



**Republic of Ghana**

**THE COORDINATED PROGRAMME OF ECONOMIC AND  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES  
(2017-2024)**



***An Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal  
Opportunity for All***

**PRESENTED BY**

---

**NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC**

---

**TO THE 7<sup>TH</sup> PARLIAMENT OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> REPUBLIC  
20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017**

**(ABRIDGE VERSION)**





---

**NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC**





**THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC**



## **PREFACE**

Mr. Speaker,

On 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, I appeared before this august House to be sworn-in as the 5<sup>th</sup> President of the 4<sup>th</sup> Republic. I took office at a historic moment, in the year Ghana attained 60 years of independence.

On my assumption of office, Ghana was facing a myriad of socio-economic challenges, characterised by poor macroeconomic conditions; rising rates of unemployment, especially among the youth; declining private sector growth; a declining agriculture sector; high costs of housing and utilities; disaffection for the political class arising out of perceived insensitivity to the plight of ordinary citizens; weakening healthcare services; pervasive corruption among public office holders; destruction of the environment and water bodies by illegal artisanal mining (*galamsey*); failing public sector machinery due to inappropriate incentive systems and lack of accountability; and growing income and geographical inequalities.

This was the backdrop to the decision of the Ghanaian people to change the management and direction of the country to restore hope to its citizens, and put Ghana on the path of its long-term vision of a free, just and prosperous nation.

On that auspicious day, I swore to uphold and protect the integrity of the Constitution. Article 36 (s.5) requires me, as President, to present to this 7<sup>th</sup> Parliament of the 4<sup>th</sup> Republic, Government's Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies before the end of the second year of my mandate.

Mr. Speaker, as I present this document to you, I am fulfilling that constitutional obligation, and providing a vision and strategy on how to restore hope to our compatriots, and mobilise our collective strength in addressing the difficult challenges confronting us.

The document serves several purposes. It outlines my vision for the country. It offers a comprehensive diagnosis of our socio-economic challenges. It presents new approaches to addressing them, and the specific interventions to be introduced to overcome them. It also contains selected flagship programmes and projects, which will serve as the broad expression of Government policies.

My vision is to develop “an optimistic, self-confident and prosperous nation, through the creative exploitation of our human and natural resources, and operating within a democratic, open and fair society, in which mutual trust and economic opportunities exist for all.”

This vision, and its consequential policies and programmes, have been informed by a combination of my own experiences and convictions, the disturbing socio-economic conditions I inherited, and the aspirations of Ghanaians as articulated during the 2016 election campaign.

The agenda for change, as captured in our party manifesto, is intended to give the Ghanaian people a new sense of leadership; a new approach to the management of the economy; new ways of dealing with our common problems and concerns; renewed confidence in the governance of the country and, above all, new hope in our common future.

Government will offer a new approach to doing things to drive the agenda for change, growth, job creation and prosperity for all. We will work to remove the bottlenecks stifling the growth of the private sector, and create one of the best environments for private sector growth and development in Africa.

Mr. Speaker, the agenda for change will entail achieving the following:

- i. Creating opportunities for all Ghanaians;
- ii. Safeguarding the natural environment and ensuring a resilient built environment;
- iii. Maintaining a stable, united and safe country; and
- iv. Building a prosperous nation.

The agenda for change places people at the centre of development, and lays the foundation for a safe Ghana that works, and gives each and every one of us the opportunity to improve our lives, irrespective of our socio-economic background, gender, status, tribe or geographical location.

At the risk of sounding repetitive, I wish to reiterate an observation I made in my first Message on the State of the Nation on Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017. I am a man in a hurry, in a hurry to change the course of our destiny, and give hope to those who have lost it. This is why for the first time in the 4<sup>th</sup> Republic, the President is presenting the Coordinated Programme within ten (10) months of assumption of office, instead of the two years stipulated in the Constitution, which has been the convention. This is to give a clear sense of direction to the country on where we want to go, and serve as the basis for social mobilisation, as well as guidance for future Government budgets. Future Messages on the State of the Nation will be used to assess progress of implementation of programmes elaborated in this document.

Mr. Speaker, accordingly, I urge all Ghanaians to support the Programme to establish a Ghana where hard work, creativity and enterprise pay; a country in which, no matter your origin, you will be rewarded on merit and not on any other consideration; and a country in which every young person can hope, aspire and reach his or her fullest potential.



As Parliament discusses the proposed set of policies and interventions in this Coordinated Programme, it is my desire and expectation that both sides of the House find common ground on the issues, and generate consensus on ways of implementing, monitoring and evaluating the interventions set forth in the document, for the benefit of all Ghanaians.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you, and, through you, the august House, and look forward to fruitful deliberations on the Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies, 2017-2024 – *An Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All*.

May God bless us all and our homeland Ghana, and make it great and strong.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo'.

**NANA ADDO DANKWA AKUFO-ADDO**  
**President of the Republic**  
**20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>PREFACE</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>7</b>
1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROGRAMME	7
1.2 VISION OF THE PRESIDENT	8
1.3 NEW DIRECTIONS IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT	8
1.4 LINKAGE TO THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK, AND SECTOR AND DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANS	9
<b>CHAPTER TWO: REVIEW OF RECENT PERFORMANCE</b>	<b>11</b>
2.1 INTRODUCTION	11
2.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	11
2.3 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	15
2.4 ENVIRONMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS	19
2.5 GOVERNANCE, CORRUPTION AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY	23
<b>CHAPTER THREE: OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS</b>	<b>27</b>
3.1 INTRODUCTION	27
3.2 DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES	27
3.3 BINDING CONSTRAINTS ON DEVELOPMENT	28
<b>CHAPTER FOUR: THE POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR CREATING JOBS, PROSPERITY, AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL</b>	<b>29</b>
4.1 INTRODUCTION	29
4.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	29
4.3 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	34
4.4 ENVIRONMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS	38
4.5 GOVERNANCE, CORRUPTION AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY	44
4.6 STRENGTHENING GHANA'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS	48
4.7 GHANA AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS	48
<b>CHAPTER FIVE: PRIORITY PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES</b>	<b>49</b>
5.1 INTRODUCTION	49
5.2 PRECONDITIONS FOR SUCCESS	49
5.3 DRIVERS OF CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT	50
5.4 FLAGSHIP PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES	50
<b>CHAPTER SIX: IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION ARRANGEMENTS</b>	<b>53</b>



## CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION



### 1.1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROGRAMME

Article 36, Clause 1 of the Constitution of the Republic enjoins the State to:

*“... take all necessary action to ensure that the national economy is managed in such a manner as to maximise the rate of economic development and to secure the maximum welfare, freedom and happiness of every person in Ghana and to provide adequate means of livelihood and suitable employment and public assistance to the needy.”*

To ensure the implementation of the foregoing, Article 36, clause 5 requires that:

*“... within two years after assuming office, the President shall present to Parliament a co-ordinated programme of economic and social development policies, including agricultural and industrial programmes at all levels and in all the regions of Ghana.”*

In presenting this document, the President is responding to this constitutional requirement within the context of the *“Change: Agenda for Jobs- Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All”*, which is the theme of the New Patriotic Party’s 2016 election manifesto.

The theme of the Coordinated Programme is: ***An Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Opportunity for all.***

## 1.2 VISION OF THE PRESIDENT

### 1.2.1 The Vision

The vision underlying the document is to develop:

*“An optimistic, self-confident and prosperous nation, through the creative exploitation of our human and natural resource, and operating within a democratic, open and fair society in which mutual trust and economic opportunities exist for all”*

This vision is informed by the need for a strong economy that expands opportunities, inspires people to start businesses, stimulates expansion of existing businesses, and ultimately leads to the creation of jobs, increased economic growth and aggregate incomes.

### 1.2.2 Goals

The Coordinated Programme is designed based on FIVE main pillars, namely:

- i. Economic Development;
- ii. Social Development;
- iii. Environment, Infrastructure and Human Settlements;
- iv. Governance, Corruption and Social Accountability; and
- v. Ghana’s Role in International Affairs

The implementation of interventions under these five main pillars is aimed at achieving four main goals, namely:

- a. Create opportunities for all Ghanaians;
- b. Safeguard the natural environment and ensure a resilient built environment;
- c. Maintain a stable, united and safe society; and
- d. Build a prosperous society

## 1.3 NEW DIRECTIONS IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

For the attainment of these goals, the new direction for development is to:

***“create the conditions for the Ghanaian private sector to propel growth and create ample employment opportunities, especially for the youth”***  
***This will entail stabilizing the economy and place it on the path to strong, diversified and resilient growth”.***

This entails creating the conditions for the creative potential of the Ghanaian private sector to emerge through invention, innovation, adoption and adaptation, especially in the industrial sector of the economy, thereby, creating more and better quality jobs and generating incomes.

#### **1.4 LINKAGE TO THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK, AND SECTOR AND DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

This Coordinated Programme will form the basis for the preparation of a detailed medium-term national development policy framework, to be implemented over the period 2018-2021. It will be the reference document that informs the entire country, as well as the international community of the enabling environment to be provided by Government in support of private investment, initiative and innovation, and also inform civil society organisations (CSOs) about the priority social and economic activities in the various districts of the country.





## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **REVIEW OF RECENT PERFORMANCE**



#### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

The review of the record of recent development performance covers the following broad areas:

- economic development;
- social development;
- environment, infrastructure and human settlements development; and
- governance, corruption and public accountability.

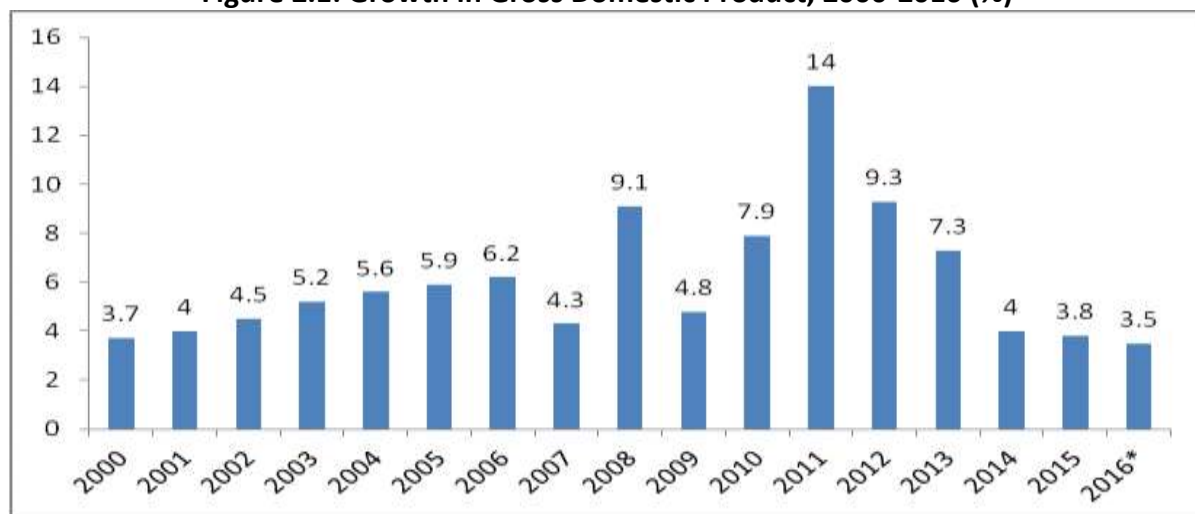
#### **2.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

The economic situation over the last decade has been characterised by slow growth, rapid depreciation of the cedi, rising and erratic rates of inflation, increasing Government budget deficits, and high interest rates, amidst growth in trade deficits and pervasive unemployment. At 3.6 percent, real GDP growth in 2016 was the slowest in over 20 years. Progress in addressing these vulnerabilities is crucial to restoring the health of the economy, and placing it on the path to high and employment-intensive growth.

