



GOVERNMENT OF GHANA

Agenda 2063

GHANA COUNTRY REPORT

2021

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Republic of Ghana



GHANA'S PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION OF AU AGENDA 2063

FIRST TEN-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

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FOREWORD



The Africa Union’s Agenda 2063 is an important framework reflecting Africa’s shared aspirations to accelerate the political, economic, social and technological transformation of the continent. It paints a picture of what we want for ourselves and for future generations; putting behind us the scourge of our past development efforts, while drawing lessons from the things we have done so well. The drive to realise the “Africa We Want” requires a departure from the “business-as usual” approach to development, and adopting more innovative strategies that are effective, inclusive, transparent and sustainable.

The underlying principles of Agenda 2063 are consistent with Ghana’s development aspiration which envisions to:

“Create 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 report, which is the second to be prepared, provides an update on Ghana’s performance in implementing the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan (FTYIP) of Agenda 2063. It shows the progress made based on the approved indicators, outlines the key interventions contributing to the observed progress, and indicates the major challenges and opportunities. Progress on the goals has been mixed. Good progress has been made in improving access to electricity, drinking water, internet, and women empowerment. Progress in other areas such as employment, economic growth and tourism were however challenged.

Like many other countries, the ferocious and sudden on-set of the COVID-19 pandemic has had devastating effect on livelihoods and businesses, and stalled progress towards the Agenda 2063 targets. This should, however, not deflate our efforts. Instead, it should spur us to accelerate and deepen our efforts to build a healthier, safer, fairer, resilient and a more prosperous Africa leveraging our rich pool of natural and human resources.

I am grateful to the technical team that worked tirelessly to prepare this report, as well as partners and stakeholders including Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), and African Peer Review Mechanism - Governing Council (APRM-GC) for their contributions to the process. Further, I am thankful to members in our implementation arrangement structure for assisting in pushing the frontiers of development for the benefit of all, to ensure that no one is left behind.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa'.

Kodjo Esseim Mensah-Abrampa (PhD)

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

1D1F	One District-One Factory
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
AU	African Union
CAP	Coronavirus Alleviation Programme
CAPBuSS	Coronavirus Alleviation Programme Business Support Scheme
CODA	Coastal Development Authority
CPESDP	Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies
CPI	Corruption Perception Index
DACF	District Assemblies Common Fund
DMBs	Deposit Money Banks
DV	Domestic Violence
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EEZs	Exclusive Economic Zones
EMIS	Education Management Information System
EPRP	Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
FVA	Fishing Value Added
GALOP	Ghana Accountability for Learning Outcomes Project
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GES	Ghana Education Service
Ghana CARES	Ghana COVID-19 Alleviation and Revitalisation of Enterprises Support
GLSS	Ghana Living Standards Survey
GSS	Ghana Statistical Service
HLMC	High-Level Ministerial Committee
ICC	Implementation Coordinating Committee
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IEZ	Inshore Exclusive Zone
IPEP	Infrastructure for Poverty Eradication Programme
ITNs	Insecticide-Treated Nets
JMP	Joint Monitoring Programme
LEAP	Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty
MBDA	Middle Belt Development Authority
MDAs	Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MMDAs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies
MMDCEs	Metropolitan, Municipal and District Chief Executives
MPA	Marine Protected Security Areas
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield
MW	Megawatt
NABCO	Nation Builders Corps
NAFPTA	National Fish Processors and Traders Association
NAPRM-GC	National African Peer Review Mechanism – Governing Council
NDA	Northern Development Authority
NDPC	National Development Planning Commission

NES	National Electrification Scheme
NTBs	Non-tariff barriers
ODA	Official Development Assistance
OHI	Ocean Health Index
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PSMA	Port State Measures Agreement
SBC	Standards-Based Curriculum
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SHS	Senior High School
SISOs	School Improvement Support Officers
TC	Technical Committee
UNCLOS	UN Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNFSA	United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement
VMS	Vessel Monitoring Systems
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WAGRIC	West Africa Growth Ring Corridor

CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background

Ghana as a member of the African Union, adopted the Agenda 2063 and its First Ten-Year Implementation Plan (FTYIP) which requires member states to prepare biennial reports. Efforts towards achieving “the Africa we want”, a blue print for socio-economic and political transformation of the continent requires effective implementation and assessment along the journey to the desired destination. Domestically, Ghana has integrated the goals and targets of Agenda 2063 into the country’s development agenda – Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (CPESDP), 2017-2024 and Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (2018-2021). The medium-term vision is to “*create 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.*” The four main goals of the development agenda are:

- (i) build a prosperous society;
- (ii) create opportunities for all Ghanaians;
- (iii) safeguard the natural environment and ensure a resilient built environment; and
- (iv) maintain a stable, united and safe society.

In order to ensure a successful implementation of the Agenda 2063, the goals and targets have been integrated and harmonised into the Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (MTNDPF) 2018-2021, with correspondent mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation. Plans and budgets of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) as well as Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) are geared towards the collective direction of the MTNDPF and invariably the attainment of the continental goals.

1.1 Socio-economic Status

Ghana is a lower middle-income country in the West African sub-region. It is bordered by Burkina Faso to the north, Côte d'Ivoire to the west, and Togo to the east. It has a coastline of about 560 km on the Gulf of Guinea and a total land area of approximately 238,535 km². The Greenwich meridian passes through the port city of Tema, while the equator falls just 3° below the country.

Ghana is a unitary democratic republic headed by an elected President, with separation of powers between the Executive, Legislature and the Judiciary. It operates a decentralised local government and administration system. Ghana has 16 administrative regions. The regions are sub-divided into 260 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) which constitute the Local Authorities. The national capital city is Accra, located in the Greater Accra Region.

The population of Ghana is estimated around 31 million with nearly 57.3 percent living in urban areas. Approximately 57 percent of the total population is below the age of 25 while about 51 percent of the population is female. Life expectancy is currently 64 years and approximately 23.4 percent of the population lives below the national poverty line of GH¢1,314 per year. In 2020, per capita gross domestic product (GDP) was estimated at US\$2,213. The largest contributor to GDP is the services sector (47.9%) followed by industry (31.6%) and agriculture (20.5%). Ghana’s major exports are crude oil, gold, cocoa and timber. The main non-traditional

exports are cashew nuts, canned tuna, cocoa powder, palm oil, iron and steel products, and aluminum products.

1.2 Constitutional Underpinnings for National Development Efforts

The 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana provides the legal basis for a just, equitable and inclusive development of the country and entreats successive governments 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*” (Article 36, Clause 1). In view of this, every President is required to “... *within two years after assuming office, present to Parliament a coordinated programme of economic and social development policies, including agricultural and industrial programmes at all levels and in all the regions of Ghana.*” (Article 36, Clause 5).

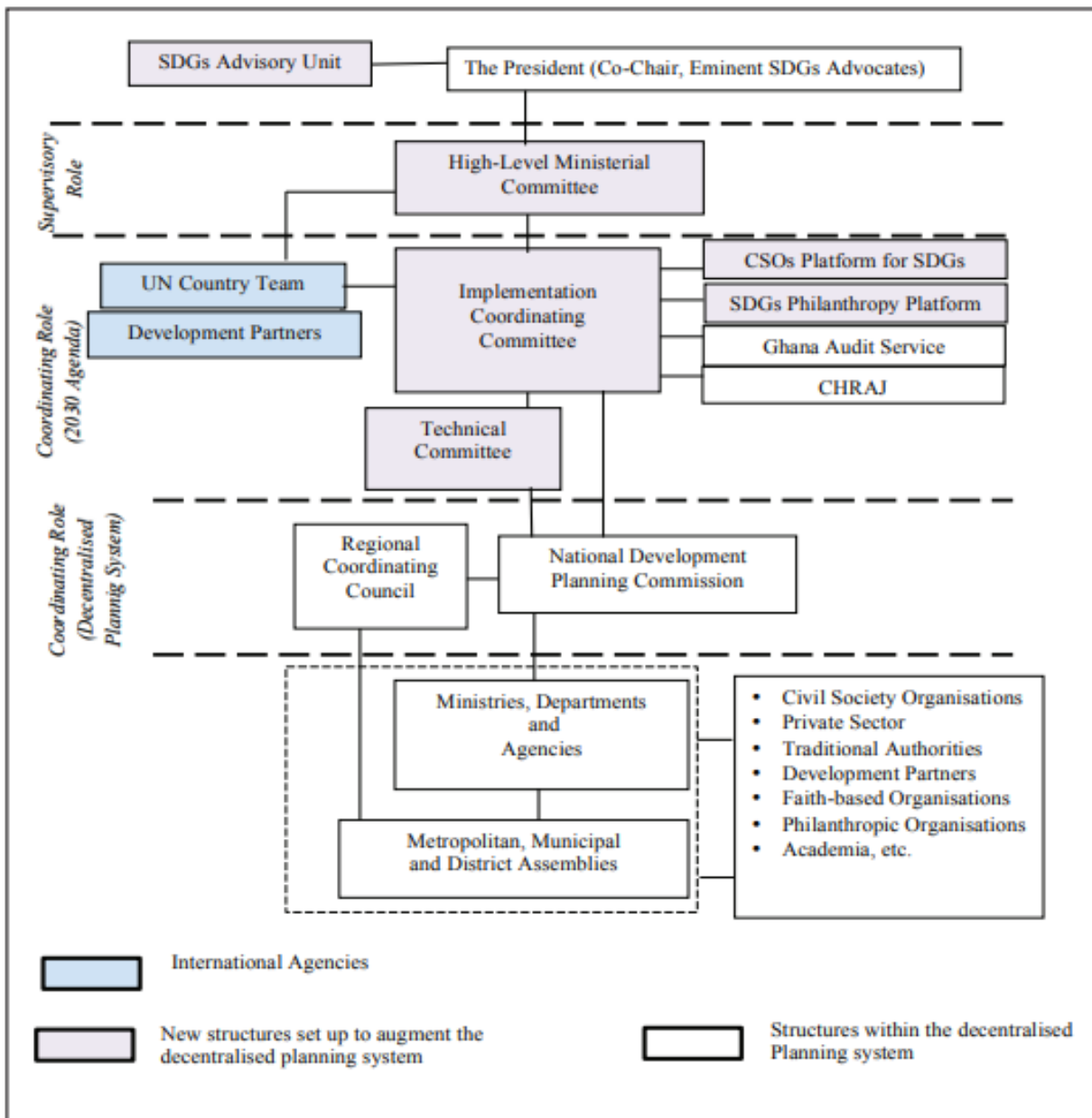
In fulfilment of these constitutional injunctions, successive governments have implemented blueprints for the development of the country and used them to operationalise global and continental frameworks. These include SDGs, Africa Union Agenda 2063, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and Paris Agreement on Climate Change. These efforts have resulted in the creation of conditions for improved coherence and coordination in the implementation of domestic, sub-regional, continental and global development policies and programmes while ensuring efficient use of resources.

