

REPUBLIC OF GHANA

GHANA'S REPORT ON BEIJING+30 (2020-2024)

MINISTRY OF GENDER, CHILDREN AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

ACRONYMS

AAB - Affirmative Action Bill

AfCFTA - African Continental Free Trade Area

AHSTIP - Anti-Human Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons Unit

ANC - Ante-Natal Care

ASWIM - Association of Women In the Media

BPFA - Beijing Platform for Action

CHPS - Community Health and Planning Services

CHRAJ - Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice

CLASS - Complementary Livelihood and Asset Support Scheme

CSE - Comprehensive Sexuality Education

CSOs - Civil Society Organizations

CWMTs - Community Watershed Management Teams

DHS - Demographic Health Survey

DOVVSU - Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit

D/SGBV - Domestic/Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

DSW - Department of Social Welfare

DVA - Domestic Violence Act

ECT - Emergency Cash Transfer

EI - Executive Instrument

EMIS - Education Management Information System

EOCO - Economic and Organized Crime Office

ESP - Education Strategic Plan

FGM - Female Genital Mutilation

FP/RH - Family Planning and Reproductive Health

GAF - Ghana Armed Forces

GAFSCS - Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College

GASIP - Ghana Agricultural Sector Investment

GBV - Gender-Based Violence

GDOs - Gender Desk Officers

GE - Gender Equality

GEF-SGP - Global Environment Facility-Small Grants Programme

GEMP - Ghana Environmental Resource Management Project

GHANAP II - Ghana National Action Plan II

GHS - Ghana Health Service

GIS - Ghana Immigration Service

GLRSSM - Ghana Landscape Restoration and Small-Scale Mining

GMP - Ghana Marine Police

GNHR - Ghana National Household Registry

GoG - Government of Ghana

GPS - Ghana Police Service

GSFP - Ghana School Feeding Programme

GSS - Ghana Statistical Service

GTA - Gender Transformative Accelerator

HTF - Human Trafficking Fund

ICT - Information, Communication and Technology

KAIPTC - Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre

LEAP - Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty Programme

LIPW - Labour-Intensive Public Works

M&E - Monitoring and Evaluation

MASLOC - Microfinance and Small Loans Centre

MDAs - Ministries, Departments and Agencies

MESTI - Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation

MLGDRD - Ministry of Local Government, Decentralization and Rural

Development

MMDAs - Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies

MoFA - Ministry of Food and Agriculture

MoGCSP - Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection

MRV - Monitoring, Reporting and Verification

NCS - National Cyber Security

NDCs - Nationally Determined Contributions

NGOs - Non-Governmental Organization

NHIS - National Health Insurance Scheme

NIB - National Intelligence Bureau

PASS - Promoting Adolescent Safe Spaces

PI - Productive Inclusion

PLHIV - People Living with HIV

PLWDs - Persons Living With Disability

PPMED - Policy Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate

PWDs - Persons With Disabilities

REDD+ - Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

RMNCAH&N - Reproductive Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health and

Nutrition

RSIM - Research Statistics and Information Management

SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals

SEIP - Secondary Education Improvement Programme

SGBV - Sexual and Gender-Based Violence

SLWMP - Sustainable Land and Water Management Project

SOPs - Standard Operating Procedures

STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

STIs - Sexually Transmitted Diseases

SWIMS - Social Welfare Information Management System

TVET - Technical and Vocational Education Training

UHC - Universal Health Coverage

UNFPA - United Nation Population Fund

VSLA - Village Savings and Loans Association

WASH - Water Sanitation and Hygiene

WFP - World Food Programme

WHO - World Health Organization

WIFA - Women In Fertility Age

Contents

ACRONYMS	2
Foreword	9
Acknowledgement	10
1.0 INTRODUCTION	11
2.0 SECTION ONE: OVERVIEW ANALYSIS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES	12
2.1 Inclusive Development, Shared Prosperity and Decent Work	12
2. 2 Poverty Eradication, Social Protection and Social Services	12
2.3 Freedom from Violence, Stigma and Stereotypes	13
2.4 Participation, Accountability and Gender Responsive Institutions	13
2.5 Peaceful and Inclusive Societies	14
2.6 Environmental Conservation, Protection and Rehabilitation	14
2.2. Key challenges in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action	14
4.0 SECTION THREE – PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF 12 CRITICAL AREAS	16
4.1 WOMEN AND POVERTY	18
4.1.1 Overview of Progress	18
4.1.2 Achievements	18
4.1.3 Challenges	21
4.1.4 Way Forward	21
4.2 EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF WOMEN	21
4.2.1 Overview of Progress	21
4.2.2 Achievements	21
4.2.3 Challenges	23
4.2.4 Way forward	23
4.3 WOMEN AND HEALTH	23
4.3.1Overview of Progress	23
4.3.2 Achievements	23
4.3.3 Challenges	26
4.3.4 Way Forward	26
4.4 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	26
4.4.1 Overview of progress	26
4.4.2. Achievements	26
4.4.3 Challenges	28

4.4.4 Way forward	28
4.5 WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT	29
4.5.1 Achievements	29
4.5.2. Challenges	29
4.5.3 Way forward	30
4.6 WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY	30
4.6.1 Overview of Progress	30
4.6.2 Achievements	30
4.6.3 Challenges	31
4.6.4Way forward	31
4.7 WOMEN IN POWER AND DECISION MAKING	31
4.7.1 Overview of Progress	31
4.7.2 Achievements	32
4.7.3 Challenges	32
4.7.4 Way forward	32
4.8 INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN	32
4.8.1 Overview of progress	32
4.8.2 Achievements	33
4.8.3 Challenges	34
4.8.4 Way Forward	34
4.9 HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN	34
4.9.1Overview of Progress	34
4.9.2 Achievements	34
4.9.2 Challenges	35
4.9.3 Way Forward	36
4.10 WOMEN AND MEDIA	36
4.10.1 Overview of progress	36
4.10.2 Achievements	36
4.10.3 Challenges	37
4.10.4 Way forward	37
4.11. WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT	37
4.11.1 Overview	37
4.11.2.Achievements	38

4.11.3 Challenges	39
4.11.4 Way forward	39
4.12 THE GIRL CHILD	39
4.12.1 Overview of Progress	39
4.12.2 Achievements	39
4.12.3 Challenges	40
4.12.4 Way Forward	40
5.0 SECTION 4 MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING	41
5.1 Overview	41
5.2 Achievements	41
5.3 Challenges	42
5.4 Way forward	42
6. 0 SECTION 5 : DATA DISAGGREGATED BY SEX AND GENDER STATISTICS	43
6.1 Overview	43
6.2 Acheivements	43
6.3. Challenges	43
6.4 Way forward	43
7.0 SECTION 6	44
EMERGING PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR	
ACTION	44
ADDENDICES	16

Foreword

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, remains a pivotal framework for advancing gender equality and women's empowerment worldwide. As we strive to advance on the 12 critical areas of the Beijing Platform for Action and achieve the targets set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it is essential that we reflect on our progress and identify areas for further action. This comprehensive national-level review on the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action therefore, represents a significant step in assessing Ghana's efforts in advancing gender equality and women empowerment in the country.

Since the last review of the Beijing Declaration and Plaform for Action (2015-2019), Ghana has made considerable strides in promoting gender equality and enhancing the status of women across various sectors. We have witnessed improvements in women's access to education, healthcare and political participation. Legal frameworks have been strengthened to protect women's rights as well as launched various initiatives to address gender-based violence and economic disparities.

Inspite of the fact that the COVID -19 pandemic disproportionately impacted women and girls across multiple facets of their lives, government and civil society organisations developed positive interventions that enabled women and girls recover from the pandemic.

The insights and recommendations outlined in this report will guide our strategies and policies in the coming years to further promote gender equality and women empowerment as we'll as ensuring that no one is left behind in the development process of the country.

I extend my gratitude to all stakeholders who contributed to this comprehensive review. Let us build on this foundation and continue to champion the rights and empowerment of women and girls in Ghana.

HON. DAKOA NEWMAN (MP) MINISTER

Acknowledgement

The preparation of Ghana's 6th Progress Report on the implementation of the Beijing Platform of Action has been made possible by the support and inputs provided by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders under the leadership and guidance of the Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection, Hon. Dakoa Newman (MP) and the Chief Director of the Ministry, Dr. Afisah Zakariah.

The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection is exceptionally appreciative of our Development Partners (DPs) for their support in implementing key development policies, initiatiives and programmes.

We further acknowledge the technical team from the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection led by the Director of the Department of Gender, Ms. Faustina Acheampong and staff particularly Ms. Sabia Kpekata for their hard work and dedication towards the preparation of this report.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Ghana strives to create a stable, united, inclusive and prosperous country where all individuals have an equal voice and opportunity by integrating gender equality and women's empowerment issues into various national development policy frameworks. Globally, gender as a cross-cutting issue affects every part of development. The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) is the national machinery mandated to effectively promote gender concerns such as gender equality, equity and women empowerment to ensure sustainable national development. The MoGCSP pursues these through mainstreaming gender into planning, budgeting, programmes, interventions and activities at all levels.

Key gender issues that affect development and therefore need to be addressed include gender-based violence, women's low participation in decision making, women's limited access to and control of economic resources and unsafe working environment among others.

Ghana has therefore developed a number of legislative and policy frameworks to address gender inequality in the country. They include the Affirmative Action Bill, 2023 which is currently before Parliament for debate and passage into law, the draft revised National Gender Policy (2023-2032), the Social Protection Bill also before Parliament, National Cyber Security Act, 2020 (Act 1038), the review of the Domestic Violence Act and the Domestic Violence Regulations 2023 among others.

This report presents Ghana's progress on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action from 2020 to 2024 since the submission of the last report in 2019. The report also highligts the key challenges and the way forward to adequately address the gaps identified.

2.0 SECTION ONE: OVERVIEW ANALYSIS OF ACHIEVEMENTS AND CHALLENGES

Since the declaration of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA), Ghana has initiated and implemented several National Medium and Long-Term Development plans with the aim of promoting gender equality, equity and women empowerment. The Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection (MoGCSP), the national machinery has the primary task of harmonising concerns of gender with social protection programmes and other governmental interventions to empower and support the vulnerable as well as the most excluded groups in national development processes.

