.

The meeting was in lieu of the National Development Planning (System) Act 1994, Act 480, which mandates the Commission to ensure a well-coordinated, operational, and effective decentralised planning system.



From left; Eng. Godwin Brocke (Former Chief Director, Office of the Head of Civil Service) and Prof Kwaku Appiah-Adu (Senior Policy Advisor at the Office of the Vice President)

The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen the development arrangements among all MDAs.

Speaking at the meeting, the Chairman of the National Development Commission, Professor George Gyan-Baffour stated that, development coordination must be central to the implementation of Ghana's Development Agenda to enhance efficiency in resource allocation and utilisation



Participants at the PPBMEDs Workshop

“Ensuring whole-of-government coordination requires the identification and mitigation of divergences between sectoral priority, interventions and policies, and promote mutually supporting actions across sectors and departments,” he added.

He echoed that, Ghana's current fiscal challenges should serve as a wake-up call for everyone to step up efforts to improve and sustain our economy.

The exchange rate depreciation, inflationary pressures, and fiscal and monetary constraints require that we intensify our efforts in coordinating the activities of Government to minimize overlaps and reduce redundancy and concepts to build back our economy better and sustainably,” he said.

Prof Gyan-Baffuor further added that decentralised planning systems with MDAs at the Sectoral, Regional the District levels, were therefore expected to work in synergy to establish vertical and horizontal linkages, to realise the long-term development aspirations of the country. “This process should guide the implementation of our national strategy: The Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All (2022-2025),” he noted.

Chairman Prof Gyan Baffuor was optimistic that the PPBMEDs engagement would help identify bottlenecks to effective development coordination, define the principles and techniques for effective coordination process and explore innovative coordination approaches that will enhance our development effort.

The objectives of the meeting were to improve planning, implementation and reporting of programmes, projects, and

activities at the sector level as well as develop reliable coordination mechanisms for development planning and management

District levels, were therefore expected to work in synergy to establish vertical and horizontal linkages, to realise the long-term development aspirations of the country. “This process should guide the implementation of our national strategy: The Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All (2022-2025),” he noted.

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From left: Prof Samuel Anim (Government Statistician) and Dr. Kodjo Esseim Mensah -Abrampa (Director-General, NDPC)



Seated in middle (Chairman of NDPC) Prof. George Gyan-Baffuor with dignitaries at the ACET consultation meeting

ACET, NDPC HOLD CONSULTATIONS ON THE GHANA COMPACT

The African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET) and the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) on February 15, 2023, organised a one-day technical consultation workshop in Accra to reach a bipartisan and non-political consensus known as the Ghana Compact for Political and Economic Transformation. The Ghana Compact is a consensus-building programme aimed at formulating high-level development targets for the country's governance, political processes, economic management, and inclusion policies for implementation in the second quarter of the twenty-first century. Regardless of which political party is in power, it is intended to be an agreement

between citizens and the Government on the course of national development from 2025-2050.

Panel discussion during the consultation
Participants at the workshop recognised long-term structural reforms as critical to the country's effective planning. They also affirmed the position of a technical paper on a proposed agreement to make long-term development goals that will be binding on governments.


Revealed a lack of ownership in development planning and implementation. The consultation led to the shelving of three long-term programs launched by the NDPC under separate governments.

"This is exacerbated by a disconnect between party manifestos, the long-term development plan, and the coordinated programme of economic and social development policies.

It was reported that "Public investment projects that are not in the long-term development plan find their way into annual



Panel discussion during the consultation



budgets, while many projects in the development plan do not receive budget funding”.



Participants at the consultation

Providing further details on the Ghana Compact, the ACET Founding President Dr. K.Y. Amoako said the country had long been a beacon of hope in Africa since Independence. He, however, said that the nation continued to struggle with uneven growth and a lack of economic transformation.

"The country needs a unified vision for development - a plan that will spell out core focus areas over an extended period, supported by a strong and independent system to help ensure that leaders stick to these plans. My hope is that today's deliberations will unlock what we need to do it." Dr. Amoako said.

The Director-General of the NDPC, Dr Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa, said resolving development planning issues was not only about legitimizing plans but legitimizing the process as well.