1.3 The Structure for Implementation

Ghana has a coordinating and leadership structure for implementation and reporting on Agenda 2063 and SDGs (Figure 1.1). These structures comprise of High-Level Ministerial Committee (HLMC), the Implementation Coordinating Committee (ICC) and a Technical Committee (TC).

The ICC and TC have representatives from government, civil society and the private sector. The HLMC is made up of Ministers of State of key ministries with the UN Country Team lead as an observer. These committees have oversight responsibility on the implementation of both Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030.

Figure 1.1: Institution arrangement for SDGs and Agenda 2063



1.4 Number of Indicators Reported on

The total number of indicators reported are 60, representing 75.9 percent of the total expected indicators (Table 1.1). The reported indicators covered 28 priority areas and 57 targets.

1.5 Structure of the Report

This report is structured in five chapters. Chapter one provides a general introduction which discusses the background and policy context for implementation and reporting on the Agenda 2063. Chapter two highlights the status of implementation of the goals while Chapter three covers Ghana’s response to COVID-19, highlighting its opportunities and challenges. The key lessons learnt and best practices in the implementation of Agenda 2063 are discussed in Chapter four. The conclusion is presented in Chapter five.

Table 1.1: Number of indicators reported

Goal	Priority areas	Targets	Expected Indicators	Indicators reported on
1	3	9	11	10
2	1	4	4	3
3	1	5	9	9
4	4	4	4	4
5	1	1	1	1
6	1	2	2	1
7	1	2	3	1
8	1	2	3	1
9	1	2	3	3
10	1	5	7	5
11	1	4	4	3
12	1	1	1	1
13	1	1	1	1
14	1	1	2	2
15	1	1	2	2
16	1	1	1	1
17	2	5	5	4
18	1	3	5	4
19	1	1	3	2
20	3	3	4	3
Total	28	57	75	61

1.6 Process for Preparing the Report (Methodology)

A participatory approach was used in preparing this report. The National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) coordinated the preparation of the report in accordance with its role in the ICC. The report benefited from the contributions of various stakeholders including MDAs and civil society organisations. Some of the major activities were:

- i. Desk reviews
- ii. Training session by AU experts for preparing the report
- iii. Meetings and consultations with stakeholders such as Ministries, Departments and Other Agencies (MDAs), Ghana Statistical Service (GSS), National African Peer Review Mechanism – Governing Council (NAPRM-GC) (APRM-GC)
- iv. Collation and validation of data
- v. Drafting of the report
- vi. Sharing draft report with stakeholders for review
- vii. Validation workshop on the report
- viii. Revision and finalisation of the report
- ix. Approval of the report
- x. Submission of report to AU Commission

CHAPTER TWO: STATUS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGENDA 2063 GOALS

2.1 Introduction

Ghana's progress towards achieving Agenda 2063 goals in 2021 shows an overall performance rating of 35 percent as compared to 36 percent in 2019. The marginal decline in performance is largely due to the adverse effect of COVID-19.

The assessment was based on administrative and survey data from the national statistical system. At the time of preparing the report, administrative data for 2021 was not available, thus 2020 figures were used. For population-based indicators, data from the most recent surveys were reported. The report covers 28 priority areas, 57 targets and 61 indicators representing 81.3 percent of the total expected number. It also shows the performance rating for each indicator based on the expected indicator value for 2021.

Below is the colour coding for the dashboard showing progress for the Agenda 2063 strategic priority areas.

80%-100%	70%-79%	50%-69%	40%-49%	30%-39%	0%-29%
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2.2 Status of Implementation

Goal 1: A High Standard of Living, Quality of Life and Well Being for All

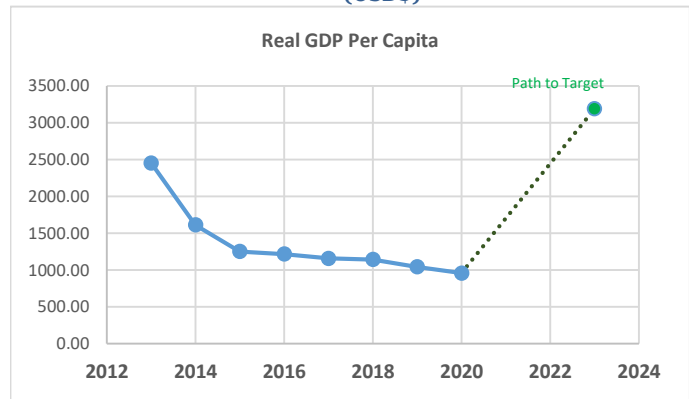
Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Incomes, jobs and decent work	Increase 2013 per capita income by at least 30%	Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Per Capita	-254%	0%
	Reduce 2013 unemployment rate by at least 25%	Unemployment rate	147%	
Poverty, Inequality and Hunger	Reduce 2013 income inequality level by at least 20%	Gini coefficient	-101%	
	Reduce 2013 levels of poverty by at least 30%	% of population living below the national poverty line by sex	14.0%	
	Reduce 2013 levels of proportion of the population who suffer from hunger by at least 80%	Prevalence of undernourishment	0%	
Modern and Liveable Habitats and Basic Quality Services	Increase access and use of electricity and internet by at least 50% of the 2013 levels	% of households with access to electricity	43%	
		% of population with access to internet	187%	
		% of population using internet	187%	
	Reduce 2013 level of proportion of the population without access to safe drinking water by 95%.	% of population with access to safe drinking water	39%	
	Reduce Slums by at least 10%	Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing	247%	
	Reduce the proportion of the population with poor sanitation facilities by 95%	% of population using safely managed sanitation services	3%	

Indicator 1: Real GDP per capita

Real GDP in dollar terms decreased from 64,831.65 in 2013 to 29,658.50 in 2020. However, the benefit of this growth to Ghana’s population has been declining over the years. Ghana’s real GDP per capita in dollar terms declined from US\$2,453 in 2013 to US\$958 in 2020. Between 2019 and 2020, it declined from 8.5 to 8.4 percent.

Over the years, poor performance of the exchange rate against the dollar coupled with high population growth rate have contributed to this situation. In 2020, COVID-19 pandemic also added to the contributory factors.

Figure 2.1: Real GDP Per Capita, 2012-2023 (USD\$)

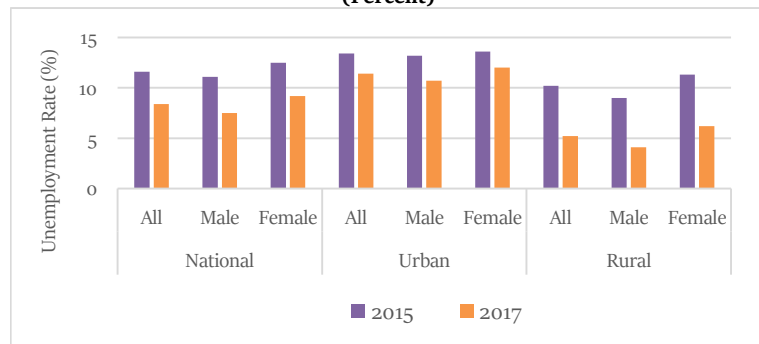


Source: Computed from Ghana Statistical Service, National Accounts, 2021

Indicator 2: Unemployment rate

Unemployment rate for Ghana declined from 11.6 percent in 2015 to 8.4 percent in 2017 (Figure 2.2), with it being more predominant among females than males, and urban than rural. Unemployment rate for the youth (15-35 years) who constitute 34.5 percent of the national population also stands at 12.6 percent as at 2017.

Figure 2.2: Unemployment rate by sex and locality type, 2014 and 2017 (Percent)



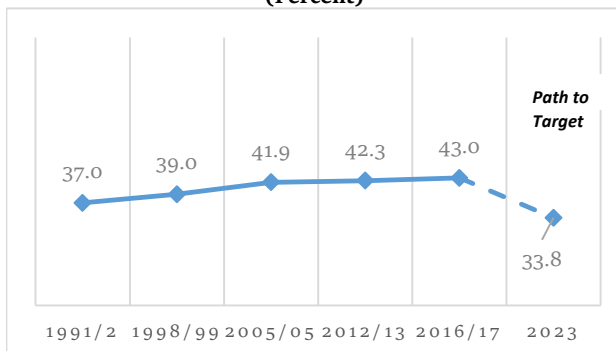
Source: Labour Force Survey, 2015; GLSS 7, 2019

Indicator 3: Gini coefficient

The Gini coefficient shows the widening of income inequality since 1992, increasing from 37 percent to 43 percent in 2017 (Figure 2.3). The rate of increase however slowed between 2005 and 2017. Inequality is more prevalent in rural areas (41.8%) than urban (37.9%) as shown in Figure 2.4.