Highlights of major achievements of Ghana since the last BPFA review are categorized under 6 major themes as below:

- ➤ Inclusive Development, Shared Prosperity and Decent Work
- ➤ Poverty Eradication, Social Protection and Social Services
- > Freedom from Violence, Stigma and Stereotypes
- > Participation, Accountability and Gender Responsive Institutions
- > Peaceful and Inclusive Societies
- Environmental Conservation, Protection, and Rehabilitation

2.1 Inclusive Development, Shared Prosperity and Decent Work

- ➤ Ghana revised and updated the National Gender Policy in 2023 to reflect emerging gender issues for inclusive development to ensure that the rights, interests and special needs of women and girls are integrated into policy formulation and implementation.
- ➤ Ghana developed a National Framework and Toolkit for engaging men and boys on gender equality. To this end, men and boys' clubs have been created in communities to help address gender inequalities.
- Figure 3.2 Ghana continues to observe international commemorative days to strengthen and sustain awareness creation on current and emerging issues on gender equality and women empowerment with specific focus on vulnerable groups.
- ➤ Commissioned an ultra-modern hostel facility as well as a skills training and empowerment centre in Accra for female head porters, popularly known as Kayayei to provide them with decent work

2. 2 Poverty Eradication, Social Protection and Social Services

➤ The Productive Inclusion Programme under the Complementary Livelihood and Asset Support Scheme (CLASS) has been introduced to increase access to income-generating activities for poor households mostly female-headed through the implementation of a set of interventions that enable them establish micro enterprise/livelihood activities managed

in a sustainable manner. Women beneficiaries of the Livelihood Empowermrnt Against Poverty(LEAP) received training and grants to enable them to undertake micro enterprise to ensure sustainable livelihoods. In addition to the grant, the beneficiaries have been taken through digital inclusion training as well as introduced to the Gender Action Learning Systems to empower them. Currently, a substantial number of women (54.86%) have benefited from the LEAP programme.

The Ghana National Household Registry (GNHR) has completed data collection in eight (8) regions out of sixteen (16) to identify, prioritize and select households living in vulnerable conditions to ensure that different social programmes effectively reach them. These include the Upper West, Northern, Northeast, Savanna, Central, Oti, Volta and Upper East Regions

2.3 Freedom from Violence, Stigma and Stereotypes

- Developed a Child Marriage information Portal to provide up to date information on Child Marriage issues
- The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection launched the BOAME (Help Me) App to address Sexual and Gender-Based Violence issues. It has also introduced the Domestic/Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (D/SGBV) call Centre (0800 111 222) known as the 'Orange Support Center to provide information and support for survivors of D/SGBV including Child Marriage
- ➤ A National Framework for Engaging Traditional Authorities and Faith-Based Leaders to Address Gender Inequalities and Harmful Practices in Ghana has been developed for use by stakeholders.

2.4 Participation, Accountability and Gender Responsive Institutions

- ➤ The Affirmative Action Bill received Cabinet approval and is currently in Parliament for debate and approval
- A female currently appointed as the Chief Justice of the Republic of Ghana
- The number of Chief Directors in the Civil Service has increased from 28.3% in 2021 to 38.7% in 2024
- An annual mentorship programmes have been implemented using safe space approaches to empower girls and encourage them to take up leadership position from a young age. Approximately 23,000 girls and boys have been engaged to date.
- ➤ The MoGCSP initiated a special TV programme dubbed 'Girlz Girlz Power Talk Show' to discuss issues of gender equality, gender-based violence and cybercrime among others. This programme aired for three (3) seasons with thirteen (13) episodes each
- > Strengthened capacity of Gender Focal Persons and Planning/Budget Officers on gender mainstreaming to ensure gender-responsiveness at the local level through Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs).

2.5 Peaceful and Inclusive Societies

- ➤ The Ghana National Action Plan 2020- 2025 (GHANAP II) on the UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security developed to ensure the full representation and active participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, peace negotiation, mediation, crisis and security management at all levels of the Ghanaian society
- ➤ Land Act, 2020 (Act 1036) includes provisions that ensure equality between men and women in conveyance of title and other aspects of land and property acquisition
- ➤ The Cyber Security Authority established under the Cyber Security Act, 2020 (Act 1038) with the responsibility to protect children especially the girl child and women online
- > The Social Protection Bill has received Cabinet approval and is currently before Parliament for debate and passage into law
- > The Central Adoption Authority established and continues to provide guidelines for the conduct of all adoptions in the country in a manner that promotes the well-being and best interest of the child

2.6 Environmental Conservation, Protection and Rehabilitation

- A gender analysis carried out in 2021 on the Ghana Landscape Restoration and Small-Scale Mining (GLRSSM) Project with the objective of strengthening integrated landscape management, formalization of artisanal and small-scale mining
- > Developed a training manual toolkit for mainstreaming gender into climate actions and staff of government structures trained to integrate gender into climate actions
- ➤ Ghana through the Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation has developed a Climate Change and Gender Action Plan (2021-2030) for implementation

2.2. Key challenges in implementing the Beijing Platform for Action

In the period under review (2020 - 2024), Ghana, like most countries across the globe experienced the COVID- 19 Pandemic. This pandemic became a threat to the progress made in achieving gender equality and women empowerment.

The following are highlights of the key challenges within the period:

- ➤ Negative socio-cultural practices such as witchcraft accusations, early marriages and FGM continue to affect the full participation and inclusion of women, children and Persons With Disabilities(PWDs) in national development processes
- ➤ The recent spillage of the Akosombo Dam in 2023 negatively impacted the lives of women and children in affected communities and had a toll on national financial resources

- ➤ A number of government/public sector structures demonstrate insufficient understanding and knowledge of gender equality and gender mainstreaming
- Poverty is a major problem for women and girls in Ghana especially rural women.
- Existence of inadequate basic social services and facilities in health, water and sanitation in rural communities to enable citizens have a decent livelihood
- Insufficient information and understanding of the situation of women with disability affect planning, implementation and monitoring of women's initiatives
- > Sexual violence and human trafficking is a menace
- ➤ Women are under represented at the decision-making level

3.0 SECTION TWO: PRIORITIES, ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES AND SETBACKS

3.1 Freedom from Violence, Stigma and Stereotypes

3.1.1 Priority: Elimination of All forms of Violence Against Women and Girls

Ghana is committed to eradicating all forms of gender-based violence and it is for this reason that the government is actively implementing policies and programs to combat this issue. According to the Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) 2022, 33% of women aged 15-49 have experienced physical violence since the age of 15 years. Also, 37% of women who have ever been married or have had an intimate partner indicated that the primary perpetrators of violence were their husbands or intimate partners. Again, for never-married women who have never had an intimate partner, the most common perpetrators were their mothers or stepmothers (28%) and fathers or stepfathers (24%) while 18% of them reported experiencing violence from a teacher and 13% from a schoolmate or classmate.

51% of women age 15-49 who have experienced physical or sexual violence have never sought help to end the violence or told anyone about the violence; 10% of women who have experienced violence told someone about the violence but did not seek help. Women who have experienced both physical and sexual violence are more likely (50%) to have sought help than women who have experienced physical violence only (36%) or sexual violence only (28%).

3.1.2 Achievements

- ➤ The Domestic Violence Secretariat established under the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) continues to coordinate the implementation of the Domestic Violence Act 2007 which is currently being reviewed to strengthen the law to effectively protect and seek redress for victims and survivor of violence
- ➤ Parliament passed the Domestic Violence Regulations, 2016 (L.I. 2237) and is being fully implemented by various key stakeholders
- ➤ Domestic Violence Board has been established under the MoGCSP to play an advisory role in the management of domestic violence and its related issues in Ghana
- ➤ The National Domestic Violence Policy and Plan of Action on the Domestic Violence Act, 2016 (L.I. 2237) currently under review
- ➤ The continuous resource of the Domestic Violence Fund to provide support for victims of violence
- ➤ The Orange Support Center has been established by the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection to provide service to support survivors of SGBV. The center has a 24-hour Toll-Free call center, counselling, legal and medical supports units and its operations are supported by the BOAME (Help Me) Mobile Application

- ➤ The Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) under the Ghana Police Service has built an ultra-modern One-Stop Centre at the Police Headquarters to provide a holistic service to survivors of the abuse. Facilities include child friendly district and circuit courts, shelter, social welfare, legal aid officer, clinical psychologist, soundproof interview room, clinic, child playroom and a 24/7 helpline
- ➤ The current review of the National Gender Policy(2023-2030) will serve as a framework to further eliminate harmful practices and ensure gender equality and women empowerment in Ghana

3.1.3 Challenges

- ➤ Limited awareness of the laws that exist to protect women and girls from gender based violence
- > Over dependent of the victim on the abuser due to poverty
- > Fear of stigma by the family from the community affect reporting on violence cases

3.1.4 Setbacks

> Limited shelters

4.0 SECTION THREE – PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF 12 CRITICAL AREAS

4.1 WOMEN AND POVERTY

4.1.1 Overview of Progress

The promotion of Gender Equality and Women Empowerment are key strategies for reducing poverty and a pre-requisite for sustainable development. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Goal 5) focuses on achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls by 2030. This goal can fully be achieved if gender equality concerns are mainstreamed into the remaining 16 goals especially Goal 1, on ending poverty in all its forms by 2030.

The latest Ghana Multidimensional Poverty Report (2024) published by the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS) indicates that the major contributors to poverty are the level of employment and living conditions. The report further indicates that a total of 7.3 million Ghanaians, representing 24.3% of the household population, are multidimensionally poor. The incidence of poverty is notably higher among female-headed households (27.0%) compared to male-headed households (23.0%). Younger household heads below 25 years and older heads above 60 years are also more susceptible to poverty according to the report.