He reiterated that they needed to put the document together to make it coherent and more harmonized and comprehensive.

Dr. K. Y. Amoako's concept of the Ghana Compact has 11 collaborators, the majority of whom are civil society organizations.



PROF GYAN-BAFFOUR URGES POLICY IMPLEMENTORS TO CRITICALLY EXAMINE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Professor George Gyan-Baffour, Chairman, National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), has called on policy implementors to critically examine national and sub-national financial and administrative procedures to ensure that no one is left behind in the country's development trajectory.

This, he said was to achieve total citizen development, as Ghana was a signatory to the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Prof. Gyan-Baffour made this appeal in his address at the dissemination of the 2021 District League Table Report to the Parliamentary Select Committee on Poverty Reduction Strategy, on March 9, 2023, in Accra.

The report prepared by the NDPC with support from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) aims to examine discrepancies and engage in discourse with national-level actors, particularly Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs).

According to the 2021 DLT report, the Tema

Metropolis in the Greater Accra region was adjudged the best Metropolis, Municipalities and Districts (MMDAs) with a score of 81.87%, making it the second time the Tema Metropolis has been adjudged the best MMDAs in the DLT, while Nation District in the Northern Region was adjudged the least performed district with a score of 38.66%.

The report presented evidence of vast differences in social development levels across the country, as well as how some sectors of the population, particularly children, were left behind in access to service delivery and development results simply due to where they reside.

The 2021 DLT report found that while several MMDs scored well in governance, with scores over 80%, average regional education ratings were not encouraging, with the Greater Accra Region emerging as the highest performer with 34.41% compared to the lowest performing region with 14.46%.

Mr. Benson Tongo Baba, Chairman of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Poverty Reduction Strategy, said the Committee had collaborative efforts with the NDPC, the Ghana Statistical Service and the African Centre for Parliamentary Affairs to address the issue of poverty with data support from these institutions.

Madam Paulina Mulhovo, Acting Deputy Representative of UNICEF, called on the Government to ensure the provision of adequate resources at all levels.

On his part, Dr. Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa, Director-General of NDPC pledged Commission's continued commitment to addressing the challenges

GREATER ACCRA REGIONAL MINISTER CALLS ON MMDAS TO ADOPT DLT IN SERVING CITIZENS



**Hon. Henry Quartey
(Greater Accra Regional Minister)**

The Greater Accra Regional Minister, Hon. Henry Quartey admonished Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) to adopt the District League Table (DLT) as a call to action to accelerate efforts in serving citizens.

He made the call in a speech read on his behalf by the Chief Director of the Greater Accra Regional Coordinating Council, Madam Jemima Lomotey, during the Dissemination of the 2021 edition and Pre-Launch of the 2022 District League Table on Wednesday, 15th February 2023 in Accra.



Stakeholders at the Launch



According to the Minister, this task complements the roles of duty-bearers and decision-makers goal of improving the welfare of the citizenry. "We should also consider the results as a call to redirect our resources and investments into areas that we are not doing too well while maintaining and or improving in areas that have seen some progress", he emphasized. Mr Quartey also expressed the hope that stakeholders of the DLT would continue to see the fruit of their investments reflecting in changes in the rankings and scores across all sectors. Delivering a speech on behalf of the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), Mr. Bright Atiase a Chief Analyst of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) said, the partnership between the UNICEF and the NDPC and the Centre for Social Policy Studies (CSPS), University of Ghana, Legon in assessing MMDAs had yielded positive results.



Stakeholders at the Launch

"I am proud to say that this partnership has enhanced not only the ownership, reliability and acceptance of the DLT but has also opened up further opportunities for its use for other impact assessments and resource allocation frameworks of Government".

Mr Atiase urged MMDAs to use the DLT to enhance social accountability and citizen participation in decision-making and monitoring of development investment at the local level through town hall meetings with citizens and during District Assembly members' meetings.

He noted that the DLT over the years had helped the Government prioritise or target low-ranking districts, as well as the weak sectors and indicators, during resource allocation processes at the national level.

