



NDC

**CHANGINGLIVES
TRANSFORMING
GHANA**

2016 MANIFESTO

OUR VISION FOR GHANA

A peaceful, secure & prosperous nation,
providing sustainable jobs through
industrialization for transformation.

#ChangingLives

#TransformingGhana

FOREWORD BY JOHN DRAMANI MAHAMA

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE & LEADER OF THE NDC

As my first term as the President of the Republic of Ghana comes to an end, I have come to appreciate even more the potential of Ghana to provide prosperity and security to all its citizens. The journey so far has been worth the effort. We have been confronted with challenges but have achieved major successes.

With the blessings of the Almighty God and the support of the people of Ghana, I am confident that my second and final term will move Ghana even closer towards the era of prosperity and security that I have envisioned. I will continue to work, together with the people of Ghana, to create opportunities that will generate prosperity for all.

This is what the Agenda for Transformation signifies. This transformation entails moving away from over-reliance on commodity exports towards diversification and value addition. All these have begun. They will be sustained and accelerated in the next four years.

An integral part of the NDC's Agenda for Transformation is our unwavering belief that Ghana's greatest wealth is its people. Our country will continue to rise as we focus a large part of our development effort on harnessing the skills, potentials and ingenuity of our people. There is tremendous potential in the Ghanaian to create, innovate and transform our nation.

As leader of the NDC and Government, our policies, programmes and projects have been directed at putting people first, building a strong and resilient economy, expanding infrastructure for accelerated growth and jobs, and advancing transparent and accountable governance. We have been vindicated, as we have seen huge payoffs in terms of access to education, health care and other social services. This has led to improved educational outcomes and favourable health indices for our people.

We have undertaken, and in some instances completed, major institutional reforms and built strong and viable institutions. We have invested

in building robust infrastructure to stimulate economic growth. This has created jobs and we intend to create even more jobs. Addressing unemployment and creating job opportunities will be at the core of my renewed mandate.

With the renewed mandate I am seeking, we will continue policies and programmes and introduce new initiatives that are consistent with our key social democratic principle of equitable development. We still have more roads to construct, more houses to build, more food to produce, additional educational and health facilities to provide and more jobs to create.

Indeed, these are also key demands of the global compact encapsulated in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, which we have agreed to uphold.

With the collaboration of the Bank of Ghana, we will institute mechanisms that will significantly lower the cost of credit and position the private sector to play its role in the Transformation Agenda.

Already, and systematically, we are Changing Lives and Transforming Ghana.

Indeed, I feel inspired by the success we have achieved in the last four years. We can be proud of that record. We will sustain the transformation and we will make more progress.

I have abiding faith in the people of Ghana and in the future of our country. More importantly, I remain committed to the cause of making our nation greater and stronger.

God bless our Homeland!



INTRODUCTION

The National Democratic Congress (NDC) remains deeply committed to the principles and values of Social Democracy

As Social Democrats, we subscribe to a compassionate political philosophy that seeks to create opportunities for all to develop to their fullest potential. We believe that our pursuit of economic prosperity for all Ghanaians can best be achieved through appropriate regulation and strategic investments. We are therefore committed to using the legal, fiscal and trade instruments at our disposal, in an inclusive effort to safeguard the jobs of today and create the jobs of the future.

In our quest to build a sustainable society with opportunities for all, we will continue to prioritize education and skills training as the cornerstone to progress. We rededicate ourselves to the expansion of economic freedom and opportunity by providing incentives for small businesses to grow, by encouraging local community development and building the environment for domestic manufacturing to support job creation.

The National Democratic Congress (NDC) is committed to building a just and equitable society in which citizens are empowered to seize on opportunities to improve themselves. We believe that we can achieve more together than individually, hence our policies and programs are designed to make each one as empowered and productive as he or she can be.

Ours is an approach anchored in the fact that Ghana's human resources are our nation's most valuable assets. This explains why over the

years our development priorities are: (a) putting people first, (b) building a strong and resilient economy, (c) providing reliable infrastructure, and (d) improving accountability in governance. We believe we have succeeded in creating a better foundation for safe and secure conditions for national progress.

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Putting People First is the expression of our relentless effort to invest in sectors of our society with the view of empowering our people through better educational systems and opportunities; providing reliable and dependable healthcare arrangements; ensuring inclusiveness by protecting the most vulnerable in our society, thus creating reliable pathways for our youth to achieve their aspirations.

Our approach to “Putting People First” involves overarching concerns with redistribution, production, reproduction and protection; and synchronizes with our economic policy objectives in the pursuit of economic growth and social progress. We have verifiable achievements in education, healthcare, social protection, gender empowerment and equality, youth development and sporting opportunities as manifestations of our commitment.

Strong and Resilient Economy represents our desire to build an economy that provides a channel for human creativity that meets the aspirations of Ghanaians to work. It is an illustration of our commitment to build an economy that nurtures and protects the young, the old and the vulnerable; an economy that is capable of dealing with major adversities such as climate change, while at the same time enhancing life for our people. As Social Democrats, we believe that economic growth is important, however, growth alone is not enough to deliver jobs and fair incomes.

Our commitment to build a strong and resilient economy therefore, is one that prioritizes decent and productive work for our people as a means of brightening the prospects for poverty reduction and personal development. It is precisely because of this belief that we have actively incentivized various industries in the private sector not only to encourage the production of made in Ghana goods, but also to enlarge employment opportunities. To this end, beyond the continuous focus on maintaining prudent monetary and fiscal policies to attract investment, we will also continue to invest heavily in agriculture, manufacturing and mining to provide support to the private sector.

Expanding Infrastructure is core to realizing economic growth and boosting opportunities for job creation. Our view is that in diverse ways a good infrastructure system has a positive impact on productivity. For instance, improved roads facilitate private investment, improves access to markets for farmers by reducing transport costs, thus stabilizing jobs and income levels. The extension of electricity to poor households contributes to lower energy bills that support the expansion of cottage industries. Electricity is also critical for improved communication. Clean or potable water has immense health benefits that contribute to the well-being of all, especially children.

In pursuit of our transformational agenda, we have prioritized infrastructural expansion across several sectors including roads, water supply systems, energy, transport and housing. It is an important economic incentive for both public and private operations.

As Social Democrats we view Infrastructural development as a means to enhance productivity, transportation and communication.

Transparent and Accountable Governance reflects our commitment to working to attain a society that encourages citizen participation in affairs of the State. It is our belief that Governments that derive their mandate from the people must not only work for and with the people, but must also be open and accountable to the people. Our pursuit of transparent governance has opened up considerable space for Civil Society Organizations and Ghanaians to actively engage in the policy debate, formulation and implementation processes.

We believe that through participation we can, as a society and consistent with the norms of democracy, achieve the best political outcomes that reflect the broad judgment of our people.

We remain committed to building a peaceful, safe and inclusive society that respects the diversities of our nation. We will not renege on



our commitment to continuously promote the rule of law, the fight against corruption and graft, tolerance, pluralism, national security and cohesion. In our view, public service imposes an obligation to work in the interest of our country. This is the reason for our quest to use innovation and creativity to make public services responsive to the needs of the people from whom we derive our mandate.

In the last four years, we have pursued the pledge we made to Ghanaians, as anchored on the four pillars of our 2012 Manifesto. We have achieved significant infrastructural

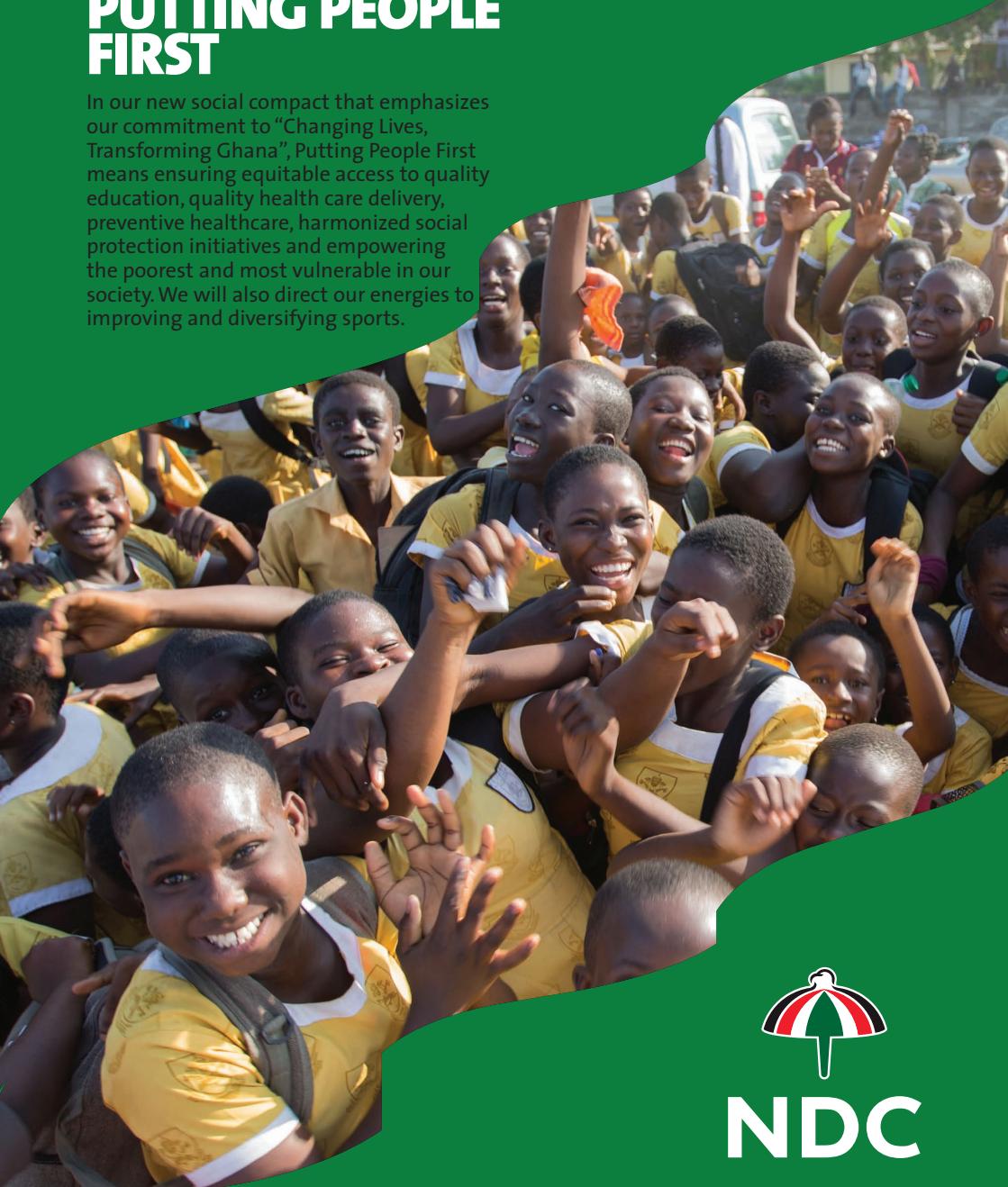
development providing health facilities, educational opportunities, access to potable water, investments in energy, expansion in telecommunications, transportation and housing. We have thus set in motion the process of 'Changing Lives and Transforming Ghana'.

As a party, we seek a renewal of the mandate from the people to enable us extend our transformation agenda. This document provides a record of our delivery and our commitment to the people of Ghana for a second term for President John Dramani Mahama.

THEME ONE

PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST

In our new social compact that emphasizes our commitment to "Changing Lives, Transforming Ghana", Putting People First means ensuring equitable access to quality education, quality health care delivery, preventive healthcare, harmonized social protection initiatives and empowering the poorest and most vulnerable in our society. We will also direct our energies to improving and diversifying sports.



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EDUCATION

We have introduced social interventions in the education sector including the implementation of the progressively free SHS programme, scholarships for over 10,000 Senior High School (SHS) students, free school uniforms, free exercise books and free sandals for school children. We have also expanded the school-feeding programme, thus reducing the direct and indirect cost barriers to parents, and that has allowed for improved attendance rates in our education system.

These interventions have allowed the NDC Government to significantly expand access to education at all levels.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Basic Education

At the basic education level:

- The number of educational institutions at all levels of basic education increased from 45,447 in the 2008/2009 academic year to over 57,270 in the 2014/2015 academic year. This represents an increase of 26%.
- School enrolment increased from 7,038,738 students in the 2008/2009 academic year to 8,891,892, in the 2014/2015 academic year, representing an increase of more than 26%.
- A total of 1,614 out of 2,578 basic school projects have been completed under the removal of Schools-Under-Trees programme, providing brick and mortar shelter for 484,200 pupils.
- The process to eliminate the school-shift system has been highly successful.
- One hundred million (100,000,000) free exercise books have been distributed, with free school uniforms also provided to over two million school pupils.
- Twelve million five hundred thousand (12.5million) English, Mathematics and Science textbooks were distributed to public basic schools between 2013 and 2015. This enabled Ghana to exceed the universal textbook-pupil ratio of three textbooks to one pupil.
- The number of pupils benefiting from the School

Feeding Programme quadrupled from about 440,000 in 2008 to 1.7 million in 2014.

- Over 90,000 laptops have been distributed to basic schools in all 10 regions under the Basic School Computerization Programme.
- Under the same Basic School Computerisation Programme, 50,000 basic school teachers across the country benefited from ICT training and supply of free computers.
- Over 40,000 locally produced school sandals have been distributed to pupils in some deprived districts.
- The cost of BECE examination fees has been subsidized for all registered candidates in both public and private schools.
- Under the Complementary Basic Education Programme, 125,000 out-of-school pupils have been enrolled.
- A historic Re-sit Policy under which 2,599 under-performed BECE and private candidates were given the opportunity to re-sit the BECE as private candidates was implemented for the first time since the inception of the JSS/JHS system. The programme has since covered two streams.
- Career development training for over 60,000 teachers at the basic level has been provided for, while 1,000 teachers have undergone in-service training for skills in the teaching of Science and Mathematics.
- Existing Colleges of Education have been equipped with requisite Science Laboratories to train 20,000 teachers to improve the teaching of Science and Mathematics in basic schools.
- A gender parity ratio of 1:1 has been attained at the Primary level.
- Over 92,000 girls have benefitted from the Take-Home Ration Programme in the three Northern Regions.
- Scholarships for about 55,000 girls in the JHS have been offered under the Global Partnership for Education Programme.
- The Ghana Reading Action Plan has been implemented and more than 2.8 million pupils at the primary level have benefitted.

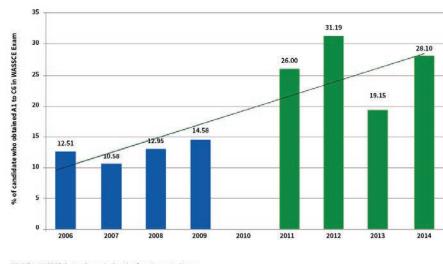


Second Cycle Education

In the second cycle education sector we have:

- Commenced construction of 123 out of the planned 200 Community Senior High Schools with ongoing commissioning of completed ones.
- Implemented the Progressively Free Senior High School Programme in line with Article 25 of the 1992 Constitution.
- Initiated a Secondary Education Improvement Programme under which 125 existing Senior High Schools are undergoing facility and quality upgrade.
- Constructed one thousand (1,000) six-unit classroom blocks and over 180 two-storey dormitories in selected 2nd cycle institutions.
- Rehabilitated and equipped five hundred (500) Science Resource Centres in the Senior High Schools across the country.
- Resourced one hundred and seventy-five (175) existing Senior High Schools across the country with modern facilities.
- Built the capacity of 6,500 Mathematics, Science and ICT teachers from some selected Senior High Schools and provided leadership training for heads of Senior High Schools.
- Expanded special subsidies to cover more students in Senior High Schools.
- Provided fifty eight thousand (58,000) bunk beds, fifty thousand (50,000) pieces of furniture, thirty thousand (30,000) computers and three hundred (300) small water projects for selected Senior High Schools.

Percentage of candidates who obtained A1 to C6 in WASSCE



Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

We have over the last several years invested heavily in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). We believe we can do even better by streamlining our efforts and creating a stronger linkage between our TVET training and industry.



We must make it a focal point to promote TVET as a means to brighter prospects and employability. We must reverse the concept of TVET as an avenue for school dropouts. We recognize that countries that have well developed technical and vocational education are attracting more global production and thereby generating more employment for their people.

TVET forms a central plank of this administration's Agenda for Transformation. With TVET, we seek to empower our youth with the skills needed to enter the world of work and create prosperity for themselves and their families.

We have:

- Established a broad-based governance structure including Statutory National Technical Committees with wide stakeholder representation;
 - Established National TVET Qualifications Framework (NTVETQF);
 - Adopted Competency-Based Training (CBT) model with emphasis on linkage with industry for TVET institutions;
 - Established a National Apprenticeship Programme (NAP) to cater for the large informal sector.
- We launched the Development of Skills for Industry Project (DSIP) under which we undertook the following activities:
- Awarded bursaries to 1,520 students (including 333 females) who are pursuing science related courses in Polytechnics and Technical Institutes;
 - Awarded bursaries to 2,000 apprentices (including 726 females) in the informal sector;
 - Trained over 800 Master Craftspersons in Competency-Based Training (CBT) methods of instruction;
 - Commenced construction of modern school infrastructure in 13 Technical and Vocational Institutes;
 - Sponsored the training of 148 instructors at the Diploma level, 20 instructors at the Masters level and 5 Faculty members at the PhD level;
 - Trained over 5,000 Junior High School leavers in garment making, cosmetology, welding and fabrication, auto mechanics and electronics in 70 selected districts nationwide under the National Apprenticeship Programme;
 - Trained over 3,500 master craftspersons in capacity building in current industry trends;
 - Awarded a total of US\$45.4million to 617 formal

and informal businesses, Trade Associations and Training Institutions for various skills development and technology acquisition through the Skills Development Fund;

- Provided innovative skills training to over 93,446 workers in the formal and informal sectors.

Tertiary Education

We achieved the following:

- Increased the capacities of the tertiary institutions across the country leading to increased enrolments of 7.1% in the Universities and 3.4% in the Polytechnics. Enrolment went up by 63.8% in the 38 public Colleges of Education with the substitution of trainee allowances with the student's loan scheme;
- Commenced the construction of a 617-bed Teaching Hospital at the University of Ghana, Legon, to support the University of Ghana Medical School;
- Commissioned ICT facilities in the 10 Regional Distance Education Centres to aid Distance Education;
- Established the University of Energy and Natural Resources (UENR) in the Brong Ahafo Region and a new and permanent campus for the University of Health and Allied Sciences (UHAS) in the Volta Region and initiated preparatory works for its
- School of Pharmacy at Keta;
- Submitted a Bill for the establishment of the National Research Fund to Parliament;
- Parliament passed the Technical Universities Bill to convert Polytechnics into Technical Universities;
- Parliament passed the University of Environment and Sustainable Development (UESD) Act;
- Initiated the process to convert GRATIS institutions into Technical Colleges;
- Provided GH¢150 million grant to 654 institutions, businesses and associations through the Skills Development Fund to promote Technical, Vocational Education and Training (TVET);
- Extended the Students Loans Scheme to cover students in all tertiary institutions and increased the amount;
- Absorbed five private Colleges of Education into Government Colleges of Education in the Northern, Ashanti, Western and Brong Ahafo Regions;
- Offered 1,130 scholarships to students pursuing graduate studies (Ph.D and MSc.) including Medicine and Allied Health Specializations abroad;



- Granted a Presidential Charter to the Central University College.