4.1.2 Achievements

The Government of Ghana has introduced a number of programmes, interventions and activities to address the proverty issues in Ghana. Several gains have been made through the implementation of these programmes across the country which have benefited women, particularly those in rural areas and other vulnerable groups of women. Key among these programmes are the following:

Social Protection Programmes

- ➤ The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) has developed a Social Protection Bill (2023) to give the system a legal backing. The Bill has been approved by Cabinet in September, 2023 and is currently before Parliament for debate and passage into law
- The MoGCSP has also developed and is implementing a roadmap for mainstreaming gender issues into the design, programming and implementation of all social protection programmes in Ghana. This is to ensure that social protection systems are gender sensitive and can address the diverse needs of men, boys, women, girls, the aged, Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) and children

Ghana National Household Registry

The Ghana National Household Registry (GNHR), a unit under the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) was set up as a tool to assist social protection programmes to identify, prioritize and select households living in vulnerable conditions to ensure that different social protection programmes effectively reach their target populations. The register when completed, will serve as a database for the selection of beneficiaries for all social programmes in Ghana. It will also improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the delivery of social protection programmes in the country. So far, data collection has been completed in eight (8) out of sixteen (16) regions namely: Savannah, Northeast, Upper East, Upper West, Northern, Central, Volta, and Oti regions as indicated below:

Regions	Households	Household Members	Status
	(HH)	(HM)	
Upper West	137,565	618,378	Completed
Upper East	184,125	1,066,812	Completed
Northeast	90,993	523,631	Completed
Savannah	91,710	533,890	Completed
Northern	304,975	1,511,680	Completed
Central	780,004	2,820,214	Completed
Volta	522,644	1,604,943	Completed
Oti	212,715	742,159	Completed
Total	2,324,731	9,421,707	

- ➤ So far, the GNHR data currently covers 28% of households in Ghana. Also, 80% of extremely poor households have been covered in these regions. Efforts are ongoing to collect data in the remaining 8 regions
- > GNHR data has been useful in streamlining the implementation of Social Protection intervention programmes such as
 - i. Selection of beneficiaries for cash transfer programmes for the Livelihood Empowerment Programme Against Poverty (LEAP) and Labour Intensive Public Works (LIPW)
 - ii. Rapid support was given to about **125**, **000** persons affected by COVID across 7 regions through an emergency cash transfer programme in 2020.
 - iii. Targeted **5,000** farmers across nine (9) Districts that were supported by Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MOFA) and World Food Programme (WFP) under the Emergency Support to Rural Livelihoods and Food Systems Exposed to COVID-19 in 2020

The Livelihood Empowerment Programme Against Poverty (LEAP)

- The Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) is a social protection programme for extremely poor households aimed at reduing extreme poverty by smoothening consumption and promoting human capital development through cash grants and access to other social services. The programme has seen significant improvement in its coverage. The LEAP currently covers over 350,141 extreme poor households in Ghana from 344,023 in 2020, which translates to approximately 1.5 million individuals
- ➤ The MoGCSP continues to improve all aspects of the LEAP and has since 2023 upwardly adjusted the grant size by 100% on successive occasions. The grant was doubled in 2023 and redoubled in 2024. The current cash grant is disbursed as follows:
 - o Households with one eligible member receive GHC256.00
 - o Households with two eligible members receive GHC304.00
 - o Households with three eligible members receive GHC352.00
 - o Households with four or more eligible members receive GHC424.00
- The LEAP grant has also been indexed against inflation
- Further, to ensure the grants are paid to the right persons and to determine the continuous eligibility of the LEAP beneficiary households, the MoGCSP undertook a pilot reassessment exercise in 2023. This exercise is currently being scaled to cover the entire country. The expected outcomes of the reassessment include graduation, exit, recertification and new enrolment
- MoGCSP is implemented digital financial and productive inclusion across four beneficiary Districts as part of efforts to empower the women LEAP beneficiaies. A total of 566 female LEAP beneficiaries have been trained and provided logistics and inputs to commence their respective income-generating activities

Emergency LEAP Cash Transfers

➤ Emergency Cash Transfer (ECT) was disbursed to persons who were affected by disasters (floods, rainstorms, tidal waves) in four regions (Northeast and Volta regions between 2020 and 2023. Another ECT was made to persons affected by the COVID-19 pandemic between 2020 and 2021. Government of Ghana as part of the 2024 annual budget earmarked an amount of GH 220 million to aid relief effort for communities affected by the Akosombo Dam spillage floods that occurred in September 2023

Ghana School Feeding Programme

- ➤ The Ministry continues to implement and enhance the operations of the Ghana School Feeding Programme. The coverage has increased to about 4,029, 580 pupils in over ten thousand basic schools across all Districts in Ghana
- The feeding cost per meal per day for a child also experienced continuous upward adjustment from GHC 1.00 in 2020 to GHC1.20 in 2023 and GHC1.50 in 2024

- ➤ The programme continues to employ about 34,350 caterers and cooks especially women to enhance their income generation towards empowering their families
- > The programme has created ready markets for local farmers, thereby boosting the local economy
- ➤ The programme is leveraging technology to improve its operations and delivery. Currently, all aspects of the Ghana School Feeding Programme including caterer contracting, monitoring and evaluation have been digitized using a robust Management Information System in service delivery

4.1.3 Challenges

- Limited access to credit facilities by women to either start or increase their enterprises
- > Limited access to skills training
- ➤ Continuous drifting of women from the rural areas to the urban centers in search of nonexistent green pastures making them more vulnerable to poverty

4.1.4 Way Forward

- ➤ Intensify education and public awareness on issues pertaining to women and poverty
- Establish advocacy groups to champion issues with regards to women and poverty
- > Link women's groups to credit facilities and skills training to empower them economically
- Promote collaboration between government agencies and other service providers to address issues of poverty

4.2 EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF WOMEN

4.2.1 Overview of Progress

The achievement of equal status in educational attainment by men, women, boys and girls remains a national development target. The Government of Ghana through the Ministry of Education and its agencies has put strategies in place to bridge the gender gap in the sector. These include the Ghana Education Strategic Plan, $2018 - 2030^1$ (ESP 2018-2030), which addresses gender mainstreaming and women empowerment concerns such as girls' education issues at all levels of education particularly at the basic level.

Ghana has achieved many successes in education within the years under review. The country has expanded access to basic education as well as achieved gender parity in access to both primary and secondary education levels.

4.2.2 Achievements

➤ The Gender Parity index is 1.0 at the Primary level, 1.03 at the Junior Secondary level and 0.9 at the Tertiary level in 2023

 $^{^{1}\} https://www.globalpartnership.org/sites/default/files/2019-05-education-strategic-plan-2018-2030.pdf$

- Total enrolment for 2023 for Primary school was 4,777,131. Out of this number, females constitute 49.268% of the total enrolment and males is 50.73%. At the same period, the retention rates for females was 83.6% and 82.8% for males
- ➤ 2023 figures show a total enrolment at the Junior High School (JHS) as 2,005,885. Out of this number, females constitute 49.98% of the total enrolment and males was 50.01%. The retention rates for females was 81.6% and 81.1% for males. The JHS completion rates for females was 95.5% and 92.5% for males
- At the Senior High School (SHS) level, total enrollment was 1,208,693, of this number, females constitute 51.93% and males is 48.06%. The SHS retention rates for females was 83.0% and 77.2% for males. The SHS completion rates for females was 60.3% and 57.0% for males
- ➤ Young females (15-24 years) literacy rate is 92.21%
- ➤ The enrolment in Technical and Vocational Education (TVET) Training total enrolment is 76,800. 26.7% of which are females

4.2.2.1 Special Educational Interventions

The Education Management Information System (EMIS) 2021 shows Ghana has reached gender parity across Basic and Secondary levels.

Strategies developed to promote girl's education include:

- Re-entry Policy in schools for teen mothers after delivery
- ➤ Menstrual hygiene and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) awareness interventions to support girls in schools
- ➤ Promoting girls education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and robotics education and initiatives
- > Promoting "hard core" TVET subjects with quota systems for girls
- > Strengthening the Girl Child Education Unit under the Ministry of Education with logistics to support girls to progress and transition in various levels of education
- ➤ Development of a draft Gender in Education Policy to support the gender gaps in the education sector
- The development of a guidance and counseling policy to provide psycho-social support and career advancement for both genders especially girls to keep them in school
- ➤ The Safe School Policy addresses all forms of harassment and violence in schools. It places a ban on corporal punishment, enforces the use of positive disciplinary tools, bans bullying in schools as well as calls for the eradication of gender-based violence in schools
- > The Secondary Education Improvement Programme (SEIP) an intervention by the Government of Ghana has increased access to Secondary education as well as improved the quality of teaching and learning at the Secondary level
- ➤ The institutionalization of the Teacher Licensing Examination ensures that quality teachers are posted to schools and retained. There are special incentives such as further

studies packages for teachers who are posted to rural and deprived areas as a means of motivation for them to remain at post

4.2.3 Challenges

- ➤ Girls' participation in Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics Education remains a challenge, despite all the efforts made in bridging the gender gap in that field
- ➤ Limited assistive devices for learners with disabilities to meet their diverse learning needs for improved and quality learning outcomes within an inclusive education environment

4.2.4 Way forward

- ➤ Increase participation of girls in TVET and STEM through sensitization campaigns
- Effective implementation of the 5-year strategic plan to address adolescent pregnancy
- Continue the implementation of scholarship schemes for brilliant but needy girls in science and technical fields
- Enforce implementation of the re-entry to school policy for adolescent mothers

4.3 WOMEN AND HEALTH

4.3.10verview of Progress

Considerable progress has been made in improving health and healthcare system in Ghana². Government pursued the provision of affordable, equitable, easily accessible, and Universal Health Coverage (UHC) for all its citizens to achieve the right to good health care as enshrined in Article 34 (2) of the Constitution of Ghana. The Beijing Platform for Action and the Sustainable Development Goal 3 also requires governments to increase women's access to affordable and quality health care services throughout their life cycle. Key achievements in the health sector are outlined as below.

4.3.2 Achievements

Family Planning Coverage

Expanding access to Family Planning and Reproductive Health (FP/RH) services is one of the best investments a country can make. FP/RH services can improve women and children's overall health, reduce maternal and child mortality and help prevent HIV infections. As a country, family planning services are provided at all levels of the healthcare system with basic training offered to health workers to deliver appropriate family planning services.