"This year, in partnership with NDPC and the CSPS Legon, intends to continue deepening engagements with other levels of Government, including the Administrator of the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) and Members of Parliament to streamline resource allocations", he disclosed.

Mr. Bright Atiase pledged that UNICEF would continue to support the Government and people of Ghana, towards the achievement of the SDGs, to meet the objectives of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and to enhance the overall development of the country.

On his part, Mr. David Annang, the Vice Chair of NDPC, stated that the Commission would prioritize the DLT in meetings with state authorities to solicit assistance for lesser-ranked districts.

"We will make constant reference to the DLT results in its interactions with various state bodies like the Office of the President, Parliament, the Ministry of Finance and international development organizations to ensure that

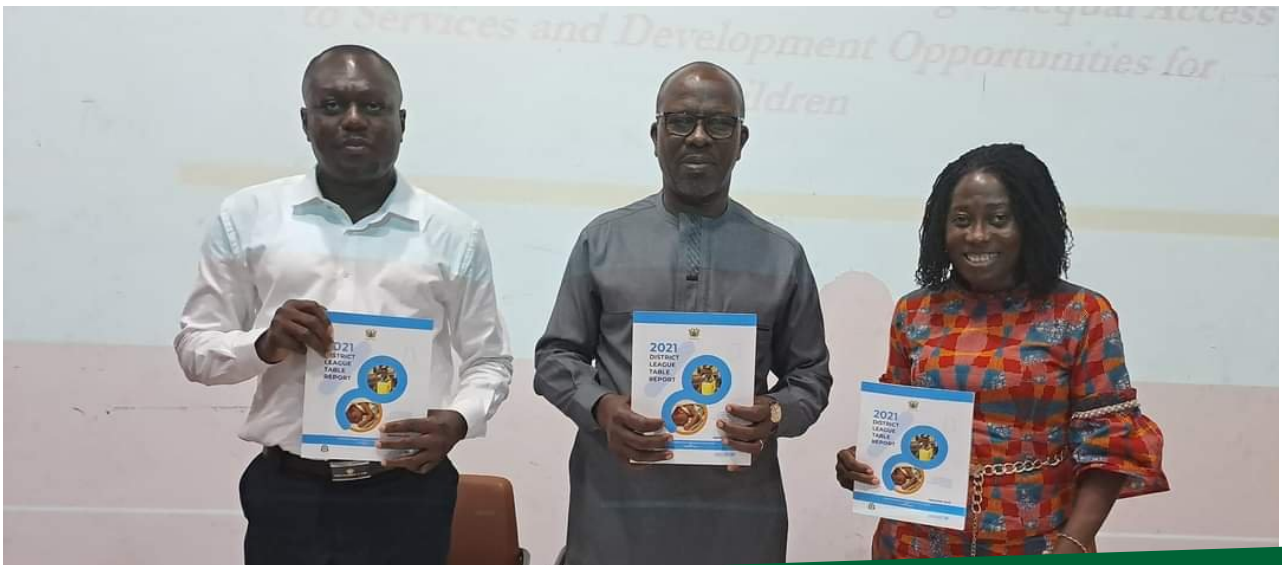


investments and support are targeted at the low-ranking Districts”, he underscored. He expressed gratitude to the Regional Coordinating Councils and all MMDAs for their collaboration in making the 2021 DLT a success and entreated all stakeholders to strengthen their commitment towards the DLT.

“Effectively engage and communicate the

findings to Assembly Members and citizens during their Public Hearings and Town Hall Meetings, conduct further studies on some of the findings.

“Also ensure that recommendations of the 2021 DLT are followed through to ensure better results for our children and people at the local level”, he stressed.



NDPC/UNICEF PRE-LAUNCH PREPARATION OF 2022 DLT


The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) in collaboration with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) Ghana pre-launched the preparation of the 2022 District League Table (DLT) in each of Ghana's 16 regions.

The launch, which took place from Monday, February 13 to Friday, February 17, 2023, was aimed at examining discrepancies and engaging in discourse with national-level actors, particularly Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies

(MMDAs).

