

UN HABITAT

FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

**63rd REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVES TO UNITED NATIONS HUMAN SETTLEMENTS
PROGRAMME**

1 DECEMBER 2016

Agenda Item 7:

**Thematic/Country Activities- UN-Habitat's work in the Republic of
Ghana(HSP/CPR/63/7)**

GHANA



Description: The Political Map of Ghana showing names of capital cities, towns, states, provinces and boundaries of neighbouring countries.

Source: <http://www.ezilon.com/maps/africa/ghana-maps.html>

Geography and Demographics	
Surface area (total area)	238,533 sq km
Total Population in 2015 (WDI)	27,409,898 million
Population density in 2015 (WDI)	120 people per sq. km
Capital city and population in 2015: Accra (UNData)	2,277,000 million
Average annual population growth rate (2010-2015) (UNData)	2.4%
Urban population (2015)	54%
Average urban population growth rate (2010-2015)	3.4%
Average urban population living in slums (2014)	37.9%
Poverty and human development	
Income level	Lower middle income
Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty lines (% of population)	24.2% (2012)
GDP (2013) WDI	47.807 million
GDP per capita US\$ (2015 est.)	\$4,300
Average % annual GDP growth (2015)	3.9%
Water & Sanitation	
Access to improved drinking water (2015)	88.7%
Access to improved sanitation (2015)	11.3%

Source

<http://data.worldbank.org/country/ghana>

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gh.html>

<http://www.factfish.com/statistic-country/ghana/population%20density>

<http://mdgs.un.org/unsd/mdg/seriesdetail.aspx?srid=710>

<http://data.un.org/CountryProfile.aspx?crName=ghana>

UN-Habitat in Ghana

- Total value of UN-Habitat investments **(2007-2016): US\$ 5,197,000**
- Total number of UN-Habitat projects (2007-2016): **5 projects**
- Main donors: DFID, Government of Norway, SIDA, Booyoung, Creative Industries Fund NL, ACP, Government of Canada, European Commission
- Implementing partners: Ministry of Water Resources Works and Housing, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ghana Institute of Architects, Ghana Institute of Planners, Ghana Federation of the Urban Poor, Regional Coordinating Council, United Bank for Africa, COLANDEF (NGO), Kojokrom Market Women Association, and Sekondi-Takoradi Metropolitan Assembly, District of Ningo-Prampram, Government of Ghana, National, Accra Metropolitan Authority, Global Affairs Canada
- Collaborating UN Agencies: UNICEF, UNDP and WHO

Synopsis

During the last 50 years the population of Ghana has tripled. Between 1960 and 2010 the population went from 6,726,815 to 24,317,734. Consequently, by 2015 the population grew to 27,409,898 million. Ghana became an urbanised economy in the year 2010 as per the 2010 Population and Housing Census conducted by the Ghana Statistical Service (GSS). Today Cities in Ghana face real challenges due to rapid urbanization. Ghanaian cities and towns house more than half of the population and are fast expanding.

Accra, the capital and largest city houses about 8% of the population, about 2,291,352 (2012) million residents. It is the political capital and the major urban centre with the most economic activities in the country, assimilating majority of rural – urban migrants, who most often migrate to the urban areas to pursue gainful economic activities. The second most urbanized is the city of Kumasi with a population of 2,069,350, followed by Sekondi-Takoradi with 539,548 inhabitants. Many inhabitants, particularly the poor, live in houses within informal settlements often lacking in basic services and suffer from poor health due to limited or no access to improved water and sanitation facilities and face growing traffic congestion which has greater impacts on the women and children.

As with other African countries, Ghana is projected to experience increased urbanization for the coming decades. Harnessing the potentials of this phenomenon is of major importance to the structural transformation and economic development of the country. Although Ghana has experienced a stable economy since the 1990s, the full potential of urbanization has not been fully realized. In order to harness the potentials, urbanization must be driven and strengthened by integrated spatial and sectorial policies, sound planning and financial strategies and implementation tools that are tailor-made and sensitive to the country's economic realities in a balanced and sustainable manner. UN-Habitat, being the United Nations focal programme for sustainable urban development, is assisting the government of Ghana to better plan for both current and future urban opportunities and challenges. UN-Habitat's assistance to Ghana has propelled the country's implementation of its Urban Agenda, through the development of a National Housing Policy, a National Urban policy and various programs and projects.

UN-Habitat's programme over the period has been focused on:

- addressing urban poverty and job creation
- alleviating the housing shortage in the country
- addressing urban challenges including the rapid spread of informal settlements

- supporting national reforms that promote sustainable urbanization with particular focus on urban policy, urban planning, local governance, land management, housing and improved municipal services

A review of UN-Habitat current activities in Ghana shows how Rules and Regulations, Urban Planning and Design and financial planning promote sustainable urbanization. UN-Habitat works closely with key partners including national ministries, local authorities, civil society organizations, sister UN Agencies and international organizations to jointly implement programmes within the Republic of Ghana.

