



## Environmental Protection Authority

### **Mission**

*"The mission of the EPA of Ghana is to co-manage, protect and enhance the country's environment, in particular, as well as seek common solutions to global environmental problems. The accomplishment of the mission is to be achieved inter alia through research, scientific, technological and innovative approaches, good governance and partnerships."*

### **Vision**

*"An Agency dedicated to continuously improving and conserving the country's environment in which all sections of the community value the environment, strive to attain sustainable development, effective and efficient resource management based on good environmental governance, taking into account social and equity issues."*

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was formally established on 30th December, 1994 (Act 490) and given the responsibility of regulating the environment and ensuring the implementation of Government policies on the environment.

### **Objective**

1. Create awareness to mainstream environment into the development process at the national, regional, district and community levels;
2. Ensure that the implementation of environmental policy and planning are integrated and consistent with the country's desire for effective, long-term maintenance of environmental quality;
3. Ensure environmentally sound and efficient use of both renewable and nonrenewable resources in the process of national development;
4. Guide development to prevent, reduce, and as far as possible, eliminate pollution and actions that lower the quality of life;
5. To apply the legal processes in a fair, equitable manner to ensure responsible environmental behavior in the country;
6. Continuously improve EPA's performance to meet changing environmental trends and community aspirations;
7. Encourage and reward a commitment by all EPA staff to a culture based on continuous improvement and on working in partnership with all members of the Ghanaian community.

### **Declaration and Statutory Functions**

Under the Environmental Protection Agency Act 1994 (Act 490), some of the functions of the Agency are:

- a. To advise the Minister on the formulation of policies on all aspects of the environmental and in particular make recommendations for the protection of the environment;



- b. To issue environmental permits and pollution abatement notices for controlling the volume, types, constituents and effects of waste discourages, emissions, deposits or other source of pollutants and of substances which are hazardous or potentially dangerous to the quality of the environment or any segment of the environment;
- c. To prescribe standards and guidelines relating to the pollution of air, water, land other forms of environmental pollution including the discharge of wastes and the control of toxic substances;
- d. To ensure compliance with any laid down environmental impact assessment procedures in the planning and execution of development projects, including compliance in the respect of existing projects;
- e. To promote effective planning in the management of the environment;
- f. To impose and collect environmental protection levies in accordance with this Act or regulations made under this Act;

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