The assessment's results will be utilised to analyse current frameworks for policy discussion and to come up with specific programming recommendations. The results of the prior study (the 2021 DLT report) were also presented to attendees during this session in order to inform decision-making at all levels.

The Greater Accra Regional Minister, Mr Henry Quartey, speaking at the event to disseminate the results of the 2021 District League Table (DLT) and pre-launch the preparation of the 2022 DLT, called on duty bearers and decision-makers to see the DLT



as a call to action and accelerate efforts in serving citizens.

“We should also consider the results as a call to redirect our resources and investments into areas that we are not doing too well while maintaining and or improving in areas that have seen some progress”, he emphasised.

The Minister noted that this obligation complements the duty holders' and decision-makers objective of enhancing the welfare of the populace.

Mr. Quartey expressed the hope that stakeholders of the DLT would continue to see the fruit of their investments reflected in changes in the rankings and scores across all sectors.

Mr. Bright Atiase, Chief Analyst at the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), delivered a remark on behalf of UNICEF and expressed his delight that the relationship between UNICEF and the Commission, as well as the Centre for Social Policy Studies (CSPS), University of Ghana, Legon, had achieved beneficial results over the years.

“I am proud to say that this partnership has enhanced not only the ownership, reliability and acceptance of the DLT but has also opened up further opportunities for its use for other impact assessments and resource allocation frameworks of Government”, he added

Mr. Atiase admonished MMDAs to use the DLT to enhance social accountability and citizen participation in decision-making and monitoring of development investment at the local level through town hall meetings with citizens and during District Assembly members' meetings.

He noted that the DLT over the years helped

government prioritise or target low-ranking districts, as well as the weak sectors and indicators, during resource allocation processes at the national level.

“This year, in partnership with NDPC and the CSPS, Legon intends to continue deepening engagements with other levels of government, including the Administrator of the District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) and Members of Parliament to streamline resource allocations”, Mr. Atiase disclosed.

He pledged that UNICEF would continue to support the Government and people of Ghana, towards the achievement of the SDGs, to meet the objectives of the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child, and to enhance the overall development of the country.

The District League Table (DLT) is a tool developed in 2014 for tracking national development and highlighting Districts that are performing well and those that are handicapped in terms of the well-being of their population.

The DLT ranks Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs) on selected sector-based indicators in order to highlight the performance of the districts.



NDPC HOLDS DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP ON FILL THE NUTRIENT GAP ANALYSIS REPORT FOR GHANA

The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP), on February 15, 2023, held a dissemination workshop on the findings of the Fill the Nutrient Gap (FNG) analysis report for Ghana in Accra.

Participants for the multi-stakeholder workshop were drawn from various Metropolitan, Municipal, and District Assemblies (MMDAs).

The goal of the FNG analysis report in Ghana was to provide a comprehensive nutritional situation analysis of the country with the goal of understanding how people access nutritious foods, identifying the factors that drive the cost and affordability of nutritious diets, and exploring opportunities for Government and donor nutrition investment programming.

According to the results of the FNG analysis, Ghana experienced a macroeconomic shock as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and

consequent worldwide food crisis. Food price inflation in 2021 and 2022 increased the costs of groceries and healthy, nutritional meals substantially.

According to the report, nutrient-adequate and healthful diets cost two to three times as much as diets that just meet energy needs. Because of high food prices, more Ghanaian households are unable to afford nutritionally adequate diets, increasing the risk of food insecurity and malnutrition. Most people are becoming exposed to ultra-processed, unhealthy foods and diets that lead to lower health because these good diets are pricey for the poor.

The FNG report in addition presented modelled interventions that could mitigate the unaffordability challenges identified. Stakeholders were encouraged to hold dialogues and implement the possible solutions.



GOVERNMENT BEGINS IMPLEMENTATION OF \$150M SOCIAL COHESION PROJECT FOR 48 MMDAs

The Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) is implementing a \$150 million Gulf of Guinea Northern Regions Social Cohesion Project (SOCO) to benefit 48 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) across six Northern Regions in Ghana.

The Social Cohesion Project is a World Bank project to protect communities in the Northern part of Ghana from the spread of conflict from the Sahel.