➤ Since 2021, the number of persons (both male and female) using family planning methods increased from 2.5 million to 2.7 million, resulting in a family planning acceptor rate to 36.1%. A trend over the last five years showed a sharp rise by 5.5 percentage points difference in 2022

² The Coordinated Programme of Economic and Social Development Policies (2017-2024)

Maternal Health

Access to quality maternal and child health services are crucial to achieving the SDG related goals. Ghana achieved the following key outcomes in maternal health.

- ➤ The proportion of births attended by skilled personnel increased from 62.6% in 2021 to 88% in 2022 as reported in the 2022 Holistic Assessment Report of Health Sector Annual Programme fo Work
- The number of women dying due to complications from pregnancy or childbirth has improved over the last five years. These deaths have declined from 147 to 102.6 per 100,000 live births between 2017 and 2021
- ➤ The year 2022 saw a decline from 109.2 to 102.6 deaths per 100,000 live births, representing 14.14%. Despite the wide variations in the regional figures, this achievement is encouraging as the country strives to achieve the global SDG target of at least 70 deaths 100,000 by 2030. The general improvement in this health outcome can be attributed to adherence to maternal health protocols and guidelines as well as the implementation of maternal death audit recommendations

Antenatal Care

Antenatal Care (ANC) from a skilled provider is important to monitor pregnancy and reduce morbidity and mortality risks for the mother and child during pregnancy, at delivery and during the postnatal period.

According a health survey conducted between 2022 to 2023 on maternal care, nearly all women (98%) reported receiving antenatal care from a skilled provider for their recent live or stillbirth. Overall, 88% of women had four or more ANC visits for their most recent live or stillbirth. 92% of women took iron-containing supplements during their most recent pregnancy

Reproductive Health Care for Women

- ➤ Ghana has developed Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (RMNCAH&N) Strategic Plan (2020 to 2025) to increase equitable access to quality RMNCAH&N services for all by 2030
- ➤ Women in Fertility Age (WIFA) is a core segment of the population that requires health care services such as family planning, antenatal care, skilled delivery and postnatal care. Available data from the 2022 Holistic Assessment Report of the Health Sector Annual Programme of Work showed that the midwife to women in fertility age population ration has improved over the last five years. It increased from 1.46 to 3.09 midwives to 1000 women in fertility age over the last five years (2018-2022)

Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (10-19years)

- ➤ The country recorded a total number of 102,878 adolescent pregnancies in the healthcare facilities in 2022. This represents a reduction of 6.1% from the previous year's number of 109,591. Generally, there has been improvement in the prevalence of pregnancy among adolescents aged 10-19 over the last five years (2018-2022)
- ➤ In 2022, the adolescent pregnancy rate reduced by 8.0% among the 10-19 year group; 12.5% among the 10-14 year group; and 7.7% among the 15-19 year group

National Health Insurance Scheme

The National Health Insurance Scheme (NHIS) remains the single largest payer of health care services and a contributor to achieving Universal Health Coverage in Ghana. The NHIS provides financial risk protection against health care expenses to its beneficiaries by providing annual coverage at a set premium. As a social intervention programme, the NHIS operates through more than 160 District offices around the country.

- The NHIS had 54.5% population coverage and over 5,000 credentialed facilities nationwide as at the end of 2022
- ➤ Health Insurance coverage among women and men age 15–49 according to insurance coverage type and background characteristics shows 90% of women and 73% of men have health insurance coverage

Women and Girls living with HIV in Ghana

HIV and AIDS is a health condition that has higher incidence among women and girls than men and boys in Ghana. The overall HIV prevalence in Ghana for the year 2020 was 1.68%, while the prevalence among young women (aged 15-24 years) being 2.5 times higher (1.0%) than their male counterparts (0.4%). According to the 2020 National HIV Prevalence and AIDS Estimates Report, Ghana has an estimated 346,120 People Living with HIV (PLHIV), comprising 229,755 (66%) females and 116,364 (34%) males. Of children younger than 15 years, majority (68%) is female. The total AIDS deaths for the year 2020 was 12,758 with 51.5% (6569/12758) being females. To reduce the incidence of HIV infections government continues to undertake the following:

- > Sensitization, mentorship, school and out-of-school programmes were organized to create awareness on HIV and AIDS among young people
- ➤ The National AIDS Control Programme monitors women's access to Antiretroviral Therapy (ARTs) and Antiretroviral drugs
- ➤ Collaborated with the Ghana Enterprises Agency and other vocational institutions to train Persons Living with HIV (PLHIV) in livelihood empowerment programmes
- > The existence of the Education Plus Initiative aims to provide girls with the tools to aid in the completion of quality secondary education; universal access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and education, freedom from sexual and gender-based violence

4.3.3 Challenges

- Unmet needs of Family Planning Services is high at 30% against the national target of 25%
- Stigmatization against PLHIVs remains high in Ghana
- The spread of HIV in Ghana is still undergirded by gender dimensions. Women continue to be disproportionately affected by HIV

4.3.4 Way Forward

- Scaling up of the establishment of well-resourced health posts under Ghana Health Service Community Health and Planning Services (CHPS compound)
- Operationalize the HIV and AIDS Fund as stipulated in the Ghana AIDS Commission Act 2016, (Act 938)
- Improve access to quality HIV and TB healthcare and support services.
- Collaboration with state and non-state actors at all levels to implement HIV and AIDS related programmes
- Scale up progress towards the attainment of 95-95-95 target by 2025

4.4 VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

4.4.1 Overview of progress

Violence against women is a critical area of concern to the Government of Ghana and as a result measures have been taken to address it. The Domestic Violence Secretariat (DVS) under the MoGCSP continues to provide the policy focus whilst the Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) also continues to roll out its mandate to prevent, investigate and prosecute all cases involving domestic violence, gender-based violence and child abuse.

4.4.2. Achievements

Key measures taken to address Violence Against Women and Girls and Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (VAWG & SGBV) are outlined below

- The MoGCSP has an innovation known as the Orange Support Centre established in 2021 with a toll free call center (0800 111 222) and Boame (Help Me) Moblie Application which is the first of its kind in Ghana. The center offers psychosocial support, counselling and legal assistance services as well as referrals to relevant resource persons/institutions Shelters are also provided for victims of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
- ➤ The DVS has since 2020 established and operates market response centres in ten (10) major markets nation-wide to provide quick response and paralegal services on SGBV. Conscious efforts are being made to increase the number of these response centres across the country

- ➤ Government continuous to support the Domestic Violence Fund managed by the MoGCSP with annual budgetary allocations to provide counselling services to families of survivors, rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of SGBV survivors
- Domestic Violence and Victim Support Unit (DOVVSU) under the Ghana Police Service has built an ultra-modern One Stop Centre at the police headquarters to provide a holistic service to survivors of abuse. Facilities within the center include a child friendly district and circuit courts, shelter, social welfare officers, legal aid officer, clinical psychologist, soundproof interview room, clinic, child playroom and studio and a 24 hour helpline
- ➤ DOVVSU has set up women and children interview rooms at Kasoa, Madina and Ashaiman to create safe spaces to obtain information to facilitate investigations
- ➤ DOVVSU has increased access to its services by creating more offices in all the regional capitals, divisional and district police stations
- The MoGCSP in collaboration with key stakeholders, successfully organized several sensitization programmes, reaching over 150,258 individuals, including opinion leaders, students, teachers, parents, assembly members, religious leaders, Civil Society Organisation(CSOs), women groups and traders across the nation. These programmes focused on critical issues such as Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), teenage pregnancy, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and other harmful cultural practices
- The Ghana Police Service has introduced child friendly policing into the police training curriculum to provide the necessary knowledge and skills to police officers to uphold the legal rights of children and protect them from abuse and explication as well as facilitate the administration of justice when children are exposed to abuse and offence

In the area of Human Trafficking, the following have been achieved:

- ➤ Revised the National Plan of Action for the Elimination of Human Trafficking In Ghana (2022 2026)
- ➤ Ghana initiated investigations of 109 trafficking cases (31 sex trafficking cases, 65 labour trafficking cases, and 13 cases of unspecified forms of trafficking) and continued six investigations (two sex trafficking and four labour trafficking cases) in 2023
- ➤ Prosecuted 47 alleged traffickers (15 for sex trafficking, 29 for labour trafficking and three for unspecified forms of trafficking) and also prosecuted two alleged sex traffickers in 2022
- ➤ Courts convicted 19 traffickers under the 2005 anti-trafficking law, this included 10 sex traffickers and 9 labour traffickers. These offenders were sentenced to between one month and 15 years imprisonment in 2022
- ➤ The Ghana Police Service (GPS), Ghana Immigration Service (GIS), and the Economic and Organized Crime Office have established a dedicated and specialized anti-trafficking units to prevent and effectively combat human trafficking
- ➤ The Ghana Marine Police operates specialized patrols on Lake Volta to monitor crime activities including trafficking and smuggling

- ➤ The Government since 2020 have been providing extensive training to law enforcement officials, judicial officials and other front-line actors on trafficking issues including legal, prosecutorial techniques, trauma-informed investigative practices, victim identification and protection
- ➤ The Government in 2023 increased victim protection efforts by identifying 944 trafficking victims (123 sex trafficking victims and 821 labour trafficking victims) and referred them to various services
- ➤ The Government continues to operate a shelter for adult female trafficking victims and a shelter for child trafficking victims
- ➤ Through its Human Trafficking Fund (HTF) the government expended 2,050,000 Ghanaian cedis (\$172,270) for victim services and shelter operations in 2023
- The Government allocated 650,000 cedis (\$54,620) for the implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) on trafficking in 2023
- The Single Widows Citizen Engagement Service and Help Line of Hope toll-free line (0800 800 800 / 0900 900) continue to provide support to all citizens. From 2020 to date, a total of 7,773 cases were received, out of which 7,672 cases were resolved with a resolution rate of 99%

The acheivements for Child Marrige are:

- ➤ Effective implementation of a 10 year National Strategic Framework on Ending Child Marriage (20217-2026)
- ➤ A functional Child Marriage Information Portal has been developed in 2021 to provide accurate data and information on child marriage and provide a link for people to report issues on child marriage in their communities
- A National multi sectorial coordination structure has been constituted from National, Regional and District levels to oversee activities related to child marriages for reddress

4.4.3 Challenges

- ➤ Individuals unwilling to change their attitude and perceptions on harmful practices
- Victims unwilling to testify in court proceedings
- Family interference in domestic violence cases
- > Inadequate funding

4.4.4 Way forward

- ➤ Conduct additional training on specialized investigative procedures and evidence collection
- > Community awareness and knowledge sharing through continuous sensitization on violence issues
- ➤ Adopt resource mobilization

4.5 WOMEN AND ARMED CONFLICT

Ghana has developed its second edition of the National Action Plan on the UN Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security titled 'Ghana National Action Plan II (GHANAP II)' for the period 2020-2025 to ensure the full representation and active participation of women in conflict prevention, resolution, peace negotiation, mediation, crisis and security management at all levels of the Ghanaian society.