'Teacher First Agenda'

We have:

- Passed the Colleges of Education Act, 2012 (Act 847) to upgrade Teacher Training Colleges to Tertiary institutions;
- Abolished the quota system in the Colleges of Education allowing for all 38 public Colleges of Education to admit at full capacity. This has led to an increase in enrollment by 63.8%. Consequently, we are on course to eliminating the trained teacher deficit in schools thereby improving the quality of basic education;
- Reviewed the operations of the Student Loans Trust Fund to allow for teacher trainees to access the fund like their counterparts in the Universities and other Tertiary Institutions. Over 7,100 teacher trainees have so far accessed the Fund;
- Launched the Secondary Education Improvement Programme that has a component for leadership support for Heads of Senior High Schools and special capacity building for 60,000 Mathematics, Science and ICT teachers;
- Provided free laptop computers to over 50,000 teachers since 2013;
- Implemented the T-TEL (Transforming Teacher Education and Learning) initiative that is a capacity and pedagogy improvement programme for Colleges of Education;
- Successfully worked with the teacher unions to reduce teacher absenteeism from 27% in 2012 to 9.3% in 2015 with the view to improving quality and raising further the esteem of the teaching profession.

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OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

Our programme for the 2017-2021 period covers Basic Education (comprising Early Childhood Care and Development, Primary and Junior High Schools); Secondary Education (comprising Senior High Schools, Vocational and Technical Schools) and Tertiary Education (comprising Universities, Polytechnics, Specialized Institutions and Colleges of Education) as dictated by the 1992 Constitution of the Republic of Ghana.

The programme also covers e-learning (including distance learning and open-schooling), non-formal education, the welfare of teachers, the quality of teaching and learning, Science, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), and linkages between education and industry.

Basic Education:

Early Childhood Care and Development

We will:

- Strengthen regulation on the establishment of pre-schools to meet the required standards and best practices in early childhood care and development;
- Review and implement the national policy on 'Early Childhood Care and Development' and broaden parental participation in the implementation of the policy;
- Strengthen collaboration between the Ministry of Education and the Department of Social Welfare in the provision of pre-school and kindergarten education including the training of teachers;
- Continue to allocate more resources for the rehabilitation and construction of kindergarten facilities throughout the country;
- Establish special schools in designated Colleges of Education to train teachers solely for Early Childhood Care and Development.

Primary and Junior High School Education

We will:

- Complete the process of eliminating the remaining public schools under trees, and abolish the shift system countrywide;

- Continue the provision of free school uniforms, free exercise books and free footwear for needy pupils;
- Expand the School Feeding Programme to all public basic schools in rural and peri-urban communities;
- Review the Capitation Grant;
- Continue to ensure improvement in Special Needs Education;
- Continue to facilitate the acceleration of ICT education by training more teachers in the subject area;
- Continue the supply of computers to basic schools and establish ICT laboratories for selected schools;
- Work with the Ghana Education Service to re-introduce civic education (including introduction to the Constitution of Ghana) into the basic school curricula;
- Pilot the use of electronic textbooks (e-books) using tablets.

Second Cycle Education:

Senior High Schools

We intend to:

- Complete the construction of the 200 Community Day Senior High Schools;
- Expand the progressively free SHS programme to cover boarding students with emphasis on needy students;
- Review the Computer Selection for Schools Programme to make it more effective and equitable;
- Renovate and expand the facilities in existing Senior High Schools to increase capacity for admitting more qualified JHS graduates;
- Continue to provide facilities for students with learning disability to pursue their educational programmes effectively.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)

We will:

- Implement the 2nd phase of the Skills Development Fund to provide grants to over 120 private sector businesses to upgrade skills

- and acquire innovative modern technology to enhance their productivity;
 - We will encourage more girls to select TVET as a career option
 - Improve linkage between TVET and industry
 - Increase capacity for technical training, 30% of the new community senior high schools will be fitted with technical workshops and facilities to offer technical and vocational programmes;
 - Appoint a deputy minister with primary responsibility for TVET and technical education at all levels;
 - Align vocational training properly under the Ministry of Education to enable better supervision;
 - Ensure that the new Technical Universities maintain their core mandate of science and technology training;
 - Continue the implementation of the Ghana TVET Voucher Project to support the training of 25,000 Master Craftpersons and apprentices in productive skills in the Volta, Greater Accra and Northern Regions;
 - Accelerate the agenda to make technical and vocational education attractive for young people to acquire employable skills;
 - Rebrand and strengthen Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) so that it becomes attractive to high-performing students;
 - Continue to equip and retool the TVET institutions with requisite facilities;
 - Establish 50 Community Centres for Integrated Skills Development (COCISD).
- Complete the University of Environment and Sustainable Development at Somanya and its satellite campus at Donkorkrom in the Eastern Region;
 - Complete the establishment of three additional Colleges of Education in the under-served regions of Greater Accra, Central and the Northern Regions;
 - Continue to implement the Transforming Teacher Education and Learning Programme (T-TEL) to cover professional training for 35,000 teachers in all the Colleges of Education;
 - Complete the conversion of the ten (10) Polytechnics into Technical Universities and adequately resource them to ensure the provision of advanced technical, vocational and technological training;
 - Support capacity building for Faculty of Technical Universities and the tertiarized Colleges of Education;
 - Continue to resource the public tertiary institutions to improve quality and expand the intake of qualified applicants;
 - Provide additional facilities to augment the operations of the new Medical Schools of the University of Cape Coast, University for Development Studies and the University of Health and Allied Sciences;
 - Initiate a review of medical training in Ghana with the objective of increasing the number of doctors to address the health needs of unserved and under-served parts of Ghana;
 - Create an enabling environment for the increased establishment of high-standard private sector Medical Schools, which are well regulated and properly maintained;
 - Continue to make allocations from the GETFUND for the training of Faculty members of tertiary institutions and provide scholarships for the training of critical manpower needed to drive Ghana's transformation agenda;
 - Continue to engage and deepen support to private tertiary institutions to deliver on their mandate;
 - Continue to extend the Student Loan

Pupils and Students with Special Needs

- Introduce special incentives at the basic and second cycle levels for all pupils and students with special needs.

Tertiary Education

We plan to:

- Establish a new College of Education as an Instructor Training College for TVET at Agona Swedru in the Central Region;

Scheme to students in all accredited Tertiary Institutions;

- Continue to engage private tertiary institutions to focus training on the human resource requirements of the nation;
- Amend the GETFUND Act to extend support to private tertiary institutions engaged in science and engineering training.

Virtual Campus Concept - Distance Learning and Open Schooling

We propose to continue supporting the Centre for National Distance Learning and Open-Schooling (CENDLOS) to harmonize open and distance learning activities.

Non-Formal Education

We intend to:

- Increase support to, and empower the Non-Formal Education Division (NFED) of the Ministry of Education to enable it make the necessary interventions for life-long education in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal Number Four;
- Continue to support the implementation of the National Literacy Programme.

Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Development

We will:

- Encourage the learning of sign language at various levels of the education system;
- Strengthen the National Teaching Council, National Council for Curriculum and Assessment, and the National Inspectorate Board to perform their assigned roles under the Education Act 2008 (Act 778).

'Teacher First Agenda'

As far as practicable, we will:

- Provide accommodation for teachers who accept postings to deprived rural schools;
- Re-introduce incremental credit for Science, Mathematics, Technical and Vocational Teachers (TVET);
- Continue to issue financial clearance to employ more graduate teachers as and when appropriate;
- Support teachers in science, mathematics and TVET to upgrade their skills;
- Work with GNAT, NAGRAT & CCT on exchange programmes for teachers



- Continue the expansion of the Untrained Teachers Diploma in Basic Education (UTDBE) Programme to further reduce the number of untrained teachers in the school system

Science and Mathematics Education

We will:

- Continue to strengthen the teaching and learning of Mathematics and Science and provide special support to motivate teachers and pupils;
- Enhance the Mathematics, Science and Technology Scholarship Scheme (MASTESS) to support needy students to opt for mathematics and science based programmes at both secondary and tertiary levels of education;
- Re-introduce incremental credit for Science, Mathematics, Technical and Vocational Teachers;
- Continue to upgrade equipment for the teaching and learning of Science, Technical and Vocational subjects;
- Continue to provide consumables for effective and efficient use of the Science Resource Centres;
- Introduce new strategies for attaining the national objective of 60:40 admission ratio in tertiary institutions in favour of the Sciences.

Linking Education to Industry

We will:

- Establish a unit under the National Council for Tertiary Education (NCTE) to coordinate interventions for linking tertiary education to industry;
- Continue to promote collaborative programmes between industry and tertiary institutions to increase opportunities for practical training and internship. Incentives will be provided to industries and businesses that provide more room for internships;
- Continue to review curriculum development of tertiary institutions to meet the skills and human capital needs of industry;
- Support the Ghana Statistical Service to resume the production and publication of the

monthly Labour Market Statistics to inform programme choices and accreditation at the tertiary level;

- Continue to make entrepreneurship training a key component of the education system.

Education Bills

Government has initiated bills that are designed to respond to the changing dynamics in professional education, education sector decentralization, book development, adult education, tertiary education and technical and vocational education. The under-mentioned bills are being processed for enactment:

- Chartered Institute of Bankers Bill
- Education Bill
- Library Services Bill
- Ghana Book Development Agency Bill
- Non-Formal Education Agency Bill
- Tertiary Education Research Fund Bill
- National Commission for Tertiary Education Bill
- National Accreditation and Qualifications Agency Bill

HEALTH

Ghanaians are living longer and healthier lives. Ghana's life expectancy at birth increased from 60 years in 2008 to 63 years by 2013. Ghana's current Life Expectancy at birth is higher than Nigeria's (55 years), Côte d'Ivoire's (51.5 years) as well as the sub-Saharan Africa average (56.8 years).

Infant, Child and Maternal mortality rates are all on a downward trend.

Year	Infant mortality	Child mortality	Under-5 mortality
2008	50	31	80
2014	41	19	60

In our 2012 Manifesto, we committed ourselves to delivering a better and improved healthcare system. Resulting from the strategic investments made by the NDC Government, we achieved our target and we are working

to improve on the gains. We give credit to the ingenuity and responsiveness of health workers for effective prevention, management and control of diseases, improved health conditions and better quality of life of citizens.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have achieved the following in the health sector:

- Established the National Ambulance Service Training School;
- Trained over 500 Emergency Medical Technicians;
- Increased the number of Health Training Institutions to 95 in 2015;
- Increased the number of Licensed Midwives from 500 in 2009 to over 2,000 in 2015.

Teaching Hospitals

- Expansion of 400-bed Tamale Teaching Hospital to an 800-bed facility;
- Construction of 617-bed University of Ghana Teaching Hospital;
- Construction of new modern Emergency Department for the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital;
- Refurbishment of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) for the Department of Surgery at the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital;
- Refurbishment of the Operating Theatre at the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital;
- Completion of the Eye Care Centre at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital in Kumasi.

Institutional Hospitals

- Commencement of construction of 500-bed Military Hospital in Kumasi;
- Renovation and expansion of 104-bed Police Hospital in Accra;
- Construction of 130-bed Maritime Hospital in Tema.

Regional Hospitals

- Upgrading and expansion of Greater Accra Regional Hospital at Ridge in Accra to 620-bed capacity;
- Construction of 250-bed Ashanti Regional Hospital at Sewua;
- Continuation of the construction of the Upper West Regional Hospital, Wa.

District Hospitals

- Design, construction and equipping of six 120-bed District Hospitals with an integrated IT system at Dodowa, Fomena, Abetifi, Garu-Tempa, Kumawu and Sekondi;
- Upgrading of the Takoradi hospital;
- Expansion of the Bolgatanga hospital into a 386-bed facility;
- Design, construction and equipping of 60-bed District Hospitals for five district capitals – Salaga, Tepa, Nsawkaw, Twifo-Praso and Konongo-Odumasi;
- Construction of a 100-bed Madina Hospital in the Greater Accra Region;
- Initiation of processes for the commencement of five District Hospitals at Somanya, Buife, Sawla-Tuna-Kalba, Tolon and Wheta.

Polyclinics

The following have been completed and are currently operational:

- Five (5) Polyclinics in the Upper West Region at Wechau, Babile, Lambussie, Ko and Han;
- Five (5) Polyclinics in the Northern Region at Kpandai, Tatale, Janga, Chereponi and Karaga;
- Five (5) Polyclinics in the Western Region at Wassa Dunkwa, Bogoso, Nsuaem, Mpohor and Elubo;
- Five (5) Polyclinics in the Brong Ahafo Region at Nkrankwanta, Wamfie, Kwatire, Techimantia and Bomaa.

Work is commencing on the construction of 16 more polyclinics as follows:

- Five (5) Polyclinics in the Greater Accra Region at Adenta, Ashaiman, Bortianor, Oduman and Sege;



- Ten (10) Polyclinics in the Central Region at Bisease, Gomoa Dawurampong, Binpong Akunfude, Etsii Sunkwa, Asikuma Gyamena, Agona Duakwa, Biriwa, Ekumfi Narkwa, Twifo Atimokwa and Gomoa Potsin;
- One (1) Polyclinic at Bamboi.

Additional 20 Polyclinics will be constructed in Ashanti, Volta, Eastern and Upper East Regions.

Health Centres

We have constructed 18 Health Centres across the country.

CHPS Compounds

We have completed over 1,200 CHPS Compounds and an additional 1,600 are under construction.

HIV/AIDS

We have

- Reduced annual AIDS deaths by 43%;
- Achieved over 50% reduction in transmission of HIV from mother-to-child;
- Provided PMTCT (Preventing Mother to Child Transmission) services to 81% of pregnant women;

- Treated 66% of infected pregnant women to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV;
- Reduced drastically the prevalence of HIV among exposed babies to 8% at birth and 21% after breastfeeding down from 32%.

National Medical Equipment Replacement Programme

We have provided and supplied critical diagnostic and treatment equipment such as MRI machines, CT scan, fluoroscopy machine, x-ray machines, digital mammography machines, oxygen plants and ambulances to over 150 hospitals across the country.

The National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS)

We have:

- Increased the out-patient utilisation of the NHIS from 9.3 million in 2008 to 29.6 million in 2015;
- Increased claims payment from GH¢183 Million in 2008 to GH¢1,073 billion in 2014;
- Established new Claims Processing Centres at Tamale, Cape Coast and Kumasi to



- decentralise and expedite processing of claims by service providers;
- Introduced e-Claims to deal with logistic challenges and reduce physical paper claims.

Accident and Trauma Centre

We have conducted preparatory work for the establishment of an Accident and Emergency Hospital at Buipe to cater for emergency and accident victims in the northern part of the central spine arterial road network.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

In our next term, we will undertake the following:

- Diversify the sources of funding for the NHIS by allocating an approved percentage of the ABFA from our Petroleum Revenue;
- Continue to prioritise access, equity, affordability and reliability of health services;
- Reduce the incidence of malaria by 50%;
- Reduce cases of maternal and neonatal deaths by a further 50%;
- Create more spaces for maternal and neonatal care in existing health facilities;
- Reduce further mother to child HIV transmission;
- Motivate health workers by ensuring appropriate and rewarding conditions of service that respond to changing trends in healthcare;
- Increase supply and fair distribution of health personnel across the country;
- Scale up the implementation of e-Health systems piloted in Korle-bu, Wa and Zebila hospitals to all secondary and tertiary hospitals;
- Ensure strict compliance with data protection laws of the country to protect the medical records and the privacy of patients;
- Complete ongoing Regional Hospitals in Ashanti and Upper West regions;
- Complete construction of regional hospitals in Upper East, Eastern and Western Regions;
- Undertake a comprehensive upgrade of the Tema General Hospital;

- Establish a National Infectious Disease Centre;
- Mainstream mental healthcare into the health delivery system and ensure adequate resourcing and infrastructural development;
- Continue to provide Polyclinics and District Hospitals especially in the newly created districts;
- Continue the construction of the 120-bed Bekwai Hospital in the Ashanti Region;
- Complete 15 Polyclinics in the Greater Accra and Central Regions;
- Construct 20 Polyclinics in Ashanti, Eastern, Volta and Upper East Regions;
- Continue the construction of Community Health Planning Service (CHPS) Compounds;
- Standardize the CHPS Compounds Operational Zones and Health Centres countrywide;
- Strengthen the partnership with local pharmaceutical companies to make them more efficient, reliable and competitive both locally and internationally;
- Take appropriate measures to achieve an uninterrupted supply of anti-retroviral drugs for HIV and AIDS patients including supply of ARVs from local pharmaceutical producing companies;
- Support bilateral and other exchange programmes for our health personnel to expose them to best practices around the world;
- Continue to implement policies on the integration of Traditional Medicine into the mainstream health care delivery system in compliance with the provisions of the Traditional Medicine Practice Act, 2000 (Act 575);
- Extend the on-going free Insecticide Treated Nets (ITN) distribution programme to attain the 2005 Abuja target of 60% of children sleeping under insecticide treated nets countrywide by 2020;
- Expand the bio-larvicide spraying programme to reduce the incidence of malaria.

Medicinal Plants

It is estimated that about 80% of the world's population rely on herbal medicine, creating a huge world market for the product. Between 2008 and 2013, export of medicinal plants from Ghana increased five-fold from US\$8million to approximately US\$ 40million.

In the next four years, we will:

- Support the large-scale cultivation of medicinal plants for export;
- Support the manufacture of traditional remedies for diseases;
- Create a permanent body to review the Ghana Herbal Pharmacopoeia on a regular basis;
- Strengthen regulatory mechanisms to ensure safe, efficacious and efficient administration of herbal medicine;
- Continue to support the Centre for Research into Plant Medicine, Mampong-Akwapim, and the Centre for Traditional and Herbal Medicine, KNUST;
- Establish the School of Traditional Medicine at Keta in addition to the School of Pharmacy as a satellite campus of the University of Health and Allied Sciences.

Accident and Trauma Centers

We will:

- Upgrade existing health facilities located in the following towns along some of the major highways into Accident and Trauma Centres:
 - Sogakope (Volta Region)
 - Anomabo (Central Region)
 - Half-Assini (Western Region)
 - Nkawkaw (Eastern Region)
 - Kintampo (Brong Ahafo Region)
 - Techiman (Brong Ahafo Region)
 - Wa (Upper West Region)
 - Hohoe (Volta Region)
 - Gambia No. 2 (Brong Ahafo Region)
 - Buipe (Northern Region)
- Train more doctors in Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) to help in the specialized handling of accident and trauma victims.



HIV/AIDS and the 90-90-90 Fast-Track Targets by 2020

We shall prioritise and implement the National Strategic Plan 2016-2020 on HIV/AIDS and work towards achieving the 90-90-90 fast-track targets (90% of People Living with HIV know their status, 90% of People Living with HIV on Antiretroviral treatment and 90% immune suppression).

The priorities shall include strengthening of strategic information and health systems, community empowerment to scale up HIV testing, treatment and targeted behaviour change among others.

Additionally, we will continue to work to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV by 2017 and meet the needs of adolescents and youth.

MENTAL HEALTH

We shall prioritise mental health care and ensure strict implementation of the Mental Health Act 2012 (Act 846) by working with local and international partners to galvanise support for the attainment of the objectives that will

drastically improve mental healthcare in Ghana. To this end, we will stimulate the training of more psychiatric specialists (doctors and nurses), encourage more psychologists and allied professionals to specialise in mental health care and ensure mainstreaming of mental healthcare in our hospitals.

We will move the Accra Psychiatric Hospital to Pantang and develop the Pantang Mental Hospital into a first class mental health facility. We will build two additional psychiatric hospitals in Ashanti and the Northern Regions.

PHYSICAL EXERCISE FOR HEALTH AND WELL BEING

Ghana continues to be affected by the double burden of communicable and non-communicable disease. While establishing the National Infectious Disease Centre, stepping up campaigns and undertaking activities to improve personal hygiene and sanitation to deal with communicable diseases, we shall also vigorously create national awareness on the need to combat lifestyle diseases such as diabetes, high cholesterol, high blood pressure and stroke.



Upper East Regional Hospital

In addition to Physical Education Exercises in schools, we shall promote the establishment of Community Residence Health Teams to encourage regular communal physical exercise, regular drills in Basic Life Support and Health Talks, with the view to inculcating healthy lifestyles in the citizenry.