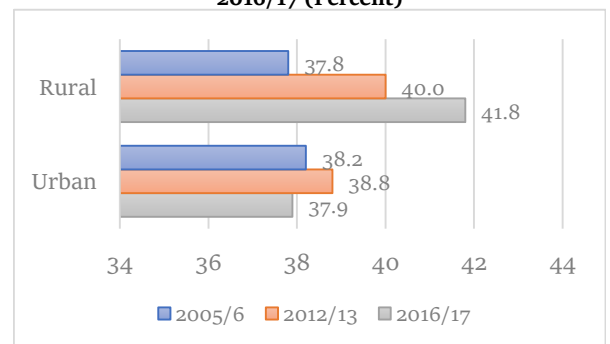
Source: GLSS Round 6 Labour force report (2014); GLSS Round 7, 2019

Figure 2.3: Gini Coefficient Trend, 1991/92-2016/17 (Percent)



Source: GLSS Rounds 2 to 7

Figure 2.4: Gini Coefficient by locality type, 2005/06-2016/17 (Percent)



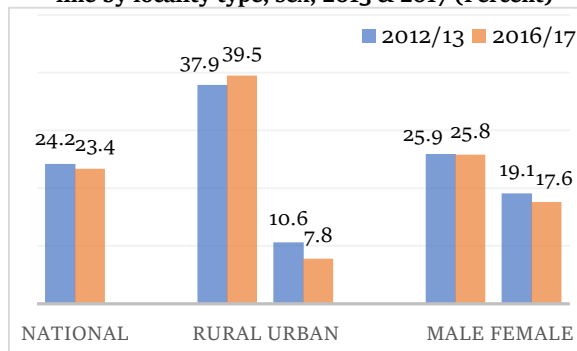
Source: GLSS Rounds 2 to 7

Following the trend, Ghana is not on track to achieve the target of 33.8 percent (reduction of at least 20% of the 2013 value) by 2023. To reach the target, Ghana would have to achieve an average annual reduction of 1.5 percent.

Indicator 4: Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex and age

The proportion of Ghanaians who are classified as poor based on the national definition¹ reduced from 24.2 percent in 2013 to 23.4 percent in 2017. However, in absolute terms, the total number of the poor increased by about 400 thousand. There are poorer male headed (25.8%) than female headed (17.6%) households. Irrespective of ecological zone, the incidence of poverty is higher among the rural population. The rural savannah zone has experienced a rise in the proportion of poor households from 55.0 percent in 2013 to 64.0 percent in 2017 (Figure 2.5).

Figure 2.5: Population living below the national poverty line by locality type, sex, 2013 & 2017 (Percent)



Source: GLSS Round 6 2014; GLSS Round 7 2019

Indicator 6: Proportion of households with access to electricity

Ghana between 2019 and 2020 added 116MW to the national grid. The proportion of households with access to electricity has been increasing since 2016. The access rate for households increased from 82.5 in 2019 to 82.8 percent in 2020. The primary focus of the government towards achieving universal access to electricity has been to extend the coverage to all communities with population of 500 and above by 2020. So far, about 10,000 communities have been connected to the grid under the National Electrification Scheme (NES).

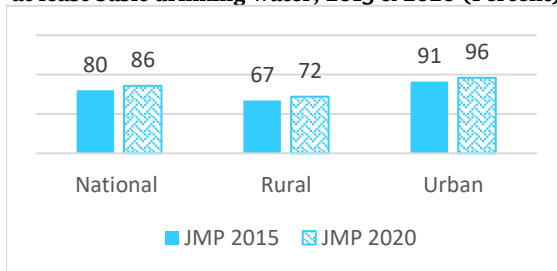
Indicator 8&9: Proportion of population with access to and using the internet

Ghana has almost achieved universal access to internet. The proportion of individuals with access to the internet increased from 56.6 percent in 2013 to 98.9 percent in 2017. Internet usage also increased by 38 percentage points to 53 percent in 2017.

Indicator 10: Proportion of population with access to safe drinking water

There has been general progress in access to at least basic drinking water services (both basic and safely managed drinking water services) from 80 percent in 2015 to 86 percent in 2020 (Figure 2.6). Similar increase in percentage points were also recorded at the rural and urban level. This is attributed to improvement in safely managed drinking water services.

Figure 2.6: Proportion of population with access to at least basic drinking water, 2015 & 2020 (Percent)



Source: JMP, 2015 & 2020

The percentage of population with access to safely² managed drinking water services improved from 33 percent in 2015 to 41 percent in 2020.

¹ National poverty level is defined as total annual household consumption expenditure of less than GH¢1,314, while threshold for extreme poverty is GH¢792.05.

² Refers to improved sources that is accessible on premises, available when needed and free from fecal contaminations

Indicator 12: Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services

Safely managed sanitation services which meet requirements of basic services, and where excreta are safely disposed of in situ or removed and treated offsite, improved from 11 percent in 2015 to 13 percent in 2020. Safely managed sanitation services improved in the rural area compared to the national and urban level for the same period. The proportion of solid waste collected and properly disposed of in sanitary landfills in the five major cities (Accra, Tema, Kumasi, Takoradi, and Tamale) has remained unchanged at 80 percent since 2018.

Key Interventions to achieve Goal 1

1. Infrastructure for Poverty Eradication Programme (IPEP);
2. Establishment of Zongo Development Fund to bridge gaps in socio-economic development.
3. Planting for Food and Jobs
4. Rearing for Food and Jobs
5. Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP)
6. Establishment of Low-Income Customer Support Unit (LICSU)
7. One Village One Dam
8. Implementation of the “Water for All” and “Toilet for All” Programme

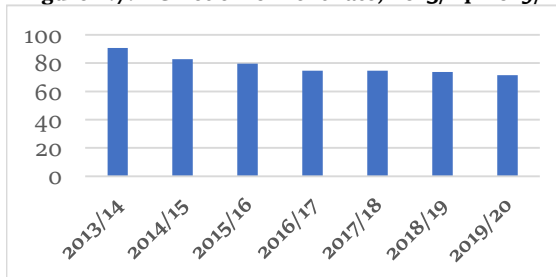
Goal 2: Well Educated Citizens and Skills revolution underpinned by Science, Technology and Innovation

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Education and STI driven Skills Revolution	2.1.1 Enrolment rate for early childhood education is at least 300% of the 2013 rate	% of children in pre-school age attending pre school	-13%	0%
	2.1.2 Enrolment rate for basic education is 100%	Net enrolment rate by Sex and age in basic education level	-105%	
	2.1.3 Increase the number of qualified teachers by at least 30% with focus on STEM	Proportion of teachers qualified in Science or Technology or Engineering or Mathematics by Sex and Level (Primary and Secondary)	0%	
	2.1.4 Universal secondary school (including technical high schools) with enrolment rate of 100%	Secondary school net enrolment rate by Sex	18%	

Indicator 13: Percentage of children of pre-school age attending pre-school

The net enrolment rate for kindergarten reached 90.8 percent in the 2013/14 academic year and was higher for girls than boys. The enrolment rate declined to 79.5 percent in 2015/16 and further to 71.4 percent in 2019/20 academic year (Figure 2.7). However, in absolute terms, the enrolment figure increased from 1,645,550 in 2013/14 to 1,867,929 in 2019/20.

Figure 2.7: KG net enrolment rate, 2013/14–2019/20

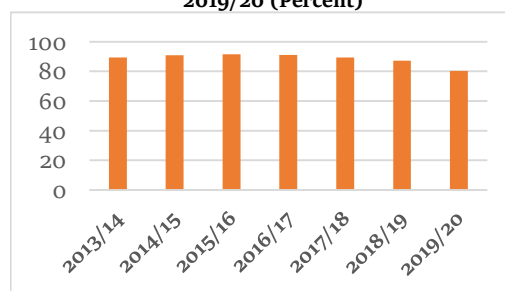


Source: EMIS, 2013-2020

Indicator 14: Net enrolment rate in primary school

The net enrolment rate for primary school increased from 89.3 percent in 2013/14 academic year to 91.1 percent in 2016/17 academic year. Since the 2016/17 academic year, the net enrolment rate for primary school has seen a decline (Figure 2.8). In the 2019/20 academic year, the rate declined to 80.3 percent. However, in absolute terms, there has been a 11.3 percent increase in enrolment between 2013/14 and 2019/20 academic years.

Figure 2.8: Primary school net enrolment, 2013/14–2019/20 (Percent)

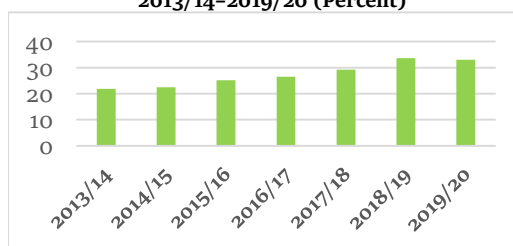


Source: EMIS, 2013-2020

Indicator 17: Secondary school net enrolment rate

There has been a consistent increase in net enrolment between 2014/15 and 2018/19 academic years (Figure 2.9). There was however a slight decrease from 33.7 percent in 2018/19 to 33.0 percent in 2019/20 academic year. In absolute terms, it increased from 750,706 in 2013/14 to 1,249,449 in 2019/20.