4.5.1 Achievements

- The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection instituted a Technical Working Group on the implementation of the GHANAP 2 in 2021 to oversee, coordinate and monitor the progress of work of the Plan. Government and non-governmental organizations were sensitized and trained to enable them effectively and efficiently implement the National Action Plan
- ➤ Under the guidance of GHANAP 2, the Ghana Armed Forces (GAF) is integrating gender concerns into their operations especially in conflict and post-conflict processes
- Furthermore, women's positions and roles in crisis management, peace-building and peace operations have been enhanced. Currently, women constitute 18% of the GAF's population
- ➤ The GAF has also recorded an increase in women serving in higher ranks during the period under review. Data from the GAF indicates that 256 females out of 982 representing 26% officers serve from the ranks of Squadron Leaders, Flight Sergeants and above
- ➤ The GAF has developed and currently implementing a Gender Policy leading to the following:
 - Recruitment quota of 26% of female into the Ghana Armed Forces which has led to an increase in female population in the GAF to currently 18%
 - o Creation of Gender Offices and the appointment of Gender Advisors to promote and protect the human rights and dignity of women in GAF as well as women and girls in conflict, peace, security operations and in ordinary times
- ➤ Gender modules have been incorporated into the training curricula of all training schools of the Ghana Armed Forces
- ➤ The Ghana Armed Forces Command and Staff College (GAFSCS) and the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) annually trains an average of 100 professionals on International Humanitarian Law as well as Gender, Peace and Security
- ➤ The Ghana Police Service and the Ghana Immigration Service (GIS) also have developed their respective gender policies to mainstream gender in their operations and administration
- ➤ Ghana has initiated a network of women mediators to ensure that women voices and perspectives are integrated during mediations, negotiations and management of conflicts

4.5.2. Challenges

> Underrepresentation of women in conflict management

Low empowernment of women to play leadership roles

4.5.3 Way forward

- ➤ Increased participation of women in election observation
- > Continue and expand gender training programmes at all levels of the security agencies
- ➤ Effective and full implementation of the GHANAP II by key stakeholders
- Engage Opinion Leaders in communities to revise cultural norms and perceptions that have negative impact on women's leadership roles

4.6 WOMEN AND THE ECONOMY

4.6.1 Overview of Progress

The overall goal of women's empowerment progrommes and interventions are to attain gender equality and equity in political, social and economic development systems and outcomes. In 2020, employers made up of 5.7 percent of the total employment in Ghana. Self-employed women accounted for 4.5 percent of the female employment and they are mostly engaged in farming, craft, and food processing.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the vulnerability of women's employment. Within the first week of the lockdown in March 2020, employment rate dropped by 23 percentage for self-employed women as compared to 13-percentage drop amongst men. This is partly due to the nature of operations at the informal sector (face to face interaction). However, during the first quarter of 2021, these women fully recovered from the pandemic due to the innovative ways that were adopted by them.

4.6.2 Achievements

- The Microfinance and Small Loans Centre (MASLOC) continues to provide loans and grants for start-ups and small businesses, including those owned and led by women. The provision of credit facilities to women, particularly those in rural areas, is a major step towards reducing poverty and promoting entrepreneurship. Currently, the loans disbursed to women constitute 85% of the loan portfolio
- ➤ The Labour-Intensive Public Works programme under the Ministry of Local Government, Decentralization and Rural Development offers seasonal employment to 53,588 females, representing 57.9% of beneficiaries
- ➤ Women in the Shea butter production value chain in Ghana have been encouraged to leverage opportunities in the AfCFTA to export their Shea butter beyond Ghana's borders for improved income
- ➤ The "Women in Fair Trade Certification and Sustainable Shea Butter Production project," have trained over 7,200 women in Northern Ghana in sustainable shea butter production to help them produce products that meet international quality standards in the African market

- ➤ The Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP) have assisted women in Kumbungu in the Northern Region of Ghana to export organically certified Shea products in the international market
- Flagship programmes that have been initiated by the Government of Ghana and supporting with resources to improve farming and agribusinesses as well as improve the nutritional and income status of all actors especially women along the agricultural value chain include:
 - Rearing for Food and Jobs
 - o Planting for Food and Jobs
 - Provision of Greenhouses
 - Control of Fall Army Worms
 - o Building of Small Dams in rural communities
 - o Improved Extension Delivery Services
 - o Promotion of Women in Tractor Operation and Management

4.6.3 Challenges

- Unpaid care work by women that limits their participation in the workforce and public life
- Limited access to mentorship and network opportunities by women
- ➤ Limited access to productive resources by women

4.6.4Way forward

- > Scale up training for women and girls in technical and vocational skills
- > Build capacity of women in digital marketing and sale

4.7 WOMEN IN POWER AND DECISION MAKING

4.7.1 Overview of Progress

Ghana has been witnessing a gradual increase in the number of women in key decision-making positions both in the political and public spheres over the years. However, considering the fact that women constitute 50 .7% of Ghana's population, there is the need to have more women in decision making positions to ensure that their perspectives are integrated into policies, plans and budgeting. A conscious effort is being pursued to increase the participation of women in decision making process. Pursuant to this, an Affirmative Action (AA) Bill has been drafted and currently before Parliament for debate and passage into law. The Bill, when passed will ensure the full achievement of gender equality in the political, social, economic, educational and cultural space of society.

4.7.2 Achievements

- ➤ Ghana's current Chief Justice is a female appionted in 2023
- The current membership of Parliament is 275. Out of this number, 40 representing 14.5% are females. This shows an increase from the previous Parliament (2017-2020) where women representation was 37 representing 13.5%
- The High Court has 40% of its jugdges as females
- ➤ The number of female Chief Directors has increased from 28.3% in 2021 to 38. 7 % in 2024
- The number of women on the Governing Board of the National Peace Council has increased from 1 to 3 where as the Regional Peace Councils ranges from a minimum of 1 to a maximum of 4 women representatives
- ➤ The capacity of female aspirants for the 2024 Parliamentary elections has been built to increase their knowledge and understanding of the electoral processes to effectively inform their campaign to be elected
- ➤ Women at the local levels were trained and mentored to contest and win the District Level Elections held 2023

4.7.3 Challenges

- ➤ Gender stereotyping continues to impede women's political participation.
- Monetization of politics makes it difficult for women to contest for elections

4.7.4 Way forward

- > Continous sensitisation of women and girls on leadership
- Advocate for the passage of the Affirmative Action Bill into Law
- > Visibility of female aspirants by the media

4.8 INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISM FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

4.8.1 Overview of progress

The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) was established by Executive Instrument (E.I.1), 2013 dated 18th January, 2013. The MoGCSP replaced the Ministry of Women & Children's Affairs (MOWAC) created by EI 18, 2001. The Ministry, pursuant to EI1, 2013 is an amalgam of MOWAC headquarters, Department of Women (Gender), Department of Children, Domestic Violence Secretariat, Human Trafficking Secretariat, Department of Social Welfare and the Social Protection Division of the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations as well as the National Council on Persons with Disability.

The Ministry is mandated to ensure gender equality through the mainstreaming of gender considerations, promote the welfare and protection of children and empower the vulnerable,

excluded, the aged and persons with disability by social protection interventions to contribute to national development. It also has a vision to create a harmonious society in which the survival and development of the sexes, children, the vulnerable, the excluded and persons with disability are guaranteed.

Thus, the Ministry exists to contribute to the development of the nation by achieving gender equality and equity, facilitate the enforcement of the rights of children and promote the integration and protection of the vulnerable, excluded and persons with disabilities in the development process through appropriate policies and strategies with adequate resources.

Pursuant to the mandate of the Ministry, it formulates and coordinates gender, children and social protection policies, develop guidelines and advocacy strategies for use by all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) as well as monitor and evaluates programmes and projects on gender, children, the vulnerable, excluded and persons with disabilities.

4.8.2 Achievements

- ➤ The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) continues to be government's mandated institution to promote gender equality and women empowerment, child protection and social protection for the vulnerable
- ➤ MoGCSP has reviewed the National Gender Policy in 2023 and currently before Cabinet for consideration and approval
- ➤ The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection continues to hold its annual submit to share its plans and achievements with stakeholders, as well as collect insights to improve performance
- ➤ The Ministry developed a National Framework and Toolkit for Engaging Men and Boys on Gender Equality. It has also developed a National Framework for Engaging Traditional Authorities and Faith-Based Leaders to Address Gender Inequalities and Harmful Practices
- ➤ The Ministry also collaborated with the Public Services Reform Secretariate to develop a Comprehensive Gender Strategy for the Public Sector and currently it is in full operation
- ➤ The Ministry speared headed the drafting of the Affirmative Action and Social Protection Bills in 2023 and are currently before Parliament for debate and passage into law
- The government has since 2022 increased the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty programme (LEAP) grant by 200% to further protect the real value of the benefits of the grant to protect the real value of the benefits for the most vulnerable households in the country for the most vulnerable households in the country.
- The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) was instrumental in establishment of Anti-Human Trafficking Units in the Ghana Police Service (GPS), Economic and Organized Crime Office (EOCO), the Anti-Human Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons Unit (AHSTIP) and the Anti-Trafficking Desk in the Attorney General's Department to handle specific issues of human trafficking
- ➤ The National Intelligence Bureau (NIB) has also established a gender office with a Senior Officer as the Head

➤ In 2022, capacity of staff of the Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) Public Services Commission, Ghana Law School and the Attornery General's Department and Ministry of Justice was built on gender concerns to enable them mainstream gender into their operations

4.8.3 Challenges

- ➤ Inadequate and disuse of sex disaggregated data and gender statistics to support planning and decision making
- ➤ Inadequate resources for the Ministry to carry out its expanded mandate
- ➤ Delay in passing the Affirmative Action Bill

4.8.4 Way Forward

- > Strengthen collaboration with the Ghana Statistical Service to generate gender statistics and information and gender analysis for gender-sensitive planning
- ➤ Continuous training for MDAs and MMDAs to effectively mainstream gender in their plans and budgets

4.9 HUMAN RIGHTS OF WOMEN

4.9.10verview of Progress

The 1992 Constitution of Ghana guarantees the human rights of all citizens including women, children, vulnerable and other disadvantaged groups such as the aged and people with disabilities. It is for this reason that the government through various institutions and agencies has formulated polices and is implementing interventions to ensure that all its citizens are adequately protected and enjoy their fundamental human rights.