YOUTH & SPORTS

The NDC Government recognises that Ghana's population is youthful, hence the need for policies and programmes that will harness and develop their potential for national development. In line with this, the next NDC Government will continue to invest in job creation for the youth, youth empowerment and sports development. This will create the environment for the youth to attain excellence in the pursuit of opportunities in this country. It will also enable the youth to excel in local and international sporting competitions.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

In the Youth Sector, the NDC Government has achieved the following:

- Established and launched the Youth Enterprise Support (YES) Initiative, which has led to the provision of support for over 100 youth start-ups in one year;
- Provided legal backing - Youth Employment Act 2015 (Act 887) for the Youth Employment Agency, which is currently employing about 100,000 youth under its modules;
- Created 21,045 jobs under the Rural Enterprise Project;
- Created 21,802 jobs under the Opportunities Industrialisation Centres (OIC), National Vocational Training Institute;
- Created over 9,000 jobs under the Cocoa Seedlings Production Project;
- Revamped the Ghana Broiler Re-vitalisation Project;
- Provided training and financial support for over 100 youth under the Youth Enterprise Support (YES) Fund;
- Assisted 2,000 youth under the Graduate Business Support Scheme;
- Provided support to over 190,000 persons through the Microfinance and Small Loan



Cape Coast Stadium

Centre (MASLOC) finance schemes;

- Supported 500 young people through the Gratis Foundation equipment manufacturing programme;
- Injected \$124 million into skills development under the Development of Skills for Industry Project (DSIP) initiative;
- Invested over \$200 million in providing support services to artisans under the Ghana Technical, Vocational, Education and Training (TVET) Initiative.

In the Sports Sector, we achieved the following:

- We completed the construction of the 15,000-seater capacity Cape Coast Stadium with an 8-lane artificial surface running track, two outdoor basketball courts, one handball court, a boxing training court, audience emergency rooms, over 20 guest rooms and four athletic lounges and other facilities;
- We won 19 medals at the 2015 All Africa Games held in the Congo, with the Black Queens and the Men's Lawn Tennis Doubles Team winning gold medals;
- The Black Stars placed 2nd in the African

Nations Cup tournament held in Equatorial Guinea and qualified for the next African Nations Cup tournament;

- The Black Satellites placed 3rd in the Orange African U-20 Cup of Nations Tournament held in Senegal;
- We commenced construction of a new boxing-gym and sports complex near the Korle Lagoon in Jamestown, Accra;
- We commenced work on the construction of a stadium at New Edubiase in the Ashanti Region;
- The Black Queens, Princesses and Maidens have all qualified for both continental and global tournaments;
- Ghana won its first ever-Olympic gold medal at any level in any sport at the Youth Olympics in Nanying, China in 2014;
- Ghana won its first gold medal in the Commonwealth Youth Games in long jump.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

Youth Empowerment and Development

The next NDC government will:

- Increase funding for the YES Initiative to GH¢25 million a year to provide more funds to grow and develop youth entrepreneurship;
- Enact a new Youth Act to take care of emerging issues in youth development and consolidate existing related laws;
- Refurbish the Azumah Nelson Sports Complex in Accra to serve as a sports and recreational centre for the youth;
- Retool and refurbish all eleven (11) Regional Youth Leadership Training Institutes;
- Continue mainstreaming youth development issues into national development frameworks, plans and programmes;
- Support youth empowerment through enterprise training, business support and the provision of micro credit.

SPORTS

The next NDC Government will:

- Complete the New-Edubiase Sports Stadium in the Ashanti Region;
- Build new sports stadia in the Upper West, Upper East, Volta, Eastern and Brong Ahafo Regions;
- Revamp the Winneba Sports College into a full-fledged practical and academic human resource development centre affiliated to the University of Education, Winneba;
- Systematically develop a new and effective system through public-private partnership in the management of our existing sports infrastructure;
- Renovate and expand facilities at the El-Wak Stadium and redevelop the Nicholson Park at Burma Camp into a mini stadium in collaboration with the Military;
- Construct a new multi-purpose indoor sports dome for basketball, volleyball, handball, weightlifting, table tennis and aquatics;
- Revive the traditional Inter-Schools and Colleges sports programmes to help unearth

talent;

- Continue to support our various National Teams to qualify for and win laurels at international competitions such as the African, Olympic, Commonwealth and World Cup Tournaments;
- Require the MMDAs to provide well-resourced sports infrastructure in all the districts to enhance the development of sports;
- Introduce a policy for an 'admissions quota' for talented sports and other creative students in SHS and public universities;
- In every region, one of the new community day senior high schools will be fitted and developed into a centre of excellence in sports;
- Facilitate the establishment of a scheme to fund sports activities with particular emphasis on the lesser-known sports;
- Continue to facilitate the recruitment of qualified technical staff at the district level as sports coordinators to help develop sports at the grassroots level.

CONSOLIDATING SOCIAL PROTECTION

Social protection has remained an integral part of the broad social development policy of the NDC. It aims to advance the livelihood of the vulnerable in our society including women, children, persons with disability, indigents and the aged.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Achieved the first target of the Millennium Development Goal of halving extreme poverty two years ahead of the 2015 deadline;
- Launched the National Social Protection Policy;
- Finalised a Social Protection Bill;
- Launched the National Targeting Unit to develop the Ghana National Household Registry (GNHR) database and Management Information System (MIS);

- Increased the LEAP beneficiary households from 71,000 in January 2013 to 146,074 in June 2016;
- Increased the proportion of the District Assemblies Common Fund allocated to Persons with Disability by 50%;
- Proposed amendments to the Persons with Disability Act, 2006 (Act 715) to make it consistent with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability;
- Developed a draft on Ghana Accessibility Standards on the built environment in collaboration with the Ghana Standards Authority to facilitate access for persons with disability;
- Introduced the Elderly Persons Welfare Card (EBAN) to 10,526 elderly persons above 65 years to provide 50% rebate on Metro Mass transport fare for the elderly, priority access to all social services, transport terminals, hospitals and banks;
- Finalised the National Ageing Bill for submission to Parliament;
- Registered over 92,000 people comprising 11,000 prisoners, over 10,000 Persons with Disability, over 10,000 elderly persons, 60,000 LEAP beneficiaries and 1,000 female head porters (Kayayei) free of charge on the NHIS;
- Provided LEAP support for inmates of witches camps, state orphanages and leprosaria;
- Set up coordinated gender-based response centres at Mallam Atta and Agbogbloshie markets to provide counseling services, humanitarian and psycho-social support to head porters (Kayayei) and other vulnerable market women.

Gender

We undertook the following activities:

- Strengthened the gender legal framework by working on the following bills which are at various stages of completion:
 - i. Affirmative Action Bill
 - ii. Intestate Succession (Amendment) Bill
 - iii. Property Rights of Spouses Bill

- iv. Human Trafficking Legislative Instrument
- v. Domestic Violence Legislative Instrument.
- Launched the National Gender Policy to mainstream Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment into Ghana's development efforts;
- Granted educational scholarships to over 300 girls and trained them in masonry and spraying mechanics;
- Launched the first Government Shelter for abused women and children;
- Shut down the witches camp at Bonyase in the Northern Region;
- Provided free NHIS registration for over 800 inmates of witches camps.
- We will empower women to take control of their reproductive health.
- We will promote population control.

Children

We have

- Launched the Justice for Children Policy;
- Finalised the Legislative Instrument for child adoption under the Children's Act 1998 (Act 560);
- Finalised Foster Care Regulations under the Children's Act 1998(Act 560);
- Amended the Children's Act 1998 (Act 560);
- Established a Central Adoption Authority;
- Initiated a national campaign against child marriages;
- Created three additional child assault treatment centres in Effia Nkwanta, Komfo Anokye and Tamale Hospitals to treat abused children;
- Implemented the Child and Family Welfare Policy 2015 on pilot basis in 20 selected districts;
- Commenced the registration of all 1.7million pupils in school-feeding schools on the NHIS;
- Increased the number of children on the school-feeding programme from 440,000 in 2008 to 1,700,000 in 2015.



OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

An NDC government will continue to consolidate and expand the interventions that have been implemented over the last four years and introduce additional social protection initiatives to sustain the livelihood of the vulnerable and lift others out of poverty.

We will

- Implement a graduation programme that identifies vulnerable persons to be trained and empowered to own their own businesses;
- Develop an enhanced national household registry that identifies vulnerable persons and extremely poor persons for support;
- Increase leap beneficiary households to 350,000;
- Artisanal fishing communities, coastal and inland, and deprived inner city communities including Zongos will not only be targeted for the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty Programme but will also be one of the earliest beneficiaries of the Progressively Free S.H.S. intervention while we work to ensure substantial transformation of these communities under the Economic Transformation and Livelihood Empowerment Programme (ETLEP);
- Improve access to quality healthcare by continuing to register vulnerable persons including indigents, kayaye, prisoners, aged persons and persons with disability on NHIS;
- Pursue the passage of the Aged Bill and the Social Protection Bill;
- Improve the targeting of social protection interventions to cater for excluded groups such as out-of-school children, child-headed households, people with severe disabilities, lepers and the aged and urban poor;
- Continue the empowerment of kayaye by extending the 1,000 pilot Out-of-School (Kayaye) YEA Programme to cover 10,000 kayaye even as we work to provide them with alternative livelihood opportunities;
- Continue the process of registering all 1.7million pupils in school-feeding schools on the NHIS;
- Expand the coverage of Elderly Persons Welfare Card (EBAN), to enable more of the aged have preferential access to banking



services, hospitals and free metro mass transit bus rides;

- Upgrade the EBAN card into an electronic card for financial transactions;
- Introduce a Special Economic Scheme for Senior Citizens (SPESSEC) under which vulnerable senior citizens above 65 years who are not on any formal pension scheme will be granted a bi-monthly stipend by the State.
- Offer special assistance for the education of pupils and students with special-needs including, but not limited to, schools for the blind, deaf, autism and cerebral palsy;
- Introduce motorized transport (tricycles) for physically challenged persons. Demonstration models will be presented to the National Federation of Disabled Persons for evaluation;
- An additional 30% increase of the District Assemblies Common Fund reserved for Persons with Disability to cater for their free NHIS subscription.

THEME TWO

STRONG ECONOMY FOR JOBS & TRANSFORMATION



NDC

Ghana's economy has seen steady progress over the past few decades and investor confidence continues to improve with the attainment of Lower Middle Income Country (LMIC) status. The average GDP growth rate over the seven-year period spanning 2009 to 2015 is 6.8% per annum compared to 5.8% per annum from 2001 to 2008 and 4.4% between 1993 and 1999.

Macroeconomic stability remains key to the attainment of accelerated growth and development. With prudent and effective management of the economy, we have seen sustained growth over the last few years despite the challenging context of global economic volatilities (precipitous fall in commodity prices) and an economy in transition with attendant dwindling concessional financing and increasing cost of credit.

THE ECONOMY

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2014, our “home grown solutions” fortified by the consensus we reached at Senchi, led to the development of a domestic agenda for growth and development that was used as the basis for initiating discussion with the International Monetary Fund for an External Credit Facility (ECF) Programme.

After two years of implementation, the ECF is contributing to the reversal of adverse movements and allowing macro-economic indicators to resume positive trends. Economic growth is on the rise, the rate of inflation is moving downward, the exchange rate is stable, and even appreciating as a result of a reducing budget deficit. Improvements in the balance of payments have contributed to increase in the level of reserves. We commit to sustaining the reforms that have turned our fortunes around and confirmed the potential of our economy. We also commit to implementing the Economic Transformation and Livelihood Empowerment Programme (ETLEP) to create more jobs for the citizenry for enhanced incomes.

Investor confidence has been high, attested to by the fact that global companies continue to invest in our economy. Ghana attracted US\$9.7 billion in Foreign Direct Investment between 2013 and 2015. Work commenced on the US\$7 billion Sankofa hydrocarbon project, which the World Bank guaranteed with US\$700 million.

Our vision of a strong and resilient economy is that it must lead to increased value addition and job creation. This informed our investment in domestic raw material based industries, such as the Komenda Sugar Factory, the Kumasi

Shoe Factory, the Ghana Gas Processing Plant at Atuabo and the Ceramic Factory that will produce 40 million square metres of tiles annually for the local and export markets, at Eshiem in the Western Region.

Arising out of our commitment to build strong institutions as an anchor in the Transformation Agenda, the following have been achieved:

- The Ghana Infrastructure Investment Fund (GIIF), which will be at the forefront of addressing our infrastructure deficit and accelerating growth, has been established;
- The Export Trade Agricultural and Industrial Development Fund (EDAIIF) was strengthened to give more financing supporting to local industries;
- The Export and Import Bank of Ghana has been established.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

MACROECONOMIC POLICIES, STRATEGIES AND TARGETS

Since the attainment of the Lower Middle Income Country status in 2011 and the subsequent reclassification of Ghana's international profile, the need to change economic management strategy has become crucial, especially in the country's financing arrangements.

Grants, which had hitherto played a significant role in the country's financing choices, have virtually ceased on the attainment of the LMIC status. In spite of this, growth performance has been encouraging and the economy has remained relatively stable with the implementation of our economic programme.



GIHOC distilleries

Spurred on by the successful economic performance in recent years and mindful of the fact that Ghana is a LMIC, the next four years will be underpinned by continued pursuit of prudent economic policies aimed at further creation of employment opportunities, enhanced incomes and growth with macroeconomic stability.

With economic growth spurring strong employment creation, macroeconomic policies will emphasize domestic demand policies to safeguard macroeconomic stability and keep inflation in single digits.

Towards this end, a strong focus will also be on increased agricultural production, especially food crops. The evidence shows that inflation is massively influenced by the food crops and fisheries component of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket.

To ensure that food crops and fisheries sector do not impact negatively on inflation, a better congenial framework will be provided for the public and private sector to drive the modernization of the agricultural sector. It is expected that this modernization of agriculture will feed into the macroeconomic management process while macroeconomic stability will, in turn, enhance private sector competitive agricultural production.

Ghana's status as an oil exporting country requires that we improve agriculture in order to avoid the Dutch disease. It is our commitment to maintain a vibrant agricultural sector such that developments in oil and gas production do not engender a loss of competitiveness of the agricultural sector. This is important for us because agriculture remains the primary livelihood for the majority of our population, especially in rural communities. Sustained investments in agricultural expansion through commercialization and the adoption of modern technologies will help create job opportunities for the poor and fight an increasingly adverse climate.

Similarly, exchange rate policies will be anchored in promoting exports and private sector competitiveness. The private sector is envisioned to partner the public sector in the production and delivery of infrastructure facilities. The NDC as a social democratic party with strong conviction for active state participation in the delivery of public goods and other meritorious social goods, will continue to promote partnerships with the private sector in the production of these goods and services.

The NDC envisages that the private sector will take a leading role in the diversification of

exports and expand access to both international and domestic markets with import substitution, thus improving foreign exchange earnings of government and providing relative stability in the foreign exchange market.

Having reined in the fiscal excesses that characterised election years, prudence in public expenditures will continue to be a top priority to ensure the fiscal and macroeconomic stability of the country. We will rationalize the fiscal space, especially the tariff regimes to ensure that taxation and other tariffs are instruments of industrial development and trade facilitation so that, supported by government, the private sector can become the engine of employment creation, enhanced incomes, growth and wealth creation.

The revenues accrued will be used to leverage private sector investments. In order to optimise the use of tariffs and other taxes, both as revenue generation and trade facilitation instruments, and to promote industrial development, Government has established the Ghana International Trade Commission (GITC) with the mandate, inter alia, to:

- Monitor and review the pattern of Ghana's international trade and advise on matters affecting trade and industry;
- Study, identify and recommend tariff levels for specific sectors of the economy with due regard to the effective rate of protection without the blanket removal of duties on all imports and
- Conduct studies and publish reports on the competitiveness of Ghana's tariff structure and the impact of the tariff structure on domestic industry, market access opportunities and challenges in relation to exports from Ghana;

With improved private sector competitiveness (as a result of rationalized tariff regimes for growth and stronger taxable income) revenues will increase to reduce the fiscal deficits and also reduce dependence on debt. It is expected that the associated improved revenues and reduced monetization of fiscal deficits, interest rates on private sector loans will fall and make credit more accessible at competitive rates.

Germane to the fiscal rationalization for macroeconomic stability is the debt management objective to source funds to meet public financing needs and payment obligations at the minimum competitive cost and prudent level of risk, as well as to ensure that public debts

are maintained at sustainable levels into the longer term.

The NDC Government will work to ensure that the fiscals do not pose problems for debt management, especially as outlined in our Medium Term Debt Strategy (MTDS), which focuses on managing the risk exposure associated with the existing debt portfolio and taking the necessary and prudent steps to mitigate the potential risk that would be embedded in current and future borrowing. With improved sovereign rating of Ghana, the private sector can borrow internationally at lower rates to invest and promote job creation.

Consequently, the continued transformation will entail:

- Acceleration of inclusive economic growth;
- Reinforcement of local content policies;
- Control of inflation;
- Currency stabilization and improvement in levels of international reserves through sustainable export-led policies;
- Reduction in the Debt-to-GDP ratio through further enhancement of our debt-management policies; and
- The creation of hundreds of thousands of jobs in both the formal and informal sectors of the economy.

We will target increased growth rates in the agriculture and services sector as well as revitalize the industry sector, particularly the manufacturing sub-sector.

Macroeconomic Targets

Fiscal Policy

Our fiscal policy will aim to:

- Ensure a transparent, effective and efficient natural resource management regime including oil and gas resource management;
- Consolidate the processes for the management of public finances to improve reporting, accountability and transparency;
- Implement the Revenue Administration Act as well as Regulations to, among other things, move revenue processes to an electronic platform;

- Continue to pursue policies that will ensure fiscal prudence and avoid excessive budget deficits;
- Accelerate the implementation of the Public Financial Management Reforms, including the Integrated Financial Management Information Systems (GIFMIS) and Programme-Based Budgeting (PBB);
- Rationalise the tax system to reduce the burden on the few and
- Simplify the tax system to make it more efficient and robust.

Monetary Policy

Our monetary policy will aim to:

- Encourage the Bank of Ghana to continue to implement policies that emphasize low and stable inflation rates, as well as a stable and productive exchange rate regime to enhance trade competitiveness;
- Support the Bank of Ghana to initiate and implement policies that will compel commercial banks to reduce the spread between their borrowing and lending rates;
- Scale-up processes, including not only working closely with the Telecommunication Companies to reduce the high level of cash transactions but also supporting the use of electronic payment platforms to effect payments for all forms of financial obligations to public institutions;
- Continue to strengthen the capital market;
- Encourage the Bank of Ghana to support our job creation agenda and economic growth through financial intermediation alongside the attainment of price stability;
- Support the implementation of the Ghana Depositors Protection law to protect small depositors in the micro-finance industry.

JOB CREATION

The NDC Government has over the years successfully implemented the Single Spine Pay Policy, stabilized the exchange rate regime, improved the macroeconomic environment, enhanced government-labour relationship and implemented targeted policies and programmes to improve the living standards of working people in Ghana.

While we recognise that a lot has already been done, we also concede that some issues remain to be addressed. In line with this, the NDC Government will continue to work assiduously to create the appropriate socio-economic environment for providing working people with their basic human needs, to enhance productivity for accelerated national development.

All over the world, sustainable job creation has become central to the attainment of the socio-economic policies of Governments. We are committed to roll out special projects and programmes to propel the creation of more sustainable jobs in both the formal and informal sectors.