Figure 2.9: Secondary school net enrolment, 2013/14–2019/20 (Percent)



Source: EMIS, 2013-2020

Key interventions for achieving Agenda 2063 Goal 2

1. Implementation of the Free Senior High School (SHS) Policy
2. Implementation of *my first day at school* campaign to attract KG pupils at the right age to school
3. Implementation of the Ghana Accountability for Learning Outcomes Project (GALOP)
4. Development and implementation of the pre-tertiary standards-based curriculum (SBC)

Goal 3: Healthy and well-Nourished Citizens

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Health and Nourition	Increase 2013 levels of access to sexual and reproductive health services to women by at least 30%	% of women aged 15-49 who have access to sexual and reproductive health service in the last 12 months	87%	24%
	Reduce 2013 maternal mortality rates by at least 50%	Maternal mortality ratio	116%	
		Neo-natal mortality rate	-182%	
		Under five mortality rate	17%	
	Reduce the 2013 incidence of HIV/AIDs, Malaria and TB by at least 80%	Number of New HIV infections per 1000 population	36%	
		TB incidence per 1000 persons per year	50%	
		Malaria incidence per 1000 per year	33%	
Access to Anti-Retroviral (ARV) drugs is 100%	% of eligible population with HIV having access to Anti-Retroviral Treatment	58%		
Reduce stunting in children to 10% and underweight to 5%	Prevalence of underweight among children under 5	-33%		

Indicator 19: Maternal mortality ratio

Though the occurrence of maternal deaths has declined over the past 20 years, the pace has been slow. Maternal deaths have declined from 580 in 2007 to 310 per 100,000 live births in 2017 (Figure 18). This trend is consistent with institutional maternal mortality data, which

showed a decline from 224 in 2007 to 155 in 2015 and further to 109.2 per 100,000 live births in 2020. Extra effort is required for Ghana to achieve a drastic reduction in maternal mortality to meet the target of about 58 per 100,000 live births by 2023.

Indicator 25: Malaria incidence per 1,000 per year

The incidence of malaria has increased consistently between 2015 and 2018, but decreased in 2019 and 2020. The incidence of malaria declined from 341 in 2018 to 221 in 2019 and further to 186 per 1,000 population in 2020.

Indicator 27: Prevalence of underweight among children under 5

The prevalence rate of underweight declined from 13.4 percent in 2011 to 11 percent in 2014 but increased to 12.6 percent in 2017. It is projected to drop to 10.9 percent in 2025.

Key interventions for achieving Agenda 2063 Goal 3

1. Review of National Health Insurance Scheme to provide universal guarantee of maternal and child health care
2. Promotion of the use of insecticide-treated nets (ITNs) to reduce the incidence of malaria among high-risk groups
3. Implementation of the Community-Based Health Planning and Services (CHPS) programme in deprived areas
4. Expanded programme on immunisation for children
5. Medical drone delivery services

Goal 4: Transformed Economies and Job Creation

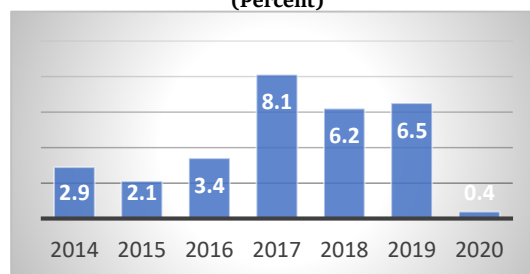
Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Sustainable inclusive economic growth	Annual GDP growth rate of at least 7%	Real GDP growth rate	-94%	0%
STI driven Manufacturing / Industrialisation and Value Addition	Real value of manufacturing in GDP is 50% more than the 2013 level.	Manufacturing value added as % of GDP	-23%	0%
Economic diversification and resilience	At least 1% of GDP is allocated to science, technology and innovation research and STI driven entrepreneurship development.	Research and development expenditure as a proportion of GDP	5%	5%
Hospitality / Tourism	Contribution of tourism to GDP in real terms is increased by at least 100%.	Tourism value added as a proportion of GDP	-47%	0%

Indicator 28: Real GDP growth rate

Ghana's real GDP growth rate has generally improved over many years. The growth rate for 2014 was 2.9 percent but declined to 2.1 percent in 2015 (Figure 2.10). However, it increased significantly to 8.1 percent in 2017. The real GDP growth rate for 2018 and 2019 averaged 6.4 percent.

The country recorded a real GDP growth rate of 0.4 percent in 2020; the lowest rate ever recorded in the past three decades due to the impact of COVID-19.

Figure 2.10: Real GDP growth rate, 2014-2020 (Percent)

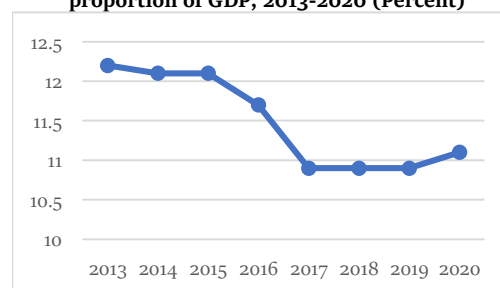


Source: Ghana Statistical Service, National Accounts, 2021

Indicator 29: Manufacturing value added as % of GDP

Manufacturing value added as proportion of GDP declined continuously from 2013 to 2017 (Figure 2.11). It decreased from 12.2 percent in 2013 to 12.1 percent in 2015. It further decreased to 10.9 percent in 2017 and remained constant until 2020. In 2020, it inched upwards to 11.1 percent. The marginal rise is attributed to the industrialisation drive instituted by the Government since 2017.

Figure 2.11: Manufacturing Value Added as proportion of GDP, 2013-2020 (Percent)



Source: Ghana Statistical Service, National Accounts, 2021

Key interventions for achieving Goal 4

1. One District One Factory (1D1F) initiative
2. The creation of industrial parks across ecological zones
3. Decentralisation of the Registrar General's Department
4. Provision of ready facilities (i.e., serviced land and utilities) by the Ghana Free Zones Authority at the Export Processing Zones
5. The Presidential Pitch Initiative – a special entrepreneurship initiative to provide initial capital for the youth to translate their business ideas into viable businesses

Goal 6: Blue/ocean economy for accelerated economic growth

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Marine resources and Energy	At least 50% increase in value addition in the fishery sector in real terms as attained by 2023	Fishery Sector value added as a share of GDP	-83%	0%
	Marine bio-technology contribution to GDP is increased in real terms by at least 50% from the 2013 levels	Marine bio-technology value added as a % of GDP	0%	

Indicator 32: Fishery Sector value added as a share of GDP

The contribution of fishing to GDP has seen a mixed performance. Fishing Value Added (FVA) as a share of GDP was 1.5 percent in 2015 but dropped to 0.9 percent in 2018 and 2019. It however improved to 1.0 percent in 2020.

Goal 7: Environmentally sustainable climate resilient economies and communities

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Bio-diversity, conservation and sustainable natural resource management.	At least 30% of agricultural land is placed under sustainable land management practice	% of agricultural land placed under sustainable land management practice.	0%	0%
	At least 17% of terrestrial and inland water and 10% of coastal and marine areas are preserved	% of terrestrial and inland water areas preserved	0%	
		% of coastal and marine areas preserved	1%	

Indicator 35: Percentage (%) of coastal and marine areas preserved

Ghana continues to face a challenge in regards to marine protection. Its marine protected area has since 2016 remained at 221.0km² (0.1 percent)³ out of the total marine area of 226,739.0km².

The country scored an overall Ocean Health Index (OHI)⁴ of 64, both in 2015 and 2016. The Ocean Health Index however declined from 2017 to 2019. Ghana scored 59 in 2019 below the global average of 71.0 and ranked 188 out of 221 Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs). The marine ecosystems continue to be challenged by inappropriate fishing methods, pollution and weak compliance to the marine close season.

Key interventions for achieving Goal 7

1. Implementation of the “Aquaculture for Food and Jobs” (AFJ) Initiative
2. Protection of nursery areas and spawning grounds, mainly in estuaries and mangrove areas
3. Creation of Marine Protected Security Areas (MPA)
4. Implementation of the Vessel Electronic Monitoring System (VMS)
5. Ratification and implementation of legal, policy and institutional frameworks, ocean related instruments as reflected in the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans and their resources.

Goal 8: United Africa (Federal or Confederate)

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Political and economic integration	Active member of the African Free Trade Area	No. of Non-tariff barriers (NTBs) reported	0%	63%
		Proportion of reported non-tariff barriers (NTBs) eliminated	0%	
	Volume of intra-African trade is at least three times the 2013 level	Percentage change in value of intra-African trade per annum (in US \$)	127%	

Indicator 32: Number of Non-tariff barriers (NTBs) reported and eliminated

Ghana is committed to eliminating all NTBs⁵ in order to facilitate trade. The introduction of the paperless port clearing system as part of the single window has improved the turnaround time

³ (UNEP- WCMC, 2019)

⁴ The Ocean Health Index (OHI) is a framework to assess the health of the ocean using benefit usually referred to as goals provided by the ocean to humans, such as food provision, tourism opportunities, and coastal protection.

⁵ Consist of wide array of cumbersome customs -procedures, complex/discriminatory rules of origin, regulations on import quality, quotas, etc., that could curtail the effective implementation of the AfCFTA.

of cargo processing. This has increased transparency and the ease of doing business at the ports. Additionally, there has been a reduction in the number of inspection agencies at the ports and custom check points along Ghana’s transit corridor.

Indicator 33: Percentage change in value of intra-African trade

Trade between Ghana, ECOWAS and AU countries over the years has been low compared with trade with the rest of the world. The percentage change in value of intra-African trade improved from -7.9 percent in 2014 to 16.1 percent in 2018. The volume of intra-African trade was US\$6,890.4 million in 2013, US\$2,880.5 million in 2016 and US\$3,856.1 million in 2018.