Ghana has adopted a number of human rights initiatives and activities in response to domestic violence, human trafficking, sexual harassment and other inhumane practices. The government continues to promote equitable access to justice through the Judiciary, Police, Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) and the Legal Aid Commission. Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) also contribute to access to justice through advocacy and the provision of various services.

4.9.2 Achievements

- ➤ MoGCSP, CHRAJ and other NGOs continue to campaign against all forms of harmful and dehumanizing cultural practices such as widowhood rights, forced marriages, ritual servitude and maltreatment of women accused of witchcraft
- ➤ The Ministry provided relief items including food stuff, mattresses, buckets, blankets and pillows for the inmates of witches camps during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020
- > The residents of the alleged witch camps (largely, aged women and girls) and their dependents were provided with emergency cash transfers under the Livelihood

- Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) programme as part of the Ministry's COVID-19 Response
- All inmates of the witches camps are enrolled on the LEAP programme to enable them receive regular bi-monthly income support from Government to smoothen their consumption and ensure their livelihoods are improved
- ➤ The Criminal Offences (Amendment) Bill 2021 passed by Parliament in July 2023, seeks to proscribe the declaration, accusation, naming or labelling of another person as a witch in Ghana and the practices of witch doctors or finders
- ➤ MoGCSP has developed a National Framework for Engaging Traditional Authorities and Faith-Based Leaders to Address Gender Inequalities and Harmful Practices
- > The Cyber Security Authority has been established under the Cyber Security Act, 2020 (Act 1038) with the responsibility to protect children especially the girl child and women from online abuse
- As part of the Government's digitalisation agenda, MoGCSP in 2020 launched a web-based online system known as Social Welfare Information Management System (SWIMS) (http://www.mogcsp.gov.gh/swims/) to document and report on the provision of social welfare services (child protection, social protection and gender-based violence). SWIMS is based on standard national data collection forms, workflows, referral pathways and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for use by staff of MMDAs, NGOs, CSOs and Residential Care Facilities responsible for social protection, child protection, justice for children and gender-based violence related services in their operations
- Conducted high level sensitization workshops with Paramount Chiefs and Queen mothers from across the country to create the awareness on child marriage, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Domestic/Gender-Based Violence, harmful cultural practices and obstetric fistula. More than 12,000 including Pastors, Imams and Traditional Rulers have benefited from these workshops
- ➤ An Intersectoral Standard Operating Procedures for Child Protection and Family Welfare has been developed in 2020
- > Operationalisation of a children's shelter in 2020 to provide victims with comprehensive trauma informed care and support
- ➤ Trained staff programmes for staff of Human TS, Department of Social Welfare (DSW) and relevant child related social service providers in 2020 on shelter management, victim support and support for child trafficking victims in 2020
- > To ensure the health rights of girls, Ghana commemorates the global Menstrual Hygiene Day annually to discuss and improve the health needs of girls and women. Government, incollaboration with Development Partners and Civil Society Organisations also use the occasion to provide young girls with sanitary pads to help keep them in school and contribute to social inclusion

4.9.2 Challenges

Family interference in domestic violence cases which halt prosecution and justice

- > The increase in alleged witchcraft accusations
- ➤ Inadequate shelters for abused women and girls

4.9.3 Way Forward

- ➤ Increase sensitisation on human rights and laws to encourage the public to report incidents of human rights abuses
- Ensure enforce of laws on human rights violations

4.10 WOMEN AND MEDIA

4.10.1 Overview of progress

In Ghana, women freely express themselves both online and offline. The right to freely express oneself regardless of one's biological make up is enshrined in the 1992 Constitution of Ghana. Article 21 clause 1.a. states that "All persons shall have the right to freedom of speech and expression, which shall include freedom of the press and other media".

In Ghana, the media platform has put measures in place to protect women's freedom of opinion and expression and has also provided consistent education to avoid the risks associated with the media space. Again, gender sensitive programmes have been created to ensure that stereotypes, gender insensitive jargons among others are removed to make the media space more gender friendly to attract women. Again, media practitioners including women have been empowered to understand that freedom of expression are their fundamental human rights and need to be pursued.

Women are protected from online abuse through self-defence mechanism which encourages them to come out to deal with the issue. Women and other stakeholders have been sensitised to be circumspect on the media platforms that they use. Additionally, women and girls are educated to sense and blackout gender insensitive platforms as well as unfriend people or sites they consider offensive. To strengthen women and girl's empowerment they are encouraged to undertake studies in digital technology as well as creating room for gender-digital-friendly user space.

The Association of Women in the Media (ASWIM), an all-female affiliate of the Ghana Journalists Association (GJA) continues to support female journalists across the country to forge a united front and bring about change on the Ghanaian media landscape.

4.10.2 Achievements

- ➤ Government through the Ghana Journalist Association, which is an umbrella body of journalist has established a platform that seeks to address issues of gender insensitive that are associated with platform usage
- > The National Media Commission has put progressive measures to control content and protect users including women on the media platforms. This is also to ensure that the laws are fair and transparent to promote women's empowerment

- All State-Owned media houses have developed modalities for women to thrive in the media space through the setting up of gender desks to effectively address gender issues in their work
- ➤ Women are given the opportunity to progress along the leadership ladder in the media sector. Media houses have also been encouraged to promote gender sensitivity in their rapportage
- ➤ The media fraternity have established roles that increasingly accommodate and empower women journalists through the:
 - o Recruitment of more female journalist into the field
 - o Creation of a platform for healthy competition within the media space
 - Designed newsrooms to accommodate female and Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) journalists' special needs
 - o Adoption of zero tolerance for stereotypes
- ➤ The development of the National Cyber Security Act, 2020 (Act 1038) seeks to protect women from sexual and gender-based violence and harassment online especially harassment on nonconsensual sharing of intimate images and sexual extortion.
- ➤ The National Security, Ghana Police Service and the Ministry of Communication have put in place a monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance of the National Cyber Security Act.

4.10.3 Challenges

- Female journalists continue to experience physical violence
- > There is under-representation of women in the media space compared with men
- Limited access to media facilities by women in the rural areas

4.10.4 Way forward

- Increase responsiveness to complaints and reports of violence and harassment against women online
- Introduce privacy policies to protect and make the online space safe for women

4.11. WOMEN AND THE ENVIRONMENT

4.11.1 Overview

Women are primary users of land and forest resources. In addition, they are active in the collection of forest products such as snails, mushrooms and shea nuts among others for various household and entrepreneurial uses. However, the significant role of women as contributors to forest management and conservation has not been fully recognised. The restricted access of women to land and forest resources and decision-making opportunities creates barriers to their livelihoods. Well-sustained ecosystem management can only be achieved by understanding gender gaps and addressing them. Several efforts have been made to ensure environmental sustainability in Ghana giving consideration to the important role gender plays in the management of natural resources

4.11.2. Achievements

- ➤ Ghana launches a new partnership for its National Gender and REDD+ Strategy 2018 was to ensure that women and men have equal access to information regarding all aspects of the REDD+. Over the years, the capacity of women and men have been built to ensure inclusive decision-making and knowledge needed for women to engage meaningfully in monitoring, reporting and verification activities under project
- ➤ Designed and implementing gender-sensitive benefit sharing systems that ensure women are provided with fair and appropriate compensation, incentives, benefits and revenues associated with REDD+ projects
- Opportunities such as capacity building have been created for girls and women to be more actively involved in the technical aspects of forest management
- ➤ The Sustainable Land and Water Management Project (SLWMP) (2016-2020) continue to promote equity and inclusion of vulnerable and marginal groups especially women, enhance local institutions through the establishment of Community Watershed Management Teams (CWMTs), supported Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) and improved the availability of and smallholder access to climate information through awareness and training/demonstration activities and knowledge exchanges among other achievements
- ➤ The Ghana Landscape Restoration and Small-Scale Mining (GLRSSM) Project has increased benefits to communities in the integrated degraded savannah and cocoa forest areas in Northern Savannah Zone and the Transitional Forest Zone of Ghana. A gender analysis was carried out in 2021 to ensure the incorporation of gender into its implementation
- Programme carried out a gender analysis of 7 priority sectors namely agriculture, energy, water and sanitation, health and disaster risk reduction among others to identify gender gaps for redress. In addition, Ghana has developed a Climate Change Gender Action Plan in 2021 for all the priority sectors for implementation. A comprehensive training manual has been developed for mainstreaming gender into the Nationally Determined Contributions. Staff of MDAs and MMDAs have also been trained using the manual to enable them adequately understand and integrate gender into climate actions in their field of work
- In the palm oil extraction industry, women have been provided with climate efficient technology to extract the oil with less drudgery, time, fuel wood and no environmental pollution
- ➤ Ghana under the Nature-Based Guinean Forest Project is training women in the Wassa Amenfi and Lake Bosumtwi Landscapes to enhance their understanding and skills in

climate change adaptation. These programmes cover key areas like sustainable agriculture, renewable energy and disaster risk management

4.11.3 Challenges

- > The continuous dependant on firewood in the rural and peri urban communities
- ➤ Inadequate resources for the implementation of the Climate Change Gender Action Plan

4.11.4 Way forward

- > Intensify the provision of alternative energy sources at subsidized prices
- Provision of adequate budget allocation to implement the Climate Change Gender Action Plan

4.12 THE GIRL CHILD

4.12.1 Overview of Progress

Ghana continues to implement the Child and Family Welfare Operational Plan (2017 - 2020) which seeks to among others effectively prevent and protect children from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation, empowered children and families to better understand abusive situations to make choices, prevent and respond to situations of risk as well as coordinate the Child and Family Welfare system at all levels.