Through direct Government interventions and partnerships with the private sector, the following job opportunities have been created:

- Between 2013 and 2015, Government through the Export Trade Agricultural and Industrial Development Fund (EDAI) supported local industries to the tune of GH¢245.4 million. This amount funded 125 different projects in the production of pharmaceuticals, rice, sheanut, poultry and textiles, creating thousands of jobs;
- The Skills Development Fund (implemented by COTVET) has disbursed a total of GH¢150 million to 654 businesses, which have trained 93,600 people in various skills across all sectors of the economy. A total of 43,485 businesses have also received various forms of support under the Fund;
- In line with the policy to attain 100% local printing of textbooks, contracts have been awarded to Ghanaian printing firms and publishers. This policy, alongside the removal of duties on imported raw materials for printing textbooks, is creating about 4,000 jobs;
- Under the Free Zones Board, a total of 69 companies were established between 2013 and 2015, leading to the employment of 16,372 people;
- The Youth in Agriculture programme employed 23,000 youth in 2013 bringing the total number of young farmers under the programme to 81,150;
- The Department of Cooperatives registered a total of 1,757 Youth Co-operatives in all the 10 regions leading to the creation of 34,657 jobs;
- The Rural Enterprises Project led to the creation



of 21,045 jobs across the country between 2013 and 2015;

- GRATIS Foundation under the Ministry of Trade and Industry created 500 jobs through the production of agricultural implements;
- The Micro Finance and Small Loan Centre (MASLOC) advanced micro credit to a total of 190,607 beneficiaries between 2010 and 2015. This has enabled the beneficiaries to set up micro businesses, which are offering jobs to themselves and others. The Centre has also distributed 953 vehicles for commercial transport, and 25 tractors for agricultural use;
- The Youth Employment Agency (YEA) is offering employment to over 100,000 youth;
- The first batch of over 100 beneficiaries of the Youth Enterprise Support (YES) initiative has received financial support to establish and grow their own businesses after intensive training and mentoring in business management;
- Following the massive Government investment in the construction of hospitals, roads, schools, water, energy, housing and market projects, over 400,000 professionals and artisans, architects, engineers, quantity surveyors, masons,

carpenters, welders, steel benders, electricians and painters, among others, are currently employed at various sites;

- We distributed 110 million cocoa seedlings to farmers between 2014 and 2016 crop seasons. This has created 9,000 jobs across 418 nursery sites. Since the programme was launched in 2014, over 30,000 youth have signed up in the cocoa growing areas;
- The pilot phase of the Ghana Broiler Revitalisation Project was launched in July 2014. A total of 650,000 birds were raised, processed and sold in 2015. This created 350 direct jobs and 7,800 indirect jobs for poultry farmers and the youth along the poultry value chain.

THE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AND LIVELIHOOD EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME (ETLEP)

Having stabilized the economy by reducing the budget deficit to single digit, stabilizing the exchange rate, and also GDP growth projected to be above 8% in 2017, the next NDC Government will implement the Economic Transformation and Livelihood Empowerment Programme (ETLEP) with the view to creating more employment

opportunities particularly for the youth, enhancing incomes, growing the economy and ensuring socioeconomic transformation.

Our employment initiative will focus on the attainment of social inclusion and integration of young people into the world of work. Specific challenges to be addressed include labour market barriers, job matching problems, lack of labour market information, as well as inadequate technical, soft and life skills.

A combination of private and public initiatives will continue to be deployed and enhanced to facilitate massive job creation for the youth. It shall include among others:

- Infrastructure/Labour Intensive works – Following the formal launch of the Labour-Intensive Public Works policy, the NDC Government will employ over 300,000 unskilled people in public works;
- ICT Jobs – Following the establishment of the Business Process Out-Sourcing (BPO) Centre near the Kwame Nkrumah Interchange and completion of the Advance Building at the Tema ICT park, we will continue to create more ‘digital jobs’ for the ‘digital youth’ through a comprehensive ICT training programme for the youth;
- Sugar Estates – With the establishment of the Komenda Sugar Factory and further development of sugar plantations and irrigation facilities in other parts of the country, we will upscale the production of sugar from 7,000mt to 20,000mt to create 20,000 additional jobs and situate Ghana as a net exporter of sugar;
- Redevelopment of the textile Industry – We will take advantage of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) to revamp the textile industry which, hitherto, employed over 45,000 persons;
- Building the right skills for the Youth – We will re-establish Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) as an enviable profession;
- Youth Entrepreneurship –We will provide business advisory services to young entrepreneurs (e.g mentoring, business development services and/or business formalisation) and ensure access to microfinance;
- Youth In Agriculture - A number of concepts have been developed to address and encourage

the youth to identify economic potential in the agricultural space in Ghana. We will continue to provide training in agricultural production, entrepreneurial skills development (business excellence), supervision and monitoring for youth in agriculture.

Consequently, the next NDC administration will focus on a job creation strategy that targets manufacturing, agriculture and agribusiness, Information Technology Enabled Services (ITES), implementation of the National Infrastructure Plan, small and medium scale business enterprises, special development zones and tourism.

We intend to:

- Create jobs through promoting entrepreneurship and direct job programmes;
- Introduce programmes to address labour supply and to increase productivity and employability of the youth;
- Establish a Human Resource Database for Ghana;
- Expand the scope of the Local Content Act to cover other sectors of the economy, such as construction and mining;
- Establish Employment Service Providers in all MMDAs and set job outcome targets for these service providers;
- Establish a Labour Market Information System;
- Rebrand the Labour Department to become a National Employment Center to hold a database of Ghanaians and their qualifications and skills sets. Employers will be offered incentives to recruit from this database;
- Expand the YEA job creation opportunities from 100,000 to 400,000;
- Promote occupational health and safety standards in the work environment;
- Support a growing private sector to complement the job creation efforts of Government;
- Increase employment in the agriculture sector through agriculture modernization, as well as improvement and expansion in the agro-industry with a focus on irrigation infrastructure;
- Continue to encourage able and willing youth to

enter into cocoa farming and provide them with effective extension services support, seedlings and fertilizer;

- Provide thousands of jobs through the supply of over 30 million improved, early-maturing and high-yielding coffee seedlings to farmers, and increase the total acreage of coffee farms from an estimated 6,000 hectares to 100,000 hectares by 2021;
- Create 76,000 direct and indirect jobs resulting from the establishment of a Shrimp Project to promote processing and production for the Ghanaian market and for export;
- Production of fingerlings - laboratories, fish feed factories, production ponds, processing and marketing facilities will be located in parts of the Greater Accra, Volta and Eastern Regions. Production is estimated to be 30,000 metric tonnes and projected export revenue ranges between US\$60 million and US\$200 million;
- Trigger massive investments in textiles, garments, leather goods and other light manufacturing industries to take advantage of AGOA and growing ECOWAS market;
- Continue to rely on Ghanaian professionals (local and foreign) for internship and placement programmes in the petroleum and other sectors and
- Regularize and transform artisanal mining operations into legitimate small-scale mining activities in demarcated areas to create employment.

Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC)

We will strengthen and expand the operations of MASLOC to create over three hundred thousand (300,000) jobs by continuing the implementation of the following:

- Improve poultry production by making disbursements to poultry farmers to produce over 200,000 birds in selected regions;
- Increase fish production by continuing to supply thousands of outboard motors to fishermen;
- Disburse funds to over 200,000 microcredit/ group clients to support diverse economic activities including food marketing, food-crop farming and micro enterprises;
- Disburse funds to over 15,000 small loan clients engaged in micro, small and medium scale enterprises;

- Distribute vehicles to be used for taxis and tricycles to be used as intermediate means of transport and
- Disburse funds to youth in other micro and small scale enterprises.

Small Business Enterprises

We will:

- Continue to support young people under the Youth Enterprise Support (YES) Fund to establish and grow their own businesses. To this end GH₵100 million will be allocated to YES over the next four years;
- Create an enabling climate for digital entrepreneurship;
- Support the Kumasi Business Incubator Project (KBIP at the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) to identify more young talents especially students and graduates who have ICT-enabled innovative ideas to establish their own businesses and nurture them, and also support other public Universities to establish similar incubators;
- Operationalize the Young Changers Business Forum (VCBF) targeted at Senior High School and University students to build their capacities on how to start and manage a business;
- Fully implement the Graduate Enterprise Development Initiative (GEDI) and
- Train young people under the Rural Entrepreneurship Activation Programme (REAP) to stimulate rural enterprise development;

Savannah Accelerated Development Authority (SADA)

SADA's mandate covers the accelerated development of the Northern Region, Upper East Region, Upper West Region, part of northern Brong Ahafo Region and part of northern Volta Region.

The following initiatives already rolled out by SADA will be continued to support the creation of more jobs:

- Construction of irrigation facilities to irrigate up to 50,000 hectares of land particularly at Nasia-Nabogo, Pwalugu, Bui, Fumbisi Valley, Tamne and Daka Valley for the cultivation of rice, bananas, cashew nuts, vegetables, soya and maize, among others;

- Harnessing water from the White and Black Volta and from other water bodies for transport, irrigation and aqua culture;
- Launching the Northern Savannah Agricultural Transformation Programme (NSATP), to leverage the mobilization of about US\$1 billion to invest in the transformation of agriculture and agribusiness in the Northern Savannah ecological zone;
- Construction of an inland port and a harbour city at Buipe;
- Re-modelling Tamale to become a multi-modal international transport hub;
- Initiating work on the construction of at least three medium-sized dams at Juale, Jambito and Pwalugu as sources of energy for facilitating industrial clusters;
- Facilitating the setting up of solar energy farms and the establishment of waste-to-energy plants (bioenergy) in at least three urban towns, including the Tamale metropolis;
- Greening the Savannah to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change by working with traditional leaders, academia and the private sector to facilitate the planting of 500 million trees as wood lots and as protection for the Volta River Basin.

Western Corridor Development Authority (WeCDA)

WeCDA's mandate will cover the accelerated development of the Central and Western Regions in areas where the two regions have comparative advantage with a special focus on the creation of sustainable jobs.

Eastern Corridor Development Authority (ECDA)

ECDA's mandate will cover the Volta Region and Eastern Region excluding the Afram Plains. It will fast-track the rapid economic transformation and development of these regions for sustainable job creation.

Forest Belt Development Authority (FoBDA)

FoBDA's mandate will cover the Ashanti Region, Brong Ahafo Region and the Afram Plains. It will maximize the potential of the Ashanti and Brong Ahafo Regions and exploit the huge and extensive fertile plains in the Eastern Region to produce grains and create jobs.

Coastal Plains Development Authority (CoPDA)

CoPDA's mandate will cover the capital city Greater Accra and its environs including Ada, Ningo and Prampram.

Industrial Cities Rejuvenation Projects

The NDC Government's programme for the redevelopment of the city of Tema and the development of industrial parks and free zones in Tema and Sekondi-Takoradi will provide further opportunities for employment for the youth.

Tourism

The implementation of the fifteen-year Tourism Development Plan as a major pillar of Ghana's economy will promote the creation of sustainable jobs especially under the eco-tourism, culture tourism, health tourism and heritage tourism programmes.

The implementation of the Marine Drive Project in Accra will also generate thousands of jobs.

Roads, Bridges and Flyovers

Work on the Kasoa Interchange, the Kwame Nkrumah Interchange, alongside the construction of roads and bridges across the country, has the benefit of creating sustainable jobs for various grades of professionals, semi-skilled and unskilled labour.

We will continue to use the labour intensive strategy for the construction and rehabilitation of certain categories of roads.

Mentorship, Apprenticeship and Training

To promote mentorship, training placements will be expanded for brilliant fresh graduates who have completed national service and have not yet obtained employment.

Apprentices and interns will be trained in targeted demand-driven skill trades.

Private Sector and Job Creation

We reiterate our confidence in the private sector as a key partner in job creation. With the efforts made to achieve sustainable power supply and the relative stability of the macroeconomic environment, our collaboration with the private sector is set to yield better dividends in creating more jobs and improving incomes.

AGRICULTURE

In our 2012 Manifesto, we promised, among other things, to promote agriculture modernization and to transform the rural economy. The objective was to ensure food security and increased production of cash crops. It was also to ensure reduced imports, increased exports and the production of raw materials for industry. It was further to reduce poverty, raise rural incomes and improve the standards of living.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

A lot has been achieved through the implementation of policies and programmes in the first term of the Mahama administration consistent with the promises made in the 2012 Manifesto. Some of the major successes are the following:

- In 2013, 166,807mt of fertilizer were distributed to farmers, compared to 43,176mt in 2008. This moved fertilizer coverage from 8kg per hectare in 2008 to 12kg per hectare as of 2013;
 - Two hundred metric tonnes of improved rice seeds were distributed to 10,000 farmers in the Volta, Northern, Upper East and Upper West Regions to increase productivity;
 - Local rice production has increased from 301,900 metric tonnes in 2008 to 604,041 metric tonnes in 2014. Consequently, Ghana has attained 56% self-sufficiency in rice production. Indeed, the rice import bill fell by 45%, reducing from US\$392.3m in 2013 to US\$215.23m in 2014;
 - Three hundred and thirty-six (336) units of equipment comprising 147 tractors, 92 power tillers, 55 rice threshers, 31 rice reapers and 11 rice mills with their respective components were assembled for farmers and many more are being distributed;
 - An increase in the total number of Agricultural Mechanisation Service Centres (AMSECs) from 57 in 2009 to 89 in 2014, resulting in an increase in the total area of farms serviced by AMSECs from 191,520 acres in 2009 to 299,040 acres in 2014;
 - Total area of irrigated land has increased from 111,516 hectares in 2010 to 221,000 hectares in March 2016;
 - To further improve rain-fed rice production, a
- total of 3,831 hectares of lowlands has been engineered to improve water management for rice production in the Northern, Upper East, Upper West and the Volta Regions;
- Total food crop production has also increased from 23,871,554 metric tonnes in 2008 to 32,283,000 metric tonnes in 2014 as follows:
 - Production of Cereals (maize, millet, sorghum) increased from 1,994,861 metric tonnes in 2008 to 2,176,153 metric tonnes in 2014;
 - Roots and Tubers (cassava, yam, plantain) output increased from 19,583,633 metric tonnes in 2008 to 27,428,442 metric tonnes in 2014;
 - Legumes (groundnuts, cowpea, soybean) production increased from 724,574 metric tonnes in 2008 to 768,896 metric tonnes in 2014;
 - Livestock population (cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, and poultry) increased from 49,678,000 metric tonnes in 2008 to 81,229,000 metric tonnes in 2014;
 - Through the West African Agriculture Productivity Programme (WAAPP) II, 40 incubators have been supplied to 40 districts in the Northern, Upper West and Upper East Regions to facilitate access to day old Guinea fowl keels;
 - To enhance protected vegetable production, 250 greenhouses have been imported under the WAAPP II and distributed to farmers;
 - Under the first phase of the Credit-In-Kind Programme, 1,600 superior Guinea fowl keels have been supplied to women and youth in the Upper East, Upper West and Northern Regions;
 - Under the Livestock Development Project (LDP), 40,800 small ruminants (sheep and goats) were supplied to 4,500 farmers in 35 districts in seven regions;
 - Under the pilot phase of the Ghana Broiler Re-vitalization Project launched in July 2014, 650,000 birds were raised, processed and sold by 2015.

OUR COMMITMENT **(2017-2021)**

Strategies for Agriculture Transformation

The prospect for accelerated transformation of



the economy lies in the opportunities that exist in the agriculture sector and their linkages to the industry and services sectors. This will energise the rural economy and reduce poverty and deprivation through expansion in employment opportunities along the agriculture value chain.

This transformation continues to be driven by the implementation of the Food and Agricultural Sector Development Policy (FASDEP) II and the corresponding strategies as detailed in the Ghana Shared Growth and Development Agenda (GSGDA) II.

The key elements of the strategy are to:

- Prioritise allocation of financial resources and essential infrastructure to catalyse development in the sector;
- Provide support for the research institutions and agriculture departments of our universities, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) among others to step up their work on the development of certified seeds, breeding stock and improved farming methods;
- Strengthen farmers' groups such as co-operatives and farmer-based organizations (FBOs);
- Review the block-farming system to make it more beneficial and sustainable;
- Reinforce the Youth-in-Agriculture Programme as a major component of the agriculture transformation strategy;
- Focus our industrialization efforts on the provision of incentives for the establishment of industries that have backward linkages to our agriculture resource base;
- Construct storage facilities, including silos and cold storage units at strategic locations, through a mix of strategies including Public-Private Partnerships, to minimize post-harvest losses;
- Expand the implementation of the West Africa Agricultural Productivity Programme (WAAPP) II and the Ghana Commercial Agriculture Project (GCAP);
- Support and encourage the private sector to play a greater role in introducing innovations such as financial intermediation, aggregation and barter services, weather and market data online services, extension services and provision of agricultural inputs;
- Promote the establishment of 'Agriculture Estates' to serve as major 'production units' of

- horticulture produce for import substitution, raw material production and for export;
- Continue to transform the agriculture sector from subsistence farming to commercial, mechanised and irrigation-based agriculture in the medium to long-term;
- Institute a Young Farmers category of the National Farmers' Award scheme.

Agriculture Mechanization and Farmer Support

The policy will focus on:

- Expansion of Agriculture Mechanization Service Centres to cover more MMDAs;
- Establishment of Farmer Service Centres all over the country. The first fifty of these are ready to take off in collaboration with SADA. The service centres will register and measure acreage of all farmers in their catchment area; provide them with mechanization support, agriculture extension advice, subsidized fertilizers, micro credit, and operate a buy-back scheme for the farmers produce;
- Collaboration with the private sector to build the capacity of individuals and companies and to commission the Technical Universities, the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana Regional Appropriate Technology Industrialisation Service (GRATIS) and Suame Magazine Industrial Development Organization (SMIDO), to manufacture and fabricate basic farm equipment.

Agriculture Finance

We will focus on:

- Encouraging the Agricultural Development Bank (ADB) to dedicate an adequate portion of its loan portfolio to agriculture production;
- Similarly EXIM Ghana will also be encouraged to support agriculture;
- Providing farming and fishing inputs as well as other agriculture-related infrastructure and services;
- Introducing innovative and demand-driven crop insurance products to protect farmers against financial risks that emanate from droughts, excessive rainfall and floods;
- Ensuring that the Ghana Stock Exchange

completes the legal framework for the establishment of the Ghana Commodities Exchange and its accompanying Warehouse Receipt System;

- Revitalising the National Food Buffer Stock Company;
- Accelerating work on the implementation of the African Union's 'Malabo Declaration' on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods adopted in 2014.

Staple Crops

The NDC Government will launch a "Green Revolution" aimed at doubling the output of staple crops, particularly grains and tubers by 2025. This will guarantee food security for a growing population as well as provide the raw material base for implementing our agro-industrial strategy. Within the period, Ghana should become a net exporter of rice and maize, as well as become self-sufficient in poultry, sugar and tomato production.

The goal will be driven by:

- Facilitating the acquisition of land banks to support commercial agriculture activities;
- Introducing high-yielding, disease-resistant seeds through support for seed production companies;
- Making the most efficient use of existing irrigation facilities, as the pathways of climate change remain unpredictable;
- Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to map out soil structures and their chemical composition for the various MMDAs to support districts and, where appropriate, regional specialization in staple food production.

Cash Crops:

Cocoa

Generating about 25% of total export earnings and providing employment for about 800,000 small-holder farmers, cocoa production offers opportunities to increase export earnings by moving up the value chain into intermediate processing and increasing export volumes by improving yields.

The NDC'S record in annual volumes of

cocoa produced over the past fifteen years is unparalleled.

Currently, our yield is about 0.5 tonnes per hectare. Less than 25% of cocoa beans are processed locally, allowing Ghana to capture only about 5% of the US\$28 billion global intermediate cocoa processing industry.

Over the next four years, we will:

- Adopt the plantation model under PPP arrangements to increase cocoa production from 750,000 tonnes to over 1.5 million tonnes by 2025;
- Use GIS to map out all farms, particularly cocoa farms to ensure targeted support in terms of fertilizer provision and extension service delivery, alongside intensification of the mass spraying exercise;
- Continue the provision of scholarships and modernization of roads in cocoa growing areas and other rural communities to facilitate the evacuation of cocoa and food crops;
- Continue to distribute millions of hybrid seedlings of cocoa per year to small-holder farmers up to 2018 and large-scale plantation farmers up to 2022;
- Promote the involvement of youth in the cocoa sector value chain;
- At least maintain the percentage of the world market price of cocoa paid to farmers at the current level of over 70%;
- Maintain the target of processing at least 60% of cocoa beans produced in Ghana by supporting major chocolate manufacturing companies to establish processing plants;
- Continue to expand warehousing facilities alongside the implementation of the crop-financing scheme.

Shea nuts

In the shea nut sub-sector, we will:

- Revitalise the shea nut industry and take steps to ensure increased yields;
- Provide support services including protective apparel for the female dominated shea nut picking activity;
- Actively encourage utilization of shea butter

locally (domestic and industrial) and work towards significant increase in exports;

- Replicate the 40,000 tonne capacity shea nut processing plant in the Upper West and Upper East regions and support value addition along the value chain.