### 2.2.1 Economic growth and income

Overall economic growth in the past 16 years has followed a generally upward trend, rising from 3.7 percent in 2000 to 14.05 percent in 2011 – the year Ghana commenced full commercial production of oil – before slowing down from 2012 onwards, amidst several economic challenges.

**Figure 2.1: Growth in Gross Domestic Product, 2000-2016 (%)**



*Source: NDPC, based on data from Ghana Statistical Service (2016)*

Except for industrial sector growth, overall economic growth since 2000 has been driven largely by the services sector, where growth averaged 6.9 percent per year between 2000 and 2016.

### 2.2.2 Employment

Employment growth in Ghana has generally been slower than overall economic growth, raising concerns about the quality of Ghana's economic growth. Agriculture is still the major source of employment in Ghana, however, its share has declined from 61.1 percent in 1984 to 44.7 percent in 2013.

### 2.2.3 Poverty and Inequality

Although Ghana has recorded significant reduction in proportion of the population in poverty, the result of the latest round of the Ghana Living Standards Survey (GLSS 6) in 2013 shows that income inequality is widening, and poverty is more severe in rural areas and parts of the three northern regions than it is elsewhere in the country.

### 2.2.4 Macroeconomic Situation

Year-on-year inflation fell to single digits in 2010 for the first time in several years, and then remained so until January 2013, when it rose to 10.1 percent. Prices continued to rise until March 2016, when year-on-year inflation peaked at 19.2 percent and then began to decline to 15.4 percent.

The past decade and half showed the cedi depreciating rapidly against major currencies such as the US dollar, the euro and the British pound. Between 2007 and the end of 2016, the exchange rate to the US dollar increased from GH¢0.9893 to GH¢4.2, implying a cumulative depreciation of 76.4 percent against the US dollar.

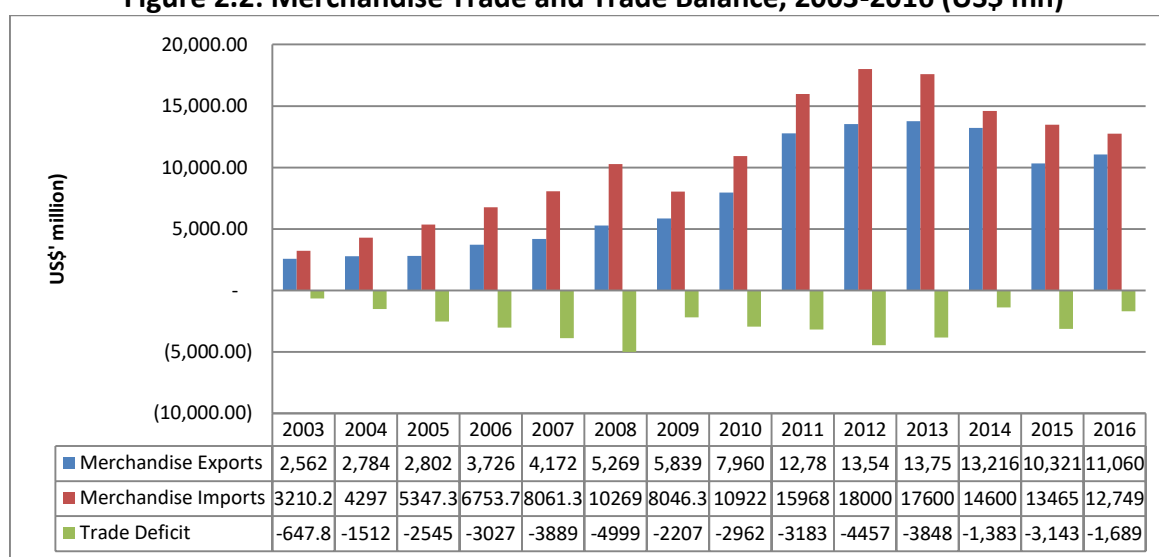
The cumulative effect of high inflation, a fast-depreciating cedi, and rapid expansion in Government spending (facilitated by borrowing from the central bank) was a steady increase in interest rates, which constricted growth of credit to businesses and, ultimately, economic growth.

The attainment of low budget deficits relative to GDP has long been the objective of successive governments. The deficit-to-GDP ratio moved from a low of 1.8 percent of GDP in 2005 to a high of 11.1 percent in 2013 and subsequently declined to 8.7 percent in 2016. The high deficit has been largely driven by growing expenditure, of which wage bill and debt servicing are the major sources.

The widening fiscal deficit has fed into gross public debt, which has been increasing in both Ghana cedi and US dollar terms. Between 2006 and 2016, public debt as a share of GDP increased from 25.4 percent to 72.5 percent.

Significant trade deficits persist, resulting in a deteriorating balance of payments position and weakening of the cedi. Between 2003 and 2013, the value of merchandise exports increased from US\$2,562.4 million to US\$13,752 million, representing an average annual growth rate of 22 percent over the period (Figure 2.2). However, the value of merchandise exports declined substantially afterwards, even after the production of crude oil.

**Figure 2.2: Merchandise Trade and Trade Balance, 2003-2016 (US\$ mn)**



*Source: NDPC, based on data from Bank of Ghana, 2016*

The composition of Ghana's merchandise exports has not experienced any transformation over the years. The country continues to export primary commodities such as unprocessed minerals, raw

agricultural products, and crude oil, together contributing about 86 percent of the country's total exports.

### **2.2.5 Private Sector Development**

Over the years, Governments have characterised the private sector as the engine of economic growth and employment. It currently employs 94.1 percent of all economically active persons, although largely in the informal economy. In spite of the number of interventions targeted at the sector over the past decade and half, including programmes such as Private Sector Development Strategy (PSDS) I & II, Trade and Investment Programme (TIP), Trade and Investment Reform Programme (TIRP) and Trade and Investment Programme for a Competitive Export Economy (TIPCEE), structural problems persist. These include the high cost of doing business (notably, high and multiple taxes), high cost of credit, lack of access to long-term financing for businesses, bureaucratic bottlenecks, and lack of supportive economic infrastructure. These have led to a generally unfriendly business environment, globally uncompetitive industries, weak private sector growth and a shrinking manufacturing sector.

### **2.2.6 The Informal Economy**

In 1984, informal employment constituted 83.8 percent of all employment in Ghana, and, by 2013, it had increased to 88.0 percent. The major concern for the informal economy is the increasing risk and vulnerability of the actors in the sector. They are least likely to have social protection and safety nets to guard against economic shocks. They are often incapable of generating sufficient savings to offset these shocks and to expand their businesses.

### **2.2.7 Corporate Governance**

Assessment of the corporate landscape has shown that Ghana has not made significant progress in transforming local systems of economic and political governance from highly personalised, relationship-based structures, to effective rules-based systems, capable of fostering growth and development of businesses. The annual reports from the Auditor-General on the use of public resources, for instance, continuously cite weaknesses in institutional decision making as responsible for loss of significant state resources. In the private sector, poor corporate governance has contributed to the dismal performance of many enterprises.

### **2.2.8 Agricultural Transformation and Rural Development**

The agricultural sector has historically played a significant role in the economy. Despite the relevance of the sector to the economy, it operates below its potential. The yields of most crops in Ghana are significantly lower than what could be achieved by adopting good agricultural practices. Production inefficiencies and the high cost of production have negatively affected the profitability of agricultural production locally, and made imports cheaper and more attractive to traders.

## 2.2.9 Tourism and Creative Arts Sector Development

Ghana's historical, cultural and ecotourism assets provide a significant opportunity to preserve our heritage and generate quality jobs. The sector has recorded considerable growth over the years, accounting for 6 percent of total employment in Ghana, contributing 5.3 percent to GDP, and growing at an average of 9 percent per annum. Its supply chain is closely link to agricultural produce (e.g. agro-processing, packaging, etc.), light manufacturing, construction to expand hospitality facilities, and the growth of SMEs. However, considerable challenges exist, including poor infrastructure, poor service culture, low skills development, high hotel rates and unreliable utilities, thereby, making Ghana a high-cost tourist destination.

## 2.3 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

### 2.3.1 Education and Training

Education is a key aspect of development. Public and private investment in education over the past decade has led to significant expansion of facilities across all sectors of education. However, several of these facilities are dilapidated and need rehabilitation, or are simply inadequate. In some cases, children still study under trees, while others walk long distances to school. At tertiary level, tens of thousands of qualified applicants are rejected yearly, due to inadequate facilities. This notwithstanding quality education remains an important concern of both Government and the general public. Evidence indicates that only 2 percent of learners can read with proficiency, and a majority of learners are unable to read in their local languages.

Also challenges exist in the delivery of inclusive education, including inability to provide disability-friendly school environments, inadequately trained to handle children with special needs, and inadequate provision of teaching and learning materials.



### 2.3.2 Health and Health Services

Progress has been made in improving the health of Ghanaians. According to the 2015 Human Development Report, life expectancy in Ghana has improved arising in part from enhanced access to quality healthcare and nutrition. Outpatient services have improved due to the introduction of the



National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) in 2003. However, there are challenges that need to be addressed. These include huge imbalances in geographical access to quality healthcare; inadequate and inequitable distribution of critical staff, increased cost of healthcare delivery, and poor quality of healthcare services

Although maternal healthcare has improved over the past 20 years, the pace has been slow and remains a challenge to national development. The major cause of morbidity and mortality, especially among children under 5 years and pregnant women, has been malaria.



### **2.3.3 Nutrition and Food Security**

In the recent past, Ghana has not suffered from food insecurity because of improved food production. Domestic production of selected staple food crops continues to exceed national demand, reflecting surpluses. Despite this positive outcome, the incidence of hunger persists in pockets of Ghana. There is unacceptably high child malnutrition and an increased incidence of diet-related non-communicable diseases. There is also a prevalence of nutritional deficiencies, a weak food and nutrition security (FNS) institutional framework and coordination, and a weak food control system.

### **2.3.4 Water and Sanitation**

Significant investment continued to be made to improve access to safe drinking water in urban and rural areas. However major challenges exist, including pollution of water bodies; general lack of maintenance of water systems; high maintenance cost of obsolete systems; inadequate distribution networks and lack of modern technologies to produce potable water.