Key interventions for achieving Goal 8

1. Establishment of an e-platform to provide real-time solutions to non-tariff barriers
2. Implementation of the paperless port system

Goal 9: Key Continental Financial and Monetary Institutions established and functional

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Financial and Monetary Institutions	Fast Track realisation of the Continental Free Trade Area	a) Existence of an African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) that is ratified by all AU MSs	125%	100%
		b) Level of domestication of AfCFTA	125%	
	Fast Track realisation of the Continental Free Trade Area	Extent to which your country has ratified the protocol on the establishment of the AU Monetary Union	125%	

Indicator 38: Existence of an African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) that is ratified by all AU Member States

Ghana and Kenya were the first two countries to deposit their instruments of ratification of AfCFTA on 10th May, 2018. AfCFTA is headquartered in Accra, with Ghana hosting the AfCFTA secretariat and providing the official residence of the Secretary-General. An Inter-Ministerial Facilitation Committee has been constituted to provide strategic direction and support for the implementation of AfCFTA in Ghana. The national steering committee is coordinating and guiding the delivery of support to private companies and other stakeholders. A technical working group has also been established within the Ministry of Trade and Industry.

Goal 10: World Class Infrastructure criss-crosses Africa

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Communications and Infrastructure Connectivity	At least national readiness for implementation of the trans African Highway Missing link is achieved	% of the progress made on the implementation of Trans-African Highway Missing link	0%	41%
	At least national readiness for in country connectivity to the African High Speed Rail Network is achieved by 2019	% of the progress made on the implementation the African High Speed Rail Network	0%	
	Skies fully opened to African airlines	a) Has your government signed the Solemn Commitment to join the SAATM and implement all its measures?	125%	

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
		b) Has your government signed the Memorandum of implementation for the operationalisation of SAATM?	125%	
	Increase electricity generation and distribution by at least 50% by 2020	No. of Mega Watts added to the national grid in the last two years	0%	
	Double ICT penetration and contribution to GDP	Proportion of population using mobile phones	0%	
		% of ICT contribution to GDP	156%	

Indicator 40: Percentage of progress made on the implementation of Trans-African Highway Missing link

Ghana in collaboration with its neighbouring countries, Cote d'Ivoire, Togo and Burkina Faso developed a West Africa Growth Ring Master Plan (WAGRIC) as part of efforts to enhance infrastructural connectivity within the West Africa Region. The strategic plan seeks a balanced economic development between coastal areas and inland areas in the four countries. It further provides infrastructural designs targeting four priority corridors of the West Africa Growth Ring Corridors—Abidjan-Ouagadougou, Tema-Ouagadougou, Lomé-Ouagadougou and Abidjan-Lagos Corridors. The plan is to be implemented in three phases with three target years i.e., 2025, 2033 and 2040 for the short, medium and long term.

Indicator 41: Percentage of the progress made on the implementation of the African High-Speed Railway Network

As part of Ghana's preparation towards connecting the African Integrated High-speed Network, the Ministry of Railways Development completed a detailed scoping study together with a strategy note. Additionally, a process for contracting a firm to conduct the financial, technical, legal and institutional audit of railways in the African Union has been launched.

Work has commenced on the construction of the Tema-Paga rail lines to improve movement of goods and services between Ghana and its landlock neighbours, namely: Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. The Government is in the process to undertake other projects, including the Ghana-Burkina Interconnection Project and the 564km Trans ECOWAS rail line from Aflao (along the Ghana-Togo border) to Elubo (along the Ghana-Cote d'Ivoire border).

Indicator 44: Proportion of population using mobile phones

According to the GLSS 7, three quarters of the population (74.3%) use mobile phones, while 63.8 percent own the device. The rural-urban dichotomy shows that there is about 20 percentage points difference in use or ownership of mobile phones with urban dwellers having higher proportions. More men than women own or use mobile phones but the gap is wider for ownership than usage.

Goal 11: Democratic values, practices, universal principles of human rights, justice and the rule of law entrenched

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
1. Democratic Values and	11.1.1 At least 70% of the people believe that they are empowered	% of people who believe that there are effective mechanisms and oversight	0%	57%

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard	
Practices are the Norm	and are holding their leaders accountable	institutions to hold their leaders accountable			
	11.1.2 At least 70% of the people perceive that the press / information is free and freedom of expression pertains	% of people who perceive that there is freedom of the press	129%		
	11.1.3 At least 70% of the public perceive elections are free, fair and transparent	% of people who believe that the elections are free, fair and transparent.	0%		
	11.1.4 African Charter on Democracy is signed, ratified and domesticated by 2020	a) Signed African Charter on Democracy			100%
		b) Ratified African Charter on Democracy			100%
c) Domesticated the African Charter on democracy			100%		

Indicator: Extent to which the African Charter on democracy has been domesticated

Ghana signed the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance in January 2008 and subsequently ratified the Charter in September 2010. Since then, it has successfully conducted three elections and also passed the Right to Information Act, 2019 (Act 989). This has resulted in the establishment of the Right to Information Commission and Secretariat in 2020. Further, Right to Information Officers have been deployed to government agencies.

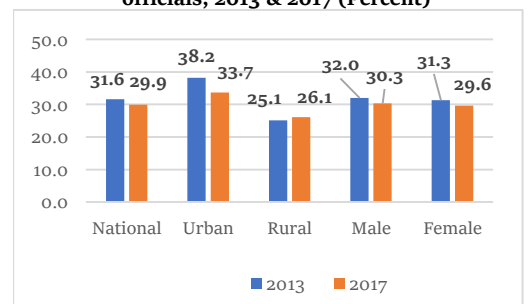
Goal 12: Capable institutions and transformed leadership in place at all levels

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Institutions and Leadership	At least 70% of the public acknowledge the public service to be professional, efficient, responsive, accountable, impartial and corruption free	Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official or were asked for a bribe by these public officials during the previous twelve months	6%	6%

Indicator 48: Proportion of persons who had at least one contact with a public official and who paid a bribe to a public official or were asked for a bribe by these public officials during the previous twelve months

The proportion of persons who reported paying bribe to public officials declined from 31.6 percent in 2013 to 29.9 percent in 2017 (Figure 2.12). The decline was witnessed across different sex groups in urban areas. The number of persons who reported paying bribes however increased in rural areas from 25.1 percent to 26.1 percent over the same period.

Figure 2.12: Proportion of population who reported having paid additional money to government officials, 2013 & 2017 (Percent)



Source: GLSS 6, 2014; GLSS 7, 2019

Key interventions for achieving Goal 12

1. Establishment of the Office of the Special Prosecutor
2. Implementation of the Right to Information Act
3. Implementation of the Whistle Blowers' Act

Goal 14: A Stable and Peaceful Africa

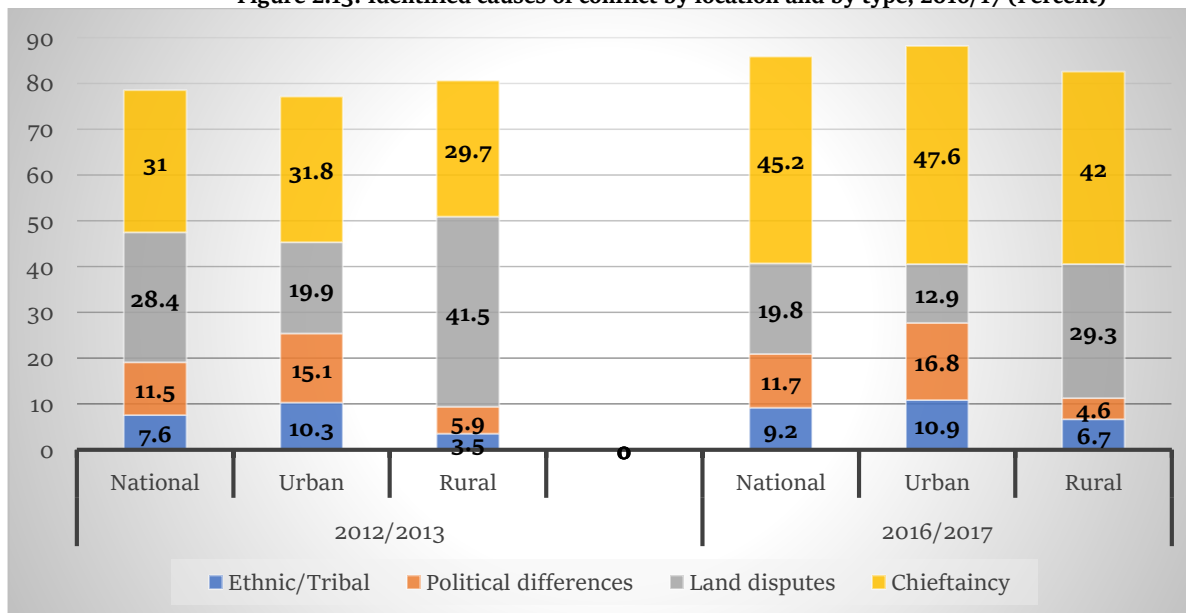
Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Institutional Structure for AU Instruments on Peace and Security	Silence All Guns by 2020	Number of armed conflicts	100%	100%
		% change in the number of armed conflicts	100%	

Indicator 50: Number of armed conflicts

For the indicator on number of armed conflicts, Ghana has adopted the number of community conflicts as a proxy. The country is relatively stable and described as an oasis of peace in the West African sub region. However, occasional conflicts have been recorded at the community level. The Alavanyo-Nkonya conflict and the Bawku chieftaincy crisis in the Volta and Upper East regions respectively are some of the most notable and contracted conflicts in Ghana. The others include Dagbon Chieftaincy crisis, the Kokomba-Chekosi conflicts all in the northern part of Ghana and the perennial Farmer-Fulani clashes in the Afram Plains in the Eastern region and Agogo in the Ashanti region.