The aim is to promote social cohesion and trust and improve regional collaboration as well as the socio-economic and climate resilience of border communities in the target regions north of the Gulf of Guinea exposed to conflicts and climate risks.

The Gulf of Guinea Northern Regions Social Cohesion (SOCO) project is being implemented in three other countries in West Africa; namely Togo, Benin, and Cote d'Ivoire, which are also exposed to fragilities due to issues of conflict, climate change, food insecurity, and violence.

The SOCO project, which is wholly supported by the World Bank, has a total credit facility of \$450 million, which is distributed unequally among the beneficiary nations based on predetermined criteria.

The five-year project is designed to offer

economic and climate change resilient infrastructure through a community-driven strategy, as well as enhance Local Institutions in the Oti, Upper East, Upper West, Northern, North East, and Savannah regions.

The Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation and Rural Development, in collaboration with the NDPC, is operationalising Component 3 of the SOCO Project, aimed at strengthening regional collaboration across the four target countries to support a coherent response to minimise climate risks in the Gulf of Guinea area.

As part of its activities, the NDPC has developed a scoping report to map out the ecosystem and identify gaps and opportunities in five (5) thematic areas (Local Economic Development, Digitalisation, Climate Change, Local Governance, Social cohesion/conflict prevention). Further, two Brown Bag Lunch (BBL) Webinar Series have been held with stakeholders to discuss ways of promoting the Coordinated Development Approach and inclusive Local Economic Development (LED) in Northern Ghana.

NDPC COMMENCES PREPARATION OF 2022 NATIONAL ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), has commenced processes towards the preparation of the 2022 National Annual Performance Report (NAPR) at a stakeholder's inception meeting in Accra.

The inception meeting for the preparation of the NAPR which started from 7th to 9th March 2023 is in lieu of the Commission's constitutional mandate to monitor, evaluate, and coordinate development policies, programs, and projects.

The purpose of the inception meeting was to evaluate the instruments, strategies, techniques and steps for data gathering and to review the data requirements as well as to guide Cross Sectorial Planning Groups; especially Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) on the approaches for drafting the progress report.

The goal of preparing the 2022 APR is to make policy recommendations based on the review of status of policies and initiatives implemented in 2022 as outlined in the Medium – Term National Development Policy Framework, '*An Agenda for Jobs II: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All, 2022-2025*'.

Specifically, the 2022 APR will:

- Track progress of performance of key national development indicators over the past year;
- Assess the status of progress of annual targets established for 2022 under the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (MTNPDF),
- Inform discussions on national annual

budget estimates for approvals by Parliament.

Dr. Nana Opare-Djan, the Acting Director, Monitoring and Evaluation Division, NDPC, noted that sectors must ensure proper coordination and harmonisation of their activities to provide accurate and timely data for the preparation of progress reports including the 2022 National APR. He stated that pertinent recommendations must be proffered in the report to influence policy decisions in the country

The 2022 NAPR would be a document that has detailed progress of accomplishments on key performance indicators achieved in the maiden year of implementation of *Agenda for Jobs II*. It will contain proposed recommendations made to overcome identified hurdles to retain gains.

The inception meeting engaged as many stakeholders as possible from MDAs, MMDAs, Civil Society Actors, the Private Sector, Policy Think Tanks, Research Institutions and Academia.

The Annual Progress Report (APR), is prepared annually by the NDPC to track the progress of implementation of the MTNPDF towards an agreed set of targets, identify key challenges and provide policy recommendations.

The Commission has prepared Annual Progress Reports on the implementation of the Medium-Term National Development agenda since 2002.



OXFAM GHANA PARTNERS WITH NDPC TO ENHANCE PUBLIC POLICY DEVELOPMENT IN GHANA

Oxfam Ghana and the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to advance the development of a Policy and Legislative Almanac Application System for Ghana.

The signing of the MoU took place on May 11, 2023, with Oxfam Ghana pledging GH¢200,000.00 in support of the project.

The signing ceremony was led by Mr Ahmed Hamza Tijani, the Country Director of Oxfam Ghana, and NDPC's Director General, Dr. Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa marks a significant milestone in addressing the challenges within the public policy formulation space.