The state of sanitation remains poor, particularly in urban areas. Currently, only 15 percent of the population has access to improved sanitation, with about 20 percent of the population practising open defecation. The main challenges confronting sanitation improvement in the country, include poor sanitation and waste management systems; limited capacity at MMDA level to address sanitation concerns adequately; and inadequate policy and institutional coordination.

### **2.3.5 Child and Family Welfare**

Children are an integral part of the family system and so their welfare is critical. The family system, both nuclear and extended, contributes in the support of children. Children remain vulnerable to maltreatment, domestic violence, sexual abuse, child labour and exploitation. Online cyber abuse of

children, child marriage, female genital mutilation, rape and defilement of young girls remain a challenge to development. In the recent past, internal trafficking of children has also become prevalent.

### **2.3.6 Support for the Aged**

The 2010 Population and Housing Census, which has the latest data on the aged, shows that the population who are aged is growing and becoming more female, with the bulk residing in Central, Greater Accra, Volta, Eastern and Ashanti regions. The traditional family system, which has over the years served as the main social support to the aged, is gradually giving way, due to modernisation and urbanisation, without replacement by an effective, formal support system. The social protection and social safety net mechanisms, introduced over the past decade to provide support to the vulnerable and excluded in society have not been adequate in guaranteeing protection and social support to the aged.

### **2.3.7 Gender Equality, Empowerment of Women and Girls**

Ghana has in place the necessary legislative framework and institutional architecture to promote gender equality, including the preparation of a gender policy, and establishing a Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection, as well as gender desks in ministries, departments and agencies to mainstream gender issues in their sector plans and programmes. However, significant barriers exist in women's access to economic resources and participation in public life, which is a manifestation of entrenched socio-cultural constructs and traditional practices. Making further gains requires a radical approach to addressing the underlying structural barriers, including the economic, political, educational, socio-cultural and traditional beliefs that negatively affect the promotion of gender equality.

### **2.3.8 Sports and Recreation**

Globally, the sports industry has become a major economic activity, creating jobs and incomes for a significant section of the population. It also creates a spirit of competitiveness and team work. The contribution of sports to the socio-economic development of Ghana is estimated to be high, through direct and multiplier effects. However, sports and recreational facilities remain inadequate and in poor condition, due, in part to the poor maintenance culture, and the legal framework for sports development and promotion remains weak. Most of the investments in sports over the years in Ghana have been in football, at the expense of others.

### **2.3.9 Youth Development**

According to the 2015 Labour Force Survey, the youth constitute 35.9 percent of the population, of which, 16.9 percent are estimated to be unemployed. This has arisen from lack of employable skills, mismatch of education and industry, inability of the economy to create new jobs, and limited access to start-up capital for the youth. Past youth development interventions have overly concentrated on

unemployment concerns, to the neglect of the other aspects of youth development. They have failed to address the youth question in a holistic manner, including their participation in political governance, and, especially, measures to address their vulnerability to violence and crime. The National Youth Policy, which addresses some of these issues, has been implemented on an *ad hoc* basis at best.

### **2.3.10 Social Protection**

Ghana has been implementing social protection interventions since 2003. These include National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) (2003), Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP) (2005), Capitation Grant (2005), and Livelihood Empowerment against Poverty (LEAP) (2008). For most of these social protection initiatives, coverage remains extremely low, due to limited funding and poor targeting of intended beneficiaries.

### **2.3.11 Disability and Development**

About one-fifth of Ghana's population is estimated to be living with either a physical, intellectual or emotional disability. This group faces severe social stigma in an entrenched culture of discrimination, evident in inequalities in access to employment, education, healthcare and use of public places. Despite constitutional and legislative guarantees on the rights of persons with disabilities, the disability laws have not been effectively implemented and discrimination against the disabled continues.

### **2.3.12 Employment and Decent Work**

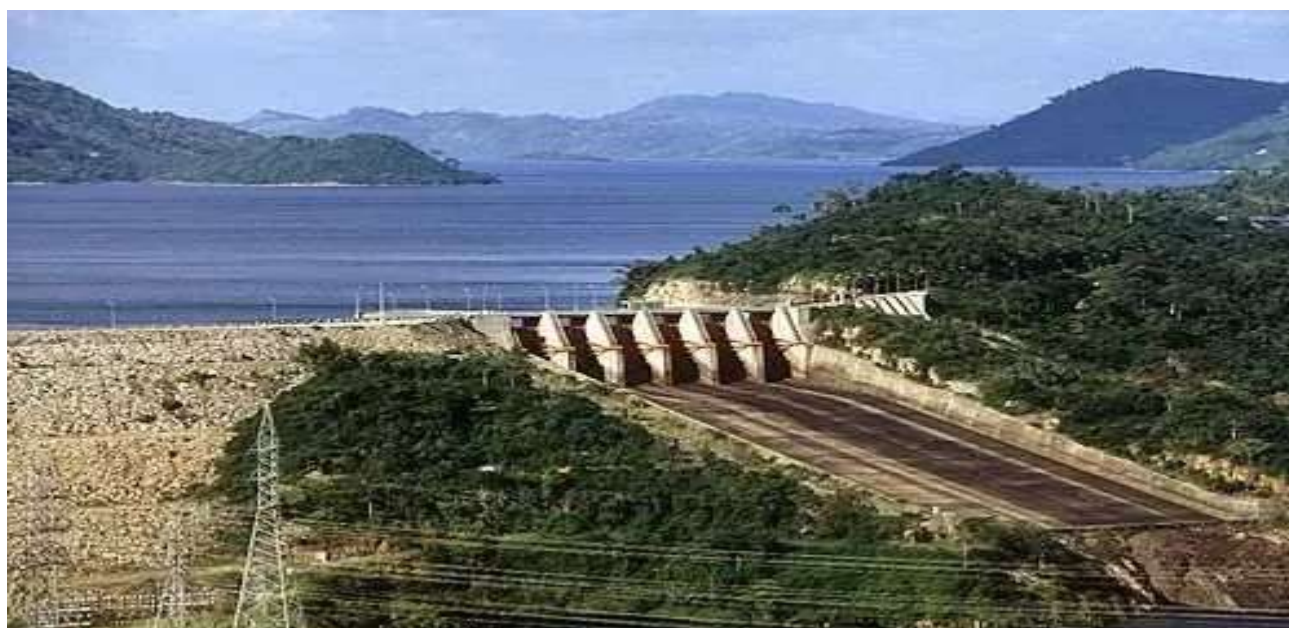
The 2015 Labour Survey Report shows that 67.6 percent of the economically active population, 15 years and older were employed and 9.1 percent unemployed. The report also estimates that majority of the unemployed are in vulnerable employment. The highest proportions of underemployed persons are in the 25-29 (15.3 percent) and 30-34 (15.2 percent) age groups. The ineffective coordination of employment issues; weakness in the labour protection systems (social security, minimum wage, better working conditions, etc.); and poor labour administration systems, including occupational safety and health in both formal and informal economies, have resulted in the creation of huge deficits in decent work, particularly in the informal economy.

### **2.3.13 Population Management**

The current population structure of the country has important implications for the national long-term development strategy of the country. Ghana has a youthful age structure, with about 38.3 percent under 15 years old, followed by young adults (15-24 years) with 20 percent. There is also evidence of the ageing of the population, with the elderly population (65 years and older) increasing from 3.2 percent in 1960 to 4.7 percent in 2010. The country's current population growth rate and resultant age structure are the result of relatively high, but declining fertility and declining mortality. Ghana has been experiencing rapid urbanization, and passing the 50 percent mark in 2010, with implications for urban development and management.



## 2.4 ENVIRONMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS



Ghana's natural resources, land and physical infrastructure constitute major resources for the accelerated growth and development of the country. For Ghana to achieve its long-term development aspirations, the environment and natural resources – including minerals, land, inland water bodies, the oceans, forests and the atmosphere – must be managed well for them not to serve as a constraint on national development. Physical, economic and social infrastructure should be improved in support of growth and development while ensuring that human settlement planning does not lag behind economic and social development planning.

### 2.4.1 Deforestation, Desertification and Soil Erosion

Estimates from the Forestry Commission and the World Bank suggest that Ghana loses about 65,000 hectares of forest per year, representing about 2.03 percent average annual loss. At this rate, the country is likely to lose all its forests by 2040.

### 2.4.2 Protected Areas

Ghana has 266 gazetted forest reserves and 18 wildlife protected areas, including seven national parks, six resource reserves, four wildlife sanctuaries, and one strict nature reserve. Despite the efforts of the Forestry Commission, infractions in the protected areas remain high.

### 2.4.3 Mining and the Environment

Ghana has diverse mineral resources, including reserves of gold, bauxite, iron ore, manganese and diamonds. The country also has industrial minerals such as limestone, brown clay, mica, silica sand, and aggregate and dimension stone materials. The minerals sector continues to contribute to the

growth of the economy in terms of revenue generation, foreign exchange and employment. However, the upsurge in illegal artisanal mining (*galamsey*) in particular has resulted in the destruction of forests and farmlands, pollution of water bodies and an increase in truancy, especially among school-going males in mineral-rich communities.

#### **2.4.4 Coastal Erosion**

The coastal zone constitutes about 6 percent of total land area. However, it accounts for about 30 percent of the nation's population and some critical infrastructure. The relatively high population density and over-concentration of industries in the coastal zone, coupled with poor sanitation, have worsened environmental pressures in both the coastal and marine zones. The coastal zone remains vulnerable to the impact of climate change.

#### **2.4.5 Waste, Pollution and Noise**

An estimated 22 percent of solid and 97 percent of liquid waste generated in major towns and cities in Ghana are not properly disposed of. Inadequate engineered landfill sites and waste water treatment plants continue to be a major challenge for waste disposal across the country. The menace of plastic and electronic waste is perhaps one of the most serious environmental pollution issues confronting the country. Similarly, air and noise pollution are of great concern, especially in urban areas.

#### **2.4.6 Wetlands and Water Resources Management**

Ghana has a rich collection of wetlands, which provide resources for basic necessities of life, ranging from building materials, hunting, and fishing areas, as well as sources of water for humans and livestock. Five of these wetlands are designated as sites of international importance (Ramsar sites). Freshwater resources are at risk because of inappropriate management, poor agricultural practices, surface mining, desertification, and the negative impact of climate variability and change.

#### **2.4.7 Climate Change**

Ghana's vulnerability to climate change is manifested in increased flooding, drought and extreme temperatures, vector-borne diseases, declining soil fertility and seismic hazard. A projected rise in sea level of 80 cm by 2100 will result in flooding and shoreline recession, putting coastal communities, ecosystems and some critical infrastructure at risk.

#### **2.4.8 Energy and Petroleum**

The energy sector drives the social and economic development of Ghana. Recent challenges, with power supply arising from the sector's huge debt, have emphasised the importance of power for the nation's development and the need to manage these debts. As demand grows (estimated at 10 percent per annum), there is the need for a corresponding expansion in capacity.

Inefficiency, both in generation, transmission, distribution and use of power, is a major challenge in the energy sector. It has been estimated that about 30 percent of final electricity is unaccounted for through technical and commercial losses.

Natural gas presents a relatively cheaper and cleaner option for power generation than crude oil. Current gas production from Jubilee Field has been intermittent, and, therefore, affected gas availability for power generation over the past three years.