IDENTIFIED PRIORITY AREAS IN GHANA INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Addressing Informal Urban Expansion:

- Reforms and Strategies for urban extension
- Development of Planned City Extensions
- Renewal of Existing Urban Areas
- Standardized yet flexible programmatic framework for the design and implementation of slum upgrading initiatives
- Planning and Managing Urban Spatial Development

Addressing urban poverty and job creation

- Setting up of financial frameworks and facilities to provide financing for housing and loans for financing low-income housing and community infrastructure development projects.
- Mobilise partners and resources to contribute to urban poverty reduction
- Strategies and frameworks for the creation of employment opportunities for urban dwellers

Sustainable Urban Development

- Supports the Urban Development Unit within the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development to spearhead the creation and institutionalization of Ghana Urban Forum
- Reform roadmap for land management and administration
- Local Area Development Programme – urban planning and governance
- Urban Policy Development and National and Regional Spatial Strategies/Frameworks
- Urban Planning Capacity Support
- Reforms in urban service provision through introducing public private partnerships

Water and sanitation/disaster management and preparedness

- Legal frameworks, reforms and strategies in the water and sanitation sectors
- Development of comprehensive Flood Management Strategy
- Technical support to develop flood resilient water and sanitation technologies
- Preparation and validation of disaster preparedness and flood emergency preparedness and response plans
- Support in the development of WASH and School sanitation and hygiene education
- Provision of resilient water supply services

The above listed Priority areas are addressed under the following interventions in Ghana:

- The Water for African Cities I and II
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Disaster Prone Communities in Northern Ghana

- The Slum Upgrading Facility Pilot Project (SUF)
- Participatory Slum Upgrading and Prevention Program (PSUP)
- Ningo Prampram City Extension Project

Achievements

UN-Habitat initiated projects and programs have been able to contribute towards improving the living standards of the communities in Ghana. And highlighted below are some of the notable achievements:

- Collection of water and sanitation data for community improvements for over 20,000 slum dwellers.
- Renovated and upgraded a 46 room residential facility at New Takoradi.
- Constructed a 40 stall Market Shed at Kojokrom.
- Constructed a 20 stall market shed at Kojorom.
- Constructed a 16 seater water closet/toilet facility at Effia-Kumah.
- Constructed a septic tank and water tank for New-Takoradi Toilet facility in collaboration with Global Communities.
- Provided 3 separate successive livelihood improvement loans to Kojokrom Market Women Association.
- Provided a loan to members of Ghana Federation of Urban Poor in collaboration with Peoples Dialogue (a Ghanaian NGO) for improving their livelihoods.
- Renovated and upgraded two toilet facilities at Sofokrom.
- Acquired a 30 acre land at Diabenekrom for the Sekondi-Takoradi Integrated Eco-Housing Project.
- Completed Amui Djor Project. This has a new apartment building with 31 residential units, 15 commercial units for shops and public toilet and bath facility. This is located within Amui Djor slum area in Ashaiman. Residential and commercial units are fully occupied and approximately 600 to 700 local residents pay to use the toilet and bath facilities every day. Commercial unit rental and toilet facility royalties provide income to TAMSUF.
- Built a new mixed-use building of approximately 72 residential units and 20 commercial units next to Amui Djor Building.
- Urban Profiles at the national level and for the cities of Accra, Tamale and Ho completed.
- Citywide Slum Upgrading Strategy developed and Draft National Slum Upgrading and Prevention Strategy out for validation.
- 265 disaster prone communities of 24 districts provided improved access to water, benefiting a total of 200,000 residents including 50,000 school children in Upper East, Upper West and Northern regions of Ghana.
- PSUP provides a framework for Global Affairs Canada (GAC) to partner with the UN in Ghana (in line with UNDAF) while contributing to the national development policy framework (GSGDA II, 2014 – 2017) and efforts towards the implementation of the Ghana Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation.
- Flood resilient water and sanitation technologies developed and validated by national water and sanitation institutions of Ghana for incorporation in national WASH technical standards.
- Disaster preparedness plans prepared and validated for 24 districts.
- Over 104 community water and sanitation teams established and trained.
- Training documents for flood emergency preparedness and response action plans have been developed and workshops are being organized to train the beneficiary districts.
- Values-Based WASH education, to instil WASH related behaviour change in schools and communities, has been rolled out in conjunction with the School Health Educational Programme of the Ghana Education Service.

- Access to resilient water supply services provided to 103,000 vulnerable persons so far.
- School sanitation and hygiene education extended to over 8,000 children in 26 schools; resilient water and sanitation infrastructure have been provided for some of the schools which serve as safe havens for some community members during peak periods of flooding.
- Sanitation marketing and hygiene awareness programme delivered to 203 communities, of which 7 communities have already achieved open defecation free status.
- Alley paving under benefiting over 100,000 residents (13,000 households), youth empowerment centre to benefit over 5,000 youth and children.
- Ningo-prampam City Extension Plan implemented in the National Development Plan of Ghana and acquired the status of National Priority Project.
- National Budget 2017 will allocate funds for the implementation of the Ningo-prampam City Extension Plan.
- The establishment of a Technical Service Centre for implementation of first Phase of the planned city extension in 2017.
- City connectivity, compactness and social inclusiveness, through public space, public transport and a network of connected streets and neighbourhoods.
- Urban sprawl prevented along with its associated increased social and economic externalities.
- Accessibility in the city, public spaces and economic activities for residents, with special focus on youth and women.
- Enhanced the provision of low cost, affordable housing and tenure security for vulnerable groups.