The Government of Ghana in 2016 adopted a ten year (10year) Strategic Framework for Ending Child Marriage (2017 - 2026) to uproot the practice within the boundaries of Ghana. The Framework, which is still in operation continues to guide stakeholders to effectively tackle issues on child marriage for the best interest of the child.

4.12.2 Achievements

- An annual mentorship programmes have been implemented under the period of review using safe space approaches to empower girls and also encourage them to take up leadership position from a young age. Approximately 8,000 girls have been engaged to date
- The MoGCSP also initiated a special TV programme dubbed 'Girlz Girlz Power Talk Show' to discuss issues of gender equality, gender-based violence and cybercrime among others. This programme has aired three (3) seasons with thirteen (13) episodes each
- The Ministry of Communication has initiated the "Girls in Information, Communication and Technology (ICT)" programme to equip young girls with the requisite skills and knowledge to effectively manage the internet
- ➤ 23,024 adolescent girls were reached with life-skills training including 15 girls with disabilities in 2022

- ➤ 1,081 adolescent girls, who are among those most at risk of child marriage, were provided with support to complete junior high school, including funds to cover their school tuition, boarding fees and school materials in 2022
- > 590,900 boys, girls, women and men were engaged in dialogues on the consequences of, and alternatives to child marriage, the rights of adolescent girls and gender equality.
- ➤ 4,216 traditional, religious and community leaders participated in various dialogues and consensus-building activities to end child marriage
- ➤ Ghana is implementing the Promoting Adolescent Safe Spaces (PASS) programme and other safe spaces initiatives, such as SISTAs Clubs and Orange Girls Networks to create and expand opportunities to help empower vulnerable adolescent girls. A total of 23,024 adolescent girls between the ages of 10–19 years in 12 regions were reached with structured training to help them make informed decisions on matters affecting them, such as child marriage, adolescent pregnancies, sexual and reproductive health, sexual gender-based violence in 2022
- ➤ A Gender-Transformative Accelerator (GTA) workshop was held in September 2022 to incorporate gender transformative elements into existing workplans of the coalition to end child marriage in Ghana
- ➤ The Government, Development Partners and Civil Society Organisations continue to provide young girls with sanitary pads to help keep them in school and contribute to social inclusion. The country also commemorates menstrual hygiene day annually
- ➤ Ghana continues to commemorate the International Day of the Girl Child annually with durbars, walks, debates and workshops to draw attention to the needs and challenges of the girl child to effectively address them

4.12.3 Challenges

> School-related Gender-Based Violence including early marriage and teenage pregnancy

4.12.4 Way Forward

- > Continue to undertake programmes for the best interest of the girl child
- ➤ Increase the coverage of mentorship programmes
- > Strengthen the capacity of girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and Information, Communication and Technology (ICT)

5.0 SECTION 4 MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

5.1 Overview

The institutional mechanism for implementing and montoring the advancement of women comprises institutions at the National, Regional and District levels. These institutions are closely related to the effective and efficient implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Among these key institutions are:

- ➤ The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) which is the National Women's Machinery
- ➤ The Inter- Ministerial Advisory Board of MoGCSP
- ➤ The Department of Gender which is the implementing agency on gender issues under the MoGCSP
- ➤ The Policy Planning Monitoring and Evaluation Directorates (PPMEDs) in Ministries, Departments and Agencies, (MDAs) and Metropolitan Municipal and District Assembles (MMDAs)
- ➤ The Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ)
- ➤ Gender Desk Officers (GDOs) in Ministries Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Metropolitan Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs)
- > The National Development Planning Commission
- ➤ The Parliamentary Standing Committees on Gender and Children
- The Parliamentary Select Committee on Consitutional, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs
- ➤ Women's Caucus in Parliament
- ➤ Ghana Statistical Service
- Development Partners
- ➤ Women Groups, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Queen Mothers Associations and Traders Associations
- ➤ Women's Wings of Political Parties
- ➤ Domestic Violence and Victim Support Units at National, Regional and District levels
- > The Media

5.2 Achievements

- Reviewed the National Gender Policy (2023- 2032)
- > Prepared Ghana's Country Gender Equality Profile, 2023
- Sector specific gender policies developed by Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ministry of Energy, CHRAJ, Ghana Police Service, Ghana Immigration Service and Ghana Armed Forces

- ➤ Developed a Climate Change Gender Action Plan, 2021
- ➤ Developed a National Manual and Toolkit for Mainstreaming Gender into Climate the Nationaly Determined Contributions, 2021
- ➤ Developed a Comprehensive Gender Strategy for the Public Service and Civil Service, 2023
- ➤ The development of a National Framework 'the Coordinated Programme of Economic, and Social Development Policies, (2022- 2025)'
- ➤ Undertaken capacity building for staff of MoGCSP, MDAs, MMDAs and gender focal persons in the following areas:
 - Gender mainstreaming skills
 - o Paralegal skills
 - International Obligations Beijing Platform for Action, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa

5.3 Challenges

- ➤ Inadequate sex disaggregated data for decision making
- > Limited budgets

5.4 Way forward

- > Strengthen the capacity (logistics) of the National Women's Machinery
- > Increase budegtary allocations and on time
- > Effective collection, collation and analysis of age and sex disaggregated data

6. 0 SECTION 5 : DATA DISAGGREGATED BY SEX AND GENDER STATISTICS

6.1 Overview

The Research, Statistics and Information Management (RSIM)Directorate under the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection is responsible for conducting research inot gender and its related issues. The Ghana Statistical Service is also mandated to provide leadership and direction for the efficient, consistent and comprehensive collection, processing, analysis, documentation and storage of accurate data.

The Ghana National Household Registry (GNHR), a unit under the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection (MoGCSP) was set up as a tool to assist social protection programmes to identify, prioritize and select households living in vulnerable conditions to ensure that different social protection programmes effectively reach their target populations. This register serves as a database for the selection of beneficiaries for all social protection programmes and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the delivery of social protection programmes in Ghana. Given the centrality of data collection, analysis and dissemination, the mainstreaming of gender perspective in statistics is crucial in addressing the needs of all citizens. As such, statistics are produced taking into consideration gender roles, differences and inequalities within society.

6.2 Acheivements

- The Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection in collaboration with Ghana Statistical Service developed and is implementing a five year Strategic Plan for Gender Statistics (2018-2022)
- The RSIM under MoGCSP developed an administrative template to harmonize the production of gender statistics within the Ministry for effective collection
- Capacity of staff of the Research, Statistics and Information Management Directorate were built on data analytical tools in the production of gender statistics.
- Research on gender issues enhanced as the Multi Indicator Cluster Survey, Ghana Demographic Health Survey and Ghana Living Standards Survey produce sex disaggregated data

6.3. Challenges

- ➤ Inadequate sex disaggregated data for decision making
- ➤ Limited budgetary allocation

6.4 Way forward

- > Strengthen the capacity (technical and logistics) of the institutions that generate data
- > Increase budegtary allocations and on time

7.0 SECTION 6

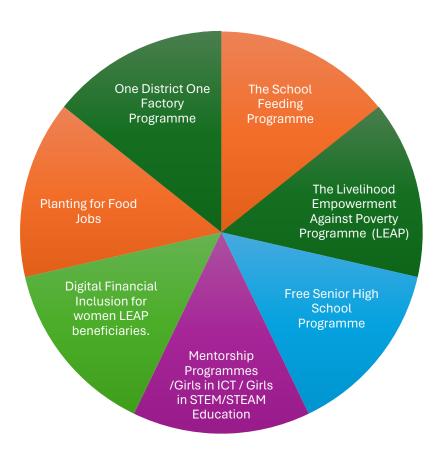
EMERGING PRIORITY ACTIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BEIJING PLATFORM FOR ACTION

Ghana continues to work assidiously towards advancing the course of women and girls in the country in line with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action as well as achieving targets in the Sustainable Development Goals.

The diagram below illustrates Ghana's priorities to advance gender equality and women empowerment.



Special policies, initiatives and interventions Ghana adopted during the reporting period which target vulnerable women and girls include:



APPENDICES

Female Representation in the Judicary as at July 2024

Institution	Total Number	Female	% of Female	Male	% of Male
Chief Justice	1	1	100	0	0
Supreme Court Judges	15	5	33.3	10	66.4
Appeals Court	32	12	37.5	20	62.5
High Court Judges	123	53	40.8	70	59.2
Circuit Court Judges	101	50	47.6	51	52.4

Women in Leadership (Government Appointments) as at July, 2024

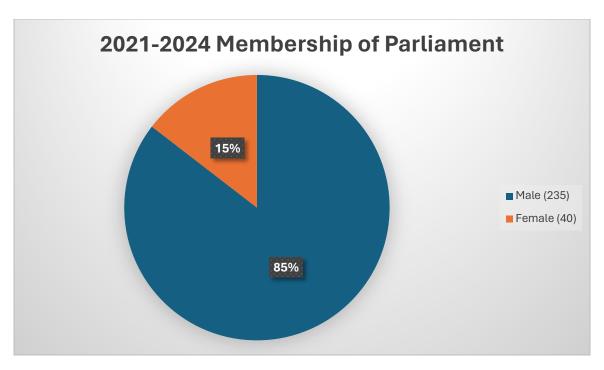
Institution	Total Number	Female	% of Female	Male	% of Male
Ministers	30	7	23.3	24	77.7
Cabinet	19	3	15.8	16	84.2
Deputy Ministers	35	5	14.2	30	83.8
Regional Minsters	16	2	12.5	14	87.5
MMDCEs Nominees	260	38	14.6	222	85.4