Tema Oil Refinery has capacity to refine 45,000 barrels of oil per day, but has been affected by financial challenges and inefficiency over the years. The Bulk Oil Storage Company, established to store strategic stocks, has recently ventured into commercial operations, which threaten its core mandate.

#### **2.4.9 Transportation**

The transport system in Ghana consists of one international airport; five domestic airports (Kumasi, Tamale, Sunyani, Takoradi and Wa); a national road network of about 72,380.65 kms in 2015, of which 39 percent is in good condition; a limited rail network in the southern half of the country, which has deteriorated considerably; and an underdeveloped inland water transport system.



#### **2.4.10 Information and Communications Technology**

Internet penetration as at 2015 was estimated at 70 percent, while mobile penetration stood at 128 percent. The total number of mobile data subscribers at the end of March 2016 was 18,813,686.

However, the total number of broadband wireless access data points at the end of March 2016 was 101,851, which remains low. To enhance the use of technology the challenges to be addressed include: inadequate ICT infrastructure across the country; poor quality ICT services; limited use of ICT as a tool to enhance the management and efficiency of businesses and provision of public services; and inadequate online privacy and security of data.

#### **2.4.11 Technology, Science, Research and Development**

Significant investments have been made by Government in public research institutions across the country. These institutes have produced volumes of relevant research outputs, but have received limited attention and utilisation. There is also limited collaboration between industry and research institutions.

#### **2.4.12 Human Settlements and Housing**

Many Ghanaian cities are facing critical challenges due to demographic, social and economic realities. Perhaps the most important one is rapid urbanisation, outstripping the capacity of Government and local authorities to guide effectively the physical growth of urban areas, and to provide essential urban services to their citizens. This has resulted in uncontrolled urban sprawl and rapid growth of slums in Ghanaian cities and towns.

Housing provision is dominated by individual households that engage in self-build or self-managed processes. The 2010 Population and Housing Census (PHC) indicates that these provide about 70 percent of total housing stock. Supply of housing in the country is hindered by challenges relating to inputs, finance, construction technology and materials, land, labour, regulations and complementary infrastructure services.

#### **2.4.13 Spatial Planning**

Currently, spatial planning and development management lag behind rapid urban growth, resulting in haphazard land use, physical development and informal settlements throughout the country. These issues are compounded by the challenges of acquiring land, that include complicated land tenure systems and cumbersome land title registration procedures.

#### **2.4.14 Rural and Urban Development**

Rural development currently lags behind that of urban areas. The gap is reflected in the disparities in infrastructure services and quality of life between rural and urban communities.

The rising trend in urbanisation, reported to be about 3.4 percent annually, is outpacing urban infrastructural development and services. The rise in urban population has resulted in increased strain on limited social, commercial and physical infrastructure. This has in turn brought about congestion, overcrowding, urban sprawl and the growth of slums.

## 2.5 GOVERNANCE, CORRUPTION AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY



### 2.5.1 Democracy and Institutional Reforms

Democratic governance continues to serve as an effective framework for safeguarding the peace, stability and development of the country. Since Ghana returned to democratic governance in 1992, the country has organised seven successful presidential and parliamentary elections, and has witnessed three changes in power between two parties. However, there are concerns about the credibility of the systems that support the democratic process. The capacity of governance institutions (including the security agencies, ministries, departments and agencies) remains relatively weak.

### 2.5.2 Local Governance and Decentralisation

Ghana's decentralisation process, as enshrined in the Constitution and reinforced by the Local Governance Act (Act 936) of 2016, designates District Assemblies as the highest political, legislative, budgeting and planning authority at the local level. Currently, there are 10 Regional Coordinating Councils, 6 Metropolitan, 55 Municipal and 155 District Assemblies. The number of Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) has increased from 58 in 1974 to 216 in 2016.

Although progress has been recorded in the decentralisation efforts, especially, in administrative decentralisation, major challenge exists in the area of fiscal decentralisation. Fiscal autonomy remains weak, arising out of low capacity and limited opportunity for mobilising local revenue, while many expenditure decisions are taken at central government level.



### **2.5.3 Public Accountability**

Over the years, Government has introduced systems and structures to improve transparency and accountability in the management of public funds. Key among them is the introduction of the Financial Administration Act (FAA), 2003 (Act 654), Internal Audit Agency Act, 2003 (Act 658), and Public Financial Management Act 2016 (Act 921) and the Public Procurement (Amendment) Act, 2016 (Act 914). However, there are concern that these mechanisms have weak sanctions regimes.

### **2.5.4 Development Policy Management**

Governance institutions, including MDAs and MMDAs, have been established to ensure effective development policy management. Progress has been made in aligning the programmes and projects of MDAs and MMDAs with the national development policy framework and the national budget, in line with the National Development Planning Systems Regulations 2016 (LI 2232) and the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act, 2016 (Act 921). However, mobilisation and release of resources for implementation of approved programmes and projects remain a challenge.

### **2.5.5 Public Sector Reform**

Over the years, a number of reforms have been undertaken in the public sector to promote rapid and sustained economic growth and poverty alleviation. These reforms have primarily focused on pay, productivity and pension reforms; organisational restructuring and training; development of a human resource management framework; subvented agency reform and central management agency reform. However, none of these have been effective in bringing about the needed changes, and the public sector is perceived to be inefficient and unresponsive to the needs of clients.

### **2.5.6 Rule of Law and Justice**

Over the past two decades, a number of interventions have been made to ensure the rule of law and enhance access to justice. Among such interventions are modernisation of some court processes through automation; and training of more lawyers. However, there is still a high perception among the general public that justice is expensive and slow.

### **2.5.7 Public Safety and Security**

Central to peace and stability of the country is public safety and security. The Ghana Police Service (GPS) continues to discharge its obligations of maintaining internal peace, law, order and safety of property. The capacity of the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF) continues to be enhanced to forestall external aggression, safeguard territorial integrity and contribute to global peace. The current threats to peace and security in Ghana are violent crimes such as armed robbery, tribal and chieftaincy conflicts, terrorism, vigilantism and electoral violence.

### **2.5.8 Corruption and Economic Crimes**

Over the past two decades, Ghana has enacted a number of laws and established a number of institutions to combat corruption in the public sphere. These include the Economic and Organised Crime Office (EOCO), the Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), the Public Procurement Authority, and the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament. However, the extent to which corruption is perceived to exist among public office holders remains high.

### **2.5.9 Culture and Development**

Over the years, policies and programmes have been implemented to promote the development of literary works; maintain cultural assets and skills; promote centres of national culture; and sustain the institution of chieftaincy. However, growing foreign influence and chieftaincy disputes are becoming a major threat to preserving our cultural heritage and its contribution to national development.

### **2.5.10 Civil Society Organisations, Media and Civic Engagement**

Several dialogue platforms exist at the MDA and MMDA levels, where CSOs and private sector representatives effectively participate to influence public policy. In addition, a number of avenues, such as town-hall meetings and community engagements, policy fairs and regular budget literacy programmes, have been created to promote transparency in the governance process. Ghana has achieved many successes in the area of press freedom, and is considered as one of the freest countries in Africa. However, significant gaps exist in awareness, advocacy and enforcement of citizens' rights and responsibilities.





## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS**



#### **3.1 INTRODUCTION**

The key development opportunities to be optimise and the constraints that ought to be overcome in order to achieve the President's vision and goals are outlined as follows.

#### **3.2 DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

**Political Stability:** Ghana's multiparty democratic governance serves as a unique opportunity to pursue its development aspirations in uninterrupted peace. Political stability reduces the risk to planning, engenders predictability, creates the environment for sustainable implementation of policies and programmes.

**Extractives Development:** The proven reserves of oil and gas, the discovery of new fields, and the presence of other exploitable mineral resources indicate that the extractive industry will continue to play a pivotal role in economic development, at least over the next two decades.

**Citizen engagement:** Ghana has a pluralistic media landscape, with considerable success in press freedom. This freedom and respect for rights and rule of law have emboldened citizens to participate more effectively in development discourse and demand accountability from public office holders.

**Youth:** The increasing proportion at the middle of the population structure indicates the youthfulness of the population, and provides an opportunity for creativity and entrepreneurship.

**Growing Middle Class:** The growing middle class in Ghana implies increasing demand for modern accommodation, new technology and personal appliances. These serve as opportunity of new market for domestic production and services to expand.

### 3.3 BINDING CONSTRAINTS ON DEVELOPMENT

**Governance Constraints:** Although Ghana has recorded successes in the consolidation of democratic governance, significant aberrations exist, characterised by extreme partisanship in political discourse and the lingering threat of electoral violence.

**Institutional Constraints:** Although national institutions are endowed with all the needed expertise in skills, knowledge and capabilities, the delivery of public services remains weak.

**Macroeconomic Environment:** Ghana's economy remains vulnerable to changes in global economic crisis, especially changes international prices of gold, cocoa and oil.

**Climate Change:** Rising sea levels, due to climate change and other anthropogenic factors (e.g. sand mining and mangrove destruction), have led to sea surges and storms, leading to loss of livelihoods and property of significant proportion of the population.

**Terrorism:** Terrorism remains the number one threat to global peace and security. Until recently, terrorism was not identified as a major threat to national development in the West African region. However, recent incidents in Nigeria, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso, with significant adverse effects on investments and tourism, have made efforts to combat terrorism a high priority.

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **THE POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES FOR CREATING JOBS, PROSPERITY, AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL**



#### **4.1 INTRODUCTION**

The priority policies and programmes to be implemented to achieve the vision of the President under the *Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All* are anchored on the following pillars:

1. economic development
2. social development
3. environment, infrastructure and human settlements development;
4. governance, corruption and public accountability; and
5. strengthening Ghana's role in international affairs.

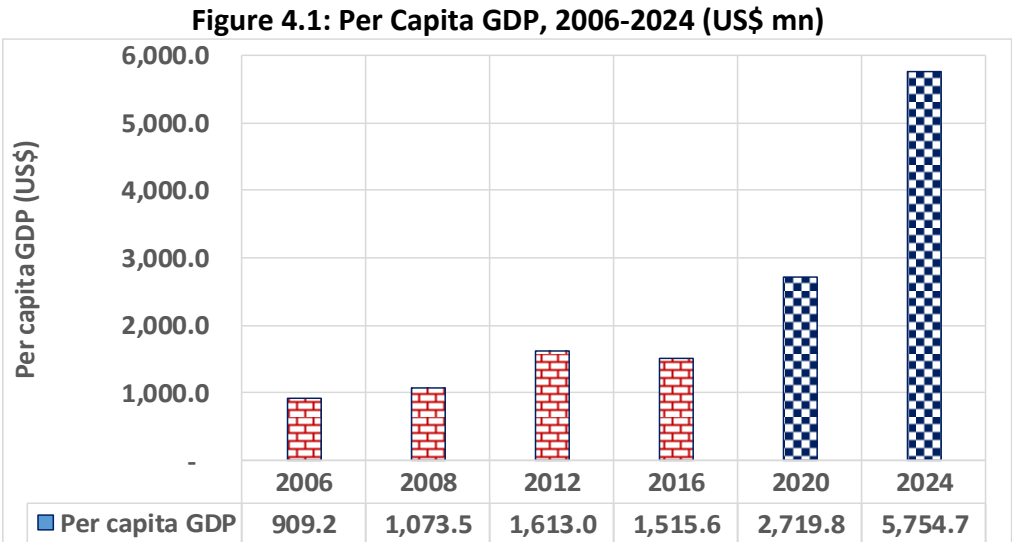
#### **4.2 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

##### **4.2.1 Economic Growth and Incomes**

The overall aim of Government economic development policies is to double, at least, the per capita GDP by 2024.