Chieftaincy dispute was identified as the most frequent cause of conflict in Ghana between 2013 and 2017, followed by land disputes, political differences and tribal disputes. The trend is similar for both urban and rural areas (Figure 2.13). Ethnic and tribal factors were the least cited causes of conflicts. However, it increased from 7.6 percent in 2013 to 9.2 percent in 2017. In rural areas, it almost doubled between 2013 (3.5%) and 2017 (6.7%).

Figure 2.13: Identified causes of conflict by location and by type, 2016/17 (Percent)



Source: GLSS 6, 2014; GLSS 7, 2019

Key interventions for achieving Goal 14

1. Existence of a functional National Peace Council
2. Existence of a functional National and Regional Houses of Chiefs
3. Codification of Chieftaincy lines of succession

Goal 15: A Fully Functional and Operational African Peace and Security Architecture

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Operationalisation of APSA Pillars	National Peace Council is established by 2016	Existence of a functional national peace council.	100%	100%
		Number of national dialogues held	100%	

Indicator 51: Existence of a functional national peace council

Ghana has established its National Peace Council since 2011. The Council has been very visible in playing its role towards the maintaining peace in Ghana. The legal mandate of the Council includes harmonizing and coordinating conflict prevention, management, and resolution to build sustainable peace. The National Peace Council plays vital roles during election years by convening meetings for leaders and flag bearers of political parties to sign pacts prior to the elections. The council has presence across all regions.

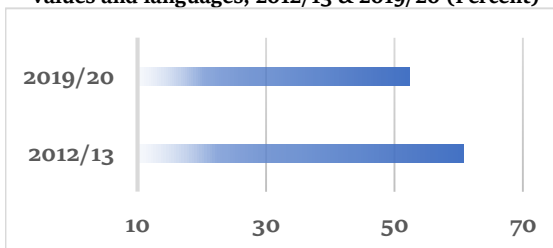
Goal 16: African Culture Renaissance is Pre-eminent

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Values and Ideals of Pan Africanism	At least 60% of content in educational curriculum is on indigenous African culture, values and language targeting primary and secondary schools	Proportion of the content of the curricula on indigenous African culture, values and language in primary and secondary schools	87%	87%

Indicator 53: Proportion of the content of the curricula on indigenous African culture, values and language in primary and secondary schools

Analyses of 2012/13 and 2019/20 Ghana Education Service (GES) curricula show that indigenous African culture, values and language at the basic level content are covered⁶. More than 50 percent of the 2019/20 curriculum reflect African culture, values and language (Figure 2.14).

Figure 2.14: Proportion of content with African culture, values and languages, 2012/13 & 2019/20 (Percent)



Source: Constructed with data from NaCCA, 2020

Progress towards target

Following the present trajectory, Ghana is not far from achieving the Agenda 2063 target of at least 60 percent of content in primary and secondary curriculum being indigenous African culture, values and language. Furthermore, the GES has an established unit in charge of culture that organises cultural exhibitions and competitions among basic schools to promote the diverse cultures of the people of Ghana and Africa at large.

Goal 17: Full Gender Equality in all Spheres of Life

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Women Empowerment	Equal economic rights for women, including the rights to own and inherit property, sign a contract,	Proportion of women in total agricultural population with	103%	72%

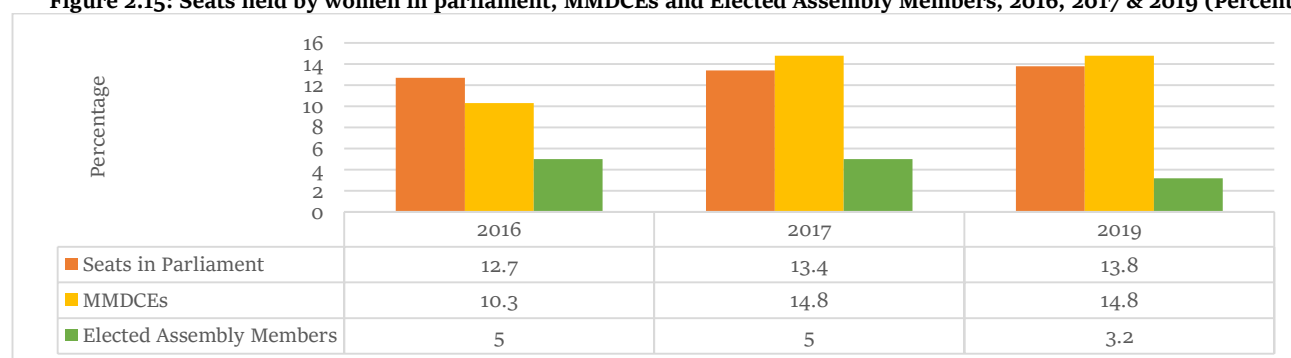
⁶ Each learning area or subject at every level of study was assessed on its indigenous culture, values and language content. The total learning area at each level was calculated as a percentage of the total number of learning areas.

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
	save, register and manage a business and own and operate a bank account by 2025	ownership or secure rights over agricultural land		
	At least 30% of all elected officials at local, regional and national levels are Women as well as in judicial institutions	Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments, regional and local bodies	41%	
Violence & Discrimination against Women and Girls	Reduce 2013 levels of violence against women and Girls by at least 20%	Proportion of women and girls subjected to sexual and physical violence	0%	41%
	Reduce by 50% all harmful social norms and customary practices against women and girls and those that promote violence and discrimination against women and girls	Proportion of girls and women aged 15 - 49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/ cutting by age	100%	
	Eliminate all barriers to quality education, health and social services for Women and Girls by 2020	Proportion of children whose births are registered in the first year	22%	

Indicator 55: Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments, regional and local bodies

Women's participation in parliamentary, political and public life has improved over time. The proportion of seats held by women in national parliament, regional and local bodies increased from 9.3 percent in 2016 to 10.6 percent in 2019. Seats held in national parliament by women increased from 12.7 percent in 2016 to 13.8 percent in 2019. Similarly, the share of women among MMDCEs also increased from 10.3 percent in 2016 to 14.8 percent in 2019 (Figure 2.15). Regarding Ministers of State, 13 women representing 22.4 percent, were at post in 2019, three more than there were in 2018 (10 females representing 20.0%). In contrast, Women Deputy Ministers have declined over the same period, as did those elected as Assembly Members.

Figure 2.15: Seats held by women in parliament, MMDCEs and Elected Assembly Members, 2016, 2017 & 2019 (Percent)

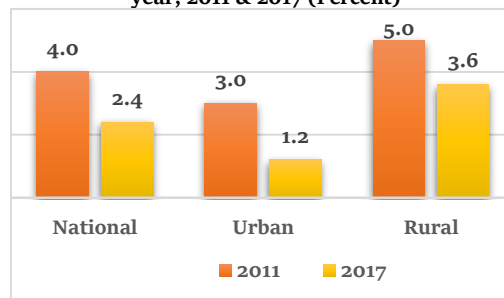


Source: Parliamentary records, 2020 and MoGCSP APR, 2020

Indicator 57: Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting by age

The prevalence of female genital mutilation (FGM) reduced from 4.0 percent in 2011 to 2.4 percent in 2017. It declined by more than half in urban areas compared to rural areas by about a quarter (Figure 2.16). The most dominant FGM procedure, according to MICS 2017, is the full removal of flesh (63.6%), followed by sewing of the vaginal vulvas to close it (15.9%). Furthermore, the practice is most prevalent in the Upper West (32.5%), Upper East (13.0%), Northern (2.8%) and Ashanti (2.0%) regions.

Figure 2.16: Prevalence of FGM by locality type and year, 2011 & 2017 (Percent)

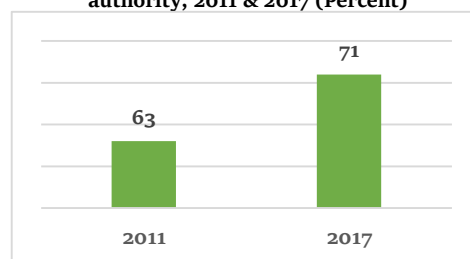


Source: MICS, 2011 and 2018

Indicator 58: Proportion of children whose births are registered in the first year

The proportion of children under 5 years whose birth had been registered by a civil authority increased by 8 percentage points from 63 percent in 2011 to 71 percent in 2017 (Figure 2.17).

Figure 2.17: Proportion of children under 5 years of age whose births have been registered civil authority, 2011 & 2017 (Percent)



Source: MICS, 2012 and 2018

Key interventions for achieving Goal 17

1. Re-training of paralegals to sensitise the public on issues of Domestic Violence (DV) and Child Marriage.
2. Implementation of National Strategic Framework on Child Marriage and the Costed Adolescent Pregnancy Strategy
3. Sensitisation and outreach programmes on sexual and gender-based violence and Girl-Child Education
4. Establishment of targeted institutional credit for women
5. Passage of the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 2020 to integrate the registration system into the local administration setup

Goal 18: Engaged and Empowered Youth and Children

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Youth Empowerment and Children's Rights	Reduce 2013 rate of youth unemployment by at least 25%; in particular female youth	Unemployment rate of youth	127%	85%
	End all forms of violence, child labour exploitation, child marriage and human trafficking	% of children engaged in child labour	-35%	
		% of children engaged in child marriage	47%	
		% of children who are victims of human trafficking	0%	
Full implementation of the provision of African Charter on the Rights of the Youth is attained	Level of implementation of the provisions of the African Charter on the Rights of the Youth	125%		

Indicator 60: Proportion of children engaged in child labour

According to MICS 2018, 27.9 percent of children age 5-17 years are involved in child labour. It is more prevalent among boys (28.3%) than girls (27.5%) and in rural (37.1%) than urban areas (15.8%). The GLSS 7 (2016/17) revealed that 12.6 percent of children aged 5-14 years were economically active. These children on the average worked for 14 hours within a week. Majority (94.4%) of the children worked up to 40 hours and only 5.6 percent worked more than 40 hours. The sectors that engaged majority of the working children were agriculture, forestry and fishing, and wholesale and retail trade.