Cashew Nuts

Given the huge domestic and global demand for cashew nuts, we will:

- Establish the Cashew Board (CASHBOD), approved by Cabinet, with its headquarters in the Brong Ahafo Region;
- Support the establishment of Cooperative Producer Associations with technical support from extension officers to expand the production base of the industry;
- Ensure access by cashew farmers to export finance under EXIM Ghana;
- Encourage the processing of at least 50% of cashew nuts for export;
- Operationalize the Cashew Development Strategy to increase production volumes and value-addition activities along the cashew nut value chain;
- Implement the National Export Development Plan (NEDP) 2016-2020 as it relates to cashew nut production.

Cotton

Ghana has the potential to produce 250,000 metric tonnes of cotton in the Northern, Upper East and Upper West regions. Policy initiatives will centre on supporting 200,000 cotton farmers in the three regions to raise productivity and substantially increase total national production.

In this regard, the NDC Government will maintain the current policy under which it will:

- Enforce the existing zoning boundaries;
- Lease the ginneries to the cotton growers;
- Strengthen and actively support cotton farmers associations;
- Implement selected interventions along the value chain with the objective of reviving the local textile industry and stimulating demand for their products.

Coffee

The NDC Government through the Ghana Cocoa Board is increasing intends annual coffee production from the current level of about 6,000 metric tonnes to about 100,000 metric tonnes in the short term and to about 200,000 metric tonnes by 2025.

Five million improved coffee seedlings are being nursed and supplied to farmers. This number will be substantially increased annually, to ensure that both the medium and long-term targets are achieved.

Oil Palm

Ghana remains one of the major oil palm producers in Africa and has over one million hectares of land suitable for its cultivation. Given the current average output of about six tonnes per hectare, targeted strategies will be implemented to improve productivity.

As global demand for vegetable oil increases, the NDC Government plans to exploit Ghana's comparative advantage to become a net exporter of oil palm.

Horticulture

With increasing demand for horticultural produce, especially vegetables, fruits and fruit-juices, opportunities abound for the production, processing, consumption and export of horticultural produce.

The NDC Government will:

- Train young people in commercial and modern greenhouse vegetable production;
- Adopt irradiation technology in the reduction of post-harvest losses;
- Continue to train out-grower farmers in all processes required under good agricultural practices with emphasis on the harvesting and handling of horticulture crops particularly exotic vegetables.

Irrigation

Modernized agriculture thrives on better irrigation systems (powered by solar pumps where appropriate). We will therefore continue to develop efficient irrigation systems to support all-year-round farming. The following initiatives will be undertaken:

- Efficient utilization of existing irrigation facilities especially in drought-prone areas;
- Complete rehabilitation of viable but non-functional and abandoned irrigation infrastructure, particularly the Kpong, Tono, Bontanga and Vea irrigation schemes;
- Implementation of the Accra Plains Irrigation project;
- Development of the following irrigation projects – Kamba (Upper West Region), Tamne (Upper East Region), Amartey (Eastern Region), Mpruem (Eastern Region) and Wli (Volta Region);
- Provision of on-farm boreholes;
- Implementation of measures to promote the use of non-contaminated water for vegetable production;
- Support for the implementation of the Ghana Irrigation Development Policy of developing appropriate and affordable irrigation schemes, dams and other rain-water harvesting techniques for different categories of farmers and in the various ecological zones;
- Development of 10,000 hectares for the Nasia-Nabogo rice irrigation project in the Northern Region;
- Irrigation of 150,000 hectares of land under the Pwalugu multi-purpose hydroelectric scheme.

Poultry and Livestock

The NDC government will continue to provide nucleus population of broiler parents as the sustainable source of day old chicks for the poultry industry with the support of EXIM GHANA and other financial institutions. Other initiatives will include support for large-scale production of domestic poultry, the establishment of hatcheries, feed mills and processing plants.

In the other areas of the poultry and livestock sub-sector, the NDC Government will:

- Diversify the sources of the breeding stock particularly from the Sahel region to support the sustainable development of the livestock sub-sector
- Support the large-scale breeding and production of guinea fowls to boost the poultry industry;
- Accelerate private sector investment in poultry

and livestock production by leveraging funding for the procurement of poultry and piggery infrastructure, equipment and other processing facilities including slaughtering and packaging;

- Continue to support the Ghana Broiler Revitalization Project targeted at the production of at least one million broilers per year;
- Increase support to private sector enterprises involved in animal feed formulation as well as hatcheries.

A current threat to the livestock industry is the free range grazing method of nomadic herdsmen. To deal with this threat, we will:

- Take steps to address the recurring conflict between nomadic herdsmen and food crop farmers, which has had devastating consequences on the production of food crops;
- Develop a zone in the sparsely populated parts of the Savannah belt with water ponds and barrage dams to relocate cattle herds from the Agogo, Kumawu, Afram Plains and parts of the Eastern Region;
- Ensure strict enforcement of the relevant laws;
- Adopt GPS (Global Positioning System) technology to map-out the trails of this transhumance activity across the country;
- Develop regulations to get cattle owners to adopt the ranch system (fence-in/fence-out) and keep cattle in kraals;
- Encourage MMDAs to support the establishment of fodder banks in their areas of jurisdiction for the development of livestock as a source of additional revenue;
- With private sector partnership, revamp the Wulugu livestock project;
- Continue provision of dugouts in the Savannah zone for livestock watering and small agricultural activity.

Fisheries

The fishing industry is crucial in our protein energy needs. Ghana's per capita fish consumption is between 23 to 25kg per year, higher than the world average of 13kg.

Our Achievements

To be able to sustain the fishing industry we have:

- Almost completed a new 100 metric tonnes per day fish processing factory at Elmina;
- Completed the construction of modern cold stores at Prampram, Nyanyano, Shama, Sekondi-Takoradi, Half Assini and Kormantse;
- Facilitated the acquisition and distribution of about 2,000 outboard motors to fishermen;
- Commenced work on the Fisheries College at Anomabo;
- Installed tracking devices on all industrial trawlers and tuna vessels to control illegal fishing;
- Commenced the distribution of fish finders to local fishermen.

Our Commitment (2017 to 2021)

We will

- Continue to ensure that Ghana's fishery resources are protected from encroachment by foreign vessels;
- Eliminate the use of unapproved nets and unorthodox methods of fishing, including the use of dynamite, carbide, light and poisonous chemicals;
- Complete the construction of landing sites, cold stores and fishing harbours;
- Establish alternative livelihood programmes in the fishing communities;
- Rehabilitate the Albert Bosomtwe Sam (ABS) Fishing Harbor in Sekondi to serve the fishing communities in and around the Sekondi-Takoradi metropolis;
- Complete the construction of landing sites at Tepa-Abotoase, Anloga, Tongor-Dzemeni, Mumford, Tesie, James Town, Keta, Kpando-Torkor and Axim under a West Africa Regional Fisheries Project (WARFP);
- Complete the fish processing plant at Elmina;
- Complete the Fisheries College at Anomabo to provide the human resource requirements for the transformation and modernization of the fishing industry;
- Ensure adequate and timely supply of premix fuel and monitor the proper use of any surpluses for community development initiatives;
- Improve the timely supply of outboard motors

to fishermen at landing beaches;

- Scale up the distribution of GPS-based fish finders to increase fish catch.

AQUACULTURE

Aquaculture has a high potential to bridge the supply-demand gap for fish and fish products. It is a highly productive economic activity that has the potential of creating thousands of sustainable jobs. With the implementation of the Ghana National Aquaculture Development Plan (2012-2017), fish products increased significantly from 19,000 metric tonnes in 2011 to 46,250 metric tonnes in 2014, culminating in an increase of over 726% since 2008. Consequently, importation of fish declined from 145,910 metric tonnes to 102,875 metric tonnes between 2011 and 2014.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

Over the next four years we will:

- Promote shrimp-farming on commercial basis in the Greater Accra, Volta and Eastern regions to create 76,000 jobs;
- Provide high-value fingerlings to support fish-farming in selected communities through the rehabilitation and construction of public hatcheries;
- Continue the nucleus out-growers scheme in aquaculture;
- Roll out a revolving fund to support aquaculture;
- Continue the expansion in cage-fish farming on the Volta Lake and other water bodies;
- Support aquaculture development on the Bui Lake in collaboration with the Bui Power Authority and on other major rivers across the country;
- Implement the project for fish production at Pwalugu in collaboration with the Ghana Irrigation Development Authority;
- Ensure the attainment of the Ghana National Aquaculture Development goal of producing 100,000 tonnes of fish by 2020;
- Ensure the production of high-value fish-feed in collaboration with the private sector.

INDUSTRY

Over the last four years, our industrial development strategy has aimed at linking industrialization to Ghana's natural endowments in agriculture, oil and gas, minerals and tourism. This strategy has recorded significant achievements including the establishment of the following:

- Komenda Sugar factory
- Kumasi Shoe factory
- Ghana Gas Processing Plant, Atuabo
- Volta Star Textiles, Juapong
- Savannah Cement Factory, Buipe
- Ceramics Manufacturing, Eshiem
- Revamped Tema Oil Refinery
- Revamped BOST Company

Additionally, as a result of the sound policy and regulatory environment, there has been increased private sector investment and activity in industrial production in agro-processing, local manufacturing of drugs and cement production, among others. The sector recorded a growth rate of 9.1% in 2015, as compared to 0.8% in 2014.

In the next four years, the NDC Government will emphasize a new era of industrialization, based on reliable and regular power supply being developed with gas from the hydrocarbon fields. We will also promote Local Economic Development based on the resource endowments of the districts, as well as support the establishment of strategic import substitution industries.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

Industrial Sector Development Strategies

In the period 2017 to 2021 we will pursue the following:

- An Integrated Aluminum Industry
 - Revitalisation of VALCO as the off-taker for the upstream integrated aluminium industry;
 - Industrial salt production - double the current national output of 300,000 tonnes;
 - Caustic soda production - utilize the increased production of salt for local production of caustic soda for alumina and soap production;
 - Chlorine production - utilize the increased production of chlorine as a by-product of caustic

soda production as raw material for the petrochemical industry and for the production of plastics. It will also help reduce the import bill of chlorine for raw water treatment.

- Fertilizer Production

The NDC Government will accelerate the process for the establishment of the fertilizer plant at Shama in the Western Region using gas from Atuabo, the additional imminent gas to be produced from the TEN and the US\$7 billion ENI/Sankofa fields.

- Mineral Processing

We will support the processing of our minerals, especially the refining of gold.

- Steel Mills

Based on the increased thermal power generation, we will support the private sector to undertake exploitation and refining of the massive iron ore deposits at Oppon Manso in the Western Region, Sheini in the Northern Region, Pudo in the Upper West Region and Kyebi in the Eastern Region.

- Glass, Bottle, Rubber and Ethanol Production

We will also use the availability of excess power to promote the establishment of plants for glass and bottle-making as well as rubber and ethanol processing factories.

- Ceramics, Bricks and Tiles

The increased thermal power generation from our natural gas reserves will, in the years ahead, provide the heat energy required for the sustainable manufacturing of ceramics, bricks and tiles.

- Light Manufacturing

Our industrialization programme will also focus on light manufacturing in areas such as wood processing, beverages, metallurgical industries, pharmaceuticals, textiles and garments.

- Machine Tools

The Suame Magazine Industrial Development Organisation (SMIDO), GRATIS, the National Board for Small Scale Industries (NBSSI), KNUST, the technical universities and related organisations will be supported to play a pivotal role in the establishment of industrial estates for the manufacture of machine tools.

- Shipyard and Drydock

The PSC Tema Shipyard (and drydock) has been handed over to the Ghana Ports & Harbours Authority (GPHA) for retooling and modernization. This has already led to an expansion in the business of the shipyard.

During our next term we will seek to make the shipyard the foremost ship-building and repair facility in the Gulf of Guinea.

- Agro-Industrialization

Small scale on-farm processing to support value-addition to cocoa, oil palm, cotton, mango, shea nut, pawpaw, citrus, sugarcane, pineapple and cashew nuts will underpin our agro-processing industrial strategy as we continue to pursue large-scale agro-processing under the agenda for transformation through diversification and value addition.

Commission a feasibility study towards the revival of all Nkrumah era industries, e.g. the Abosso Glass Factory.

LANDS AND FORESTRY

Forests

The NDC Government has put in place policies and programmes for the effective management of our forest reserves.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have achieved the following:

- Under the Sustainable Land and Water Management Project (SLWMP), 400 hectares of the Kulpawn and Ambalara Forest Reserves were re-forested, an ecotourism strategy for the Western Wildlife Corridor was developed and inputs like fertilizer, seeds and tree seedlings were supplied to farmers in 72 communities for the implementation of sustainable land and water management;
- Reforestation of additional 200 hectares of the Kulpawn and Ambalara Forest Reserves; implementation of community activities like soap production, honey-making, wild arts and wildlife rearing; and the provision of inputs like fertilizer, seeds and tree seedlings to 4,000 farmers for implementation of sustainable land and water management technologies in 118 communities;

- A Plantation Development Strategy (2015-2040) has been developed as the blue-print for plantation development and landscape restoration initiatives in Ghana;
- Public Private-Partnership agreements have been signed with a number of companies to engage in commercial plantation development in many degraded forest reserves and off-reserve areas across the country.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

The existing laws on safeguarding our forestry resources will continue to be applied and the Minerals and Mining (Amendment) Act, 2014 (Act 703) will be implemented.

To safeguard our forests the next NDC Government will:

- Distribute 20 million seedlings of various tree species per year for re-afforestation;
- Support the large-scale production of acacia for the charcoal industry;
- Implement the Ghana Forest Investment Programme (FIP) to address the causes of deforestation;
- Convert the Atiwa Forest and Shai Hills Resource Reserve into National Eco-Tourism Parks;
- Continue to enforce the regulations on the prevention of mining in protected areas;
- Encourage high levels of co-operation among agencies such as the Forestry Commission, Water Resources Commission, Minerals Commission, Environmental Protection Agency and the Ghana Water Company to safeguard and protect all water bodies and watersheds;
- Continue to intensify efforts towards the implementation of climate change adaptation and mitigation mechanisms and tap into the carbon credit market.

Lands

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Established five Client Service Access Units in Accra, Koforidua, Sekondi, Tamale and

Bolgatanga to operationalise the One-Stop Concept;

- Established twenty (20) new Customary Land Secretariats (CLS) to improve land service delivery in the country;
- Provided training and equipment for the (30) new and existing CLS to improve efficiency in their operations;
- Prepared a draft Land Bill, which is currently undergoing stakeholder consultation throughout the country to consolidate all land laws in the country for efficient land management and administration;
- Commenced the creation of a Ghana Enterprise Land Information System (GELIS) to provide a holistic information system platform that allows all users of all relevant ministries and agencies to carry out their day-to-day business processes efficiently and effectively in a digital manner, using common database (registers with no duplication of effort or data).

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will:

- Deepen the technological and legal reforms under the Land Administration Project/Town & Country Planning Department – Land Use Planning and Management Project (LAP/TCPD-LUMP);
- Link the National Identification System being developed to land administration with the view to enhancing easy identification of land owners should the need arise to avoid multiple sale of lands;
- Enact and implement the Land Use and Spatial Planning Bill with a view to regularizing the land administration and planning system;
- Support SADA to pilot the Land Trust Scheme to aid the orderly acquisition of land for both urban and rural investments;
- Ensure the speedy prosecution of protected area offences.

MINING OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Enacted the Minerals and Mining (Amendment) Act, 2015 (Act 900), which prescribes the manner of payment of royalties, the prohibition of non-nationals from working in small-scale mines, the confiscation of equipment used in illegal mining and sanctions for purchasing precious minerals without license;
- Reviewed the Newmont Mining Investment Agreement to ensure that it is of greater benefit to Ghana;
- Commenced processes to re-categorise small-scale mining operations to include a category exclusively for artisanal operators who will be grouped into cooperatives and supported with suitable equipment;
- Carried out Alternative Livelihood Programmes (ALP) to mitigate the socio-economic impact of mining on host communities;
- Developed a fully-fledged computerized mining cadastral system under a bilateral agreement with the Australian government which will ensure accountability and compliance in the management of mineral rights;
- Submitted a Ghana Geological Survey Authority Bill to Parliament to convert the Ghana Survey Department into a semi-autonomous organisation in order to enhance its functions and scope of operations and generally provide for its modernization;
- Established a modern jewellery shop at the Precious Minerals Mining Company to improve the quality and quantity of jewelry produced for the local and export market;
- Established two new gold refineries to refine gold locally to bring added value and make refined gold available for local value-added production;
- Launched a Minerals and Mining Policy with a theme “Ensuring Mining Contributes to Sustainable Development” to ensure that mining is done in a sustainable manner and that it is linked to other sectors of the economy;
- Supported the establishment of the new Asanko Mining Company at Manso Nkran in the Ashanti Region which has employed over 1,500 persons;
- Established Municipal and District Mining Committees in eight regions to monitor illegal small scale mining in the country.

OUR COMMITMENT

(2017-2021)

We will:

- Pursue the exploitation of our limestone, silica and bauxite reserves;
- Initiate the exploration of other industrial minerals to reduce over-dependence on a few industrial minerals;
- Support the establishment of additional gold refineries;
- Enact a legislative instrument to back the full implementation of the Minerals and Mining (Amendment) Act, 2015 (Act 900);
- Continue to enforce the law stipulating that small-scale mining is reserved for Ghanaians;
- Align gold exports to ensure maximum repatriation of foreign exchange back to Ghana;
- Establish a jewellery production village and gold market at Tepa in the Ashanti Region in collaboration with the Institute of Jewelry, KNUST;
- Introduce a new medium-scale mining category with increased obligations for responsible mining;
- Continue to provide the platform for the engagement of major stakeholders to ensure greater harmony and cooperation in mining communities;
- Take steps to reclaim degraded lands in mining communities while ensuring the prevention of future degradation across the country;
- Implement a system to track heavy-duty equipment (excavators and bulldozers) used in small-scale operations to help identify and arrest illegal miners.

TOURISM, CULTURE AND CREATIVE ARTS

Our Achievements

The NDC government has undertaken the following:

- Completed the construction of the Accra Visitors Information Centre (AVIC) as a one-stop shop for tourism information;
- Released GH₵1million to Creative Arts

Practitioners and mandated the Ghana Culture Forum to disburse same;

- Ratified seven UNESCO Conventions to ensure that the sector receives international recognition and support for its development;
- Concluded preparatory works for the redevelopment of the stretch of land from the Osu Castle to the Arts Centre into a world class tourism centre to be known as the Marine Drive;
- Encouraged the use of everyday local wear to promote our culture, create employment and market opportunities for producers and entrepreneurs;
- Established the Tourism Development Fund and directed its utilisation to facilitate financing of Tourism, Culture and Creative Arts programmes for the development of the sector.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Increase the sector's contribution to GDP and foreign exchange earnings, as well as provide sustainable employment and incomes;
- Resource the Ghana Tourism Authority to step up supervision, inspection and licensing of tourism enterprises, as well as develop standards for new tourism enterprises;
- Complete the construction of the National Science and Technology Museum;
- Promote conference, package and medical tourism;
- Redesign the Efua Sutherland Children's Park on the lines of Kumasi Rattray Park to enhance tourist activities at the park as a theme park for children;
- Continue the redevelopment of the Marine Drive Project in partnership with key stakeholders;
- Create access and improve roads and other infrastructure leading to major tourism sites such as Kakum National Park in the Central Region, Wli Falls in the Volta Region and the Boti Falls and Kintampo Falls in the Brong-Ahafo Region;
- Rejuvenate Panafest, Emancipation Day and

other internationally focused festivals;

- Accord export status to tourism by granting the sector the benefits and concessions available under the EXIM Ghana;
- Establish additional District Tourism Offices to decentralize tourism administration in the country;
- Improve collection of the Tourism Levy to support on-going tourism programmes and projects;
- Complete all ongoing rehabilitation of regional centres of National Culture;
- Strengthen national festivals of arts and culture, regional and national drama festivals for schools and colleges, and youth and children's cultural programmes and festivals;
- Organise international exchange programmes for creative arts practitioners to enhance collaboration and improve the capacity of Ghanaian creative artistes;
- Develop modalities to harness the potential of the chieftaincy institution for national development.
- Establish a Creative Arts Council and provide it with a Secretariat;
- Enhance the operations of the Creative Arts Funding Pool, which was commenced with GHC1m in November 2015 with diversified sources of funding;
- Commence a Provident Fund for ageing artistes;
- Facilitate the establishment of a 'Film Village' in partnership with the private sector.

ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT GOVERNANCE

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Under the 2012 Manifesto, the following were achieved.

- Enactment of the Legislative Instruments under the National Development Planning Commission Act, 1994 (Act 479) and the National Development Planning (System) Act, 1994 (Act 480) to ensure the effective execution of the Commission's mandate;
- Formulation of a National Spatial Development



Framework (NSDF) to guide the development of a Management Information System (MIS) for tracking spatial investments;

- Clarification of the respective roles of the National Development Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance to allow for better synergy and synchronisation between the development plan and the budget, and between the planning cycle and the budget cycle.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Conclude the 40-year Long Term National Development Plan;
- Implement the National Infrastructure Plan

- Develop a Management Information System for tracking infrastructure development;

- Continue to support the Savannah Accelerated Development Authority (SADA) to provide an effective framework for the accelerated development of the SADA zone;

- Establish the Western Corridor Development Authority (WECDA);

- Establish the Eastern Corridor Development Authority (ECDA);

- Establish the Forest Belt Development Authority (FoBDA);

- Coastal Plains Development Authority (CoPDA).

THEME THREE

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT



NDC

The results of our massive infrastructure expansion programme can be seen across the country. Its impact on the quality of life of our people is obvious.

Notwithstanding the significant gains made, the NDC is poised to accelerate the provision of infrastructure to deepen the social and economic benefits of our transformation programme. In the next four years, the NDC government will adopt new developments in science and technology to provide impetus for accelerated infrastructure development.

WATER

Our investment in water supply has significantly improved in terms of the percentage of our population that currently has access to clean water. We have invested over \$1.1 billion in water supply, resulting in an increase in urban water coverage from 58.5% to 76%. Rural water coverage has also increased from 56.5% to 76%.

The extent of the improvement in the coverage is depicted in the table below. The remarkable achievement demonstrates our commitment to the social democratic principle of equity in the

provision of social services. Based on our current programme, we expect universal coverage by 2025.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Major achievements in the water sector under our 2012 Manifesto commitments include:

- Kpone Water Supply Expansion Project
- Kpong Intake Rehabilitation Project
- Accra-Tema Metropolitan Area Supply Project
- Teshie-Nungua Sea-Water Desalination Plant
- Asante Mampong Water Project
- Kyebi, Anyinam, Osenase, Apedwa and Kwabeng Water Projects
- Nsawam Water Project
- Five-District Water Project – Phases I and 2
- Akim-Oda-Akwatia-Winneba Water Project
- Konongo-Kumawu-Kwahu Water Project
- Wa Water Project
- North Tongu Water Project
- Adaklu Water Project
- Navrongo Water Project
- Small Town Water Systems across all regions

YEAR	2001	2008	2012	2015
URBAN WATER COVERAGE	56%	58.5%	63%	76%
RURAL WATER COVERAGE	41%	56.5%	64%	76%

Water Supply

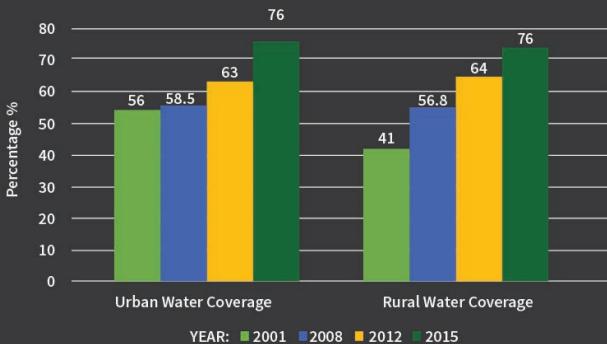


Table 4:
compares rural
and urban water
coverage between
2001 and 2015

**Graph on trends in
Water supply**

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Complete all ongoing water supply projects;
- Provide clean water to district capitals;
- Expand water projects in Yendi, Damongo, Saboba and others;
- Provide clean water to all major health and educational facilities;
- Protect water bodies to ensure that they continue to provide sources of clean water and sustainable micro-climate.

SUSTAINABLE POWER

Sustainable power is at the heart of our accelerated growth. Ghana faced successive periods (1983, 1998 and 2006/2007) of prolonged load shedding and the recent power supply shortfall underscored the deficit in power generation. To prevent recurrence, we have taken bold steps to fix the problem by improving generation, transmission and distribution of power in the last four years. In line with the 'Energy for All' programme, about 3,000 communities have been connected to the national grid, raising access from 54% in 2008 to over 81% in 2015.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Since 2012, the following projects in the power sector have been completed or are at various stages of completion:

- 110Megawatts steam component of the T2 Power Plant at Aboadze
- 250Megawatts Ameri Power Plant
- 225Megawatts Karpower Barge
- 220Megawatts Kpone Thermal Plant
- 180Megawatts First Stage of Sunon Asogli Phase II
- 38Megawatts TTP Plant
- 2Megawatts Solar Power Plant at Navrongo
- 8Megawatts at Kaleo in the Upper West Region

- 180Megawatts Second Stage of Sunon Asogli Phase II
- 340Megawatts Thermal Power Plant at Kpone by CenPower
- 20Megawatts Solar Power Plant at Mankoadze
- 370Megawatts dual fuel Thermal Plant at Tema by AKSA

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

Given current economic and population growth projections, we commit ourselves to meeting the growing national demand for power estimated to grow at about 12% per annum and work to make Ghana the power hub of West Africa.

In the next four years, we will:

- Increase our stock of power generation assets;
- Continue to develop more sustainable power sources and encourage energy conservation;
- Increase generation capacity in excess of 5,000 Megawatts by 2021 and achieve universal access to electricity by 2025. Some of the targeted projects are:
- Construction of the 186 Megawatts Takoradi 4 Project;
- Expansion of VRA and CENIT thermal plants at Tema by 126 Megawatts;
- Construction of 450 Megawatts thermal power plant at Domunli;
- Construction of 700 Megawatts Clean Coal Power Project at Ekumfi Aboano.

We will also ensure the construction of the following:

- 240Megawatts Amandi Power Project;
- 1,000Megawatts GE Ghana 1000 Power Project;
- 360Megawatts thermal power plant at Aboadze by Jacobsen Energy Ltd.

We will further ensure that our planning and building regulations incorporate sustainable energy conservation in buildings at the design and construction stages.

Renewable Energy

In line with the Renewable Energy Act, 2011 (Act 832) we will

- Increase Solar Power generation to 200Megawatts;
- Continue and expand 200,000 roof top solar project;
- Support the Volta River Authority to construct a 75Megawatt Wind Park along the eastern corridor of the Greater Accra Region to generate power from wind;
- Work with independent power producers to commence the 150Megawatt Wind Farm project at Ayitepa in the Eastern Region;
- Commence work on a 12 Megawatt grid-connected Solar Plant in the Upper West Region;
- Operationaliz the first 100Megawatt biomass electricity generation in collaboration with Norwegian investor.

OIL AND GAS

Ghana's oil and gas sector has been significantly transformed under the NDC Government. Relevant laws have been promulgated to promote and regulate activities in the industry. These laws have created a transparent oil and gas production and management regime.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Enacted the Petroleum Revenue Management Act, 2011 (Act 815), the Petroleum Commission Act, 2011 (Act 821) and the Petroleum Local Content and Local Participation Regulations 2013 (L.I.2204);
- Completed the Atuabo Gas Plant;
- Commenced development of the Tweneboa-Enyenra-Ntomme (TEN) fields;
- Commenced development of the ENI/Vitol Sankofa fields;
- Progressed in the installation of FPSO Prof. J.E.A Mills as part of the development of the TEN fields.

OUR COMMITMENT

(2017-2021)

We will

- Complete the 150km reverse flow pipeline from the Aboadze power enclave to facilitate the transmission of dense gas to power plants in Tema;
- Implement Phase II of the Gas Processing Plant project in preparation for the Greater Jubilee development;
- Encourage more investment in exploration and production of oil and gas;
- Support the private sector to establish petrochemical plants;
- Construct a new and bigger Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) pipeline to the jetty at Tema for more efficient discharge, storage and distribution of LPG;
- Construct a second and bigger Single Point Mooring for petroleum products to ensure greater efficiency in the delivery of petroleum products into the country and to also make Ghana the petroleum hub for the sub-region;
- Build a Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) infrastructure to ensure continuous supply of natural gas to power plants;
- Ramp up production at the Tema Oil Refinery (TOR) to its full capacity of 60,000 barrels per stream day (bpsd);
- Construct a new 100,000 barrels per stream day (bpsd) refinery at the site of TOR based on the vision to make Ghana the hub for downstream petroleum production in West Africa;
- Encourage BOST and GOIL to implement a door to door LPG delivery system;
- Complete the 2D land seismic survey in the Volta Basin.

We will pursue initiatives to enhance the following:

- Accountability and transparency in oil and gas resource governance;
- Efficiency in exploration and production of oil and gas resources;

- An enabling environment to attract necessary investment into the industry;
- Opportunities to progressively increase local participation in mainstream operations of the sector;
- Promote environmental, social and human rights to a standard that underpins sustainable development;
- Improve policy formulation and regulatory capacity of key public institutions in the oil and gas sector;
- Increase and strengthen local technical skills in Ghana's emerging oil and gas sector, in line with the Petroleum Local Content and Local Participation Regulations, 2013 (L.I.2204), particularly in critical areas such as drilling, seabed safety, production, operation and maintenance engineering, diving and under-sea welding.

ROADS

There has been unprecedented expansion in the road network of Ghana since 2009. We have constructed modern, durable and better roads across the length and breadth of the country. This has ensured the free movement of goods and services, and widened access to markets.

Some of the major roads projects, completed or ongoing, include:

- Giffard Road (Greater Accra Region)
- Kasoa Interchange and related works (Central Region)
- Kwame Nkrumah Circle Interchange Project (Greater Accra Region)
- Completion of Sofoline interchange project (Kumasi, Ashanti Region)
- Awoshie-Pokuase Road (Greater Accra Region)
- Burma Camp Roads 1 & 2(Greater Accra Region)
- Pedestrian footbridges at Tetteh Quarshie, Mallam and Shiashie (Greater Accra Region)
- Pedestrian footbridges at KNUST Junction, Kumasi (Ashanti Region)
- Kansawrodo Bypass, Takoradi (Western Region)

- Kasoa Bypass Road Project (Central Region)
- Agona-Junction-Elubo Road (Western Region)
- Tarkwa-Bogoso-Ayamfuri road (Western Region)
- Buipe-Tamale Road (Northern Region)
- Fufulso-Sawla Road (Northern Region)
- Tetteh Quarshie-Madina Road (Greater Accra Region)
- Madina-Pantang Road (Greater Accra Region)
- Ayamfuri-Asawinso Road (Western Region)
- Eastern Corridor Road – Dodo-Pepesu-Nkwanta, Asikuma Junction-Kpeve, Nkwanta-Oti-Damanko, Oti-Damanko-Nakpanduri (Volta Region)
- Adidome-Adaklu-Ho Road (Volta Region)
- Ho-Fume Road (Volta Region)
- Nkawkaw-Atibie Road (Eastern Region)
- Atebubu-Kwame Danso-Kwadwokrom Road (Brong Ahafo Region)
- Adomi Bridge Rehabilitation (Eastern Region)
- Accra-Tema Asphaltic overlay (Greater Accra Region)
- Takoradi Asphaltic overlay (Western Region)
- Nsawam-Apedwa Road (southbound) (Eastern Region)
- Assin Praso-Bekwai Road, (Central/Ashanti Regions)
- Nadowli-Lawra Road (Upper West Region)
- Navrongo-Tumu Road (Upper East/Upper West Regions)
- Navrongo-Tono, Bolgatanga-Bongo and Winkongo-Tongo Road (Upper East Region)
- Bolgatanga-Bawku Road (Upper East Region)

Other road construction initiatives are

- The implementation of the District Capital and Major Town Roads Improvement Programme in the Volta, Central, Eastern, Ashanti, Northern and Upper West Regions. Some of the selected district capitals and major town roads being rehabilitated are Aflao, Mafi Kumasi, Nyakrom, Moree, Akim Tafo, Somanya, Fomena-Old Ayaase, Bole and Gwollu;

- The Cocoa Roads Programme, under which over 50 contracts have been awarded in the cocoa growing regions of the Ashanti, Brong Ahafo, Western, Central, Volta and Eastern Regions;
- The Feeder Roads Bridge Programme (FRBP) under which 120 bridges have been completed including bridges over the River Densu on the Tetegu Junction-Tetegu road, the River Menu on the Nsuta-Ketsi-Koensim-Domeabro road, and the River Narkwa-Ochi on the Ajumako-Abeadzi-Gomoa Olefku road.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

In the next four years, we will accelerate the expansion of road network by

- Completing on-going road projects;
- Commencing work on the dualization of all our major highways, beginning with the Accra-Kumasi highway;
- Improving the network of roads between regional and district capitals;
- Improving access roads to major health facilities;
- Creating more road linkages between various communities, especially areas with significant economic potential such as the Shai Osudoku roads, Tema-Manhean-Bankuman-TOR-Aluworks-Kpone roads, and the Kpone-Michel Camp and Kwabenya-Kitase roads;
- Dualisation of the Accra- Cape Coast- Takoradi Road
- Dualisation of the Tema- Afienya Road
- Construction of the Ekye Amanfrom-Donkorkrom Road
- Constructing community roads in Mataheko, Russia, Soko, Peki and Zamramaline in Accra;
- Improving road and drainage in our cities and towns including asphaltic surfacing, where necessary;
- Continuing work on the expansion of the Accra-Tema Motorway and Interchanges;

- Commencing work on two bridges over the motorway from Flower Pot Round-About on the Spintex Road into East Legon and from Klagon into Ashaiman;
- Commencing construction of the Obetsebi Lamptey interchange;
- Constructing an interchange at Pokuase in the Greater Accra Region;
- Commencing construction of Accra, Kumasi and Tamale outer ring roads;
- Completing work on the Eastern Corridor Road;
- Remodeling the Western Corridor Road;
- Continuing work on the Bolga-Bawku Road;
- Continuing the improvement of roads in the cocoa-growing areas under the Cocoa Roads improvement programme;
- Creating access and improving roads leading to major tourism sites such as the Kakum National Park in the Central Region, Wli Falls in the Volta Region and Lake Bosomtwe in the Ashanti Region;
- Installing solar-powered traffic lights at selected junctions and providing road-line markings and appropriate road signs to improve traffic management and road safety.

In addition, we will

- Continue to improve access to our rural communities, farms and other socio-economic centres by providing about 50 bridges on selected feeder roads which are rendered impassable during the rainy seasons;
- Continue to improve the condition of the national road network and provide safe and reliable trunk road network by implementing the following road projects:
 - Tumu-Han (Upper West Region)
 - Chuchuliga-Sandema-Wiase (Upper East Region)
 - Navrongo-Chuchiliga-Tumu (Upper East / Upper West Regions)
 - Daboya-Mankarigu-Wiase (Northern/Upper East Regions)
 - Dorimon-Black Volta (Northern Region)
 - Wa-Walewale (Upper West/Northern Regions)



- o Walembelle-Santjan (Northern Region)
- o Prang-Kintampo (BrongAhafo Region)
- o Karaga-Gushiegu (Northern Region)
- o Nkwanta-Oti Damanko (Volta Region)
- o Sakpieu-Chereponi (Northern Region)
- o Juapong-Adidome (Volta Region)
- o Dodowa-Afienna (Greater Accra Region)
- o Apedwa-Bunso (Eastern Region)
- o Todome-Tongor Dzemeni (Volta Region)
- o Akwetey-Waya-Mafi Kumasi (Volta Region)
- o Asankragua-Mumuni Junction-Mumuni (Western Region)
- o Biriwa-Asafora-Nsanfo-Nkramofokrom (Central Region)
- o Waya-Akatsi (Volta Region)
- o Wenchi-Sampa Phase III (Dibibi-Sampa) (Brong Ahafo Region)
- o Berekum-Nsawkaw Phase II (Brong Ahafo Region)

TRANSPORT

Significant improvements have been achieved in all the transport sub-sectors namely maritime and inland water, aviation, railway and road transport.

Maritime & Inland Water

Recent developments in the commercial trade and oil and gas sectors have resulted in major demand for port facilities. Ongoing expansion of the ports is aimed at providing the necessary physical facilities to respond to the increase in vessel traffic by providing increased container handling capacity and additional berths, among others.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- Major expansion works at Takoradi port including extension of the breakwater and dredging, reclamation and construction of the quay wall;
- Over US\$1.3 billion expansion works at Tema port including

- o A Bulk Cargo Handling Jetty;
- o Dredging, reclamation and construction of breakwater and container terminals;
- o Access road from the port to the motorway and
- o Expansion works on the motor way from four to six lanes;
- A new Vessel Traffic Management Information System (VTMIS);
- Three units of 50-seater Passenger Ferries on the Volta Lake and one unit passenger/cargo ferry for cross-ferry services.

To complete the advances being made in maritime transport, we have enacted the Maritime Pollution Act, 2016 to improve security and reduce pollution in Ghana's Maritime jurisdiction.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

To accelerate the rate of maritime infrastructural development, we will

- Continue to invest in the modernisation, expansion and improvement of our ports;
- Support the revival of the Black Star Line as a subsidiary of GPHA to increase employment opportunities for Ghanaian seafarers;
- Commission pre-feasibility study on the potential of a deep-sea port at Keta;
- Construct improved landing sites on the Volta Lake;
- As part of the Eastern Corridor Multi-modal Transport Project, upgrade the Akosombo and Buipe Ports with modern equipment to ensure efficiency of transportation on the Volta Lake;
- Continue the removal of tree stumps from the Volta Lake to facilitate bulk haulage of cargo from Akosombo to the three northern regions as well as neighboring countries;
- Work with the International Maritime Organisation to improve safety in Ghana's territorial waters, in line with our international obligations;
- Develop a holistic transport security policy manual.

Aviation

Significant investments have been made in the aviation sector to expand facilities and cater for passenger throughput.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Some of our achievements are

- Construction of an ultra-modern terminal at the Kotoka International Airport (KIA);
- Refurbishment and expansion of the arrival hall at KIA;
- Completion of the first phase of the Kumasi International Airport;
- Completion of the first phase of the Tamale International Airport;
- Upgrading of the Wa Airstrip;
- Commencement of work on the Ho Airport.