This will mean growing the economy at an average annual rate of at least 7.2 percent between 2017 and 2024, with a particular focus on reviving and strengthening manufacturing.

It is expected to translate into an increase in per capita GDP from US\$1,515.6 in 2016 to at least US\$2,500 by 2020, rising further to at least US\$3,500 by 2024.



#### 4.2.2 Sources of Economic Growth

Between 2017 and 2020, industry will lead growth, due to an increase in oil production, as new fields come on stream, especially in 2017 and 2018. Thereafter (2021-2024) services will take over as the primary source of broad growth, with manufacturing maintaining consistent accelerated growth.

#### 4.2.3 Restoring and Maintaining Macroeconomic Stability

The macroeconomic policy objective of Government is to restore and sustain macroeconomic stability, by enhancing fiscal and monetary discipline, and financial stability.

The central bank will pursue a complementary monetary policy to promote monetary discipline, while supporting economic growth.

To promote fiscal discipline, Government will ensure transparent institutional arrangements for providing quality fiscal information to the public, ensure accountability in implementing fiscal policies, and ensure the credibility of fiscal projections. Government will adopt and implement fiscal rules, consistent with the Public Financial Management (PFM) Act. A Fiscal Council will be established to promote sound fiscal policy making and implementation. In addition, a Financial Stability Council will be established to assess the vulnerability of the financial system.

#### 4.2.4 Industrial transformation

Industrialisation in general presents opportunities to expand the economy, and create more jobs. Government will therefore embark on a comprehensive industrial transformation and private sector development agenda with the following components:

**Energy for Industry:** Go beyond the objective of ensuring energy availability and reliability, to reducing the cost of doing business and lowering production costs through re-aligning the electricity tariff structure in support of industrial development.

**Raw Materials for Industry:** Provide incentives for the production and supply of quality raw materials. A programme will be introduced in collaboration with industry, especially the beverage industry, to replace imported raw materials with local ones.

**Research and Development (R&D) for industrial development:** Re-focus the operation of public research institutions to support the development of selected strategic industries. In addition, specific incentives will be established for R&D laboratories, set up by the private sector, to support the value chain in targeted industries.

**Skills Development for Industry:** To address the challenges faced by industry in sourcing and aligning skilled personnel to their production needs, apprenticeship and skills development centres will be established to train skilled labour for specific industrial sub-sectors.

**Access to Land for Industrial Development:** Facilitate access to dedicated land in every region for the establishment of multi-purpose industrial parks, sector-specific industrial enclaves, and enterprise free zones.

**Flagship Industrial Development Initiatives:** In addition to these components, Government will roll out the following flagship industrial development initiatives:

- *Building the Competitiveness of Local Industries by Supporting them with a Stimulus Package*
- *Aggressively pursuing the One District, One Factory (1D1F) initiative*
- *Develop new growth poles for economic transformation within the framework of the Strategic Anchor Industrial Initiatives*
- *Establish an Industrial Sub-Contracting Exchange programme to link large-scale companies with SMEs.*

#### **4.2.5 Private Sector Development**

The main thrust of private sector development policy is to establish Ghana as the most business-friendly country in Africa. To create a globally competitive private sector environment, specific interventions will aim at:

- *enhancing the business-enabling environment;*
- *promoting public-private sector dialogue;*
- *improving business financing;*
- *supporting entrepreneurship and SME development;*
- *promoting export development;*
- *enhancing domestic trade; and*
- *ensuring consumer protection.*

#### 4.2.6 Promoting Good Corporate Governance

Government will work closely with private sector organisations, such as the Association of Ghana Industries (AGI), Ghana Chamber of Commerce and Private Enterprise Federation (PEF), to roll out programmes to make good corporate governance a key part of private sector support packages.

State institutions responsible for ensuring strong corporate governance such as the Securities and Exchange Commission, CHRAJ, PSC, Audit Service and GIPC, will be strengthened to perform their functions effectively.

#### 4.2.7 Formalising the Economy

The first concrete step to formalize the informal sector is to implement the National Identification System as the primary identifier of all citizens. The second step is to record digitally all properties (state and non-state) in a centralised national database. Together, these systems will facilitate tracking of both formal and informal enterprises and individual for effective targeting of Government interventions.

To consolidate the institutional basis for supporting small- and medium-size enterprises, the National Board for Small-Scale Industries (NBSSI) and the Rural Enterprises Project (REP) will be merged and provided with resources to conduct entrepreneurship training and business development services.

#### 4.2.8 Agriculture and Rural Development

The growth of agriculture will be the main driving force for rural development and transformation. The implementation of programmes will be driven by the *“Planting for Food and Jobs”* and the *“One Village, One Dam”* flagship initiatives.

The main pillars of agricultural development policies will be:

**Marketing-Focused Product Development:** Government will introduce grades, standards and regulations to guide the conduct of actors; and facilitate capacity building in negotiations and skills development in contracting for actors along the value chain.

**Institutional Reforms for Coordinated Public Investment:** Ensure the provision of: critical infrastructure, such as feeder roads, electricity and water; tailor-made agricultural financing; needs-based technical assistance and extension support; and tax relief and incentives. A specific innovation will be a restructuring of MOFA, introducing a marketing department to work with MOTI to support the demand-driven agenda.

**Production Efficiency through Yield Improvement:** Implement yield improvement programmes such as: increasing investment in research and development; providing irrigation infrastructure; intensifying mechanisation; reinvigorate extension services; and promoting commercial and block farming.



**Post-Harvest Management:** Provide incentives to the private sector and District Assemblies to invest in post-harvest activities; provide support for sustained raw material supply to small- and medium-scale agro-processing enterprises, through the One District, One Factory initiative; and re-organise the National Food Buffer Stock Company to be more efficient and market oriented.

**Technology Application:** Government will promote the application of information and communications technology (ICT) in the agricultural value chain in order to minimise cost in all operations. This will include setting up a database on all farmers, drawn from the national identification system; promotion of an electronic payments system; technology transfer and input delivery; and dissemination of information on weather and prices.

**Youth and Agriculture Development:** Government will promote agriculture as a business among the youth, including linking the youth to financial institutions, for start-up capital; capacity building in agricultural operations; and access to land.

#### **4.2.9 Fisheries and Aquaculture Development**

The implementation of policies and programme in this area will focus on the following:

**Re-energise Aquaculture Development Programme:** This will entail: introducing the fisheries nucleus-outgrower scheme; construction of culturing facilities (hatcheries, laboratories and fish feed mills); development of aquaculture parks; and diversification of culturable species with high economic value.

**Sustainable Management of Aquatic Fisheries Resources:** This will entail: improving fisheries infrastructure development to support the private sector; reducing illegal fishing and post-harvest losses; and transforming the fisheries sub-sector and industry through science, research, technology and innovation.

#### **4.2.10 Tourism and Creative Arts Development**

Government will transform the country into a major Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) centre, as well as on expanding the tourism sector, through investment, innovation, the pursuit of service excellence and meaningful partnerships. The creative arts sector will also be supported to enable it to realise its full potential for generating wealth for its practitioners, create jobs and contribute to the economy.



## 4.3 SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The objective of Government's social development policies and programmes is to achieve a fair and inclusive society, with opportunity for all. In this regard, interventions will focus on the following key areas.

### 4.3.1 Education and Training

Government policies for education and training will focus on improving inclusive and equitable access to, and participation in, education at all levels; intensifying education in science, mathematics and technology at all levels; raising the quality of education at pre-tertiary levels, with emphasis on mathematics and science; facilitating the implementation of the language policy; strengthening the school management system; and ensuring sustainable sources of financing for education.



### 4.3.2 Health and Health Services

Government will ensure a healthy population, capable of contributing fully to national socio-economic development. Key policy objectives to be pursued include: providing affordable, equitable, easily accessible and quality Universal Health Coverage (UHC); scaling up disease prevention strategies; and strengthening the health system.

To ensure financial protection and affordability, especially for the poor, the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) will be strengthened and the health financing strategy effectively implemented.

### 4.3.3 Food and Nutrition Security

To ensure food security and promote good nutrition, the interventions to be implemented include: instituting measures to prevent food losses; promoting the production and utilisation of locally grown and nutrient-rich food; strengthening early warning and emergency preparedness systems; reviewing and scaling up the Regenerative Health and Nutrition Programme (RHNP); eliminating child and adult overweight and obesity; and promoting research and development in food and nutrition security (FNS).



#### **4.3.4 Population Management**

Government will pursue a population policy aimed at a population growth rate of 2.2 percent in the medium-to-long term, through a combination of policies focused on education, family planning (FP) and the integration of population targets in development planning processes.

To harness the demographic dividend, interventions will be implemented to strengthen coordination, planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of population policies and programmes, particularly in education, governance, health and employment; and intensifying public education on population issues at all levels of society.

#### **4.3.5 Poverty and Inequality**

To eradicate poverty in all forms and dimensions, and minimise inequality among socio-economic groups and between geographical areas, interventions, such as the Youth Employment Programme, Free Maternal Care, Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC), Youth Enterprise Support Programme, and Metro Mass Transit Transport Service will be strengthened.

Measures will also be introduced to ensure fair and balanced allocation of national resources across ecological zones, gender, income and socio-economic groups, including PWDs; and accelerate the establishment of special development authorities for selected areas.

#### **4.3.6 Water and Sanitation**

To improve access to water services for all, Government will ensure sustainable financing of operations and maintenance of water supply services, including improving the water production and distribution system.

To improve access to environmental sanitation, investments in the sanitation sector will be scaled up and space created for private sector participation in the provision of sanitation services. The “Toilet For All” and “Water For All” programmes under the Infrastructure for Poverty Eradication Programme (IPEP) will be implemented.

#### **4.3.7 Child and Family Welfare**

To reduce the policy gaps in child and family welfare, child protection interventions will be mainstreamed in MDA and MMDA development plans, and implemented under the Child and Family Welfare and Justice for Children policies.

To protect the rights and entitlements of children, interventions will be pursued to end harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation and early child marriage; eliminate the worst forms of child labour, by enforcing laws on child labour and child trafficking; implementing the right to education for all children; and compiling a database on street children and child beggars and providing skills training for street children aged 18 years.

#### **4.3.8 Support for the Aged**

In the medium term, the National Ageing Bill will be passed and the Ageing Council established to coordinate implementation of an ageing policy. Socially supportive community care systems will be promoted for the aged, based on positive traditional and modern values, devoid of stereotyping, discrimination and disrespect.