Indicator 61: Proportion of children engaged in child marriage

Between 2015 and 2017, the proportion of women who married before age 15 increased from 3.6 percent to 5.0 percent while those who married before age 18 reduced significantly from 23.2 percent to 19.0 percent. Early child marriage is reported to be most prevalent in Upper West (1.3%), Northern (1.2%) and Volta (1.1%) regions, while Ashanti, Brong Ahafo and Western regions recorded no early marriages before age 15.

Indicator 63: Level of implementation of the provisions in the African Charter on the rights of the youth by member states

Ghana has implemented the provisions of the African Charter on the Rights of the Youth. The country in January 2008 signed the African Charter on the Rights of Youth and ratified it in October 2013. The Charter has been domesticated by developing a National Youth Policy in 2010 backed by an implementation plan. The age definition for ‘youth’ as stated in the national youth policy (15-35 years) is consistent with that of the African Charter on the Rights of Youth. The country has also allocated a 5 percent share of District Assemblies Common Fund (DACF) on an annual basis as the main source of funding for the National Youth Policy Implementation Plan.

Goal 20: Africa takes full responsibility for financing her development

Strategic Priority	Target	Indicator	Performance Rating	Priority Area Dashboard
Capital Markets	National capital market finances at least 10% of development expenditure	Proportion of public sector budget funded by national capital markets	44%	44%
Fiscal system and Public Sector Revenues	Tax and non-tax revenue of all levels of government should cover at least 75% of current and development expenditure	Total tax revenue as a % GDP	-18%	0%
Development Assistance	Proportion of aid in the national budget is at most 25% of 2013 level	Total ODA as a percentage of the national budget	159%	80%
		Resources raised through innovative financing mechanisms as a % of national budget	0%	

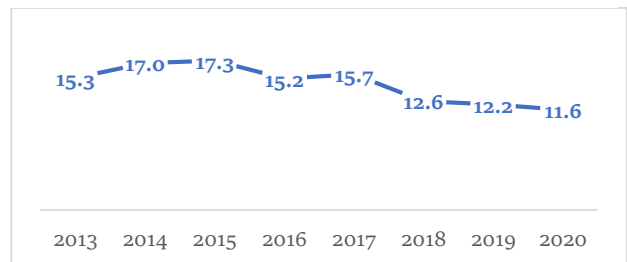
Indicator 67: Proportion of public sector budget funded by national capital markets

The proportion of public sector budget funded by national capital markets declined from 15.2 percent in 2013 to 4.4 percent in 2020. The decline in 2020 can be attributed to the impact of COVID-19 on the capital market.

Indicator 68: Total tax revenue as a % of GDP

Tax revenue as a percentage of GDP has recorded mixed performance since 2013. Tax revenue share of GDP improved from 15.3 percent in 2013 to 17.3 percent in 2015 but declined to 15.7 percent in 2017. The share further declined to 12.2 and 11.6 percent in 2019 and 2020 respectively (Figure 2.18).

Figure 2.18: Tax Revenue as percentage of GDP, 2013-2020 (Percent)



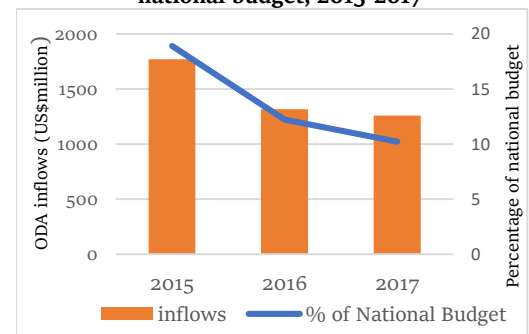
Source: Ministry of Finance fiscal data, 2013-2020

Indicator 69: Total ODA as a percentage of the national budget

Inflows from Official Development Assistance (ODA) and its share of the national budget has been declining since 2015. In absolute value, ODA has declined from US\$1,768.69 million in 2015 to US\$1,316.22 million in 2016, and further by 4.5 percent to US\$1,256.7 million in 2017 (Figure 2.19).

The contribution from ODA to the national budget also declined from 18.9 percent in 2015 to 12.2 percent in 2016 and 10.2 percent in 2017.

Figure 2.19: ODA inflows (US\$ millions) and % of national budget, 2015-2017



Source: Bank of Ghana, 2017

Key interventions for achieving Goal 20

1. Implementation of the National Identification Scheme, the National Digital Addressing System, Tax Identification Number System, and the Presumptive Tax System
2. The implementation of the National Digital Economy Policy and Strategy
3. Linking of Tax Identification Number to Ghana National Identification Card for easy identification of individuals and businesses
4. Creation of enabling environment for increased remittance inflows – *granting of licences to increase the use of formal channels, improving the technology for data collection and ensuring enhanced regulation of institutions within the financial sector.*

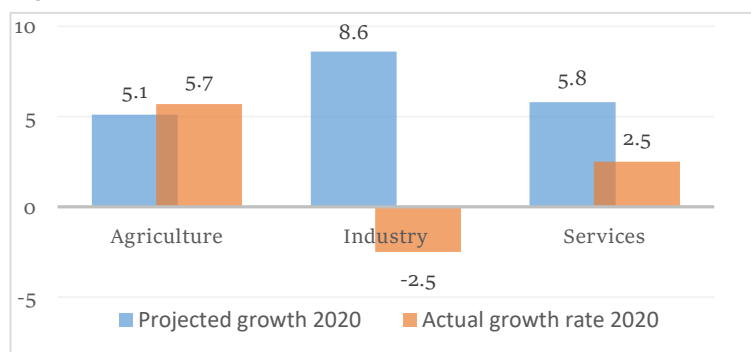
CHAPTER THREE: RESPONSES TO COVID -19 PANDEMIC, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

3.1 Shifts in investments towards COVID-19 and its effects on other development outcomes

With the outbreak of COVID-19, government’s utmost priority was to protect the lives of Ghanaians. The President in his address to the nation on 27th March 2020 stated that **“we know what to do to bring our economy back to life. What we do not know is how to bring people back to life”**. As a result of the unexpected and unavoidable circumstances, government’s expenditure increased by GH¢11.7 billion in 2020, representing a budget overrun of 2.4 percent. Additionally, there was a sudden shortfall in government revenues amounting to GH¢13.6 billion.

These developments partly affected economic growth, particularly in the industry and service sectors of the economy. Real GDP was 0.4 percent as against 6.8 percent projected for 2020. Industry and service sectors on the other hand contracted by 11.1 percent and 3.3 percent respectively (Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: Growth rates in Economic Sectors, 2020 (Percent)



Source: MoF, 2020

The year 2020 experienced a slowdown in economic activities. The Household and Jobs Tracker Survey revealed that 36 percent of firms were closed during the partial lockdown in April 2020. Sales from small businesses were estimated to have declined by GH¢115.2 million in June 2020.

The drop in revenue coupled with the rise in unexpected expenditure led to the temporary suspension of the 5 percent deficit ceiling imposed by the Fiscal Responsibility Act, 2018 (Act 982) of the country. Ghana’s nominal debt stock at the end of 2020 was GH¢291,614.5 million (US\$50,829.6 million) representing 76.1 percent of GDP as against 67.0 percent in 2019. This exceeded the ECOWAS recommended threshold of 70 percent thus, placing Ghana on a debt crisis path. Inflation increased from 7.9 percent in 2019 to 10.4 percent in 2020 coupled with depreciation of the Cedi.

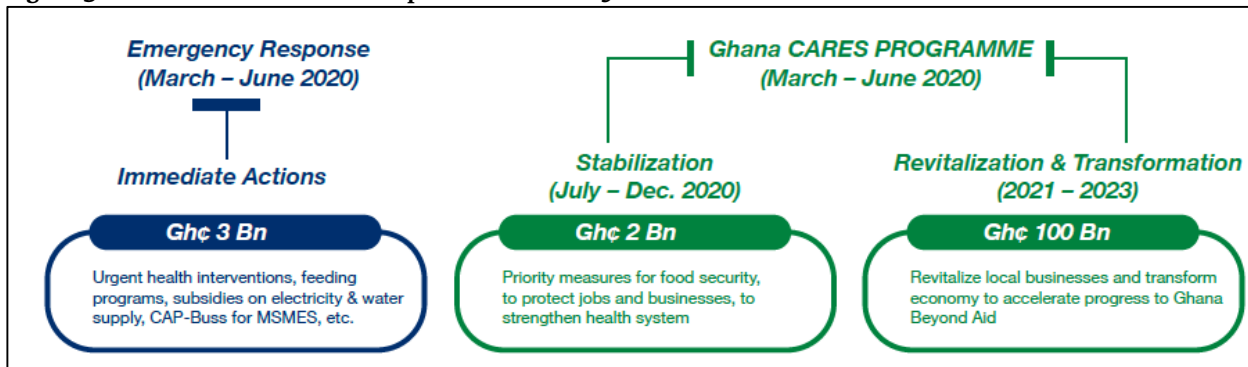
3.2 Major challenges in the fight against COVID-19 and its effects

- Ghana is challenged with a relatively weak public health system
- Weak adherence of the COVID-19 protocols by the general public
- Limited number of vaccines to attain herd immunity
- Huge expenditure burden

3.3 Policy and/or implementation measures to mitigate the effects of COVID-19 outbreak

Ghana’s response to COVID-19 outbreak was characterised by short to long-term measures targeted at stabilising, revitalizing and transforming the economy (Fig 3.2).