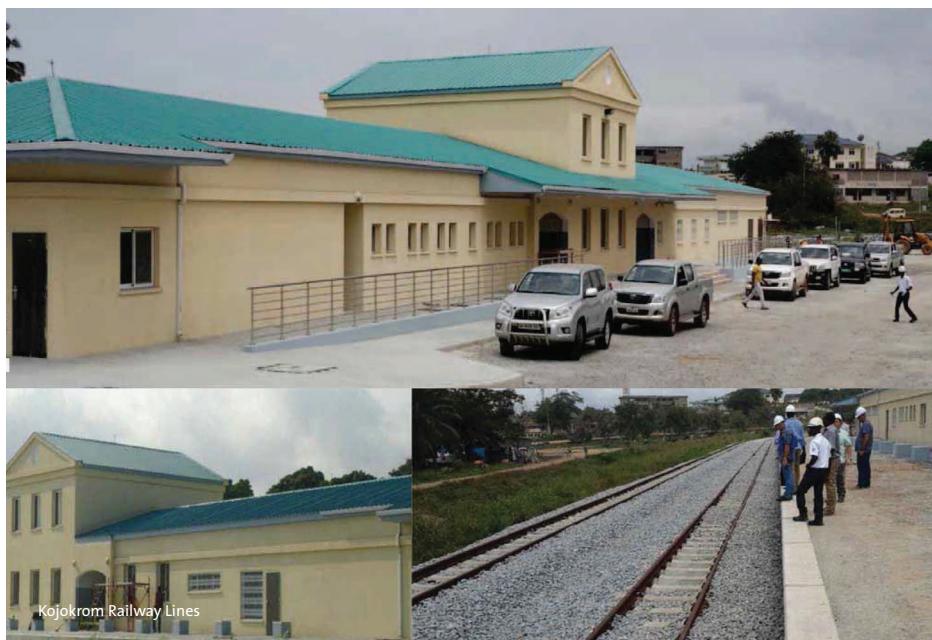
Other interventions include

- Processing the Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (Amendment) Bill for enactment to ensure safety at our airports and in our airspace;
- Ratification by Parliament of a number of international protocols on aviation.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Complete ongoing projects at the Kotoka International Airport (KIA);
- Complete the construction of Terminal Three at the Kotoka International Airport;
- Construct Phase II of the Kumasi International Airport to include a new terminal building and an extension of runway to accommodate medium wide bodied jets;
- Complete the bulk cargo handling jetty project at KIA;
- Construct Phase II of the Tamale International Airport to include new passenger and Hajj terminals;
- Complete the Ho Airport;
- Develop the Wa Airstrip into a modern aerodrome open to commercial flights;



- Construct new airstrips in Cape Coast, Koforidua and Bolgatanga;
- Upgrade the Sunyani Airport
- Continue implementation of the policy to construct a minimum of an airstrip in every region;
- Complete the process of partnering a private sector operator to re-establish a new national carrier;
- Separate Air Navigation Services from regulation by Ghana Civil Aviation Authority;
- Construct an Air Navigation Centre to further enhance safety of aircraft operations;
- Continue preparatory work on a new airport city in the Dangbe West District of the Greater Accra Region.

Railway

NDCs next term in office will see a massive expansion of the railway sector and usher us into an era of new glory days for the railways. The railway sub-sector is a crucial component of our transformation agenda.

Consequently, we have developed a Railway Masterplan to upgrade the stock of our existing

rail network and also expand to other parts of the country.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We undertook the following

- Commenced preparatory work towards the construction of the Eastern Railway line from Tema to Kumasi via the Boankra Inland Port;
- Commenced work on the construction of the Sekondi-Takoradi via Kojokrom suburban railway line to revamp rail commuter services between the twin cities;
- Completed Front End Engineering Design (FEED) on the Western Railway Line (Kojokrom-Awaso through Dunkwa to Kumasi);
- Commenced preparatory work on the Tema-Akosombo Railway Line.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Commence work on the construction of the Western Railway line (Kojokrom-Awaso through Dunkwa to Kumasi);

- Commence work on the reconstruction of the Eastern Railway line from Tema to Kumasi via the Boankra Inland Port;
- Complete work on the construction of the Sekondi-Takoradi via Kojokrom sub-urban railway line;
- Commence work on the Tema - Akosombo Railway Line;
- Complete feasibility and commence work on Northern line to link Burkina Faso;
- Build suburban lines between Accra-Amasaman-Nsawam and between Kumasi-Ejis.

Road Transport Services

Road transport remains the main mode of transportation in Ghana. Government has partnered the private sector to invest significantly to improve the road transport sector and will continue to do so.

Our Achievements

Some of the major interventions have included:

- Retooling of the State Transport Company (STC);
- Introduction of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT);
- Provision of additional buses for the Metro Mass Transit (MMT);
- Provision of taxis and mini buses by MASLOC for private sector transport operators;
- Enactment of the relevant legislative instrument to enable the DVLA enforce its powers and clean up driver licensing and vehicle registration.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Continue to expand bus services and terminals to more destinations through inter and intra city services;
- Partner with private transport operators to improve public road transport;
- Establish a regulatory body for the road transport sector;

- Continue to procure more buses for mass transit.

ICT AND TELECOMMUNICATION

In furtherance of our commitment to utilise ICT to promote an all-inclusive information and knowledge society, we have opened up the information superhighway and offered teaching and learning opportunities to Ghanaians.

We have created greater access to information and communication. Areas which hitherto were left out of the major transformation taking place in ICT and science are now being served. The ICT landscape is evolving very fast and the digital economy is becoming a reality. 4G technology is here with us and 5G is beckoning.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

In the last four years, we have

- Completed the 800km Eastern Corridor Fibre Optic Project to serve over 120 communities along the route from Ho to Bawku, with a link from Yendi to Tamale;
- Increased telephone subscriptions three-fold from about 11million in 2008 to over 33million by the end of 2015;
- Deployed 4G Long Term Evolution (LTE) technology;
- Deployed the e-Transform Project under which we are implementing the e-Health, e-Education, e-Justice, e-Cabinet, e-Parliament and e-Immigration projects which seek to inject greater efficiency into public service delivery;
- Commenced the Tertiary Institution Connectivity Programme to provide infrastructure and connectivity to institutions such as the University of Ghana (UG), Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), University of Development Studies (UDS) and University College of Education, Winneba (UCEW);
- Constructed over 50 Enhanced Community Information Centres (e-CICs) equipped with modern ICT facilities. Some of the beneficiary communities are Keta, Battor, Techiman-Krobo, Twifo Atti-Morkwa, Bodu,



- Effiduase, Pantang Presby Cluster of Schools, Drobosso, Asuogyaman, Lambussie, Nandom, Welembelle, Sagnarigu, Pusiga, Nalerigu, Kpetoe, Talensi, Ofoase and Lassia-Tuolu;
- Completed the Business Processing Outsourcing facility expected to create close to 10,000 direct and indirect jobs;
- Trained over 2,000 girls from public schools under the 'Girls in ICT' project to encourage females into the ICT and the telecommunication sector;
- Trained over 300 youth in specialized and professional ICT course at the Kofi Annan ICT Centre;
- Offered scholarships to ten (10) staff of the Ghana Meteorological Agency for further studies in Forecasting;
- Completed the National Data Center in Accra with a secondary site in Kumasi;
- Operationalised the Data Protection Commission to enhance confidence and trust in the use and transmission of personal data;
- Set up a Computer Emergency Response Team under the cyber security strategy to counter

- cyber-attacks;
- Completed the first phase of the digital broadcasting migration process;
- Formulated four policies culminating in the issuance of the Mobile Virtual Network Operating License, Interconnect Clearing House License, International Wholesale Carrier License and Unified Telecom License;
- Amended the Electronic Communications Act, 2008 (Act 775) to provide among others punitive measures to curb sim boxing;
- Enacted the Postal and Courier Service Regulatory Commission Regulations.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Commence the development of 'Smart Cities' and ICT Parks;
- Expand e-Services and under the e-Government Project, roll out the Total Revenue Integrated Processing System to 32

- Ghana Revenue Authority offices to further improve the tax collection system to enhance government revenue mobilization;
- Ensure Analogue Switch Off and complete the digital migration process by 21st September 2017;
 - Implement the National Cyber Security Policy;
 - Facilitate the passage of the Broadcasting Bill;
 - Continue the implementation of the e-Transform Project;
 - Continue the Tertiary Institution Connectivity Programme;
 - Improve telephony connectivity especially in the rural communities;
 - Continue to extend ICT services to deprived communities;
 - Introduce domestic roaming in the telecom sector;
 - Continue building and equipping the Enhanced Community Information Centres (e-CICs);
 - Expand the fiber optic network to cover universities, schools, research and other relevant state institutions;
 - Complete the Ghana-Mauritius ICT Park Project;
 - Operationalise the National Data Centre and ensure that organisations commence uploading of relevant data in a timely manner;
 - Integrate the diverse biometric databases;
 - Work with the Bank of Ghana and other stakeholders to ensure a full cash-lite society by 2020;
 - Set up free WiFi hotspots in secondary and tertiary institutions.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Through increased application of science and technology in all segments of society, we are gradually moving towards a knowledge-based society.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have achieved the following:

- Established a National Accelerator facility

for research and development in science and technology;

- Established the Ghana Space Science Institute and refurbished the radio antenna at Kuntunse for space, science and technology studies;
- Completed the School of Nuclear and Allied Sciences Faculty Block B and Hostel Block B facility;
- Enacted the Nuclear Regulatory Act 2015 (Act 895) and established an Independent Nuclear Regulatory Authority;
- Established the Ghana Nuclear Energy Programme Implementation Organisation and Nuclear Power Institute to oversee the nuclear power programme for electricity generation;
- Upgraded the radiotherapy facilities in Korle Bu Teaching Hospital and Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital for efficient treatment and management of cancer;
- Upgraded the Gamma Irradiation facility at the Ghana Atomic Energy Commission for food preservation and sterilisation of medical products;
- Utilised research findings as follows:
 - Introduced over one thousand (1,000) small-holder rice farmers to the Sawah Technology for rice production;
 - Developed improved varieties of pepper and eggplant for increased productivity;
 - Expanded ARIBRO day old chick development programme to ensure regular supply of quality and relatively cheaper source of day old chicks for the poultry industry;
 - Developed a new strain of the Akosombo Nile Tilapia that grows 40% faster than those in the wild;
 - Installed rain water harvesting system in senior high schools and residential houses;
 - Piloted the construction of bio-sanitation toilets in thirty (30) senior high schools in Accra;
 - Trained artisans in the use of burnt bricks and burnt pavement slabs in the construction of affordable houses;
 - Developed pozzolana-lime paste and salt-

resistant bricks technologies;

- Developed spatial databases for all two hundred and sixteen (216) districts.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Initiate the establishment of a national institution for Nano-Science, Material Science and Biotechnology;
- Continue to adopt the peaceful use of nuclear energy in sectors such as agriculture, health and power to enhance national development;
- Adopt an atomic energy policy and enact an enabling law to address operational issues related to nuclear power generation and the peaceful use of nuclear energy in all sectors of the economy, as well as nuclear waste management and security, and adhere to relevant international and regional protocols;
- Expand the Mathematics, Science and Technology Scholarships Scheme (MASTESS);
- Collaborate with stakeholders to provide a permanent campus for the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS), Ghana;
- Work towards attaining the national objective of 60:40 admission ratio in tertiary institutions in favour of the sciences;
- Work with the private sector to commercialize research output.

ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The challenge for us and for human kind is to work towards reducing the adverse effects of environmental degradation and climate change for sustainable development.

Environment

The NDC Government has been working towards strengthening institutional and regulatory frameworks for sustainable environment and natural resource management and adopted strategies to withstand the likely impact of environmental degradation.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Among our achievements have been the following:

- Developed an Ecotourism strategy for the Western Wildlife Corridor;
- Launched the Ghana Forest Investment Programme to help address the underlying drivers of deforestation;
- Engaged the private sector in 'Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation for Sustainable Development' to enhance regeneration of natural forests and agroforestry landscapes.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Continue to work with all relevant partners in the global community to take necessary steps to reduce environmental degradation and pollution;
- We will establish an e-waste recycling plant at Agbogbloshie to provide employment and protect e-waste scrap dealers from hazardous material
- Compile a directory of all existing ex-situ (off-site) components of biological diversity in Ghana;
- Identify and protect priority species and genetic resources in need of urgent conservation efforts;
- Implement the National Biodiversity Plan;
- Intensify implementation of the regulations on the wood and forestry sub-sectors.

A key component of our strategy will be the implementation of a national programme on 'Greening the Economy'. This will entail:

- Placing emphasis on 'Green Jobs' to promote environmental sustainability;
- Making the creation of a 'Green Economy' a major pillar of the long-term development plan;
- Implementing the 'Greening Ghana' policy starting with the capital city Accra where

- various types of flowers, shrubs and trees will be planted along the roads, in public places, schools and parks to beautify and transform the face of the city, to create environmental balance and to enhance touristic value;
- Supporting the nurturing and planting of tree seedlings across the country;
- Integrating environmental sustainability into all local development plans.

IMPROVING SANITATION

The NDC acknowledges the benefit of a healthy environment to the citizenry and country. The government has rolled out initiatives to deal with the impact of poor sanitation on the health of our people as well as some of our educational and tourism assets.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Successfully executed the National Sanitation Day exercise throughout the country;
- Distributed over one hundred thousand (100,000) waste bins;
- Constructed, rehabilitated and extended the existing sewerage networks at the University of Professional Studies, Accra (UPSA), Achimota School and its environs, University of Ghana main campus, Staff Village and Presbyterian Boys SHS covering 8.4km of new sewers, 50km of old sewers and 3,000 manholes of the sewerage system;
- Commenced the construction of 15km of new sewers to connect Dansoman (Shiabu and Mampong Okine areas) to the Central Accra Sewerage System as well as the rehabilitation of approximately 80km of old sewers and 15,000 manholes of the sewerage system. This project is estimated to benefit 350,517 persons in the southern part of Accra;
- Identified the bio-fill toilet technology as the most appropriate and indigenous modern technology for public basic schools and completed 10-seater pilot bio-fill school toilets;

- Commenced implementation of a policy to have every home provided with toilet facilities in a bid to check open defecation;
- Carried out continuous desilting and dredging of the Odaw Channel, the Korle Lagoon and the Klottey Lagoon and massive garbage collection and clearance activities in Accra to contain flooding of the city.

We are also pursuing the Accra Sanitation Sewer and Storm Water Drainage Alleviation Project which covers Korle Lagoon revitalisation, Odaw Channel cleaning and restoration, waste management master planning and covering of high priority drains, among others.

The project will ensure

- The upgrading of sewer and drainage infrastructure including desilting, dredging, new siltation ponds and removal of refuse from priority drains and lagoons;
- Construction of public toilets;
- Enhancement of solid waste collection activities and equipment;
- Increase in solid waste recyclable sorting capacity;
- Provision of community waste management and recycling education;
- Restoration of the wastewater treatment plants.

This project will not only solve the flooding and sanitation problems, but will also create prime locations and increase revenue within the capital city.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Ensure the completion of the Accra Sanitary Sewer and Storm Water Drainage Alleviation project;
- Construct bio-fill toilets in public buildings;
- Fit school dormitories and hostels with bio-gas facilities for use in cooking;
- Enact a legislative instrument on the National Sanitation Day;

- Create a National Sanitation Authority;
- Strive to end open defecation by 2021;
- Ensure proper management of source waste separation;
- Ensure the use of bio-fill toilet technology to improve sanitation facilities in public schools;
- Introduce biogas generation in public institutions;
- Complete the construction of the Mudor Fecal Treatment Plant at Lavender Hill in Accra;
- Support the construction of the Accra Compost and Recycling plant and site a second recycling plant in Kumasi;
- Establish the Plastic Waste Recycling Fund provided for under the Customs and Excise (Duties and Other Taxes) (Amendment) Act, 2013 (Act 863) into which a percentage of revenues derived from plastic imports will be paid to be used for the recycling of plastics;
- Establish plastic waste receiving centres for recycling in every district to receive, shred and compact waste for onward transportation to recycling factories.

CLIMATE CHANGE

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

In a bid to enhance capacity to adapt to climate change and mitigate its impact, the NDC Government has implemented the following:

- Initiated the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Readiness Programme;
- Set up and operationalised the National Climate Change Steering Committee;
- Undertaken preparatory works for the implementation of the Adaptation Fund Project in the three Northern Regions;
- Prepared the ‘Green Economy Assessment and Action Plan’;
- Trained key staff of all 216 Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs) to mainstream ‘Green Economy’ in their District Development plans.

OUR COMMITMENT

(2017-2021)

We will

- Intensify the characterisation and conservation of genetic resources nationwide;
- Invest in ‘climate smart agriculture’;
- Establish marine protected areas along the coastal areas;
- Accelerate the implementation of National Buffer Zone Policy for rivers and protected areas;
- Support the protection of wildlife in conservation zones;
- Protect important wet-lands from encroachment;
- Ensure effective management of biodiversity hotspots;
- Strive to meet the commitments made in the Nationally Determined Contribution to the efforts to reduce global warming contained in the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

HOUSING

The NDC Government is taking concrete steps to respond to the increasing housing demand. Alongside the private sector, we have embarked on an aggressive housing programme targeted at middle to lower income earners in urban and rural areas.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

Some of the interventions are listed below and are at various stages of completion:

- Construction of 5,000 affordable housing units at Saglemi in the Greater Accra Region;
- Construction of 168 housing units for the security services;
- Construction of a 5,000 housing-unit Estate known as the ‘Nyame Dua Estate’ at Kpone in the Greater Accra Region;
- Resumption of work on the construction of the 4,720 affordable housing units started in the Greater Accra, Eastern, Ashanti, Northern and Upper West Regions in 2006.



OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Complete housing projects currently underway;
- Establish a district-wide affordable housing scheme in which 2-3 bedroom semi-detached houses will be built mostly with local material. This will be a collaboration between BRRI, Rural Housing, DACF and Habitat;
- Establish a special rent advance scheme in which banks holding significant government accounts will be made to provide rent advance of between 1-2 years to enable workers with a regular income pay their rents;
- Ensure that MMDAs rationalise and expedite the planning and building permit processes;
- Review the existing building regulations to respond to emerging trends in the building sub-sector;
- Encourage MMDAs to get involved in the provision of rental units for low income earners;
- Continue the policy to use local and sustainable materials for building;
- Adopt a comprehensive inner-city regeneration and urban renewal policy;
- Establish a regulatory body to set and enforce standards management, quality control and capacity development in the built environment.

THEME FOUR

TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE



NDC

MANIFESTO

Ghana's impressive record of good governance over the past two and a half decades has gained universal acclaim. The NDC's even more impressive record of good governance in the last few years has manifested itself in the following global acknowledgements:

- 2nd in Africa on the 2015 Rule of Law Index of the World Justice Project (WJP);
- 5th in Africa on the 2015 Democracy Index by the Economist Intelligence Unit;
- 7th in Africa on the 2015 Corruption Perception Index of Transparency International.

The NDC continues to place a lot of emphasis on transparency, accountability and participatory democracy as the pillars of good governance.

We believe firmly that these pillars properly anchored in our governance system, create an enabling political space for the empowerment of both state and non-state actors.

ENHANCING THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENT

In recognition of the critical role the peoples' representatives play in our democratic dispensation, we have committed ourselves to adequately resource Parliament to enable the people's representatives' discharge their constitutional mandate more effectively.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Refurbished and reconfigured the historic 'Job 600' for use as office accommodation for Members of Parliament;
- Expanded the House Chamber and renovated it to accommodate all 275 Members of Parliament (MPs);
- Commenced implementation of the e-Parliament project;
- Continued the process of assigning Research Assistants to Members of Parliament;
- Established a Police Post at the Parliament House complex to provide enhanced security for the MPs, support staff and guests of Parliament;

- Installed a Digital Surveillance System at Parliament with CCTV cameras being manned by a detachment from the Criminal Investigations Department of the Ghana Police Service;
- Introduced dedicated live telecast of proceedings of Parliament.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Continue to support the development of the human resource capacity of the Parliamentary Service;
- Give meaning to the 'Santiago Declaration on Open Parliament' by resourcing the Legislature to enable citizens have access to Parliamentary proceedings;
- Continue work on the e-Parliament component of the US\$97 million e-Transform project;
- Continue to provide all MPs with Personal and Research Assistants with a minimum of a first degree at public expense with same tenure of office as that of the MP;
- Continue work on the construction of additional office space for 23 MPs currently without offices;
- Construct a Parliamentary Village to serve as duty posts for MPs in order to improve their security and protection.