During the signing, the Director-General of NDPC emphasised the importance of the project, which aims to develop a comprehensive and user-friendly Policy and Legislative Almanac to improve the quality of public policymaking, implementation, and analysis.

Oxfam Ghana's support for the project will span until the completion of the system's development, expected to be by the end of August 2023. This funding agreement signifies the partnership between NDPC and

Oxfam Ghana in working towards the shared goal of improving the quality of public policymaking, implementation, and analysis, and the objective of enhancing evidence-based policy decision-making, stakeholder engagement, and transparency in public policymaking.

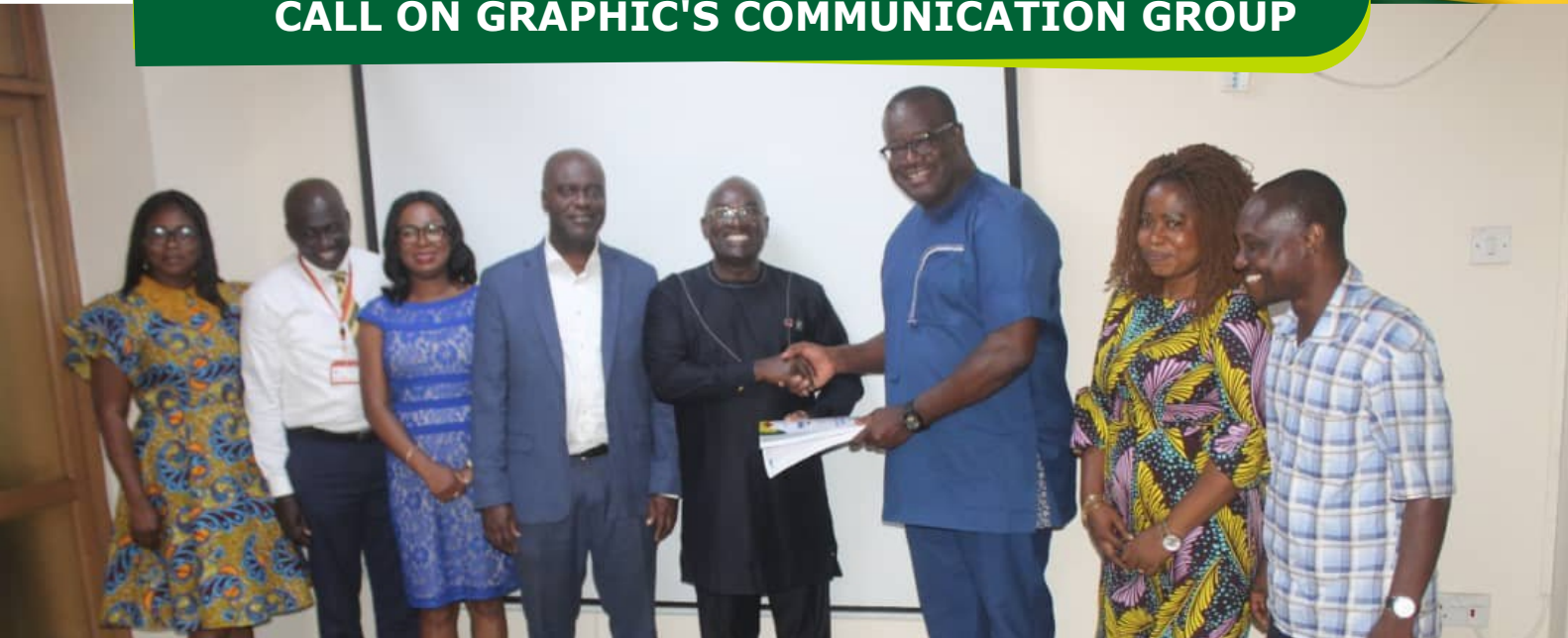
The agreement between NDPC and Oxfam Ghana not only involves financial support but also encompasses non-financial contributions including advocacy development. Both organizations have a shared understanding of project deliverables, roles and responsibilities, and the finite nature of the funding support.