To guarantee peaceful and decent pensions for beneficiaries, implementation of the National Pensions Act, 2008 (Act 766) will be strengthened. Geriatric healthcare will be enhanced in the Ghana Health Service, through the training of geriatric healthcare professionals (geriatric doctors and nurses), as well as professional geriatric care givers to address the health needs of the elderly.

#### **4.3.9 Gender Equality, and Empowerment of Women and Girls**

To attain gender equality and equity in political, social and economic development systems and outcomes, policy measures to be implemented will include ensuring the passage into law and implementation of the Affirmative Action (Gender Equality) Bill; passing the Domestic Workers' Bill into law; and strengthening GOG funding to institutions responsible for gender issues.

To promote economic empowerment of women, especially in the informal economy, the administrative directive on the reservation of 30 percent of poverty alleviation funds of MMDAs to service women's enterprises will be re-introduced and enforced. A mentoring programme for girls will be introduced to create a pool of potential female leaders.

#### **4.3.10 Sports and Recreation**

To promote sports and recreation interventions to be pursued will include: developing and maintaining sports and recreational infrastructure; promoting gender equity in sports disciplines; promoting the less recognised sporting activities and community-level sporting activities; promoting inter-school sports competition; and creating space for private sector participation in sports development.

#### **4.3.11 Youth Development**

To ensure comprehensive development of the youth, Government will ensure that youth issues are mainstreamed in national development policies, programmes and projects across all sectors.

Specifically, measures to be pursued include equipping the youth with employable skills; strengthening the link between education and the labour market; building the capacity of the youth to discover opportunities; strengthening key national institutions, including NYA and YEA, for them to discharge their mandates effectively; and build integrated youth centres in all districts to serve as an information hub for youth development.

#### **4.3.12 Social Protection**

The legal, institutional, monitoring and evaluation frameworks of all the social protection interventions, including LEAP, NHIS, and GSFP will be strengthened to make them effective and efficient in delivering social protection services in the long run.

#### **4.3.13 Disability and Development**

To promote full participation of PWDs in society and ensure that they enjoy all the benefits of citizenship, the Disability Act, 2006 (Act 715) will be amended to conform to the UN Convention on Disability, and ensure its implementation.

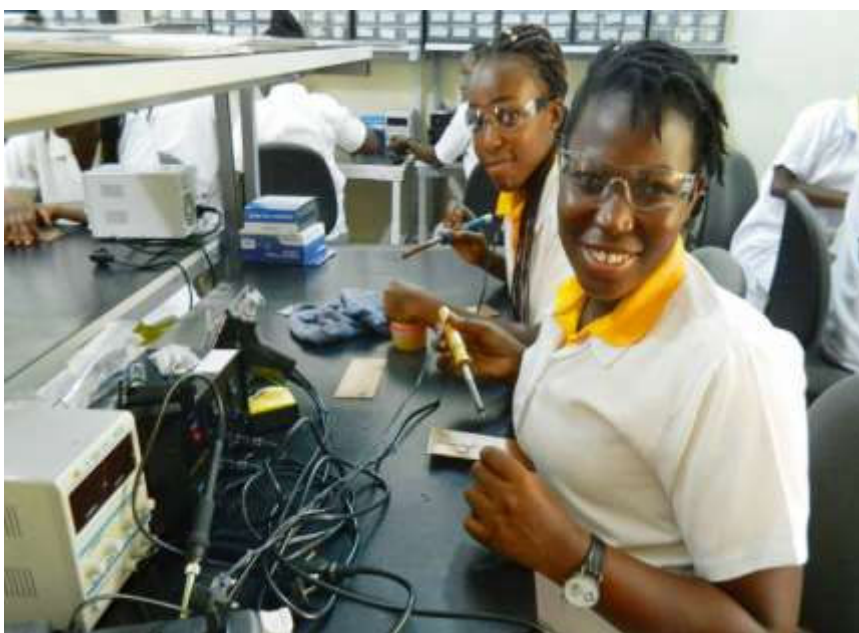
The National Council on Persons with Disability (NCPD) will be decentralised fully to district level to coordinate responses to issues of disability, while ensuring that the 3 percent increase in District Assemblies' Common Fund disbursements to PWDs is effectively implemented.

The Ghana Accessibility Standards will be implemented to ensure access for PWDs to the built environment as well as to goods, services and assistive devices. Special training schools for PWDs will in turn receive more funding to provide them with technical skills and formal education.

#### **4.3.14 Employment and Decent Work**

Government will focus on placing job creation at the centre of the national development agenda through priority interventions such as improving the business environment, and facilitating the transition of the informal economy to formality. This would be done through tailor-made support services for businesses to grow and create more decent jobs. This entails: labour protection; enforcement of labour laws and regulations, as well as the labour administration systems; harmonious industrial relations; strengthening the linkages among social protection and employment services; and enhancing livelihoods and entrepreneurship.

As part of the job creation and skills development efforts, Government will introduce a mandatory job impact assessment for all public sector projects or initiatives. Job impact assessment will also be required of private sector entities working on Government projects and contracts.



## 4.4 ENVIRONMENT, INFRASTRUCTURE AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS



The objective of Government's environment, infrastructure and human settlements development policies and programmes is to safeguard the natural environment and ensure a resilient environment. In this regard, interventions will focus on the following:

### 4.4.1 Protected Areas

Government will extend forest conservation areas and protect existing forest reserves. The Forestry Commission and related institutions will be strengthened to implement the National Environmental Protection Programme (NEPP) and the Environmental Action Plan (EAP) effectively. Government will set aside gene banks for indigenous species and refuge areas for threatened, endemic and rare species.

### 4.4.2 Mineral Extraction

The overall aim of Government's mineral exploration policy is to ensure sustainable extraction of our mineral resources, with effective linkages to the rest of the economy. Policy interventions will aim at ensuring that mining and logging activities are undertaken in an environmentally sustainable manner; ensuring that land restoration is undertaken after mining operations; tackling comprehensively the menace of illegal and unsustainable mining; and providing incentives to attract private investors into sustainable exploration of unexploited minerals resources, especially in the Upper West, Upper East and Northern Regions, and other parts of the country.

### 4.4.3 Coastal Erosion

In order to reduce coastal erosion, Government will invest in control structures (including the establishment of gabions and boulder revetments) and promote mangrove forest replanting; and

planting of other vegetative cover. Further efforts will be made to control sand mining along the beach and minimise the use of beach sand for building.

#### **4.4.4 Waste, Pollution and Noise**

To halt the increase in environmental pollution, science and technology will be employed to promote waste recycling and waste-to-energy technologies. The private sector will be engaged to invest in recycling and recovery plants to tackle the menace of plastic and electronic waste. Government will intensify enforcement of regulations on noise and air pollution; and promote cleaner production and consumption technology and practices.

#### **4.4.5 Deforestation, Desertification and Soil Erosion**

As part of the strategy to curb deforestation, an estimated 30,000 hectares of degraded areas within and outside forest reserves will be planted using fast-growing indigenous and exotic species. Government will also involve chiefs, queen mothers and traditional authorities in the afforestation of Ghana with the support of the Forestry Commission.

#### **4.4.6 Greening the Environment**

A Green Ghana campaign will be initiated with chiefs, queen mothers, traditional authorities, civil society, religious bodies and other recognised groups. The use of Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) will be intensified in public policy processes and implementation of projects.

#### **4.4.7 Climate Variability and Change**

Ghana is a signatory to the Paris Climate Agreement (COP21), which seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 15 percent by 2030, compared to the business-as-usual scenario. Government is, therefore, committed to implementing this agreement and achieving the target as specified in the Paris Climate Agreement (COP21). The implementation of the Ghana REDD+ Strategy (2016-2036) will also be accelerated.

#### **4.4.8 Disaster Management**

Policy interventions will aim at promoting proactive planning for disaster prevention and mitigation. An early warning and response mechanism on disasters will be operationalised, in addition to strengthening the capacity of the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) to perform its functions effectively.

#### **4.4.9 Transportation**

The long-term objective of Government's transport policy is to develop modern, integrated, and well-maintained transportation infrastructure for accelerated growth and development. It also seeks to make Ghana the transportation hub of the West African region.

In this regard, interventions will be targeted at improving roads; road safety; ports and harbours; inland water and maritime; aviation and airports; railways; and logistics.

**Road Transport:** The road maintenance and axle load control programmes will be re-focused towards asset preservation. Road rehabilitation and international corridor development will be undertaken, with priority given to completing the Western, Central and Eastern corridors. Capacity will also be enhanced by constructing missing links; tarring the road networks in district capitals and areas of high agricultural production and tourism.

To improve mobility within urban areas, a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system has been introduced in the Greater Accra Region on pilot basis. To improve on efficiency, the institutional arrangement governing the system will be reviewed and strengthened, while steps are taken to develop other pilot corridors including the Accra to Adenta and Accra to Kasoa routes.

**Road Safety:** To ensure safer roads, pedestrian safety facilities will be incorporated in planning, design, construction and maintenance of road infrastructure, in addition to amending the law to empower the National Road Safety Commission to enforce and sanction road sector operators who do not comply with the laws.

**Ports and Harbours:** To improve ports and harbours, ports infrastructure will continue to be expanded to minimise congestion and turnaround time, in addition to creating space for private sector participation in the development and management of seaport facilities. The implementation of ports and harbours master plans will be accelerated.

**Inland Water Transport:** Government will develop the Volta River into a major transportation artery by building modern ferry ports and providing upgraded ferries and pontoons in collaboration with the private sector. The laws, regulations and standards for operations on inland waterways will be strictly enforced to help improve services and safety. Furthermore, the capacity of the Ghana Maritime Authority will be strengthened to enable it to play its regulatory role in the maritime industry effectively.

**Aviation and Airports:** The Government will collaborate with the private sector to develop the aviation industry in support of Ghana's role as an aviation hub serving West Africa, by providing modern air transport infrastructure, building capacity and establishing an institutional and policy framework to enhance the safety and security of air transport services. The aviation sector master-plan will effectively be implemented.

**Rail Transport:** The strategy for railway development is to revamp the existing rail network and expand the capacity to northern Ghana, to support industrialisation and other economic activities. The Tema-Akosombo multimodal route will be connected to the Volta Lake transport system, which connects the north and the south at Buipe and continues to Paga. Programmes will be introduced to ensure inner connectivity with neighbouring countries, initially with Burkina Faso, and, subsequently, with Togo and Côte d'Ivoire.



**Logistics:** Government will establish an efficient multimodal logistics system, by upgrading of logistics infrastructure; modernisation of operations; development of human resources and professionalism; and the gradual abolition of outdated systems governing the industry.

#### **4.4.10 Water for Development**

Government will promote efficient water use, and integrate water resources planning into national and sub-national development planning. The regulatory regime for small-scale miners will be strengthened to protect our water bodies, while liquid and solid waste management will be improved to prevent the discharge of untreated waste into water bodies and contamination of groundwater sources.

#### **4.4.11 Information and Communications Technology**

Government policy will aim at entrenching ICT, and especially data science (including analytics), at the centre of the national development agenda, and also as part of a strategy to position the country as a regional ICT hub.