Figure 3.2: Overview of Ghana’s Response to COVID-19



Source: Ghana Cares Programme, 2020

Ghana’s strategy of COVID-19 prevention, treatment and management is based on five main principles, namely:

- (i) preventing the importation of the virus;
- (ii) containment of spread of the virus;
- (iii) provision of adequate care for those who tested positive to the virus;
- (iv) limit the social and economic impacts of the pandemic; and
- (v) enhance domestic capacity and strengthen Ghana’s self-reliance.

Presidential Address Series

The President of the Republic, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, instituted a regular TV broadcast session to update Ghanaians on Government’s effort to address the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020, a total of 20 updates were delivered by the President. (See appendix 1 for major policy interventions).

Key actions focused on a mix of health and socioeconomic interventions. These include:

1. Making adjustments to health facilities to be responsive to COVID-19 pandemic;
2. Incentivizing and protecting health workers;
3. Increasing testing capacity and strengthening disease surveillance;
4. Introducing fiscal and financial incentives and social protection measures; and
5. Improving distribution of resources and information to the vulnerable and the poor.

Making adjustments to health facilities to be responsive to COVID-19 pandemic

- Treatment centres were set aside in existing health facilities in Accra and other Regional and District Hospitals for the treatment and management of infections. Additionally, new health facilities were dedicated to a network of COVID-19 treatment centres.
- Agenda 111 - This programme is to enhance the national health and infectious diseases treatment and management, especially at the sub-national level. It comprises construction of a 100-bed hospital in 101 districts that currently lack such facilities, seven regional hospitals, two specialised hospitals and the renovation of Effia-Nkwanta Regional Hospital.
- Designation of one dormitory block in 2020 in each Senior High School as a COVID-19 isolation centre.

Incentivizing and protecting health workers;

- Setting up of insurance package of up to GH¢350,000 for frontline health personnel and allied professional. In addition, all health workers were provided with a tax relief on their emoluments for the months of April, May and June 2020. All frontline health

workers were also given additional allowance of 50 percent of their basic salary for March, April, May and June 2020.

- Logistic capacity of the country was enhanced by procuring more PPEs for the frontline health workers. The national preparedness to deal with a possible surge in the infections was augmented by mobilizing new and retired healthcare professionals.
- Local manufacturing companies were engaged to assist in the domestic production of more PPEs for frontline health workers.

Increased testing capacity and strengthening disease surveillance

- COVID-19 screening system was introduced at the nation's main international airport to prevent importation into the country. The system entailed temperature screening at the airport with non-contact thermometer guns and thermal thermometers; designation of holding rooms for suspected persons for further investigations; and evacuation of infected persons to the national designated centres for treatment and management.
- The national testing capacity was expanded by making new investment in laboratories. In addition, 100 Regional and District Tuberculosis Gene Expert Laboratories across the country were recalibrated to help ensure that minimum capacity exist for testing in each Region.

Introducing fiscal and financial incentives and social protection measures

- A US\$100 million National Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPRP) was launched to manage and contain the spread of the virus and strengthen the national capacity for surveillance, diagnosis and management.
- A minimum of GH¢1 billion Coronavirus Alleviation Programme was approved by Parliament to address the disruption in economic activities, hardship of people, and to rescue and revitalise industries.
- A number of fiscal and financial reliefs such as extension of the tax filing date from April to June; and a 2 percent reduction of interest rates by banks were introduced. Also, mobile money users could transfer up to GH¢100 without charges; in addition to increase in the daily transaction limits for mobile money transactions by 100-300 percent. Deposit Money Banks (DMBs) were required to grant 6-month moratorium of principal repayments to entities in the airline and hospitality industries.
- DMBs with the support of the Bank of Ghana, instituted a GH¢3 billion credit and stimulus package, to help revitalise industries, especially in the pharmaceutical, hospitality, services, and manufacturing sectors. In addition, Government disbursed GH¢600 million soft loan facilities to micro, small and medium scale businesses.

Improving distribution of resources and information to vulnerable people and businesses

- Cooked and uncooked food were distributed to up to 400,000 vulnerable individuals and homes in the lockdown areas through the Coronavirus Alleviation Programme (CAP).
- The two national utility companies, Ghana Water Company Ltd. and the Electricity Company of Ghana, were instructed to ensure stable supply of water and electricity during the lockdown period. In addition, they were requested not to disconnect supply to any customer for non-payment of bills.

- Government provided free water, and free electricity for customers on the lifeline tariff for 6months. Vulnerable communities and informal settlements were provided with constant supply of water through publicly and privately-owned water tankers.
- Reduced Communications Service Tax (CST) from 9 to 5 percent to lower the cost of communication services to the consumer.

CHAPTER FOUR: KEY LESSONS LEARNT AND BEST PRACTICES

4.1 Key Lessons

4.1.1 Need to strengthen emergency planning and preparedness capacity

The decentralised structures in Ghana are the actual means for implementation of the goals. Emergency preparedness reduces losses and the negative impact of unexpected events. Due to lack of emergency planning, the pandemic severely crippled the economy, disrupted productivity, increased food insecurity and job losses, reduced family incomes and affected the health system. As a result of this, the next medium-term national development policy framework, 2022-2025 has introduced a dimension on emergency planning and preparedness. This is to ensure that, at all levels of planning, emergency preparedness interventions are taken into account.

4.1.2 Need to strengthen local production capacity

The pandemic brought to bear, the need for Ghana to improve capacity for the production of essential services. A decline in the supply of PPEs was experienced during periods of lockdown, resulting in price hikes. Local manufacturers were mobilised to start the production of these PPEs. This emphasised the need for Ghana to strengthen its pharmaceutical production. The government has thus, established a national vaccine development committee to formulate plan of action towards vaccine development and manufacturing in Ghana.

4.1.3 Importance of building robust digital platforms and bridging the digital divide

COVID-19 pandemic revealed the importance of building efficient and robust digital platforms to support learning, businesses and the delivery of government services. The increasing shift to e-learning platforms in Ghana exposed the inequality in access to education. Government in the next medium-term will ensure the provision of adequate and accessible infrastructure, tools and skills that will facilitate e-learning and teaching. Additionally, government has initiated the digitisation of service delivery of a number of state agencies in order to create an enabling environment for doing business.

4.2 Best Practices

4.2.1 Improving capacity of decentralised structures

Human resource capacities to translate the continental goals into action at the local level must be enhanced to realise the needed change. The overarching motive of transforming lives and creating opportunities for all is hinged on enticing qualified human resources across different skills-set with attractive incentive schemes to accept postings to the local level and/or regularly training the existing staff to upgrade their knowledge base to deliver on their mandate.

4.2.2 Institutionalise bankable projects

The financial commitment needed to realise the ambitious goals and targets of Agenda 2063 is beyond the singular efforts of governments across the continent. Most social interventions that are government led are usually limited in reaching all targeted beneficiaries. Whereas there is a common convergence that there are millions available in the capital market to finance projects, there is a lack of investor knowledge of such viable business opportunities. To breach this gap, there is the need for institutions to submit to a central collation unit, projects that are bankable.

4.2.3 Strengthen the implementation coordination arrangement

Ghana's current institutional arrangement for the implementation of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 though formidable, needs to be strengthened. The three-tier coordination arrangement made up of the High-Level Ministerial Committee (HLMC), the Implementation Coordinating Committee (ICC) and a Technical Committee (TC) makes engagements with all relevant stakeholders very plausible. The techno-political blend must be resourced to swing into offering technical support to the sub-national structures and cross fertilise ideas for a speedy realisation of the aspirations of Agenda 2063 and other global commitments.

4.2.4 Enhance administrative data collection and usage

The availability and timeliness of data continue to militate against the effective tracking of progress of implementation of the goals. The time intervals of survey data and its associated cost makes it unsuitable for tracking annual progress. There is the need to have a robust system for the generation of administrative data especially at the sub-national level and its usage must be encouraged to foster interest in continuous generation of such data. The data generated and transmitted to the national level needs to be disaggregated to meet national, continental and international specifications for easy usage.

4.2.5 Enhance organisation of social infrastructure

The emergence of COVID-19 in 2020 highlighted the inadequacies of the social sector of the economy and also eroded some gains that were already made. Infrastructure and environmental conditions of markets and health systems both at the national and sub-national levels could not keep up with the time. The realisation of the global and continental goals to a large extent would depend on consolidating and sustaining the gains made over time. There is the need to rethink how markets, houses, health and other social infrastructure are planned and executed in order for such amenities to stand shocks of the magnitude as COVID-19 in future.

CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION

This is the second progress report on the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063. The preparation of the report drew inspiration from existing policy documents including the 2019 reports on Agenda 2063 and Voluntary National Review, 2019 Annual Progress Report and the Medium-term National Development Policy Framework (2018-2021). The preparation of the report received significant contributions from key stakeholders including Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and African Peer Review Mechanism – Governing Council (APRM-GC). The report covers a total of 61 indicators representing 81.3 percent of the total expected indicators.

Ghana has integrated the goals and targets of Agenda 2063 into its Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework (MTNDPF) 2018-2021, with correspondent mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation. These goals and targets have also been integrated into the plans and budgets of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) to track progress at the sector and local levels.

There is mixed progress towards the achievement of the Agenda 2063. The report highlights progress made in areas including electricity, water, internet, domestication and implementation of Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement. However, the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic remains a potential threat to consolidating the gains. Most adversely affected areas include employment, health, education and revenue mobilisation. Other major challenges include poor access to data, weak public health system, weak adherence to the COVID-19 protocols and limited number of vaccines to attain herd immunity.

In spite of the effects of the pandemic, Agenda 2063 remains useful in the quest to respond, recover and build forward better. It provides a useful framework to achieve structural transformation of African economies and build an inclusive, resilient, prosperous and sustainable continent for current and future generations.

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