Chief Directors in the Ghana Civil Service, 2024

Institution	Total Number	Female	% of Female	Male	% of Male
Chief Directors	31	12	38.7	19	61.3

Women in Leadership (Elected Positions) as at July 2024

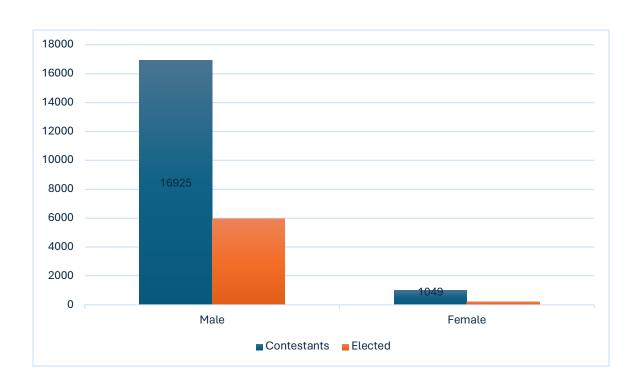
Institution	Total	Female	% of	Male	% of
	Number		Female		Male
Parliament (MP)	275	40	14.5	235	85.5
District Level Assembly	6243	259	4.1	5,984	95.9
Members					



DISTRICT LEVEL ELECTIONS, 2023

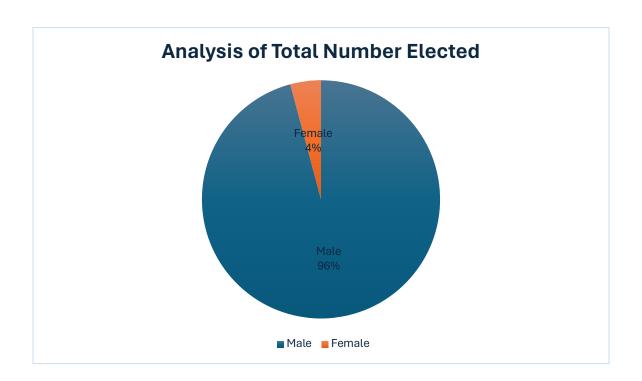
Elected Assembly Members

Male : 16,925 (35.4% Elected) Female : 1,049 (25% Elected)



5,984 males who won the assembly member elections constituted 35.4 per cent of the male candidates, given that 16,925 of them contested the polls.

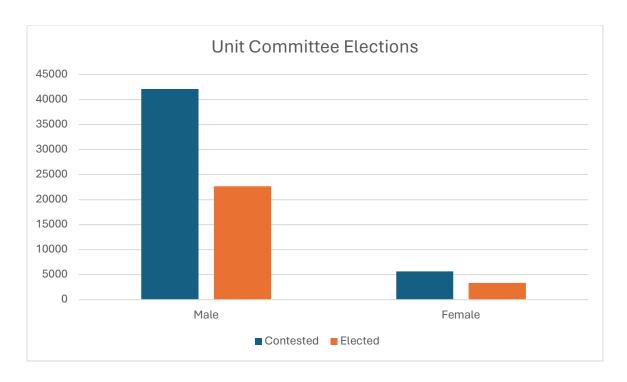
Comparatively, the 259 women who won the elections formed 25 per cent of the total female applicants which stood at 1,049.



UNIT COMMITTEE ELECTIONS, 2023

Elected Unit Committee Members

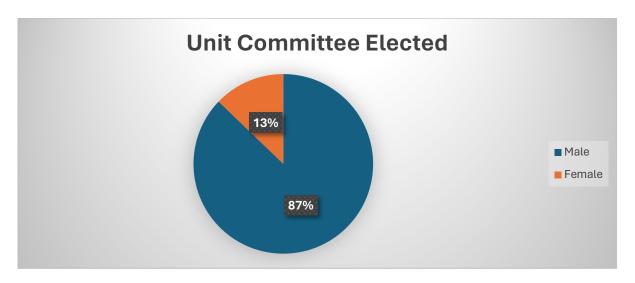
Male Contestants	:	42,094
No. Elected	:	22,646
% out of Total No. Elected	:	87.2%
Female Contestants	:	5,666
No. Elected	:	3335
% out of Total No. Elected	:	12.8%
No. of PWDs out of the Total Elected	:	67
No. of Males	:	38
No. of Females	:	29

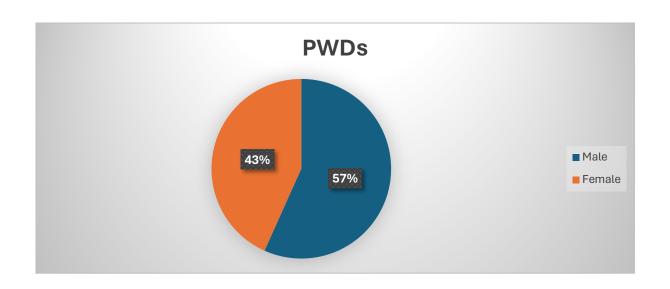


In terms of the Unit Committee elections, 22,646 out of the 42,094 male applicants won, representing 87.2 per cent of the total persons elected.

Relatedly, 3,335 out of the 5,666 female applicants for the Unit Committee elections won, representing 12.8 per cent of the total elected members.

For PWDs, 67 candidates, made up of 38 males and 29 females were elected as Unit Committee members.





NUMBER OF LEAP BENEFICIARIES (2020- 2024)

YEAR	NUMBER OF HHS	INDIVIDUALS			NUMBER OF HH ENROLLED AND PAID (FINAL PAYMENT FOR EACH YEAR)	TOTAL HHS PAID FOR 6 CYCLES
			MALE	FEMALE		
2020	407611	1,781,887	45.2	54.8	335013	1369036
2021	408876	1787597	45.2	54.8	342017	1023052
2022	410277	1788191	45.1	54.9	345434	1034008
2023	410173	1787737	45.1	54.9	350580	1392177
2024	384103	1454290	45	55	324073	650033

NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED ON SEXUAL GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE FOR 2021										
REGION	WOMEN	MEN	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL (ADULT &					
					CHILDREN)					
CENTRAL REGION	5	50		4	4					
EASTERN REGION	118	109			0					
VOLTA REGION	887	782	702	876	876					
GREATER ACCRA REGION	84	53	807	1,005	1005					
WESTERN REGION	122	55	15	24	24					
SAVANNAH REGION	50	22	43	34	34					
SUMMARY	1,266	1,071	1,567	1,943	1943					

Narration

2021 outreach statistics reveal that Volta Region reached the most men and women, whereas Greater Accra Region made the greatest impact on boys and girls. This suggests that Volta Region's efforts resonated with adults, while Greater Accra Region's initiatives effectively connected with younger audiences.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED ON SEXUAL GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE FOR 2022									
REGION	WOMEN	MEN	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL (ADULT & CHILDREN)				
CENTRAL REGION	331	274	1,482	1,139	3226				
EASTERN REGION	253,541	203,114	803	683	458141				
ASHANTI REGION	2	48	26	29	105				
OTI REGION	510	188	220	171	1089				
VOLTA REGION	145	99	234	114	592				
GREATER ACCRA REGION	1,030	498	1,764	1,666	4958				
WESTERN NORTH REGION	25	37	6	6	74				
UPPER EAST REGION	799	466	146	147	1558				
NORTH EAST REGION	455	396	517	405	1773				
WESTERN REGION	201	153	88	85	527				
BONO REGION	40	11	36	36	123				
UPPER WEST REGION	5	7			12				
SAVANNAH REGION	457	227	418	383	1485				
NORTHERN REGION	36	28	52	34	150				
SUMMARY	257,577	205,546	5,792	4,898	473813				

Narration

In 2022, the Eastern Region demonstrated the highest outreach and engagement with men and women, while the Upper West Region exhibited the lowest outreach numbers. Conversely, the Greater Accra Region achieved the highest outreach to boys and girls, indicating a successful targeted effort.

NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED ON SEXUAL GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE FOR												
2023												
REGION	WOMEN	MEN	GIRLS	BOYS	TOTAL (ADULT							
					& CHILDREN)							
CENTRAL REGION	1,666	1,147	3,462	1,490	7,765							
EASTERN REGION	961	856	495	633	2,945							
ASHANTI REGION	204	213	1,445	1,106	2,968							
OTI REGION	270	274	254	290	1,088							
VOLTA REGION	333	207	307	91	938							
GREATER ACCRA REGION	1,925	1,156	3,009	2,636	8,726							
WESTERN NORTH REGION	40	49	176	157	422							
UPPER EAST REGION	1,303	534	146	117	2,100							
NORTH EAST REGION	4,333	2,131	3,441	1,603	11,508							
WESTERN REGION	320	215	545	447	1,527							
BONO REGION	469	345	16	12	842							
BONO EAST REGION	1,093	1,289	2,063	1,058	5,503							
UPPER WEST REGION	239	42	8	4	293							
SAVANNAH REGION	1,178	698	1,605	1,425	4,906							
NORTHERN REGION	841	603	353	345	2,142							
SUMMARY	15,175	9,759	17,325	11,414	53,673							

Narration

In 2023, the North East Region demonstrated exceptional outreach and engagement with women and men regarding gender-based violence, recording the highest numbers. Meanwhile, the Central Region achieved remarkable success in reaching girls, while Greater Accra Region excelled in reaching boys, recording the highest numbers for the year.

DATA ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING (2017- 2023)

		Mal	Female		Child			Adult La		Labour	Sex	Unspecified	Ghanaia	Other
		e											n	National
				F	M	Total	F	M	Total					
2017	583	237	346	19	200	219	-	-	364	542	41	-	539	44
2018	332	203	129	27	225	252	-	-	80	283	49	-	269	62
2019	611	197	414	15	185	200	-	-	411	112	35	-	276	335
2020	499	396	103	10	407	417	-	-	82	454	45	-	442	57
2021	821	589	232	149	511	660	83	78	161	744	71	6	654	167
2022	846	557	289	143	431	574	147	126	272	718	110	18	594	252
2023	1089	832	257	97	577	674	160	255	415	960	129	10	735	354
TOTAL	3692	2179	1513	2322			1370			2853	351	24	2774	917