To achieve this, Government will mainstream ICT in the public sector; improve telecommunications accessibility; create opportunities for entrepreneurship; increase citizens' accessibility to data platforms; and collaborate with the private sector to increase the broadband bandwidth and speed of connections nationwide. Significant investment will be made to develop the ICT infrastructure, in addition to improving the quality of ICT services, especially internet and mobile telephony.

#### **4.4.12 Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)**

The overall approach by Government to place science and technology application at the centre of development is to ensure that STI is mainstreamed in all socio-economic activities. To this end, significant investment will be made towards research and development to ensure that researchers are motivated to find local solutions to the nation's problems.

#### **4.4.13 Energy and Petroleum**

##### ***Power***

The overall objective of Government's energy policy is to ensure that energy is available, clean, affordable and accessible. To this end, Government will facilitate the building of solar parks in the northern part of the country to deploy utility-scale solar photovoltaic systems. A Renewable Energy Industrial Zone will be established, while the private sector is supported to build factories for the production and assembling of full components for solar power systems.

Government will expand the provision of mini-grids to lakeside and island communities, in order to facilitate the productive use of energy, and improve livelihoods in the communities.



Government will conduct a technical audit on all power sector infrastructure, and develop and implement a 10-year Power Sector Master Plan, which will be reviewed, thereafter, to meet national medium-to-long term energy needs.

Government intends to make gas the primary fuel of choice for power generation, and will direct the flow from Jubilee, TEN and Sankofa to boost power generation. In order to enhance and ensure the security of natural gas supply, Government will provide incentives for the aggressive development of indigenous natural gas potential.

Interventions will target a reduction in generation, transmission and distribution losses and promote demand-side management to reduce significantly the operational inefficiencies in energy supply and distribution, and the inefficient use of electricity by households and industry, and, thus, conserve energy.

### ***Petroleum***

In accordance with the Petroleum Exploration and Production Act, 2016 (Act 919) to deepen transparency in the sector, Government will accelerate work on the development of regulations and the competitive bidding process for the award of blocks for petroleum exploration and production.

To grow the nation's petroleum reserves, Government, through the Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC), will accelerate the reconnaissance exploration programme in the Voltaian basin, with the objective of delineating areas that merit detailed exploration.

The petroleum local content and local participation policy agenda will be given the needed support to ensure that Ghana will not only receive direct revenues from petroleum operations, but create value through local content and Ghanaian participation. The Petroleum Commission will be supported to fully implement the Petroleum (Local Content and Local Participation) Regulations, 2013, LI 2204. An "Accelerated Oil Capacity Development Programme", will be implemented as the flagship initiative to build the capacity of Ghanaians to effectively participate in the sector.

To achieve Government's vision, of "Energy Economy", and to facilitate universal access to adequate, reliable and cost-effective petroleum products, such as liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), Government will expand the national crude oil refining capacity, through public and private sector investment, and the reorganisation of Tema Oil Refinery (TOR,) to improve its operational efficiency. In addition, Government will seek private investment to expand national refining capacity in order to create a petroleum hub on the back of trading, refining, storage and transportation, to service neighbouring countries and landlocked nations in the sub-region. Petroleum products storage capacity and operations will also be expanded through mobilisation of domestic capital for needed investments.

Government will ensure fiscal discipline in the utilisation of oil revenue by adhering to the guidelines enshrined in the Petroleum Revenue Management Act (PRMA).

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Petroleum Commission will be supported to ensure that exploration and production technologies, being employed in the industry, are environmentally friendly.

#### **4.4.14 Construction Industry Development**

Strategies to address challenges in the construction industry will begin with the establishment of a central agency to improve efficiency in the industry. This agency will also lead efforts to improve and standardise techniques and materials used to ensure quality in all aspects of construction.

#### **4.4.15 Drainage and Flood Control**

In the short term, Government will construct storm drains in Accra and other cities and towns to stem the recurrence of devastating floods. However, as a long-term measure, a National Hydrology Authority (NHA) will be established to develop long-term solutions to flooding and the protection of our inland and sea coastlines.

#### **4.4.16 Infrastructure Maintenance**

In the medium term, the overall strategy will aim at establishing a timely and effective preventive maintenance plan for all public infrastructure. This will involve clearing the huge backlog of existing maintenance works, and instituting a robust maintenance scheme for rail, roads, ports, harbours and other critical infrastructure.

#### **4.4.17 Land Administration and Management**

The overall objective of Government's land administration policy is to ensure that land serves as a catalyst for socio-economic development. To this end, Government will continue the ongoing land reforms to address title and ownership, as well as reviewing laws and regulations on land and consolidating them. Government will fully decentralise the Lands Commission, and digitise its operations to speed up services, enhance the accuracy of land certificates and ensure high standards of land data security.

#### **4.4.18 Human Settlements and Housing**

Policy interventions will aim at promoting sustainable, spatially integrated, balanced and orderly development of human settlements, and providing adequate, safe, secure, quality and affordable social housing and private housing solutions. To this end, the recently passed Land Use and Spatial Planning Act, 2016 (Act 925), and the accompanying National Spatial Planning Framework (NSDF), will be implemented fully, while the national housing policy will be reviewed and effectively implemented.

#### **4.4.19 Rural Development**

The overall goal for rural development, during the programme period, is to achieve economic and social advancement for rural people. To this end, Government fully implement the rural development policy, with a focus on promoting agricultural production and agro-processing, rural enterprise development.

#### **4.4.20 Urban Development**

Government will establish special growth centres and urban networks, with spatially targeted investment. The five-tier hierarchy of urban centres, comprising of villages, towns, secondary cities, cities and city regions (conurbations), will be implemented, in addition to the creation of structured metropolitan city regions around Accra, Kumasi and other metropolitan areas.

A structural plan for all grade 1, 2 and 3 settlements will be prepared, in support of the implementation of the National Urban Policy and Action Plan and the United Nations New Urban Agenda adopted at Habitat III.

#### **4.4.21 Zongos and Inner Cities Development**

Over the medium term, policy interventions to be implemented will aim at upgrading inner cities, Zongos and slums, while preventing the occurrence of new ones. Government will establish a Zongo and inner city development fund to finance appropriate programmes.

### **4.5 GOVERNANCE, CORRUPTION AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY**



Over the programme period, Government policy will aim to deepen governance, fight corruption and enhance public accountability as a means of maintaining a stable, united and safe country. Interventions to be implemented will focus on the following priority areas:

#### **4.5.1 Deepening Democratic Governance**

The attainment of the long-term goal of socio-economic development depends largely on continuous democratic governance, political stability and peace. To this end, Government will implement policy

interventions to deepen good governance, and ensure effective operation of institutions that protect citizens' rights. The three arms of state will be strengthened, while ensuring that democratic institutions are supported to perform their functions effectively. In addition, the security services will be modernised to make them more responsive to the demands of contemporary times.

#### **4.5.2 Reforming and Transforming Public Institutions**

Building a Government machinery, that works, remains a major goal of Government. To this end, Government policy will aim at strengthening the capacity of public sector institutions to deliver public goods and services efficiently. Institutional reforms will be undertaken to re-align institutions with conflicting mandates and improve coordination. Public service institutions will be modernised for efficiency and productivity and Citizen's Charter introduced.

#### **4.5.3 Effective Management of Public Policy**

Government will enhance its capacity for policy formulation and coordination, by introducing guidelines for formulation of policies and preparing a *policy and legislative almanac* to serve as a central reference point. The capacity of state institutions, responsible for public policy management, including NDPC, OoP and MoF, will be enhanced to coordinate effectively the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Government policies and programmes.

#### **4.5.4 Improving Human Security and Public Safety**

Government will continue to improve public safety and security, by transforming the security services into world-class institutions with modern infrastructure, including accommodation, health and training facilities. In addition, pre-trial detention, sentencing (including non-custodial sentences) will be reformed, and a robust and comprehensive anti-narcotic drug and anti-organised crime policy introduced.

#### **4.5.5 Accelerating and Sustaining Decentralisation**

To ensure effective and efficient decentralisation through greater grassroots participation, better planning and improved service delivery in local communities, Government policies will aim at deepening political and administrative decentralisation; decentralised planning, fiscal decentralisation; and strengthening the coordinating and administrative functions of regions.

***Deepening political and administrative decentralisation:*** To improve political decentralisation, Government will implement the policy of electing Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives (MMDCes), as well as resolve or substantially reduce inter-district boundary demarcation issues.

***Improve administrative decentralisation:*** To ensure administrative decentralisation and improve the quality of service delivery at the decentralised level, Government will complete the establishment of

departments of the MMDAs, and instituting a mechanism for effective inter-service/inter-sectoral collaboration and cooperation at district, regional and national levels.

***Strengthen fiscal decentralisation:*** To improving funding and financial management of MMDAs, Government implement the Inter-Governmental Fiscal Framework (IGFF) and the Inter-Governmental Fiscal Transfers (IGFT); review and harmonise financial sector legislation; enhance the financial capacities of regional administrations; improve the revenue mobilisation capacity and capability of MMDAs.

***Strengthening the coordinating and administrative functions of regions:*** For better management of the country, the existing 10 administrative regions will be reviewed and re-organised in accordance with popular expectations. The re-organisation will entail creation of new regions from some of the existing regions.

#### **4.5.6 Promoting Respect for Law and Order**

To promote respect for the rule of law the independence of the Judiciary will be strengthened, and the Judicial Service provided with adequate resources. In addition, the court computerisation process will be continued and completed to make the court system responsive to global demands. The Ghana Legal Aid Scheme will be replaced with a Legal Aid Commission to make legal aid more accessible and workable to the benefit of poor and vulnerable people.

#### **4.5.7 Fighting Corruption and Economic Crimes**

Fighting corruption and economic crimes is a major priority of Government. This will entail undertaking comprehensive institutional and legislative reforms, as well as pursuing an effective campaign for attitudinal change.

Government will establish an Office of the Special Prosecutor to investigate and prosecute certain categories of cases, including corruption and violations of the Public Procurement Act. To foster transparency and accountability, Government will implement an effective assets declaration regime. In addition, the law relating to asset declaration will be amended to provide for sanctions, as well as public disclosure of asset declarations.

The National Commission on Civic Education (NCCE) will be resourced to provide public education and sensitisation on the negative effects of corruption. This should strengthen the citizen's role in resisting, condemning, and reporting corruption, and demanding accountability.

#### **4.5.8 Promoting Culture for National Development**

To promote culture in the development process, the interventions to be pursued include reviewing and updating the cultural policy framework and ensuring its implementation; revamping the Centres for National Culture; supporting the establishment of national theatres and museums as legacy

projects; restructuring the National Commission on Culture; and developing capacity for the development of an arts and culture industry.

#### **4.5.9 Promoting Attitudinal Change and Patriotism**

To promote discipline in all aspects of life, Government will pursue strategies that will promote patriotism and attitudinal change to ensure the attainment of internal cohesion and national unity. Furthermore, interventions will be introduced to instil patriotism in the citizenry, especially among children and the youth.