The Policy and Legislative Almanac will serve as a valuable tool in supporting policymakers, analysts, and stakeholders, enabling them to make informed decisions and contribute to effective policy implementation.

The partnership between Oxfam Ghana and NDPC demonstrates their commitment to driving positive change and promoting sustainable development in Ghana through the advancement of public policymaking processes.



NDPC DIRECTOR-GENERAL PAYS COURTESY CALL ON GRAPHIC'S COMMUNICATION GROUP



DG Dr. Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa (middle), presenting the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework to Theophilus Yartey (3rd from right), Editor, Graphic, during the visit.

The National Development Planning Commission's (NDPC) Director-General, Dr Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa, on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, paid a courtesy call on the Management of the Graphic Communication Group Limited to solicit their support in educating and informing Ghanaians on National Development Policies and Plans.

The visit also forms part of an agenda to improve upon the Commission's communication, branding, and visibility.

Dr Mensah-Abrampa in his remarks, appealed to the Management of the Graphic Communications Group to partner with the NDPC to educate and inform the general public on development policies and plans to avoid misinformation.

"We aim to clean up the media landscape since there is an abundance of misinformation on development issues in the media. NDPC aims to establish a relationship with the Graphic Communication Group in order to be factual

and sanitise the media space because of their trustworthiness", he said

He reiterated that the Commission's mandate was to advise the President on national development policies and programmes.

He also reaffirmed that the Commission was a public institution and apolitical and that its core values were truth and objectivity.

He noted that, the Commission was confronted with a lot of challenges; these include coordination with Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) on programme implementation and prioritising of projects across the country. He added that this often results in abandoned projects throughout the country.

To address this, Dr. Mensah-Abrampa said, the NDPC and the Ministry of Finance (MoF) would use the Public Financial Management Act 2019, which states that one might only commence a project if there was a continuous flow of funding for the project from beginning to end.



In his opening remarks, Mr. Samuel Essel, Director of Finance of the Graphic Communication Group Limited, stated that the purpose of Graphic Communication was to inform and educate the general public on social issues and current happens.

He also expressed his delight at the request and thanked NDPC for their assistance. He underlined how there was a lot of misunderstanding and void in society.

He claimed that the NDPC and the Graphic Communication Group share the same goal of educating the populace on social issues and matters affecting the nation's progress.

Mr Theophilus Yartey, Head of Editors, remarked that the Graphic Communications Group was apolitical, which provides media balance, sets the national agenda, and was willing to work with NDPC to create stories on the Commission's projects, activities, and reports.

Interviews with the Director-General will be scheduled and published to inform and educate on advancing the national agenda.

The two organisations pledged their commitment and collaboration to educate and inform the general public on national development policies through balanced reportage and publications.

The Director-General was accompanied by two Directors of the Commission: Mrs. Angela Emefa Yarboi, Director, General Services, and Mr. Richard Tweneboia Kodua, Director of Research and Innovation.

GOV'T SHOULD INTENSIFY EFFORTS IN ITS ACTIVITIES TO SALVAGE ECONOMIC CHALLENGES - PROF GYAN-BAFFOUR

Professor George Gyan Baffour, the Chairman of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) has urged the Government to intensify efforts in coordinating its activities in order to salvage the current economic and fiscal challenges faced by the country.


The Chairman made the appeal in his address at the maiden Coordination Meeting of Policy Planning, Budgets, Monitoring, and Evaluation Directorates (PPBMEDs) of Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) on Tuesday, January 31,

2023, in Accra.

Prof Gyan-Baffour stressed that in order to better and sustainably rebuild the economy, Government should step-up already ongoing activities to reduce overlaps, eliminate redundancies, and increase resource allocation and consumption efficiency across all facets of our society.

He further admonished that the decentralised planning system with MDAs at the Sectoral, Regional the District levels were expected to work in synergy to





establish vertical and horizontal linkages, to realise the long-term development aspirations of the country.

“This process should guide the implementation of our national strategy: The Agenda for Jobs II: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All (2022-2025),” he noted.