ENHANCING THE RULE OF LAW AND JUSTICE

We are committed to enhancing transparent open government, protection of fundamental human rights, regulation enforcement, civil and criminal justice, access to justice, order and security, and anti-corruption measures.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We promised and delivered the following:

- Completed the new court complex in Accra, which houses 34 High Courts and a clinic for staff, among others;

- Provided for the transformation of the Legal Aid Board into an Independent Constitutional Body in the Constitution (Non-Entrenched Provisions) (Amendment) Bill, 2015;
- Established a High Court within the precincts of the Nsawam Medium Security Prisons as a way of bringing justice closer to the people in Nsawam and its surrounding areas as well as facilitating the express hearing of criminal appeals filed before the court under the ‘Justice for All’ programme;
- Implemented the e-Justice Project, including provision of video conferencing and tele-presence equipment;
- Accepted and commenced the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into Judgment Debts;
- Actively defended, locally and internationally, cases that could potentially have led to judgment debt and by so doing prevented the payment of over GH₵3.8 Billion.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Continue to support the Judicial Council in its efforts to strengthen and enforce the Code of Conduct for judicial officers;
- Continue to enhance the Criminal Justice Delivery System by appointing District Attorneys (DAs) for the Metropolises, Municipalities and Districts for the first time in the country’s history;
- Ensure the implementation of the recommendations of the Constitution Review Commission as approved in the Government White Paper;
- Collaborate with the Judicial Council to strengthen the capacity of the Justices of the Superior Courts of Judicature to deal with new and emerging issues;
- Continue and scale up the implementation of the ‘Justice for All’ programme.



COMBATING CORRUPTION

A moral and just society is a benchmark for good governance. Consequently, we have supported open investigations, exposed wrong-doing and initiated criminal prosecutions in a non-discriminatory manner.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have introduced the National Anti-Corruption Action Plan (NACAP) and enacted the Legislative Instrument under the Public Office Holders (Assets Declaration and Disqualification) Act as two of the key measures to fight corruption.

We also undertook the following activities and programmes:

- Set up a Commission of Inquiry with a Sole Commissioner to investigate issues relating to Judgment Debts, and its far-reaching recommendations are being implemented;
- Inaugurated a High Level Implementation Committee that is overseeing the implementation of NACAP. The first review was completed in 2015;
- Collaborated with the Chief Justice in efforts to restore public confidence in the Judiciary following media revelations of alleged misconduct;
- Made gains in the fight against cocoa smuggling through successful prosecution of offenders;
- Conducted a robust defence of all cases brought against government within Ghana and abroad to prevent the payment of unjustified judgment debts amounting to over GHC3.8 billion;
- Actively collaborated with the Financial Intelligence Centre to combat money laundering;
- Drafted and submitted to Parliament for passage the Witness Protection Bill, Conduct of Public Officers Bill, Right to Information Bill and the Whistle-Blowers (Amendment) Bill;
- Established a Citizens' Complaints Centre in the National Capital, Accra, to collate data on complaints of corruption, mismanagement and other related matters.

OUR COMMITMENT

(2017-2021)

We will

- Continue to support the Commission for Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) and the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC) to monitor and co-ordinate the effective implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Action Plan (NACAP);
- Establish in the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, a Unit dedicated to anti-corruption prosecutions, working with the anti-corruption institutions;
- Continue to support the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) to combat money laundering and terrorist financing within the existing legislative framework;
- Continue to take measures to actively fight corruption;
- Support effective investigations and prosecution of corrupt conduct as well as recovery of stolen assets;
- Create civic awareness to enable the public demand accountability from public officials;
- Promote integrity in the public sector by motivating and rewarding honest public officers;
- Strengthen Anti-Corruption and Law Enforcement institutions.

IMPACT OF CYBER SPACE ON NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Like other countries, Ghana is increasingly reliant on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for the progress of the nation. By exploiting the advantages created by automation, networked computers and digital communication the economy has been stimulated and growth enhanced.

Management of the national electricity grid benefits from ICT, election results are efficiently transmitted, a national database of biometric records of citizens has been developed and the banking sector utilizes ICT to improve the efficiency of payment systems.

However even as ICT opens up access and simplifies information management, criminal elements continue to probe the systems to identify weaknesses that can be exploited.

Protecting our national systems from criminal intrusion, what is called cyber security, has become the most critical national security objective in the near future.

There are significant exposure risks in the use of the internet, such as when Government officials transmit confidential information utilizing insecure or unprotected private networks. But by far the most critical need is how to secure our sensitive information and databases from cyber-attacks.

The cyber security objective is to safeguard the integrity of our ICT infrastructure by eliminating

- Hacking, which is the unauthorized entry and exploitation of the information in databases;
- Mobile phone fraud;
- Financial fraud (Sakawa) and money laundering;
- The use of our ICT assets to promote terrorist activities.

The NDC intends to implement a national cyber security policy and strategy to secure the data in Ghana's networks and help protect sensitive Government data, including information about individuals.

Governments are unable to fully regulate activities over the internet because it does not occur in the physical environment, which is easy to control in the nation-state. In Ghana, this weakness is compounded by weak and uncoordinated responses to threats to the national information infrastructure.

The pace of technology development has left many national institutions with technical capacity deficits. Law enforcement in particular is vulnerable and is under pressure to respond, but is yet to be adequately equipped with tools and technical capacity to manage the specialized cases emerging.

The next NDC administration plans to confront four critical tasks:

- Improve the awareness of the risks

confronting the country;

- Create the capacity to develop and manage the structures needed to combat cyber-crime;
- Enhance international cooperation by establishing a network with key partners in the global cyber security system;
- Establish an elite national cyber security unit to coordinate cyber security operations, harness existing skills and facilities and develop an operational plan to combat the threats that will be identified.

FIGHTING NARCO-TERRORISM

We have maintained our strong stance against narcotics trafficking and have demonstrated our firm commitment to making Ghana a no-go area for drug traffickers and their henchmen. We have restored confidence in Ghana's ability to collaborate with stakeholders, nationally and internationally to relentlessly combat narcotics trafficking. This is demonstrated by the very effective anti narco-terrorism campaign waged by the NDC Government.

Consistent with our commitment, we were able to achieve the following in the last four years:

- Laid the Narcotics Control Commission Bill before Parliament to convert the Narcotics Control Board into a Commission with more effective and regulatory powers;
- Substantially increased NACOB's staff strength to enable it discharge its mandate;
- Established a NACOB surveillance centre at the Tema Fishing Harbour;
- Empowered NACOB to undertake campaigns to create awareness about the negative effects of drugs;
- Instituted significant preventive and remedial mechanisms.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Step up international cooperation in the fight against the narcotics trade;
- Complete the process of converting NACOB into a commission, and empower it to

- heighten vigilance and intensify the campaign of creating awareness about the disastrous effects of drug abuse;
- Strengthen the collaboration between NACOB and the Food and Drugs Authority in drug enforcement.

DEEPENING DECENTRALISATION AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Having introduced the most comprehensive decentralisation policy in the 4th Republic, the NDC Government continues to implement reforms and develop the local government sector in the bid to bring government closer to the people, so as to respond to the development aspirations of the citizenry.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Formulated a new National Decentralisation Policy Framework (2015 - 2019);
- Commenced the implementation of the new National Decentralisation Action Plan (2015 - 2019);
- Submitted to Parliament a draft Consolidated Local Governance Bill to consolidate and harmonise the following laws:

 - District Assemblies Common Fund Act, 1993 (Act 455);
 - Local Government Act, 1993 (Act 462);
 - National Development Planning (System) Act, 1994 (Act 480);
 - Local Government Service Act, 2003 (Act 656);
 - Internal Audit Agency Act, 2003 (Act 658);

- Trained Metropolitan/Municipal/District Assembly (MMDA) staff in Public Financial Management, Social Accountability, Project Management and Human Resource Management;
- Established Internal Audit Units in all MMDAs to streamline and ensure accountable use of resources;
- Signed performance contracts with

- Metropolitan, Municipal, District Coordinating Directors (MMDCDs) and Heads of Department to promote more efficient and effective service delivery;
- Developed the Local Economic Development (LED) Policy and the accompanying manual to help MMDAs mainstream LED activities into their Medium Term Development Plans;
- Implemented the Composite Budgeting System in all 216 District Assemblies;
- Provided for the decentralisation of the Department of Women, Department of Children, Statistical Service, Rent Control Unit and the School Feeding Programme into Departments of MMDAs.

OUR COMMITMENT

(2017-2021)

We will

- Fully implement the National Decentralization Policy Framework II (2015-2019) and the National Decentralization Action Plan II (2015-2019);
- Strengthen the Urban, Zonal, Town and Area Council and Unit Committee system to make it more effective;
- Initiate processes to implement the Constitution Review Commission's recommendation to pay Assembly Members' allowances;
- Implement the Constitution Review Commission's recommendation to have MMDCEs elected;
- Promote performance-based competition among MMDAs;
- Implement the Local Economic Development and the Public Private Partnership concepts in the districts;
- Modernise major markets in the districts;
- Direct MMDAs to organise 'Accountability Forums' to give voice to the public, Civil Society Organisations and other non-state actors in local level governance;
- Set up a Commission of Inquiry to look

into the creation of new regions, with the intention to increase the number of regions to fifteen;

- Implement the programme for the decentralisation of the following either by devolution or de-concentration according to the National Decentralisation Policy Framework 2015 to 2019:

- Registry of Births and Deaths
- Ghana Library Board
- National Youth Authority
- Department of Co-operatives
- Department of Town and Country Planning
- Ghana Education Service
- Ghana Health Service
- National Disability Council
- Food and Drugs Authority
- Public Records and Archival Administration Department
- National Peace Council
- Registrar-General's Department
- Legal Aid Scheme
- Vigorously implement the framework for inter-service/inter-sectoral collaboration and cooperation at the district, regional and national levels;
- Work with the National Labour Commission and other partners to Enact and operationalise the Local Government (Borrowing) Bill to enable MMDAs borrow for infrastructure projects and other investment-related activities;
- Implement the modified procedure for the emergence of MMDCEs as contained in the Government White Paper on the Constitution Review Commission (CRC) report;
- Complete the property-addressing component of the Street Naming and Property Addressing Project and ensure electronic mapping.
- Modernise major local markets in the districts.

ENHANCING PUBLIC SECTOR REFORM

We recognise that our Transformation Agenda can be implemented more successfully through

a public sector that is responsive, efficient and effective. It is for this reason that the NDC Government began rationalising and redefining structures and roles of state institutions to bring about systematic and sustainable change in service delivery.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Established a Presidential Delivery Unit (PDU) at the Presidency to ensure implementation of Government's strategic policies, projects and programmes;
- Formulated a new Public Sector Reform Strategy (2016 – 2020);
- Established Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the public service;
- Established a Human Resource Management and Information System alongside GIFTMIS;
- Initiated Payroll Reform Programmes rooted in technology to rid the public service of 'ghost' names;
- Scaled up e-Governance to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Implement the Public Sector Reform Strategy (2016 – 2020);
- Enhance supervision and productivity in the public service;
- Consolidate and enhance the public service-wide Human Resource Management Information Systems (HRMIS);
- Promote excellence in human resource management to deliver timely and responsive public service to the citizenry.

We also commit ourselves to

- Coordinate all public sector reform initiatives in MDAs contained in the Public Sector Reform Strategy (PSRS);
- Implement the African Charter of Values and Principles of Public Administration;

- Implement and coordinate Service Delivery Improvement Programmes;
- Implement the National Action Plan of Ghana Open Government Partnership (OGP) initiative;
- Ensure the establishment of a performance contracting regime for sub-vented agencies.

INDEPENDENT CONSTITUTIONAL BODIES

The NDC acknowledges the significant contributions of Independent Constitutional Bodies (ICB), namely the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ), the Electoral Commission (EC), the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE), the National Media Commission and the Audit Service to our democratic process.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We ensured the operational independence of these bodies consistent with our belief in the rule of law and good governance.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Provide adequate resources to the Independent Constitutional Bodies by ensuring the establishment of the Independent Constitutional Bodies Fund recommended by the Constitutional Review Commission (CRC);
- Establish the Independent Emoluments Commission to determine the emoluments of all public offices including Chairpersons and members of the ICBs as recommended by the CRC;
- Continue with reforms in the legal service and justice sector;
- Transform the Legal Aid Board into an Independent Constitutional Body to be funded in the same manner as other ICBs as recommended by the CRC.

THE MEDIA

The NDC considers the media as partners in national development. That is why we have continued to be attentive to their constructive criticisms to shape policies and programmes. To this end, we will continue to work towards building a free and just society where free speech is cherished and encouraged.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Continued to expand the frontiers of press freedom;
- Issued licences for the establishment of over 226 FM stations and 38 television stations;
- Established a Media Development Fund;
- Assisted the media with ICT equipment;
- Completed the draft Broadcasting Bill for passage;
- Developed the policy to guide the implementation of digital broadcasting and to provide for related matters;
- Placed existing television broadcasting houses in Greater Accra and Ashanti regions on the Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) platform free of charge;
- Laid the Right to Information Bill in Parliament for enactment.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Support the National Media Commission (NMC) to decentralise its operations;
- Provide the National Media Commission with a permanent and befitting office;
- Commit more resources to the Media Development Fund for more capacity building initiatives;
- Enactment of the Broadcasting Bill;
- Implement the Right to Information Bill when passed by Parliament.
- Provide free set-up boxes (decoders) to vulnerable households;

- Reduce capital expenditure in television broadcasting through the implementation of the digital migration process;
- Ensure complete Analogue Switch Off.

NATIONAL SECURITY

The NDC is committed and will continue to implement policies that ensure not only the peace and security of the citizenry but also maintenance of law and order. New and global security threats such as terrorism and cyber security issues have emerged and intensified but have been effectively prevented and combated.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Increased the numerical strength of the Police Service from 23,204 in 2012 to 32,117 in 2014 resulting in a current Police/Population Ratio (PPR) of 1:724 as against 1:1,100 in 2010;
- Increased police visibility in our communities;
- Substantially increased logistics, vehicular and equipment support to the Ghana Police Service;
- Established a Marine Police unit;
- Constructed residential accommodation for the Police, Bureau of National Investigations and the military among others;
- Installed Border Surveillance System (CCTV and WIFI Systems) at strategically selected Border Control Points across the country;
- Extended the e-Immigration project to the key points of entry at the Kotoka International Airport, Tema, Elubo, Aflao, and Paga;
- Laid the Prisons Service Bill and the National Disaster Management Organisation Bill in Parliament for passage;
- Adopted a National Migration Policy;
- Provided fire tenders and modern fire-fighting equipment to the Ghana National Fire Service.

OUR COMMITMENT

(2017-2021)

We will

- Support the police in the maintenance of law and order, as well as the protection of lives and property;
- Continue recruitment and training of SWAT and crack counter terrorism operations squad;
- Continue to strengthen the capacity of the Police to combat emerging threats such as cybercrime, terrorism and child and human trafficking;
- Harmonise the laws on small arms and light weapons;
- Continue to pursue programmes to decongest the prisons;
- Pass the Ghana Immigration Service (Amendment) Regulations;
- Provide fire service with equipment for fighting fire in high-rise buildings;
- Install scanners at all major overland border crossing points;
- Continue to enhance the capacity of NADMO to prevent and manage disasters;
- Enact and implement the Prisons (Amendment) Bill;
- Construct new remand blocks in existing prisons in order to separate remand prisoners from convicted prisoners;
- Refurbish all existing prisons to improve ventilation and deepen skills acquisition and education opportunities for convicts;
- Move Kumasi prison from its current location to a new modern medium security prison to serve the Northern part of the country;
- Provide command and operational vehicles for the Fire Service, Prisons and Immigration services;
- Provide modern communication equipment for all security services;
- Construct hospitals for the remaining security services, Prisons, Fire Service, Immigration and Customs.

TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

The Ghana Armed Forces has been retooled and motivated. It remains ready at all times to protect the territorial integrity of our motherland. Its professionalism and effectiveness, nationally and internationally, is well known and appreciated. It has contributed to the maintenance of peace and stability in Ghana and ensured the protection of our marine resources including the offshore hydrocarbon fields.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Adopted peaceful means in resolving maritime disputes;
- Effectively provided security for our oil installations in our continental shelf and exclusive economic zones;
- Established the Forward Operating Base at Ezilimbu in the Western Region;
- Constructed a new hangar in Tamale;
- Established the West African Maritime Zone "F";
- Provided additional housing units for the Ghana Armed Forces.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Continue our heightened vigilance to keep at bay threats from terrorists and mercenaries;
- Ensure that processes towards the peaceful resolution of all maritime disputes are brought to a successful conclusion;
- Ensure closer collaboration among the Ghana Navy, the Marine Police Unit and other agencies to protect our oil and gas and other maritime assets;
- Be proactive in the protection of key strategic installations throughout the country;
- Increase the numerical strength of the Ghana Armed Forces and continue to provide the needed up to date logistics to facilitate and enhance performance;

- Assist the Ghana Air Force to establish a flight training school in Tamale as a centre of excellence for West Africa.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Ghana's foreign policy will continue to be that of positive neutrality. We will also emphasise economic diplomacy. The commitment to peace and security in the West African sub-region is paramount in our inter-regional diplomatic relations. This obliges us to support political stability of neighbouring countries and uphold all Ghana's commitments to the United Nations, Non-Aligned Movement, African Union (AU), the Commonwealth, ECOWAS, and other international organizations of which we are members.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

We have

- Ensured, under the leadership of President Mahama as Chair of ECOWAS, peace and stability in Guinea Bissau, Togo, Mali and Burkina Faso when their peace and stability was threatened;
- Worked to finalise the Common External Tariff which is ensuring the establishment of an ECOWAS Customs Union and the framework for the implementation of the ECOWAS Biometric ID System;
- Led a coordinated effort to mobilise against Boko Haram;
- Led an internationally integrated effort to galvanise finance and logistics and hosted the United Nations Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) Mission in Accra, Ghana to end the scourge of Ebola Virus Disease in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone;
- Worked towards a continental free trade area in 2017 and also supported continental integration by introducing elements of the AU Agenda 2063 into our national development;
- Upheld Osagyefo Dr Kwame Nkrumah's dream of achieving a truly free Cuba and the establishment of a Palestinian State;
- Signed the US\$498 Million Second Compact



under the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) focusing on the power sector;

- Been honoured to have President John Mahama co-chairing the group of Eminent Advocates of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

OUR COMMITMENT (2017-2021)

We will

- Increase collaboration with relevant external organisations to fight international terrorism, cyber-attacks and piracy, especially in the West African Sub-region;
- Combat money laundering, narcotics trade and human trafficking;

- Intensify our focus on Ghanaians abroad and people of African descent through diaspora engagements to tap into their rich experience and also bring investments into Ghana;
- Leverage economic and technological opportunities for sustainable development;
- Support the creation of a continental free trade area in 2017;
- Accelerate economic and social integration with regional and sub-regional states and promote rules-based and equitable International Trading System;
- Continue to promote international peace and sustainable development.

CONCLUSION

In 2017, the National Democratic Congress will celebrate its 25th Anniversary. It will be historical and will represent a significant approval by the people of Ghana of the performance of our Government.

We made a number of promises in our 2012 Manifesto and the records show that we have delivered more than we pledged in several sectors. But for the prolonged global developments that adversely affected the earnings from Ghana's export commodities and increased the prices of imports, the record of our achievements would have been even more remarkable.

We demonstrated that with prudent management, the negative impact of the global challenges could be managed. Our economy is becoming more robust and resilient and this has led to several positive forecasts and a better outlook for Ghana in the future.

Our investments in infrastructure and in the social services such as education, health, housing and water are providing opportunities for the private sector to create jobs.

We practiced an open, accountable and responsive government, which contributed tremendously to the enjoyment of personal freedoms, the maintenance of peace and security and the protection of our territorial integrity.

We are deeply committed to continuing the good work of the past four years and we are confident that the good people of Ghana will continue to repose confidence in the stewardship of John

Dramani Mahama and our Parliamentary Candidates, who will help deliver on the commitments in this Manifesto.

This Manifesto contains policies and programmes that will consolidate the achievements so far made and, in addition, introduce new initiatives that will launch Ghana into a new era of accelerated growth and the transformation of our society.

As the goal of the 2016 Manifesto states, the implementation of our policies and programmes is to change your life and transform Ghana. The Manifesto is our compact with you, the people of Ghana, and given our record of promising and delivering, we urge you to renew our mandate with a massive vote for the NDC's Presidential and Parliamentary candidates in December 2016.

**Stay with those
you trust.
Vote for the NDC!**

#ChangingLives
#TransformingGhana

JOHN MAHAMA 2016



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