#### **4.5.10 Engaging Civil Society, Traditional Authorities, Religious Bodies and the Media in National Development**

Cooperation and collaboration with civil society will be pursued to improve governance and enhance the well-being of Ghanaians. The capacity of the media will be strengthened for them to play their watchdog role, while the National Media Commission is re-tooled to exercise its oversight functions.

Space will be created for the engagement of traditional authorities in the development and governance process. The capacity of the National and Regional Houses of Chiefs will be strengthened to promote development.

To strengthen the role of religious bodies in national development, formal dialogue platform will be instituted to ensure their participation in the formulation and implementation of development programmes and projects.

#### **4.5.11 Promoting Development Communication**

To promote development communication a National Policy Summit will be organised periodically on key Government initiatives. To bring ordinary Ghanaians face-to-face with Government officials at local level, regular town hall meetings will be organised in all districts, while the Meet-the-Press series, will continue to be organised.

To demystify the Presidency and bring the President closer to the people, a programme will be introduced, which will allow the President to visit a region every month, to interact with the people and hear their concerns at first hand. The President will also meet with the press at least every six months to account to them on his stewardship, and to take questions and suggestions for improving on the process of governance.



#### 4.6 STRENGTHENING GHANA'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

To strengthen Ghana's role in international affairs, policy interventions will aim at: leveraging Ghana's governance and security credentials to promote our political and economic interests abroad; enhancing Ghana's international image and influence in international organisations; promote a globally competitive foreign service; creating a favourable business environment; and integrating the Ghanaian diaspora into national development.



#### 4.7 GHANA AND INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORKS

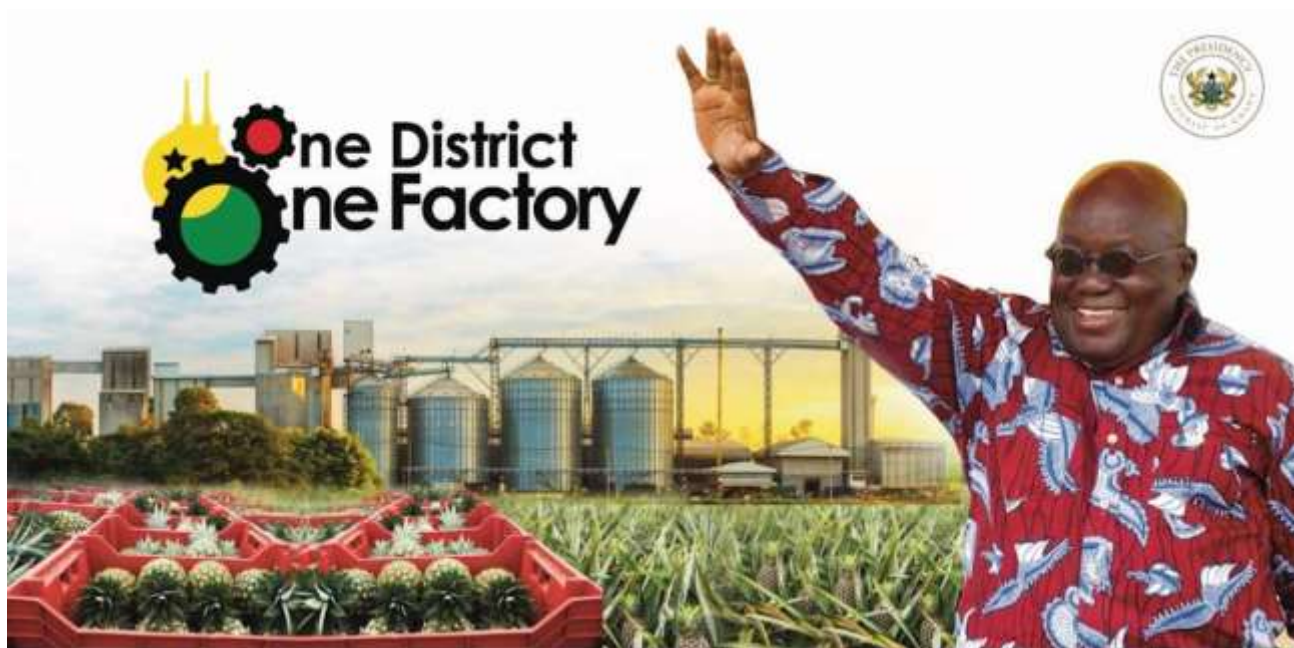
Ghana continues to play an active role within the comity of nations in operationalising global and regional development frameworks, and contributing towards achieving agreed development aspirations. Over the years, Ghana has signed up to, and ratified several international protocols. In 2015, Ghana signed three major international agreements, namely the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Africa Union's Agenda 2063 and the Paris Agreement on Climate Change (COP21). These agreements have subsequently been integrated into this Coordinated Programme, national development policy framework, and the MDAs' and MMDAs' medium-term development plans.





## CHAPTER FIVE

### PRIORITY PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES



#### 5.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a summary of priority programmes and initiatives to be executed during the implementation of this Coordinated Programme. These programmes and initiatives will be monitored directly by the Office of the President through the Minister for Monitoring and Evaluation, and will complement the activities of the Medium-term Development Policy Framework that is to give broad expression to the Agenda for Jobs: Creating Prosperity and Equal Opportunity for All.

#### 5.2 PRECONDITIONS FOR SUCCESS

For the attainment of the goals and objectives of this Coordinated Programme, six pre-conditions have been established, namely:

1. Macroeconomic Stability - Low Inflation, Stable Currency, and Affordable Credit
2. Energy Sufficiency
3. Land Reforms
4. National Identification and Civil Registration
5. Street Naming and House Numbering
6. Targeted Public Sector Reforms
  - Registrar-General's services;
  - Tax Administration

- *Port Administration; and*
- *Labour Market Information System*

### 5.3 DRIVERS OF CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

The following have been identified as the key success factor or drivers of the Coordinated Programme:

- Attitudinal Change;
- World-Class Labour Force; and
- Broad-Based Innovation

### 5.4 FLAGSHIP PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

The flagship projects and initiatives, that define Government policies, are for implementation in the short-to-medium term. The list of interventions includes:

#### 5.4.1 Revitalizing the Economy:

- i. establishment of a national database, using the National Identification System as the primary identifier, with linkages to the databases of institutions;
- ii. establishment of an electronic payments system;
- iii. special development authorities for the Savannah, Middle Belt, Coastal Belt and the Zongo Development Fund;
- iv. implementation of accelerated export development strategy;
- v. establishment of a machine tool industry;
- vi. revision and implementation of the National Industrialisation Policy; and
- vii. establishment of a national tax evasion hotline.

#### 5.4.2 Revamp Economic and Social Infrastructure:

- i. dedicated energy supply sources for industrial enclaves and zones;
- ii. expand the railway network to northern Ghana to open up economic opportunities and link the country with neighbouring countries; and
- iii. build a Tema-Akosombo rail link to tie in with a vibrant and revived Volta Lake transportation system for expanded transportation, and thereby boosting local and national economic activity.

#### 5.4.3 Transform Agriculture and Industry:

- i. launch a national campaign dubbed *“Planting for Food and Jobs”* to stimulate food production and generate incomes;
- ii. implement *“One Village, One Dam”* initiative to ensure all year-round farming, especially in the northern regions;
- iii. institute incentive schemes for the development of specific renewable energy projects for industrial development;

- iv. implement the “*One District, One Factory*” initiative, through public-private partnerships, to establish at least one industrial enterprise in each of the 216 districts in Ghana; and
- v. implement subsidy programmes on retail prices of seeds, fertilisers and other agrochemicals.

#### **5.4.4 Social Development:**

- i. redefine basic education to include senior secondary education;
- ii. implement the policy on free SHS for all Ghanaian children;
- iii. implement reforms in school curriculum to emphasise the 4Rs (i.e. Writing, Arithmetic, Reading and Creative Arts, including History of Ghana and French and Arabic as options);
- iv. strengthen and align Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutions in the Ministry of Education;
- v. popularise and demystify the teaching and learning of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and ICT education in basic/secondary schools;
- vi. implement accelerated programme for teacher development and professionalisation;
- vii. reform and strengthen regulatory agencies operating under the Ministry of Education;
- viii. implement the Accelerated Programme for the Rationalisation and Expansion of Educational Infrastructure;
- ix. restructure the National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS);
- x. strengthen Technical and Vocational Education and Training;
- xi. expand the coverage of the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) programme;
- xii. renew and enhance the Ghana School Feeding Programme (GSFP);
- xiii. enforce the Disability Act, including improving access to public buildings for the physically challenged;
- xiv. introduce a quota system of women in 30 percent of public appointments;
- xv. implement a programme on affordable housing for all working Ghanaians and families in modern communities;
- xvi. implement a policy of reserving 30 percent of poverty alleviation/credit funds of MMDAs to service women’s enterprises; and
- xvii. develop a National Human Development Strategy.

#### **5.4.5 Reform the Delivery of Institutions of Governance:**

- i. establish, by an Act of Parliament, an Office of the Special Prosecutor, to investigate and prosecute certain categories of cases and allegations of corruption;
- ii. implement public procurement reforms;
- iii. implement policy on direct election of MMDCEs;
- iv. pass the Right to Information Bill;
- v. pass the Affirmative Action Bill to increase women’s involvement in decision making;
- vi. amend the relevant sections of the Criminal Offences Act, 1960 (Act 29), particularly sections 3, 151, and 239-257, to make corruption a felony, rather than a misdemeanor;
- vii. implement public sector reforms and innovation; and
- viii. develop online database of national and sub-national infrastructure assets.

#### 5.4.6 Leveraging on Science, Technology and Innovation for Development

- i. establish a Presidential Advisory Council on Science, Technology and Innovation (PACSTI), to ensure high-level attention on STI;
- ii. establish an Inter-Ministerial Coordinating Council on Science, Technology and Innovation to coordinate STI interventions across all ministries;
- iii. establish a platform for collaboration between Government, research institutions, academia and industry;
- iv. improve public funding for research and development (R&D) to at least 1 percent of GDP;
- v. enact STI Bill to ensure continuity in STI programmes from one political administration to another;
- vi. strengthen and aggressively promote Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education; and
- vii. promote the development of foundry-based manufacturing and precision machine tooling, using computer-aided design (CAD)/computer-aided manufacturing and computer numerical control (CNC) systems as the initial phase of developing strategic technologies.





## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION ARRANGEMENTS**



The implementation, monitoring and evaluation arrangements for the Coordinated Programme are outlined as follows:

This Coordinated Programme will form the basis for the preparation of a detailed medium-term national development policy framework, to be implemented over the period 2018-2021.

The Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) will be required to prepare and implement their respective medium-term development plans on the basis of the detailed medium-term national development policy framework.

The sector and district medium-term plans of the MDAs and MMDAs respectively will serve as the basis for the annual national budget during the programme period.

The Ministry of Planning and NDPC will coordinate the implementation of policies and programmes under this Coordinated Programme.

The Ministry of Monitoring and Evaluation (MM&E), with support from NDPC, will develop a real-time monitoring and evaluation system for the priority programmes under this Coordinated Programme.