He was optimistic that the PPBMEDs engagement would help Identify bottlenecks to effective development coordination, define the principles and techniques for effective coordination process and also explore innovative coordination approaches that would enhance national development effort.

The objectives of the meeting were to improve planning, implementation and reporting of programmes, projects, and activities at the sector level as well as develop reliable coordination mechanisms for development planning and management.

“It is also aimed at encouraging the pooling of resources and joint implementation of development programmes to achieve common goals,” he added.

Dr. Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa, the Director-General, of NDPC, said the issue of coordination among MDAs was very pertinent and central to the national development process.

He said, many a time the annual reports of the various MDAs attributed their inability to execute a particular programme or project to the lack of coordination from other

Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

He said each time that MDAs planned for resources they still had a lot of waste coming out in the outputs.

He said, without complimenting each other, MDAs register a lot of competition among themselves, such as competing for resources, competing for time, and competing for space, which often leaves gaps in project execution.

The meeting was in lieu of the National Development Planning (System) Act 1994, Act 480, which mandates the commission to ensure a well-coordinated, operational, and effective decentralized planning system.

The purpose of the meeting was to strengthen the development arrangements among all MDAs. It was organised by the NDPC with support from the GIZ.

Dr Mensah-Abrampa said due to the lack of coordination among MDAs, there were uncompleted projects that were still hanging around in many areas of the country, which could not be counted as assets.

Mr. Jens Hamlicher, GIZ Governance for Inclusive Development Programme (GOVID) Component Manager, underscored the GIZ's commitment to work with the NDPC in strengthening Ghana's Socioeconomic Development.

NDPC/IRC WASH HOLD TRAINER OF TRAINERS' WORKSHOP



Between the 23rd and 25th of May, 2023, the National Development Commission (NDPC) in collaboration with IRC WASH has organised a three-day capacity-building workshop at Prampram in the Greater Accra Region on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH).

The three-day workshop, which was held from 23rd to 25th May, 2023, was attended by about 33 regional planning officers and selected staff drawn from the Ministry of Sanitation and Water Resources (MSWR), the Ministry of Local Government, Decentralisation, and Rural Development (MLGDRD), the Ghana Education Service (GES) and the Ghana Health Service (GHS).

The workshop was aimed at strengthening participants' capacities for the development of District WASH Master Plans, which would ensure the sustainability of WASH service delivery across the country and increase the country's chances of meeting the targets outlined in Goal 6 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Dr. Kodjo Essiem Mensah-Abrampa, Director-General of NDPC in his address, called for the establishment of excellent

WASH strategies that might position WASH sectors to attract the necessary funding from donors such as the corporate sector, Philanthropists, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and others for implementation at all levels.

He said significant efforts had been made in the country to offer WASH services to everyone; stating that for many years, however, there had been persistent barriers to preserving gains in providing drinking water services and scaling up sanitation and hygiene services to underserved groups. Adding that the majority of these impediments are related to financing issues that must be rectified in order to sustain the



Ms Patience Ampomah (A Senior Planning Analyst, NDPC)



PARTICIPANTS

improvements,

Dr. Abrampa noted that the commission already had pockets of innovative case studies on WASH Master Plans backed by IRC for stakeholders to follow.

He assured that NDPC and IRC would continue to work together to build the necessary WASH systems in order to address planning and coordination gaps and accelerate the achievement of national targets while responding to international commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG6) and the African Union Agenda 2063 (Goal 1).

He said, he was hopeful that the workshop would address the issue of data for informed planning and encouraged the participants to equip themselves with the requisite skill in order to raise the necessary awareness of WASH.

“It is also my hope that the issue of data for informed planning will be addressed at the workshop. I am happy you accepted the invitation to go through the trainer of trainers' workshop to equip yourselves to increase the necessary awareness of WASH, encourage departments at the district and national levels to break away from working in silos and influence WASH planning at the sector and subnational levels as part of WASH system



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VISION

To provide the government of Ghana with alternative policy choices which conform to sound environmental principles and promotes even development of all districts of the country, ultimately aiming at improving the standard of living of all Ghanaians.

CORE VALUES

Professionalism, Excellence, Integrity,
Honesty, Teamwork And Hard Work

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